

MINUTES OF THE CLINTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

August 19, 2025

9:00 A.M.

The Clinton County Commissioners met for a regular meeting on August 19, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioner Meeting Room, at 125 Courthouse Square, Frankfort, IN 46041.

Commissioner Jordan Brewer called the meeting to order with the following members shown to be present or absent:

PRESENT

Jordan Brewer
Kevin Myers
Bert Weaver

ABSENT

Others in attendance were Rick Campbell, Rich Kelly, Steven Deckard, Renee Crick, Carol Price, Melissa Ostler, Mary King, Melinda Grismer, Sesaly Reifert, Liz Stitzel, Britt Ostler, and others are shown to be present in the minutes. Commissioner's Assistant Jerri Sexton recorded the minutes.

IN THE MATTER OF THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Brewer led the pledge of allegiance.

IN THE MATTER OF PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments were received.

IN THE MATTER OF LEARNING NETWORK

Melinda Grismer, Abbie Martin, and Monica Zarate presented the Learning Network report. They had 380 kids for summer kids workshops and the coordinator for that program is Louisa Hoffman. Melinda introduced Monica Zarate as the assistant director and minority health coalition coordinator who helps with medical interpreter training. The interpreters can also be used for the county needs. She introduced Antoni Veloz as the Promotores de Salud (Community Health Workers) who conducts outreach for lead poisoning prevention. George Jurado is the technology instructor. Karen Garza teaches Drivers Ed and Citizenship Instruction. Abbie Martin is the Adult Education and Site Coordinator-they had 29 graduates for the High School Equivalency. They have an open house on Thursday, November 6th from 2:00-7:00 PM. Melinda introduced Itzel Barrera and Mary Mendieta as the student success coordinators, stating they just finished their first year.

IN THE MATTER OF UNITED WAY

Carol Price requested approval for the county to participate in the United Way Fair Share Gift Campaign. Commissioner Weaver motioned to approve the request. Commissioner Myers seconded. Motion carried 3-0. Commissioner Brewer stated they may need to put a policy in place as part of the employee benefits.

IN THE MATTER OF AREA PLAN UPDATE

Liz Stitzel reported that today was the deadline for the owner of the Hillisburg property to get soil boring. Per Nash there have been no soil tests or septic plans submitted and no forward progress. The owner has paid all 3 fines to date. The property owner made a request for an extension, due to lack of funds and he will need to find someone else to do the septic. Liz told him to reach out to the Health Department because they have a list of companies that do soil testing. Commissioner Weaver motioned to allow an extension to November 18th. Commissioner Myers seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Liz presented LUPAC 08-2-390-Ordinance 2025-06 submitted with a favorable recommendation from the Area Plan Commission for adopting a moratorium on the location and construction of Battery Farms otherwise known as Battery Energy Storage Systems or BESS. This is compliant with state law. Commissioner Myers motioned to approve the moratorium. Commissioner Weaver seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

IN THE MATTER OF HIGHWAY UPDATE

Rick Campbell reported they had Community Crossings money left over and paved 8 roads this spring and he has the close out documents for signature. Commissioner Myers motioned to approve the president to sign the close out documents. Commissioner Weaver seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Rick reported that Reith-Riley has completed the paving on Mulberry Jefferson blacktop and Gasline Road. They still need to stripe Mulberry Jefferson. He stated the Highway Department has been taking out railroad crossings. They have used the new paver to pave over these crossings. He has spoken with Kirklin's sewer

maintenance and they would like to annex some of the county roads into their town. Commissioner Brewer gave context by stating this is Kirk street and East Monroe street that are situated within the boundaries of the Town of Kirklin. They are not able to get the roads paved through community crossings because it's not in their jurisdiction.

The highway department will be paving 800 North from 700 East to the East county line. If there is pug mix left over Rick will consider paving 800 North from SR 39 and go west as far as he can. He also has more railroad crossings to pave over.

IN THE MATTER OF OLD BUSINESS

No old business to come before the board.

IN THE MATTER OF NEW BUSINESS

Envoy Pay App # 19

Commissioner Weaver motioned to approve the Envoy Pay App #19 in the amount of \$129,653.26.

Commissioner Myers seconded. Motion carried 3-0. There is roughly \$1,121,068.96 left for that project.

Matron Job Description

Commissioner Brewer read through the modifications of the Matron's Job Description and are as follows:

- Receives, searches, and cares for all female prisoners and all boys under fourteen (14) years of age who are committed to or detained in the county jail as defined in IC 36-8-10-5.
- Manages all duties related to the inmate commissary fund.

Commissioner Brewer gave the sheriff the opportunity to speak regarding the changes. Sheriff Kelly stated he didn't have any questions, and no job description has been submitted for a change, and added the commissioners want to change it and can vote on it and he will share it with his legal deputy and go from there. Commissioner Brewer stated the change was sent to him twice. For reference when the county did all the job descriptions across the board, everyone had input on theirs. There were only two in the county that we didn't receive input and didn't do it and that was the Matron and Chief Deputy. This was created by our HR consultant that put it together based on what other counties do. It has been approved by the committee and will go to the council and will become the official job description of the matron. Commissioner Weaver motioned to approve the presented Matron Job Description. Commissioner Myers seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Annex Plaque

Commissioner Weaver motioned to approve the purchase of the Annex plaque through DNR Awards & More for \$3,700.00. Commissioner Myers seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

IN THE MATTER OF DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

Melissa Ostler gave the following update on the Health Department. They are working on getting the Food and Vector position filled. She is working on the Emergency Preparedness Plan and running through web pages, links, and forms to make sure they are efficient. They are working on their health first initiatives and would like the commissioners pledge of working with the health department as one of their community health partners. Rodney is currently doing 3-4 inspections per day. She would like the public to have access to their food inspection reports.

Amy Webster reported she has her custodial issue resolved. Monica was able to get her funding restored for their part of the janitorial cost. She received the quote the previous night and will be using the same person the Health Department uses.

Sheriff Kelly submitted two requests for K9 retirements and stated they've reached years of service to the point it's time to let them retire. The handlers would like to retain the animals and that would relieve the county of any further burden of care and maintenance of the animals immediately. K9 Lambo would be released to Sergeant Chase Miller and K9 Diesel would be released to Corporal Barth Mink. At this time they will not be replaced. Commissioner Myers motioned to release the K9's to their respective handlers. Commissioner Weaver seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Sheriff Kelly stated in regards to job description changes as far as the agency goes, the appointed people who work solely for the sheriff...they've been through the route of litigation of who operates in the daily operations at the sheriff's office other than the building. He stated he did not agree with the job description change and he thinks it's perverse and strange that it's a position that has been pursued for several years now in this county in regards to everything under the sun. He does not know what to do with the attitude and the personalities and different things but he feels like it's an attacked position. He interrupted Commissioner Brewer and stated it was his time and he was going to walk away, and he was done and not going to answer any questions or have a

conversation because it doesn't go anywhere. He stated the fact is there is litigation currently standing and we'll wait to see what the litigation ends with. The sheriff started towards the door to leave the meeting.

Commissioner Brewer stated that they clearly showed the matron does those duties so the job description should reflect those duties. As the sheriff was walking out Commissioner Brewer stated he had another question for the sheriff unless he's leaving and asked if he wanted to return to the podium. Sheriff Kelly said maybe. Commissioner Brewer stated the sheriff mentioned the building and wanted to talk about the security cameras. He asked the sheriff who made the decision to have an employee change the admin access to the security cameras. Sheriff Kelly stated at his direction, for the fact it is his obligation to secure the facility and the inmates welfare and well being and everything inside the building and the operations of it. Commissioner Brewer asked if changing the access affected the inmates well being. Sheriff Kelly responded it could because people have access to it from the outside and could have photographs, still pictures and video of what the inmates are doing. He stated to change it is his option to do so, and they could talk about it. Commissioner Brewer asked if an employee from the Auditor, Treasurer, or Surveyor called the vendor and had the passcodes changed did he believe something is wrong with that. Sheriff Kelly responded that they are not an elected official with the responsibility of the sheriff's office and he would not have the rest of this conversation now and they could talk about it. Commissioner Weaver asked if the conversation should have taken place before he changed the passcodes. Commissioner Brewer stated it affected more than one department and Central Dispatch went 12 hours without access to the cameras for their department, the county's fuel tanks and other areas they monitor.

Sheriff Kelly stated maybe they needed to be on separate systems because it's his facility. Commissioner Brewer stated he just said it's our building. The sheriff stated it's inside the sheriff's office responsibilities. Commissioner Brewer showed the contract for the security cameras from 2019 signed by former Commissioner Josh Uttis and paid from the County Rainy Day Fund. He stated the commissioners are over all the county facilities and IT needs to have access. Sheriff Kelly stated the IT comes from whoever put the cameras in, and all the Commissioners said no. Sheriff Kelly stated if IT needs access they will give the passcode. Commissioner Brewer stated he believed they have asked and have been denied. Sheriff Kelly stated he has not been asked. Commissioner Brewer asked that he's never been asked by Natasha for the password for IT. Sheriff Kelly stated she had been asked, but didn't ask him. Commissioner Brewer asked so she's not asked Sheriff Kelly for IT to have the passcode. Sheriff Kelly stated they had a conversation, and at that time he didn't think there was a need, there were no issues with the computers, or repairs and not outside access that needed to be given. The Sheriff stated that even if a public request comes in, it would have to go through attorneys. Commissioner Brewer stated it looks very targeted from the standpoint of we disputed all the lies being told from the sheriff and his wife in terms of her not being compensated for commissary and showed in the video that she is doing commissary work on the clock. The sheriff stated what the video showed is a person standing in the commissary facing a door. He said he would not entertain the commissioner and give him the time of day on this for the fact the commissioners could have their attorneys contact his attorneys. Words were exchanged and Sheriff Kelly left the meeting.

Renee Crick reported they hosted a frontline supervisor course and had about 30 people attend. They will host another one in October. Last week she emailed out to EMS, Fire and Police agencies that there was PPE available. She will send out an invite for September 18th at 9:00, the LEPC will be hosting a seminar for Norfolk and Railroad Haz Mat instructor. Next year Norfolk will bring an engine and cars to do a full scale exercise.

IN THE MATTER OF COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Commissioner Myers reported he went on the solar farm tour last week, and things were cleaned up, mowed and looked very nice.

Commissioner Brewer stated they received an email from the state regarding the opioid settlement funds. The county will receive \$15,000 of restricted funds and \$6,500 of unrestricted funds soon.

IN THE MATTER OF CLAIMS

Commissioner Weaver motioned to approve the following claims as submitted, Commissioner Myers seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Friday claims dated August 8, 2025 in the amount of \$35,074.67
Friday claims dated August 15, 2025 in the amount of \$15,182.29
Bi-weekly claims dated August 19, 2025 in the amount of \$751,058.59
Bi-weekly claims dated August 19, 2025 in the amount of \$60,950.99
Court claims dated August 19, 2025 in the amount of \$27,845.06

IN THE MATTER OF PAYROLL

Commissioner Myers motioned to approve the payroll as submitted, Commissioner Weaver seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Payroll dated July 25, 2025 in the amount of \$601,253.46
Payroll dated August 8, 2025 in the amount of \$581,578.33
BOH payroll dated July 25, 2025 in the amount of \$1,015.32

IN THE MATTER OF COMMISSIONER MINUTES

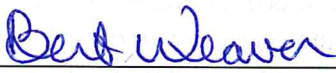
Commissioner Weaver motioned to approve regular meeting minutes dated July 15, 2025, and August 5, 2025 seconded by Commissioner Myers Motion carried 3-0.

The next meeting will be held on September 2nd.

Without any further business to come before the Board of Commissioners, Commissioner Myers motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Weaver at 10:04 a.m. Motion carried 3-0.

THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF CLINTON COUNTY

Jordan Brewer, President




Bert Weaver



Kevin Myers

ATTEST:



Britt Ostler, Auditor