

**MINUTES  
FOUNTAIN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
NOVEMBER 4, 2024  
9:00 A.M.**

The following Fountain County Commissioners were present at the meeting:  
Brenda Hardy, Aaron Fruits and Tim Shumaker.

**MINUTES**

A motion was made by Aaron Fruits and seconded by Tim Shumaker to approve the minutes of the Commissioner's meeting of October 21, 2024 as presented.

Vote: 3-0

**CLAIMS 1-149 (\$181,555.26), Unpublished and Payroll Claims**

A motion was made by Tim Shumaker and seconded by Aaron Fruits to approve all claims.

Vote: 3-0

**Comprehensive Plan**

**Resolution 2024-20**

**Adoption of 2024 update to the County's Comprehensive Plan**

A motion was made by Aaron Fruits and seconded by Tim Shumaker to approve the Comprehensive Plan as recommended by the Advisory Plan Commission.

Vote: 3-0

**RESOLUTION 2024-21**

**Resolution Authorizing Greater Lafayette Public Transportation Corporation to Expand a Vanpool Program Outside of the Boundaries of Tippecanoe County to Fountain County**

A motion was made by Tim Shumaker and seconded by Aaron Fruits to approve Resolution 2024-21.

Vote: 3-0

**Health Board Appointments**

A motion was made by Tim Shumaker and seconded by Aaron Fruits to appoint the following people to the Fountain County Health Board.

Ruth Niccum	Term Expires on 12/31/2027
Linda Knecht	Term Expires on 12/31/2028
Ben Froedge	Term Expires on 12/31/2028

Vote: 3-0

**Purdue Extension – Courthouse Employee Christmas Lunch**

The Extension Office is requesting permission to close the Courthouse on December 20, 2024 from Noon to 2:00 p.m. so that employees can attend the Christmas luncheon. This will be at the VFW in Covington.

A motion was made by Aaron Fruits and seconded by Tim Shumaker to close the Courthouse from Noon to 2:00 p.m. for the Employee Christmas luncheon.

Vote: 3-0

**ENVOY – Demand for Payment**

Envoy is requesting/demanding payment in the amount of \$48,278.85.

Aaron Fruits would like to hold out and discuss this more in depth when he hears more from Envoy. Kent Minnette stated that it would be a good idea to discuss in an Executive Session instead of being debated or discussed in a public meeting. Kelly Carlson asked if the Commissioner's would like the Council to attend. Tim and Brenda did not think the Council needed to be in attendance. A notice has to be issued 48 hours before meeting.

**PHI (Air Ambulance) Contract for 2025**

A motion was made by Tim Shumaker and seconded by Aaron Fruits to approve and sign the contract with PHI for 2025. Vote: 3-0

**TRANSFERS**

**Co General – Election Board**

From:	1000-0062-22000	Election Board	\$465.89
From:	1000-0062-33400	Printing & Advertising	\$364.10
To:	1000-0062-33400	Ballots & Instructions	\$829.99

Transfer needed to pay for GBS invoice #24-39429

**Co General – Auditor**

From:	1000-0002-33800	Training & Education	\$300.25
To:	1000-0002-33300	Travel & Mileage	

Transfer requested to cover expenses incurred due to Annual Auditor's Conference.

**Co General – Purdue Extension**

From:	1000-0028-33600	Maintenance	\$700
To:	1000-0028-33300	Travel	

**Co General – Circuit Court**

From:	1000-0232-33700	Internet	\$500
To:	1000-0232-33401	Expert Witness	

Transfer needed as the reimbursement from the grant has not been received to date.

**Local Road & Street**

From:	1169-0000-22420	Bituminous	\$30,000
To:	1169-0000-33130	Contractual Svc	

To cover the invoices from USI concerning the 2024-1 CCMG Construction Assistance.

**Statewide – E-911**

From:	1222-0000-33600	Repairs & Maintenance	\$2,420
To:	1222-0000-1000	Social Security	

Transfer requested to cover the social security obligation to the end of year due to increase in salaries.

A motion was made by Aaron Fruits and seconded by Tim Shumaker to approve the above transfer and send it on to the Council.

Vote: 3-0

**ADDITIONALS**

**CCD – Sheriff (1138-0005)**  
Salaries for Sheriff & Deputies \$250,000

Additional is needed to finish out the year as the fund is very low and there are 3 payrolls in November. Brenda would like to look at other funds. She feels like CCD cannot be used for salaries. She said the ordinance language was changed in 2022. Kent said it could be approved subject to opinion or vote of the Council. Brenda said we did have other funds it could be pulled from. Tim asked what if State Board of Accounts finds that this fund should not have been used? Brenda wanted to know if the Council would be acting on this. Tim asked Brenda what fund to take this out of. Brenda asked Kelly Carlson if they discussed this at their last meeting. Kelly stated no, but she will contact Dudley Cruea today. This matter was tabled.

**CEDIT – Commissioners**

1112-0068-33625      Childcare – READI Grant      \$23,950

Brenda stated she has contacted Rod Bannon. She felt like they need to discuss this with Rod. Aaron Fruits agreed. It was tabled.

**Co General – Jail**

1000-0380-33550      Utilities      \$20,500

Utility budget has been depleted. Additional is needed to finish out the year.

A motion was made by Aaron Fruits and seconded by Tim Shumaker to approve the above additional requests and send it on to Council.

Vote: 3-0

**Credit Card – Administrative Officer**

ONB (First Bank Card) has sold our credit card business to Elan Financial Services. They require an administrative officer. The Administrative officer will be the only person that can converse with them in regards to the accounts with the different issues that come up and payment. This person is usually the accounts payable clerk. This person is required to have an account/credit card with Elan. Also, Kim Johnson will need to have a business credit card on 1/1/2025.

A motion was made by Tim Shumaker and seconded by Aaron Fruits to appoint Colleen Chambers (accounts payable deputy effective 1/1/2025) as the Administrative Officer and grant permission to Kim Johnson to apply for a business credit card Elan Financial Services.

Vote: 3-0

**DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS**

**Highway – Jason Lewis**

Jason presented an authorization to proceed for Minor and Major Pavement Asset Management Plan and Bridge Asset Management Plan from USI. This will not exceed \$9,000.00. He does have this in the budget. Jason has used Vialytics and has run the roads. Also, Jason has been looking at traffic counter software. The software would help plan for the future. He did receive a quote from JMAR Technologies for traffic counter, radar, laptop computer and all the equipment for \$5,300. He does have the money in his budget. He also gave a handout with Pacer ratings and scoring. Jason said Corporation line road will be closed for one day on Wednesday.

A motion was made by Tim Shumaker and seconded by Aaron Fruits approving Jason to work with USI on the Pavement Asset Management Plan, not to exceed \$9,000.

Vote 3-0

**Landfill- Greg Robinsson**

Greg said they completed the cleanup of the entrance. He will hold out on the back until next year. He cleaned around the EMA building also. He said it looks nice.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

**Carol Freese and Henry Schmitt**

Carol said they are on the home stretch of the Cades Mill Bridge project. The entrances have been completely redone. The bridge was free standing, but they shimmed underneath. They would like to have it last for 100 years. They had to buy more beams due to termite damage. They have paid \$430,000. County has paid \$180,000 and they have paid \$250,000. Due to additional work, they had to give up painting and fire retardant. They would like the County to provide additional money for painting and fire retardant. They have a quote from Barney Carroll of \$5,500 to paint and \$7,500 for fire retardant. They would like this to come out of Covered Bridge Maintenance Fund. There is a balance in that fund for \$36,500. Kent recommended to have a simple contract agreement to approve at the next meeting.

A motion was made by Tim Shumaker and seconded by Aaron Fruits to approve Barney Carroll to paint for \$5,500 and the fire retardant for \$7,500.  
Vote 3-0

**THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING WILL BE MONDAY,  
November 18, 2024  
AT 9:00 A.M.**

A motion was made by Tim Shumaker and seconded by Aaron Fruits to close the meeting.  
Vote: 3-0

Colleen Chambers  
ATTEST

Brenda Hardy  
Kent  
Tim Shumaker