

MINUTES

ELKHART COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

July 7, 2025

President Brad Rogers called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. in room 104 in the County Administration Building, 117 North Second Street, Goshen, Indiana. The other Board members, Suzie Weirick and Bob Barnes were also present. Others present were Steve Olsen, County Attorney; Patricia Pickens, County Auditor; Jeff Taylor, County Administrator and Kelly Ropp, Administrative Manager.

***This meeting commenced pursuant to public notice under the Indiana open door law. This meeting was made available for the public and press to attend in person or engage in remote real-time observation.

On a motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes and unanimously carried, the Board approved the Minutes for the June 30, 2025 meeting and placed them on file.

(Item 299)

On a motion made by Bob Barnes, seconded by Suzie Weirick and unanimously carried, the Board approved the Allowance of Claims as presented by the County Auditor's office.

BUSINESS ITEMS:

Kyle Wagner, County Highway, received the bids for the Bridge 332 Rehabilitation Project. Two (2) bids were received: Milestone Contractors, South Bend IN, in the amount of \$1,009,617.39 and Reith-Riley Construction Company, Gary IN, in the amount of \$1,397,764.38. On motion made by Bob Barnes, seconded by Suzie Weirick and unanimously carried, the Board approved to accept the bids for staff review.

(Item 300)

Kyle Wagner, County Highway, presented a request to post a Notice to Bidders for the 2025 Crack Seal Program. On motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes and unanimously carried, the Board approved this notice.

(Item 301)

Kyle Wagner, County Highway, presented a request for purchase approval of RFQ for a John Deere 6m95 tractor and Diamond Roadside Mower from Hutson, Inc. (Jasper, IN) for \$198,406.20. On motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes and unanimously carried, the Board approved this purchase approval.

(Item 302)

Kyle Wagner, County Highway, presented a request for disposal of 2010 Jeep Liberty for use as a trade-in on a new ¾ Ton Pickup Truck. On motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes and unanimously carried, the Board approved this disposal request.

(Item 303)

Jeff Siegel, Elkhart County Sheriff, presented a request for approval of Release and Indemnification Agreement regarding K-9 "Stone". On motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes and unanimously carried, the Board approved this agreement.

(Item 304)

Vicki Becker, County Prosecutor, presented the 2025-2026 Apprenticeship Program Cohort Agreement between the Elkhart County Prosecutor's Office and CareerWise Elkhart County. This presentation was for informational purposes only to update the Commissioners on details of this paralegal apprenticeship program.

(Item 305)

Ross Maxwell, Court Administrator, presented a request for approval of the FY 2026 Court Interpreter Grant. On motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes and unanimously carried, the Board approved this grant.

(Item 306)

Ross Maxwell, Court Administrator, presented a request for approval of the Justice Partners Addictions Response (JPAR) Grant 2026. On motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes and unanimously carried, the Board approved this grant.

(Item 307)

Jeff Taylor, County Administrator, presented a request for approval of Covered Bridge Certification. On motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes and unanimously carried, the Board approved this certification.

(Item 308)

Steve Olsen, County Attorney, presented a Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statement for Jeff Taylor. On motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes and unanimously carried, the Board approved this disclosure statement.

(Item 309)

Steve Olsen, County Attorney, presented a request to approve three (3) separate Independent Contractor Agreements. The first agreement is with Child and Parent Services, Inc. The second agreement is with Center for Community Justice, Incorporated. The third agreement is with Council on Aging of Elkhart County, Inc. On motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes and unanimously carried, the Board approved these three (3) agreements.

(Items 310, 311, 312)

Steve Olsen, County Attorney, presented for consideration an Ordinance of the Elkhart County Commissioners granting exception to Rules and Regulations for the Elkhart County Park and Recreation Board. On motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes and unanimously carried, the Board approved the ordinance.

(Item 313)

Jeff Taylor, County Administrator, presented an additional appropriation request from the General Fund in the amount of \$16,000.00 for consulting agreement with RJL Solutions through the end of the year. On motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes and unanimously carried, the Board approved this additional appropriation.

(Item 314)

Jeff Taylor, County Administrator, presented an additional appropriation request from the 2022 LR Bond Construction Fund for the remaining \$0.95 in this project account so it can be utilized for the courthouse. This is a correction to the fund from 2023. On motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes and unanimously carried, the Board approved this additional appropriation.

(Item 315)

Jeff Taylor, County Administrator, presented an additional appropriation request from General Fund in the amount of \$60,000.00 for Support Services for System Integration for WAN and \$18,900.00 for Support Maintenance Contract for WAN. On motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes and unanimously carried, the Board approved this additional appropriation.

(Item 316)

Jeff Taylor, County Administrator, presented an additional appropriation request from General Fund in the amount of \$150,494.56 for Microsoft Server License per Audit Gap with 3 Year Software Assurance. On motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes and unanimously carried, the Board approved this additional appropriation.

(Item 317)

Jeff Taylor, County Administrator, presented an additional appropriation request from General Fund in the amount of \$5100.00 for Internet Cabinet and Fiber Contract for Wan, \$3650.00 for Internet Service for WAN and \$12,267.40 for Telephone Network Connection Service for New Courthouse. On motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes and unanimously carried, the Board approved this additional appropriation.

(Item 318)

Jeff Taylor, County Administrator, presented an additional appropriation request from General Fund in the amount of \$75,000.00 for on-the-shelf Hardware Replacements for Network Gear. On motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes and unanimously carried, the Board approved this additional appropriation.

(Item 319)

BOARD ITEMS:

None.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

Cindi Hajjcek, Goshen, spoke.

ADJOURNMENT:

On motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Bob Barnes, and unanimously carried, the Board adjourned the meeting.