HARRISON COUNTY COMMISSIONER MINUTES

MONDAY, AUGUST 4, 2025

Minutes of the Harrison County Commissioners' meeting held on Monday, August 4, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. local time, in the Commissioners' Room of the Harrison County Government Center located in Corydon, Indiana.

Present: Nelson Stepro, Commissioner
Annissa Kellum, Commissioner

Chris Byrd, County Attorney
Sara Burdick, County Auditor
Chad Shireman, County Administrator

County commissioner Nelson Stepro called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with two commissioners and county attorney Chris Byrd present. Commissioner Brad Wiseman was absent. The pledge to the American Flag was recited.

Commissioner Stepro said the first order of business would be claims for the commissioners' consideration. Commissioner Kellum made a motion to approve all regular claims as presented. Commissioner Stepro seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 2 ayes and 0 nays.

Commissioner Kellum made a motion to approve the payroll and prepaid vouchers as presented. Commissioner Stepro seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 2 ayes and 0 nays.

Health administrator Jennifer Caffrey came before the commissioners with a credit application for a new vendor they are wanting to purchase medical supplies from. Commissioner Kellum made a motion to approve and allow commissioner Stepro to sign the credit application. Commissioner Stepro seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 2 ayes and 0 nays.

Ms. Caffrey also came before the commissioners as a part of the subcommittee for the opioid settlement funds with the JRAC board. She said there were two funding requests. The first was in the amount of $65,415.00 for the Harrison County Substance Abuse Coalition's Genesis House. This funding will provide an additional six beds and provide stable housing for graduates. The second request was in the amount of $72,000.00 for Our Place Drug and Alcohol Services, allowing them to hire a full-time certified peer recovery coach in order to serve more clients. Commissioner Kellum made a motion to forward both requests to the county council. Commissioner Stepro seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 2 ayes and 0 nays.

County sheriff Nick Smith came before the commissioners with an additional appropriation request in the amount of $50,000.00 equipment repair & maintenance. Sheriff Smith said the department had been spending more money this year on vehicle repairs and body work to reduce the number of claims submitted to the county insurance carrier. Commissioner Kellum made a motion to forward the funding request to the county council. Commissioner Stepro seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 2 ayes and 0 nays.

Planning & Zoning director Chris Kincade was present to make two requests to the county commissioners. The first was a change of zoning from R3 to PUD for a property owned by Poplar Trace, LLC. He said the plan commission heard the request on July 28th and unanimously recommended approval. Commissioner Kellum made a motion to approve the change of zone request as presented. Commissioner Stepro seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 2 ayes and 0 nays.

Mr. Kincade's next request was a follow-up from the last commissioner meeting concerning the purchase of permitting software. He said updated quote pricing would be $20,000.00 for year 1 of the contract, and $15,000.00 per year for years 2 and 3. Commissioner Kellum made a motion to forward the funding request to the county council. Commissioner Stepro seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 2 ayes and 0 nays.

County resident Jason Crismond came before the commissioners to express concern over insurance carriers using recorded phone calls with county employees to deny claims that relate to certain building code requirements. Mr. Crismond said the absence of a standard operating procedure for planning & zoning staff could create potential liabilities for the County. Commissioner Stepro thanked Mr. Crismond for bringing these concerns to light, noting that there were ongoing discussions and efforts to address them.

County engineer Kevin Russel came before the commissioners with multiple agenda items. The first was a funding request in the amount of $61,402.00 for Clark Dietz' fee proposal for the CE phase of the Corydon Ramsey Road, Pacer Drive, and Hospital Drive flashing signal project. Mr. Russel noted that 80% of the cost would be reimbursed by Federal funds through INDOT as the project is completed.

The next item was an update on the PE & right-of-way phase of the New Middletown Elizabeth Road Project. Mr. Russel said the Lochmueller Group had submitted their fee proposal, which will be reviewed prior to the council approving funding at their August 11, 2025 meeting. Pending council approval of funding, the commissioners will be presented with a contract with Lochmueller Group at their August 18, 2025 meeting.

Kevin Russel then discussed the upcoming FY2026 community crossings grant application. He said the State had reduced the maximum allowable award and the local match percentage. Mr. Russel announced plans to apply for resurfacing work on county roads in an amount of four to five hundred thousand dollars due to the competitiveness of the grant.

The final items were personnel issues. Commissioner Kellum made a motion to approve Greg Baumgart moving from highway crewman to large equipment operator in district 2. Commissioner Stepro seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 2 ayes and 0 nays.

Commissioner Kellum made a motion to hire three applicants for the position of highway crewman as follows: Bradley Ferguson, Zachary Lane, and John Mathes. Commissioner Stepro seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 2 ayes and 0 nays.

Commissioner Kellum made a motion to approve the July 21, 2025 commissioner meeting minutes as corrected. Commissioner Stepro seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 2 ayes and 0 nays.

County auditor Sara Burdick had multiple action items for the commissioners' consideration. The first was a time-sensitive contract with Eaton that was signed outside of a meeting. Commissioner

Kellum made a motion to ratify Nelson Stepro's signature. Commissioner Stepro seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 2 ayes and 0 nays.

Auditor Burdick then read two additional appropriation requests as follows: riverboat infrastructure totaling $43,436.16 and revenue sharing in the amount of $1,116,929.70. Commissioner Kellum made a motion to forward the requests to the county council. Commissioner Stepro seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 2 ayes and 0 nays.

Ms. Burdick then presented language that would be included in all Federal contracts that were $25,000.00 or greater. The addition would be for grant subrecipients to certify that they are not suspended or debarred from conducting business with the Federal government. Commissioner Kellum made a motion to adopt the contract language as presented. Commissioner Stepro seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 2 ayes and 0 nays.

Commissioner Stepro said the final action item was appointing board members to the recently created redevelopment commission. He said the board would be comprised of 3 members appointed by the county commissioners, along with one non-voting advisory member from the school board. The two other voting members are appointed by the county council. Mr. Stepro announced the three county commissioners as board members and Nick Evans as the advisory member, contingent upon the school board's approval. Commissioner Kellum made a motion to make the appointments as announced. Commissioner Stepro seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 2 ayes and 0 nays.

Commissioner Kellum made a motion to adjourn at 7:29 p.m. Commissioner Stepro seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 2 ayes and 0 nays.

Nelson Stepro, Commissioner

Annissa Kellum

Annissa Kellum, Commissioner

Brad Wiseman, Commissioner

ATTEST: Sara Burdick

Sara Burdick, County Auditor