

HARRISON COUNTY COMMISSIONER MINUTES

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2025

Minutes of the Harrison County Commissioners' meeting held on Monday, September 15, 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
Annis Kellum, Commissioner
Brad Wiseman, Commissioner

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

County commissioner Nelson Stepro called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. with all three commissioners and county attorney Chris Byrd present. 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 Wiseman seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3 ayes and 0 nays.

Commissioner Wiseman made a motion to approve the payroll and prepaid vouchers as presented. Commissioner Kellum seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3 ayes and 0 nays.

Ariel Camm-Wilson of the Purdue Extension office came before the commissioners with a contract for a new projector system. She explained that the council had previously approved a transfer of funds request to cover the costs. Ms. Camm-Wilson added that the office was able to save some money by focusing on functionality and forgoing a pricier wireless option. Commissioner Wiseman thanked her for her thoroughness in finding the most competitive price. Commissioner Kellum made a motion to sign the contract outside of the meeting, once an amended contract is prepared by the vendor. Commissioner Wiseman seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3 ayes and 0 nays.

Amy Williams of Taylor, Siefker, Willaims Design Group came before the commissioners with a proposed zoning ordinance amendment. The amendments include detailed district purposes, site standards, and requirements for map amendments and utilities. They also address perimeter fences, sidewalks, streetlights, and covenants in major residential subdivisions. The commissioners then opened the meeting for public comment.

County resident Bruce Kennedy spoke in favor of the proposal, particularly the restriction of high-density residential in unincorporated areas.

County resident Jeff Liebert was also in favor of the proposal but also cited a need for requiring open space and recreational areas in high-density developments.

Republican party chairman Scott Fluhr spoke in favor of the proposal, supporting the changes to R2 and R3 zones to prevent overdevelopment and maintain Harrison County's character.

With public comment coming to a close, commissioner Wiseman made a motion to approve Ordinance 2025-15 as presented. Commissioner Kellum seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 2 ayes and 1 nay. Commissioner Stepro was opposed.

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Planning & zoning director Chris Kincade came before the commissioners with a planned development preliminary plat. Commissioner Kellum made a motion to approve docket 845 as presented. Commissioner Wiseman seconded, thanking the property owner for amending the plan to allow road frontage for all lots using existing county roads, removing the need for a private drive. The motion carried with a vote of 3 ayes and 0 nays.

Under other county business, commissioner Stepro announced multiple action items. The first was a county health insurance policy renewal subject to the commissioners' approval. It was noted that there was no price increase for the health insurance plan, with no significant changes to structure and coverage. Commissioner Kellum made a motion to allow commissioner Stepro to sign the health, vision, and dental insurance policy renewals. Commissioner Wiseman seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3 ayes and 0 nays.

The next item was an opioid settlement agreement with Purdue Pharma. Commissioner Wiseman made a motion to allow commissioner Stepro to sign the agreement. Commissioner Kellum seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3 ayes and 0 nays.

Commissioner Stepro said the health department's annual preparedness grant was available for electronic signature. Commissioner Kellum made a motion to allow commissioner Stepro to sign the grant application outside of a meeting, pending county attorney Chris Byrd's review. Commissioner Wiseman seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3 ayes and 0 nays.

Commissioner Stepro announced that the election board had requested to move early voting from the downtown courthouse to the government center. A conference room located on the first floor of the government center would be more accommodating to those who vote early. Commissioner Wiseman made a motion to approve the relocation as requested. Commissioner Kellum seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3 ayes and 0 nays.

Commissioner Stepro said the county's insurance carrier had sent an abuse and molestation questionnaire to be completed. The document was time-sensitive in order to prevent a lapse in coverage. Commissioner Kellum made a motion to ratify commissioner Stepro's signature on the document. Commissioner Wiseman seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3 ayes and 0 nays.

Commissioner Stepro said the commissioners were prepared to fill a vacancy in the weights and measures department. He noted that four of the applicants were chosen for in-person interviews and the commissioners were now ready to select their choice for employment. Commissioner Kellum made a motion to hire Wade Bowman as weights and measures inspector with an effective date of September 16, 2025. Commissioner Wiseman seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3 ayes and 0 nays.

County engineer Kevin Russel came before the commissioners with multiple items for the commissioners' consideration. The first was an updated Title VI plan. Mr. Russel said this would ensure that the County remained in compliance with requirements for federal grant programs, which call for the plan to be updated annually. Commissioner Wiseman made a motion to approve the new Title VI plan as presented. Commissioner Kellum seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3 ayes and 0 nays.

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The next item was the review of a contract with INDOT/LPA for the construction portion of the Bridge #6671 project on Highway 337. Commissioner Kellum made a motion to allow Kevin Russel to sign the contract using DocuSign outside of the meeting. Commissioner Wiseman seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3 ayes and 0 nays.

The following item on the engineer's agenda was a similar contract with INDOT/LPA for the construction phase of the Corydon Ramsey Road/Pacer Drive flashing beacon project. Commissioner Wiseman made a motion to allow Kevin Russel to sign the contract using DocuSign outside of the meeting. Commissioner Kellum seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3 ayes and 0 nays.

Mr. Russel then provided an update on the Old Highway 111 federal aid overlay project. He said INDOT opened bids on September 10th with the lowest bidder being E&B Paving at \$1,310,000.00. This would bring the county's 20% match to a total of \$262,000.00.

The next update was concerning the bids for Bridge #25 on Corydon New Middletown Road. Kevin said INDOT opened bids for the project on September 10th, with the lowest bidder being Force Construction in the amount of \$1,249,512.00. This would bring the county's 20% match to a total of \$249,902.40.

Under personnel issues, a member of the highway department's brush crew had requested leave without pay. Commissioner Kellum made a motion to approve the leave without pay as requested. Commissioner Wiseman seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3 ayes and 0 nays.

Commissioner Wiseman made a motion to approve the September 2, 2025 commissioner meeting minutes as corrected. Commissioner Kellum seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3 ayes and 0 nays.

County auditor Sara Burdick presented options for the commissioners to consider regarding Affordable Care Act requirements. Auditor Burdick said there would be cost savings if her office elected to print the necessary documents for employees upon request rather than outsourcing the work to a third-party vendor. Commissioner Kellum made a motion to allow the county auditor's office to provide documents to employees upon request. Commissioner Wiseman seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3 ayes and 0 nays.

Commissioner Stepro acknowledged receipt of the Harrison County treasurer's report for the month of August.

Commissioner Wiseman made a motion to adjourn at 7:34 p.m. Commissioner Kellum seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3 ayes and 0 nays.



Nelson Stepro, Commissioner

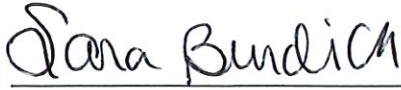
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Annissa Kellum, Commissioner



Brad Wiseman, Commissioner

ATTEST: 

Sara Burdick, County Auditor