MARSHALL COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 2, 2026

The Board of Commissioners of Marshall County, Indiana, met for a regular meeting in the Commissioner's Meeting Room 203, 112 W. Jefferson Street, Plymouth, Indiana at 8:30 a.m., Monday, March 2, 2026. Present were Commissioners, President Stan Klotz, Vice President Jesse Bohannon; and Member Adam Faulstich; County Attorney Sean Surrisi; and County Auditor Angela C. Birchmeier. The meeting streamed live at http://www.youtube.com/@MarshallCountyIN. Brandon Richie gave the invocation, the Pledge of Allegiance recited, the President called the meeting to order and the matters at hand heard.

PUBLIC INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS

The attendees did not have public input on agenda items.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Highway Department Superintendent Jason Peters presented a road bore request from Comcast Cable as follows:

1. Work Order #PTC-633096: At 1255 N. Queen Road, for the purpose of installing new CATV cable, in Polk Township.

Adam Faulstich moved, second by Jesse Bohannon, to approve the road bore request from Comcast Cable, as presented. Motion carried 3-0.

Superintendent Peters presented three (3) road bore requests from Comcast Cable, for the purpose of installing new CATV cable, as follows:

1. Work Order #PTC-805499: At 18300 5th Road, in Polk Township.
2. Work Order #PTC-799390: At 6614 Plymouth-LaPorte Trail, in Polk Township.
3. Work Order #PTC-529318: At 6660 Oak Road, in North Township.

Jesse Bohannon moved, second by Adam Faulstich, to approve the road bore requests from Comcast Cable, as presented. Motion carried 3-0.

Superintendent Peters presented two road surface cuts, road bore, and aerial requests from Northern Indiana Public Service Company, as follows:

1. Site ID #23530006: At 18750 5th Road, between Venita Road and Sage Road, for the purpose of installing new gas service, in Polk Township.
2. Work Order #4000088780: On 9A Road, Sunnyside Drive, Richter Road, Collins Drive, and Greenlawn Drive, for the purpose of replacing five utility poles including the overhead equipment and transfer of conductors/wires to the new poles, in Center Township.

Adam Faulstich moved, second by Jesse Bohannon, to approve the road surface cuts, road bore, and aerial requests from Northern Indiana Public Service Company, as presented. Motion carried 3-0.

Superintendent Peters presented seven (7) road bore, right-of-way cut, and aerial requests from Brightspeed of Indiana, LLC, for the purpose of upgrading/installing fiber optic, as follows:

1. Permit #040972: On 6B Road, between Plymouth-LaPorte Trail and Union Road, in Polk Township.

2. Permit #040965: On W. Lincoln Highway, between Quince Road and Queen B Road, and Rose Road to 9th Road, in West Township.
3. Permit #040968: On 7th Road, between Pear Road and Pine Road, in North Township.
4. Permit #040974: On Tamarack Road, between 6B Road and US 30, in West Township.
5. Permit #040945: On 4B Road and Vine Street, in Polk Township.
6. Permit #040955: On Rose Road, between Vine Street and Main Street, in Polk Township.
7. Permit #040971: On 7th Road, between Tamarack Road and Plymouth-LaPorte Trail, in West Township.

Jesse Bohannon moved, second by Adam Faulstich, to approve the road bore, right-of-way cut, and aerial requests from Brightspeed of Indiana, LLC, as presented. Motion carried 3-0.

Superintendent Peters provided an update on the following projects:

Bridge 231, Center Street, Bremen: The date of letting is August, 2027. DLZ Vice President Laurie Johnson stated that Indiana Department of Transportation suggested the County move forward as though the Federal Highway Administration designates the bridge as "select." DLZ will work with the Highway Department to develop a schedule to ensure we meet the funding requirements.

Bridge 88, 12th Road east of Olive Trail: The date of letting is January 14, 2029. No updates provided.

Bridge 108, East 7th Road: The date of letting is February 12, 2030. Superintendent Peters met with United Consulting to review the Stage 2 Preliminary Plan, and all agreed the plan is ready to submit.

Bridge Inspections 2022-2025 Phase II: Des No. 2101055. No updates provided.

Bridge Inspections 2026-2029: DES No. 2300183. No updates provided.

Bridge 232, Randolph Street: No updates provided.

Bridge 87, 11th Road: Des No. 1702839. No updates provided.

Mill Pond Dam Improvements: No updates provided.

Projects: Small Structure Improvements: The department is planning the replacement of culverts and various small structure bridges.

NOFA Call for Projects: Bridge 2540, Michigan Road Rehabilitation: The Indiana Department of Transportation notified Superintendent Peters that Marshall County was awarded $8,088,000 for Bridge 2540, Michigan Road, construction and construction engineering. Superintendent Peters had an early coordination meeting with the District Program Director on February 24th and the request for proposals posted on February 27th. The proposal respond by date is March 27th at 12:00 pm.

HSIP Countywide Striping Initiative: DES No. 2401543/Contract #T-46041. No updates provided.

Road Work: The crews have been plowing and treating snow covered roads, patching potholes, working on gravel roads, and cutting tree brushes along the roadways. The department is working on the 2026 road program and long term equipment replacement/upgrade plan.

Truck Purchase Options: Superintendent Peters stated that he will be meeting with the Highway subcommittee later this week to review funding options. He stated that the new truck prices range from $48,000 to $62,000 per truck and used trucks range from $30,000 to $35,000, depending on the package options.

President Klotz scheduled a meeting with Superintendent Peters, the Indiana Department of Transportation, and representatives from the Town of Argos to present a proposal for State Road 10 and US 31 on Thursday, March 5th.

Vice President Bohannon discussed political signs in the road right-of-way.

TREASURER

Treasurer Wendy Tapia requested permission to extend office hours for the 2026 tax collection as follows:

Spring Collection	Fall Collection
Thursday, May 7th from 8:00 am – 6:00 pm	Saturday, November 7th 9:00 am – 12:00 pm
Saturday, May 9th from 9:00 am - 12:00 pm	Monday, November 9th from 8:00 am – 6:00 pm
Monday, May 11th from 8:00 am - 6:00 pm	Tuesday, November 10th from 8:00 am – 6:00 pm

Jesse Bohannon moved, second by Adam Faulstich, to approve the Treasurer, Auditor, and Assessor Offices extended hours for the 2026 tax collection, as presented. Motion carried 3-0.

AUDITOR AND TREASURER

Auditor Angie Birchmeier and Treasurer Wendy Tapia explained the difficulties both offices are experiencing with the current financial software. They have researched the limited software options available and requested the County move forward with Low Financials. The Low representatives have offered to split the upfront costs over two years and would include an annual maintenance fee going forward. The fee includes our existing timekeeping system, with added benefits of auto generating the payroll voucher. Auditor Birchmeier requested approval of the Low Associates Software Solutions for the Marshall County Auditor and Treasurer and Technical Service Agreement. Auditor Birchmeier stated that the Cum Cap Development Fund can support an additional appropriation of $132,045 to pay the fees. **Jesse Bohannon moved, second by Adam Faulstich, to approve the Low Associates Software Solutions for the Marshall County Auditor and Treasurer and Technical Service Agreement and to allow the President to sign on behalf of the board. Motion carried 3-0.**

IT DEPARTMENT

IT Department GIS Coordinator Diane Ross and Abonmarche Representative Tim Ehlerding explained that the County has applied for and awarded the State reimbursable Indiana Office of Technology SEED (Sowing Enriched and Enhanced Datasets) Grant in the amount of $30,000. The program goals are to support the development and use of authoritative statewide spatial information, and to help reach the National Emergency Number Association Standard for NG911 GIS Data Model. Representative Ehlerding explained the Abonmarche software program will identify datasets, ensuring uniformity across the State. **Adam Faulstich moved, second by Jesse Bohannon, to ratify the Grant Agreement, Contract 99877, between the Indiana Office of Technology and Marshall County, as presented. Motion carried 3-0.**

Jesse Bohannon moved, second by Adam Faulstich, to approve the Abonmarche Professional Services Agreement, in an amount not to exceed $30,000. Motion carried 3-0.

SHERIFF

The Sheriff's Department submitted a request to apply for the Indiana Department of Natural Resources Marine Patrol Grant. **Adam Faulstich moved, second by Jesse Bohannon, to allow the Sheriff's Department to apply for the Indiana Department of Natural Resources Marine Patrol Grant, as requested. Motion carried 3-0.**

PHILIP SMITH

Phil Smith, Plymouth, requested the Commissioners consider implementing a Noise Ordinance and provided a sample ordinance based on Indiana Code 35-45-1-3 for consideration. The Commissioners will take the ordinance into consideration.

ATTORNEY REPORT

Various Zoning Matters: Attorney Surrisi introduced certified proposals to the Plan Commission for the amendment to the Marshall County Zoning Ordinance to prohibit the development of farm-scale solar (26-PC-2) and data centers (26-PC-3), as well as to remove language implementing a moratorium on carbon capture projects (26-PC-4) following the full prohibition on such projects that were adopted last fall. **Jesse Bohannon moved, second by Adam Faulstich, to approve sending the three proposals: 26-PC-2, 26-PC-3, and 26-PC-4 to the Plan Commission for consideration. Motion carried 3-0.**

TIPS Resolution: Attorney Surrisi discussed TIPS ("The Interlocal Purchasing System") a government cooperative purchasing agency based in Texas. He advised that the County Judges have been exploring a courtroom technology improvement project. One of the proposed vendors for the project, CTI, is a member of TIPS. By enrolling with TIPS by adopting the introduced resolution, the County can rely upon TIPS previously performed procurement solicitations for bids when purchasing the equipment for the courts. The board discussed that further consideration of the resolution will be held when the Judges make their presentation on the proposed project.

MARSHALL COUNTY JUDICIAL

Superior Court 2 Judge Matthew Aldridge and Superior Court 3 Judge Matthew Sarber explained that all four courts are in favor of moving forward with court room technology upgrades. Judge Aldridge has solicited and reviewed four companies for bids: Cisco, River Systems, Forte, and CTI.

The Judges are in favor of either CTI or Forte. Judge Aldridge explained that the Indiana Office of Court Services may have reimbursement grant funds available later this fall. The Judges requested approval to move forward with CTI. The proposal is for $356,830 for the equipment and implementation services, with a required 60% down payment to initiate the order. A 2 Additional Year CTI Complete Service Agreement is $29,863.33 and a 4 Additional Years CTI Complete Service Agreement is $59,726.65. **Jesse Bohannon moved, second by Adam Faulstich, to show support of the Courts upgrading the court room technology, in an amount up to $415,000, including a four-year service agreement, and recommend the use of LIT Special Purpose funds. Motion carried 3-0.**

Adam Faulstich moved, second by Jesse Bohannon, to approve Resolution 2026-2: To Participate in the Region VIII Education Service Center for the Interlocal Purchasing System (TIPS), and to allow the President to sign on behalf of the board. Motion carried 3-0.

AUDITOR REPORT

February 16, 2026 Minutes: **Jesse Bohannon moved, second by Adam Faulstich, to approve the February 16, 2026 minutes, as presented. Motion carried 3-0.**

Accounts Payable Claims: **Adam Faulstich moved, second by Jesse Bohannon, to approve the accounts payable claims as presented. Motion carried 3-0.**

Payroll Claims: **Jesse Bohannon moved, second by Adam Faulstich, to approve the payroll claims as presented. Motion carried 3-0.**

COMMISSIONER ITEMS

The Marshall County Public Safety Grant Program: **Jesse Bohannon moved, second by Adam Faulstich, to approve Ordinance 2026-8: An Ordinance of the Marshall County Board of Commissioners and Marshall County Council Amending Ordinance Number 2025-11 and 2025-12 The Marshall County Public Safety Grant Program, as presented on first reading. Motion carried 3-0.**

Jesse Bohannon moved, second by Adam Faulstich, to suspend the rules and pass Ordinance 2026-8: An Ordinance of the Marshall County Board of Commissioners and Marshall County Council Amending Ordinance Number 2025-11 and 2025-12 The Marshall County Public Safety Grant Program, as presented, on second and third readings. Motion carried 3-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Laurie Smith provided input on the Noise Ordinance proposal.

Gail Nybo provided input on the Noise Ordinance proposal.

COMMISSIONER ITEMS CONTINUED

Concierge Medicine: Jesse Bohannon announced upcoming opportunities for employees enrolled in the County medical benefit plan to meet with Concierge Medicine representatives.

Town Hall Meeting: Vice President Bohannon stated that the Board of Commissioners and County Council will be hosting a town hall on Wednesday, March 11th at 6:00 p.m. in the Commissioners Room 203 to discuss General Assembly legislation with Lt. Governor Micah Beckwith.

Legislative Update: Vice President Bohannon provided a legislative update on House Bill 1210 concerning LIT Special Purpose funds.

Safety Committee Updated: Member Faulstich requested approval to pursue CPR Training with Gibson Insurance, tornado and fire drills, and post placards for egress routes. **Jesse Bohannon moved, second by Adam Faulstich, to move forward with CPR Training and placards for egress routes. Motion carried 3-0.**

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the board, **Jesse Bohannon moved, second by Adam Faulstich, to adjourn the meeting at 10:23 a.m. Motion carried 3-0.**

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Stan Klotz, President

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Jesse Bohannon, Vice President

ATTEST: _____ _____
Angela C. Birchmeier, Auditor Adam Faulstich, Member