MARSHALL COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MEETING MINUTES
MAY 4, 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, May 4, 2026. Present were Commissioners, President Stan Klotz; Member Adam Faulstich; County Attorney Sean Surrisi; and County Auditor Angela C. Birchmeier. Vice President Jesse Bohannon was absent. The meeting streamed live at http://www.youtube.com/@MarshallCountyIN. Rob Keck gave the invocation, the Pledge of Allegiance was recited, the President called the meeting to order, and the matters at hand were heard.

PUBLIC INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS

The attendees did not have public input on agenda items.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Highway Department Superintendent Jason Peters presented two right-of-way cut requests from CNS Networks LLC on behalf of Brightspeed as follows:

1. On 8th Road, between Union Road and County Line Road, in West Township, for the purpose of installing fiber optic cable.
2. On Union Road, between Union Road and Taft Street, in West Township, for the purpose of installing a fiber optic cable.

Adam Faulstich moved, second by Stan Klotz, to approve both right-of-way cut requests from CNS Networks LLC on behalf of Brightspeed, as presented. Motion carried 2-0.

Community Crossing 2026-02: Superintendent Peters stated that the purchase order has been received, and the Indiana Department of Transportation has submitted the request for funds. State funding should be received in three to four weeks. E&B Paving is planning to begin the road work this week. The road projects are 12B Road, from US 30 to town limits; Muckshaw Road, from 18B Road to SR 10; 14B Road, from SR 17 to County Line; and, 15th Road, from railroad to County Line.

NIPSCO Road Usage Agreement: Attorney Surrisi explained that NIPSCO is set to engage in its long-range transmission project. This will involve the installation of an additional electrical line along the high voltage transmission poles the company installed in 2018 as part of its Reynolds to Topeka project. This first phase of work will consist of installation of the new electrical lines from the County line, southwest of Culver, to the Burr Oak substation. Portions of the lines will be installed by helicopter, however, other portions will be installed on land. The project will involve the use of heavy machinery carrying stone and other materials on roads in the project area. The road use agreement outlines the terms of NIPSCO's use of County roads during the project and includes NIPSCO's agreement to repair or replace damaged roadways. **Adam Faulstich moved, second by Stan Klotz, to approve the NIPSCO Long Range Transmission Project Agreement for Use, Repair, and Improvement of Marshall County Roads and Repair of Drainage Structures, as presented. Motion carried 2-0.**

Bridge 81, Mitigation Site: Superintendent Peters stated that Stantec has removed and disposed of existing tree tubes.

Bridge 232, Randolph Street: Superintendent Peters presented Indiana Department of Transportation Construction Change Order No. 004 reflecting a reduction of $42,274.33 due to the final quantity adjustment. The modified contract amount is now $2,970,253.80. **Adam Faulstich moved, second by Stan Klotz, to approve the Indiana Department of Transportation Construction Change Order No. 004, as presented. Motion carried 2-0.**

Bridge 2540, Michigan Road Rehabilitation: DES No. 2501452. Superintendent Peters is working on fee justification.

Bridge 231, Center Street, Bremen: The date of letting is August, 2027. County Historian and prior County Commissioner Kurt Garner emailed a historic timeline for engagement for local consulting parties.

Bridge 88, 12th Road east of Olive Trail: DES No. 2201676. The date of letting is January 14, 2029. Superintendent Peters presented Indiana Department of Transportation Project Coordination Contract 101117 for ratification. The grant agreement will remain in effect for four fiscal years, expiring June 30, 2029. The maximum amount of federal funds allocated to the Right-of-Way phase of construction is $56,000. **Adam Faulstich moved, second by Stan Klotz, to ratify the Indiana Department of Transportation Project Coordination Contract 101117, as presented. Motion carried 2-0.**

Bridge 108, East 7th Road: The date of letting is February 12, 2030. Superintendent Peters reported that Stage 2 Plans for utilities have begun.

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

Bridge Inspections 2026-2029: DES No. 2300183. The Local Quarterly Report is scheduled for May 7th.

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

Mill Pond Dam Improvements: No updates provided.

Projects: Small Structure Improvements: No updates provided.

HSIP Countywide Striping Initiative: DES No. 2401543/Contract #T-46041. Superintendent Peters stated that the road striping may begin on May 6th.

Road Work: The crews have been patching potholes, working on gravel roads, cutting tree brushes along the roadways, and monitoring high-water areas. The reclaiming process is planned to begin next week.

Equipment: Superintendent Peters outlined the revised estimates from Republic First National. The first estimate is for three new pickup trucks, one new single axle truck, two new tandem axle trucks, two used tandem axle trucks, and one loader 938M, in the amount of $1,608,000. There would be

six payments; the first payment in 2027 would be for interest only in the amount of $77,730.72 and beginning in 2028 the annual payment would be $361,370.51. The second estimate is for three new pickup trucks, two new single axle trucks, two new tandem axle trucks, two used tandem axle trucks, and one loader 938M, in the amount of $1,858,500. There would be six payments; the first payment in 2027 would be interest only, in the amount of $89,839.89 and beginning in 2028 the annual payment would be $417,666.10. **Adam Faulstich moved, second by Stan Klotz, to support completing the credit application with Republic First National up to $1,900,000, with the Board President signing the application.**
Motion carried 2-0.

MARSHALL COUNTY COUNCIL ON AGING

Marshall County Council on Aging Executive Director Janis Holiday presented the 1st Quarter statistics. The total expenses were $147,235 and revenues totaled $14,531. There were 7,418 trips; 29 trips were denied in county and 125 out-of-county. The total trip mileage was 54,702.

Director Holiday presented Invoice #1407 for Section 5311 Operating Funds in the amount of $80,352 ($66,352 in federal funds and $14,000 in state funds) for approval. **Adam Faulstich moved, second by Stan Klotz, to approve the 1st Quarter Report, as presented.**
Motion carried 2-0.

Adam Faulstich moved, second by Stan Klotz, to approve Invoice 1407 for submission to the Indiana Department of Transportation.

Director Holiday presented a Notification of Deobligation of Federal and State Transit Funds for 5311 Operating Funds (2025) in the amount of $43,905 and 5339 Capital Vehicle funds (2025) in the amount of $14,596. **Adam Faulstich moved, second by Stan Klotz, to approve the Deobligation of Federal and State Transit Funds, as presented and to allow the President to sign on behalf of the Board. Motion carried 2-0.**

Director Holiday requested permission to apply for Section 5311/5339 Rural Public Transit, FTA/INDOT funding. She stated the Section 5311 operating budget for 2027 is $726,822. The estimated revenue is $64,000, federal share is $331,411 and a local match of $311,411, including the state share of $56,936.

The grant application will also include a Section 5339 capital projects request for $269,000 to purchase one replacement low-floor minivan, one replacement medium transit bus, and one expansion low-floor minivan. The grant is 85% federally funded ($229,250) with a 15% match ($39,750). The required matching funds will be secured by Marshall County Council on Aging. **Adam Faulstich moved, second by Stan Klotz, to approve Authorizing Resolution 2026-4: Resolution Authorizing the Filing of a CY2027 Application for a Grant under Section 5311/5339 of the Federal Transit Act, as amended and presented. Motion carried 2-0.**

Adam Faulstich moved, second by Stan Klotz, to allow President Klotz, Attorney Surrisi, and Auditor Birchmeier to sign the grant documents. Motion carried 2-0.

99+1 FROM ASHES TO FIRE REVIVAL MINISTRY

99+1 From Ashes to Fire Revival Ministry Andrew Hayn requested consideration for up to $10,000 in targeted opioid-settlement supported project funding for the launch of *The Rekindle Path*. The request is centered on a meaningful first-phase print run of The Rekindle Path recovery-support workbook, along with the participant materials and program supports needed to place that resource directly into the hands of individuals and families affected by opioid and substance use disorder. The Board members thanked Mr. Hayn for the project and requested that he return following the 2027 budget hearings.

SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

CHIRP Grant: Sheriff Matt Hassel requested permission to apply for the Comprehensive Highway Injury Reduction Program (CHIRP), a federally funded grant through National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). The funding allows officers to work additional hours focused on traffic violations, occupant protection laws, and impaired driving enforcement all to make Marshall County roadways safer. This is a multi-agency effort which includes Bremen, Bourbon, Argos, Culver, Plymouth, and Marshall County police departments. Marshall County will serve as the host agency, and the Auditor's Office will be the fiscal agent to distribute funds received by the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute (ICJI) to the participating departments. **Adam Faulstich moved, second by Stan Klotz, to allow the Sheriff Department to apply for the Comprehensive Highway Injury Reduction Program as presented. Motion carried 2-0.**

Lake Patrol Grant: Sheriff Matt Hassel presented Amendment #1, Contract #92689, for an extension of the Grant Agreement between the Indiana Department of Natural Resources/Division of Law Enforcement and Marshall County for an additional period of one year. The agreement will terminate on March 14, 2027. The consideration during this extension period is $15,000 with the total renumeration under the contract not to exceed $30,000. **Adam Faulstich moved, second by Stan Klotz, to ratify Amendment #1, Contract 92689, for the Lake Enforcement Grant, as presented. Motion carried 2-0.**

Contract for Reimbursement of Law Enforcement Officer Employment and Training Costs: Sheriff Matt Hassel presented a Contract for Reimbursement of Law Enforcement Officer Employment and Training Costs for approval. Sheriff Hassel explained that pursuant to Indiana Code 5-2-1.6, the Sheriff may require as condition of an officer's hiring, that the officer enter into a contract or agreement to reimburse the County for costs incurred in employing and training the officer, if the officer voluntarily leaves County employment and is subsequently employed by a nonpublic employer. **Adam Faulstich moved, second by Stan Klotz, to approve the Contract for Reimbursement of Law Enforcement Officer Employment and Training Costs, as presented. Motion carried 2-0.**

MARSHALL COUNTY HOPE

Marshall County HOPE Program Director Tim Starr provided a PowerPoint presentation. He highlighted the need for Marshall County Hope, shared the Mission and Vision Statements and Outlined the Objectives: Peer Services, Collaboration and Education, and Resource Connections and Support. Director Starr requested financial support from the opioid settlement funds. The Board of Commissioners expressed appreciation and requested Director Starr return following the 2027 budget adoption.

DUSTIN'S PLACE

Dustin's Place Executive Director Viki Brown provided an update to the services offered. She stated that in the first quarter, programming has doubled in the school/community groups and they are now providing one-on-one counseling with no cost or wait list. Director Brown explained that the programming costs would fit with both the restricted and unrestricted opioid settlement fund purposes. She requested consideration of $63,000 to help with budget gaps. The Board of Commissioners expressed appreciation and requested Director Brown return following the 2027 budget adoption.

ATTORNEY REPORT

Attorney Surrisi did not have any business to report.

AUDITOR REPORT

April 20, 2026 Minutes: **Adam Faulstich moved, second by Stan Klotz, to approve the April 20, 2026 minutes, as presented. Motion carried 2-0.**

Accounts Payable Claims: **Adam Faulstich moved, second by Stan Klotz, to approve the accounts payable claims as presented. Motion carried 2-0.**

Payroll Claims: **Adam Faulstich moved, second by Stan Klotz, to approve the payroll claims as presented. Motion carried 2-0.**

PUBLIC COMMENT

Nelson Washburn, 718 W. Lake Ave, Plymouth, commented on the Flock camera agreement.

Mike Miley, 1232 Washington Street, Plymouth, commented on the America 250 activities and requested the Commissioners consider what items they would like to place in a time capsule.

Annette Haining, Tobacco Education Coordinator, provided an update on the dangers of smoking/vaping taught to the local fourth grade students.

COMMISSIONER ITEMS

The Auction Lot: President Klotz listed the items being sold "as is" in the online auction ending May 14th and presented the Consignment Agreement for approval. **Adam Faulstich moved, second by Stan Klotz, to approve the Consignment Agreement between The Auction Lot, LLC, and Marshall County, as presented and to allow the President to sign on behalf of the Board. Motion carried 2-0.**

Marshall County Tourism Commission: Auditor Birchmeier stated that Andrea Canacci has resigned from the Marshall County Tourism Commission. The Commissioners received a recommendation to appoint Swan Lake General Manager Mike Hyde to fill the unexpired term. **Adam Faulstich moved, second by Stan Klotz, to appoint Mike Hyde to the Marshall County Tourism Commission to fill the unexpired term ending December 31, 2027. Motion carried 2-0.**

Ordinance 2026-10: Certified Proposal to Amend the Marshall County Zoning Ordinance Regarding Farm-Scale Solar Energy Systems: **Adam Faulstich moved, second by Stan Klotz, to suspend the rules and pass Ordinance 2026-10: Certified Proposal to Amend the Marshall County Zoning Ordinance Regarding Farm-Scale Solar Energy Systems, as presented, on second and third reading. Motion carried 2-0.**

Ordinance 2026-12: Certified Proposal to Amend the Marshall County Zoning Ordinance Regarding Carbon Capture: **Adam Faulstich moved, second by Stan Klotz, to suspend the rules and pass Ordinance 2026-12: Certified Proposal to Amend the Marshall County Zoning Ordinance Regarding Carbon Capture, as presented, on second and third reading. Motion carried 2-0.**

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the board, **Adam Faulstich moved, second by Stan Klotz, to adjourn the meeting at 9:41 a.m. Motion carried 2-0.**

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Stan Klotz, President

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Jesse Bohannon, Vice President

ATTEST: _____
Angela C. Birchmeier, Auditor

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Adam Faulstich, Member