JENNINGS COUNTY COMMISSIONER MEETING
September 18, 2025, 9:00 A.M.
Annex Building

Matt Sporleder, Shane Boswell, Alex Zimmerman, and Charlie St. John were present. Matt opened the meeting at 9:02 am with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Becca with Soil and Water had a copier in her capital projects for 2026 but needs to get it this year. The cost for the copier is $7,930.85. Soil & Water had a drop seeder and laptops approved in the bond and Becca said that she doesn't think they will need those items this year. She will get with the board and report back to the commissioners. Shane made a motion to approve Becca's request and to pay for the copier out of the bond. Charlie seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Ian Godfrey with EMS is asking for the commissioner's approval to move forward with two grants. The first one is through Subaru of Indiana and is for ultrasound machines. The grant is $15,000 and does not require a match. The second grant is through the Jennings County Community Foundation and is for extrication equipment. The grant is $27,083.00 and does not require a match. Matt told Ian that there was $50,000 allocated in the bond for extrication equipment. Matt said to go ahead and apply for the grant and the allocated amount in the bond can cover additional equipment. Shane made a motion to allow Ian to move forward with the grants, Charlie seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Sherri needs the commissioners to sign the unofficial detour that was changed for Base Road. Shane made a motion to approve, Charlie seconded the motion, passed unanimously.
Sherri is asking the commissioners for approval to purchase a 2025 Silverado to use as a service truck out of the bond. Matt said that after reviewing the bond, there is enough money to be able to purchase the truck. Shane made a motion to approve the purchase of the truck in the amount of $58,300.00 out of the 2024 Go Bond. Charlie seconded the motion, passed unanimously.
Shane made a motion to approve payroll and claims. Charlie seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Trent Wisner is one of the members of Animal Control Board and he is talking to the commissioners about the difference in budget items and capital project items. Trent wanted to know if there was money in the bond for a new building for Animal Control. Animal Control does have items in the bond, but a new building is not in the bond. Michelle and Trent both know the dollar amount that was approved in the bond and what they must work with.

Nicci submitted a travel request for the Clerk to a State-called meeting. Shane made a motion to approve the request, Charlie seconded the motion, passed unanimously. Also submitted was a travel request for the Assessor to attend the AIC Annual Conference. The expenses will be paid from the assessor's budget. Shane made a motion to approve the request, Charlie seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

The Assessor has a part-time line in his budget and is asking the commissioners for permission to advertise for this position. Shane made a motion to allow the advertising. Charlie seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

The Auditor submitted a travel request to attend the AIC conference from Sept. 29 to Oct. 2, and the cost will come out of her budget. Shane made a motion to approve the request, Charlie seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Mark Frost reports the savings with the guaranteed energy savings solar project from 2019. The project was originally $1,4000.00, and to date the savings have been approximately $521,000.00.

Stacy Lane with Purdue Extension is asking the commissioners to waive the fee at the community building for November 13, 2025, for a fundraiser. Shane made a motion to approve, Charlie seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

For the county to take over Private Road 170 E (Morgan Estates) the owners in the subdivision will need to execute a quick claim of the lot, which is the road to the county. This will only be effective if all the lots owners comply. Shane made a motion to take over Private Road 170. Charlie seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Shane made a motion to deny the magistrate/referee position. Charlie seconded the request, passed unanimously. Matt said he did not receive any information from the magistrate or the judges that was discussed in the last meeting. Based off public sentiment, the only people that thought of funding the position were the judges. Matt said that if on a state level they have determined that case numbers were not such to support the position then it is hard to sell it to the public.

Jerry Shepherd brings the hazard mitigation plan for the commissioners for adoption/approval. Shane made a motion to approve, Charlie seconded the motion, passed unanimously. Jerry also suggests a burn ban to the commissioners. There are 20 surrounding counties that are currently under a burn ban. Shane made a motion to sign the burn ban, Charlie seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Ryan Wheeler with the Boys and Girls Club has come to the commissioners to ask for the community building on January 24, 2026. They are going to have fundraisers and are asking that the fees be waived. Ryan said that they can pay the cleaning fee if the rental fee can be waived. Shane made a motion to approve Ryans request, Charlie seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Shane made a motion to approve prior minutes, Charlie seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Shane made a motion to approve payroll and claims. Charlie seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Shane made a motion to adjourn at 10:05 am, Shane seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Sarah J. Abel, Auditor

Charlie St. John

Matt Sporleder, President

Shane Boswell