

KOSCIUSKO COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

January 14, 2025

The Kosciusko County Commissioners met for their regular meeting on January 14, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. in the Courtroom on the third floor of the Courthouse, 100 W. Center St., Warsaw, IN. Those present were:

Cary Groninger-President
Robert Conley-Vice President
Sue Ann Mitchell-Member

Alyssa Schmucker – County Auditor
Ed Ormsby-County Attorney
Marsha McSherry – County Administrator

Commissioner Board President Robert Conley, called the meeting to order.

IN THE MATTER OF ELECTION OF 2025 OFFICERS

Sue Ann Mitchell nominated Cary Groninger to serve as the President of the Commissioners for 2025. Robert Conley 2nd the nomination, Cary Groninger accepted the nomination to serve as the 2025 Commissioners President.

Nomination: Sue Ann Mitchell

TO: Nominate Cary Groninger to serve as the
Commissioners President for 2025

SECOND: Robert Conley

AYES: 3 NAYS: 0

UNANIMOUS

Cary Groninger nominated Robert Conley to serve as the Vice President of the Commissioners for 2025. Sue Ann Mitchell 2nd the nomination, Robert Conley accepted the nomination to serve as the 2025 Commissioners Vice President.

Nomination: Cary Groninger

TO: Nominate Robert Conley to serve as the
Commissioners Vice President for 2025

SECOND: Sue Ann Mitchell

AYES: 3 NAYS: 0

UNANIMOUS

Minutes were approved as presented. Claims were signed and approved for payment.

IN THE MATTER OF ADDENDUM OF STANDARD TERMS FOR THE QCC CONTRACT-SHERIFF:

Kosciusko County Sheriff Chief Deputy Chris McKeand presented an addendum to the KCSO's contract with Quality Correctional Care for medical care for inmates in the county jail. The contract, which the county already approved and signed, was effective January 1 in the amount of \$563,418.86 for 2025.

MOTION: Bob Conley

TO: Approve the addendum to the KCSO's
contract with Quality Correctional Care for
medical care for inmates in the county jail, as
presented.

SECOND: Sue Ann Mitchell

AYES: 3 NAYS: 0

UNANIMOUS

IN THE MATTER OF AGREEMENT WITH FELLOWSHIP MISSIONS-SHERIFF:

Kosciusko County Sheriff Chief Deputy Chris McKeand presented an agreement with Fellowship Missions for a peer recovery coach for one year of service, 40 hours a week, at \$45,000 annually. “It mirrors the Bowen Center contract that we entered just before the end of the year last year.” McKeand stated.

The funds come from the national opioid settlement money the county received.

MOTION:	Bob Conley	TO:	Approve the agreement with Fellowship
SECOND:	Sue Ann Mitchell		Missions for a peer recovery coach for one
AYES:	3	NAYS:	0
UNANIMOUS			year of service, 40 hours a week, at \$45,000
			annually, as presented.

IN THE MATTER OF REQUESTING FOR THE INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES GRANT-SHERIFF:

Sheriff Jim Smith is requesting approval to apply for a DNR grant. “That is what allows us to be able to service the three lakes- Syracuse, Wawasee and Tippecanoe. It is a partnership we have had for many years now. In a lot of ways, it is just a formality of asking for permission to apply for said grant, and then we will come back once we hear from them,” stated Smith.

MOTION:	Sue Ann Mitchell	TO:	Approve the request to apply for the
SECOND:	Bob Conley		Indiana Department of Natural Resources
AYES:	3	NAYS:	0
UNANIMOUS			grant, as presented.

IN THE MATTER OF PERMISSION TO ADVERTISE-HIGHWAY:

Kosciusko County Highway Department Superintendent Steve Moriarty told the commissioners that recently his department received the Community Crossings Matching Grant 2024-2 from the state. “These are for paving of Packerton Road, Armstrong, the C19s and 700 South,” Moriarty stated. Moriarty asked the commissioners for permission to advertise for the contract on January 22 and January 29. Bids will be opened February 11, and the contract will be awarded February 25.

MOTION:	Bob Conley	TO:	Approve advertisement for the contract,
SECOND:	Sue Ann Mitchell		as presented.
AYES:	3	NAYS:	0
UNANIMOUS			

IN THE MATTER OF FISCAL YEAR 2026 JDAI GRANT-PROBATION:

Kosciusko County Probation Department Kara Shivley requested to apply for fiscal year 2026 JDAI Grant. The \$60,000.00 grant includes \$15,000.00 for implementation and \$45,000.00 for juvenile programming. Shivley stated that Judge Karin McGrath went before the county council on January 9 and received approval to apply for the grant. It is an advance grant.

MOTION: Sue Ann Mitchell

TO: Approve the request to apply for fiscal year 2026 JDAI Grant, as presented.

SECOND: Bob Conley

AYES: 3 NAYS: 0

UNANIMOUS

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF INTRASECT WATCHGUARD RENEWAL-SYSTEMS ADMINISTRATION:

Systems Administrator Eric Sorensen requested approval to renew services with Intrasect WatchGuard for three years in the amount of \$21,654.00. Sorensen stated the funds were already budgeted. Sorensen also introduced Garrit Winans, his department's newest hire and technology assistant. Sorensen stated Winans has been with them for about two weeks now and is doing great.

MOTION: Bob Conley

TO: Approve the request to renew services with Intrasect WatchGuard for three years in the amount of \$21,654.00, as presented.

SECOND: Sue Ann Mitchell

AYES: 3 NAYS: 0

UNANIMOUS

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF LEGAL SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH TURNER VALENTINE LLC-AREA PLAN:

Kosciusko County Auditor Alyssa Schmucker on behalf of Area Plan Director Matt Sandy presented a legal service agreement with Turner Valentine LLC for \$220 per hour.

MOTION: Sue Ann Mitchell

TO: Approve the legal services agreement with Turner Valentine LLC for \$220 per hour, as presented.

SECOND: Bob Conley

AYES: 3 NAYS: 0

UNANIMOUS

IN THE MATTER OF JUSTICE BUILDING RENOVATION PROJECT UPDATE:

County Administrator Marsha McSherry presented an update on the Justice Building renovation project. "Monday, we complete phase 7, which included the clerk's office and community corrections and a couple other offices in that area. Next Tuesday, we will start phase 8, which will include probation," McSherry stated.

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF LEGAL SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH TURNER VALENTINE LLC-REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION:

Kosciusko County Auditor Alyssa Schmucker presented a legal service agreement with Turner Valentine LLC for the Kosciusko County Redevelopment Commission for \$220 hourly with a \$2,000.00 retainer fee.

MOTION: Sue Ann Mitchell

SECOND: Bob Conley

AYES: 3 NAYS: 0

UNANIMOUS

TO: Approve the legal services agreement with Turner Valentine LLC for \$220 hourly with a \$2,000.00 retainer fee, as presented.

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF LEGAL SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH TURNER VALENTINE LLC-AUDITOR:

Kosciusko County Auditor Alyssa Schmucker presented a legal service agreement with Turner Valentine LLC for the Auditors office for \$220 hourly with a \$1,000.00 retainer fee.

MOTION: Bob Conley

SECOND: Cary Groninger

AYES: 2 NAYS: 0

ABSTAINED: Sue Ann Mitchell

TO: Approve the legal services agreement with Turner Valentine LLC for \$220 hourly with a \$1,000.00 retainer fee, as presented.

Being no further business to come before the Commissioners, the meeting was adjourned.

KOSCIUSKO COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

January 28, 2025

The Kosciusko County Commissioners met for their regular meeting on January 28, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. in the Courtroom on the third floor of the Courthouse, 100 W. Center St., Warsaw, IN. Those present were:

Cary Groninger-President

Robert Conley-Vice President

Sue Ann Mitchell-Member

Alyssa Schmucker – County Auditor

Ed Ormsby-County Attorney

Marsha McSherry – County Administrator

Commissioner Board President Cary Groninger, called the meeting to order.

Minutes were approved as presented. Claims were signed and approved for payment.

IN THE MATTER OF VETERAN OF THE MONTH-ALBERT MCCLELLAND:

Veteran Service Officer Darryl McDowell introduced Veteran of the Month Albert McClelland. McClelland was born in 1934 in New York City, N.Y., to Dudley and Marjory. He attended HB Plant High School in New York and joined the Coast Guard in 1951. His basic training was at Cape May, N.J., followed by additional training at Groton Training Station.

“Following the training completion, certifying his next job, he was assigned to the United States Coast Guard Cutter 83435 out of Norfolk, Va.,” McDowell stated. McClelland served 20 years proudly in the Coast Guard during the Korean and Vietnam eras. According to a copy of the April 22, 1971, Congressional Record on McClelland, provided after the commissioners meeting by McDowell,

subsequent to serving on the Coast Guard Cutter, McClelland served on the Winter Quarter Light Ship, operating out of Chincoteague, Va., and the Cutter Winnebago, stationed at Honolulu, Hawaii. In 1960, following an assignment with the captain of the port office in New York City, McClelland became an instructor in gunnery at the Coast Guard Training Station, Groton, Conn. In 1961, he was assigned to the Intelligence Unit in San Francisco, Calif. As part of his first five-year tour of duty in intelligence, McClelland completed the U.S. Treasury Department's Law Enforcement School and rose to the rank of chief petty officer. McClelland returned to sea duty in 1966 aboard the Cutter McCulloch, operating out of Wilmington, N.C.

Early in 1969, he began his assignment with the Intelligence Unit of the Ninth Coast Guard District. Throughout his career, McClelland was interested in the preservation of his country's natural beauty and resources, the Congressional Record states. He took an active part in the task force to save the Grand Canyon and organized the North and South Carolina group of the Sierra Club.

When he was assigned to Cleveland, McClelland continued his conservation activities by organizing the Northeast Ohio Group of the Sierra Club. After returning home, McClelland had a stint in Colorado, but when he moved to Kosciusko County, he was honorably discharged in 1972.

He became a bail bondsman in Warsaw and continues to fill that job today as he is not retired.

McClelland married Deborah in 1980 and they have five children, 10 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Upon receiving his framed certificate, McClelland stated, "My goodness. What an extraordinary event. I am really humbled today to be here in this piece of land in this city." He talked about how the county was named after Thaddeus Kosciuszko, a Polish general, military engineer and revolutionary who fought in the American Revolutionary War. "And here we are, in a county, with his name on it. In a town, which is one of the capitals of Poland. I feel that it is rather incredible to be here doing that," McClelland stated. "This is overwhelming and I really appreciate this. And it is really, really nice. Thank you very much."

IN THE MATTER OF OCRA CHANGE OF USE PUBLIC HEARING:

Michiana Area Council of Governments' community development planner Olivia Nix told the commissioners, "MACOG has been coordinating with the county for a bit now on some program income funds from a previous grant award. The grant was originally for a Revolving Loan Fund (RLF). What we are here to discuss today is the proposed change of use for those specific program income funds."

Nix stated, "Now that the RLF program is no longer operating, we are looking to identify an eligible use for the remaining amount." The amount is \$52,073.85. However, the money is still sitting in an account that is generating a small amount of interest, about \$5.00 a month, until it is officially transferred from the Kosciusko Economic Development Corporation (KEDCO) to the county. The grant was originally through the Office of Community and Rural Affairs (OCRA) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program, which has specific eligibility requirements for their funds.

"For the specifics on the new change of use, it is going specifically to the food pantry services. So, I have a kind of preliminary budget of how the lump sum of \$52,000.00 would be broken up between food purchases, operating costs, and non-food items. But I did want to clarify that the operating costs are not tied into personal hours of work, it is just more the general operating fees of the food pantry.

However, we understand that just transferring this \$52,000.00 to Combined Community Services might be a bit overwhelming and convoluted as we try and make sure it is spent on eligible items," Nix stated.

As part of the disbursement process, MACOG will continue to serve as the grant administrator, reviewing the invoices from CCA to make sure expenses are eligible. Nix stated there are some additional questions they have that they are looking to get additional guidance on from OCRA. The county auditor's office is also speaking with the State Board of Accounts on some last-minute guidance. MACOG is meeting with KEDCO CEO Peggy Friday on Wednesday, Jan. 29, to make sure the dollar figure is accurate.

"Originally, in 2020, KEDCO was a sub recipient. They went in on a grant with the county and that was a Revolving Loan Fund. So KEDCO facilitated that program for some time, but in 2021 they de-obligated the rest of their grant award, and so because of the nature of the Revolving Loan Fund, an interest-bearing account, that is how program income is generated. But program income cannot just be absorbed. It needs to still be deployed in an eligible way per OCRA's requirements, so that is where we have kind of been working the past few months. So, this is from an original grant award in 2020, just program income from that."

MOTION: Bob Conley

SECOND: Sue Ann Mitchell

AYES: 3 NAYS: 0

TO: Approve the reallocation of funds as well as the execution of the sub recipient agreement in line with the change of use, as presented.

IN THE MATTER OF END OF YEAR COMMISSARY REPORT-SHERIFF:

Kosciusko County Sheriff's Office Matron Michelle Hyden and Financial Administrator Cheryl McGettrick presented the end-of-year commissary report for July to December 2024.

IN THE MATTER OF INTERSECTION OF HARVEST RIDGE LN & CR 175 E-HIGHWAY:

Kosciusko County Highway Assistant Superintendent Troy Kintzel is requesting approval for an ordinance for a stop sign at the intersection of Harvest Ridge Lane and CR 175E in the Harvest Ridge subdivision. Kintzel stated, "This is just more or less cleaning up paperwork for the stop sign that we have there, to put an ordinance with that stop sign."

MOTION: Sue Ann Mitchell

SECOND: Bob Conley

AYES: 3 NAYS: 0

TO: Approve the ordinance for a stop sign at the intersection of Harvest Ridge Lane and CR 175E in the Harvest Ridge subdivision, as presented.

IN THE MATTER OF KOSCIUSKO COUNTY EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN:

Emergency Management Director Kip Shuter is requesting approval for the new and revised Kosciusko County Emergency Operations Plan. This replaces the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan. "Its purpose is to provide the framework for the coordination of response and operations during large-scale, complex emergencies or disasters before, during and after the disaster. It begins local, it stays local," Shuter stated.

MOTION: Bob Conley

SECOND: Sue Ann Mitchell

AYES: 3 NAYS: 0

TO: Approve the new and revised Kosciusko County Emergency Operations Plan, as presented.

IN THE MATTER OF 2025 LEGAL REPRESENTATION CONTRACT WITH TURNER VALENTINE LLC-HEALTH:

Health Department Administrator Bob Weaver is requesting approval to enter into a contract with Turner Valentine LLC for legal services for 2025.

MOTION: Sue Ann Mitchell

TO: Approve the contract with Turner

SECOND: Bob Conley

Valentine LLC for legal services for 2025, as presented.

AYES: 3 NAYS: 0

IN THE MATTER OF BOARD OF FINANCE-TREASURER:

County Treasurer Michelle Puckett presented the 2025 Board of Finance. Puckett stated, "The amount of interest that we earned in the calendar year 2024 was \$5,853,804.34. That is an increase of \$618,228.56 over 2023." "We, as a Board of Finance, did not hold any traditional investments in calendar year 2024. We had the Federal Funds plus Rate with Lake City Bank, which we earned 40 basis points higher than the average federal interest rate. So, at the end of the year, Dec 31, the interest we were earning was 5.06%. So that has allowed us to receive that amount of interest."

Looking at the past three to four years with those interest rates continuing to increase and the county utilizing that plan, Puckett said in 2021 the interest that the county earned countywide was \$368,000.00. In 2022, it jumped to \$1.9 million; 2023, \$5.2 million; and in 2024 it was \$5.8 million.

Puckett stated, "We actually have 11 different funds throughout the county that we separate their interest individually on. The KCCRVC is a separate tax base. They collect the interest on their dollars. We have highway funds, surveyor general drain funds and some federal mandated funds that we must put the interest back into their funds – prosecutor and the clerk and the county incentive funds. So, we do have those 11 different funds, but the majority of that interest does go back into the county general."

Also, Commissioner Bob Conley was re-elected to serve as the president of the Board of Finance for 2025, with Puckett serving as the secretary.

MOTION: Sue Ann Mitchell

TO: Approve the Board of Finance, as presented.

SECOND: Cary Groninger

AYES: 3 NAYS: 0

UNANIMOUS

IN THE MATTER OF CANCELLATION OF WARRANTS-TREASURER:

County Treasurer Michelle Puckett presented the 2025 Cancellation of Warrants. Puckett stated, "Each year, the treasurer reviews the warrants that have not been cashed. So, if they are outstanding and unpaid for two years, prior to Dec. 31, we can cancel those warrants and void them and move those dollars back into the funds where those checks were originally written."

All the checks in review were written Dec. 31, 2022, and prior. There are 67 checks totaling \$11,973.91.

MOTION: Bob Conley

TO: Approve the 2025 Cancellation of Warrants, as presented.

SECOND: Sue Ann Mitchell

AYES: 3 NAYS: 0

UNANIMOUS

IN THE MATTER OF ANNUAL RECERTIFICATION FOR CRS-AREA PLAN:

Area Plan Assistant Director Andrew Heltzel presented the annual recertification for the Community Rating System that the county participates in through the Area Plan Commission.

President Cary Groninger asked Heltzel about new maps and asked if there has been any more discussion on that. Heltzel stated there has not been any adopted.

MOTION: Sue Ann Mitchell

TO: Approve the annual recertification for

SECOND: Bob Conley

CRS, as presented.

AYES: 3 NAYS: 0

UNANIMOUS

IN THE MATTER OF TAX CERTIFICATE SALE RESOLUTION:

County Attorney Ed Ormsby presented a resolution to conduct a commissioner's sale of tax sale certificates for properties that are severely delinquent in payment of property taxes. One of the two properties is currently owned by CJR Holding LLC. It is a half-acre property with a previous tax sale amount of \$153,442.95. The second property is a 0.11-acre piece of real estate owned by Richard Young. Its previous tax sale amount was \$90,433.19. SRI Inc. will conduct the commissioner tax certificate sale.

MOTION: Bob Conley

TO: Approve the tax sale resolution, as presented.

SECOND: Sue Ann Mitchell

AYES: 3 NAYS: 0

UNANIMOUS

IN THE MATTER OF REZONING FROM AGRICULTURAL TO AGRICULTURAL II-KREPS:

Area Plan Commission Director Matt Sandy presented a rezoning recommendation from Evan and Janet Kreps for roughly seven acres at the corner of CR 1100N and CR 450E Syracuse from Agricultural to Agricultural II.

MOTION: Bob Conley

TO: Accept the recommendation of Area Plan, as presented.

SECOND: Sue Ann Mitchell

AYES: 3 NAYS: 0

UNANIMOUS

IN THE MATTER OF REZONING FROM AGRICULTURAL TO AGRICULTURAL II-SHOWALTER:

Area Plan Commission Director Matt Sandy presented a rezoning recommendation from Brad Showalter for six acres on the west side of CR 550E, north of CR 800N, Syracuse.

Brad Showalter asked the Commissioners if they had any questions for him. Commissioner Bob Conley asked if Showalter has any family and Showalter stated he has a wife and a son and they are trying to buy the existing buildings and build a house.

MOTION: Sue Ann Mitchell

TO: Accept the recommendation of Area Plan, as presented.

SECOND: Bob Conley

AYES: 3 NAYS: 0

UNANIMOUS

With no further business to come before the Commissioners, the meeting was adjourned.

Kosciusko County Commissioners February 11, 2025

The Kosciusko County Commissioners met for their regular meeting Tuesday February 11, 2025 at 10:00 AM in the Courtroom of the Courthouse, 100 W. Center St., Warsaw, IN. Those present were:

Cary Groninger- President	Marsha McSherry- County Administrator-Absent
Robert Conley- Vice President	Ed Ormsby- County Attorney
Sue Ann Mitchell- Member	Alyssa Schmucker- County Auditor

Commissioner Board President Cary Groninger, called the meeting to order.

Minutes were approved as presented. Claims were signed and approved for payment.

IN THE MATTER OF VETERAN OF THE MONTH-VERNIE PRATER:

Veteran Service Officer Darryl McDowell introduced Veteran of the Month Vernie Prater born in 1944 in Warsaw, Indiana to Alice and Alfred. Prater is one of 10 children. Prater attended Claypool I High School, and joined the army in 1965. Prater started his career attending basic training at Fort Knox, Kentucky, followed by Fort Sam Houston, Texas, to become a medical corpsman. Prater was then sent to Vietnam and assigned to a medical unit for duty. Following his Vietnam tour, Prater was honorably discharged. In August of 1967 with the rank of Specialist/E4. Prater returned to Kosciusko County to work as an X-ray Tech at Murphy's medical center. Transitioning to a Semi Truck Driver until his retirement in 2010. Prater married his lovely wife, Joyce in 1968. They have two children, Kimberly and Elizabeth and enjoy their four grandchildren and three great grandchildren. Prater continues to serve his community devoting time, effort, and resources to Living Hope Ministries.

McDowell stated veterans enrolled in the Veterans Health Care System should check the expiration date on their cards to ensure they have not expired. If they have, just visit any enrollment and eligibility office in any Veterans Administration clinic to have it renewed as soon as possible. McDowell stated it was not a "showstopper" for a veteran to receive medical help, but it will help update records, which matters "for a lot of reasons."

IN THE MATTER OF 2025 VEHICLE BIDS-SHERIFF:

Lt. Mike Mulligan requested permission to purchase six vehicles for 2025, from the department's vehicle budget. The vehicles include two 2025 Chevrolet Police Package Tahoe's from Kelly Chevrolet in the amount of \$52,070.00 each; three 2025 Ford Explorers from Kerlin Motors in the amount of \$43,493.00 each; and one 2025 F150 Police Super Crew pickup truck from Model-1 Ford in the amount of \$46,217.00.

MOTION: Bob Conley

TO: Approve the purchase of six vehicles for 2025, as presented.

SECOND: Sue Ann Mitchell

AYES: 3 NAYS: 0

UNANIMOUS

IN THE MATTER OF SECURITY COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT:

Approve for Chris Rager to be appointed to the county's security committee.

MOTION: Bob Conley

TO: Approve Chris Rager to be appointed to the county's security committee, as presented.

SECOND: Sue Ann Mitchell

AYES: 3 NAYS: 0

UNANIMOUS

IN THE MATTER OF 2026 GRANTS-COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS:

Kosciusko County Community Corrections Shania Baker requested permission to apply for a 2026 Indiana Department of Corrections yearly grant in the amount of \$350,755.00 and the 2026 Drug Court grant in the amount of \$85,000.00. A letter of support also was approved to be signed.

MOTION: Bob Conley

TO: Approve the request to apply for a 2026 Indiana Department of Corrections yearly grant in the amount of \$350,755.00 and the 2026 Drug Court grant in the amount of \$85,000.00 and a letter of support, as presented.

SECOND: Sue Ann Mitchell

AYES: 3 NAYS: 0

UNANIMOUS

IN THE MATTER OF INTRASECT WATCHGUARD SECURITY RENEWAL-SYSTEMS ADMINISTRATION:

Systems Administrator Eric Sorensen requested permission to renew an agreement for Intrasect WatchGuard Security for three years in the amount of \$16,950.00 for software.

MOTION: Bob Conley

TO: Approve renewal for an agreement with Intrasect WatchGuard Security in the amount of \$16,950.00, as presented.

SECOND: Sue Ann Mitchell

AYES: 3 NAYS: 0

UNANIMOUS

IN THE MATTER OF WETLAND MITIGATION CONTRACT-HIGHWAY:

Kosciusko County Highway Department Superintendent Steve Moriarty requested approval for a wetland mitigation contract extension. Moriarty stated this was the second extension for bridge 18, which is on CR 300. "This would be for Santec. And what this is, is a renewal just to monitor the site where we have. This is something that is ongoing. We have had to do this for a few years, we are just extending out two more," Moriarty stated.

MOTION: Sue Ann Mitchell

TO: Approve the request to extend the wetland mitigation contract, as presented.

SECOND: Bob Conley

AYES: 3 NAYS: 0

UNANIMOUS

IN THE MATTER OF HIGHWAY SAFETY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM:

Kosciusko County Highway Department Superintendent Steve Moriarty stated the county has been very fortunate to receive Highway Safety Improvement grant dollars, which is a safety initiative 90/10 grant. Moriarty stated they have selected two different firms.

"First, we have received \$500,000.00 for a countywide striping initiative. This is going to be for phase two. And we have selected Butler Fairman (& Seufert), so we would like your approval to go forward with the Local Public Agency consultant contract, so we can move forward with the striping," Moriarty stated. Moriarty stated each year his department budgets about \$100,000.00 for road striping, with the grant funds helping to stretch out the work they can do.

"So, over the last two years, we have received over \$1 million worth of striping that will happen in 2026 and 2027 with the grants that we have received." Moriarty stated.

MOTION: Bob Conley

TO: Approve the Local Public Agency consultant contract, as presented.

SECOND: Sue Ann Mitchell

AYES: 3 NAYS: 0

UNANIMOUS

IN THE MATTER OF LOCAL PUBLIC AGENCY CONTRACT-HIGHWAY:

Kosciusko County Highway Department Superintendent Steve Moriarty presented the Local Public Agency consulting contract. Moriarty stated, "This is also an HSIP grant that we have received for \$500,000.00, and this is for construction, engineering for the sign replacement. We have selected United Consultant, and this would be for the LPA consulting contract for that one. Again, this is 90/10. This will help us replace a lot of those old huge posts that we have to make breakaway throughout the county."

MOTION: Bob Conley

TO: Approve the Local Public Agency consultant contract, as presented.

SECOND: Sue Ann Mitchell

AYES: 3 NAYS: 0

UNANIMOUS

IN THE MATTER OF OPENING BIDS FOR THE CCMG 2024:

Kosciusko County Highway Department Superintendent Steve Moriarty stated some of the roads include Packerton Road in the southern part of the county, Armstrong Road, and Chapman Lake.

Bids received included Niblock Excavating in the amount of \$2,225,934.40; Phend & Brown in the amount of \$1,785,571.85; and Brooks Construction in the amount of \$1,827,209.00. Moriarty requested the bids be taken under advisement and he would return to the commissioner's February 25 meeting to make a recommendation to award.

Commissioner President Cary Groninger asked if the CCMG paving projects were 50/50 matches, meaning the county pays for half and the Indiana Department of Transportation pays for the other half. Moriarty stated that was correct.

MOTION: Bob Conley

SECOND: Sue Ann Mitchell

AYES: 3 NAYS: 0

UNANIMOUS

TO: Approve to take the bids under advisement for two weeks until their next meeting, as presented.

IN THE MATTER OF VACATION HEARING REQUEST-AREA PLAN:

Tabled until the February 25 meeting.

MOTION: Bob Conley

SECOND: Sue Ann Mitchell

AYES: 3 NAYS: 0

UNANIMOUS

TO: Continue the vacation hearing request on the February 25 meeting at 9:15am, as presented.

IN THE MATTER OF HEALTH FIRST INDIANA MOU'S:

Kosciusko County Health Department Administrator Bob Weaver requested approval for seven memorandums of understanding that pertain to Health First Indiana annual grants. The MOUs have successfully been through the grant approval process, Weaver stated, including through the Health First Board and the Board of Health. The MOUs are with Northern Indiana Maternal and Child Health Network, Wawasee Community School Corp., Grace College Center for Literacy & Learning, Tippecanoe Valley School Corp., Lakeland Christian Academy, Warsaw Community School Corp., and Pierceton Elementary School.

MOTION: Bob Conley

SECOND: Sue Ann Mitchell

AYES: 3 NAYS: 0

UNANIMOUS

TO: Approve the seven memorandums of understanding that pertain to Health First Indiana annual grants and allowing Weaver to sign as the grants come in, as presented.

IN THE MATTER OF HOOSIER ENDURING LEGACY PROGRAM:

Kosciusko County Community Coordinator Amy Roe presented a fourth quarter report. Roe stated the first ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Chinworth Bridge trail extension should be March 20, with other project ribbon-cutting ceremonies tentatively planned for April, May, June, and July.

IN THE MATTER OF STILLWATER HOSPICE:

Stillwater Hospice Chief Development Officer Mary Shankster presented a fourth quarter report:

- Saw 20 Kosciusko County residents through the Palliative Care Service and were on service for 49 days
- Serviced 62 Kosciusko County residents and their families for Hospice Service
- Served 36 Kosciusko County residents through Hospice Home located in Fort Wayne, Indiana
- In 2024 the second highest county of utilization of Respite Care was Kosciusko County
- Provided bereavement outreach to 151 individuals and provided grief counseling for 4 individuals in the county
- Doing individual grief counseling through the Health Services Pavilion

IN THE MATTER OF EQUITY PROTECT PROPERTY FRAUD PREVENTION PRESENTATION:

Deb Wright, Kosciusko County Recorder introduced Dusty Wicker from CSI, the Recorder's office recording Software Company. The Recorder's office is partnering with CSI and Equity Protect for a proactive property fraud prevention. The service doesn't cost the county anything to participate. Everything is paid for by the subscription fees of those that choose to participate in the services. There is a website for the public to access and it will give them a score of their risk for potential fraud on their real estate. The fee is \$360 for the first year if there was not a contract signed by the county, compared to \$149 for the first year, then \$99 per year thereafter with the county signing a contract. The statistics of our county are 34% are low risk, 15% are medium risk, 31% are medium high and 20% are high risk for potential real estate fraud. The link for this service is found on the County's website along with the link for DoxPop that has a service that is reactive to someone filing something on a person's property.

IN THE MATTER OF FURTHER BUSINESS:

Larry Siegal, Town Council for the Town of Syracuse, started by saying this is his 23rd year on the town council. Larry wanted to discuss with the Commissioners the possibility of an annexation. He stated that Syracuse is basically land-locked. He stated that sometimes unique situations require unique solutions. He went on to explain that in 2022 District 4 was able to get a bill passed to annex non-contiguous land and now in 2025 there is HB 1472 in Hendricks County trying to annex non-contiguous land. The town of Syracuse has had 3 housing developers walk away due to no contiguous space for housing development. The town is currently working through their second annexation in Elkhart County and that has already been approved. They have a large development to begin in April in Elkhart County. He is asking the Commissioners of Kosciusko County to help create a bill much like 1472 or attach to the current bill 1472 that is working its way through the house. He then asked for a letter of support from the Kosciusko County Commissioners.

Commissioner President Cary Groninger asked what kind of timeline they had and Larry Siegal replied that it was a very short timeline. Cary then stated there were a lot of layers to this onion to get through today. Cary stated he wouldn't feel comfortable making a recommendation today without digging further into this situation. Bob Conley then explained his understanding of what is trying to happen by expanding the area where higher valued homes can be built and leaving behind the areas or homes that

have little value or no value to get to a golden nugget. It's been tried before and failed. Bob then made a motion to take this matter under advisement. Sue Ann Mitchell then stated that there is land to the West of Syracuse that is not landlocked and has the ability to be developed. Larry Siegal explained that those homeowners do not want to annex and are not cooperative to move forward on that recommendation.

MOTION:	Bob Conley	TO: Take the matter under advisement for
SECOND:	Sue Ann Mitchell	further review and then perhaps have a
AYES:	3	NAYS: 0
UNANIMOUS		special meeting to move forward.

With no further business to come before the Commissioners, the meeting was adjourned.

KOSCIUSKO COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

February 25th, 2025

The Kosciusko County Commissioners met for their regular meeting on February 25, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. in the Courtroom on the third floor of the Courthouse, 100 W. Center St., Warsaw, IN. Those present were:

Cary Groninger-President	Alyssa Schmucker – County Auditor
Robert Conley-Vice President	Ed Ormsby-County Attorney
Sue Ann Mitchell-Member	Marsha McSherry – County Administrator

Commissioner Board President Cary Groninger, called the meeting to order.

Minutes were approved as presented. Claims were signed and approved for payment.

IN THE MATTER OF AWARDING BIDS FOR THE CCMG 2024:

County Highway Superintendent Steve Moriarty stated that he had 3 bids from last week for the Community Crossings grant CCMG 2024-2 for Packerton Road, Eli Lily, Warner Armstrong Road, Chapman Road and EMS C19, the lowest bidder was Phend and Brown with a bid of \$1,785,571.85. Steve would like to recommend them to do the work for this grant. Cary Groninger mentioned this was a 50/50 grant and that the amount had been increased from previous years. The limit was given as \$1,280,000.00.

MOTION:	Robert Conley	TO: Approve the bid from Phend and Brown,
SECOND:	Sue Ann Mitchell	as presented.
AYES:	2	NAYS: 0
UNANIMOUS		

IN THE MATTER OF KABS SECTION 5311–RURAL TRANSIT CLAIM:

KABS General manager Kristen Rude, presented the 5311 quarterly claim for reimbursement. She stated that for the 4th quarter of 2024 they had a total of \$214,399.00 in claims of which \$63,044 were paid from their operating funds and the remaining \$151,355 was funded by their local match. She stated they

renewed their contract with Cardinal Services and signed a new contract with Well Trans for non-emergency transportation. Pass-thru grant for 2026 was also presented.

MOTION: Robert Conley
SECOND: Sue Ann Mitchell

AYES: 2 NAYS: 0
UNANIMOUS

TO: Approve the quarterly 5311 claim for reimbursement in the amount of \$151,355.00, as presented.

IN THE MATTER OF KABS PASS THROUGH AGREEMENT:

KABS General Manager Kristen Rude requested that the Commissioner's allow for the pass-through agreement to extend through 2026.

MOTION: Robert Conley
SECOND: Sue Ann Mitchell

AYES: 2 NAYS: 0
UNANIMOUS

TO: Approve the pass-through agreement for 2026, as presented.

IN THE MATTER OF THE SEED GIS GRANT OPPORTUNITY:

Bill Holder, GIS Director presented that the Indiana Geographic Information Office offers a SEED grant that supports up to a maximum allocation of \$30,000.00 with additional funding possible based on demonstrated need. The minimum allocation is \$5,000.00. This grant is to help improve certain GIS data sets.

MOTION: Sue Ann Mitchell
SECOND: Robert Conley

AYES: 2 NAYS: 0
UNANIMOUS

TO: Approve the application for the SEED grant, as presented.

IN THE MATTER OF THE REASSIGNMENT OF CONTRACT FOR CHINWORTH TRAIL:

Rob Bishop, President of the Parks and Recreation Board stated that the engineering company that was working on the Chinworth project has been bought out and has a transfer from Triad Associates Inc. to VS Engineering Inc. Rob then invited the Commissioners to attend the groundbreaking ceremony on March 20, 2025 @ 4pm at Chinworth trailhead.

MOTION: Robert Conley
SECOND: Sue Ann Mitchell

AYES: 2 NAYS: 0
UNANIMOUS

TO: Approve the transfer from Triad Associates Inc. to VS Engineering Inc., as presented.

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPOINTMENT OF THE MILFORD LIBRARY BOARD MEMBER:

Marsha McSherry, County Administrator stated that Carol Zimmerman is no longer serving in her position and that Janna Stollery will be replacing her.

MOTION: Sue Ann Mitchell

SECOND: Robert Conley

AYES: 2 NAYS: 0

UNANIMOUS

TO: Approve appointment of Janna Stollery
on the board for Milford Library, as presented.

IN THE MATTER OF SUBMITTING A REQUEST FOR RFPS:

Marsha McSherry, County Administrator is requesting RFPs due to the procurement policy of being under \$50,000.00. This is for furniture on the main floor of the Justice Building as part of the remodel. She provided an update on the remodel, phase 9 should be completed by March 6, 2025. Phase 10 should be completed by April 15, 2025.

MOTION: Robert Conley

SECOND: Sue Ann Mitchell

AYES: 2 NAYS: 0

UNANIMOUS

TO: Approve the request for RFPs, as
presented.

IN THE MATTER OF VACATION OF UNIMPROVED ALLEY – PETITIONER KEVIN HOHMAN:

Matt Sandy, Area Plan Commission Director, presented a request to vacate an unimproved alley between Lots 7 & 8 in Jannie Warens Subdivision No. 4, on Diamond Lake for landowner Kevin Hohman. President Carey Groninger asked if anyone from the public was there to speak for or against this request for vacation and no one came forward or spoke up.

MOTION: Robert Conley

SECOND: Sue Ann Mitchell

AYES: 2 NAYS: 0

UNANIMOUS

TO: Approve the request to vacate, as
presented.

ORDINANCE NO. 25-02-25-001 (2025020883)

As recorded in the office of the Kosciusko County Recorder.

**IN THE MATTER OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDMENT FOR ZONING ORDINANCE 75-1
MISC RECORD 53 PG 130:**

Matt Sandy, Area Plan Commission Director, presented a request to amend Zoning Ordinance 75-1 as recorded in Misc Record 53, pg 130 to define and set up the zoning for Data Centers.

MOTION: Sue Ann Mitchell

SECOND: Robert Conley

AYES: 2 NAYS: 0

UNANIMOUS

TO: Approve the request to adopt the
amendment for zoning to add Data Centers, as
presented.

ORDINANCE NO. 25-02-25-002 (2025020885)

As recorded in the office of the Kosciusko County Recorder.

IN THE MATTER OF ESTABLISHING AN OPIOID COMMITTEE:

Ed Ormsby, County Attorney presented a resolution to set up and form an Opioid Committee with Sue Ann Mitchell, Tony Ciriello and DeLynn Geiger as members of the committee and will serve for a 1-year term.

MOTION: Robert Conley

TO: Approve the request to adopt the resolution, as presented.

SECOND: Sue Ann Mitchell

AYES: 2 NAYS: 0

UNANIMOUS

RESOLUTION NO. 25-02-25-01 (2025020885)

As recorded in the office of the Kosciusko County Recorder.

Being no further business to come before the Commissioners, the meeting was adjourned.

KOSCIUSKO COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

March 11th, 2025

The Kosciusko County Commissioners met for their regular meeting on March 11, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. in the Courtroom on the third floor of the Courthouse, 100 W. Center St., Warsaw, IN. Those present were:

Cary Groninger-President

Alyssa Schmucker – County Auditor

Robert Conley-Vice President

Ed Ormsby-County Attorney

Sue Ann Mitchell-Member

Marsha McSherry – County Administrator

Commissioner Board President Cary Groninger called the meeting to order.

Minutes were approved as presented. Claims were signed and approved for payment.

IN THE MATTER OF VETERAN OF THE MONTH- ADAM GRIMM:

Veteran Service Officer Darryl McDowell introduced Veteran of the Month Adam Grimm. Grimm was born in August 1980 in Warsaw to Alan and Linda and has one sister, Ashley. Grimm attended Warsaw Community High School, then Grace College and joined the United States Army in 2001. His basic training was at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, followed by his advanced training in Fort Bliss, Texas, specializing in air and missile defense. Grimm was then assigned to Fort Carson, Colorado, in the 1st Battalion, 44th Air Defense Artillery Unit.

McDowell stated Grimm got to see Fort Bliss three times, then going to Germany, Qatar, Guam, and South Korea. After 20 years in active duty, Grimm was honorably discharged in 2021. “So, he is fresh, new out of the service,” McDowell stated.

Staff Sgt. Grimm received several recognitions, including the Afghan Campaign Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, and the Combat Action Badge “just to mention a few,” McDowell stated. After serving his

country honorably, McDowell said Grimm moved back to Kosciusko County to help his ailing mother before she died. Though Grimm is not married and has no children, he has two nephews, Luke and Logan, and a niece, Emma, who he loves very much.

At age 44, Grimm lives in Warsaw and can be found playing competitive pickleball six days a week at various locations around the Warsaw area.

After receiving his framed certificate, Grimm stated, "I do not really have a lot to say, but I joined the Army in 2001 because I wanted to get out of here, and I never thought that I would come back, but I realized at some point that this is a great place to be. I have not looked back since and I love being here, and I love calling Warsaw my home, so thank you."

IN THE MATTER OF UNOFFICIAL DETOUR R-43810-SR19 CULVERT OVER LITTLE YELLOW CREEK- HIGHWAY:

County Highway Superintendent Steve Moriarty requested approval for an unofficial detour for INDOT. Moriarty stated, "INDOT, in the spring of 2026, is going to replace a small structure located on 800 South, down by the Tippecanoe Valley High School. They are looking for an unofficial detour route." The route selected will be CR 900 South, over to CR 1000 West, back up to CR 700 South and back over to SR 19. Moriarty said, "We feel that this would be the best and safest route."

MOTION Sue Ann Mitchell

TO: Approve the unofficial detour for

SECOND Bob Conley

INDOT, as presented.

AYES: 3 NAYS: 0

UNANIMOUS

IN THE MATTER OF THE WORLD OF ASPHALT 2025- HIGHWAY:

County Highway Superintendent Steve Moriarty requested approval for County Highway Assistant Superintendent Troy Kintzel to travel out of the state to attend the World of Asphalt 2025 in St. Louis, Mo. "This is for educational classes on improving the county highway," Moriarty said, adding that Kintzel will be going alone.

MOTION Bob Conley

TO: Approve Troy Kintzel to travel out of

SECOND Sue Ann Mitchell

the state to attend the World of Asphalt 2025,
as presented.

AYES: 3 NAYS: 0

UNANIMOUS

IN THE MATTER OF THE MEDICAL DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY DISPATCH AGREEMENT:

Director of 911 Operations Amanda See requested approval for a Medical Director of Emergency Dispatch Agreement. "So, EMD is our Emergency Medical Dispatch. We must have a medical provider oversee that and give us guidance, making sure we are following what is appropriate."

Dispatch's current medical director is retiring, so they would like to have the agreement with Dr. Timothy Schroer. Schroer is a local emergency room physician and has connections working with North Webster EMS. The contract is for \$229.88 per pay period.

MOTION Bob Conley

SECOND Sue Ann Mitchell

AYES: 3 NAYS: 0
UNANIMOUS

TO: Approve a Medical Director of
Emergency Dispatch Agreement with Dr.
Timothy Schroer, as presented.

Bob Conley shared a story that the dispatchers were able to help a father in performing CPR on his infant child and that the instructions he received saved the child's life.

**IN THE MATTER OF GRANT PROPOSAL INDIANA OFFICE OF COURT SERVICES-
REENTRY COURT:**

Probation department Tammy Johnston and Kelly Krugman requested approval to apply for a \$170,000.00 grant from the Indiana Office of Court Services for the Reentry Court. Johnston stated, "It is the same grant we applied for and received some money from last year, and we want to apply for the grant funds again this year." "It is an ongoing thing. We have two participants. We just got it started in January, so we have our first two participants that are doing well so far. This grant will just be able to keep this running," Johnston stated.

MOTION Bob Conley
SECOND Sue Ann Mitchell

TO: Approve to apply for a \$170,000.00
grant from the Indiana Office of Court
Services for the Reentry Court, as presented.

AYES: 3 NAYS: 0
UNANIMOUS

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPOINTMENT OF A NEW HEALTH BOARD MEMBER:

Health Department Administrator Bob Weaver requested approval to appoint Tonya Arter, a registered nurse, to the Kosciusko County Board of Health. Arter will be replacing Terry Owens, RN, who is retiring. Arter is a quality control manager at Lutheran Kosciusko Hospital and holds a bachelor's degree in nursing.

MOTION Sue Ann Mitchell
SECOND Bob Conley

TO: Approve the appointment of Tonya Arter
to the Kosciusko County Board of Health, as
presented.

AYES: 3 NAYS: 0
UNANIMOUS

IN THE MATTER OF CAMERA SOFTWARE- KABS:

Kosciusko Area Bus Service General Manager Kristin Rude requested approval to purchase cameras for buses. "Under KABS procurement policy, county commissioners' approval is required for purchases not previously approved in our budget, specifically for equipment with a unit cost of \$300.00 or more," Rude stated. "KABS is looking to equip all of our 12 federally regulated transportation vehicles with two cameras- one dual-facing front camera and one rear camera for lift operations."

After thoroughly evaluating four vendors, Rude stated KABS selected TripMaster as its preferred provider. "TripMaster's camera services came in at a lower cost compared to the other vendors. They are also in alignment for potential future partnership with software for us," Rude stated. The total cost of the equipment, including installation, is \$19,250.00. KABS has secured a grant from Saemann Foundation for \$8,000.00 of that, so the total capital purchase for KABS would be in the amount of \$11,250.00. This money is in Kab's budget.

President Cary Groninger stated the cameras were good equipment to have on the buses to help keep the drivers and passengers safe.

MOTION Bob Conley

SECOND Sue Ann Mitchell

AYES: 3 NAYS: 0

UNANIMOUS

TO: Approve the request to purchase cameras for buses in the amount of \$19,250.00, as presented.

IN THE MATTER OF INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

DE-OBLIGATION-KABS:

Kosciusko Area Bus Service General Manager Kristin Rude told the commissioners, “INDOT is closing out the 2023 and 2024 grant years. I shared a copy of the 5311 and 5339 de-obligation letters, which requires county commissioners’ authorization, due to C.A.R.E.S. funding, which covered 100% of eligible expenses during the 2020 through 2022 grant periods. INDOT is still working to spend the older grant funds that were previously un-reimbursed. For the 2023 and the 2024 grant years, KABS had zero dollars de-obligated under the 5311 operating funds and the 5339 capital funds, also the state funds.”

President Cary Groninger reminded everyone that KABS is creating a new deviated fixed bus route system, and a public forum will take place from 5-7 p.m. March 18th at the Warsaw Community Public Library.

MOTION Bob Conley

SECOND Sue Ann Mitchell

AYES: 3 NAYS: 0

UNANIMOUS

TO: Approve the Indiana Department of Transportation De-Obligation, as presented.

IN THE MATTER OF BUSINESS FURNISHINGS QUOTE:

County Administrator Marsha McSherry presented a quote for furniture for the first floor of the Justice Building renovation project. McSherry requested quotes from two companies, but only received one quote, which was Business Furnishings. The quote is in the amount of \$49,331.15. McSherry stated KDA declined the bid.

MOTION Bob Conley

SECOND Sue Ann Mitchell

AYES: 3 NAYS: 0

UNANIMOUS

TO: Approve the quote from Business Furnishings in the amount of \$49,331.15, as presented.

IN THE MATTER OF JUSTICE BUILDING RENOVATIONS UPDATE:

County Administrator Marsha McSherry presented an update of the Justice Building renovations. McSherry stated they just finished phase nine out of ten phases and hopefully by the middle of April phase 10 will be completed as well.

IN THE MATTER OF CVB ANNUAL UPDATE:

Kosciusko County Convention & Visitors Bureau Executive Director Cori Humes presented an annual update. “In 2024, we welcomed an estimated number of 1.2 million visitors.” Humes stated. “This is from some Placer.AI data that we were lucky to receive funding for from the KCCRVC. This visitor base had to stay at least an hour in our destination. The economic impact of that was significant, which was about \$186.3 million spent by visitors, and that helped support over 2,100 jobs.” That helped generate about \$19.6 million in tax revenue in 2023. They continue to work on marketing. Cori spoke about the passport activities that the CVB is offering. All communities in Kosciusko County now have the Clearly Kosciusko signs displayed.

IN THE MATTER OF VOLUNTARY SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT-RICHARD HEARN:

County Auditor Alyssa Schmucker requested approval for a voluntary settlement agreement with Richard Hearn, 10712 N. South Shore Drive, Syracuse. Schmucker stated, "We had a taxpayer contact us to say that he should not have received a homestead credit in the year 2018. Upon review, it was discovered that he should not have received the homestead credit for 2019 or 2020 as well as 2018. We pursued collecting for the years 2018 and 2019. We will be collecting \$15,405.69 from the taxpayer." Of that, \$14,005.18 will be paid back to the county, \$1,386.51 will go into the county deduction fund, and \$14.00 will be returned to the state.

MOTION Bob Conley

TO: Approve the Voluntary Settlement Agreement, as presented.

SECOND Sue Ann Mitchell

AYES: 3 NAYS: 0

UNANIMOUS

IN THE MATTER OF WEATHER PREPAREDNESS EMA:

Emergency Management Director Kip Shuter said Indiana Gov. Mike Braun declared this week as Severe Weather Emergency Preparedness Week. The statewide tornado drill took place at about 10:15 a.m. Tuesday.

With no further business to come before the Commissioners, the meeting was adjourned.

KOSCIUSKO COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

March 25, 2025

The Kosciusko County Commissioners met for their regular meeting on March 25, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. in the Courtroom on the third floor of the Courthouse, 100 W. Center St., Warsaw, IN.

Those present were:

Cary Groninger-President

Alyssa Schmucker – County Auditor

Robert Conley-Vice President

Ed Ormsby-County Attorney

Sue Ann Mitchell-Member

Marsha McSherry – County Administrator

Commissioner Board President Cary Groninger, called the meeting to order.

Minutes were approved as presented. Claims were signed and approved for payment.

IN THE MATTER OF PUBLIC HEARING TO REESTABLISH CUMULATIVE FUNDS FOR BRIDGES:

County Auditor Alyssa Schmucker stated, “Each year we re-establish the cumulative rate for the capital development fund and the bridge fund, this is a formality to hold a public hearing to Re-establish those funds.” The cumulative capital development fund rate will be \$0.0333 per \$100.00 of assessed valuation, and the cumulative bridge fund rate will be \$0.10 per \$100.00. Schmucker stated those are adjusted down as needed at budget time.

President Cary Groninger opened the hearing to the public, no taxpayers were present to speak for or against re-establishing the rates. The hearing was closed to the public.

MOTION:	Sue Ann Mitchell	TO: Approve the re-establishment of the rates,
SECOND:	Robert Conley	as presented. Ordinance 25-03-25-001 & 002
AYES:	3	NAYS: 0
UNANIMOUS		

IN THE MATTER OF VEHICLE PURCHASE- COUNTY HIGHWAY:

Kosciusko County Highway Department Superintendent Steve Moriarty requested approval to purchase a 2025 GMC 2500 pickup truck in the amount of \$61,850.00 from McCormick Motors in Nappanee. Moriarty stated this was the lowest of three quotes he received for the truck. Moriarty also stated the money is in his department’s budget for this year.

MOTION:	Robert Conley	TO: Approve the request to purchase a 2025
SECOND:	Sue Ann Mitchell	GMC 2500 pickup truck in the amount of
AYES:	3	NAYS: 0
UNANIMOUS		

IN THE MATTER OF 2025 CHIRP GRANT- SHERIFF:

Kosciusko County Sheriff’s Office Lt. Mike Mulligan requested approval to participate in the 2025 Comprehensive Highway Injury Reduction Program. The CHIRP grant is applied for by Winona Lake on behalf of Kosciusko County

MOTION:	Robert Conley	TO: Approve the KCSO to participate 2025
SECOND:	Sue Ann Mitchell	CHIRP Grant, as requested.
AYES:	3	NAYS: 0
UNANIMOUS		

IN THE MATTER OF 2026 CHIRP GRANT- SHERIFF:

Kosciusko County Sheriff’s Office Lt. Mike Mulligan requested approval to apply for the 2026 Comprehensive Highway Injury Reduction Program on behalf of the KCSO alone. This is due to the retirement of Craig Allebach as the Winona Lake town manager, the Kosciusko County Traffic Safety Partnership is being dissolved in 2026.

MOTION:	Robert Conley	TO: Approve for KCSO to apply for the 2026
SECOND:	Sue Ann Mitchell	CHIRP grant, as requested.
AYES:	3	NAYS: 0
UNANIMOUS		

IN THE MATTER OF 1ST SOURCE GRANT- SHERIFF:

Kosciusko County Sheriff's Office Deputy Chris McKeand requested approval to apply for \$10,000.00 in funding through the 1st Source Foundation. McKeand stated, "The funding would go towards the Kosciusko County Recovery Program. As you know, we placed peer recovery coaches in the jail to add those services to that program. This funding would go towards purchasing a radio for those individuals doing that service so they are able to communicate with Sheriff Office Staff while meeting with inmates. It will also fund care packages for inmates that are participating in that program upon their release."

MOTION:	Robert Conley	TO: Approve KCSO to apply for the
SECOND:	Sue Ann Mitchell	\$10,000.00 in funding through the 1 st Source
AYES:	3	NAYS: 0
UNANIMOUS		

IN THE MATTER OF OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH SERVICES AGREEMENT:

County Administrator Marsha McSherry presented an Occupational Health Services agreement with MedStat. McSherry stated the Occupational Health Services agreement is for the county's health clinic for county employees. This agreement is for three years. The agreement included a list of pricing for services that would be provided.

MOTION:	Sue Ann Mitchell	TO: Approve the Occupational Health
SECOND:	Robert Conley	Services agreement, as presented.
AYES:	3	NAYS: 0
UNANIMOUS		

IN THE MATTER OF MACOG CCS GRANT ADDENDUM:

County Administrator Marsha McSherry presented an addendum to the service agreement for grant administration services with Michiana Area Council of Governments. McSherry stated, "This is a change. A few weeks ago, you approved the change of use for the Revolving Loan Fund dollars that were coming back to the county. This just now reengages MACOG for the service agreement for this grant." The amount of \$43,524.03 was received from KEDCO on 3/27/2025.

President Cary Groninger stated, "This was a Revolving Loan Fund that is now going to be used for Combined Community Services to buy food, but there is still some reporting that has to happen to OCRA because it was a federal grant."

MOTION:	Sue Ann Mitchell	TO: Approve the MACOG CCS Grant
SECOND:	Robert Conley	Addendum, as presented.
AYES:	3	NAYS: 0
UNANIMOUS		

IN THE MATTER OF UPS SERVICE AGREEMENT:

County Administrator Marsha McSherry presented a service agreement with Eaton Corporation for the UPS units at the tower sites for the public safety communications. McSherry stated these units are installed in the shelters at the four tower sites. The cost for the two annual services and anything else that comes up under contract for one year is \$16,584.85. To this point, they have been under warranty but the warranty expires at the end of this month. These systems clean the power before it goes into the tower equipment.

MOTION: Sue Ann Mitchell

TO: Approve the UPS Service agreement, as presented.

SECOND: Robert Conley

AYES: 3 NAYS: 0

UNANIMOUS

IN THE MATTER OF COURTHOUSE RENOVATIONS:

County Administrator Marsha McSherry presented the courthouse renovations involving three offices- the Assessor's real property office, the Assessor's personal property office and the Surveyor's office. McSherry stated all three of those offices will get painted, have new flooring put in and there is some repair work that must be done to the walls. One of the paint bids was in the amount of \$36,202.39 from Matthew's Painting Co., Leesburg, for painting and repairing the walls. A bid was received in the amount of \$19,475.00 from Jack Laurie Group, Fort Wayne, for paints and repairing the walls. A flooring quote from Jack Laurie Group in the amount of \$43,725.00 was also presented. Another request for flooring from another vendor was not received in a timely fashion so it was not considered. McSherry stated, "The total for all repairs, painting and paneling that needs to be done, would be in the amount of \$69,350.00", was the amount that was stated during the meeting, however the total of the two amounts from Jack Laurie Group equals \$63,200.00. The recommendation was to go with the Jack Laurie Group for the painting and flooring that will be done.

MOTION: Robert Conley

TO: Approve the Jack Laurie Group for renovations in the Courthouse for three offices in the amount of \$69,350.00, as presented.

SECOND: Sue Ann Mitchell

AYES: 3 NAYS: 0

UNANIMOUS

Note: The total of the two amounts from Jack Laurie Group total \$63,200.00

IN THE MATTER OF ANDERSON PROPERTY MANAGEMENT:

County Administrator Marsha McSherry presented a proposal from Anderson Property Management for spring cleanup at the Justice Building, Courthouse, and the Old Jail Museum in the amount of \$13,000.00 McSherry stated this also includes the seasonal change of the flower pots around the Courthouse and Justice Building, and all the maintenance that goes along with that for the summer.

MOTION: Robert Conley

TO: Approve Anderson Property Management for spring cleanup in the amount of \$13,000.00, as presented.

SECOND: Sue Ann Mitchell

AYES: 3 NAYS: 0

UNANIMOUS

IN THE MATTER OF TURF MASTER-QUOTE:

County Administrator Marsha McSherry presented bids for mowing and other services, including weed control for all the county buildings uptown Warsaw, cleaning out the roundabouts, fall cleanup and more. Two quotes were received, but McSherry stated one did not meet the specifications. She recommended the commissioners approve the quote from Turf Master in the amount of \$22,523.00, an increase of about \$2,600.00.

MOTION: Sue Ann Mitchell

TO: Approve the quote from Turf Master in the amount of \$22,523.00, as presented.

SECOND: Robert Conley

AYES: 3 NAYS: 0

UNANIMOUS

IN THE MATTER OF JUSTICE BUILDING RENOVATIONS-UPDATE:

County Administrator Marsha McSherry gave an update of the Justice Building renovations. McSherry stated, "The project is complete – 10 phases just over a year to complete. We have one more meeting with them next Monday. They are just packing up their stuff and getting everything out of the building. We have a list to go through, but that project will be considered complete then."

President Cary Groninger stated he was glad to see that project winding down. "It has been very disruptive to all of our offices over at the Justice Building, but I appreciate all of your efforts on that, and glad to see it is winding down."

IN THE MATTER OF BEN AND DANIELLE BARKEY REZONING:

Area Plan Director Matt Sandy stated that this petition had been withdrawn by the petitioners prior to the meeting.

IN THE MATTER OF REZONING FROM AGRICULTURAL TO AGRICULTURAL 2- M CHUPP:

Area Plan Director Matt Sandy presented a rezoning for Michael Chupp of 20.8 acres southwest of Milford from agricultural to agricultural-2. "The property is on the west side of CR 500W, north of CR 1100N, Milford. A self-imposed condition on the rezoning is that the two parcels are combined with adjacent tracts so there are no new standalone parcels", Sandy stated.

MOTION: Robert Conley

TO: Approve the rezoning for Michael Chupp from agricultural to agricultural-2, as presented.

SECOND: Sue Ann Mitchell

AYES: 3 NAYS: 0

UNANIMOUS

IN THE MATTER OF REZONING FROM AGRICULTURAL TO AGRICULTURAL 2- L SCOTT:

Area Plan Director Matt Sandy presented a rezoning for Linda and Donald Scott to rezone 3.77 acres from an agricultural to an agricultural II district. The property is on the north side of CR 500S, north of CR 550W, south of Palestine Lake.

MOTION: Sue Ann Mitchell

TO: Approve the rezoning for Linda and Donald Scott from agricultural to agricultural-2, as presented.

SECOND: Robert Conley

AYES: 3 NAYS: 0

UNANIMOUS

IN THE MATTER OF AREA PLAN COMMISSION DATA CENTER HEARING:

Area Plan Director Matt Sandy, stated on April 2, 2025 at 1pm the Area Plan Commission will be meeting in the old courtroom of the county courthouse a petition to rezone 554 acres near Clunette and Leesburg for a potential data center will be heard. Sandy stated there will be a limit of 120 people in the room due to occupancy limits set by the fire marshal. However, the meeting will be livestreamed on the county's YouTube channel.

IN THE MATTER OF OFFICIAL APPROVAL OF TRAILS MASTER PLAN:

Kosciusko County Parks and Recreation Board President Rob Bishop and Vice President Aggie Sweeney presented the Trail Master Plan and design master plan that the County Parks and Rec Board approved on March 20, 2025, for the Commissioners approval.

MOTION: Sue Ann Mitchell

TO: Approve the Trail Master Plan and design plan, as presented.

SECOND: Robert Conley

AYES: 3 NAYS: 0

UNANIMOUS

IN THE MATTER OF PARKS AND RECREATION ACTIVITIES UPDATE:

Kosciusko County Parks and Recreation Board Vice President Aggie Sweeney made the commissioners aware that the Friends of the Trail group was created. A fund also is being established at the Kosciusko County Community Foundation to accept donations.

IN THE MATTER OF WARSAW COMMUNITY PUBLIC LIBRARY-FEASIBILITY STUDY PRESENTATION:

Warsaw Community Public Library Director Heather Barron, presented the Warsaw Library's feasibility study, the study was done "for the purpose of understanding the library's infrastructure and facility needs because it has been 30 years since our last renovation. Also, we wanted to know what community needs and staff needs because things change in 30 years. A building ages and the way we work and live changes quite a bit." See County YouTube Channel for more information.

IN THE MATTER OF FURTHER BUSINESS:

The new OCRA Community Liaison Lindsey Haman introduced herself to the Commissioners.

Being no further business to come before the Commissioners, the meeting was adjourned.

KOSCIUSKO COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

April 8th, 2025

The Kosciusko County Commissioners met for their regular meeting on April 8, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. in the Courtroom on the third floor of the Courthouse, 100 W. Center St., Warsaw, IN. Those present were:

Cary Groninger-President

Alyssa Schmucker- County Auditor

Robert Conley-Vice President

Ed Ormsby- County Attorney

Sue Ann Mitchell-Member

Marsha McSherry- County Administrator

Commissioner Board President Cary Groninger, called the meeting to order.

Minutes were approved as presented. Claims were signed and approved for payment.

IN THE MATTER OF VETERAN OF THE MONTH- WILLIAM “BUD” LONG:

Veteran Service Officer Darryl McDowell introduced Veteran of the Month William “Bud” Long. McDowell stated William is the younger of two children, born in December of 1949 to Ernest and Alyce Long at McDonald Hospital in Warsaw. His father was a World War II combat veteran. He grew up around Warsaw and Winona Lake. He attended East Wayne (Jefferson) Middle School and Warsaw High School. He later married Delphia in December of 1967, bought a house and transferred to Pierceton High, where he graduated in 1968.

William started working at RR Donnelly and Sons in January 1969 and remained until he was drafted into the U.S. Army in November 1969. After completing his enlistment, he returned to work at RR Donnelly and Sons until September 1987. After that, he started his own business in water conditioner sales and service until September 2001, when he was activated for Operation Noble Eagle.

“His wife Delphia has always had an active part in his military life. She moved with him to Fort Benning, Georgia in 1970 and played a major part in a Family Support Group throughout his 40 years of military career in both the Active Army and Indiana National Guard.”

When it comes to support, William could not ask for anything more. “He and his wife were asked to serve on the State Advisory Council for the youth program and gladly accepted. To date, they have raised three children and, as part of the Foster Parent Program, have fostered 13 children. Today, they play a large part in raising their 7-month-old-great-grandson.” McDowell stated.

After being presented with his framed certificate, William stated, “All I can really say is I was drafted and did not know how to quit.” William stated he could not have made it without his family behind him, and Delphia stuck right beside him the entire time. “We actually started a wife’s group at the Warsaw Armory, which now has have a family support group statewide, and I think we had a big part in causing that to happen,” William stated. “I just want to say thank you and it is an honor. That is all I can say.”

IN THE MATTER OF THREE CONTRACTS-WASTE MANAGEMENT:

County Administrator Marsha McSherry presented three contracts with Waste Management for the trash pick-up and recycling for Work Release and the Justice Building. McSherry stated the contract for Work Release is in the amount of \$224.90 per month, the Justice Building is in the amount of \$660.84 per month and recycling is in the amount of \$132.99 per month. McSherry stated it is a “considerable” decrease from what they were paying previously.

MOTION: Sue Ann Mitchell

TO: Approve the three contracts with Waste Management, as presented.

SECOND: Robert Conley

AYES: 3 NAYS: 0

UNANIMOUS

IN THE MATTER OF ROAD NAME CHANGE- AREA PLAN COMMISSION:

Area Plan Commission Lee Taylor presented a request from the subdivision developer for the road name change. This name change is for a road in the Yoder subdivision in Prairie Township from Yoder Drive to Jeff Shaw Drive. The unimproved road is south of CR 300N and a half mile west of CR 350W.

MOTION: Robert Conley

TO: Approve the road name change from

SECOND: Sue Ann Mitchell

Yoder Drive to Jeff Shaw Drive, as presented.

AYES: 3 NAYS: 0

UNANIMOUS

ORDINANCE NO. 24-4-08-001 (2025040257)

As recorded in the office of the Kosciusko County Recorder.

IN THE MATTER OF ORTHOWORX:

OrthoWorx CEO Bob Vitoux updated the commissioners on the work OrthoWorx has been doing, as well as requested the \$100,000.00 in financial support for OrthoWorx that was included in the county's 2025 budget. The funds will be used in association with administering and managing the deployment of the \$30 million in Orthopedic Industry Retention Initiative funds and OrthoWorx's ongoing activities. Vitoux reminded the commissioners the mission statement of OrthoWorx is to advance the orthopedic capital of the world for years and generations to come. See County YouTube Channel for more information.

MOTION: Sue Ann Mitchell

TO: Approve the funding that is already in the 2025 budget, as requested.

SECOND: Robert Conley

AYES: 3 NAYS: 0

UNANIMOUS

IN THE MATTER OF DRAINAGE BOARD APPOINTMENT- TODD SMITH:

County Surveyor James Moyer requested the appointment of Todd Smith, Warsaw, to the Kosciusko County Drainage Board. Smith replaces Joe Irwin on the board. Irwin was recently elected by a Republican caucus to the county council to finish out the remaining term of the late Mike Long.

MOTION: Robert Conley

TO: Approve the appointment of Todd Smith to the Kosciusko County Drainage Board, as requested.

SECOND: Sue Ann Mitchell

AYES: 3 NAYS: 0

UNANIMOUS

With no further business to come before the Commissioners, the meeting was adjourned.