

# Kosciusko County Council

## January 12, 2023

The Kosciusko County Council met for their regular meeting on Thursday January 12, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. in the Courtroom of the Courthouse, 100 W. Center St., Warsaw, IN. Those present were:

Mike Long, President	Sue Ann Mitchell
Kathleen Groninger, Vice-President	Joni Truex
Kimberly Cates	Dave Wolkins
Tony Ciriello	Rhonda Helser, County Auditor

The meeting was called to order by the 2022 Council President, Sue Ann Mitchell, who welcomed new Council members, Tony Ciriello and Dave Wolkins.

**IN THE MATTER OF 2023 COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS:**

Sue Ann Mitchell stated the 2023 Council board appointments which were presented at the December meeting were not voted on; a motion was requested to approve the 2023 Council board appointments and a vote was taken.

MOTION: Joni Truex	TO: Approve the 2023 Council board
SECOND: Mike Long	appointments as presented at the December
AYES: 7            NAYES: 0	Council meeting.
MOTION CARRIED	

**IN THE MATTER OF ELECTION OF 2023 OFFICERS:**

Sue Ann Mitchell first expressed her gratitude for having the opportunity to serve as the 2022 Council President. Mitchell spoke on what an asset current vice president Joni Truex has been to the board and opened the floor with nominating Truex to serve as the 2023 Council president. Mitchell’s motion was seconded by Councilmember Kimberly Cates. A request was made for any other nominations from the floor. Councilmember Dave Wolkins nominated Mike Long to serve as the 2023 Council president with a second from Tony Ciriello.

Hearing no further nominations, a motion was requested to close the floor to the president nominations. Mike Long made the motion to close with a second from Kathleen Groninger.

MOTION: Sue Ann Mitchell	TO: Approve the nomination of Joni Truex to
SECOND: Kimberly Cates	serve as the 2023 Council president.
AYES: 3            NAYES: 4	
MOTION DID NOT CARRY	

MOTION: Dave Wolkins	TO: Approve the nomination of Mike Long
SECOND: Tony Ciriello	as the 2023 Council president.
AYES: 4            NAYES: 3	
MOTION CARRIED	

Mitchell opened the floor for vice president nominations. Councilmember Tony Ciriello nominated Kathleen Groninger to serve as Council vice president with a second from Dave Wolkins. Kathleen Groninger was approved to serve as the 2023 Council vice president.

The meeting was deferred by Council President Mike Long to Sue Ann Mitchell to head up the meeting.

**IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM DECEMBER 8, 2022**

**MEETING:**

MOTION: Mike Long

SECOND: Kathleen Groninger

AYES: 5            NAYES: 0

Tony Ciriello -Abstained as he was not a Council member.

Dave Wolkins- Abstained as he was not a Council member.

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the December 8, 2022 meeting minutes as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF KEDCO UPDATE:**

Alan Tio, KEDCO CEO, presented the KEDCO Quarterly Update, stating that they have worked hard on rebuilding their organization and team. They ultimately desire a better and much bigger pipeline, which would efficiently illustrate the wins for KEDCO and the County. He thanked the county for their support, and provided the following updates:

- **Housing:** around 31 housing projects are in the works throughout the county
- **Operations Manager:** Don Wolkinson has been hired within the last 90 days as the new Operations Manager
- **Support Web Content:** media content/encouraging people to come and live within our county
- **Economic/Employers:** they are working with the largest employers and economic partners to bring investing companies to our area

**IN THE MATTER OF THE WAGE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

**IN THE MATTER OF ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION – HIGHWAY:**

Mitchell opened the discussion on the wage committee recommendations from the recent meeting conducted. She stated the Highway department had presented a request in 2022 which was approved by the wage committee, but was recommended that the request be presented in 2023 with the incoming new Councilmembers. A stipend in the amount of \$5,000.00 was approved for each full-time employee with a CDL license which would be broken up into 26 pays (payroll) each year. Highway Superintendent, Steve Moriarty, provided feedback to the wage committee supporting his request, including salary figures from surrounding counties, in which a CDL is required. Moriarty spoke briefly on the salary research conducted. He requested the approval of the wage committee's recommendation and the additional appropriation in the amount of \$190,000.00 for 1176-11800-000-0051 Stipend.

MOTION: Kimberly Cates

SECOND: Tony Ciriello

AYES: 7            NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the Wage Committee's recommendation and to approve the additional appropriation in the amount of \$190,000.00 for 1176-11800-000-0051 Stipend as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION - ASSESSOR:**

Assessor Gail Chapman presented an additional appropriation in the amount of \$39,605.00 1131-10189-000-0000 Sales Disclosure Analyst, which was necessary due to changes made on the 2023 budget. The assessor agreed to fund the above position from the Assessor Ed/Sales Disclosure budget (Fund 1131) for 2023. This amount reduces the county general fund and the recommendation was approved by the wage committee.

MOTION: Kathleen Groninger

SECOND: Mike Long

AYES: 7            NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the additional appropriation in the amount of \$39,605.00 1131-10189-000-0000 Sales Disclosure Analyst as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF SALARY ORDINANCE AMENDMENT & TRANSFER REQUEST-ASSESSOR:**

Assessor Gail Chapman presented a salary ordinance amendment for Residential Property Analyst 1000-10195-000-0003 \$41,691.00 annually. The request was needed due to staffing changes which occurred after the 2023 budget was approved. An employee has returned to the department after exiting for a different job; and was re-hired at the exiting pay level (Level III).

The salary ordinance will need to be amended to reflect the correct pay level. A transfer was also presented to cover the additional needed; \$2086.00 from 1000-11301-000-0003 Part Time to 1000-10195-000-0003 Residential Property Analyst. This recommendation was approved by the wage committee.

MOTION: Joni Truex  
SECOND: Kimberly Cates  
AYES: 6        NAYES: 1  
MOTION CARRIED  
Mike Long Opposed

TO: Approve the salary ordinance amendment for Residential Property Analyst 1000-10195-000-0003 \$41,691.00 annually and to approve the transfer of \$2086.00 from 1000-11301-000-0003 Part Time to 1000-10195-000-0003 Residential Property Analyst as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF SALARY ORDINANCE AMENDMENT -TREASURER:**

Treasurer Michelle Puckett requested a salary ordinance amendment for 1000-11301-000-0038 Part Time Deputy Treasurer \$21.72 per hour. The request was made to provide adjustments for an employee with more than 10 years' experience who had planned to retire at the end of 2022, but has accepted a part time position in the department. The wage for the part time employee is requested at \$21.72. Mitchell stated it was the wage committee's recommendation to approve the request as the current experienced part time wage is \$14.65, and with the employee having 10+ years' experience in the job, it was fitting to make the changes. Mitchell added similar accommodations have been made for other departments for their part time staff. No additional appropriations were needed to cover the addition.

MOTION: Joni Truex  
SECOND: Kathleen Groninger  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve salary ordinance amendment for 1000-11301-000-0038 Part Time Deputy Treasurer \$21.72 per hour as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF SALARY ORDINANCE AMENDMENT & TRANSFER REQUEST-RECORDER:**

Mitchell reported on the wage committee discussion stating currently the Recorder's office is short staffed with a new employee beginning in March, but part time help is needed until then in the event of illness etc... Recorder Deb Wright presented a salary ordinance amendment for Part Time Recorder Deputy 1189-11301-000-0000 \$18.79 per hour and a transfer to cover the changes in the amount of \$3,600.00 from 1189-10079-000-0000 Recorder Deputy to 1189-11301-000-0000 Part Time Recorder. Wright stated the need for part time staff would be "as needed" and she is requesting the part time hourly amount be sufficient as the position will be covered by experienced staff. Council thanked the Recorder for her willingness to fund the wages for positions from the Records Record Perpetuation fund (1189) vs. county general. This recommendation was approved by the wage committee.

MOTION: Tony Ciriello  
SECOND: Mike Long  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the salary ordinance amendment for Part Time Recorder Deputy 1189-11301-000-0000 \$18.79 per hour and to approve the transfer of \$3,600.00 from 1189-10079-000-0000 Recorder Deputy to 1189-11301-000-0000 Part Time Recorder as presented.

Mitchell advised Council to review the wage committee process which was adopted in 2022 and added for informational purposes only, the Highway department may be increasing their part time wages for truck drivers. No decision would be made now.

**IN THE MATTER OF ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION REQUEST & SALARY ORDINANCE AMENDMENT- VOCA GRANT:**

Prosecutor, Brad Voelz along with Linda Giusti, Victim's Assistance Coordinator, presented a request for an additional appropriation and a salary ordinance amendment for the VOCA grant. He first provided an explanation of VOCA – Victims of Crime Act, signed into the law 1984 by President Reagan. The act established the crime victims fund held by the US Treasury and administered by Department of Justice. The funds provide services to victims of crime. The Prosecutor's office has administered this grant for many years, with Linda being the face and

driving force behind its focus. Linda is the first point of contact and assists in the victims during and after care needs. The grant is not tax payer funded, but funded by fines and penalties charged to the criminals. A part time employee has been included in the grant for the first time this year. A salary ordinance amendment was requested for 8137-11333-000-0000 Part Time VOCA Assistant \$18.00 per hour as well as the additional appropriations listed below:

• 8137-11158-000-0000	VOCA Caseworker	\$36,467.00
▪ 8137-11333-000-0000	Part Time VOCA Assistant	\$13,831.00
▪ 8137-11601-000-0000	Social Security	\$3,958.00
▪ 8137-11602-000-0000	Retirement Contributions	\$4,117.00
▪ 8137-11605-000-0000	Group Health Insurance	\$8,187.00
▪ 8137-21001-000-0000	Office Supplies	\$1,182.00
▪ 8137-32003-000-0000	Mileage/Fuel & Travel	\$1,569.00

This is a reimbursable grant.

MOTION: Joni Truex

SECOND: Kathleen Groninger

AYES: 7            NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the request for the salary ordinance amendment for 8137-11333-000-0000 Part Time VOCA Assistant \$18.00 per hour and the additional appropriations listed above, as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF THE JULY-DECEMBER 2022 COMMISSARY REPORT-SHERIFF:**

Sheriff Jim Smith, along with Bookkeeper, Cheryl McGetrick, presented the July-December 2022 commissary report for approval. The department provided a detailed report of all receivables, purchases, receipts etc...for Council's review. Councilmember Wolkins inquired about the oversight of the funds and how they are used, with Mitchell responding that Council sets the guidelines of how the funds can be used. It was noted that vehicles have been purchased from the fund which is allowable, and helps the county general fund.

MOTION: Tony Ciriello

SECOND: Kathy Groninger

AYES: 7            NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve July-December 2022 commissary report as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF THE SHERIFF'S SALARY CONTRACT:**

Mitchell explained the Sheriff's contract will be signed by Council, which verifies that funds have been placed into the budget, and will be presented to the Commissioners for their approval. She stated Smith has agreed to a contractual amount of \$115,514.00 (and advised to round up to \$115,515.00). Mitchell provided statistics of prior years' salary contract amounts and stated Smith was encouraged by Council and Commissioners to request a higher amount. Mitchell read an email sent by Sheriff Smith stating his requested salary amount was \$115,514.07, and he arrived at this amount after researching sheriff salaries throughout the state from Gateway. His request is to maintain his current longevity with 12 years of service which is approximately \$6,035.00. Smith was applauded, with Council members expressing their gratitude for him being a man of his word and for being a public servant.

MOTION: Sue Ann Mitchell

SECOND: Joni Truex

AYES: 7            NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the Sheriff's salary contract of \$115,514.00 plus Longevity for 2023 as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF SALARY ORDINANCE AMENDMENT & TRANSFER REQUEST-SHERIFF:**

Sheriff Jim Smith requested a salary ordinance amendment for the Matron 1000-11084-000-0013 \$57,596.00 annually, which was necessary due to the employee having over 10 years of service. A transfer was also requested to cover the shortfall of \$2,621.00 from 1000-11570-000-0013 Sheriff Paid Holidays to 1000-11084-000-0013 Jail Matron.

MOTION: Mike Long  
SECOND: Kimberly Cates  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the salary ordinance amendment for Matron- 1000-11084-000-0013 \$57,596.00 annually and a transfer of \$2,621.00 from 1000-11570-000-0013 Sheriff Paid Holidays to 1000-11084-000-0013 Jail Matron as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF ARPA RECOMMENDATION- TOWN OF CLAYPOOL:**

Benjamin Sanders, Claypool Town Marshall, presented his grant request in the amount of \$32,991.54 for radio replacement, stating that with the new public security system put in place, his two mobiles, and six portable radios have become obsolete.

MOTION: Kathy Groninger  
SECOND: Kimberly Cates  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the ARPA recommendation in the amount of \$32,991.54 as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF ARPA RECOMMENDATION- BEAMAN HOME UPGRADE:**

With no one present for the request, Mitchell provided information which was requested at the ARPA meeting by Renea Salyer, Executive Director of The Beaman Home for upgrades in the amount of \$37,066.68. She stated that they would like to replace three sets of washers and dryers, two windows, interior painting, and a more energy efficient bug heater which treats bug infestation. An additional request for Mary Ann's Place was presented but tabled by ARPA.

MOTION: Tony Ciriello  
SECOND: Dave Wolkins  
AYES: 5        NAYES: 1  
Kimberly Cates Abstained – serves on Beaman Board.  
Joni Truex Opposed due to the absence of presenter.  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the ARPA recommendation for the Beaman Home upgrade grant request, in the amount of \$37,066.68, as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF COMBINED COMMUNITY SERVICES GRANT REQUEST:**

With no one present for the request, Mitchell provided information which was requested at the ARPA meeting by Tim Frame, Director of Emergency Services at Combined Community Services, who presented a grant request for additional funding for a transit van in the amount of \$18,859.25. Additional funds were needed as the van they had originally planned to purchase was no longer available and additional funds were needed to buy a different unit. He stated that the funding would also cover a warranty and a full marketing wrap. Additional funds for building a garage were tabled.

MOTION: Mike Long  
SECOND: Tony Ciriello  
AYES: 6        NAYES: 1  
Joni Truex Opposed due to the absence of presenter.  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the ARPA recommendation for Combined Community Services additional funding grant request, in the amount of \$18,859.25, as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF ARPA RECOMMENDATION- SYRACUSE POLICE DEPT.:**

Jim Lane, Syracuse Police Department Chief, made a request for ARPA funds in the amount of \$14,140.94 for radio programming which is needed due to the new county communication radio system.

MOTION: Joni Truex  
SECOND: Kimberly Cates  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the ARPA recommendation in the amount of \$14,140.94 as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF ARPA RECOMMENDATION- TOWN OF MILFORD:**

Marshall Derek Kreider, Milford Police Department, made a request for ARPA funds in the amount of \$18,457.44 for necessary radio enhancements which is needed due to the new county communication radio system. Funds would provide 4 mobile units for their police vehicles.

MOTION: Joni Truex  
SECOND: Tony Ciriello  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the ARPA recommendation in the amount of \$18,457.44 as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF ARPA RECOMMENDATION- SHERIFF:**

Sheriff's office, Chris McKeand, requested ARPA funds in the amount of \$154,272.94. McKeand stated funds have been awarded by ARPA to outfit Patrol, Detectives & Dispatch but since the migration; it has been discovered there is a lapse when communicating with other Sheriff office departments such as Work Release, Court Security and Community Corrections, which has caused security and safety issues. The funds will support the departments with mobile units.

MOTION: Kimberly Cates  
SECOND: Mike Long  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the ARPA recommendation in the amount of \$154,272.94 as presented.

*Mitchell stated there were two other requests which were not approved and the remaining ARPA funds are approximately \$5M. Plans are being discussed to do larger county projects. The March 8<sup>th</sup> ARPA meeting will be the last meeting to accept any First Responder radio communication application requests. The deadline to have the applications to the Auditor's office is February 27, 2023. This is for emergency need only for systems that are not operating with the new communications system.*

**IN THE MATTER OF SALARY ORDINANCE AMENDMENT & TRANSFER REQUEST- MAINTENANCE:**

County Administrator Marsha McSherry requested a salary ordinance amendment for Housekeeping 1000-11068-000-0006 \$15.60 per hour as well as a transfer of \$30,420.00 from 1000-11316-000-0006 Part Time Housekeeping to 1000-11068-000-0006 Full Time Housekeeping. Last year a part time housekeeper was moved to full time which was not reflected on the salary ordinance or budget because the change was made after the adoption of the budget.

MOTION: Kathy Groninger  
SECOND: Mike Long  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the salary ordinance amendment for Housekeeping 1000-11068-000-0006 \$15.60 per hour as well as a transfer of \$30,420.00 from 1000-11316-000-0006 Part Time Housekeeping to 1000-11068-000-0006 Full Time Housekeeping as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION REQUESTS-ARPA:**

County Administrator Marsha McSherry requested the following additional appropriations for 2023 approved ARPA recommendations for the funds from 2022 to be used in 2023.

▪ 8950-38021-000-0000ARP Office Disinfection	\$9,052.00
▪ 8950-38023-000-0000ARP Communication Radios	\$284,077.00
▪ 8950-38024-000-0000ARP Public Safety Comm	\$981,325.00
▪ 8950-38026-000-0000ARP Administrative Expenses	\$727,109.00
▪ 8950-38027-000-0000ARP Launch Pad	\$25,000.00
▪ 8950-38028-000-0000ARP Justice Bldg. Fire Alarm	\$200,000.00
▪ 8950-38031-000-0000ARP Tower Connectivity	\$222,795.00
▪ 8950-38032-000-0000ARP AWL Cat House Reno	\$16,103.00
▪ 8950-38035-000-0000ARP IT Meraki Access Points	\$31,580.00
▪ 8950-38036-000-0000ARP IT Network Switches	\$47,177.00
▪ 8950-38037-000-0000ARP IT Secure Email Service	\$78,265.00

▪ 8950-38039-000-0000ARP LRSD Ferric Chlorine Storage	\$100,000.00
▪ 8950-38040-000-0000ARP HELP Kosciusko	\$1,200,000.00
▪ 8950-38042-000-0000ARP Cardinal Ability Campaign	\$200,000.00
▪ 8950-38043-000-0000ARP HS HVAC/Bldg. Repairs	\$22,445.00
▪ 8950-38044-000-0000ARP CCS HVAC/Box Truck	\$100,000.00
▪ 8950-38045-000-0000ARP Dispatch Hardware	\$48,251.00
▪ 8950-38047-000-0000ARP KCCC Communication Radios	\$25,000.00
▪ 8950-38048-000-0000ARP Mentone FWAS Radios	\$29,465.00
▪ 8950-38049-000-0000ARP FM Shelter Security/Laundry	\$158,874.00
▪ 8950-38050-000-0000ARP HVAC Repairs	\$67,708.00

MOTION: Kimberly Cates

TO: Approve the above ARPA additional appropriation requests as presented.

SECOND: Tony Ciriello

AYES: 7      NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED

McSherry provided a brief update of the following:

- Installation of the fire alarm system in the entire justice building, which was an approved ARPA item, will begin January 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- Meeting is scheduled for the public safety communications project. Issues and understandings will be reviewed.

**IN THE MATTER OF ENCUMBERING:**

County Auditor Rhonda Helser presented an encumbering report for December 2021/2022 in the amount of \$1,068.48 for approval. Additional encumbering will be presented as it is processed.

MOTION: Tony Ciriello

TO: Approve the December 2021/2022

SECOND: Mike Long

encumbering in the amount of \$1,068.48 as presented.

AYES: 7      NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED

**IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY COUNCIL'S ADOPTING POLICY FOR TRANSFERS AND APPROPRIATION ADJUSTMENTS:**

Council agreed to table making any changes to the current resolution allowing the Auditor to approve certain transfers and appropriation adjustments, to allow the new Auditor more time to adjust to her new position. Currently there is a \$10,000.00 threshold for the Auditor to approve before the department needs to present the request to Council.

MOTION: Tony Ciriello

TO: Approve tabling making any changes to the current Council resolution pending further discussion.

SECOND: Mike Long

AYES: 7      NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED

**IN THE MATTER OF FURTHER BUSINESS:**

Steve Moriarty, County Highway Superintendent, requested a salary ordinance amendment be approved to accompany the additional appropriation request made earlier for the \$190,000.00 Stipend. A brief discussion took place with Council as well as with the prior Auditor, now Treasurer, Michelle Puckett to assist in clarifying the salary ordinance need. Council agreed to approve the salary ordinance amendment, which will be signed at the next council meeting for account 11800 effective January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023. The funds will be divided over 26 pays and will be distributed with the employee's paycheck.

MOTION: Kathy Groninger

TO: Approve the highway salary ordinance amendment which will be signed at the February Council meeting.

SECOND: Kimberly Cates

AYES: 7      NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED

**IN THE MATTER OF FURTHER BUSINESS:**

Committee Updates:

*Kathy Groninger:* attended meetings for JRAC and Community Corrections

*Dave Wolkins:* Attended the Airport meeting; and after 35 years their lines will be lowered

*Kimberly Cates:* Attended a US 30 meeting

*Tony Ciriello:* Attended Merit Board meeting. Meetings are being moved to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month at 11:00 AM. Council agreed to appoint Tony Ciriello as the Merit Board Council Appointment.

MOTION: Mike Long  
SECOND: Kathy Groninger  
AYES: 7            NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve Tony Ciriello as the Council appointment for the Merit Board.

**IN THE MATTER OF FURTHER BUSINESS:**

Auditor Rhonda Helser advised of a correction needing to be made after speaking to County Attorney Ed Ormsby via phone at the meeting. The amount which was voted on earlier to approve the Sheriff's salary contract was incorrect at \$115,514.00 and is stated in the contract as \$115,515.00. A Council resolution approving the Sheriff Salary Contract was also presented for approval. I.C.36-2-13-2.5(c) requires that the Agreement be "approved" by resolution of both the executive and the fiscal body" of the county. The resolution, which was required to be read by Council, was done so by Councilmember Joni Truex. The prior motion was corrected and amended.

MOTION: Kimberly Cates  
SECOND: Tony Ciriello  
UNANIMOUS AMONG THE COUNCIL  
BY AFFIRMATION.

TO: Approve the Sheriff's salary contract of \$115,515.00 plus Longevity for 2023 as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION: Joni Truex  
SECOND: Kimberly Cates  
AYES: 7            NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the Council Resolution approving the Sheriff's Salary Contract: -The agreement is hereby approved by the Council. The President, is hereby authorized to execute the Agreement on behalf of the Council. So passed and adopted by the Kosciusko County Council, Indiana, this 12<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2023.

**RESOLUTION NO. 23-01-112-001 (2023010548)**  
**As recorded in the office of the Kosciusko County Recorder**

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

## Kosciusko County Council February 9, 2023

The Kosciusko County Council met for their regular meeting on Thursday February 9, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. in the Old Courtroom of the Courthouse, 100 W. Center St., Warsaw, IN. Those present were:

Mike Long, President  
Kathleen Groninger, Vice-President  
Kimberly Cates  
Tony Ciriello

Sue Ann Mitchell  
Joni Truex -Participated via video conference  
Dave Wolkins-Absent  
Rhonda Helser, County Auditor

Joni Truex participated in the meeting virtually. For clarity, each vote was made by a roll call vote.

The meeting was called to order by President Mike Long.

**IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM JANUARY 12, 2023:**

MOTION: Tony Ciriello  
SECOND: Kathy Groninger

TO: Approve the minutes for the January 12, 2023 meetings as presented.



AYES: 6            NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

**IN THE MATTER OF PARKS & RECREATION BOARD:**

Parks & Recreation Board President Rob Bishop provided an update on the status of the board and their completion of creating a master plan. In order to request DNR Grant Funds, the county had to have a parks board and a master plan. The deadline in submitting the master plan is April 15<sup>th</sup> in which the board has re-scheduled their April meeting to April 13<sup>th</sup> in order to meet the deadline. Going forward the board will be looking at projects to complete and how to fund them. Council praised the board for their progress. Bishop added that a steering committee was formed with approximately 20 prominent community members for support and guidance.

**IN THE MATTER OF ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION REQUEST-PROBATION:**

Superior Court I Judge Karin McGrath requested an additional appropriation for the juvenile probation officers who are the coordinators for the JDAI grant. The request was for, Juvenile Probation User Fees 2050-11121-000-0000 Probation Officer #2 \$12,500.00 and 2050-11196-000-0000 Probation Officer #9 \$12,500.00. The request is to continue to fund the coordinators in 2023 as in 2022.

MOTION: Kimberly Cates	TO: Approve the request for Juvenile
SECOND: Tony Ciriello	Probation User Fees 2050-11121-000-0000
AYES: 6            NAYES: 0	Probation Officer #2 \$12,500.00 and 2050-
MOTION CARRIED	11196-000-0000 Probation Officer #9
	\$12,500.00 as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION REQUEST- SENIOR PROSECUTOR HUB GRANT:**

Prosecutor Brad Voelz requested an additional appropriation for the Prosecutor Senior Hub Grant which is particular to the Title IVD and Child Support division. The child support laws in Indiana allow for senior prosecutors and special prosecutors to be appointed more frequently in child support cases. The Indiana Prosecuting Attorneys Council (IPAC) has recommended a senior prosecutor for the entire northern region of Indiana, with the hub being Kosciusko County, and the grant is used to support the staff. The request is needed to appropriate funds in 2023 which were not used in 2022. Voelz advised that Kosciusko County will discontinue the HUB grant into 2023 and that a request for an extension has been granted from IPAC. He will work with the Auditor in regards to whether a new grant process is necessary for the extension. The additional appropriations requested were:

9001-11706-000-0000	Grant Salaries	\$4,800.00
9001-11601-000-0000	Social Security/Medicare	\$384.00
9001-11602-000-0000	Retirement Contrib.	\$562.00
9001-31059-000-0000	Operating Expenses	\$8,115.00

MOTION: Sue Ann Mitchell	TO: Approve the additional appropriations as
SECOND: Kathy Groninger	listed above as presented.
AYES: 6            NAYES: 0	
MOTION CARRIED	

**IN THE MATTER OF GRANT REQUESTS & SALARY ORDINANCE AMENDMENT-SHERIFF:**

Chief Deputy McKeand, Kosciusko County Sheriff’s Dept. requested permission to apply for the Indiana Local Body Camera Grant in the amount of \$31,920.00. He stated that the Indiana Department of Homeland Security grant would supplement their body camera program and the cameras will be used by jail and patrol staff.

The second grant request : 2023 Marine DNR grant in the amount of \$15,000.00 which will fund staff to boat patrol the areas lakes. The grant has been used in past years.

A request was made for a salary ordinance amendment for 1000-10177-000-0055 Work Release Director \$66,394.00 annually. The amendment was needed due to a 10-year level employee receiving a promotion to Work Release Director whereas the prior director was at a hire in level.

MOTION: Kimberly Cates  
SECOND: Joni Truex  
AYES: 6        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the three requests as stated  
above as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS-2024 GRANT REQUESTS:**

Community Corrections Director Barry Andrew presented a request to apply for the 2024 Home Detention grant in the amount of \$350,755.00 and the 2024 Drug Court grant in the amount of \$82,746.00.

MOTION: Tony Ciriello  
SECOND: Kathy Groninger  
AYES: 6        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the requests to apply for the  
2024 Community Corrections Drug Court and  
Home Detention grants as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION REQUESTS-ARPA:**

County Administrator Marsha McSherry requested the following additional appropriations for the approved ARPA recommendations as follows:

8950-38051-000-0000	ARP CPD Radio Enhancement	\$32,992.00
8950-38052-000-0000	ARP Beaman Home Upgrade Grant	\$37,067.00
8950-38053-000-0000	ARP CCS Transit Grant	\$18,860.00
8950-38054-000-0000	ARP SPD Programming Radio Syst	\$14,141.00
8950-38055-000-0000	ARP Milford Radio Enhancement	\$18,458.00
8950-38056-000-0000	ARP KCSO Communication Radios	\$154,273.00

MOTION: Sue Ann Mitchell  
SECOND: Kathy Groninger  
AYES: 5        NAYES: 0  
Kimberly Cates Abstained due to being on the  
Beaman Home Board.  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the above ARPA additional  
appropriation requests as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF SALARY ORDINANCE AMENDMENT & TRANSFER  
REQUEST-MAINTENANCE:**

County Administrator Marsha McSherry stated the wage committee made a recommendation for an additional full time housekeeping position which was approved. She is requesting a salary ordinance amendment for that position: Housekeeping 1000-11069-000-0006 \$15.60 per hour as well as a transfer of \$26,910.00 from 1000-11316-000-0006 Part Time Housekeeping to 1000-11069-000-0006 Full Time Housekeeping. McSherry stated the budget is sufficient to support the transfer from part time to full time.

MOTION: Kimberly Cates  
SECOND: Tony Ciriello  
AYES: 6        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the salary ordinance  
amendment for Housekeeping 1000-11069-  
000-0006 \$15.60 per hour as well as a  
transfer of \$26,910.00 from 1000-11316-000-  
0006 Part Time Housekeeping to 1000-  
11069-000-0006 Full Time Housekeeping as  
presented.

McSherry provided an update on County matters stating the new fire alarm system in the Justice Building should be fully functioning by next week. The public safety communications project is ongoing, ES chat has been installed. The Public Safety Committee has an upcoming meeting to designate the licenses.

**IN THE MATTER OF TRANSFER REQUEST- CLERK:**

Auditor Rhonda Helser, on behalf of Clerk Ann Torpy requested a transfer in the amount of \$6,250.00 from 1000-31143-000-0012 Election Board/Sheriffs to 1000-44017-000-0012 Other Equipment and a transfer of \$5,000.00 from 1000-35007-000-0012 Voting Machine Repair to 1000-44017-000-0012 Other Equipment. The transfer is necessary in order to cover payment for voting machine printers.

MOTION: Kathy Groninger  
SECOND: Kimberly Cates  
AYES: 6            NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the transfer request of  
\$6,250.00 from 1000-31143-000-0012  
Election Board/Sheriffs to 1000-44017-000-  
0012 Other Equipment and a transfer of  
\$5,000.00 from 1000-35007-000-0012 Voting  
Machine Repair to 1000-44017-000-0012  
Other Equipment.as presented.

---

**IN THE MATTER OF ABATEMENT DECLARATORY RESOLUTION & NOTICE OF  
PUBLIC HEARING-IGDB BIOGAS, LLC.:**

Steve Snyder, Attorney, on behalf of IGDB Biogas, LLC based out of Ohio, explained the company has developed a process of making valuable products out of manure which is renewable natural gas. The manure goes into a digester and is transformed into methane which is then scrubbed and made into renewable natural gas. The company is placing a digester next to a local dairy farm and is requesting a 5 year tax abatement on the \$4.5Million project. Snyder added another key to the process is to be close to a natural gas line, which the location of The Beer Dairy Farm, 9194 N Orn Road, Milford, IN, meets that requirement. The abatement is not employment intense, but will provide tax abatement benefits to the agriculture industry. The personal property system will be owned by IGDB and contracted with the dairy farm at no cost to the farm. Snyder requested approval of the declaratory resolution as an economic revitalization area and stated a preliminary determination would approve the tax abatement as requested for a period of five years. A confirmatory resolution hearing would then be scheduled for the March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Council meeting if approved.

MOTION: Tony Ciriello  
SECOND: Kathy Groninger  
AYES: 6            NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the declaratory resolution and  
approve the request to set a public hearing,  
as presented.

**RESOLUTION NO. 23-02-09-001 (2023020530)**  
**As recorded in the office of the Kosciusko County Recorder**

**IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY COUNCIL'S ADOPTING POLICY FOR AUDITOR  
APPROVED TRANSFERS AND APPROPRIATION ADJUSTMENTS:**

Council held a brief discussion on possibly amending the current resolution which allows the Auditor, at their discretion, the ability to approve department transfers from the same fund and location, and appropriation adjustments up to \$10,000.00. Various opinions were shared with a motion on the table to lower the amount the Auditor has authorization to approve with the exception of insurance reimbursements/appropriation adjustments.

MOTION: Joni Truex  
SECOND:  
AYES:            NAYES:  
MOTION DID NOT CARRY

TO: Lower the limit to \$500.00-\$1,000.00 on  
Auditor approved transfers with the exception  
of insurance reimbursement appropriation  
adjustments.

Councilmember Sue Ann Mitchell recommended to table the matter until after the first quarter, and then review the number of transfers being processed, and reevaluate the situation.

MOTION: Sue Ann Mitchell  
SECOND: Kimberly Cates  
AYES: 6            NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Table the matter until after the first  
quarter and reevaluate the situation.

**IN THE MATTER OF SALARY ORDINANCE AMENDMENT-HIGHWAY:**

Council President Mike Long stated Steve Moriarty, Highway Superintendent, requested a salary ordinance amendment which was approved at the 1-12-2023 meeting with a 7-0 vote. The ordinance needed to be presented during the public meeting for confirmation and signatures. Council approved the salary ordinance of 1176-11800-000-0051 Stipend (per driver) \$5,000.00 Annual/ \$192.30 Bi-Weekly.

**IN THE MATTER OF COUNCIL BOARD APPOINTMENT- EMERGENCY  
MANAGEMENT BOARD:**

Council President Long advised of his wish to resign from the Emergency Management Board and appoint Tony Ciriello to the board to complete Long's term. Tony has agreed to the appointment.

MOTION: Sue Ann Mitchell

SECOND: Kathy Groninger

AYES: 6      NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve to appoint Tony Ciriello to complete Mike Long's term on the

Emergency Management Board as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF COUNCIL BOARD APPOINTMENT-OPIOID COMMITTEE BOARD:**

Council President Long stated two Council appointments are needed for the newly created Opioid Committee. Long recommended Kathy Groninger and Tony Ciriello and requested a motion and a second. With hearing none, Long made a motion to appoint Kathy Groninger and Tony Ciriello to the Opioid Committee.

MOTION: Mike Long

SECOND: Tony Ciriello

AYES: 3      NAYES: 3

MOTION DID NOT CARRY

TO: Approve to appoint Kathy Groninger and

Tony Ciriello to the Opioid Committee.

Council discussed nominations. Long stated he recommended Groninger with her experiences on the JRAC Committee and Tony's experience with opioid deaths serving as the County Coroner. Councilmember Kimberly Cates recommended Kathy Groninger and Sue Ann Mitchell. Cates stated Mitchell would be a good fit in advising the county on the funds they would be receiving and she has participated on the opioid sessions provided by the state. Mitchell stated the committee would be figuring out the best way to spend the funds to do the most for the County in a short period of time. Councilmember Tony Ciriello yielded to Cates' motion.

MOTION: Kimberly Cates

SECOND: Joni Truex

AYES: 6      NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve to appoint Kathy Groninger and

Sue Ann Mitchell to the Opioid Committee.

**IN THE MATTER OF COUNCIL BOARD APPOINTMENT-SECURITY COMMITTEE:**

County Administrator Marsha McSherry spoke briefly on the Security Committee stating this is an existing committee in need of new appointments including a Council member. Council President Long recommended Tony Ciriello to serve with Ciriello in agreement.

MOTION: Sue Ann Mitchell

SECOND: Kathy Groninger

AYES: 6      NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve appointing Tony Ciriello to the

Security Committee.

**IN THE MATTER OF FURTHER BUSINESS:**

EMA Director Ed Rock introduced the Assistant EMA Director Kip Shutter who will be replacing Rock once he retires the end of March 2023. Shutter has an extensive background in public service and is thankful for the opportunity.

**IN THE MATTER OF FURTHER BUSINESS:**

Councilmember Mitchell shared that the Association of Indiana Counties is doing a fourth grade essay contest for children within the counties school corporations with the opportunity to win \$100.00. It will be awarded at the Northeast AIC district meeting. Also, the Council Association will be holding district meetings and she encouraged attendance. Councilmember Cates attended the AIC Legislative conference along with Mitchell, Groninger and Auditor Rhonda Helser. She stated that Highway Superintendent, Steve Moriarty, has been working closely with legislators on motor vehicle funds. Any future bills and/or legislative action will be reviewed while keeping

the best interest of the county in mind. Mitchell reported thoughts and ideas were shared with State of Indiana House of Representative's Craig Snow and David Abbott who were in attendance.

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

## Kosciusko County Council March 9, 2023

The Kosciusko County Council met for their regular meeting on Thursday March 9, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. in the Courtroom of the Courthouse, 100 W. Center St., Warsaw, IN. Those present were:

Mike Long, President  
Kathleen Groninger, Vice-President  
Kimberly Cates  
Tony Ciriello

Sue Ann Mitchell  
Joni Truex -Participated via video conference  
Dave Wolkins  
Rhonda Helser, County Auditor

Joni Truex participated in the meeting virtually. For clarity, each vote was made by a roll call vote.

The meeting was called to order by President Mike Long.

### **IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 9, 2023:**

MOTION: Tony Ciriello  
SECOND: Kathy Groninger  
AYES: 7      NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the minutes for the February 9 2023 meeting as presented.

### **IN THE MATTER OF LAKELAND REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT COUNCIL APPOINTMENT:**

Jim Haney, Lakeland Regional Sewer District Board President, requested to re-appoint Emily Shipley to the board with her four-year term expiring 4/18/2027. Haney stated Shipley joined the board in 2022 to fill the balance of the term vacated by Sue Ann Mitchell and has been a great addition to the board.

MOTION: Sue Ann Mitchell  
SECOND: Kimberly Cates  
AYES: 7      NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve Emily Shipley to serve on the Lakeland Regional Sewer District Board with her four-year term expiring 4/18/2027 as presented.

### **IN THE MATTER OF ABATEMENT CONFIRMATORY RESOLUTION -IGDB BIOGAS, LLC:** **IN THE MATTER OF IGDB BIOGAS, LLC ABATEMENT SB-1 PERSONAL PROPERTY:**

Attorney Steve Snyder, on behalf of IGDB Biogas, LLC, presented a confirmatory resolution request for approval declaring the economic revitalization on the Beer Dairy Farm, as well as approve the tax abatement. The 4.5 Million project would consist of installing two digesters which would then convert manure from the dairy farm into renewable natural gas. Three new jobs will be created with a salary of approximately \$52,000.00 a year.

Mike Long then opened the public hearing for the abatement, confirmatory resolution. With no one present to speak in favor or against the request, the public hearing was closed.

MOTION: Kimberly Cates  
SECOND: Dave Wolkins  
AYES: 7      NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the declaratory resolution and tax abatement as presented for a period of 5 years.

**RESOLUTION NO. 23-03-09-002 (2023030324)**  
**As recorded in the office of the Kosciusko County Recorder**

**IN THE MATTER OF CYBERSECURITY AWARENESS & TRAINING:**

Systems Administrator Bob Momeyer presented Council with the Commissioners approved (2/28/23) Cybersecurity Personnel Policy Resolution. Momeyer stated the policy was created for County employee's cyber security awareness. This will allow the IT department to conduct training for initial hires as well as hold annual refresher courses on handling emails. Phishing emails will be sent to county employees as a testing process.

**IN THE MATTER OF ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION 2022 HMEP GRANT -EMA:**

Emergency Management Director Ed Rock requested an additional appropriation in the amount of \$19,900.00 for 8189-36065-000-0000 HMEP Grant- Planning & Training for the remaining funds not used in 2022 to be used in 2023.

MOTION: Sue Ann Mitchell

SECOND: Tony Ciriello

AYES: 7            NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the request for an additional

appropriation in the amount of \$19,900.00

8189-36065-000-0000 HMEP Grant-Planning  
& Training as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF STATE HOMELAND SECURITY PROGRAM GRANT REQUESTS-EMA:**

Ed Rock, Emergency Management Director, presented a request to apply for the SHSP -State Homeland Security Program Enduring Grant and the Priority Grant, both in the amounts of \$150,000.00. Rock stated the reimbursable grants will support increased cybersecurity efforts for the county. If awarded; he plans to increase security of the server rooms and to install closed circuit television cameras surrounding the courthouse.

MOTION: Tony Ciriello

SECOND: Kathy Groninger

AYES: 7            NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the requests to apply for the

Enduring & Priority SHSP -State Homeland

Security Program Grants both in the amount  
of \$150,000.00 as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF SENIOR PROSECUTOR HUB GRANT-COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT:**

County Prosecutor Brad Voelz presented the Cooperative Agreement Renewal for the Senior Prosecutor HUB Grant. The grant allows the staff to support the senior prosecutor for the Title IV-D Child Support department. Voelz stated they have terminated the grant and the Indiana Prosecuting Attorney's Council has requested that our county remain on the project until a replacement County is found. The request is to approve the cooperative agreement for \$5,000.00 for the first quarter and pro-rated month-by-month after that for a total of \$20,000.00. He stated the cost benefit analysis time and effort and overtime was not working and that its imminent another county will be selected.

MOTION: Sue Ann Mitchell

SECOND: Kimberly Cates

AYES: 7            NAYS: 0

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the Cooperative Agreement

Renewal for the Senior Prosecutor Hub Grant  
as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF SHERIFF'S OFFICE STAFF RESTRUCTURING & VARIOUS TRANSFER REQUESTS:**

Chief Deputy Chris McKeand requested various transfers within the Sheriff's Department which resulted from the Wage Committee approving recommendations and the update of job descriptions with salary increases. Discussion with the Merit Board has taken place to reinstate certain ranks and to re-evaluate several positions. The recommendation of the wage committee was to approve the requests of re-structuring. Transfers totaling \$34,150.00 were requested to cover the increase in wages. **The restructuring will affect the following positions:**

<i>Acct No. 11109</i>	Processing Clerk to Financial Administration
<i>10081</i>	JCAP Coordinator
<i>11174</i>	Jailer to Assistant Jail Commander
<i>10136</i>	Jail Cook to Jail Food Service Coordinator
<i>10135</i>	Jail Cook to Jail Food Service Employee

10176 Jail Cook to Jail Food Service Employee  
11328 Part Time Work Release Cook to PT Work Release Food Serv Empl  
10105 Sergeant Deputy to Patrol Lieutenant  
10102 1<sup>st</sup> Sergeant/Jail Commander to Lieutenant Jail Commander  
10100 1<sup>st</sup> Sergeant/IT to Detective Lieutenant  
TBD Deputy Corporal  
TBD Dispatch Shift Leader

MOTION: Tony Ciriello

SECOND: Joni Truex

AYES: 7 NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the Wage Committee's

recommendation of restructuring positions in the Sheriff's office as presented and to approve the transfer requests.

**IN THE MATTER OF APPROPRIATION ADJUSTMENT-CCCD:**

Marsha McSherry, County Administrator, presented a request for an appropriation adjustment in the amount of \$15,788.00 for 1135-35001-000-0000 CCCD Repairs & Maintenance. The request is for an insurance claim payment involving an accident in which a vendor backed into the justice building causing damage. The responsible party's insurance carrier has paid for the repairs and the funds need to be appropriated for the county to pay for repairs.

MOTION: Kimberly Cates

SECOND: Kathy Groninger

AYES: 7 NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the request for an appropriation

adjustment in the amount \$15,788.00 for 1135-35001-000-0000 CCCD Repairs & Maintenance as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF ENCUMBERING:**

County Auditor Rhonda Helser presented an encumbering report, stating to date a total of \$1,996,781.51 has been encumbered, which is the bulk of the reporting for payroll and claims.

MOTION: Kimberly Cates

SECOND: Kathy Groninger

AYES: 7 NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the February encumbering

report in the amount of \$1,996,781.51 as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF KOSCIUSKO COUNTY OPIOID GRANT REQUEST:**

Councilmember and Opioid Committee member, Sue Ann Mitchell, presented a State of Indiana Opioid Settlement Match Grant request for approval. She stated the grant was prepared by herself, Council Vice President Kathy Groninger and Commissioner Bob Conley after meetings were conducted including approximately 18 different County community members. The total amount of funds requested is \$202,500.00 to be matched with \$202,500.00 for a total of \$405,000.00 which will be fully distributed by 2038.

Support will be provided in the following manner:

- \$60,000.00 -Additional Jail Counseling for the JCAP program (Jail Chemical Addiction Program)
- \$45,000.00- Additional counseling and support to the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative- JDAI program.
- \$300,000.00- Fellowship Mission-to provide a location to obtain addiction support services, provide counseling services, and meetings.

The grant was approved by the Commissioners 2/28/23 and due to filing deadlines; Council President Mike Long provided his prior approval before this evening's meeting. All were thanked for their hard work on the project.

MOTION: Tony Ciriello

SECOND: Dave Wolkins

AYES: 7 NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the State of Indiana Opioid

Settlement Match Grant request as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF FURTHER BUSINESS:**

Assessor Gail Chapman stated due to losing staff from the Commercial Industrial Department last year; they will now be using a vendor, Lexur, to do a portion of the Commercial Industrial work. She is requesting transfers for approval to cover the expenses to the vendor. The bid from Lexur has already been approved and funds now need to be transferred to a new account in order to pay the upcoming invoice. The total amount of transfers requested is \$103,785.00.

Transfer requests:

- **Transfer of \$46,956.00** 1224-11145-000-0046 Property Reassessment - Commercial/Industrial Supervisor to 1224-31001-000-0046 Property Reassessment - Contractual Services.
- **Transfer of \$44,265.00** 1224-11147-000-0046 Property Reassessment -Assistant Commercial Industrial to 1224-31001-000-0046 Property Reassessment -Contractual Services.
- **Transfer of \$2,564.00** 1224-11507-000-0046 Property Reassessment -Overtime Pay to 1224-31001-000-0046 Property Reassessment -Contractual Services.
- **Transfer of \$10,000.00** 1224-11601-000-0046 Property Reassessment -Medicare/FICA to 1224-31001-000-0046 Property Reassessment -Contractual Services.

The total Lexur contract is \$182,100.00 to be divided up into 3 years which is \$60,700.00 but Chapman stated she would like to have a slight cushion to cover any incidentals for additional hearings, any miscounted parcels etc....She stated there are no future plans for the work to be handled in house.

MOTION: Kimberly Cates

TO: Approve the transfers as listed above as presented.

SECOND: Tony Ciriello

AYES: 7            NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED

**IN THE MATTER OF FURTHER BUSINESS:**

As the last Council meeting EMA Director Ed Rock will be attending due to his retirement; he thanked all Council members, past and present, for their guidance and support over the past 20 years. Ed was thanked and applauded for his many years of service. He will be missed.

## Kosciusko County Council

### April 6, 2023

(Special Meeting)

The Kosciusko County Council met for a special meeting on Thursday April 6, 2023 at 6:00 PM in the Courtroom of the Courthouse, 100 W. Center St., Warsaw, IN. Those present were:

Mike Long, President

Sue Ann Mitchell

Kathleen Groninger, Vice-President

Joni Truex

Kimberly Cates

Dave Wolkins

Tony Ciriello

Rhonda Helser, County Auditor

Council President Mike Long called the meeting to order.

**IN THE MATTER OF THE AIRPORT AUTHORITY:**

A Special Council meeting was called in order to discuss The Warsaw Municipal Airport moving to a City/County Airport Authority. The Warsaw Board of Aviation Commissioners unanimously approved a resolution for the authority and are requesting the Council's approval. The meeting was held for discussion purposes only and no votes or actions were taken.

City of Warsaw Mayor, Joe Thallemer, opened the meeting stating the Warsaw airport has been operated by the City Aviation Board for 76 years and recently estimated to be worth near \$100Million (replacement cost). He addressed the many benefits that Kosciusko County has to offer and the job opportunities available due to the counties continued manufacturing growth. Seven of the top 10 paying tax payers in the county are orthopedic manufacturers, with five of the top 25 being agricultural businesses. In conclusion, Thallemer spoke of the partnership with the Warsaw Airport and supporting the resolution will strengthen the partnership.

Warsaw Airport Manager Nick King provided a presentation on what the airport brings to the community, the economic impact, who uses the airport, the infrastructure replacement projects and airfield upgrades. Discussion included the following:



- Warsaw airport supports 117 jobs and the GDP (gross domestic product) is over \$12 million. The direct output as an airport is \$23 million. The figures were provided by an INDOT study in 2022
- Economic impact comparisons were presented on a few Indiana airports with Warsaw being in the top 5 with nearly \$860 million a year economic impact
- Brief discussion on the uses and tenants of the airport
- North-South runway was replaced in 2019 funded 100% with FAA grant funds
- Powerline project will be near \$7.6 million with FAA paying 90%
- East-West runway project will cost nearly \$7 million
- Discussed possible roadway diversion for 100 E to take place in a few years
- There is a need for terminal hangars, construction of new buildings, and paving is necessary among normal maintenance.
- The airport is funded by fuel and oil sales, land & hangar leases. Tax funding helps with operations.

In closing, King stated the state allowed maximum tax rate is 3.9 cents per \$100.00 of assessed value, which would give the airport an operating fund near \$3.2Million. That along with another funding source of over \$200,000.00; for a total of \$3.475 Million annually. They are requesting near half of the maximum state allowed rate to see a levy near \$3.25 Million.

Warsaw Airport Attorney Don Tribbett spoke on the legalities of the board and the creation of state statue. An adoption of a resolution is needed and has been prepared for the City and the County. Tribbett explained upon the adoption of the resolutions there is a remonstrance period of 30 days. If none is filed; the existence of the authority will occur on July 1 or Jan 1, whichever comes first. The goal is for both the City and the Council to adopt the resolution with the authority being effective January 1, 2024. The airport authority board would consist of 3 City board members (appointed by the Mayor) and 3 County board members (appointed by the County Commissioners). A budget would be adopted by the City and the County.

Councilmember Joni Truex left the meeting at 6:50 PM.

*The following members of the public spoke on the Airport Authority citing various testimony either in favor or opposition.*

**District 22 State Representative Craig Snow:** advised changes can be made in statute to help shape Kosciusko County after the authority is adopted. Snow being from Kosciusko County, would assist with anything he could for the City or the County and supports the authority with whatever decision is made.

**Griffin Nate, District Director for 2<sup>nd</sup> District U.S. Representative Rudy Yakym:** recited a letter of support of the Authority from Yakym directed to the members of the Council. The letter contents stated the Warsaw Municipal Airport serves as a critical cog in the orthopedic industry as well as a selling point for businesses looking to grow in Kosciusko County. It stated as Yakym serves on the house transportation and infrastructure committee including as vice chair on the aviation subcommittee; he is focused on airports like Warsaw Municipal to receive federal government support.

**District 18 State Representative David Abbott:** stated he saw the airport authority as a great economic opportunity in addition to upcoming changes to US30 and possibilities of international trading. Abbot stated the future investment may reap in benefits.

**Jim Lancaster, Zimmer-Biomet:** as president of global reconstruction business, stated Zimmer Biomet has a large impact on the community as being the largest employer of the county. The airport is an invaluable aspect of Zimmer Biomet infrastructure. With the long-term maintenance and support of the airport being the main topic, he added Zimmer Biomet is committed to improving the quality of lives for their patients around the world.

**Bob Vitoux, OrthoWorx CEO:** stated the community is blessed with strong agricultural and orthopedic industries. With future businesses coming to the area, he encouraged Council to consider the airports future need.

**Jay Rigdon, Aviation Board President:** spoke on the importance of maintaining the airport as an entire community advantage. Rigdon stated the need to have a City County Airport Authority managed by the city and the county is needed because of long term changes. The support should come from all who benefit from the airport.

**Suzie Light, Kedco:** stated the airport is a critical economic component of the county. Quality of life is a key economic driver and the City County Airport Authority is an example of creating the

means to invest in the community's growing needs. Light spoke on items tax payers support with their tax dollars which are beneficial to the entire community.

**Rob Parker, Kosciusko Chamber of Commerce President:** stated with 35 flights occurring daily at the airport (half of those in the orthopedic industry, the other in personal nature) which are important to the success and continued growth within the community.

**Dan Robinson, Board member of Aviation Commissioners:** spoke in favor of the airport authority infrastructure as a community and business member. He spoke briefly on the funding opportunities of the airport.

**Jeremy Morrison, Morrison Aviation Services:** involved directly by business aspect, he provided an example of how the Warsaw airport was used, vs. the Fort Wayne airport, due to its location and functionality. He stated taxiway maintenance and upgrades are needed and this would not be just a tax increase, but an investment in the community.

**Gary Parker:** neighbor of the airport, suggested that with a newly elected City of Warsaw Mayor happening 1/1/24, to wait to see what he can offer before a decision is made.

**Terry Martin:** spoke briefly on the financials and the economic impact of the airport versus an airport of similar size, encouraging Council to review the statistics. He also suggested public input and a public vote.

Councilmember Sue Ann Mitchell directed a question to the airport's legal counsel based on public vote. She questioned referendum and what it entails. Legal Counsel advised a petition must be signed by the same number of voters that would be required to get someone on the ballot.

- **A petition of nomination must be signed by the number of Voters equal to the 2% of the total vote cast at the last election for Secretary of State**

Mitchell having conducted research with the Clerk; in order to get to referendum status, the Council must approve it and then the referendum can begin.

**Don Zolman:** stated although he is not opposing the authority, but he suggests going to a referendum due to the county's population of over 80,000.

**Mike Klondaris, City of Warsaw Councilman:** Spoke on the importance of attracting and retaining new businesses.

**Lee Harman:** spoke in favor of the airport authority and expansion. He stated retention of assets is also important.

**Cathy Lemberg:** stated the airport is important, and supported it going to a referendum.

**Craig Charlton:** supported the referendum. He stated funding should come from those that use the airport, not all taxpayers.

Councilmember Ciriello thanked all for attending.

Being no one further to speak and no questions the meeting was adjourned.

## Kosciusko County Council April 13, 2023

The Kosciusko County Council met for their regular meeting on Thursday April 13, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. in the Courtroom of the Courthouse, 100 W. Center St., Warsaw, IN. Those present were:

Mike Long, President  
Kathleen Groninger, Vice-President  
Kimberly Cates  
Tony Ciriello

Sue Ann Mitchell  
Joni Truex  
Dave Wolkins  
Rhonda Helser, County Auditor

The meeting was called to order by President Mike Long.

### **IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM MARCH 9, 2023:**

MOTION: Tony Ciriello

TO: Approve the minutes for the March 9, 2023 meeting, as presented.

SECOND: Kathleen Groninger

AYES: 7            NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED

**IN THE MATTER OF KEDCO UPDATE:**

Alan Tio, KEDCO CEO, presented the KEDCO Quarterly update, highlighting the key parts that come into play with how KEDCO assists our county and at a local and state level. He reviewed specific focus on the economy of our future, environments, entrepreneurship, energy, and engagement.

Additional areas of focus at the state level were briefly discussed including the relationship between biofuels, labor challenges, ag, and the county, and how we can support these companies that bring us opportunities to grow.

Alan stated that he also provided a report and he thanked the county for their support and committed to doing all they can for the county.

**IN THE MATTER OF ARPA RECOMMENDATION BEAMAN HOME:**

Renea Salyer, Executive Director of The Beaman Home, presented a request in the amount of \$44,000.00 for upgrades to their essential basic needs center, Mary Ann's Place. This breaks down to \$20,000.00 for doors, \$13,000.00 towards security cameras, and \$10,000.00 for electrical updates and lighting.

MOTION: Kathleen Groninger

SECOND: Joni Truex

AYES: 6            NAYES: 0

Kimberly Cates Abstained

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the ARPA recommendation for upgrades to Mary Ann's Place, in the amount of \$44,000.00, as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF ARPA RECOMMENDATION KOSC. CO. WORK RELEASE:**

Jerrad Jones, Director of Work Release, presented a metal detector request in the amount of \$5,836.00, for a walk-through metal detector. They are currently only implementing pat downs, and he stated that the detector will bring an added level of security for both the staff and work release population. The CEIA quote provided to the council members includes the installation and shipping. Jerrad is not aware of any maintenance charges.

MOTION: Tony Ciriello

SECOND: Kimberly Cates

AYES: 7            NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the ARPA recommendation for a metal detector for Work Release, in the amount of \$5,836.00, as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF ARPA RECOMMENDATION MILFORD FIRE DEPT.:**

Steve Farber, Milford Fire Department Assistant Fire Chief, requested \$32,000.00 for additional portable radios which will be compatible to the new system. The request was needed as there were not enough requested in the initial acquisition.

MOTION: Kimberly Cates

SECOND: Joni Truex

AYES: 7            NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the ARPA recommendation for additional portable radios for the Milford Fire Department, in the amount of \$32,000.00, as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF ARPA RECOMMENDATION ANIMAL WELFARE LEAGUE:**

John Lantz, Board President of the Animal Welfare League, requested \$23,898.00 for additional repairs to their facility, including paving their parking lot. Lantz provided Council with their financials stating that 59.7% of their expenses are for staffing with most staff making approximately \$9.00-\$12.00 hr. He provided a comparison of their expenses to other facilities with similar population.

MOTION: Tony Ciriello

SECOND: David Wolkins

AYES: 7            NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the ARPA recommendation for funding for the Animal Welfare League in the amount of \$23,898.00, as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF ARPA RECOMMENDATION WARSAW POLICE DEPT.:**

Joel Beam, Warsaw Police Department Captain, requested three mobile radios for their detective vehicles, at a cost of \$10,952.00. The radios were missed in the initial round of radio acquisitions.

MOTION: Joni Truex  
SECOND: Kathleen Groninger  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the ARPA recommendation for three radios for the Warsaw Police Department, in the amount of \$10,952.00, as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF ARPA RECCOMENDATION KOSC. COUNTY SHERIFF OFFICE:**

Chris McKeand, Kosciusko County Chief Deputy, presented a request regarding their body camera project, in the amount of \$86,322.00, stating that this tier of the project is for patrol and the investigative unit. The current storage maintenance service cost \$21,000.00 last year, and is projected to go up as they add new vehicles on the product line. The new service company will replace the camera versus the department purchasing a new camera when needed.

MOTION: Kimberly Cates  
SECOND: Joni Truex  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the ARPA recommendation for body cameras for the Kosciusko County Sheriff's Office, in the amount of \$86,322.00, as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF ARPA RECCOMENDATION NORTH WEBSTER COMMUNITY CENTER:**

Emily Worrell, Executive Director of North Webster Community Center, presented a request for their 55,000 sq ft. historic school that has become the heart of North Webster. She stated there has been a 240% increase in community engagement in the last 18 months. The ARPA recommendation is to assist the center with \$252,800.00 for various repairs. The repairs consist of repair/replace of a large roof portion and windows.

MOTION: Kimberly Cates  
SECOND: Kathleen Groninger  
AYES: 6        NAYES: 0  
Sue Ann Mitchell Abstained  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the ARPA recommendation for the North Webster Community Center in the amount of \$252,800.00 as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF ARPA RECCOMENDATION CASA:**

Erin Rowland Jones, CASA Executive Director, presented a request for \$19,100.00 which would fund items needed for the CASA volunteers, including fingerprinting, training manuals and marketing materials. There are currently 55 volunteers and 5 staff members as well as board members.

MOTION: Tony Ciriello  
SECOND: Kimberly Cates  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the ARPA recommendation for CASA in the amount of \$19,100.00 as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF KOSCIUSKO COUNTY STRATEGIC INVESTMENT PLAN:**

Amy Roe, Kosciusko County Community Coordinator, presented the Kosciusko County Strategic Investment Plan for approval. She stated that they are in the fourth phase of the HELP program and advised all community projects which were approved by the town boards; are now combined and complete as the "Strategic Investment Plan." She requests the approval to adopt the plan which will then open the funding side of the process. Roe advised a meeting will occur with MACOG & OCRA to discuss the CGDB restrictions and determine which communities are eligible for funding, on 4/26/23. Roe advised hopefully a combined Council & Commissioners meeting will occur the end of June to review all information and discuss funding. Reference was made to the Forward Kosciusko Plan which was adopted: The Community Foundation has placed a funding source for that as well as to help with projects included in the HELP / SIP project. The K21 Foundation has also provided funding.

MOTION: Kimberly Cates  
SECOND: Sue Ann Mitchell  
AYES: 7        NAYS: 0

TO: Approve and adopt the Kosciusko County Strategic Investment Plan, as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

**IN THE MATTER OF CORONER DEPARTMENT UPDATE:**

County Coroner Tyler Huffer, along with Chief Deputy Coroner Paul Schmitt, presented a department update stating they have switched to the State Health Department Coroner reporting system. This will allow access to grant funding and supplies throughout the year. Thirty-eight calls have been performed since January 1<sup>st</sup> to March 31<sup>st</sup> with a year-to-date total of 47. Of those, 12 were vehicular accidents and overdoses. Eight overdoses have occurred with 5 of them testing positive for Fentanyl. Eight autopsies have been performed.

**IN THE MATTER OF HEALTH DEPARTMENT HEALTH & CHALLENGES GRANT REQUEST:**

Bob Weaver, Health Department Administrator, requested permission to apply for the Health Issues & Challenges Grant in the amount of \$41,595.14. The reimbursable grant, which is a CDC grant, will allow lead testing at the clinic. Weaver advised a new law went into effect January 1<sup>st</sup> that mandates infants to receive two blood tests, preferably at one year and again at two years of age. Weaver stated he would like to use the funds to start the program and if necessary, may hire a part time nurse to assist. He anticipates the grant running for approximately a year; from July 1<sup>st</sup> 2023 to June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

MOTION: Tony Ciriello

SECOND: Sue Ann Mitchell

AYES: 7 NAYS: 0

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the request to apply for the

Health Issues and Challenges Grant, in the amount of \$41,595.14, as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION-BRIDGE NO. 123 HIGHWAY:**

County Highway Assistant Superintendent, Troy Kintzel, requested an additional appropriation for 8403-39000-000-0000 Bridge No. 123 in the amount of \$2,236,550.00. Bridge No. 123 is over Wyland on Packerton Rd. These awarded federal grant funds will be put into a fund to pay invoices as necessary.

MOTION: Sue Ann Mitchell

SECOND: Kimberly Cates

AYES: 7 NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the additional appropriation for

8403-39000-000-0000 Bridge No. 123 in the amount of \$2,236,550.00 as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION-COURT INTERPRETER GRANT:**

Circuit & Superior Judge Karin McGrath requested an additional appropriation for 9125-31032-000-0000 Court Interpreter Grant in the amount of \$4,000.00. Judge McGrath advised she had hoped for more funds, and hopes for further funding awarded in the future.

MOTION: Sue Ann Mitchell

SECOND: Joni Truex

AYES: 7 NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the request for an additional

appropriation for 9125-31032-000-0000

Court Interpreter Grant in the amount of

\$4,000.00 as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF SALARY ORDINANCE AMENDMENT- COUNTY EXTENSION:**

Andrew Ferrell, County Extension Director, requested approval of a salary ordinance amendment for 1000-11324-000-0001 4H Program Assistant \$13.19 per hour. Ferrell advised the reason for his lowering the hourly rate is that the position will be entry level, therefore saving the county several dollars per hour.

MOTION: Kathy Groninger

SECOND: Kimberly Cates

AYES: 7 NAYS: 0

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the salary ordinance

amendment for 1000-11324-000-0001 4H

Program Assistant \$13.19 per hour t as

presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF SHERIFF CHIRP GRANT REQUEST:**

Sheriff Jim Smith and Chief Deputy Sheriff Chris McKeand, requested to apply for the Comprehensive Hoosier Highways Injury Reduction Program Grant request, in the amount of

\$20,500.00. He stated that they have participated in this grant for the past two decades, and that it covers the following initiatives: drunk driving patrols, aggressive driving patrols, seat belt patrols, stop arm patrols, and Click It or Ticket. The grant will provide funding for the officers to patrol.

MOTION: Kimberly Cates  
SECOND: Sue Ann Mitchell

TO: Approve the request to apply for the  
CHIRP Grant in the amount of \$20,500.00,  
as presented.

AYES: 7 NAYS: 0

MOTION CARRIED

**IN THE MATTER OF SHERIFF IRACS GRANT REQUEST:**

Sheriff Jim Smith and Chief Deputy Sheriff Chris McKeand, requested Council's approval to apply for the Integrated Reentry & Correctional Support grant in the amount of \$500,000.00. McKeand stated they were approached by the Governor's office concerning the program which has been piloted in several other counties. The Sheriff's office visited a jail facility in Dearborn Michigan, which currently follows the program, and believes the model can be successfully implemented within Kosciusko County. The program would allow for peer-to-peer counseling which is most effective. The \$500,000.00 is the ask for those counselors; and to provide training and office space. This would provide services such as a recovery coach, a re-entry coordinator, and one-on-one and group-session counseling. McKeand explained the importance of having a "second component" to assist inmates as they re-enter society.

The request is to apply for the grant, research the grant and move forward. Sheriff Jim Smith stated the program will work in collaboration with the community's support and the JCAP program. Smith also advised that Dearborn County has had success with the program and has seen results and a decrease in repeat offenders.

MOTION: Kimberly Cates  
SECOND: Sue Ann Mitchell

TO: Approve the request to apply for the  
IRACS grant in the amount of \$500,000.00,  
as presented.

AYES: 7 NAYS: 0

MOTION CARRIED

**IN THE MATTER OF SALARY ORDINANCE AMENDMENT-SHERIFF:**

Sheriff Jim Smith requested salary ordinance amendments for approval. The Wage Committee recommendations for the Sheriff's office restructuring were presented and approved at the March 9, 2023 Council meeting. The following salary ordinances were presented:

<input type="checkbox"/>	1000-10105-000-0019	Patrol Lieutenant	\$66,000.00 Annual
<input type="checkbox"/>	1000-10102-000-0019	Lieutenant/Jail Commander	\$66,000.00 Annual
<input type="checkbox"/>	1000-10100-000-0019	Detective Lieutenant	\$66,000.00 Annual
<input type="checkbox"/>	1000-10085-000-0019	Deputy Corporal	\$57,475.00 Annual
<input type="checkbox"/>	1000-10096-000-0019	Deputy Corporal	\$57,475.00 Annual
<input type="checkbox"/>	1000-10103-000-0019	Deputy Corporal	\$57,475.00 Annual
<input type="checkbox"/>	1000-10107-000-0019	Deputy Corporal	\$57,475.00 Annual
<input type="checkbox"/>	1000-11174-000-0013	Assistant Jail Commander	\$53,186.00 Annual
<input type="checkbox"/>	1000-10081-000-0013	JCAP Coordinator	\$52,000.00 Annual
<input type="checkbox"/>	1000-10114-000-0054	Dispatch Shift Leader 10 Yr	\$55,869.00 Annual
<input type="checkbox"/>	1000-10129-000-0054	Dispatch Shift Leader	\$53,311.00 Annual
<input type="checkbox"/>	1000-11478-000-0054	Dispatch Shift Leader 10 Yr	\$55,869.00 Annual
<input type="checkbox"/>	1000-11481-000-0054	Dispatch Shift Leader	\$53,311.00 Annual
<input type="checkbox"/>	1000-10136-000-0013	Food Service Coordinator	\$23.38 Hr.
<input type="checkbox"/>	1000-10135-000-0013	Food Service Employee LTC V-II	\$17.10 Hr.
<input type="checkbox"/>	1000-10176-000-0013	Food Service Employee LTC V-IV	\$18.71 Hr.
<input type="checkbox"/>	1000-11328-000-0055	WR Food Service Employee PT	\$17.10 Hr.
<input type="checkbox"/>	1000-11109-000-0019	Financial Administrator	\$41,691.00 Annual

MOTION: Joni Truex  
SECOND: Tony Ciriello

TO: Approve the salary ordinance  
amendment as listed above as presented.

AYES: 7 NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED

**IN THE MATTER OF TRANSFER REQUESTS- SHERIFF:**

Sheriff Jim Smith requested the following transfers to cover the shortfall of the approved salary increases:

- \$9,600.00 from 1000-11570-000-0013 Sheriff Paid Holidays to 1000-10136-000-0013 Jail Cook
- \$1,830.00 from 1000-11479-000-0054 Asst Chief Dispatcher to 1000-10114-000-0054 E911 Dispatcher
- \$1,830.00 from 1000-11479-000-0054 Asst Chief Dispatcher to 1000-10129-000-0054 E911 Dispatcher
- \$1,830.00 from 1000-11479-000-0054 Asst Chief Dispatcher to 1000-11478-000-0054 E911 Dispatcher
- \$1,830.00 from 1000-11479-000-0054 Asst Chief Dispatcher to 1000-11481-000-0054 E911 Dispatcher
- \$1,830.00 from 1000-10084-000-0019 Deputy to 1000-10096-000-0019 Deputy
- \$1,830.00 from 1000-10084-000-0019 Deputy to 1000-10103-000-0019 Deputy
- \$1,830.00 from 1000-10090-000-0019 Deputy Corporal to 1000-10107-000-0019 Deputy
- \$1,830.00 from 1000-10091-000-0019 Deputy to 1000-10085-000-0019 Deputy

MOTION: Kimberly Cates

TO: Approve the above transfer requests as presented.

SECOND: Joni Truex

AYES: 7 NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED

**IN THE MATTER OF ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION REQUESTS-ARPA:**

County Administrator Marsha McSherry requested approval of the following additional appropriations for the ARPA recommendations which were approved at this evening's meeting. The requests included the following:

<input type="checkbox"/> 8950-38058-000-0000	ARP Work Release Metal Detector	\$5,836.00
<input type="checkbox"/> 8950-38059-000-0000	ARP Milford FD Radio	\$32,000.00
<input type="checkbox"/> 8950-38060-000-0000	ARP AWL Cat House Completion	\$23,898.00
<input type="checkbox"/> 8950-38061-000-0000	ARP WPD Final Radio Acquisition	\$10,952.00
<input type="checkbox"/> 8950-38062-000-0000	ARP KCSO Body Cam Grant	\$86,322.00
<input type="checkbox"/> 8950-38064-000-0000	ARP CASA Training/Fingerprints	\$19,100.00

MOTION: Joni Truex

TO: Approve the above ARPA additional appropriation requests as presented.

SECOND: Tony Ciriello

AYES: 7 NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED

**IN THE MATTER OF ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION REQUESTS-ARPA:**

County Administrator Marsha McSherry requested an additional appropriation in the amount of \$44,000.00 for the ARPA approved Beaman Home/ Mary Ann's Place updates.

<input type="checkbox"/> 8950-38057-000-0000	ARP Beaman Home Upgrades	\$44,000.00
--	--------------------------	-------------

MOTION: Sue Ann Mitchell

TO: Approve the above ARPA additional appropriation request as presented.

SECOND: Joni Truex

AYES: 6 NAYES: 0

Kimberly Cates Abstained

MOTION CARRIED

**IN THE MATTER OF ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION REQUESTS-ARPA:**

County Administrator Marsha McSherry requested the additional appropriation in the amount of \$252,800.00 for the North Webster Community Center:

<input type="checkbox"/> 8950-38063-000-0000	ARP NWCC Sustainability Phase 2	\$252,800.00
--	---------------------------------	--------------

MOTION: Tony Ciriello

TO: Approve the above ARPA additional appropriation request as presented.

SECOND: Kathy Groninger

AYES: 6 NAYES: 0

Sue Ann Mitchell Abstained

MOTION CARRIED

**IN THE MATTER OF AIRPORT AUTHORITY:**

Warsaw Airport Manager Nick King was present to answer any additional questions for Council. Council held a brief discussion which included the following:

Councilmember Dave Wolkins spoke on the following:

- He inquired on the runway surfacing and if they had not been re-surfaced due to lack of funding. King advised: The runways and taxiways have not needed to be resurfaced until now, as they did not meet the minimum criteria. Not due to lack of funds. A pavement condition index is used, conducted by the State, every 3 years and they need resurfacing now. Council had discussion on resurfacing practices with King explaining the funding process for this.
- Wolkins discussed tax increases and stated he was not in favor of an increase now. There is not a question that the airport is an asset to the community. Wolkins stated although he is opposed of having an airport authority and creating another board with taxing power; he suggested looking into other ways for the County to offer financial support. He added there is a probability for government funding going forward.

Wolkins made a motion to table the Airport Authority discussion until other funding opportunities can be explored. The success of the airport is important, but there is reluctance to support it in the manner of adopting an airport authority.

Council held a brief discussion of a time frame to table the matter, agreeing to table the matter until 2024.

Mitchell questioned King on the City's Airport Authority resolution that is currently under discussion with King advising the city will need to create a new resolution.

MOTION: Dave Wolkins  
SECOND: Tony Ciriello  
AYES: 4      NAYES: 2  
Kimberly Cates- Opposed  
Joni Truex – Opposed  
Kathy Groninger Abstained.  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Table the Airport Authority matter at this time until other opportunities can be explored until 2024.

#### **IN THE MATTER OF ENCUMBERING:**

County Auditor Rhonda Helser presented the March 2023 encumbering report in the amount of \$9,116.80 for approval.

MOTION: Kimberly Cates  
SECOND: Tony Ciriello  
AYES: 7      NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the March 2023 encumbering report in the amount of \$9,116.80 as presented.

#### **IN THE MATTER OF 2024 BUDGET ADOPTION PROCESS:**

County Auditor Rhonda Helser discussed the future planning of the budget process and stated the budget must be approved by October 31<sup>st</sup>. She advised that in the past, an all-day department head meeting was held for budget discussion and suggested a tentative date of August 24<sup>th</sup> to hold the meeting. Council held a brief discussion stating their wish to break the budget meeting up into 2.5-3 days to have more time with each department and to minimize time restraints. The Auditor's office will research dates and schedules to be confirmed for the August meetings to be approved at a later meeting.

#### **IN THE MATTER OF FURTHER BUSINESS:**

Heard from resident Debra Hathaway who inquired on road construction near the airport and shared concerns of road closures and questioned what the piping is for at that location. Council advised that the Commissioners are better able to help with her concern. Commissioner Cary Groninger was in attendance and available to assist. He advised that road construction would be happening on/near Husky Trail and was unsure of the piping. Nick King, Airport Manager, stated that he believed the piping is possibly for the Tippe-Chapman sewer project, but not confirmed. (The resident can reach out to the district for confirmation.)



**IN THE MATTER OF FURTHER BUSINESS:**

Heard from Commissioners Cary Groninger with an announcement. He advised that the Parks & Recreation Board adopted their new Master Trail & Park Plan today. An RFP master trail and blue way trail will be worked on next.

**IN THE MATTER OF FURTHER BUSINESS:**

Heard from Airport Manager Nick King who stated there have been questions concerning the Airport Authority and 100 E. The 100 E project is a safety issue which has been brought to the Airport's attention by the FAA. The safety issue is both for public driving on 100E and for pilots and passengers operating out of the airport. Studies are being conducted now on the future of the road. King advised the road changes being another reason for the suggestion of the airport authority for the County to have input on the future possible re-constructing of 100E.

Council President Mike Long stated: To the businesses and industries in the county; the airport authority is not closed for discussion, but a matter that the Council needs additional time to explore further available avenues.

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

## Kosciusko County Council May 11, 2023

The Kosciusko County Council met for their regular meeting on Thursday May 11, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. in the Courtroom of the Courthouse, 100 W. Center St., Warsaw, IN. Those present were:

Mike Long, President  
Kathleen Groninger, Vice-President-  
ABSENT  
Kimberly Cates  
Tony Ciriello

Sue Ann Mitchell  
Joni Truex -Participated Virtually  
  
Dave Wolkins  
Rhonda Helser, County Auditor

Joni Truex participated in the meeting virtually. For clarity, each vote was made by a roll call vote.

The meeting was called to order by Mike Long.

**IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM APRIL 6<sup>th</sup> 2023 SPECIAL MEETING:**

MOTION: Kimberly Cates

TO: Approve the minutes for the April 6<sup>th</sup> 2023, Special Meeting as presented.

SECOND: Tony Ciriello

AYES: 6          NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED

**IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM APRIL 13<sup>th</sup> 2023 MEETING:**

MOTION: Sue Ann Mitchell

TO: Approve the minutes for the April 13<sup>th</sup> 2023, Meeting as presented.

SECOND: Kimberly Cates

AYES: 6          NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED

**IN THE MATTER OF SALARY ORDINANCE AMENDMENT- HEALTH DEPARTMENT:**

Bob Weaver, Health Department Administrator, presented a salary ordinance amendment for CARES Act Local Covid Testing 8905-11345-000-0000 \$22.70 per hour. Weaver advised he wished to maintain all the department's registered nurses at the same pay rate. The communicable disease clinic has a part time nursing position open and he plans to re-hire a nurse he staffed previously.

MOTION: Tony Ciriello

SECOND: Dave Wolkins

AYES: 6            NAYES:  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the salary ordinance  
amendment for CARES Act Local Covid  
Testing 8905-11345-000-0000 \$22.70 per  
hour as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION-BRIDGE NO. 139 HIGHWAY:**

County Highway Superintendent Steve Moriarty requested an additional appropriation for 8404-39000-000-0000 Bridge No. 139, Bridge Replacement, in the amount of \$5,449,000.00. Bridge No. 123 is located over the Eel River at 700 East, South of 1100 South. Federal funding has been granted at an 80/20 match. The departments portion is approximately \$1.2Million and they have the means for the funding, by the project completion year of 2029.

MOTION: Kimberly Cates  
SECOND: Sue Ann Mitchell  
AYES: 6            NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the additional appropriation for  
8404-39000-000-0000 Bridge No. 139,  
Bridge replacement in the amount of  
\$5,449,000.00 as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION HIGHWAY- COMMUNITY CROSSINGS 2022-2 GRANT:**

County Highway Superintendent Steve Moriarty requested an additional appropriation for 8302-44020-000-0000 Community Crossings 2022-2 Grant in the amount of \$1,466,167.00. The money, at a 50/50 match, will be placed into a fund in which the Highway's portion and State's portion is already established. If the additional is approved; the funds will be moved for the department to begin paying invoices for the project. The project is for Old State Road 30 and Pierceton Road from State Road 13 to 425E.

MOTION: Dave Wolkins  
SECOND: Tony Ciriello  
AYES: 6            NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the additional appropriation for  
8302-44020-000-0000 Community Crossings  
2022-2 Grant in the amount of \$1,466,167.00  
as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION EMPG COMPETITIVE 2022 GRANT- EMA:**

Emergency Management Director Kip Shuter requested an additional appropriation for 8176-22024-000-0000 EMPG Competitive 2022 Grant, Equipment, in the amount of \$20,000.00. Shuter stated he received information from the Indiana Department of Homeland Security that money has been awarded under the 2022 Performance Grant. Funds are for a mobile dispatch center.

MOTION: Tony Ciriello  
SECOND: Sue Ann Mitchell  
AYES: 6            NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the additional appropriation for  
8176-22024-000-0000 EMPG Competitive  
2022 Grant, Equipment, in the amount of  
\$20,000.00 as presented.

*Shuter was applauded for accomplishment of recently obtaining his master's degree in business administration from Grace College, Winona Lake, IN.*

**IN THE MATTER OF KOSCIUSKO COUNTY REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION:**

Kosciusko County Redevelopment Commission President Joni Truex provided a brief update of the Commission. She stated the Commission approved the confirmatory declaration resolution for the South Shore Project on 5/11/23. Also in attendance was Jeff Dyson, a partner with the South Shore Redevelopment project. Jeff explained the TIF project was approved in September 2022 and with Council's approval the project can begin. He explained the old golf course located on State Road 13 was purchased by himself and his partner with plans to create a master plan community. The plan will consist of residential homes, a youth activities segment, multifamily premises, as well as space for commercial development. The website to visit for further information is [www.southshorevillage.com](http://www.southshorevillage.com).

MOTION: Kimberly Cates  
SECOND: Sue Ann Mitchell  
AYES: 6            NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the South Shore  
redevelopment project as approved by the  
Redevelopment Commission.

**IN THE MATTER OF ENCUMBERING:**

County Auditor Rhonda Helser presented an encumbering report for April 2023 in the amount of \$355,417.22 for approval.

MOTION: Sue Ann Mitchell

SECOND: Kimberly Cates

AYES: 6            NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the April 2023 encumbering in the amount of \$355,417.22 as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF FURTHER BUSINESS:**

Sheriff Jim Smith and Lt. Mike Mulligan, Sheriff's Office, presented a request to use funds from the commissary account in order to purchase a used vehicle. Mulligan explained the vehicle, a 2017 Nissan Pathfinder, would be utilized by administration such as the JCAP Coordinator and the Sheriff Matron vs. the staff using their own vehicles to conduct county business. The vehicle will be unmarked, will not be taken home with employees, and will be kept on county property. Sheriff Smith stated the commissary balance is approximately \$200,000.00 and the used vehicle cost is \$24,478.00 from Kerlin Motors.

MOTION: Tony Ciriello

SECOND: Dave Wolkins

AYES: 6            NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the request to use funds from the commissary account in order to purchase a used vehicle as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF BUDGET MEETING DATES:**

Council held a brief discussion concerning the department budget meeting dates. The budget meeting dates will be August 30<sup>th</sup> and August 31<sup>st</sup> from 8:00 AM- 2:00 PM, but finishing earlier if time allows, in the old courtroom of the courthouse.

**IN THE MATTER OF FURTHER BUSINESS:**

Councilmember Sue Ann Mitchell let Council members know of the AIC North East District Meeting taking place on May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023 in Auburn, IN.

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

**Kosciusko County Council  
Kosciusko County Commissioners  
May 23, 2023**

The Kosciusko County Council and the Kosciusko County Commissioners met for a special meeting on Tuesday May 23, 2023 at 9:30 AM in the Courtroom of the Courthouse, 100 W. Center St., Warsaw, IN. Those present were:

**COUNCIL:**

Mike Long, President

Kathleen Groninger, Vice-President

Kimberly Cates

Tony Ciriello

Sue Ann Mitchell

Joni Truex

Dave Wolkins

**COMMISSIONERS:**

Brad Jackson-President

Robert Conley-Vice President

Rhonda Helser, County Auditor

Marsha McSherry – County Administrator

Cary Groninger-Member

**IN THE MATTER OF CDBG FUNDS FOR THE HELP PROGRAM:**

Commissioner Cary Groninger opened the meeting explaining the process of the joint meeting will be to determine how the \$1M in CDBG funds will be allocated. Groninger provided a brief background citing the process consisted of Kosciusko County and 3 other communities – Mentone, Milford, and Pierceton. In order for the communities to be part of the HELP program,

this required them to commit 30% of their ARPA dollars to identifiable projects through the HELP program. A handout was provided to show the recommended options which follows:

CDBG-CV SPLIT						25%	50%	100%
	Total ARPA	Min. 30%	% Investment	CDBG-CV Total	Scenario 1: Min. 30% Only	Scenario 2: Min + 25% Remainder	Scenario 3: Min + 50% Remainder	Scenario 4: Min + 100% Remainder
Mentone	\$218,548	\$65,564	27.24%		\$65,564	\$117,266	\$168,967	\$272,369
Milford	\$353,334	\$106,000	44.03%		\$106,000	\$189,587	\$273,175	\$440,349
Pierceton	\$230,514	\$69,154	28.73%		\$69,154	\$123,686	\$178,218	\$287,282
County	\$15,433,397	-	-		\$759,281	\$569,461	\$379,641	\$0
Total	\$16,235,793	\$240,719	100.00%	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000

Graph provided by Community Coordinator Amy Roe.

- A dollar-for-dollar match of committed ARPA funds would be provided to the Communities. The County will discuss how the awarded CDBG funds will be dispersed amongst the 3 communities and for the county. The above table is for discussion purposes only.
- CDBG funds are federally funded and certain criteria must be met in order to qualify.
- Roe advised there are also \$1.2M of ARPA funds which will need to be spent on a project in the Strategic Investment Plan.

MACOG Director of Community Development Zach Dripps, provided the group with a presentation including how the funds would be split between Mentone, Milford, Pierceton & the County:

CDBG-CV Funds= \$1Million

**Scenario 1:** Minimum of 30% Match only. Each community will receive CDBG-CV funds to match the minimum 30% ARPA investment required and the remaining CDBG-CV funds will be allocated to the County.

**Scenario 2:** Minimum of 30% Match + 25% of Remainder. Each community will receive CDBG-CV funds to match the minimum 30% ARPA investment required plus a split of 25% of the remaining CDBG-CV funds. This split will be weighted based on the amount of funds each community had committed. The remaining CDBG-CV funds will be allocated to the County.

**Scenario 3:** Each community will receive CDBG-CV funds to match the minimum 30% ARPA investment required plus a split of 50% of the remaining CDBG-CV funds. The split will be weighted based on the amount of funds each community had committed. The remaining CDBG-CV funds will be allocated to the County.

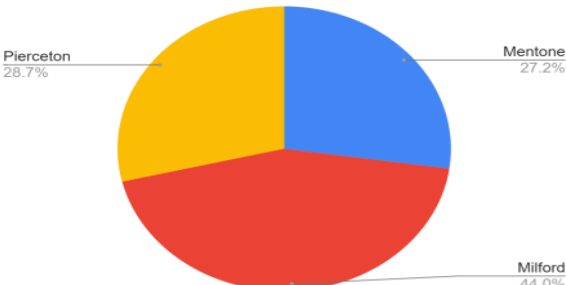
**Scenario 4:** Each community will receive CDBG-CV funds to match the 30% ARPA investment required plus a split of 100% of the remaining CDBG-CV funds. This split will be weighted based on the amount of funds each community had committed. The county would not directly receive CDBG-CV funds.

Scenario 4: Min. 30% Match + 100% of Remainder

Each community will receive CDBG-CV funds to match the minimum 30% ARPA investment required plus a split of 100% of the remaining CDBG-CV funds. This split will be weighted based on the amount of funds each community had committed.

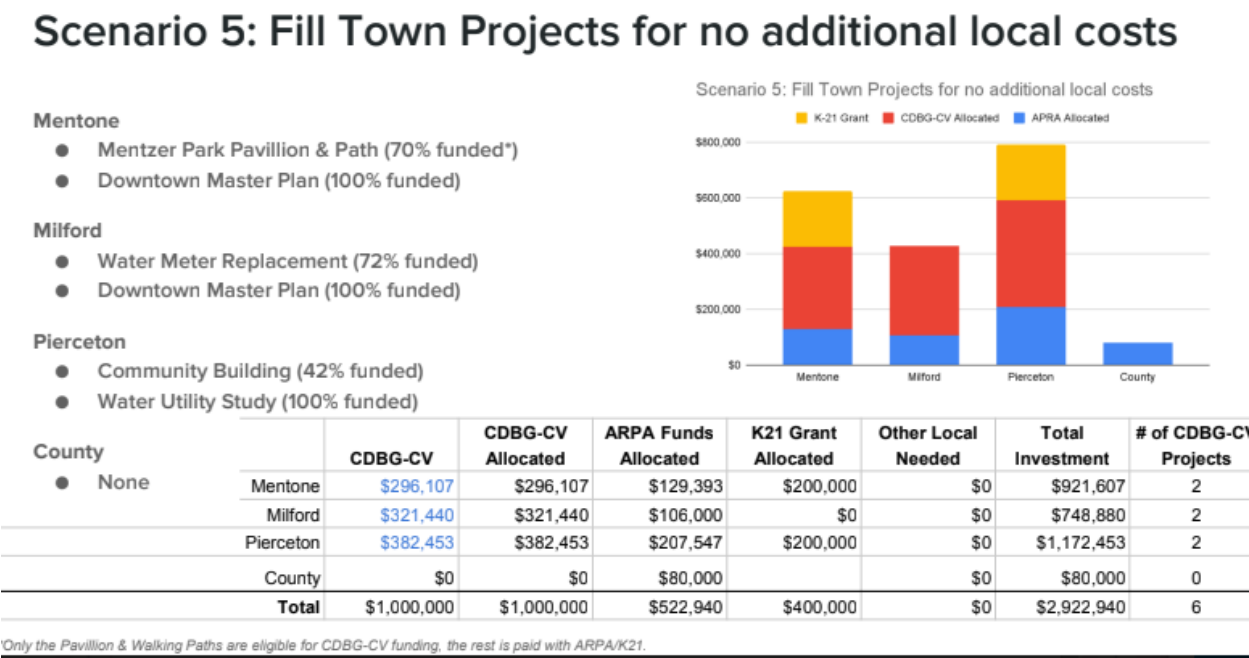
The County would not directly receive CDBG-CV funds.

	Total ARPA	Min. 30%	CDBG-CV
Mentone	\$218,548	\$65,564	\$272,369
Milford	\$353,334	\$106,000	\$440,349
Pierceton	\$230,514	\$69,154	\$287,282
County	\$15,433,397	-	\$0
Total	\$16,235,793	\$240,719	\$1,000,000



Graph provided by MACOG

**Scenario 5:** A scenario which provided a balance between the three communities, as well as provided funding for the community’s top priority projects based upon need. The county would not directly receive CDBG-CV funds.



Graph provided by MACOG

Roe stated each community provided their top 2 priority projects they wished to be completed, which included:

- Mentone:** 1. Mentzer Park Enhancement 2. Downtown Master Plan

**Milford:** 1. Water Meter Replacement 2. Downtown Master Plan

**Pierceton:** 1. Community Building 2. Water Utility Study

\$1.2 Million of ARPA funds has been earmarked for community projects. Projects being looked at by the county are the trail project, master trail and blueway project and the broadband project. Council and Commissioners held a discussion concerning criteria that needs to be met in order to receive the funding; the needs of the county’s lower income areas, and the HELP projects being looked at. Scenario 4 was discussed as being the favorable option with the understanding that further discussion and adjusting of the plan may be needed pending qualifications and criteria of the applicants. The projects would be projected to be completed by the time the funds are to be expended. The Commissioners and Council were in agreeance and a motion was made by each board:

Council Motion: Sue Ann Mitchell motioned to proceed with scenario 4 and for reallocation purposes; move to Scenario 5.

MOTION: Sue Ann Mitchell

SECOND: Kimberly Cates

AYES: 7      NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve to proceed with scenario 4 and for reallocation purposes; move to Scenario 5 as presented.

Commissioner Motion: Cary Groninger motioned to proceed with scenario 4 and for reallocation purposes; move to Scenario 5.

MOTION: Cary Groninger

SECOND: Bob Conley

AYES: 3            NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve to proceed with scenario 4 and  
for reallocation purposes; move to Scenario 5  
as presented.

With no further business for either the Commissioners or the Council, the meeting was adjourned by each board president.

## Kosciusko County Council June 8, 2023

The Kosciusko County Council met for their regular meeting on Thursday June 8, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. in the Courtroom of the Courthouse, 100 W. Center St., Warsaw, IN. Those present were:

Mike Long, President  
Kathleen Groninger, Vice-President  
Kimberly Cates  
Tony Ciriello

Sue Ann Mitchell  
Joni Truex  
Dave Wolkins  
Rhonda Helser, County Auditor

The meeting was called to order by Mike Long.

### **IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM MAY 11, 2023:**

MOTION: Tony Ciriello

TO: Approve the minutes for the May  
11, 2023 meeting as presented.

SECOND: Sue Ann Mitchell

AYES: 6            NAYES: 0

Kathy Groninger - Abstained due to 5/11 Absence

MOTION CARRIED

### **IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM MAY 23, 2023:**

MOTION: Kimberly Cates

TO: Approve the minutes for the May 23,  
2023 meeting as presented.

SECOND: Tony Ciriello

AYES: 7            NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED

### **IN THE MATTER OF REEDY FINANCIAL GROUP P.C.:**

Reedy Financial Group P.C., CPA/Partner Brandon Robbins and Manager Matt Frische provided information about their full-service government financial planning group.

*Manager Matt Frische provided the following:*

- An overview of the firm's background was provided.
- Acts as a safety net for the County to meet State deadlines & requirements.
- Services the firm provides include the following:
  - Financial Planning
  - Bookkeeping
  - Budgeting
  - Economic Development & TIF Funding assistance offered

*CPA/Partner Brandon Robbins provided the following:*

- Stated they often find revenue generating opportunities; which often offset the costs of their services
- Budget timelines and deadlines can be handled for this year's budget process

The firm will work along with the Auditor's office for a fee of \$60,000.00 annually or \$5,000.00 per month. Services can be stopped at any point. Councilmember Mitchell requested information on how the group receives data from the Auditor's office. The group advised they would not need access to the County's internal system, but they would need a series of reports including, the location budget report, fund report, revenue history, encumbrances, and any additional appropriation requests. They would tailor the information to the county's needs and work along with Council to implement a plan for the 2024 budget process beginning now. The group had a brief Q&A discussion: Their quarterly workshop meetings would take place with no voting or decisions being made; it would be an educational workshop with the open-door law. Their services are year to year and they currently serve 5-6 counties and serve several municipalities.

The Group can bill at hourly rates, but the contracts are fixed at a fee of \$5,000.00 per month, \$60,000.00 annually. Council VP Groninger advised she had discussed with Administration on fund availability and stated funds are available without the need for transfers or an additional appropriation for the rest of the year.

Councilmember Sue Ann Mitchell requested to have a discussion on the motion prior to the vote to approve. She stated she is supportive to approve the motion if this can be a long-term strategic plan, however if the plan is to simply watch over the current processes; she is not supportive. If the service is productive, she would be in favor, but if a plan is not achieved pertaining to the budget and what funds are being spent on; she is not in favor.

***Councilmembers stated the following:***

***Cates:*** Implementing a plan is necessary and one of the main reasons for partnering with the group.

***Ciriello:*** Agreed with Mitchell's comments and agrees to try out the services until the end of the year and then reevaluate.

***Truex:*** Was previously reluctant to agree to the plan but upon further discussion; agrees this is a good option.

***Long:*** Was also reluctant as he does not want a duplicating effort from the Auditors office, or to question the Auditor's ability, but believes this will be a long-term benefit to the County.

MOTION: Kimberly Cates  
SECOND: Kathy Groninger

AYES: 7 NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve hiring Reedy Financial Group P.C. for services at \$5,000.00 per month through the end of 2023 and evaluate the services at the end of the year along with a recommendation to the Commissioners for approval, as presented

**IN THE MATTER OF IRACS (INTEGRATED RE-ENTRY & CORRECTIONAL SUPPORT) PRESENTATION:**

Sheriff Jim Smith along with Chief Deputy Chris McKeand, and KCODE ((Kosciusko County Coalition on Drug Education). representative, Heidi Blake presented information on the IRACS program stating she became aware of the program after hearing a presentation. She advised there are still a record amount of overdose deaths and record rates of people being incarcerated. IRACS is a wraparound service for individuals incarcerated. The program contains an IRACS supervisor who oversees the program, a group of forensic peers, an engagement coordinator, a re-entry coordinator, and a resource navigator. All these positions are required to be filled by someone who is in recovery themselves, except for the resource navigator. There was a brief discussion on things needed to re-enter into society and ways the program can assist in this. The five roles mentioned are paid roles of the program and is partially funded by Recovery Works and the RCO (Recovery Community Organization. If the program is implemented, the county will have oversight on the funding. Sheriff Smith reiterated that the IRACS program would not be taking the place of the JCAP program. The program will run parallel with it. Sheriff invited all to the next JCAP graduation. Chief Deputy McKeand provided an invite for a discussion on IRACS which will take place on June 21, 2023.

**IN THE MATTER OF EXPENSES PAID FROM COMMISSARY FUND-SHERIFF'S OFFICE:**

Sheriff Jim Smith requested permission to use commissary funds to purchase body cameras where only a portion/match were paid from a grant they were awarded. The request is to spend \$23,909.00 and their current balance in the commissary fund is approximately \$232,000.00. A brief grant discussion took place and will be checked on. No vote was necessary, but was a courtesy to ask permission.

**IN THE MATTER OF ABATEMENT APPROVALS:**

Council President Long, after requesting and hearing none, stated no one was in attendance to speak on behalf of the Louis Dreyfus abatements as well as the IDNA abatement that were provided for Council's approval. A brief discussion took place of whether its normal and customary for representation from the company on the abatement review. Council determined that there was uncollected information needed in order to properly approve the annual review of the current abatements. Council requested that a representative from each company be present to present their abatements at the next meeting.

MOTION: Tony Ciriello  
SECOND: Sue Ann Mitchell  
AYES: 7 NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Table all abatement requests until representation is present from each company and until the proper information is collected from within the courthouse to review the abatements.

**IN THE MATTER OF NONPROFIT 2024 BUDGET REQUESTS:**

The following nonprofit organizations appeared before Council to request funding for the 2024 budget year:

**4-H Council – Requested \$46,589.91.** Tyler Bouse, 4H Council President, stated the requested amount for 2024 is \$46,589.91 which is a 3% increase from last year. Enrollment numbers continue to increase. They are still partnering with the YMCA, Baker Youth Club and STEM. Several 4-H Junior Members came before Council to share their experiences and positive impact they have received from being a 4H Member.

**Cardinal Services – Requested \$111,373.00** Marcie Arndt, Vice President of Programs, stated the requested amount for 2024 is \$111,373.00 which will go directly toward the programs and daily operations. The 3 main programs supported each year are Headstart, Healthy Families, and KABS.

- Headstart- prepares economically disadvantaged children ages birth to 5 years for success in school. 200 students served this year so far. For children birth to 3, services are provided in their homes. For children 3-5 their services are provided in a classroom setting. A family of four in the program cannot earn more than \$27,750.00 annually.
- Healthy Families-works with families to reduce the occurrence of child abuse by providing the parenting resources needed. Approximately 55 families are helped each month through the in-home service. Focus is parental resilience.
- KABS- owned by the county and operated by Cardinal Services, provides transportation for low-income individuals. Approximately 41% utilize this service for employment or education purposes.

**Stillwater Hospice – Requested \$50,000.00.** Glenn Hall, Administrator, stated the requested amount for 2024 is \$50,000.00 which is the same as last year to support their program. Hall stated effective March 1<sup>st</sup> Kosciusko Home Care & Hospice became Stillwater Hospice. He thanked Council for the Counties support, stating operations are not fully covered after Medicare, Medicaid and other insurance has paid. Stillwater Hospice provides a grief counseling service as a mission program and are free of charge and they are looking to expand that into Kosciusko County. Hall stated any funds granted by the county are designated specifically to Kosciusko County residents. A request was made by Council that Stillwater provide more detail on their correspondence to show how and where the money is being spent in Kosciusko County; in which he will request this from the CFO.

**Historical Society – Requested \$25,000.00.** Gregory Steffe, Co-Director stated the requested amount for 2024 is \$25,000.00, which is the same as last year. They are currently conducting a drive for new members. As of this meeting they have over 400 members which is the highest in years. The society appreciates all the continued support.

**Beaman Home- Requested \$40,000.00** Renea Salyer, Executive Director stated the requested amount submitted for 2024 is \$40,000.00, which is a slight increase from last year. Funds will be used to supplement operating costs for some of the services they provide. She stated they served over 350 clients in 2022 with 80% of the assistance provided to Kosciusko. She stated they have received funding by ways of State and Federal funding, but have gaps where support is needed. The program provides emergency shelter services to clients who are leaving a domestic violence situation. She spoke briefly on program success stories.

**Kosciusko County Senior Services – Requested \$40,000.** David Neff, Executive Director, stated the requested amount submitted for 2024 is \$40,000.00 with the increase mainly due to concerns related to the rise in gas prices. Neff gave the following brief updates on the 3 main programs provided:

- Home Meal Delivery-approximately 85-100 meals are delivered all over the county, which in some cases is the only nutritional meal the senior is getting. Also provided is a well-being check, and for some is the only other interaction the senior has throughout the



day. They have started a collaborative effort with Cardinal Services for their clients to help with the delivery of in-home meals at 1 route per day with supervision.

- Handicapped Van Transportation-5 handicapped accessible buses are available for medical, nutritional, and recreational rides for people within the community who are over the age of 60. There is also a partnership with KABS to provide maintenance of the buses.
- Senior Activity Center-provides a hot nutritious meal at the Center 5 days a week, provides interaction and the opportunity for seniors to get out of the house.

**St. Joe River Basin – Requested \$3,794.00** Matt Meersman, MACOG and St Joe River Basin Program Director an agency organized by the State of Indiana was created to protect water quality as well as mitigate flooding by organizing to control the drains. The northern third of Kosciusko County drains into the St. Joseph River. Meersman expressed gratitude for the support and the participation; as there are five County members that serve on the St Joe River Basin Board. The requested amount for 2024 is \$3,794.00, which is slightly higher than last year and contributes approximately 6% of the budget. These funds will be used to support the basic operating costs. Matt provided a brief update on recent projects such as water flow monitoring

**IN THE MATTER OF ARPA COMMITTEE RECOMENDATIONS:**

The following ARPA recommendations were presented, which have been approved by the ARPA Committee & County Commissioners.

**Cori Humes, KCCVB Executive Director:**

- Request: **\$100,000.00** to replace an existing sign with a digital message sign that would be viewed by approximately 13,240,000 motorists that pass through on US 30. It would also have the option to display amber alerts and emergency information to the public. Humes was commended for a job well done on the Visitor's Guide their staff produced. A brief discussion took place on the ability to recommend additional funds than what was recommended by ARPA and the Commissioners. Further discussion will take place on the availability of funds.

MOTION: Tony Ciriello

TO: Approve ARPA committee  
recommendation as presented.

SECOND: Kathy Groninger

AYES: 7 NAYS: 0

MOTION CARRIED

**Steve Moriarty, County Highway Superintendent:**

- Request: **\$1,888,000.00** for resurfacing 1300 N from the city limits of Milford to the city limits of Syracuse. There would be intersection improvements at 300 East for safety measures and due to business expansions. Over 1200 area jobs would be added due to the expansions, but also an increase in truck and semi traffic. Moriarty stated they are currently working off a federally aided project, the 1300 N Overpass, which connects St Rd 15 to CR 1300 N (Where CSX & Norfolk Southern meet) The original request was for \$2,888,000.00 but he has revised the request to \$1,888,000.00 with the remainder of the funds coming from the MVH fund. They are not able to utilize funds from the Community Crossings grant.

MOTION: Joni Truex

TO Approve ARPA committee  
recommendation as presented.

SECOND: Kimberly Cates

AYES: 7 NAYS: 0

MOTION CARRIED

**Cary Groninger, County Commissioner:**

- Request: **\$76,000.00** to update the Fire Alarm system in the County Courthouse that is outdated. He advised that an ARPA application was submitted previously to replace the outdated Justice Building's fire alarm system and the request was \$200,000.00. The Justice Building fire alarm system was completed under budget therefore, leaving a balance of approved ARPA funds. The request is for approval to use the over-budgeted funds for the courthouse.

MOTION: Joni Truex

SECOND: Kathy Groninger  
AYES: 7        NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve ARPA committee  
recommendation as presented.

Cary Groninger, County Commissioner:

- Request: **\$2,400,000.00** for various upgrades, remodeling and updating to the Justice Building. An architectural firm, Design Collaborative, was contacted to oversee the project and they inspected the building room by room. Some of the cosmetic items to be updated included wallpaper, paint, flooring, carpeting etc. and have not been updated for approximately 20 years. Bids would need to be obtained, but the estimated budget of \$2.4M is in line to complete the project. A discussion took place concerning the amount requested and that all updates are being done now instead of by a followed maintenance plan. Groninger explained that in order to have consistency throughout the building and to avoid having a problem of not being able to obtain matching materials in years ahead, they request to make all changes at one time. With Council receiving negative feedback from the public, they discussed tabling the matter pending the Commissioners provide more detailed information. They requested to receive the spreadsheet from Design Collaborative, of work to be performed within two weeks.

MOTION: Joni Truex  
SECOND: Dave Wolkins  
AYES: 6        NAYS: 1  
Mike Long Opposed  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Table the matter until the July Council meeting; pending the Commissioners provide more detailed information/spreadsheet from Design Collaborative, of work to be performed.

Mike Long qualified his vote stating he spent a lot of time inspecting the Justice Building and there is a definite need for upgrades and there are funds to support the project. He agreed the \$2.4M is a large amount, but as stated in the ARPA Committee meeting; the funds are granted “up to” that amount. He would like to see a breakdown of the project, and agrees a maintenance plan is needed.

Tony Ciriello qualified his vote stating his vote to table the matter is not that he is against it, but in order to do his due diligence for the tax payers, additional information is needed in order to approve the request.

**IN THE MATTER OF LEGAL SERVICES UPDATE-COMMISSIONERS:**

Commissioner Cary Groninger provided a quarterly update on legal services. As of the end of April the amount spent for legal fees is just under 10% below the budget amount. The dollar amount spent, which was designated for the Commissioners is \$27,110.00 and \$1,150.00 has been spent for the Highway Department. Councilmember Joni Truex stated that Council should be receiving copies of the monthly invoices, as per stated in the meeting minutes and from prior meetings. A brief discussion took place and it was agreed upon that the Auditor’s office would send the invoices which have been paid to date.

**IN THE MATTER OF 2023 IOCS PROBLEM SOLVING GRANT REQUEST-KCCC:**  
**IN THE MATTER OF ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION REQUEST – KCCC**

Barry Andrew, Community Corrections Director, presented a request to approve a 2023 IOCS Problem Solving grant in the amount of \$10,000.00 that has already been awarded. Barry asked for forgiveness as time did not allow to seek approval prior to the due date of the grant request. The grant will help with training, incentives, and graduation supplies.

He also requested an additional appropriation for a total of \$10,00.00 which included the following:

<input type="checkbox"/> 9201-22049-000-0000	Graduation Supplies	\$1,500.00
<input type="checkbox"/> 9201-32025-000-0000	Incentives	\$2,000.00
<input type="checkbox"/> 9201-32028-000-0000	Participants Services	\$2,500.00
<input type="checkbox"/> 9201-36003-000-0000	Training	\$4,000.00

MOTION: Kathy Groninger  
SECOND: Joni Truex

TO: Grant forgiveness and approve the  
request for the 2023 IOSC Problem Solving

AYES: 7 NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

grant and the additional appropriation with a  
total amount of \$10,000.00 as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF ENCUMBERING:**

County Auditor Rhonda Helser presented an encumbering report for May 2023 in the amount of \$1,168.12 for approval. The encumbrance of \$168.12 was questioned and will be looked into further.

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

## Kosciusko County Council July 13, 2023

The Kosciusko County Council met for their regular meeting on Thursday July 13, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. in the Courtroom of the Courthouse, 100 W. Center St., Warsaw, IN. Those present were:

Mike Long, President  
Kathleen Groninger, Vice-President  
Kimberly Cates  
Tony Ciriello

Sue Ann Mitchell  
Joni Truex  
Dave Wolkins  
Rhonda Helser, County Auditor

The meeting was called to order by Mike Long.

**IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM JUNE 8<sup>th</sup> 2023:**

MOTION: Tony Ciriello	TO: Approve the minutes for the June 8 <sup>th</sup>
SECOND: Kimberly Cates	2023 meeting as presented.
AYES: 7 NAYES: 0	
MOTION CARRIED	

**IN THE MATTER OF RATIFYING /APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM MAY 23<sup>rd</sup> 2023:**

MOTION: Kimberly Cates	TO: Approve/ Ratify the minutes for the May
SECOND: Sue Ann Mitchell	23 <sup>rd</sup> , 2023 meeting as presented.
AYES: 7 NAYES: 0	
MOTION CARRIED	

**IN THE MATTER OF KEDCO QUARTERLY REPORT & ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS FUNDING PROPOSAL:**

Alan Tio, KEDCO CEO, advised Council to review and let him know of any questions concerning the quarterly report which was handed out. Tio then presented and requested approval of three special project funding opportunities from the Economic Development Special Projects account in which \$250,000.00 is approved in the 2023 CREDIT budget. The projects included:

**Project #1 Entrepreneurship Initiative \$50,000.00:**

MedTech Accelerator Studio Program-They are wanting this to continue in 2023. The objective of this program is to generate five startup clients per year for three years.

**Project #2 Housing Initiative \$60,000.00:**

To continue to work throughout Kosciusko County to encourage development of housing options. Currently there are requests for proposals for Etna Green, and to support Redevelopment of the South Shore Golf Course. This is a one time request. The management of this program has specifically led to significant expenses for bookkeeping services.

**Project #3 Strategic Vision (2) \$85,000.00:**

KEDCO is working with several partners to develop a feasibility study for downtown parking structure, hotel with conference space (multi use project) and event center. Tio stated the second portion of the project is to investigate developing an innovation District in the unincorporated portion of the county. The investment would continue to bring in additional businesses. He stated the County Commissioners endorsed using a portion of the economic development project funds towards this proposal and is requesting the Council's approval of the request in the amount of \$25,000.00 for the downtown parking study and \$60,000.00 for tech innovation projects.

Councilmembers had a brief discussion on event centers and the uncertainty of what the county currently has available.

MOTION:	Kathy Groninger	TO: Approve utilizing \$195,000.00 of
SECOND:	Kimberly Cates	Economic Development Funds for Special
AYES:	7	Projects on the above listed projects as
NAYS:	0	presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION-RAILROAD GRADE CROSSING 2023 GRANT:**

Troy Kintzel, Assistant Highway Superintendent, requested an additional appropriation in the amount of \$40,000.00 9172-22040-000-0000 Road Signs, for advance warnings pavement marking for the department to complete railroad crossing pavement markings.

MOTION:	Joni Truex	TO: Approve the additional appropriation in		
SECOND:	Kimberly Cates	the amount of \$40,000.00 9172-22040-000-		
AYES:	7	NAYES:	0	0000 Road Signs, as presented.
MOTION CARRIED				

**IN THE MATTER OF GRANT REQUEST RAILROAD GRADE CROSSING-HIGHWAY:**

Assistant Highway Superintendent Troy Kintzel presented a request to apply for the 2024 Railroad Grade Crossing 100% reimbursable grant in the amount of \$40,000.00. The funds will be used for pavement markings at railroads.

MOTION:	Kimberly Cates	TO: Approve the request to apply for the		
SECOND:	Kathy Groninger	Railroad Grade Crossing grant in the amount		
AYES:	7	NAYES:	0	\$40,000.00 as presented as presented.
MOTION CARRIED				

**IN THE MATTER OF THE CCMG 2023-2 COMMUNITY CROSSINGS GRANT REQUEST & FINANCIAL COMMITMENT LETTER - HIGHWAY:**

Assistant Highway Superintendent Troy Kintzel, presented a request to apply for the Community Crossings /CCMG 2023-2 in the amount of \$2M. This is a 50/50 matching grant which is applied for annually.

MOTION:	Kimberly Cates	TO: Approve the request to apply for the		
SECOND:	Tony Ciriello	Community Crossings 2023-2 matching grant		
AYES:	7	NAYES:	0	in the amount of \$2M.
MOTION CARRIED				

**IN THE MATTER OF FINANCIAL COMMITMENT LETTER FOR THE CCMG 2023-2 GRANT REQUEST -HIGHWAY:**

Assistant Highway Superintendent Troy Kintzel, presented a financial commitment letter for approval for 1 of 2 projects to be completed with funds from the Community Crossings /CCMG 2023-2 grant in the amount of \$999,790.00. The project is for Small Structures No. 320 (bridge) replacement for EMS T26 LN over Tippecanoe Lake boat channel. The counties share would be \$499,895.00 with the 50/50 matching grant.

MOTION:	Joni Truex	TO: Approve the Financial Commitment		
SECOND:	Kimberly Cates	letter for Community Crossings /CCMG		
AYES:	7	NAYES:	0	2023-2 grant in the amount of \$999,790.00.
MOTION CARRIED				
The counties share would be \$499,895.00 with the 50/50 matching grant.				

**IN THE MATTER OF FINANCIAL COMMITMENT LETTER FOR THE CCMG 2023-2 GRANT REQUEST -HIGHWAY:**

Assistant Highway Superintendent Troy Kintzel, presented a financial commitment letter for approval for 2 of 2 projects to be completed with funds from the Community Crossings /CCMG 2023-2 grant in the amount of \$991,010.80. The project is for road work from Old Rd 30 from 450 E to US 30 and Ogden Rd from Cherokee to include Sunrise and Rozella Rd. The counties share would be \$495,505.40 with the 50/50 matching grant.

MOTION: Tony Ciriello  
SECOND: Kathy Groninger  
AYES: 7            NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the Financial Commitment letter for Community Crossings /CCMG 2023-2 grant in the amount of \$991,010.80. The counties share would be \$495,505.40 with the 50/50 matching grant.

**IN THE MATTER OF RECORDS PERPETUATION FUND ORDINANCE/AFFIDAVIT:**

Auditor Rhonda Helser on behalf of County Recorder Deb Wright, presented an affidavit stating the Recorder's Perpetuation Fund (RPF) is sufficient to support the 2024 functions of the Recorder's Office in the amount of \$265,455.00. An ordinance granting the request was presented for approval. A brief discussion took place on a breakdown of what the funds would be used for which would be for salary and benefits, per an email from the Recorder.

MOTION: Kimberly Cates  
SECOND: Kathy Groninger  
AYES: 7            NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the use of the Recorder's Perpetuation Fund to support the functions of the Recorder's Office including three salaries for 2023 as presented.

**RESOLUTION NO. 23-07-13-001 (2023070436)**  
**As recorded in the office of the Kosciusko County Recorder**

**IN THE MATTER OF PURDUE EXTENSION UPDATE:**

Emily Kresca, Agriculture and Natural Resources Educator presented an update on the happenings with the County Extension office which included the following:

- Held a home vegetable gardening series with Kosciusko County having the highest number of registrations across the state.
- Hosted an AG Day and Taste of AG event.
- Partnered with Grace College's Lilly Center for Lakes & Streams. Hosted an event featuring homesteading called "Women Growing Their Future." The program focused on gardening, canning, and producing on their homestead.
- Conducted a drone program where attendees of the 2 day event were farmers, landscapers, teachers and first responders. The exercise helped prepare them to get their certified license in drones.
- There will be another master gardener class in the fall.

Contact information was provided by Emily as well as how someone can obtain their newsletters.

Emily then provided information on behalf of Andrew Ferrell, County Extension Director which included the following:

- 1080 Livestock entries, 524 General Project entries, and 531 4-H members. There are 259 volunteers.
- Events have been held with Grace College and Jefferson Elementary. The focus of the event was engineering.
- Events with Bakers Youth Club which explored 3D printing.
- Worked with 4H members to co-teach engineering topics
- Robotic events were taught at the Warsaw Community Public Library which impacted 18, 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade students during 4 events.

Shannon Shepherd, Health, and Human Sciences Educator, provided information on the programs she has been working with. She stated she has conducted many health and wellness programs since she began last August. She reported on the following:

- Held a budgeting & banking workshop for students
- Partnered with Valley schools to conduct mock interviews
- Captain Cash program with Lakeland Christian Academy focusing on wants and needs.

**IN THE MATTER OF SALARY ORDINANCE AMENDMENT- ASSESSOR:**

Councilmember and Wage Committee Member, Sue Ann Mitchell, in the absence of Assessor Gail Chapman presented a salary ordinance amendment for the Part Time Personal Property Deputy 1000-11301-000-0003 \$21.38 hourly. Sue stated the amendment is to level the salary for the part time employee doing the same duties as a full time employee in this position. No transfer is needed and the request was approved and recommended by the Wage Committee.

MOTION: Kathy Groninger  
SECOND: Kimberly Cates  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the salary ordinance  
amendment for the Part Time Personal  
Property Deputy 1000-11301-000-0003  
\$21.38 hourly as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION -COUNTY VETERAN  
SERVICE OFFICER:**

Veteran Service Officer Darryl McDowell requested approval of an additional appropriation in the amount of \$250.00 for Uniforms- 1000-22022-000-0018. Darryl advised having uniforms is another form of outreach and a walking billboard. He advised he is trying to reach veterans that are not members of the typical organizations such as VFW, American Legion, etc...

MOTION: Tony Ciriello  
SECOND: Kimberly Cates  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the additional appropriation in  
the amount of \$250.00 for Uniforms 1000-  
22022-000-0018 as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF PARKS & RECREATION BOARD GRAPHIC DESIGN LOGO &  
BRAND GUIDELINES:**

County Parks & Recreation Board President, Rob Bishop, provided Council with the PRB logo which is under review by parks and recreation board. Bishop explained the importance of having the logo and their envision of having their logo as markers on trails in the future. The logo was designed by a student of Grace College. There was a brief discussion sharing opinions of the logo.

**IN THE MATTER OF ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION REQUEST-PARKS &  
RECREATION BOARD:**

County Parks & Recreation Board President, Rob Bishop requested the approval of additional appropriations for 4918-32003-000-0000 Mileage/Fuel/Travel in the amount of \$1,000.00 and for 4918-33001-000-0000 Printing & Advertising in the amount of \$1,000.00. Bishop advised the funds are needed for the board to attend a conference and to cover the cost of the branding/logo. The boards donation fund was discussed with Bishop advising those funds will be used to create their Master Trail Plan.

MOTION: Kathy Groninger  
SECOND: Sue Ann Mitchell  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the additional appropriations for  
4918-32003-000-0000 Mileage/Fuel/Travel in  
the amount of \$1,000.00 and for 4918-33001-  
000-0000 Printing & Advertising in the  
amount of \$1,000.00 as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION REQUEST-SHERIFF:**

Lieutenant Mike Mulligan requested approval for an additional appropriation in the amount of \$5,000.00 for Sex & Violent Offender- 1192-23010-000-0000 Supplies Operating to purchase new office equipment for a newly repurposed location for offender registry along with other necessary supplies.

MOTION: Joni Truex  
SECOND: Dave Wolkins  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the additional appropriation in  
the amount of \$5,000.00 for Sex & Violent  
Offender- 1192-23010-000-0000 Supplies  
Operating as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION REQUEST-SHERIFF:**

Lieutenant Mike Mulligan requested approval for an additional appropriation for a previously approved Grant in the amount of \$10,000.00 SAVE (Stop Arm Violation Enforcement) Grant Salaries 8274-11706-000-0000.

MOTION: Joni Truex  
SECOND: Tony Ciriello  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the additional appropriation in  
the amount of \$10,000.00 for SAVE grant  
8274-11706-000-0000 as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION REQUEST-SHERIFF:**

Lieutenant Mike Mulligan requested approval for an additional appropriation in the amount of \$14,500.00 for CHIRP- CITLI Grant 8413-11706-000-0000 Grant Salaries. The funds will be used for patrol of seat belt violators.

MOTION: Kathy Groninger  
SECOND: Mike Long  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the additional appropriation in the amount of \$14,500.00 for CHIRP- CITLI Grant 8413-11706-000-0000 Grant Salaries. as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION REQUEST-SHERIFF:**

Lieutenant Mike Mulligan requested approval for an additional appropriation in the amount of \$14,500.00 for CHIRP- CITLI Grant 8413-11706-000-0000 Grant Salaries. The funds will be used for patrol of seat belt violators.

MOTION: Tony Ciriello  
SECOND: Joni Truex  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the additional appropriation in the amount of \$14,500.00 for CHIRP- CITLI Grant 8413-11706-000-0000 Grant Salaries. as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION REQUEST-SHERIFF:**

Lieutenant Mike Mulligan requested approval for an additional appropriation in the amount of \$15,960.00 for Indiana Local Body Camera Grant 8908-44020-000-0000 Video Camera/Equipment.

MOTION: Tony Ciriello  
SECOND: Kimberly Cates  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the additional appropriation in the amount of \$15,960.00 for Indiana Local Body Camera Grant 8908-44020-000-0000 Video Camera/Equipment as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF TRANSFER REQUEST- COUNTY EDIT:**

Marsha McSherry, County Administrator, requested a transfer of \$47,640.00 from 1112-44019-000-0000 911 Equipment to 1112-34011-000-0000 PSC Utilities. The transfer will cover the expenses for utilities of the 911 towers which was a non budgeted item for 2023 due to the project being under construction and now knowing what expenses would be. This transfer will cover expenses for the remaining of the year.

MOTION: Tony Ciriello  
SECOND: Kimberly Cates  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the transfer request of \$47,640.00 from 1112-44019-000-0000 911 Equipment to 1112-34011-000-0000 PSC Utilities as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION REQUEST-COUNTY EDIT:**

Marsha McSherry, County Administrator, requested an additional appropriation in the amount of \$10,000.00 1112-31002-000-0000 Legal Services and in the amount of \$60,000.00 for 1112-36013-000-0000 Unsafe Building Law which is for the Revitalization Committee for blighted buildings to be cleaned up. Funds will cover demolition and clean up as well as for attorney fees for the health department.

MOTION: Kimberly Cates  
SECOND: Tony Ciriello  
AYES: 6        NAYES: 1  
Joni Truex Opposed  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the additional appropriation in the amount \$10,000.00 1112-31002-000-0000 Legal Services as presented & and in the amount of \$60,000.00 for 1112-36013-000-0000 Unsafe Building Law

**IN THE MATTER OF ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION REQUESTS-ARPA:**

Marsha McSherry, County Administrator, requested the following American Rescue Plan Act additional appropriations for approval which have all been approved by the ARPA Committee: 8950-38065-000-0000, KCCVB Digital Sign, \$100,000.00 and 8950-38066-000-0000 1300 N Project \$1,888,000.0.

MOTION: Kimberly Cates

SECOND: Kathy Groninger

AYES: 7 NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the following American

Rescue Plan Act additional appropriations:

8950-38065-000-0000, KCCVB Digital Sign,

\$100,000.00 and 8950-38066-000-0000 1300

N Project \$1,888,000.00, as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF TABLED ARPA COMMITTEE RECOMENDATION:**

County Commissioner Cary Groninger presented on the ARPA recommendation which was previously tabled. Discussion took place on a spreadsheet which was sent to Council by the Administration office. Also in attendance was Chris Stein from Design Collaborative.

Chris Stein- Design Collaborative spoke on the following:

- Cost basis is determined by square foot or lineal footage cost for flooring and wall coverings. The justice building project is approximately 90,000 square feet and the approximate price is \$25.00 a square foot.
- In order to proceed, Design Collaborative would begin a bidding process in which subcontractors would bid the projects, i.e... flooring, painting etc. Design Collaborative works as the general manager to the project, not the company doing the work. They will also oversee the work being performed.

Discussion took place with Stein and Council concerning his experiences of larger scale projects such as schools, the approximate lifespans of flooring and wall coverings, and gradual budgeting for replacing those items. Stein advised he can provide further information regarding this.

Council held a lengthy discussion which included the following:

- The use of ARPA funds and if the project fit into that mission statement
- History of maintenance budget
- The importance of updates being budgeted
- Each Council member shared their opinion, or provided a statement on them
- Materials to be used in the project (Vinyl Wallpaper)

MOTION: Tony Ciriello

SECOND: Kathy Groninger

AYES: 6 NAYS: 1

Joni Truex- Opposed

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the ARPA Committee

Recommendation to fund renovations to the

County Justice Building not to exceed

\$2.4M, as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF ABATEMENT APPROVALS-LOUIS DREYFUS:**

Council Vice President Kathy Groninger stated the abatement committee met to discuss the Louis Dreyfus abatements for compliance. She stated they are compliant in all areas, taxes are current, and obligations have been met according to the CF1 form. The abatements were filed on time but were tabled at last month's Council meeting as Council needed additional information from the Assessor's office. A brief discussion took place on Louis Dreyfus's attendance to the meeting as it was discussed at the June meeting. The census was that the applicant attends when the first request is made and not required to attend for their annual compliance. The abatements which were presented for approval are as follows:

	<u>Resolution No.</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Abatement CF-1/Real Property Abatement	2016-06-09-001
<input type="checkbox"/> Abatement CF-1/Real Property Abatement	2017-01-10-001
<input type="checkbox"/> Abatement CF-1/Real Property Abatement	2019-10-10-002
<input type="checkbox"/> Abatement CF-1/Real Property Abatement	2021-07-08-001
<input type="checkbox"/> Abatement CF-1/Personal Property Abatement	2016-06-09-001
<input type="checkbox"/> Abatement CF-1/Personal Property Abatement	2017-01-10-001
<input type="checkbox"/> Abatement CF-1/Personal Property Abatement	2019-10-10-002



☐ Abatement CF-1/Personal Property Abatement

2021-07-08-001

MOTION: Kimberly Cates  
SECOND: Kathy Groninger

TO: Approve all Louis Dreyfus CF1 /  
abatements as they are all in compliance.

AYES: 7 NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

**IN THE MATTER OF ABATEMENT APPROVAL-iDNA:**

Council approved iDNA CF1 as it is also in compliance.

MOTION: Sue Ann Mitchell  
SECOND: Kathy Groninger

TO: Approve iDNA CF1

AYES: 7 NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

Groninger advised the abatement committee also met with iDna for review and they met all requirements and were compliant.

**IN THE MATTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH BILL PROGRAM:**

Council President Mike Long stated the topic is dealing with the Health Department funds and he encouraged the Commissioners take it under advisement. The deadline date for the submission is the first of September where a budget needs to be ready.

**IN THE MATTER OF ENCUMBERING:**

County Auditor Rhonda Helser presented an encumbering report for June 2023 in the amount of \$382,067.67 for approval.

MOTION: Tony Ciriello  
SECOND: Sue Ann Mitchell

TO: Approve the encumbering report for  
June 2023 in the amount of \$382,067.67 as  
presented.

AYES: 7 NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

**IN THE MATTER OF FURTHER BUSINESS:**

Councilmember Joni Truex provided a report for the Redevelopment Commission stating effective July 1<sup>st</sup> legislation passed that two people cannot serve as the President and Vice President of the Commission that are appointed from the same governing body in which the current president and vice president of the Redevelopment Commission are both appointed by the County Council. At the 7/13/23 Redevelopment meeting, the officers were changed and voted on. Joni Truex will now serve as the President and Jan Orban will step down as Vice President to a Commission Member. Doug Hanes will now serve as the Vice President and Dan Thyrstrup will serve as secretary.

**IN THE MATTER OF FURTHER BUSINESS:**

Councilmember Sue Ann Mitchell advised of items discussed at the wage committee. These items will be presented for discussion at the 8/10/23 Council meeting. The wage committee met, and has approved the proposal for the Veteran Service Officer to be a full time position. Also, for discussion, is to change the status of the Community Coordinator to a full time position through 2026 in order to finish out the ARPA/HELP grant process.

Mitchell also advised the final documents have been submitted on the Opioid Grant. She stated the funds will be utilized as \$150,000.00 for Fellowship Missions, \$30,000.00 for jail counseling and \$22,500.00 for the juvenile counseling. The county match is the total which is \$202,500.00. The county will be receiving \$24,000.00; \$1,000.00 per month, to administer the grant for 2 years.

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

ARPA Committee  
Kosciusko County Commissioners  
Kosciusko County Council

August 1, 2023  
(Special Meeting)

The Kosciusko County ARPA Committee, Commissioners and Council, met for a special meeting on Tuesday August 1st, 2023 immediately following the 9:00 AM Commissioners meeting in the Courtroom of the Courthouse, 100 W. Center St., Warsaw, IN. Those present were:

ARPA COMMITTEE:

Cary Groninger  
Mike Long

Sue Ann Mitchell  
Marsha McSherry, County Administrator

COMMISSIONERS:

Brad Jackson-President  
Robert Conley-Vice President  
Cary Groninger-Member

Marsha McSherry, County Administrator

COUNCIL:

Mike Long, President  
Kathleen Groninger, Vice-President  
Kimberly Cates  
Tony Ciriello

Sue Ann Mitchell  
Joni Truex -Absent  
Dave Wolkins  
Rhonda Helser, County Auditor

Commissioner & ARPA Committee Chairman, Cary Groninger, called the meeting to order.

Groninger provided an overview of the meeting process and explained the HELP / ARPA funds that Community Coordinator Amy Roe has been coordinating. He stated ARPA funds were set aside for the projects being presented and todays presentations are not new. \$1.2M in ARPA funds have already been allocated for their projects which are in the Strategic Investment Plan. A joint meeting with the Council and Commissioners was previously held, where they agreed to allocate 100% of the \$1M in CDBG dollars they would be receiving; to support projects of smaller communities (Pierceton, Mentone & Milford). In order to receive the \$1M in CDBG fund; the projects being conducted must be part of the SIP plan. A minimum of \$1M in ARPA funds must be spent in order to receive the dollar-for-dollar match funding.

**ARPA COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:**

**IN THE MATTER OF ARPA APPLICANT, KOSCIUSKO COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION BOARD-BLUE & GREENWAYS MASTERPLAN:**  
Kosciusko County Parks & Recreation Board President Rob Bishop and board member Mike Cusick presented a request for ARPA funds in the amount of \$80,000.00. Also present were Board Member Aggie Sweeney and Troy Turley who attended virtually. Bishop requested approval for the Board to complete a Master Plan of Trails. The plan would consist of the trail’s locations, where the right of ways would be and how to potentially cross US 30.

**IN THE MATTER OF ARPA APPLICANT, KOSCIUSKO COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION BOARD -CHINWORTH BRIDGE TRAIL EXTENSION:**  
Mike Cusick presented the first phase of what the board plans to identify with the Chinworth Bridge Trail Extension project, stating it would provide immediate impact. The extension was originally identified through the Michiana Active Transportation Plan as well as the Forward Kosciusko Plan. The proposal is to extend the current greenways from the Chinworth Bridge along Old Road 30 into Marshall County. Cusick stated this would extend access to a lower income area and surrounding neighborhoods and possibly to Creighton Brothers or beyond. This would provide safe non-motorized transportation for biking and walking, attract tourists and recreational riders. The amount requested is \$750,000.00 for the design and build project. Some preliminary work has been done in hopes to receive approval of an RFP (Request for Proposal).

**IN THE MATTER OF ARPA APPLICANT, KOSCIUSKO COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION BOARD -LAKE JAMES BOAT LAUNCH:**

Mike Cusick presented a blueway project, Lake James Boat Launch, which would create additional tourism and recreational activity by adding connectivity to Tippecanoe Lake and then eventually into the Tippecanoe River. The project would consist of installing a new boat launch, which would allow non-motorized boat access for canoes, kayaks, paddleboards, etc... The requested amount is \$250,000.00 with the proposed work to begin in early 2024 once the land and location is established.

Cary Groninger stated the board has established a Master Parks Plan and creating a master blueway and trail plan is the next step in creating connectivity to the counties existing assets.

**IN THE MATTER OF ARPA APPLICANT, KOSCIUSKO REMC- KOSCIUSKO CONNECT:**

Curt Barkey, KREMC Vice President of Technology and Broadband, presented a request to expand fiber network into the Town of Sidney. Also present was REMC CEO Kurt Carver and CFO Tim Landrigan. Barkey explained that Kosciusko Connect is a broadband service provider and a subsidiary of Kosciusko REMC which was established in 2020. Since then, they have built over 1100 miles of fiber optic network through their service areas in Kosciusko County. Not all rural areas have access to broadband and they are working with federal, state, and local governments to obtain funding for services to be expanded. He advised the E-Connectivity committee developed three Broadband Investment Priority Areas (BIPA) where a portion of Sidney was selected for this proposal to service over 90 locations. Barkey spoke briefly on bandwidth speeds and provided maps with their proposed area to service. The requested amount is \$302,798.45 which would provide a fully functional fiber optic network to the Town of Sidney. This service, along with a communications tower, would be completed by the end of the second quarter or early third quarter of 2024. Packages and pricing were provided.

Cary Groninger stated some of the proposed Sidney area who would receive the Kosciusko Connect service has their power utilities serviced by Duke Energy and not KREMC. Groninger stated the area was considered due to its current status of poor internet connection, the number of residents that would be impacted and the discussion of a fourth Public Safety Communications tower being installed in the area.

A brief discussion included the following:

- The public safety communication towers were discussed. Adding a fourth tower in the Sidney area would add additional coverage to the southern part of the county
- Bob Conley thanked REMC for their program, as he represents the area proposed to receive connection and the service has been needed for several years

The ARPA Committee members shared their opinions of the projects and briefly discussed the ARPA funds that remained to strategize how to support each project. Discussion continued about KREMC fiber optics and what power is serviced by REMC and Duke Energy.

After a lengthy discussion, the board members voted as follows:

**ARPA COMMITTEE**

MOTION: Cary Groninger

SECOND: Mike Long

AYES: 3            NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the Parks & Recreation Board requests for the Blue & Greenway Masterplan in the amount of \$80,000.00, the Chinworth Bridge Trail Extension in the amount of \$750,000.00.

Approve the Kosciusko Connect Fiber/Broadband Services for the Town of Sidney in the amount of \$302,798.45 as presented.

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

MOTION: Bob Conley

SECOND: Cary Groninger  
AYES: 2            NAYES: 1  
Brad Jackson- OPPOSED  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the Parks & Recreation Board requests for the Blue & Greenway Masterplan in the amount of \$80,000.00, the Chinworth Bridge Trail Extension in the amount of \$750,000.00.  
Approve the Kosciusko Connect Fiber/Broadband Services for the Town of Sidney in the amount of \$302,798.45 as presented.

**COUNTY COUNCIL**  
MOTION: Kimberly Cates  
SECOND: Tony Ciriello  
AYES: 6            NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the Parks & Recreation Board requests for the Blue & Greenway Masterplan in the amount of \$80,000.00, the Chinworth Bridge Trail Extension in the amount of \$750,000.00.  
Approve the Kosciusko Connect Fiber/Broadband Services for the Town of Sidney in the amount of \$302,798.45 as presented

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

## Kosciusko County Council

### August 10, 2023

The Kosciusko County Council met for their regular meeting on Thursday August 10, 2023 at 6 p.m. in the Old Courtroom of the Courthouse, 100 W. Center St., Warsaw, IN. Those present were:

Mike Long, President	Sue Ann Mitchell
Kathleen Groninger, Vice-President	Joni Truex
Kimberly Cates	Dave Wolkins
Tony Ciriello	Rhonda Helser, County Auditor

The meeting was called to order by Mike Long.

**IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM JULY 13<sup>th</sup> 2023:**

MOTION: Kimberly Cates	TO: Approve the minutes for the July 13 <sup>th</sup>
SECOND: Tony Ciriello	2023 meeting as presented.
AYES: 7            NAYES: 0	
MOTION CARRIED	

**IN THE MATTER OF LIVE WELL KOSCIUSKO:**

Live Well Kosciusko Coalition Coordinator Austin Rhodes, thanked the Council and the Health Department for their partnership and support. He provided an update on the current initiatives which included the following:

- Health Community Initiative: evidence-based collaboration designed to help communities sustain a culture of health and well-being.
- Career & Purpose Well-Being: Designed for Kosciusko residents who want to strengthen their career and purpose well-being in the community.
- Community Well-Being-KCounty First Initiative: Provides appreciation to the brave men & women who serve as first responders. Art designed by Elementary students was displayed on billboards across the county last fall. A discount card was provided for first responders to be used at participating organizations.
- Chronic Disease & Cancer Initiative: Encourages employers to implement best practices, prevention, early detection, treatment, and survivorship of cancer.
- Substance Misuse-Workforce Recovery & Mental Health Initiative: Live Well partners with employers to implement HEA 1007 Second Chance policies.

- Tobacco Prevention & Cessation: Works with employer to provide workers with a tobacco cessation program. Live Well has been working with area school systems to implement nicotine prevention.

**IN THE MATTER OF ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION HMPG GRANT- EMA:**

Emergency Management Director Kip Shuter requested an additional appropriation for 8192-31001-000-0000 Contractual Services in the amount of \$20,304.00. The request is for an awarded FEMA, Federal, pass through, a reimbursable grant which was applied for in June 2022. The grant requires a 25% in-kind match. The grant's purpose is to update the county's multi-mitigation plan for flood plain management, which is updated every five years. Shuter stated in May of 2023 FEMA notified Indiana that eight counties had been awarded the grant but had re-purposed and renamed the grant from BRIC to Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. The grant was awarded in the amount of \$20,304.00 with a match of \$6,769.00. The match is coming from tracking the hours of those people that are on the committee; to be "in-kind" funds, per the grant match agreement.

MOTION: Sue Ann Mitchell

SECOND: Kathy Groninger

AYES: 7            NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the additional appropriation for  
8192-31001-000-0000 Contractual Services  
in the amount of \$20,304.00 as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF THE 2023 COMMISSARY REPORT-SHERIFF:**

Sheriff Jim Smith along with Sheriff Matron Michelle Hyden presented the January through June 2023 commissary report for review. The report was provided to all Council members. Councilmember Sue Ann Mitchell commented and commended the Sheriff on good management of the commissary fund which has increased by \$100,000.00 since January. The Sheriff was thanked by Council.

**IN THE MATTER OF SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS (SRO)- SHERIFF:**

Sheriff Jim Smith, Tippecanoe Valley School Superintendent Blaine Conley and Warsaw Community School Corporation Superintendent Dr. David Hoffert opened discussion regarding adding School Resource Officers. Smith stated he met with both Superintendents concerning the addition of an SRO for each school. Their discussion also included avenues of funding the positions as the KCSO does not currently have the manpower to provide the additions. Smith stated the Sheriff's Office and both school districts prepared a proposal consisting of a four-year term MOU contract for an 80/20 split to fund the cost of each SRO. There would need to be an additional appropriation in the total amount including the school portion and the county portion as the county would be responsible for paying the wages with the school reimbursing the county per the MOU Agreement.

With salary, benefits, patrol vehicles and outfitting the vehicles, the estimated 80% cost to each of the school systems portion would be approximately \$110,081.97 per year, per Deputy: \$220,163.94 for 4 Years totaling \$880,655.76. The counties 20% portion would be approximately \$27,521.46 per year, per Deputy \$55,042.92 for 4 years totaling \$220,171.68 with a 4-year grand total between the school and county of \$1,100,819.68. Outside of the 180 school days, the deputies will be assigned to traffic details of the department which would benefit the department.

WCS Superintendent Dr. David Hoffert explained the importance of the student's security stating that the three outlining schools consisting of Leesburg, Madison and Claypool need an SRO. Those schools take the longest response time for officers to be able to get to. Currently there are off-duty officers performing a rotation, but the request is to have a more consistent presence at the schools in need.

TVSC Superintendent Blaine Conley stated that the Tippecanoe Valley High School and Middle School is five miles south of Mentone and five miles north of Akron also creating a response time issue. An SRO is currently assigned to the high school but can be called out to a different school. Conley stated he would like to see the DARE program re-implemented at the elementary school which has not been in place for a while. He added the school system is committed to fund the position and possible grant funds would be available.

In closing, Sheriff Smith clarified that the commitment between the school system and the KCSO is for four years. At that time; the leadership of the Sheriff's office would need to adjust accordingly. There was a brief discussion with Council, Sheriff, and the Superintendents concerning the current SRO status and funding. Heard from prior SRO, Seargent Doug Light, who explained the scope of being an SRO and the impact of students having a mentor.

MOTION: Joni Truex  
SECOND: Kimberly Cates  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the request for the KCSO to add two School Resource Officers, partnering with Warsaw Community Schools and Tippecanoe Valley Schools with an 80% school portion and 20% County portion for a term of 4 years pending Commissioners approval, as presented.

Discussion took place after the motion was made which included:

- The position would be posted as soon as approval is given by both boards
- An additional appropriation would be needed and figures were discussed
- Comment – the relationships which are developed between students and the SRO are priceless.

**IN THE MATTER OF SALARY ORDINANCE AMENDMENT- SHERIFF:**

Sheriff Jim Smith and Sheriff Matron Michelle Hyden requested a salary ordinance amendment for 1000-10129-000-0054 E911 Lead Dispatcher \$55,869.00 Annual. The amendment is needed due to a 911 Dispatcher who is currently a 10-year employee to the Lead Dispatcher which was vacated by an employee that received longevity and the salary ordinance was not at the 10-year employee level. The amendment will bring the salary ordinance up to Civilian Pole III-10.

MOTION: Joni Truex  
SECOND: Tony Ciriello  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the requested salary ordinance amendment for 1000-10129-000-0054 E911 Lead Dispatcher \$55,869.00 Annual as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF TRANSFER REQUEST- SHERIFF:**

Sheriff Jim Smith and Sheriff Matron Michelle Hyden requested a transfer of \$6,245.00 from 1000-10121-000-0054 911 Dispatcher to 1000-10129-000-0054 911 Lead Dispatcher to cover the necessary payroll funds from the exiting employee to the 10-year employee who accepted the position.

MOTION: Kimberly Cates  
SECOND: Joni Truex  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve transfer of \$6,245.00 from 1000-10121-000-0054 911 Dispatcher to 1000-10129-000-0054 911 Lead Dispatcher presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF TRANSFER REQUEST- SHERIFF:**

Sheriff Jim Smith and Sheriff Matron Michelle Hyden requested a transfer of \$35,029.00 from 1222-11590-000-0000 011 Longevity to 1222-11507-000-0000 911 Dispatch Overtime in order to cover the additional overtime pay due to staff shortage. The amount is estimated to cover overtime expenses until the end of the year.

MOTION: Joni Truex  
SECOND: Kathy Groninger  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the transfer of \$35,029.00 from 1222-11590-000-0000 011 Longevity to 1222-11507-000-0000 911 Dispatch Overtime as presented.

Sheriff Smith spoke briefly on the great turn out of Camp Hero where 138 kids attended the 3-day long camp. This year the camp was held at the Kosciusko County Fairgrounds for a more centralized location and with community support; the KCSO was able to waive the \$50.00 fee for each participant. Sheriff was applauded and stated his next year goal is to hopefully increase the number of participants and reach out to nonprofit organizations and churches in hopes of obtaining volunteers.

**IN THE MATTER OF ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION-HIGHWAY:**

County Highway Superintendent Steve Moriarty requested an additional appropriation for 1176-22037-000-0051, Highway MVH, Bituminous in the amount of \$800,000.00. The request is needed to spend additional funds from Unrestricted Fund 1176 until funds are received in the Restricted fund 1173.

MOTION: Joni Truex  
SECOND: Kimberly Cates  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the additional appropriation for 1176-22037-000-0051, Highway MVH, Bituminous in the amount of \$800,000.00 as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF TRANSFER REQUESTS-HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT:**

Steve Moriarty, County Highway Superintendent, requested a transfer in the amount of \$10,000.00 from Truck Driver 1176-10331-000-0051 to Part Time 1176-11337-000-0051 and a transfer in the amount of \$14,000.00 from Overtime Pay 1176-11507-000-0051 to Part Time 1176-11337-000-0051. Moriarity stated with his approved request to add additional part time truck drivers due to not being able to find CDL drivers, a transfer is needed to cover the expense of part time truck drivers until the end of the year.

MOTION: Kimberly Cates  
SECOND: Kathy Groninger  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the transfers in the amount of \$10,000.00 from Truck Driver 1176-10331-000-0051 to Part Time 1176-11337-000-0051 and a transfer of \$14,000.00 from Overtime Pay 1176-11507-000-0051 to Part Time 1176-11337-000-0051 as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF SALARY ORDINANCE AMENDMENT -VETERAN SERVICE OFFICER:**

County Veteran Service Officer Darryl McDowell presented a request for a salary ordinance amendment for the Veteran Service Officer 1000-11011-000-0018, \$45,065.00 annually. The amendment is to move the position from part time to full time. McDowell stated during his part time employment he has discovered many Veterans who have never applied for VA benefits and he continues to educate and spread the word to Veterans of the County. McDowell continues to increase the number of Veterans he services and recommends moving the position to full time. He provided the Council with research to support his recommendation adding he is using a mapping system to expand his outreach.

MOTION: Joni Truex  
SECOND: Kathy Groninger  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the salary ordinance amendment for Veteran Service Officer 1000-11011-000-0018 \$45,065.00 Annual as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION REQUEST-VETERAN SERVICE OFFICER:**

County Veteran Service Officer Darryl McDowell requested an additional appropriation for 1000-11011-000-0018 Veteran Service Officer in the amount of \$4,000.00 which will cover the salary shortfall for the position being moved from part time to full time for the year.

MOTION: Kathy Groninger  
SECOND: Joni Truex  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the additional appropriation for 1000-11011-000-0018 Veteran Service Officer in the amount of \$4,000.00 as presented.

*A brief discussion took place and Councilmember Kimberly Cates will research grant opportunities. McDowell added, with more public being informed, there may be a future need for a Veteran health facility in the area versus local Veterans traveling out of town for medical treatment. Darryl was thanked for his committed service and involvement.*

**IN THE MATTER OF ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION REQUEST-ARPA:**

County Administrator Marsha McSherry requested an additional appropriation for 8950-38067-000-0000 Justice Building Renovations \$2.4M which has been approved by all boards.

MOTION: Tony Ciriello  
SECOND: Sue Ann Mitchell  
AYES: 6 NAYES: 1  
OPPOSED: Joni Truex  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the additional appropriation for  
8950-38067-000-0000 Justice Building  
Renovations \$2.4M as presented.

*McSherry stated Design Collaborative has been contacted and a notice for bid opportunities will soon be publicized.*

**IN THE MATTER OF MILFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY RECOMMENDATION FOR RE-APPOINTMENT:**

With no one in attendance from the library to present the recommendation, Council President Mike Long presented a recommendation to reappoint Oscar Hernandez to the Milford Library Board with a term expiring October 31, 2027.

MOTION: Kimberly Cates  
SECOND: Sue Ann Mitchell  
AYES: 7 NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve re- appointing Oscar  
Hernandez to the Milford Library Board with  
term expiring 10/31/27.

**(Joni Truex requested personal representation by the library board going forward)**

**IN THE MATTER OF BUDGET REVIEW OF 2024 TAXING UNITS-NON-BINDING RECOMMENDATION:**

Council President Mike Long presented a non-binding recommendation to the taxing units of the County. The letter was recited and was provided to all Council Members, Auditor and Media. The Letter included the following:

The Kosciusko County Council is charged with review of each taxing units levy limits and the effect of property tax credits – Reference IC6-1.1-71-3.6. The Council supports each taxing unit to operate successfully with the least amount of impact to taxpayers, but does not support taxing units to have large reserves with no plan. purpose or intent to spend. Council encourages each taxing unit to review their budgets carefully and if cash balances are in excess of what is needed for 1 year to operate, the maximum levy should not be needed unless there are plans for a large project.

The recommendation for the 2024 budget is as follows:

- 1) Review your 2022-year end cash balance.
- 2) Review your 2023 certified budgets for each fund and your June 30, 2023 balance.
- 3) If you have more than 2 ½ times the amount of your 2023 certified budget in your June 30<sup>th</sup> 2023 cash balance and:
  - a) You made no large increases to your 2023 budget
  - b) You have no large increases planned for your 2024 budget
  - c) You have no purpose or plan to spend the money; you may want to consider reducing the rate to a minimum, or eliminating the rate for those funds.

If you are saving with a long-range plan for those funds, its understood that paying cash where it's possible is always better.

- 4.) Please verify the expected Property Tax Caps for each of your funds to be sure you will be able to fund your budget with any reductions.

**Comment:**

Kimberly Cates: The Northeast Regional Development Board of Directors met in Warsaw

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

**Kosciusko County Council**  
**Wednesday, August 30<sup>th</sup> 2023**  
(Pre-Budget Review)

The Kosciusko County Council met for a pre-budget meeting on Wednesday August 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023 from 8 a.m.- 1:00 p.m. in the Old Courtroom of the Courthouse, 100 W. Center St., Warsaw, IN. Those present were:



Mike Long, President  
Kathleen Groninger, Vice-President  
Kimberly Cates  
Tony Ciriello

Sue Ann Mitchell  
Joni Truex  
Dave Wolkins  
Rhonda Helser, County Auditor

The meeting was called to order by Mike Long.

*Wages/Salaries were not presented and will be discussed at a later meeting.*

**IN THE MATTER OF MAINTENANCE 2023 BUDGET REQUEST (1000-0006):**

Marsha McSherry, County Administrator, and Commissioner Cary Groninger presented the 2024 Maintenance budget to Council for approval which included the following increases:

<u>Account</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Increase Amount</u>
22001	Softener Salt	\$5,500.00
22007	Supplies- Housekeeping	\$6,000.00
32004	Meetings & Travel Exp	\$100.00
33045	Maintenance of Grounds	\$5,500.00
34003	Gas/Electric	\$26,000.00
35003	Inspection	\$1,000.00

***Decreases:***

<u>Account</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
32003	Mileage/Fuel Travel	\$200.00

Part Time Housekeeping: There is continuous turnover in the housekeeping department. The budget reflects having two full time housekeepers in order to retain an employee who is otherwise not willing to work the evening hours.

**IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1000-0009):**

Marsha McSherry, County Administrator, and Commissioner Cary Groninger presented the 2024 Commissioners budget. McSherry advised there has been a decrease of approximately 2% in group health insurance. Account Number 11605 Group health Insurance was budgeted for 2024 in three separate funds, Commissioners (1000-0009), EDIT (1112), and Employee Health Insurance Fund (4700). A reduction of \$250,000.000 Account number 11605, Group Health Insurance was taken from the Commissioners budget. Claims will first be paid from the EDIT fund, then the Employee Health Insurance Fund and lastly the Commissioners budget. Cary stated that the county is tracking below what is historically needed to be set aside for health insurance, called the attachment point, which is the total exposure for the county.

The following increases were budgeted:

<u>Account</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Increase Amount</u>
31001	Contractual Services	\$60,000.00
<i>Due to adding Reedy Financial Group</i>		
33002	Public Legal Notices	\$4,000.00
<i>Due to an increase in advertisements</i>		

A brief discussion took place on Legal Notices and whether they can be done electronically. It was determined that they need to be actual printed advertisements.

**In The Matter of Non-Profit Budgets:**

The budget was prepared with the amounts requested by the Nonprofit agency for advertising purposes.

**The Commissioners 2024 recommendation is as follows:**

Kosciusko County 4H Council	\$46,589.91
Cardinal Services	\$108,129.00
Stillwater Hospice	\$50,000.00
Kosciusko County Historical Society	\$23,230.00
Beaman Home	\$33,425.00
Kosciusko County Senior Services	\$33,425.00
St. Joseph River Basin	\$3,794.00

Council requested further details from Stillwater to clarify that the money the county provides is being spent in the county.

Further discussion on the General Fund, Location 0009- Commissioners budget continued which included the following:

- Account 11514 Level I & II Compensation (Assessor Level Pay). Mitchell stated due to fewer employees being certified; questioned if this was a budget to lower. McSherry stated with new employees, there is a possibility that a new certification would be needed. Nothing was decided.
- Account 11602 Retirement: Clarified that the increase by \$137,425.00 is necessary as the budget also covers the Sheriff’s office. The Sheriff’s Pension provider, McCreedy Kreen, was also discussed. Necessary information was not received from the finance meeting prior to budget discussion as was requested last year.
- \$250,000.00 was budgeted in the Commissioners budget (1000-0009) for General Drain Improvement/ Surveyor’s office. A new account number is being established for this and Groninger stated the Drainage Board is trying to be pro-active on projects.
- A brief discussion occurred: The landowner has a year to pay for the work after it is completed, but there is time between when this appears on the tax bill. With multiple projects occurring they need to have the capacity in the fund to pay for the project in advance and then be reimbursed by the landowners.

**IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY EDIT FUND 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1112-0000):**

Marsha McSherry, County Administrator, and Commissioner Cary Groninger presented the County EDIT Fund 2024 budget to Council for approval. A decrease of \$300,000.000 was requested from Account number 11605 Group Health Insurance. The total budget request for 2024 Group Health Insurance is \$3M.  
The following items were requested to be budgeted for 2024.

Account	Description	Amount
30099	Contractual Services- Public Safety Communications Tower	\$83,100.00
31002	Legal Services/Unsafe Building Laws	\$20,000.00
31149	Contractual Services-Ortho Worx	\$13,000.00
31151	Contractual Services-LE Data Access	\$40,000.00
32003	Mileage Fuel & Travel (Parks RB)	\$2,000.00
33001	Printing and Advertising (Parks RB)	\$2,000.00
34011	911 Public Safety Expenses	\$150,000.00
36013	Unsafe Building Law	\$100,0000.00

McSherry stated an order has been adopted -pursuant to IC 6-3.6 that is an order adopting an amended and restated Capital Improvement Plan. The Commissioners are working now to update and amend the order. An increase of \$500,000.00 was requested in account number 41236 Infrastructure & Major Improvements for the Airport at the Council’s request and the remaining \$2M in the budget would be for projects such as updating and reconfiguring the Justice Building parking lot.

**IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY CUM CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1138-0000):**

Marsha McSherry, County Administrator, and Commissioner Cary Groninger, presented the CCCD 2024 budget to Council which included the following changes:

- A new line item was added for Cloud Data Storage -31170 in the amount of \$40,000.00. This is needed for the Sheriff’s office new body cameras to be stored out on the Cloud.
- McSherry advised that the county’s personnel time clock system is looking at also going to the cloud and the cost would be an additional \$3,600.00. The IT department is in favor of moving data to the cloud.
- Increase of \$40,000.00 in Contracts IT -33018 with a total budget request of \$150,000.00
- \$15,788.00 was decreased in Repairs and Maintenance -35001 and moved to Land & Improvements for tracking purposes
- \$10,000.00 Unsafe Building Law- 36013was removed from this budget and moved to the EDIT budget

- A new line item was added for Justice Building and Courthouse Interior Bldg. Renovation with a requested budget of \$250,000.00. This will allow for some updating to the necessary offices of the courthouse, but will also be put towards other updating as needed. This budget is for all buildings and will gradually be built up.

**IN THE MATTER OF EMPLOYEE HEALTH INSURANCE FUND 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (4700-0000):**

County Administrator Marsha McSherry presented the 2024 budget for Employee Health Insurance Fund. The Group Health Insurance account 11605 has been decreased by \$750,000.00 in this budget and this will be the 2<sup>nd</sup> source for health insurance. Increases requested which are necessary for the operations of the Employee Health Clinic: \$4,000.00 in Consulting 31021,  
\$3,000.00 Wellness Program Services 31134  
\$20,000.00 Employee Clinic Hourly Rate 33029  
\$300.00 Repairs & Maintenance 35001

**IN THE MATTER OF LAW ENFORCEMENT DATA ACCESS 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (4900-0000):**

Marsha McSherry, County Administrator, presented the Law Enforcement Data Access 2024 budget to Council. Discussion took place on the current status of the account as it shows a negative balance of \$29,100.00. Fees are paid at the end of the year, but the account needs to be reviewed.

**IN THE MATTER OF HIGHWAY – MVH GENERAL & UNDISTRIBUTED 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1176-0050):**

Steve Moriarty, County Highway Superintendent, presented the Highway – MVH General & Undistributed 2024 Budget to Council.

*Decreases:*     \$59,818.00 Workman’s Compensation 11604  
                      \$119,230.00 Group Health Insurance 11605.

*Increases*

<u>Account</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
22049	Supplies-Other	\$1,000.00
34001	Property Liability Ins	\$4,531.00
35011	Building Repair	\$20,000.00
36003	Training & Seminars	\$1,000.00

Moriarity requested an increase of \$20,000.00, Building & Repairs for updating to the ventilation of the shop. He stated the current ventilation is poor and he obtained three quotes for updates. He also advised that one of his employees will be obtaining skills in order to train other highway department employees to obtain their CDL. This will create a savings to the county

**IN THE MATTER OF HIGHWAY – MVH MAINTENANCE & REPAIR 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1176-0051):**

Steve Moriarty, County Highway Superintendent, presented the Highway – MVH Maintenance & Repair 2024 Budget to Council. Changes included:  
Moriarity advised of an increase of \$20,000.00 Road Stripe Paint Account 22042 was necessary for various road improvements. With the recent paving improvements, additional road striping is needed. In review of the crash data provided by ITAP, roadway departure accidents have increased. In order to be proactive, the department has increased fog lines. Paint striping has increased overall by 17%. An increase of \$80,000.00 in Stone, Gravel & Other Aggr , Account 22043 was requested due to inflation. Safety Testing Equipment, Account 22055 increased by \$1,000.00. He also advised of plans to purchase a Paver which will qualify to be paid from the restricted fund.

**IN THE MATTER OF LOCAL ROAD & STREET 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1169-0000):**

Steve Moriarty, County Highway Superintendent, presented the Highway – Local Road & Street 2024 Budget to Council. A brief discussion took place in regards to accounts increased such as Bituminous, Account 22037 was increased by \$100,000.00 and Stone, Gravel & Other Agg Account 22043 was increased by \$150,000.000 as these qualify as restricted fund items (1173) which will receive a 50/50 match. Moriarity advised they have the cash balance to carry the

amounts and revenue is up. They plan to purchase 2 trucks with their budget of \$300,000.00 in Other Equipment Account 44017.

**IN THE MATTER OF CUM BRIDGE 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1135-0000):**  
Steve Moriarty, County Highway Superintendent, presented the Highway – Cumulative Bridge 2024 Budget to Council stating Bridge Replacement Account 39000 was increased by \$150,000.00 because projects will begin in 2024. He advised they applied for the Community Crossings grant (Small Structures) which will assist in funding a project on T26 Ln therefore a decrease of \$55,000.00 was taken in Small Structure Replacement Account 39085.

**IN THE MATTER OF HIGHWAY- MVH WHEEL TAX/SUR TAX 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (4928-0000):**  
Steve Moriarty, County Highway Superintendent, presented the Highway MVH Wheel Tax/Surtax 2024 Budget to Council with an increase of \$50,000.00 - Bituminous Wheel/Surtax-22025. Community Crossings matching grant applies to this fund at a 50/50 match.

**IN THE MATTER OF HIGHWAY- BRIDGE #161 2024- 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (8203-0000):**  
**IN THE MATTER OF HIGHWAY- BRIDGE #227 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (8247-0000):**  
**IN THE MATTER OF HIGHWAY- BRIDGE INSPECTION 2022-2025 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (8327-0000):**  
**IN THE MATTER OF HIGHWAY- LOCAL TRAX RAIL- 1300 N ROAD 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (8330-0000):**  
**IN THE MATTER OF HIGHWAY- LOCAL TRAX RAIL- 1300 N BRIDGE 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (8332-0000):**  
**IN THE MATTER OF HIGHWAY- BRIDGE#123 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (8403-0000):**  
**IN THE MATTER OF HIGHWAY- BRIDGE#139 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (8404-0000):**  
**IN THE MATTER OF HIGHWAY- BRIDGE#30 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (8406-0000):**  
**IN THE MATTER OF HIGHWAY- BRIDGE#9 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (8409-0000):**  
Steve Moriarty, County Highway Superintendent, presented the above budgets to Council. He advised Bridge # 161 and Bridge #127 are in plans to be built in 2024. Bridge # 139 is new and is not planned to be built until 2029. A brief discussion took place in regards to how claims are paid on the bridge funds due to the State procedures the Highway follows for funding.

**IN THE MATTER OF COMMUNITY CORRECTION USER FEE 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1122-0000):**  
**IN THE MATTER OF COMMUNITY CORRECTION PROBLEM-SOLVING COURT FEE USER FEES 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (2506-0000):**  
**IN THE MATTER OF COMMUNITY CORRECTION DRUG COURT 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (9182-0000):**  
**IN THE MATTER OF COMMUNITY CORRECTION HOME DETENTION 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (9185-0000):**

Barry Andrew, Director, presented the above budgets to Council with the following changes:

**Decreases**

Fund/Account	Description	Amount
1122-23007	Incentive-Community Correction	\$2,000.00
1122-31126	Confirmation Testing	\$10,000.00
1122-31145	Confirmation Testing	\$20,000.00
1122-33067	Telephone/iPad	\$600.00
2506-31126	Confirmation Testing	\$10,000.00

**Increases**

Fund/Account	Description	Amount
2506-31098	Lodging	\$9,000.00
2506-32003	Mileage/Fuel &Travel	\$6,000.00
2506-36003	Training & Seminars	\$3,000.00

A different grant will be applied for the Problem-Solving Court Fee fund 2506. The budget has been increased so that funds are available, but may not be needed if a grant is awarded.

**IN THE MATTER OF ADULT PROBATION USER FEES 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (2000-0000):**

Tammy Johnston, presented the Adult Probation User Fees 2024 budget to Council stating funds were moved from accounts 22015 Supplies/Expenses-Operating \$1,000.00 and from account 31145 Electronic Monitoring \$7,000.00 into account 36048 Drug Testing \$8,0000.00.

**IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY HEALTH 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1159-0000):**  
**IN THE MATTER OF HEALTH MAINTENANCE GRANT 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1168-0000):**

**IN THE MATTER OF LOCAL HEALTH DEPT TRUST ACCT 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1206-0000):**

**IN THE MATTER OF HEALTH CLINIC ADMINISTRATIVE 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (4014-0000):**

**IN THE MATTER OF CARES ACT-LOCAL COVID TESTING SITE (8905):**

County Health Administrator Bob Weaver presented the County Health 2024 budget to Council stating his budget was like last year. The following changes were requested in Fund 1159:

- Decrease of \$13,866.00 in Account 11605 Group Health Insurance
- Increase of \$2,500.00 in Account 31002 Legal Services
- Decrease of \$160.00 in Account 34001 Property Liability Insurance
- Decrease of \$675.00 in Account 35002 Rebinding Records
- Decrease of \$1,880.00 in Account 36044 Personal Health Services

Weaver stated the department was awarded \$932,790.00 from the new State health grant. The funds are expected in January 2024 and an additional appropriation will need to be processed. Mitchell stated the Health Board wages will be recommended for an increase and will be discussed with the wages later.

**IN THE MATTER OF PROSECUTING ATTORNEY 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1000-0015):**

County Prosecutor Brad Voelz along with Office Manager Trish Smith presented the Prosecuting Attorney 2024 budget to Council. Voelz expressed the importance of his request to add two new positions to the 2024 budget. He is requesting an increase of \$41,378.00 (each) for a Legal Asst./Secretary and a Legal Asst./Secretary/Paralegal which was presented to the wage committee in March for approval. He provided statistics which included a survey done by the Indiana Department of Justice with staff ratios. He stated accounts were reviewed for the budget and any transfers processed for the year were then adjusted in the budget.

Account	Description	Increase
31016	Professional Conferences	\$1,000.00
31038	Court Reporter Services	\$1,000.00
32013	State Witness Fees	\$2,682.00
36001	Dues & Sub	\$1,500.00

**IN THE MATTER OF TITLE IV-D 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1000-0022):**

County Prosecutor Brad Voelz along with Office Manager Trish Smith presented the Title IV-D 2024 budget to Council. Voelz stated he prefers for his non attorney professionals’ staff to participate in more conferences. He requested a slight increase in Mileage/Fuel & Travel \$2,000.00 and an increase of \$1,000.00 in Dues & Subscriptions. He also advised the need for additional bilingual translations which requires a certified translation for court. He stated he has had discussions with Judge McGrath and has negotiated the responsibility of who pays for the service.

**IN THE MATTER OF DRUG FREE COMMUNITIES- KCODE 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1148-0000):**

**IN THE MATTER OF PRE-TRIAL DIVERSION 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (2503-0000):**

**IN THE MATTER OF INFRACTION DEFERRAL 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (2504-0000):**

**IN THE MATTER OF PROSECUTOR LAW ENFORCEMENT FORFEIT 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (4957-0000):**

**IN THE MATTER OF PROSECUTOR IV-D INCENTIVE 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (8897-0000):**

County Prosecutor Brad Voelz along with Office Manager Trish Smith presented the above 2024 budgets to Council.

**IN THE MATTER OF CLERK 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1000-0008):**

Ann Torpy, County Clerk, presented the Clerk 2024 budget to Council. Torpy stated her staff is now at 13. She has decreased the budget by two positions for 2024 and is running efficiently with the current staff amount.

**IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY ELECTION BOARD 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1000-0012):**

Ann Torpy, County Clerk, presented the County Election Board 2024 budget to Council for approval with the following changes:

A decrease of \$1,000.00 in Meals-Election -23001

A decrease of \$3,000.00 in Legal Services- 31002

A decrease of \$6,000.00 Ballot- 33005

A decrease of \$1,600.00 Wireless Data Plan-34018

**IN THE MATTER OF REGISTRATION OF VOTERS 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1000-0017):**

Ann Torpy, County Clerk, presented the Registration of Voters 2024 budget to Council with no changes.

**IN THE MATTER OF CLERK DOCUMENT STORAGE FEE 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1119-0000):**

Ann Torpy, County Clerk, presented the Clerk Document Storage Fee 2024 budget to Council with a total budget request of \$6,000.00 in Storage Account 34012.

**IN THE MATTER OF CLERK IV-D INCENTIVE 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (8899-0000):**

The budget only contained wages which pays 30% of 1 employees' wage which will be discussed later.

**IN THE MATTER OF DRAINAGE BOARD 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1000-0011):**

**IN THE MATTER OF SURVEYOR 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1000-0021):**

**IN THE MATTER OF SURVEYOR CORNER PERPETUATION 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1202-0000):**

Mike Kissinger, County Surveyor, presented the Drainage Board and the Surveyor's 2024 budget to Council. He stated they are having joint board meetings due to drains that are crossing county lines and this is adding additional expenses. He is requesting increases for Legal Services \$500.00, Mileage Board Members \$520.00, and Public Legal Notices \$250.00. Mike advised his drainage board secretary will be retiring at the end of the year and he is trying to find a replacement now to begin training. Mike is requesting for the retiring employee to work part time at the beginning of the year to continue training for tax time projects. He will be requesting a salary ordinance amendment September 2023 for the employee he plans to hire this year for the part time wage to be increased.

A brief discussion took place on projects taking place, one in Nappanee which will cost approximately \$400,000.00 and a project near Etna Green to cost approximately \$104,000.00. The Commissioners have appropriated \$250,000.00 in their budget for the projects as the general drainage fund is currently at \$414,000.00.

**IN THE MATTER OF COUNCIL 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1000-0045):**

Council President Mike Long presented the Council 2024 budget with a decrease of \$2,000.00 in legal services, a decrease of \$200.00 in Mileage/Fuel & Travel and a decrease of \$500.00 in Meetings & Travel Expenses. Discussion took place that there are funds set aside in the Recorder fund for education in the amount of \$5,000.00.

**IN THE MATTER OF AREA PLAN 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1000-0002):**

Area Plan Director Matt Sandy, presented the Area Plan 2023 budget to Council requesting an increase of \$4,000.00 in Legal Fees Account 31002 and an increase of \$300.00 in Training & Seminars Account 36003. Sandy advised he has a new Assistant Area Plan Director who will

need to be properly trained in flood planning and he wants to be more active in the Indiana Planning Association.

**IN THE MATTER OF SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1000-0020):**

Melinda Miller Director of Soil & Water Conservation along with Board Member Jaime Scott presented the Soil & Water Conservation 2024 budget to Council with no changes. Jaime provided a brief department update.

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

Kosciusko County Council

Wednesday, August 31st 2023

(Pre-Budget Review)

The Kosciusko County Council met for a pre-budget meeting on Wednesday August 31st, 2023 from 8 a.m.- 1:00 p.m. in the Old Courtroom of the Courthouse, 100 W. Center St., Warsaw, IN. Those present were:

Mike Long, President

Kathleen Groninger, Vice-President

Kimberly Cates

Tony Ciriello

Sue Ann Mitchell

Joni Truex

Dave Wolkins

Rhonda Helser, County Auditor

The meeting was called to order by Mike Long.

**IN THE MATTER OF 2024 BUDGET- REEDY FINANCIAL GROUP RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Council Vice President Kathy Groninger motioned the recommended changes to the 2024 budget per the direction of Reedy Financial Group. The following budgets will be moved from County General to the County Cum Capital Development Fund Number 1138.

FUND/ACCOUNT/LOCATION	ACCOUNT NAME	2024 BUDGET
1000-41001-0000-0009 Commissioners	Land & Improvements	\$300,000.00
1000-44002-0000-0010 Coroner	Computer Hardware	\$1,200.00
1000-44004-0000-0055 Work Release	Furniture & Fixtures	\$2,000.00
1000-44014-0000-0009 Commissioners	Emergency Preparedness	\$25,000.00
1000-44017-0000-0010 Coroner	Other Equipment	\$2,700.00
1000-44017-0000-0013 Jail	Other Equipment	\$3,000.00
1000-44017-0000-0019 Sheriff	Other Equipment	\$20,000.00
1000-46001-0000-0019 Sheriff	Motor Vehicles	\$270,000.00

MOTION: Kathy Groninger

SECOND: Kimberly Cates

AYES: 7        NAYS: 0

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Move the above budgets from County General to the County Cum Capital Development Fund Number 1138 for advertising purposes. For clarification the funds will remain in one of the two accounts once the budget is finalized.

**IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY CUM CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT FUND (1138) 2024 BUDGET- REEDY FINANCIAL GROUP RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Per the direction of Reedy Financial Group, Council Vice President Kathy Groninger motioned to increase 1138-31170, Cloud Data Storage to \$43,600.00.

MOTION: Kathy Groninger

SECOND: Tony Ciriello

AYES: 7        NAYS: 0

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Increase 1138-31170, Cloud Data Storage to \$43,600.00.

**IN THE MATTER OF COMMISSIONERS (1000-0009) 2024 BUDGET- REEDY  
FINANCIAL GROUP RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Per the direction of Reedy Financial Group, Council Vice President Kathy Groninger motioned to add 1000-36034-000-0009, GDI Recon Projects in the amount of \$250,000.00 to the budget.

MOTION: Kathy Groninger  
SECOND: Kimberly Cates  
AYES: 7        NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: to add 1000-36034-000-0009, GDI  
Recon Projects in the amount of \$250,000.00  
to the budget.

**IN THE MATTER OF LAW ENFORCEMENT DATA ACCESS (4900) 2024 COUNTY  
BUDGET- REEDY FINANCIAL GROUP RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Per the direction of Reedy Financial Group, Council Vice President Kathy Groninger motioned to add 4900-31001-000-0000 Contractual Services in the amount of \$81,975.00 to the budget.

MOTION: Kathy Groninger  
SECOND: Kimberly Cates  
AYES: 7        NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: to add 4900-31001-000-0000  
Contractual Services in the amount of  
\$81,975.00 to the budget.

**IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY EDIT FUND (1112) 2024 COUNTY BUDGET- REEDY  
FINANCIAL GROUP RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Per the direction of Reedy Financial Group, Council Vice President Kathy Groninger motioned to increase the budget in 1112-31151-000-0000 LE Data Access Contractual Services to \$122,000.00.

MOTION: Kathy Groninger  
SECOND: Tony Ciriello  
AYES: 7        NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: to increase the budget in 1112-31151-  
000-0000 Data Access Contractual Services  
to \$122,000.00.

Council President Mike Long noted for the record that all the above requests were approved unanimously.

**IN THE MATTER OF JAIL 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1000-0013):  
IN THE MATTER OF SHERIFF 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1000-0019):**

Sheriff Jim Smith, Matron Michelle Hyden, and Financial Administrator Cheryl McGetrick presented the Jail and the Sheriff 2024 budget to Council. There was a brief discussion concerning the two new SRO officers and inquiry if both school boards have accepted the contract. Sheriff Smith stated that Tippecanoe Valley Schools will be meeting with their board to decide, but he is optimistic. He added the contract is to be signed by October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023. It was noted that the SRO officers are not listed in the 2024 budget.

Sheriff advised there will be changes and adjustments needed for additional vehicles and he inquired what the best way was to handle the process. The Sheriff's budget of \$270,000.00 for Motor Vehicles, Account 46001 is being requested for five vehicles, which is an increase of \$35,000.00 from 2023. There was discussion on the two new SRO's needing a vehicle and the additional costs needed to outfit each vehicle. A request was made to increase the Motor Vehicle budget to a total of \$390,000.00.

MOTION: Kimberly Cates  
SECOND: Joni Truex  
AYES: 7        NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: to increase the 2024 budget in 1000-  
46001-000-0019 Motor Vehicles to  
\$390,000.00 contingent on the two SRO's  
being hired.

Discussion took place and a decision was made for advertising purposes to increase the Sheriff's 2024 budget to add two additional salaries for the SRO (School Resource Officers).

MOTION: Sue Ann Mitchell  
SECOND: Kimberly Cates  
AYES: 7        NAYS: 0

TO: Add two positions, each at \$70,472.00  
for the 2024 budget contingent on hiring the  
two SRO's.



MOTION CARRIED

Sheriff Smith stated there was an increase of \$57,300.00 in 1000-36038-0000-0013 Medical for Prisoners due to the uncovering of a payment which was missed in 2020. He stated Financial Administrator Cheryl McGetrick has been working with the Accountant through QCC (Quality Correctional Care) concerning a missed payment which occurred in August of 2020 but was not discovered until a billing discrepancy was researched. Financial ledgers were run and it was verified that the missed payment was owed. They requested direction on how to remedy the problem and if they needed to increase their budget to cover the payment. Council held a brief discussion advising to handle the matter in 2023 by either requesting an additional appropriation and to work with the Auditor’s office to investigate possible transfers to cover the expense.

The following increases were requested in the Jail Budget- Location 0013:

<u>Account</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount of Increase</u>
21014	Meals for Prisoners	\$12,000.00
22016	Supplies-Household	\$2,500.00
23010	Supplies-Operating	\$4,000.00
31097	Travel/Training	\$2,000.00
35009	Maintenance Agreement	\$10,000.00
36001	Dues & Subscriptions	\$3,275.00

The following increases were requested in the Sheriff Budget- Location 0019:

Legal Services Account 31002 was added to the Sheriff’s 2024 Budget in the amount of \$5,000.00

<u>Account</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount of Increase</u>
21001	Supplies-Office	\$3,000.00
22003	Gas Oil Etc.	\$16,617.00
23021	Supplies K-9	\$1,000.00
31097	Travel/Training	\$5,000.00
32002	Postage	\$4,000.00
35009	Maintenance Agreement	\$12,000.00
35070	Extradition	\$8,000.00
36049	K-9 Expenses	\$1,000.00

Further discussion took place on accounts which needed to be increased for the 2024 budget.

MOTION: Joni Truex  
SECOND: Tony Ciriello  
AYES: 7        NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Increase the 2024 Sheriff budget to \$20,000.00 for account 1000-22027-000-0019 Ammunition & Flares.

MOTION: Kimberly Cates  
SECOND: Joni Truex  
AYES: 7        NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Increase the 2024 Sheriff budget to \$265,000.00 for account 1000-22023-000-0019 Gas Oil Etc.

MOTION: Joni Truex  
SECOND: Tony Ciriello  
AYES: 7        NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Increase the 2024 Sheriff budget to \$22,000.00 for account 1000-22022-000-0019 Uniforms.

**IN THE MATTER OF WORK RELEASE 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1000-0055):**

The 2024 Work Release budget was presented to Council with minor changes. The following changes were made:

- Decrease of \$3,000.00 Supplies-Office 21001
- Increase of \$2,000.00 Supplies-Operating/Work Release 23011
- Decrease of \$600.00 Travel/Training 31097
- Decrease of \$1,500.00 Replacement Equipment 31150
- Decrease of \$1,000.00 Other Services 31210
- Increase of \$5,000.00 Drug Testing/Work Release 36051

**IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY EXTRADITION 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1155-0000):**

Sheriff Jim Smith, Chief Deputy Chris McKeand, Matron Michelle Hyden and Financial Administrator Cheryl McGetrick presented the Extradition 2024 budget to Council with an increase of \$800.00 in account 32003 Mileage/Fuel & Travel.

**IN THE MATTER OF GUN PERMITS 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1156-0000):**

Sheriff Jim Smith, Chief Deputy Chris McKeand, Matron Michelle Hyden and Financial Administrator Cheryl McGetrick presented the Gun Permits 2024 budget to Council with no changes from 2023. This fund is no longer funded by Indiana gun permits, but the cash balance is \$116,000.00. A brief discussion took place on using this fund.

**IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY MISDEMEANANT FUND 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1175-0000):**

Sheriff Jim Smith, Chief Deputy Chris McKeand, Matron Michelle Hyden and Financial Administrator Cheryl McGetrick presented the County Misdemeanant Fund 2024 budget to Council which was salary only and had no further discussion.

**IN THE MATTER OF SEX & VIOLENT OFFENDER ADMINISTRATION FUND 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1192-0000):**

Sheriff Jim Smith, Chief Deputy Chris McKeand, Matron Michelle Hyden and Financial Administrator Cheryl McGetrick presented the Sex & Violent Offender Administration Fund 2024 budget to Council adding a budget of \$2,000.00 for Supplies-Operating.

**IN THE MATTER OF LAW ENFORCEMENT FOREFIET FUND 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (4934-0000):**

Sheriff Jim Smith, Chief Deputy Chris McKeand, Matron Michelle Hyden and Financial Administrator Cheryl McGetrick presented the Law Enforcement Forfeit Fund 2024 budget to Council with no changes.

**IN THE MATTER OF DNR 2024 FEDERAL GRANT 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (8209-0000):**

**IN THE MATTER OF DNR 2024 STATE GRANT 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (9133-0000):**

Sheriff Jim Smith, Chief Deputy Chris McKeand, Matron Michelle Hyden and Financial Administrator Cheryl McGetrick presented the DNR 2024 Federal & State Grant Fund 2024 budget which consists of Grant Salaries and no discussion was needed.

**IN THE MATTER OF E911 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1000-0054):**

The E911 fund consists of dispatch salaries and there was no discussion.

**IN THE MATTER OF STATEWIDE 9-1-1 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1222-0000):**

It was noted by Council that changes would be made to this fund by the direction of Reedy Financial Group in which funds from this budget would be moved to County General for advertising purposes.

MOTION: Sue Ann Mitchell  
SECOND: Kathy Groninger  
AYES: 7        NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Move \$210,000.00 from Fund 1222  
Statewide 911 account 11605 Group Health  
Insurance to County General.

**IN THE MATTER OF STATEWIDE 9-1-1 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1222-0000):**

Dispatch Director Amanda See advised Council that additional training has been done in the department due to new State requirements.

**Joni Truex amended a prior motion to clarify details of the Sheriff's budget.**

**AMENDED MOTION:**

MOTION: Joni Truex  
SECOND: Kimberly Cates  
AYES: 7        NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Move the 2024 budget in 1000-46001-  
000-0019 Sheriff -Motor Vehicles of  
\$390,000.00 to the CCD fund for advertising  
purposes.

**IN THE MATTER OF CORONER 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1000-0010):**

County Coroner Tyler Huffer and Coroner Clerical Assistant Jane Ciriello presented the 2024 budget to Council. The following increases were made:

Increase of \$1,450.00 Account 22012 Supplies-Emergency

Increase of \$35,000.00 Account 31013 X-Ray & Lab Expenses

Increase of \$1,700.00 Account 32000 Internet

Increase of \$1,200.00 Account 44002 Computer Hardware

Increase of \$200.00 Account 44017 Other Equipment

Huffer advised there have been 27 autopsies conducted as of the end of July and he will be requesting an additional appropriation of \$45,000.00 at the September Council meeting due to the increase in autopsies. The need is due to an increase in overdoses.

**IN THE MATTER OF KCCRVC/COMM 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1127-0000):**

KCCRVC Board Member Mark Skibowski presented the KCCRVC 2024 budget to Council. The Grant account 31019 is being increased by \$10,000.00 and an increase of \$90,000.00 in account 31075 Promotion-Programs-NFP. The budget is all funded by the Innkeepers Tax. Skibowski advised that due to an increase in receipts, they are passing that along to the marketing agency-CVB. There has been an increase in receipts and Council thanked Mark and the board for their efforts.

**IN THE MATTER OF TREASURER 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1000-0038):**

Treasurer Michelle Puckett presented the Treasurer 2024 budget with no increases or changes for 2024 except for wages. Puckett advised she utilized her part time budget during tax time with two part time employees working 20-30 hours per week.

**IN THE MATTER OF SUPERIOR II & III 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1000-0044):**

Court Administrator Peg Shewman, on behalf of Judge Miner presented the Superior II & III 2024 budget to Council for approval, with an increase of \$10,000.00 for Pauper Counsel. No other changes except wages were noted.

**IN THE MATTER OF SUPPLEMENTAL PD SERVICES 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1200-0044):**

Court Administrator Peg Shewman, on behalf of Judge Miner presented the 2024 budget stating this fund is set up by statute and can only be used for certain circumstances. Councilmember Sue Ann Mitchell stated the current fund balance is \$880,055.08 and that legislatively she hoped changes could be made through the County Council Association for the money to be utilized.

**IN THE MATTER OF ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (2200-0044):**

Court Administrator Peg Shewman, on behalf of Judge Miner presented the 2024 budget with no changes.

**IN THE MATTER OF ASSESSOR- COUNTY GENERAL 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1000-0003):**

Assessor Gail Chapman presented the Assessor-County General 2024 budget to Council stating that due to an employee retiring there is a decrease in Account 11301 Part Time of \$11,606.00. Chapman stated she is requesting a change for the PTBOA Coordinator to be paid at a higher pay level and her request was presented to the wage committee. Minor increases were requested in Assessing Price Guides- \$550.00, Mileage/Fuel & Travel \$300.00, and Dues & Subscriptions \$300.00. Overtime pay was discussed.

**IN THE MATTER OF ASSESSOR ED/SALES DISCLOSURE 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1131-0000):**

Assessor Gail Chapman presented the Assessor Ed/ Sales Disclosure 2024 budget to Council with a decrease of \$1,500.00 in Mileage/Fuel & Travel and an increase of \$1,000.00 in Repairs/Maintenance.

**IN THE MATTER OF ASSESSOR- PROPERTY REASSESSMENT 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1224-0003):**

Assessor Gail Chapman presented the Property Reassessment 2024 budget request to Council for approval, which included the following changes:

- Increase of \$2,000.00 in Gas Oil Etc-22003
- Increase of \$5,000.00 in Legal Services-31002. Chapman stated with changes taking place with exempt properties; there will be legal counsel present at the PTBOA hearings to provide advice on whether the property meets certain criteria for the exemption.
- Increase of \$1,000.00 in Postage -32002. Needed for Form 11.
- Increase of \$1,000.00 in Printing & Advertising -33001. Needed for Form 11.

**IN THE MATTER OF PROPERTY REASSESSMENT – COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRY REASSESSMENT 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1224-0046):**

Assessor Gail Chapman presented the Property Reassessment –Commercial/Industry Reassessment 2024 budget. A decrease of \$23,785.00 was taken on Account 31001 Contractual Services. Gail stated at this time the reassessment is being contracted out to a vendor, but she would like bring that back to the department in the future as the contracting process has not gone as planned.

With a fund balance of \$618,000.00 currently in this fund, Council inquired if there was a long-term goal of this fund and whether any employee salaries could be paid from the fund. After a brief discussion, there will be further review to determine if salaries will be paid from the fund going forward.

**IN THE MATTER OF RECORDER 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1000-0016):**

This budget contains the Recorder’s salary and there was no discussion.

**IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY ID SECURITY PROTECTION 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1160-0000):**

Recorder Deb Wright presented the County ID Security 2024 budget to Council. She stated the fund is for redaction services which now requires that all recorded documents have language stating that social security numbers are not present.

An increase of \$4,000.00 in Contractual Services and a new account was added in the amount of \$7,800.00 Records Maintenance.

**IN THE MATTER OF RECORDER RECORDS PERPETUATION 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1189-0000):**

Recorder Deb Wright presented the budget to Council stating three employees’ salaries are being paid from this fund. Other changes included:  
A decrease of \$700.00 in Supplies/Expenses-Operating  
An increase of \$4,500.00 in Contracts  
A decrease of \$3,000.00 in Records Maintenance  
An increase of \$1,000.00 in Dues & Subscriptions  
A decrease of \$1,000.00 in Equipment Rental.

**IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY ELECTED OFFICIALS TRAINING 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1217-0000):**

Recorder Deb Wight presented the County Elected Official Training 2024 budget to Council with the following increases:  
\$500.00 Clerk Training  
\$1,000.00 Surveyor Training  
\$5,000.00 Council Training

There was a brief discussion concerning the State allowing counties to move \$50,000.00 from the County Elected Officials Training fund into the Records Perpetuation fund in which Wright advised she would not be doing so this year.

**IN THE MATTER OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1000-0007):**

Kip Shutter, Emergency Management Director, presented the Emergency Management budget to Council. Increases were requested in the following accounts:

<u>Account</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
22003	Gas Oil Etc.	\$1,000.00

31006	Education Services	\$800.00
33001	Printing & Advertising	\$450.00
36001	Dues & Subscriptions	\$250.00

**IN THE MATTER OF LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1152-0000):**

Kip Shutter, Emergency Management Director, presented the Local Emergency Planning budget stating the funds are generated by local businesses who have hazardous material. The following increases were requested:

- Emergency Planning \$500.00
- Data Management \$1000.00
- Equipment Maint & Calibration \$500.00
- Meeting Stipends \$500.00
- Telephone/iPad \$500.00

**IN THE MATTER OF CIRCUIT & SUPERIOR COURTS I & IV 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1000-0043):**

Judge Reed, Judge Kehler and Judge McGrath presented the Circuit & Superior Courts 2024 budget to Council.

Changes included the following:

- Increase of \$5,000.00 in Legal Directory & Ct Code -21010
- Increase of \$5,000.00 in Court Ordered Services- 31017
- Increase of \$10,000.00 in Jury Commiss Per Diem/Travel -31040 (Jury fees have increased per statute)
- Increase of \$307.00 in CASA-31046

**IN THE MATTER OF SUPPLEMENTAL PD SERVICES 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1200-0000):**

Judge Reed, Judge Kehler and Judge McGrath presented the Supplemental PD Services 2024 budget to Council. Judge Reed advised that funds are obtained by fees charged for having a public defender, but there are restrictions on what the funds can be used on.

**IN THE MATTER OF ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (2200-0043):**

Judge Reed, Judge Kehler and Judge McGrath presented the Alternative Dispute Resolution 2024 budget to Council with no changes.

**IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY SERVICE OFFICER 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1000-0018):**

Darryl McDowell, Veteran Service Officer, presented the County Service Officer 2024 budget with an increase of \$250.00 in Uniforms Account 22022 for him to purchase logo wear to be more identifiable when he is out in the community. All other accounts remained the same as 2023.

**IN THE MATTER OF REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION DREYFUS TIF 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (4400-0000):**

**IN THE MATTER OF REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION 30 WEST TIF 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (4425-0000):**

**IN THE MATTER OF REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION LEESBURG TIF 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (4430-0000):**

**IN THE MATTER OF REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION CO-OP TIF 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (4440-0000):**

Redevelopment Commission President Joni Truex presented the above TIF 2024 Budgets to Council stating there is money in the TIF accounts that has been requested to be transferred into the balances so that an additional appropriation does not have to be requested. Truex said the Commission plans to move quickly on some of the projects but due to the Council meeting cycle, things could be delayed 60-90 days if this is not done. This will help streamline the process. There was a brief discussion on the process of the Redevelopment Commission and that the Commission will present any project requests to the County Commissioners and Council even though the RDC has the statutory right to spend the funds if it fits within the guidelines of the law.

**IN THE MATTER OF AUDITOR – 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1000-0005):**  
**IN THE MATTER OF AUDITOR – PLAT BOOK FUND 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1181-0000):**  
**IN THE MATTER OF AUDITOR – INELIGIBLE DEDUCTION 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (4902-0000):**

County Auditor Rhonda Helser presented the Auditor 2024 budgets to Council with no changes or increases.

*Council had a general discussion in regards to wage committee/ additional position requests from departments. No decisions were made at this time.*

**IN THE MATTER OF PURDUE COOPERATIVE EXTENSION 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1000-0001):**

Andrew Ferrell, County Extension Director presented the Purdue Cooperative Extension 2024 budget to Council with minor changes. There was a decrease of \$250.00 in Postage 32002 and then moved to increase Supplies-Educational 21019 by \$250.00. Contractual Services 31001 was increased by \$5,155.00 for Purdue Extension program fees.

With no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned.

Kosciusko County Council  
Special Budget Meeting  
Tuesday, September 12<sup>th</sup> 2023

The Kosciusko County Council met for a special budget meeting on Tuesday September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 5:30 PM in the Old Courtroom of the Courthouse, 100 W. Center St., Warsaw, IN.  
Those present were:

Mike Long, President	Sue Ann Mitchell
Kathleen Groninger, Vice-President	Joni Truex
Kimberly Cates- Participated Virtually	Dave Wolkins
Tony Ciriello	Rhonda Helser, County Auditor

The meeting was called to order by Mike Long.  
Kimberly Cates attended the meeting virtually, for clarification, each vote was done by a roll call vote.

**IN THE MATTER OF THE WAGE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS-**

Councilmember Sue Ann Mitchell presented the 2024 Wage Recommendations. The Wage Committee consisting of Joni Truex, Kimberly Cates, Brad Jackson, and Sue Ann Mitchell held several meetings throughout the year to arrive at these recommendations. The following are recommendations only and further discussion is welcomed. The recommendations were as follows:

- Approval of the ARPA Help Community Coordinator moving to a full time position for 2 years at a PAT IV-II level.
- Approve the Prosecutor’s request to hire two new positions- Legal Assistant/Secretary and Trial Support Paralegal at a Comot II level. The decision was reinforced by the Clerk’s office reduction of two employees and her support for adding staff for the Prosecutor’s office.
- Approve moving the Assessor’s PTBOA Coordinator to a Comot I level for 2024 based on vital responsibilities.
- Continue the Public Health Specialist position for the Health Department Food Inspector position as a part time classification at a PAT VI at 10 years of service rate of pay.
- Support the Highway Department for hiring one new staff position at a PAT VI level in March 2024 (10 months) through March 2025 (2 months) in preparation of the two current office employees retiring in 2025. There will be a possibility of some part time office hours being needed in 2025 for additional training as needed for the new staff.
- Establish the same per diem for each county board with the exception of the Election Board/Election Positions and the Annual Merit Board amount.

- An increase of \$2,000.00 for 2024 will be given instead of a % raise. This will help close the gap that impacts lower paid employees.
- Several issues were addressed with Part Time Wages to establish a job class for all part time employees who are performing the same job as full time employees. Part time positions are to conform to the personnel policy for the number of hours worked.
- Part Time budget amounts will be approved at the amount requested with the pay controlled via the salary ordinance. HR will be working with each department who has a part time budget to identify the number of hours needed.
- If a current employee is transferring to another department unrelated to their prior experience within the county and were given credit for their years of service, they will be grandfathered in and will advance when their years of service in the current position exceed the step where they started. Transfers from positions with unrelated job duties will be evaluated.
- Each part time position will have an individual account.
- The Sheriff Department public safety full time employees consisting of Jail, Dispatch, Work Release, Sheriff's Department will be receiving \$5,000.00. Mitchell stated a year ago when salaries were discussed within these departments the Wage Committee had agreed to continue to try to increase those wages.
- The Board Rates were leveled out and will be \$106.48 for 2024.

Mitchell summarized the reasoning of changing to a flat amount of a wage increase vs. a percentage which was needed to keep wages in line and to help with retention.

MOTION: Sue Ann Mitchell

SECOND: Joni Truex

AYES: 7            NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve that the Wage Committee

recommendations be adopted as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF MAINTENANCE 2023 BUDGET REQUEST (1000-0006):**

MOTION: Tony Ciriello

SECOND: Kimberly Cates

AYES: 7            NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the 2, 3 accounts in the 2024

budget as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1000-0009):**

**In The Matter of Non-Profit Budgets:**

Kathy Groninger made a motion to approve the Non Profit budgets per the Commissioners recommendation, but the conversation moved to the Bowen Center during the Non Profit motion.

*See Below:*

The 2024 Commissioner Recommendations are listed below:

Kosciusko County 4-H Council	\$46,589.91
Cardinal Services	\$108,129.00
Stillwater Hospice	\$50,000.00
Kosciusko County Historical Society	\$23,230.00
Beaman Home	\$33,425.00
Kosciusko County Senior Services	\$33,425.00
St Joseph River Basin	\$3,794.00

MOTION: Kathy Groninger

SECOND: NONE

NO VOTE

AYES: N/A            NAYES: N/A

TO: Approve the Non Profit 2024 budgets

per the Commissioner's recommendation.

**Discussion:**

Councilmember Kimberly Cates inquired about the budget amount for the Bowen Center. Discussion took place concerning the Bowen Center budget of \$787,000.00 account number 36027.

MOTION: Joni Truex

SECOND: Tony Ciriello

NO VOTE  
AYES: N/A      NAYES:      N/A

TO: Lower the amount of the 2024 Bowen Center Budget to \$778,829.00.

**Discussion:**

Mitchell advised she was unsure if lowering the amount would be the correct thing to do in regards to the max levy and stated this had never been done before.

MOTION: Joni Truex  
SECOND: Tony Ciriello  
NO VOTE  
AYES: N/A      NAYES:      N/A

TO: Rescind the motion to lower the amount of the 2024 Bowen Center Budget to \$778,829.00.

**Discussion:**

Truex recommended to set aside the nonprofit budgets until all figures are reviewed and to focus on budget cuts as the adoption is not until October. Also, other critical figures need to be looked at further. Cates agreed to table the nonprofit budgets.

The Bowen Center is not a nonprofit, it is in the Commissioners budget, therefore the Commissioners budget would need to be tabled.

Discussion continued concerning the max levy in which (Prior Auditor) Treasurer Michelle Puckett advised that the Bowen Center had revised their max levy letter as they had received the final amounts from the DLGF and that revised amount is \$778,829.00. That amount has been confirmed with representative at the DLGF. Puckett advised if the higher amount of \$787,000.00 is approved, that amount will be outside the levy which will decrease the cash in the general fund.

MOTION: Kimberly Cates / Joni Truex (BOTH MADE A MOTION)  
SECOND: NONE  
NO VOTE  
AYES: N/A      NAYES: N/A

TO: Table the Non Profit budgets.

MOTION: Kathy Groninger  
SECOND: Kimberly Cates  
AYES: 7      NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Lower the amount of the 2024 Bowen Center budget to \$778,829.00 account 36027 per their updated letter.

MOTION: Kimberly Cates  
SECOND: Kathy Groninger  
AYES: 7      NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the Non Profit 2024 budgets per the Commissioner's recommendation.

MOTION: Sue Ann Mitchell  
SECOND: Kathy Groninger  
AYES: 7      NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve 2 caveats to the Non Profit 2024 budgets per the Commissioner's recommendation that before the Stillwater Hospice contract is signed that there is proper communication of what other counties are funding them and the number of people, they have serviced in our county to assure the \$50,000.00 is being used in our county. Also, a caveat to Kos Co Senior Services that the money they receive be used towards their vehicles or towards mobile meals and that the money not be used to provide for their prepared senior center meals as the original appropriation and purpose was to provide transportation and mobile meals.

**In The Matter of Group Health Insurance:**



Council held additional discussion concerning Group Health Insurance-1000-11605-000-0009. Councilmember Truex suggested to reduce the \$500,000.00 budget. County Administrator Marsha McSherry stated health insurance is first paid from the EDIT fund (1112), then from the Employee Health Insurance Fund (4700) and then paid from County General (1000); that the budget in County General acts as a placeholder for insurance costs. It was noted that the original amount advertised for Health Insurance in the County General fund was \$710,000.00 as Reedy Financial suggested to move \$210,000.00 into the account.

MOTION: Joni Truex	TO: Reduce Group Health Insurance-1000-
SECOND: N/A	11605-000-0009 by \$500,000.00.
AYES: N/A      NAYES:      N/A	

MOTION: Sue Ann Mitchell	TO: Approve the 2's accounts of the 2024
SECOND: Kimberly Cates	Commissioners budget.

AYES: 6      NAYES: 1

Joni Truex- Opposed

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION: Kathy Groninger	TO: Approve the 3's accounts of the 2024
-------------------------	--

SECOND: Tony Ciriello	Commissioners budget including what was
AYES: 7      NAYES: 0	discussed above on the nonprofit budgets as
MOTION CARRIED	well as the caveat recommendations.

Council Vice President Kathy Groninger made a motion to accept the Group Health Insurance 2024 budget amount of \$710,000.00- 1000-11605-000-0009. An additional discussion took place on the matter with further explanation. Due to the Dispatch Fund (1222) expected to not have adequate funds for health insurance benefits by the end of 2024, Reedy Financial advised Council to move \$210,000.00 from fund 1222 to County General, Commissioners budget 1000-0009.

MOTION: Kathy Groninger	TO: Accept the Group Health Insurance 2024
SECOND: Tony Ciriello	budget amount of \$710,000.00- 1000-11605-
AYES: 6      NAYES: 1	000-0009.

Joni Truex Opposed

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION: Kathy Groninger	TO: Approve 4's accounts of the
SECOND:	Commissioners Budget, Account 41001 Land
	& Improvements and 44014 Emergency
MOTION WITHDRAWN	Preparedness.

MOTION: Sue Ann Mitchell	TO: Reduce the Commissioners budget by
SECOND: Joni Truex	\$300,000.00 in 1000-41001-000-0009 Land
AYES: 7      NAYES: 0	& Improvements to move into the CCCD
MOTION CARRIED	budget, Fund 1138.

MOTION: Joni Truex	TO: Approve the budget of \$25,000.00 for
SECOND: Kathy Groninger	Emergency Preparedness 1000-44014-000-
AYES: 7      NAYES: 0	0009.
MOTION CARRIED	

**IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY EDIT FUND 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1112-0000):**

MOTION: Kathy Groninger	TO: Approve the 2024 budget for Group
SECOND: Kimberly Cates	Health Insurance 1112-11605-000-0000 in
AYES: 7      NAYES: 0	the amount of \$3,000,000.00.

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION: Kimberly Cates

SECOND: Kathy Groninger

AYES: 7            NAYES: 0

TO: Approve the 3's accounts.

MOTION CARRIED

**Discussion:** The budget for Infrastructure & Major Improvements 1112-41236-000-0000 is earmarked for the airport, stated Marsha McSherry. Cates inquired as to whether the county would have control over the funds with Councilmember Dave Wolkins advising that obtaining an airport authority is still being worked out. Cates stated her constituents are concerned over the county not having control over the funds, in which if we don't have a say, why would the county support it. Wolkins stated the IEDC wants to know that the county is committed to helping the airport.

MOTION: Joni Truex

SECOND: Dave Wolkins

AYES: 7            NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the budgets for account 41236 Infrastructure & Major Improvements for \$2.5 Million and account 44019 911 Equipment for \$100,000.00.

**IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY CUM CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1138-0000):**

MOTION: Joni Truex

SECOND: Kimberly Cates

AYES: 7            NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Remove the budget amount of \$25,000.00 from 1138-41001-000-0000 Emergency Preparedness to be moved to the Commissioners budget, location 0009.

MOTION: Joni Truex

SECOND: Tony Ciriello

AYES: 7            NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the 2,3,4's accounts

**IN THE MATTER OF EMPLOYEE HEALTH INSURANCE FUND 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (4700-0000):**

MOTION: Tony Ciriello

SECOND: Sue Ann Mitchell

AYES: 7            NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the 1,2,3,4's account in the Employee Health Insurance Fund 4700.

**IN THE MATTER OF LAW ENFORCEMENT DATA ACCESS 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (4900-0000):**

Discussion took place on the account of 31001 Contractual Services and that the account was over expended. It was noted that claims adjustments were made in the Auditor's office to correct the account so that it was not overexpanded.

MOTION: Kimberly Cates

SECOND: Kathy Groninger

AYES: 4            NAYES: 3

Sue Ann Mitchell- Opposed

Mike Long- Opposed

Joni Truex- Opposed

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the Law Enforcement Data Access account for 4900-31001-000-0000.

Further discussion took place after the vote. Mitchell questioned what the current balance is in the above account as we're appropriating \$81,975.00 for 2024. McSherry advised with not having the exact number, that approximately \$40,000.00 would be spent until the fees are collected the end of 2024. Mithcell stated you cannot run a fund in the red unless it's a reimbursable grant.

**IN THE MATTER OF HIGHWAY – MVH GENERAL & UNDISTRIBUTED 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1176-0050):**

MOTION: Sue Ann Mitchell  
SECOND: Joni Truex  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve 1's accounts  
11605 Group Health Insurance  
11604 Workmen's Compensation  
11603 Unemployment Compensation  
11602 Retirement Contributions  
11601 Social Security

MOTION: Kimberly Cates  
SECOND: Joni Truex  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve 2's accounts

MOTION: Joni Truex  
SECOND: Tony Ciriello  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve 3's accounts

MOTION: Kathy Groninger  
SECOND: Joni Truex  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve 4's accounts

**IN THE MATTER OF HIGHWAY – MVH MAINTENANCE & REPAIR 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1176-0051):**

Steve Moriarty, County Highway Superintendent, clarified the budget stated in order to keep the budget more in line he is requesting to reduce 1176-22037-000-0051 Bituminous by \$700,000.00. The 2024 budget for Bituminous is \$1,500,000.00.

MOTION: Joni Truex  
SECOND: Kimberly Cates  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve to reduce 1176-22037-000-0051 Bituminous by \$700,000.00. The 2024 budget for Bituminous is \$1,500,000.00.

Moriarity requested to reduce the budget for 1176-22043-000-0051 Stone, Gravel & Other Aggr. by \$80,000.00 with the 2024 budget being \$220,000.00.

MOTION: Tony Ciriello  
SECOND: Kathy Groninger  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve reducing the budget for 1176-22043-000-0051 Stone, Gravel & Other Aggr. by \$80,000.00 with the 2024 budget being \$220,000.00 and to approve the 2's accounts.

.

MOTION: Sue Ann Mitchell  
SECOND: Joni Truex  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve all items in the 1's accounts including Part Time Highway #11337, Overtime Pay #11507, Stipend #11800.

.

It was noted and clarified that the Stipend account is for employees with a CDL endorsement on their license. It is a taxing and expensive task to obtain this and the stipend was added as an incentive to maintain the current drivers and to draw new employees.

MOTION: Tony Ciriello  
SECOND: Sue Ann Mitchell  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the 3's accounts.

**IN THE MATTER OF LOCAL ROAD & STREET 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1169-0000):**

MOTION: Kimberly Cates  
SECOND: Kathy Groninger  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the 2,3,4's Accounts as requested.

**IN THE MATTER OF CUM BRIDGE 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1135-0000):**

MOTION: Sue Ann Mitchell  
SECOND: Joni Truex  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the 3, 4's accounts as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF HIGHWAY- MVH WHEEL TAX/SUR TAX 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (4928-0000):**

MOTION: Kimberly Cates  
SECOND: Sue Ann Mitchell  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve as requested.

**IN THE MATTER OF HIGHWAY- BRIDGE #161 2024- 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (8203-0000):**

MOTION: Sue Ann Mitchell  
SECOND: Kathy Groninger  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF HIGHWAY- BRIDGE #227 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (8247-0000):**

MOTION: Sue Ann Mitchell  
SECOND: Kimberly Cates  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF HIGHWAY- BRIDGE INSPECTION 2022-2025 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (8327-0000):**

MOTION: Tony Ciriello  
SECOND: Kimberly Cates  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF HIGHWAY- LOCAL TRAX RAIL- 1300 N ROAD 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (8330-0000):**

MOTION: Kathy Groninger  
SECOND: Sue Ann Mitchell  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF HIGHWAY- LOCAL TRAX RAIL- 1300 N BRIDGE 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (8332-0000):**

MOTION: Kimberly Cates  
SECOND: Kathy Groninger  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0

TO: Approve as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

**IN THE MATTER OF HIGHWAY- BRIDGE#123 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (8403-0000):**

MOTION: Kathy Groninger  
SECOND: Sue Ann Mitchell  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF HIGHWAY- BRIDGE#139 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (8404-0000):**

MOTION: Tony Ciriello  
SECOND: Kimberly Cates  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF HIGHWAY- BRIDGE#30 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (8406-0000):**

MOTION: Kathy Groninger  
SECOND: Kimberly Cates  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF HIGHWAY- BRIDGE#9 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (8409-0000):**

MOTION: Joni Truex  
SECOND: Tony Ciriello  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve account 39000 Bridge Replacement.

**IN THE MATTER OF COMMUNITY CORRECTION USER FEE 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1122-0000):**

MOTION: Sue Ann Mitchell  
SECOND: Kathy Groninger  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the 1's as presented.

MOTION: Kathy Groninger  
SECOND: Tony Ciriello  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the 2,3's as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF COMMUNITY CORRECTION PROBLEM-SOLVING COURT FEE USER FEES 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (2506-0000):**

MOTION: Kathy Groninger  
SECOND: Tony Ciriello  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the 2, 3's accounts as presented.

MOTION: Kimberly Cates  
SECOND: Kathy Groninger  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the 1, 2, 3's accounts as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF COMMUNITY CORRECTION HOME DETENTION 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (9166-0000):**

MOTION: Joni Truex  
SECOND: Tony Ciriello  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the 1, 2, 3's accounts as presented.

MOTION: Kimberly Cates  
SECOND: Tony Ciriello  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF COMMUNITY CORRECTION DRUG COURT 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (9188-0000):**

MOTION: Kimberly Cates  
SECOND: Sue Ann Mitchell  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF ADULT PROBATION USER FEES 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (2000-0000):**

MOTION: Kimberly Cates  
SECOND: Tony Ciriello  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY HEALTH 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1159-0000):**

MOTION: Kimberly Cates  
SECOND: Kathy Groninger  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve as presented. Clarified to approve the 1's, 2's 3's accounts.

**IN THE MATTER OF HEALTH MAINTENANCE GRANT 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1168-0000):**

MOTION: Tony Ciriello  
SECOND: Kathy Groninger  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF LOCAL HEALTH DEPT TRUST ACCT 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1206-0000):**

There was a brief discussion and inquiry on approving the requested budget of \$65,036.00. This grant will be expiring and therefore it was agreed upon to approve the budget for the balance in the account which is \$18,016.00.

Health Department Administrator Bob Weaver was questioned about the request and agreed to lower the budget to its available balance.

MOTION: Joni Truex  
SECOND: Tony Ciriello  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the budget with funds available.

**IN THE MATTER OF HEALTH CLINIC ADMINISTRATIVE 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (4014-0000):**

MOTION: Kimberly Cates  
SECOND: Joni Truex  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0

TO: Approve as requested.

MOTION CARRIED

**IN THE MATTER OF CARES ACT-LOCAL COVID TESTING SITE (8905):**

MOTION: Joni Truex

TO: Approve the budget per the balance in the account.

SECOND: Sue Ann Mitchell

AYES: 7            NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED

**IN THE MATTER OF PROSECUTING ATTORNEY 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1000-0015):**

MOTION: Kimberly Cates

TO: Approve the 2's 3's accounts as requested.

SECOND: Kathy Groninger

AYES: 7            NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED

**IN THE MATTER OF TITLE IV-D 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1000-0022):**

There was a brief discussion that approval of "1's" accounts should be voted on as they include additional items that may have not been covered by the wage committee recommendations.

MOTION: Kathy Groninger

TO: Approve the 2's 3's accounts as requested.

SECOND: Kimberly Cates

AYES: 7            NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED

**IN THE MATTER OF DRUG FREE COMMUNITIES- KCODE 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1148-0000):**

MOTION: Sue Ann Mitchell

TO: Approve all the 3 accounts included in the budget.

SECOND: Tony Ciriello

AYES: 7            NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED

**IN THE MATTER OF PRE-TRIAL DIVERSION 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (2503-0000):**

MOTION: Sue Ann Mitchell

TO: Approve the 1's 2's 3's & 4 accounts included in the budget and to reflect the Wage Committee Recommendations.

SECOND: Kathy Groninger

AYES: 7            NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED

**IN THE MATTER OF INFRACTION DEFERRAL 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (2504-0000):**

MOTION: Kathy Groninger

TO: Approve as presented.

SECOND: Tony Ciriello

AYES: 7            NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED

**IN THE MATTER OF PROSECUTOR LAW ENFORCEMENT FORFEIT 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (4957-0000):**

MOTION: Tony Ciriello

TO: Approve the 1's 2's 3's & 4 accounts included in the budget and to reflect the Wage Committee Recommendations.

SECOND: Dave Wolkins

AYES: 7            NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED

*Council discussed voting for the 1's accounts and how they should be handled. Council heard from Treasurer Michelle Puckett, prior Auditor, who assisted with the process and how it has been handled in the past.*

MOTION: Kimberly Cates  
SECOND: Sue Ann Mitchell  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the 1's accounts not addressed in the wage committee recommendations for all departments. Once wages are recalculated for each individual budgets that carry FICA, Medicare and other benefits that are attached to wages, that those recalculations will be set at the next meeting to adopt the budget.

**IN THE MATTER OF PROSECUTOR IV-D INCENTIVE 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (8897-0000):**

MOTION: Kathy Groninger  
SECOND: Kimberly Cates  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the 2's, 3's, 4 accounts as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF CLERK 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1000-0008):**

MOTION: Tony Ciriello  
SECOND: Dave Wolkins  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY ELECTION BOARD 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1000-0012):**

MOTION: Kimberly Cates  
SECOND: Kathy Groninger  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF REGISTRATION OF VOTERS 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1000-0017):**

MOTION: Sue Ann Mitchell  
SECOND: Tony Ciriello  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF CLERK DOCUMENT STORAGE FEE 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1119-0000):**

MOTION: Tony Ciriello  
SECOND: Sue Ann Mitchell  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF CLERK IV-D INCENTIVE 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (8899-0000):** The fund contained only wages and has been addressed.

**IN THE MATTER OF DRAINAGE BOARD 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1000-0011):**

MOTION: Kimberly Cates  
SECOND: Tony Ciriello  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the 1's 2's, 3's, accounts as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF SURVEYOR 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1000-0021):**



MOTION: Sue Ann Mitchell  
SECOND: Joni Truex  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the 1's, 2's, 3's, 4's accounts as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF SURVEYOR CORNER PERPETUATION 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1202-0000):**

MOTION: Tony Ciriello  
SECOND: Sue Ann Mitchell  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the 2's, 3's accounts as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF AREA PLAN 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1000-0002):**

MOTION: Joni Truex  
SECOND: Kathy Groninger  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1000-0020):**

MOTION: Tony Ciriello  
SECOND: Dave Wolkins  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY SERVICE OFFICER 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1000-0018):**

MOTION: Joni Truex  
SECOND: Tony Ciriello  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF COUNCIL 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1000-0045):**

MOTION: Sue Ann Mitchell  
SECOND: Joni Truex  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve as presented.

Mitchell advised that the Wage Committee approved the increase in wages of \$5,000.00 for public service officers in the Jail, Sheriff, Dispatch and Work Release and that clerical positions would receive a \$2,000.00 increase.

**IN THE MATTER OF JAIL 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1000-0013):**

MOTION: Kimberly Cates  
SECOND: Kathy Groninger  
AYES: 7        NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the 2's, 3's, 4's as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF SHERIFF 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1000-0019):**

MOTION: Kathy Groninger  
SECOND: Kimberly Cates  
AYES: 7        NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the 2's 3's and 4's and to remove accounts from the Sheriff's budget: account 22027- Ammunition and Flares of \$20,000.00, remove account 46001 Motor Vehicles of \$390,000.00 and to remove account 44017 Other Equipment of \$44017 due to those being moved to the CCCD fund.

**IN THE MATTER OF SHERIFF 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1000-0019):**

MOTION: Sue Ann Mitchell  
SECOND: Joni Truex  
AYES: 7        NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve accounts 11571 Plain Clothes and 11590 Longevity in the Sheriff's budget as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF JAIL 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1000-0013):**

MOTION: Sue Ann Mitchell  
SECOND: Joni Truex  
AYES: 7        NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve to remove account 44017 Other Equipment in the amount of \$3,000.00 due to it being moved to CCCD fund.

**IN THE MATTER OF WORK RELEASE 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1000-0055):**

MOTION: Tony Ciriello  
SECOND: Joni Truex  
AYES: 7        NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve Account 11590 Longevity & Account 11570 Sheriff/Paid Holidays. Approve the 2's, 3's accounts as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY EXTRADITION 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1155-0000):**

MOTION: Joni Truex  
SECOND: Kathy Groninger  
AYES: 7        NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF GUN PERMITS 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1156-0000):**

MOTION: Kathy Groninger  
SECOND: Sue Ann Mitchell  
AYES: 7        NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY MISDEMEANANT FUND 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1175-0000):**

MOTION: Sue Ann Mitchell  
SECOND: Tony Ciriello  
AYES: 7        NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF SEX & VIOLENT OFFENDER ADMINISTRATION FUND 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1192-0000):**

MOTION: Tony Ciriello  
SECOND: Kathy Groninger  
AYES: 7        NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF LAW ENFORCEMENT FORFEIT SHERIFF 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (4934-0000):**

MOTION: Kimberly Cates  
SECOND: Sue Ann Mitchell  
AYES: 7        NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF DNR 2024 FEDERAL GRANT 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (8209-0000):**

MOTION: Sue Ann Mitchell  
SECOND: Joni Truex  
AYES: 7        NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF DNR 2024 STATE GRANT 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (9133-0000):**

MOTION: Kimberly Cates  
SECOND: Kathy Groninger  
AYES: 7        NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF E911 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1000-0054):**

MOTION: Sue Ann Mitchell  
SECOND: Tony Ciriello  
AYES: 7        NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve Account 11507 Overtime and  
Account 11590 Longevity.

MOTION: Joni Truex  
SECOND: Kathy Groninger  
AYES: 7        NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve Account 22022 Uniforms as  
presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF STATEWIDE 9-1-1 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1222-0000):**

MOTION: Joni Truex  
SECOND: Kimberly Cates  
AYES: 7        NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the 2's 3's accounts with the  
exception of reducing account 31034  
Telephone Services to \$90,000.00. Remove  
\$210,000.00 from Account 11605 Group  
Health Insurance, remove account 11590  
Longevity \$46,904.00, remove account 11507  
Overtime Pay \$45,000.00 and remove  
account 11306 Dispatch Part Time  
\$20,000.00.

**IN THE MATTER OF CORONER 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1000-0010):**

MOTION: Kathy Groninger  
SECOND: Kimberly Cates  
AYES: 7        NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the 2's, 3's accounts as  
presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF KCCRVC/COMM 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1127-0000):**

MOTION: Sue Ann Mitchell  
SECOND: Tony Ciriello  
AYES: 7        NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF TREASURER 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1000-0038):**

MOTION: Joni Truex  
SECOND: Sue Ann Mitchell  
AYES: 7        NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF SUPERIOR II & III 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1000-0044):**

MOTION: Sue Ann Mitchell  
SECOND: Kathy Groninger  
AYES: 7        NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF SUPPLEMENTAL PD SERVICES 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1200-0044):**

MOTION: Sue Ann Mitchell  
SECOND: Kathy Groninger  
AYES: 7        NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (2200-0044):**

MOTION: Tony Ciriello  
SECOND: Kimberly Cates  
AYES: 7        NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF ASSESSOR- COUNTY GENERAL 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1000-0003):**

MOTION: Joni Truex  
SECOND: Sue Ann Mitchell  
AYES: 7        NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve Part Time, Overtime in the 1's,  
approve the 2's & 3's accounts as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF ASSESSOR ED/SALES DISCLOSURE 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1131-0000):**

MOTION: Kimberly Cates  
SECOND: Kathy Groninger  
AYES: 7        NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF ASSESSOR- PROPERTY REASSESSMENT 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1224-0003):**

MOTION: Kathy Groninger  
SECOND: Kimberly Cates  
AYES: 7        NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the 2's, 3's & 4's accounts as  
presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF PROPERTY REASSESSMENT – COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRY REASSESSMENT 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1224-0046):**

MOTION: Kimberly Cates  
SECOND: Sue Ann Mitchell  
AYES: 7        NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF RECORDER 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1000-0016):**

This fund and location only contained wages and has already been discussed.

**IN THE MATTER OF RECORDER RECORDS PERPETUATION 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1160-0000):**

MOTION: Sue Ann Mitchell  
SECOND: Tony Ciriello  
AYES: 7        NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the 3's accounts as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF RECORDER RECORDS PERPETUATION 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1189-0000):**

MOTION: Sue Ann Mitchell  
SECOND: Joni Truex  
AYES: 7        NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the 2's, 3's & 4's accounts as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY ELECTED OFFICIALS TRAINING 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1217-0000):**

MOTION: Tony Ciriello  
SECOND: Sue Ann Mitchell  
AYES: 7        NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve as presented.

There was a brief discussion concerning \$50,000.00 that the Recorder has an option to move to this fund, but she had decided to wait as there will be a future option to do and wanted to leave the funds as is for now.

**IN THE MATTER OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1000-0007):**

MOTION: Tony Ciriello  
SECOND: Sue Ann Mitchell  
AYES: 7        NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1152-0000):**

MOTION: Joni Truex  
SECOND: Kathy Groninger  
AYES: 7        NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION DREYFUS TIF 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (4400-0000):**

MOTION: Kathy Groninger  
SECOND: Sue Ann Mitchell  
AYES: 7        NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION 30 WEST TIF 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (4425-0000):**

MOTION: Kathy Groninger  
SECOND: Tony Ciriello  
AYES: 7        NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION LEESBURG TIF 2024  
BUDGET REQUEST (4430-0000):**

MOTION: Tony Ciriello  
SECOND: Sue Ann Mitchell  
AYES: 7            NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION CO-OP TIF 2024 BUDGET  
REQUEST (4440-0000):**

MOTION: Kathy Groninger  
SECOND: Kimberly Cates  
AYES: 7            NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION VANBUREN TIF 2024  
BUDGET REQUEST (4450-0000):**

MOTION: Kimberly Cates  
SECOND: Tony Ciriello  
AYES: 7            NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF CIRCUIT & SUPERIOR COURTS I & IV 2024 BUDGET  
REQUEST (1000-0043):**

MOTION: Joni Truex  
SECOND: Kimberly Cates  
AYES: 7            NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve 1's 2's 3's as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF SUPPLEMENTAL PD SERVICES 2024 BUDGET REQUEST  
(1200-0000):**

MOTION: Tony Ciriello  
SECOND: Joni Truex  
AYES: 7            NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION 2024 BUDGET  
REQUEST (2200-0043):**

MOTION: Tony Ciriello  
SECOND: Kathy Groninger  
AYES: 7            NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF PURDUE COOPERATIVE EXTENSION 2024 BUDGET  
REQUEST (1000-0001):**

MOTION: Kimberly Cates  
SECOND: Joni Truex  
AYES: 7            NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF AUDITOR – 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (1000-0005):**

MOTION: Tony Ciriello

TO: Approve as presented.

The fund only contained wages and has already been addressed.

**IN THE MATTER OF AUDITOR – INELIGIBLE DEDUCTION 2024 BUDGET REQUEST (4902-0000):**

MOTION: Kimberly Cates  
SECOND: Kathy Groninger  
AYES: 7            NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

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

Kosciusko County Council  
September 14, 2023  
(Budget Public Hearing)

The Kosciusko County Council met for their regular meeting on Thursday September 14, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. in the Courtroom of the Courthouse, 100 W. Center St., Warsaw, IN. Those present were:

Mike Long, President	Sue Ann Mitchell
Kathleen Groninger, Vice-President	Joni Truex
Kimberly Cates	Dave Wolkins
Tony Ciriello -Absent	Rhonda Helser, County Auditor

*The meeting was called to order by Mike Long*

**IN THE MATTER OF 2024 TURKEY CREEK CONSERVANCY BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING:**

Treasurer David Johnston presented the 2024 budget to Council for approval stating the total general fund is \$163,200.00. An increase of \$60,000.00 from last year's budget of \$112,900.00 was due to a new expense the district is incurring, which is a Lake Level Monitoring Contract. To maintain the state declared lake level with the water control structure, they will know how the water is flowing and how much is coming in. The total Cumulative Improvement Fund budget for 2024 is \$150,000.00, which is down from the 2023 budget of \$475,000.00 which was needed to take care of the dike. The 2024 property tax levy is proposed at \$163,200.00 for the General Fund and \$150,000.00 for the Cumulative Conservancy Improvement fund, for a total of \$313,200.00. The 2024 tax rate for the district is \$0.0214 which is the same as last year.

MOTION: Kimberly Cates  
SECOND: Kathy Groninger  
AYES: 6            NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the 2024 Turkey Creek  
Conservancy budget as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF 2024 SOLID WASTE BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING:**

Tom Ganser, Solid Waste Management District Director, presented the Solid Waste 2024 budget to Council for approval stating the proposed budget is \$451,057.00. Ganser said the budget has a significant reduction due to closing the residential recycling drop off. Ganser stated per the direction of the board; the program was no longer successful with only capturing about half of the recyclables within the 2,000 + tons received in a year. Other local contractors have opened for recycle services. The amount of decrease is \$473,500.00 in Recycling Services account number 300-061. Ganser briefly discussed their revenue stream and added that the taxes will be maintained at .0001%. He said they are still here to serve the county with their electronics and household hazardous waste recycling drop off service.

MOTION: Joni Truex  
SECOND: Kimberly Cates  
AYES: 6        NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Follow the wage committee recommendations which were made to increase all full-time employees' wages by \$2,000.00 for 2024.

MOTION: Kathy Groninger  
SECOND: Kimberly Cates  
AYES: 6        NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the 2024 Solid Waste budget as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF THE 2024 COUNTY PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING:**

**In the Matter of Hiring Four Additional Dispatchers:**

Councilmember Sue Ann Mitchell opened discussion of the 2024 County budget with clarifications. She stated it was discovered that the wage committee had approved and supported the addition of four dispatchers and due to unfortunate events, the positions were not included in the 2024 budget. This addition would have an overall cost of \$369,580.35 and wages would be paid the same as all other dispatchers. Sheriff Jim Smith spoke on behalf of the request explaining he made a request earlier in the year for four dispatchers and that over the years, the workload of dispatchers has increased but the personnel has not. The current staff is taking on several overtime hours, due to the shortfall of staff, and the employees need relief. The calls for service are only increasing and the additional staff will support the needs. Sheriff Chief Deputy Chris McKeand provided call statistics for the Dispatch department stating in 2015 the total number of events handled was 77,104. In 2022 there were 91,780 events that came through the Dispatch center.

MOTION: Joni Truex  
SECOND: Kathy Groninger  
AYES: 6        NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the addition of four Dispatch positions in 2024 as recommended by the Wage Committee.

**In the Matter of The Sheriff Merit Board:**

Mitchell stated after talking with the Merit Board that a decision and an agreement was made for payment in the amount of \$100.00 per Merit Board meeting, per member. There are five paid merit board members.

MOTION: Kimberly Cates  
SECOND: Joni Truex  
AYES: 6        NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the amount of \$100.00 per Merit Board meeting per member.

**In the Matter of the Public Safety Position 2024 \$5,000.00 Wage Increase:**

Clarification was made on the \$5,000.00 increase in wages for the Public Safety Positions. Mitchell stated after recent inquiries the salary ordinance was referred to and it was noted that employees on the Civilian Pole list are serving in a similar public safety roll. Within the Civilian Pole pay classification is a Prosecutor Investigator, Court Security/Bailiff, Home Detention Officer, Drug Court Case Manager, Court Security, JCAP Coordinator, Civil Process Server, and the Jail Matron. These additional positions, if approved by Council, would receive the \$5,000.00 annual increase for 2024.

MOTION: Joni Truex  
SECOND: Kimberly Cates  
AYES: 6        NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the increase of \$5,000.00 to all the employees that fall under the Civilian Pole, Public Safety category, which includes the list above in addition to the previous Public Safety positions recommended by the Wage Committee.

**In the Matter of the 2024 Budget Estimate:**

Mitchell provided estimates for 2024 budget; stating the general fund budget estimate is \$27,391,724.00 and it is expected to have to raise approximately \$14M of that through taxes. The assessed value estimate is \$7,137,260,140.00, with an estimated rate of \$0.19615.



\*The Health General Fund -2024 estimated budget is \$1,194,077.00 and the levy estimate is approximately \$1M, with an estimated rate of \$0.01401.

\*The Cum Bridge 2024 estimated budget is \$1,095,000.00 with a levy estimate of \$1,500,000.00 and an estimated rate of \$0.02102.

\* Reassessment 2024 estimated budget is \$398,749.00 with a levy estimate of \$600,000.00 and an estimated rate of \$0.00841.

\*The CCCD Fund 2024 estimated budget is \$2,443,500.00 with a levy estimate of \$3M and an estimated rate of \$0.04203.

The 2023 rate was \$0.2182

MOTION: Joni Truex  
SECOND: Kathy Groninger  
AYES: 6        NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the Budget Hearing  
presentation as presented.

President Mike Long advised the public hearing was complete and began with the regular meeting.

**IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM AUGUST 1<sup>st</sup> 2023 SPECIAL MEETING:**

MOTION: Kimberly Cates  
SECOND: Dave Wolkins  
AYES: 5        NAYES: 0  
Joni Truex -Abstained due to being absent  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the minutes for the August 1st  
2023 special meeting.

**IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM AUGUST 10<sup>th</sup> 2023**

MOTION: Kathy Groninger  
SECOND: Kimberly Cates  
AYES: 6        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the minutes for the August  
10<sup>TH</sup> 2023 meeting as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF HAZARDOUS MATERIALS EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS (HMEP) 2024 GRANT-EMA:**

Kip Shuter, Emergency Management Director, presented a request to apply for the Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness Grant in the amount of \$20,000.00. The grant is an INDOT federal reimbursable grant which is managed through the Indiana Department of Homeland Security. Funds will provide hazardous material training for first responders.

MOTION: Joni Truex  
SECOND: Kathy Groninger  
AYES: 6        NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the request to apply for the  
Hazardous Materials Emergency  
Preparedness Grant in the amount of  
\$20,000.00 as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS-DRUG COURT GRANT REQUEST:**

Community Corrections Case Manager Abby Rank, on behalf of Community Corrections Director Barry Andrew, presented a request to apply for a Drug Court grant in the amount of \$10,000.00. She stated \$5,000.00 would be used for travel expenses for the annual drug court conference, \$2,500.00 for incentives and \$2,500.00 for drug testing.

MOTION: Kimberly Cates  
SECOND: Dave Wolkins  
AYES: 6        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the request to apply for the  
Drug Court grant in the amount of  
\$10,000.00.

**IN THE MATTER OF SALARY ORDINANCE AMENDMENT & TRANSFER REQUEST-SURVEYOR:**

Surveyor Mike Kissinger presented a salary ordinance amendment and transfer requests for approval. Kissinger advised he has a part time position in his budget and he will be replacing a retiring employee at the end of the year. For the new employee to be properly trained; he requests to change the part time position to full time. The transfer requests are to cover the payroll shortfall for his salary ordinance amendment request. The request was to transfer \$6,500.00 from 1000-11301-000-00011 Drainage Board Part Time to 1000-11081-000-0011 Drainage Board Claims Secretary and \$4,000.00 from 1000-36032-000-0011 Maintenance Non-Repayable to 1000-11081-000-0011 Drainage Board Claims Secretary. The request to amend the salary ordinance was for 1000-11081-000-0011 Drainage Board Claims/Secretary at \$19.29 per hour and to move the position to full time. The request was recommended by the Wage Committee.

MOTION: Joni Truex  
SECOND: Sue Ann Mitchell  
AYES: 6        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the transfer request in the amount of \$6,500.00 from 1000-11301-000-00011 Drainage Board Part Time to 1000-11081-000-0011 Drainage Board Claims Secretary and \$4,000.00 from 1000-36032-000-0011 Maintenance Non-Repayable to 1000-11081-000-0011 Drainage Board Claims Secretary.

MOTION: Joni Truex  
SECOND: Kimberly Cates  
AYES: 6        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the salary ordinance amendment for 1000-11081-000-0011 Drainage Board Claims/Secretary at \$19.29 per hour and to move the position to full time vs. part time.

**IN THE MATTER OF CORONER DEPARTMENT UPDATE:**

County Coroner Tyler Huffer provided a brief department update stating they qualified for product grants through the Indiana Health Department. He wanted Council to be aware they were given \$3,270.00 in products. Huffer said products are chosen from a menu which are used by the Coroner Deputies working an investigation out in the field. He stated they also received overdose awareness signs which have been installed.

**IN THE MATTER OF ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION- CORONER:**

County Coroner Tyler Huffer requested an additional appropriation for 1000-11078-000-0010 Deputy Coroner in the amount of \$5,000.00 due to an increase in Coroner calls.

MOTION: Joni Truex  
SECOND: Kimberly Cates  
AYES: 6        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the additional appropriation for 1000-11078-000-0010 Deputy Coroner in the amount of \$5,000.00 as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION- CORONER:**

County Coroner Tyler Huffer requested an additional appropriation for 1000-31013-000-0010 Xray & Lab Expenses in the amount of \$45,000.00 due to the increase in autopsies' needing to be performed. Huffer added there have been 126 Coroner calls and 30 autopsies done so far this year.

MOTION: Joni Truex  
SECOND: Sue Ann Mitchell  
AYES: 6        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the additional appropriation for 1000-31013-000-0010 Xray & Lab Expenses in the amount of \$45,000.00 as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF TRANSFER REQUESTS-HEALTH DEPARTMENT:**

Health Department Administrator Bob Weaver requested various transfers to cover expenses through 2023 versus requesting an additional appropriation. Weaver stated there have been unexpected expenses this year. The transfers were all requested from the same account with a total transfer of \$14,000.00 from 1159-11130-000-0000 Registrar /Bookkeeper, currently a vacant position, into the following accounts:

1159-22003-000-0000 \$1,500.00 Gas & Oil

1159-31002-000-0000 \$2,500.00 Legal Services

1159-21017-000-0000 \$5,000.00 Personal Health Supplies

1159-36011-000-0000 \$5,000.00 Personal Health Services

MOTION: Kimberly Cates

TO: Approve the transfers listed above as presented.

SECOND: Joni Truex

AYES: 6            NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED

**IN THE MATTER OF ARPA RECOMMENDATION -PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS TOWER- TOWN OF SIDNEY:**

Council President and ARPA Committee Member Mike Long presented the ARPA Committee recommendation for the Public Safety Communications Tower in Sidney in the amount of \$400,000.00 for approval.

MOTION: Kimberly Cates

TO: Approve the ARPA recommendation for the PSC-Sidney Tower in the amount of \$400,000.00 as presented.

SECOND: Dave Wolkins

AYES: 6            NAYS: 0

MOTION CARRIED

**Kosciusko County REMC was thanked by Council for their support in the Town of Sidney tower and fiber optic project.**

**IN THE MATTER OF ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION REQUEST-ARPA:**

Council approved an additional appropriation in the amount of \$400,000.00 for the ARPA Public Safety Communications Tower for the Town of Sidney 8950-38068-000-0000.

MOTION: Sue Ann Mitchell

TO: Approve the additional appropriation for the ARPA recommendation for the PSC-Sidney Tower in the amount of \$400,000.00 as presented.

SECOND: Dave Wolkins

AYES: 6            NAYS: 0

MOTION CARRIED

**IN THE MATTER OF TRANSFER REQUESTS- CIRCUIT & SUPERIOR COURT:**

Auditor Rhonda Helser on behalf of Circuit & Superior Court Judge Reed requested transfers to cover expenses through 2023. A transfer of \$10,000.00 from 1000-31088-000-0043 Public Defender Services to 1000-31017-000-0043 Court Ordered Services and \$2,500.00 from 1000-31088-000-0043 Public Defender Services to 1000-32004-000-0043 Travel Expenses & Seminars.

MOTION: Kathy Groninger

TO: Approve the transfer requests as presented.

SECOND: Kimberly Cates

AYES: 6            NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED

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

**Kosciusko County Council  
October 12, 2023  
(Budget Adoption)**

The Kosciusko County Council met for their regular meeting on Thursday October 12, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. in the Courtroom of the Courthouse, 100 W. Center St., Warsaw, IN. Those present were:

Mike Long, President  
Kathleen Groninger, Vice-President  
Kimberly Cates  
Tony Ciriello

Sue Ann Mitchell  
Joni Truex  
Dave Wolkins  
Rhonda Helser, County Auditor

The meeting was called to order by Mike Long

**IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM AUGUST 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023:**

MOTION: Kimberly Cates

TO: Approve the minutes for the August 30<sup>th</sup> 2023 meeting as presented.

SECOND: Tony Ciriello

AYES: 7      NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED

**IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM AUGUST 31<sup>ST</sup> 2023:**

MOTION: Tony Ciriello

TO: Approve the minutes for the August 31<sup>st</sup> 2023 meeting as presented.

SECOND: Kathy Groninger

AYES: 7      NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED

**IN THE MATTER OF 2024 TURKEY CREEK DAM AND DIKE CONSERVANCY BUDGET ADOPTION:**

Council approved to adopt the 2024 Turkey Creek Dam and Dike Conservancy budget which is \$313,200.00 with an adopted tax rate of \$0.0267.

MOTION: Kimberly Cates

TO: Approve the adoption of the 2024 Turkey Creek Dam and Dike Conservancy budget in the amount of \$313,200.00 as presented.

SECOND: Sue Ann Mitchell

AYES: 7      NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED

**IN THE MATTER OF 2024 SOLID WASTE BUDGET ADOPTION:**

Council approved to adopt the 2024 Solid Waste budget of \$440,093.00, the adopted tax levy is \$275,272.00 with an adopted tax rate of \$0.0039.

MOTION: Kimberly Cates

TO: Approve the adoption of the 2024 Solid Waste budget in the amount of \$440,093.00, the adopted tax levy is \$275,272.00 with an adopted tax rate of \$0.0039.

SECOND: Dave Wolkins

AYES: 7      NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED

**IN THE MATTER OF 2024 COUNTY BUDGET ADOPTION:**

Council held a discussion prior to approving the County budget which included the following:

**In The Matter of Stillwater Hospice- Nonprofit Budget:**

In March 2023- Kosciusko County Home Care & Hospice merged into Stillwater Hospice. The County Commissioners 2024 budget included \$50,000.00 for Stillwater Hospice. Council had made prior requests that Stillwater provide them with documentation to show that funds the county provides them would be used to serve this county. Councilmember Sue Ann Mitchell shared information she had obtained by researching Stillwater stating after researching eleven counties of the twelve that Stillwater services, Kosciusko was the only county providing support for the Allen County based business. With that information she was opposed to their budget and recommended to remove the \$50,000.00 that the county has set aside for them. She added this would be with an understanding that the matter would be reconsidered next year if other counties were providing funding.

Council Vice President Kathy Groninger stated she spoke with Glenn Hall from Stillwater and although other counties were not supporting Stillwater; the county was supporting them because of supporting the non-profit that Stillwater replaced. Hall stated he would try to verify that the funds would remain in Kosciusko County.

*Council continued their discussion on the matter which included the following:*

**Sue Ann Mitchell:** Stillwater provided a count of people in Kosciusko County that Stillwater provides services for which was 30.

**Joni Truex:** Recommended to approve the \$50,000.00 for Stillwater for 2024 with the understanding that additional counties provide support and to request that the money stay in Kosciusko County.

**Kimberly Cates:** Recommended requesting to obtain the information from Stillwater with a date deadline.

**Tony Ciriello:** Recommended approving the funds for Stillwater but with a contingency to remove the funds from the 2024 budget if the information requested is not received. Ciriello then made the motion as stated below.

MOTION: Joni Truex

SECOND: N/A

AYES: N/A      NAYES:      N/A

MOTION WITHDRAWN

TO: Approve the \$50,000.00 for Stillwater

for 2024 with the understanding that

additional counties provide support and that a

request that they money stay in Kosciusko

County.

MOTION: Tony Ciriello

SECOND: Kathy Groninger

AYES: 5      NAYES:      2

Sue Ann Mitchell Opposed

Dave Wolkins Opposed

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the adoption of the 2024

County budget and approve the \$50,000.00

budget for Stillwater Hospice contingent

upon Stillwater Hospice providing

documentation that the money they will

receive from the county will only be spent in

Kosciusko County by the next Council

meeting 11/9/2023.

After the vote, Mitchell provided the 2024 County adopted budget amounts which was broken down: \$50,091,808.00 funded by tax dollars with the balance of the funds as \$25,765,364.00 with a total budget of \$75,857,172.00. The tax rate is \$0.2816.

**IN THE MATTER OF 2024 COUNTY SALARY ORDINANCE ADOPTION:**

Council approved the presented 2024 Salary Ordinance.

MOTION: Joni Truex

SECOND: Kimberly Cates

AYES: 7      NAYES:      0

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the 2024 County Salary

Ordinance as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF KEDCO- 2023 PROGRESS REPORT:**

KEDCO CEO Alan Tio presented a 2023 report which provided information of work that has been performed throughout the county in the past 12 months. He reported on a recent State event he attended stating the State of Indiana is working hard to grow through the Indiana Economic Development Corporation. KEDCO continues to work with several organizations to promote entrepreneurship including the City, County, and the Chamber of Commerce to then establish a new role, the entrepreneur navigator role, to be a single point of contact for entrepreneurs.

**IN THE MATTER OF TRANSFER REQUESTS-SYSTEMS ADMINISTRATION:**

Systems Administration Director Bob Momeyer requested a transfer in the amount of \$50,000.00 from 1138-44012-000-0000 Computer Equipment to 1138-35005-000-0000 Repairs & Software.

MOTION: Joni Truex

SECOND: Kathy Groninger

AYES: 7      NAYES:      0

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the transfer in the amount of

\$50,000.00 from 1138-44012-000-0000

Computer Equipment to 1138-35005-000-

0000 Repairs & Software.

**IN THE MATTER OF HAVA ELECTION SECURITY LOCAL GRANT-CLERK:**

Clerk Ann Torpy presented a request to apply for the HAVA Election Security Local grant through the Secretary of State's office. \$2M in grant funds were awarded to the Secretary of State for counties to apply for voter outreach. Torpy advised she would like to utilize the funds

for programs to engage younger voters. The allowable grant request amount is \$50,000.00 and the minimum that will be awarded if all counties apply is \$21,000.00. Torpy advised she was instructed apply for the full amount of \$50,000.00

MOTION: Kathy Groninger

SECOND: Kimberly Cates

AYES: 7 NAYS: 0

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the request to apply for the HAVA Election Security Local Grant as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF EMPG GRANT REQUEST-EMA:**

Kip Shuter, Emergency Management Director, presented the request to apply for the Emergency Management Performance Grant which deals with salaries of full time EMA employees and covers the fiscal year 2023. The maximum amount that can be applied for is \$55,000.00.

MOTION: Joni Truex

SECOND: Tony Ciriello

AYES: 7 NAYS: 0

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the request for the EMPG Grant in the amount of \$55,000.00 as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION- KCCRVC:**

KCCRVC Vice President Mark Skibowski requested an additional appropriation in the amount of \$200,000.00 1127-31019-000-000 Commission Grant. Skibowski stated the Commission needed additional funds to cover the 2023 grants they have awarded and that all funds may not be used this year, but he wanted to assure they had adequate funds.

MOTION: Kimberly Cates

SECOND: Sue Ann Mitchell

AYES: 7 NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the additional appropriation in the amount of \$200,000.00 1127-31019-000-000 Commission Grant as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF SALARY ORDINANCE AMENDMENT- PROSECUTOR:**

Prosecutor Brad Voelz presented a salary ordinance amendment for 1000-11096-000-0015 PA Investigator, \$54,288.00 annually. The amendment was needed to bring the current employee, who is a 10-year level employee, to a CIV POLE III-10. The amendment is effective January 1, 2023.

MOTION: Kimberly Cates

SECOND: Sue Ann Mitchell

AYES: 7 NAYS: 0

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the salary ordinance amendment for 1000-11096-000-0015 PA Investigator, \$54,288.00 annually as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION REQUEST VOCA GRANT- PROSECUTOR:**

Prosecutor Brad Voelz requested an additional appropriation for the VOCA (Victims of Crime Acts) Grant for the VOCA Caseworker wages and benefits. The quarterly requested included:

8138-11158-000-0000	VOCA Caseworker	\$14,094.00
8138-11601-000-0000	Social Security/Medicare	\$1,079.00
8138-11602-000-0000	Retirement Contributions	\$1,578.00
8138-11605-000-0000	Group Health Insurance	\$2,334.00

MOTION: Tony Ciriello

SECOND: Kathy Groninger

AYES: 7 NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the additional appropriations as listed above as presented for the VOCA grant.

**IN THE MATTER OF SALARY ORDINANCE AMENDMENT-HEALTH DEPARTMENT:**

Health Department Administrator Bob Weave requested a salary ordinance amendment for 1159-11130-000-0000 Registrar I/Bookkeeper \$38,571.00 annually due to hiring a new employee with over 10 years of bookkeeping experience to be at a level COMOT IV-III.

MOTION: Joni Truex  
SECOND: Kimberly Cates  
AYES: 7            NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the salary ordinance amendment for 1159-11130-000-0000 Registrar I/Bookkeeper \$38,571.00 annually as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF TRANSFER REQUEST-HEALTH DEPARTMENT:**

Health Department Administrator Bob Weaver requested a transfer of \$7,822.00 from 1159-11133-000-0000 Food Specialist to 1159-11130-000 Registrar I/Bookkeeper to cover the above salary ordinance amendment/ payroll shortage until the end of 2023.

MOTION: Kathy Groninger  
SECOND: Joni Truex  
AYES: 7            NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the transfer of \$7,822.00 from 1159-11133-000-0000 Food Specialist to 1159-11130-000 Registrar I/Bookkeeper as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF SALARY ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS & TRANSFER REQUESTS-SHERIFF:**

Sheriff Jim Smith requested the following salary ordinance amendments and a transfer to cover the payroll shortfall of the salary ordinance amendments requested as follows:

Salary Ordinance Amendments:

1000-11315-000-0019 Part Time Sex/Violent Offender Registrar \$22.75 per hour  
1000-11105-000-0019 Civil Process Server \$47,320.00 Annually \$22.75 per hour  
Sheriff advised the above requests were approved by the Wage Committee earlier in the year.

Transfer:

A transfer was requested to cover the payroll expenses until the end of 2023 for the Civil Process Server of \$3,831.00 from 1000-11315-000-0019 Sheriff Part Time to 1000-11105-000-0019 Civil Process Server.

MOTION: Joni Truex  
SECOND: Kimberly Cates  
AYES: 7            NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the salary ordinance amendments for 1000-11315-000-0019 Part Time Sex/Violent Offender Registrar \$22.75 per hour and 1000-11105-000-0019 Civil Process Server, \$47,320.00 Annually, \$22.75 per hour as presented.

Sheriff Smith then requested the following salary ordinance amendments for the new SRO positions which were approved previously by the Council, as well as transfers to cover the payroll shortfall of the salary ordinance amendments as follows:

Salary Ordinance Amendments:

1000-10051-000-0019 Deputy /SRO \$54,975.00 Annually  
1000-10052-000-0019 Deputy/SRO \$54,975.00 Annually

Transfer Request: of \$3,200.00 from 1000-11315-000-0019 Sheriff- Part Time to 1000-10051-000-0019 Sheriff-Deputy SRO

Transfer Request: of \$7,400.00 from 1000-11106-000-0019 Sheriff Report Coordinator to 1000-10051-000-0019 Sheriff-Deputy SRO

Transfer Request: of \$10,600.00 from 1000-11103-000-0019 Sheriff Deputy to 1000-10052-000-0019 Sheriff-Deputy SRO

MOTION: Joni Truex  
SECOND: Tony Ciriello  
AYES: 7            NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the salary ordinance amendments for 1000-10051-000-0019 Deputy /SRO \$54,975.00 Annually and 1000-10052-000-0019 Deputy/SRO \$54,975.00 Annually as presented.

MOTION: Kimberly Cates  
SECOND: Kathy Groninger  
AYES: 7            NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the transfers in the amounts of \$3,200.00 from Part Time, transfer of \$7,400.00 from Report Coordinator, Transfer of \$10,600.00 from Sheriff Deputy and a

Transfer of \$3,831.00 from Sheriff Part Time to cover payroll for the SRO positions and the Civil Process Server for the above approved salary ordinance amendments as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF ARPA COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:**

County Administrator Marsha McSherry presented the ARPA Committee Recommendations as follows:

**Wagon Wheel \$250,000.00.** The original ARPA Committee recommendation was requested at \$350,000.00 but the Commissioners voted to approve their request at \$250,000.00.

**Joe's Kids \$121,503.00.** The ARPA Committee and Commissioners recommended \$121,503.00.

**Kosciusko YMCA \$100,000.00.** The ARPA Committee recommendation and the Commissioners recommended \$100,000.00.

MOTION: Kimberly Cates

SECOND: Joni Truex

AYES: 7            NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the Wagon Wheel ARPA

recommendation in the amount of

\$250,000.00 as the Commissioners approved.

MOTION: Tony Ciriello

SECOND: Kathy Groninger

AYES: 7            NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Accept the ARPA Committee's

recommendation on Joe's Kids in the amount of \$121,503.00.

MOTION: Sue Ann Mitchell

SECOND: Dave Wolkins

AYES: 3            NAYES: UNDETERMINED

Mike Long- Opposed

Joni Truex-Opposed

Kathy Groninger Abstained

Kimberly Cates- Voted to approve and to oppose

Tony Ciriello- Voted to approve

TO: Approve the \$100,000.00 ARPA

recommendation for the YMCA security system.

**Once the vote was complete the decision was made that the vote was tied and the motion died and did not carry. When the meeting minutes were being reviewed and the recording of the meeting was reviewed, the vote was unclear. The matter will need to be clarified at the Council's next meeting 11-9-2023.**

**IN THE MATTER OF ARPA ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS:**

County Administrator Marsha McSherry presented the ARPA Committee additional appropriations which due to advertising deadline, were done so prior to the recommendations being approved by the Commissioners.

- Wagon Wheel Improvements: 8950-38069-000-0000 which was advertised at \$350,000.00, but the amount will be changed per the approved amount to \$250,000.00.
- Joe's Kids Parking & Security: 8950-38070-000-0000 in the amount of \$121,503.00.
- YMCA Madison Renovations: 8950-38071-000-0000 which was advertised, but will not be requested as the motion died.

MOTION: Kimberly Cates

SECOND: Tony Ciriello

AYES: 7            NAYS: 0

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the additional appropriation

requests for Wagon Wheel Improvements:

8950-38069-000-0000 in the amount of

\$250,000.00 and for Joe's Kids Parking &

Security: 8950-38070-000-0000 in the

amount of \$121,503.00.

**IN THE MATTER OF SALARY ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS – COMMISSIONERS & MAINTENANCE:**

County Administrator Marsha McSherry presented the following salary ordinance amendments for approval:



- ❖ Community Coordinator 1000-11010-000-0009 \$51,675.00 Annually. This current part time position will be moved to a full-time position through 2026 which was approved by the ARPA Committee on July 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023. The position will be a PAT IV-II Level and the amendment is effective October 12<sup>th</sup> 2023. This request is for 2023 as it has already been approved in the 2024 budget.

MOTION: Joni Truex

SECOND: Sue Ann Mitchell

AYES: 7 NAYS: 0

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the salary ordinance

amendment request for the Community

Coordinator 1000-11010-000-0009

\$51,675.00 Annually.

**Salary Ordinance Amendment:**

- ❖ Housekeeping 1000-11068-000-0006 \$33,345.00 Annually. The Wage Committee recommended to move the housekeeping positions to the LTC V-II level for wages to be more competitive. Effective October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

MOTION: Kimberly Cates

SECOND: Joni Truex

AYES: 7 NAYS: 0

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the salary ordinance

amendment for Housekeeping 1000-11068-

000-0006 \$33,345.00 Annually

**Salary Ordinance Amendment:**

- ❖ Housekeeping 1000-11069-000-0006 \$31,824.00 Annually. The Wage Committee recommended to move the housekeeping positions to the LTC V-I level for wages to be more competitive. Effective October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

MOTION: Joni Truex

SECOND: Tony Ciriello

AYES: 7 NAYS: 0

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the salary ordinance

amendment for Housekeeping 1000-11069-

000-0006 \$31,824.00.

**Salary Ordinance Amendment:**

- ❖ Part Time Housekeeping 1000-11316-000-0006 \$17.10 per hour. The Wage Committee recommended to move the housekeeping positions to the LTC V chart for wages to be more competitive. Effective October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

MOTION: Joni Truex

SECOND: Kimberly Cates

AYES: 7 NAYS: 0

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the salary ordinance

amendment for Part Time Housekeeping

1000-11316-000-0006 \$17.10 per hour.

*McSherry thanked the Wage Committee and Council for their approval of the salary ordinances stating she will be interviewing candidates for the open positions and having the increase in wages will be helpful.*

**IN THE MATTER OF ENCUMBERING:**

County Auditor Rhonda Helser presented an encumbering report for September 2023 in the amount of \$21,228.29 for approval.

MOTION: Joni Truex

SECOND: Sue Ann Mitchell

AYES: 7 NAYS: 0

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the encumbering report for

September 2023 in the amount of \$21,228.29

for approval.

**IN THE MATTER OF FURTHER BUSINESS:**

Councilmember Joni Truex provided an update on the Redevelopment Commission. She stated at the last meeting the Commission agreed to contract with ABONMARCHE to do a study of 1300 N Corridor. Truex said they will be looking at the area to see what the best use or possible uses are for the ground. They are currently in the preliminary stages only and will be working with a representative from ABONMARCHE. A steering committee will be formed to begin the process. The contract amount is \$59,000.00 and will be paid for by TIF funds.

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

## Kosciusko County Council

### November 9, 2023

The Kosciusko County Council met for their regular meeting on Thursday November 9, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. in the Courtroom of the Courthouse, 100 W. Center St., Warsaw, IN. Those present were:

Mike Long, President	Sue Ann Mitchell
Kathleen Groninger, Vice-President	Joni Truex
Kimberly Cates	Dave Wolkins
Tony Ciriello	Rhonda Helser, County Auditor

The meeting was called to order by Mike Long.

**IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM SEPTEMBER 12, 2023:**

MOTION: Kimberly Cates	TO: Approve the minutes for the September
SECOND: Tony Ciriello	12, 2023 Meeting.
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0	
MOTION CARRIED	

**IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM SEPTEMBER 14, 2023:**

MOTION: Sue Ann Mitchell	TO: Approve the minutes for the September
SECOND: Kathy Groninger	14, 2023 Meeting.
AYES: 6        NAYES: 0	
Tony Ciriello Abstained	
MOTION CARRIED	

**IN THE MATTER OF YMCA- ARPA APPLICATION CLARIFICATION OF VOTE:**

Council President Mike Long stated there was a question of how the matter was voted on at last month’s meeting and advised there would be a revote.

Heard from YMCA CEO Jim Swanson who stated they had a vision for using the vacant Madison School for a YMCA for the community. He advised that discounts would be offered to the County and its employees whether the money was approved or not approved. He said they offer corporate memberships to businesses in town to offer access to families.

MOTION: Tony Ciriello	TO: Approve the ARPA Committee
SECOND: David Wolkins	recommendation for the YMCA. The
AYES: 4        NAYES: 2	recommendation is in the amount of
Kathy Groninger Abstained	\$100,000.00.
Kimberly Cates Opposed	
Joni Truex Opposed	
MOTION CARRIED	

**IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM OCTOBER 12, 2023:**

MOTION: Tony Ciriello	TO: Approve the minutes for the October 12,
SECOND: David Wolkins	2023 meeting minus the YMCA vote which
AYES: 6        NAYES: 1	was undetermined from the 10/12/23 meeting.
Joni Truex Opposed	
MOTION CARRIED	

**IN THE MATTER OF BELL MEMORIAL PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD**  
**APPOINTMENT:**

Bell Memorial Public Library Director Stephen Boggs introduced Abbey Sponseller as well as requested to appoint her to the Bell Memorial Public Library board. Abbey will be replacing Sandy Schaefer. Sponseller’s term will begin January 1<sup>st</sup> 2024 expiring December 31<sup>st</sup> 2027.

MOTION: Sue Ann Mitchell

SECOND: Joni Truex

AYES: 7            NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the board appointment of

Abbey Sponseller to the Bell Memorial

Library Board for a 4-year term as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF 2022 LAKELAND REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT COUNCIL APPOINTMENT:**

Jim Haney, Lakeland Regional Sewer District Board President, requested to appoint Mark Koehler to the board. Koehler will fill the remainder of Rosa Ritchie's term who has resigned. His term will expire on April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

MOTION: Tony Ciriello

SECOND: Kathy Groninger

AYES: 7            NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve Mark Koehler to serve on the

Lakeland Regional Sewer District Board with

his term expiring 4/18/2025 as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF KOSCIUSKO COUNTY SOIL & WATER DISTRICT AWARD RECOGNITION:**

Tashina Lahr-Manifold and Aleah Southworth with Kosciusko County Soil & Water District presented information on receiving the District Showcase Award presented by the Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts. The award was given to three counties in the state: Kosciusko County, Newton County and Montgomery County. They were recognized for a local program, Urban Healthy Soils, where they partnered with several entities to improve soil health. They provide services such as site visits, free soil samples, and technical assistance to Kosciusko County urban and small-scale farms of 10 acres or less.

Aleah Southworth provided several accomplishments of the program since its 2022 implementation which included the following:

- Trained 17 volunteers to take soil samples.
- They have made 50 site visits to take soil samples.
- They have provided 25 technical assistance meetings with participants to review their soil results.
- Gifted free silage tarps to eight small farms and home gardens which were donated by Beer Dairy Farms, Milford.
- Made a community connection with a wellness coordinator, Carolyn Arnett, who helps provide food to the food insecure.
- Worked with the coordinator of the Pierceton Tomato Festival to conduct a soil sample and will be doing presentations on soil health for their festivals.

**IN THE MATTER OF STILLWATER HOSPICE:**

Stillwater Hospice- Kosciusko Community Outreach Director Glenn Hall along with Stillwater Hospice CEO Leslie Friedel were present to answer questions concerning their grant request. Council had requested further information at their 10/12/2023 budget adoption meeting prior to approving the 2024 nonprofit funding. Stillwater provided a letter stating that all funds received by the county will be restricted to provide care to the residents of the county. Council held a discussion which included the following:

**Sue Ann Mitchell:** Reported after a positive meeting with Stillwater it was clear that the funds will be used to provide services to people of Kosciusko County and that tracking the funds would be obtainable, requesting to receive reports on a quarterly basis. She stated Stillwater shared how their billing system will be able to track services within the county.

**Tony Ciriello:** Stated the information that was submitted by Stillwater was vague, and requested further information on how the \$50,000.00 would be tracked. Per the last meeting it was stated there were 30 families serviced.

**Glenn Hall:** Advised they budget for an average daily census of 30 families.

**Sue Ann Mitchell:** Made a motion to accept the grant request for another year with the expectation that reports will be provided on a quarterly basis to show how funds are being spent and if the reports aren't forthcoming the funds won't be forthcoming. She added that she believed the contract between the County and Stillwater can be broken by either party at any time. She requested the reports be presented on a quarterly calendar fiscal year with the first report being in March to be presented at the April Council meeting.

**Kimberly Cates:** Recommended having a specific understanding of what is to be included in the quarterly reports. It was advised to include the number of patients billed and to include the amount of County funds that are being used to assist the patients.

**Glenn Hall:** Offered to run a trial report in January to have the Council review it to see if the content of the report is acceptable.

MOTION: Sue Ann Mitchell  
SECOND: Kathy Groninger  
AYES: 7            NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the \$50,000.00 for Stillwater for 2024 with the expectation that detailed reports will be provided on a quarterly basis to show how funds are being spent. Funds will be disbursed for the first quarter. If the first quarter reports are not satisfactory or not forthcoming the Council will review the reports again in the second quarter and if they are not satisfactory; the funds will not be disbursed going forward.

**IN THE MATTER OF 2024 TEMPORARY NEW HIRE REQUEST- ASSESSOR:**

Auditor Rhonda Helser on behalf of Assessor Gail Chapman who was not in attendance; presented a temporary new hire request for 2024 for approval. Helser stated a letter was presented by Chapman summarizing the need for a new hire in 2024 which was approved by the Wage Committee. The Assessor's office is in need for a temporary employee to fill in for an employee who is on active military duty until September 2024. The position will be for the Building Permit Field Assessor.

MOTION: Joni Truex  
SECOND: Kimberly Cates  
AYES: 7            NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the request of a temporary new employee to be hired in 2024 to cover the position of an employee who is on active military duty as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF HEALTH FIRST INDIANA GRANT- HEALTH DEPARTMENT:**

County Health Administrator Bob Weaver presented the Council with an update on the Health First Indiana grant which was awarded to the county. Weaver presented a 2024 budget to the Board of Health which was recently approved. Weaver advised he was providing Council with the budget figures and he did not need an approval tonight, but would eventually need the budget approved. The total budget for 2024 stated on the document provided is \$968,263.83. An additional appropriation would need to be submitted in January 2024 for funds to be used for 2024.

There was a brief discussion of state recommendations on what was included in the budget.

MOTION: Joni Truex  
SECOND: Tony Ciriello  
AYES: 7            NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the Health First Indiana 2024 budget as submitted.

*After the vote Weaver advised that an advisory board is being established to work with the Board of Health throughout the process and that he will be working with the Auditor on the new fund.*

**IN THE MATTER OF DRUG FREE COMMUNITIES- KCODE 2024 BUDGET REQUEST:**

Chief Deputy Prosecutor Dan Hampton on behalf of the Kosciusko County on Drug Education (KCODE) stating the 2024 budget of \$84,800.00 was presented to Council and approved. He provided a breakdown of the categories in which the KCODE Grant Committee has agreed upon which included: Prevention & Education, Intervention & Treatment, Law Enforcement & Justice, and K-CODE Operations. The KCODE Coordinator is Heidi Blake.

MOTION: Tony Ciriello  
SECOND: Kathy Groninger  
AYES: 7            NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve 2024 KCODE budget as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF DNR 2024 GRANT REQUEST-SHERIFF:**

Lieutenant Mike Mulligan Sheriff's office presented a request to apply for the DNR 2024 Grant in the amount of \$15,000.00, \$12,500.00 is to pay for enforcement and \$2,500.00 to pay for fuel and dock fees. The annually requested funds are used to support the marine patrol on area lakes.

MOTION: Joni Truex  
SECOND: Kimberly Cates  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the request to apply for the DNR 2024 Grant in the amount of \$15,000.00 as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF 2024 -2025 JUVENILE DETENTION ALTERNATIVES (JDAI) GRANT REQUEST:**

Judge Karin McGrath presented a request to apply for the (7<sup>th</sup> Year) JDAI grant in the amount of \$70,000.00. Judge stated the grant no longer funds any personnel and the funds will be used for programs and implementation data analysis. The program has been successful and there are currently two JDAI co-coordinators with a third she would like to add.

MOTION: Tony Ciriello  
SECOND: Kimberly Cates  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the request to apply for the 2024-2025 JDAI grant in the amount of \$70,000.00 as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF HIGHWAY SAFETY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT- HSIP GRANT REQUEST- HIGHWAY:**

Highway Superintendent Steve Moriarity presented a request to apply for the Countywide Striping- HSIP Grant. Moriarity stated this is a 90/10 split grant in the amount of \$661,000.00 with the counties portion being \$66,100.00 and would provide approximately 50 miles of striping.

MOTION: Kathy Groninger  
SECOND: Kimberly Cates  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the request to apply for the HSIP Grant as presented.

*Council congratulated Moriarity on his success of being awarded the Community Crossings grant which will be for completing paving of Old 30 and for the bridge at T26LN.*

**IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF 2023 COUNCIL MEETING DATES:**

Auditor Rhonda Helser presented the 2024 Council meeting dates with an inquiry to Council about deciding upon the 2024 budget meeting dates now or tabling the matter.

MOTION: Kimberly Cates  
SECOND: Joni Truex  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the 2024 Council meeting dates as presented and to discuss the 2024 budget meeting dates at a future meeting.

**IN THE MATTER OF ENCUMBERING:**

County Auditor Rhonda Helser presented an encumbering report for October 2023 in the amount of \$1,585.85 for approval, which was for Work Release drug testing.

MOTION: Sue Ann Mitchell  
SECOND: Kathy Groninger  
AYES: 7        NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the October 2023 encumbering in the amount of \$1,585.85 as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF 2024 INTER-LOCAL AGREEMENT-SOLID WASTE:**

County Auditor Rhonda Helser presented the 2024 Inter-Local Agreement between the County Auditor and the Solid Waste District. She stated the agreement allows the Auditor to continue to serve as controller for the district for payroll, budget, claims and interactions with the DLGF for a fee of \$6,000.00 per year. Helser advised the fee was sufficient.

MOTION: Joni Truex

SECOND: Tony Ciriello

AYES: 7 NAYS: 0

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the 2024 Inter-Local

Agreement with the Solid Waste District as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF 2024 KCCRVC INTER-LOCAL AGREEMENT:**

County Auditor Rhonda Helser presented the 2024 KCCRVC Inter-Local Agreement for approval which includes a \$500.00 annual fee for materials to act as controller. Helser advised the fee was adequate.

MOTION: Kathy Groninger

SECOND: Kimberly Cates

AYES: 7 NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the 2024 KCCRVC Inter-Local Agreement as presented.

*After the vote Councilmember Joni Truex recommended the annual fee amount be reviewed; as it's low.*

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

## Kosciusko County Council December 14, 2023

The Kosciusko County Council met for their regular meeting on Thursday December 14, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. in the Courtroom of the Courthouse, 100 W. Center St., Warsaw, IN. Those present were:

Mike Long, President

Kathleen Groninger, Vice-President

Kimberly Cates

Tony Ciriello

Sue Ann Mitchell

Joni Truex

Dave Wolkins

Rhonda Helser, County Auditor

The meeting was called to order by Mike Long.

**IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER 9, 2023 MEETING:**

MOTION: Tony Ciriello

SECOND: Kimberly Cates

AYES: 7 NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the November 9, 2023 minutes as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF LAKELAND REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT COUNCIL APPOINTMENT:**

Jim Haney, Lakeland Regional Sewer District Board President, requested to appoint Jack Bonewits to the board to replace the term of Emily Shipley who has resigned. His term will expire April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2027.

MOTION: Joni Truex

SECOND: Kathy Groninger

AYES: 7 NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Appoint Jack Bonewits to the board to

replace the term of Emily Shipley, who has

resigned, with his term expiring 4/18/2027 as

presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF THE SHERIFF'S SALARY CONTRACT:**

Sheriff Jim Smith presented his 2024 salary contract as well as the Council Resolution approving the 2024 Sheriff's salary contract.

President Mike Long cited the resolution:

RESOLUTION APPROVING 2024 SHERIFF'S SALARY CONTRACT

WHEREAS:

1. The 2024 Sheriff's Salary Contract ("2024 Agreement") is attached hereto.
2. The 2024 Agreement is substantively the same as the 2023 Agreement except that the salary of the Sheriff has been raised \$5,000.00 to \$120,515.00 for 2024 and references to 2023 have been changed to 2024.
3. The Kosciusko County Council ("Council") is the fiscal body of Kosciusko County ("County") and believes it is in the best interest of the County and its citizens to enter into the Agreement for the reasons stated in the Recitals of the Agreement, which are incorporated herein by reference.
4. I.C. 36-2-13-2.5(c) requires that the Agreement be "approved by resolution of both the executive and the fiscal body" of the County.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE FOLLOWING IS HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL:

1. The Agreement is hereby approved by the Council.
2. The President of the Council is hereby authorized to execute the Agreement on behalf of the Council.

So passed and adopted by the Kosciusko County Council, Indiana, this 14th day of December, 2023.

[Signature Page Follows] for approval: stating I.C. 36-2-13-2.5 (c) requires that the Agreement be "approved by resolution of both the executive and the fiscal body" of the County.

The resolution states the 2024 Agreement is substantively the same as the 2023 Agreement except that the salary of the Sheriff has been raised \$5,000.00 to \$120,515.00 and references to 2023 have been changed to 2024. Council President Mike Long cited the Resolution for approval stating I.C. 36-2-13-2.5 (c) requires that the Agreement be "approved by resolution of both the executive and the fiscal body" of the County.

MOTION: Tony Ciriello

SECOND: Kimberly Cates

AYES: 7            NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the Sheriff's salary contract in the amount of \$120,515.00 and the Council resolution approving 2024 Sheriff Salary Contract as presented.

**COUNCIL RESOLUTION NO. 23-12-14-001 (2023120463)**  
**As recorded in the office of the Kosciusko County Recorder**

**IN THE MATTER OF SALARY ORDINANCE AMENDMENT- HEALTH DEPARTMENT:**

Bob Weaver, Health Department Administrator, presented a salary ordinance amendment for Health Department Environmental Food Specialist 1159-11133-000-0000, at \$59,124.00 annually. Weaver advised this position has been filled by a current county employee of the department who is at a 10-year level. The employee has completed training for the new position and will continue to work with State to conduct "on the job training" for the next several months.

MOTION: Sue Ann Mitchell

SECOND: Kathy Groninger

AYES: 7            NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the salary ordinance amendment for Health Department Environmental Food Specialist 1159-11133-000-0000 \$59,124.00 annually as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF TRANSFER REQUEST-HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT:**

Steve Moriarty, County Highway Superintendent, requested a transfer in the amount of \$250,000.00 from Local Road & Street, Calcium Salt/Weed Spray 1169-22038-000-0000 to Local Road & Street, Stone, Gravel & Other Aggregates 1169-22043-000-0000. The purpose of the transfer is to purchase stone for next year's chip and seal work; because it can currently be purchased at a lower price.

MOTION: Kathy Groninger

SECOND: Kimberly Cates

AYES: 7            NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the transfer in the amount of \$250,000.00 from Local Road & Street, Calcium Salt/Weed Spray 1169-22038-000-0000 to Local Road & Street, Stone, Gravel

& Other Aggregates 1169-22043-000-0000 as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF CHIRP GRANT REQUEST-SHERIFF:**

Sheriff's Office Lt. Mike Mulligan presented a request for approval of a CHIRP Grant, CITL (Click It to Live) in the amount of \$19,000.00. Lt. Mulligan also requested approval for two additional CHIRP Grants with a total request of \$40,000.00. After a brief discussion and review of the grant application that was presented; it was determined that one application was submitted for the Click It to Live in the amount of \$19,000.00 but they did not have all applications for each grant request. Council agreed to approve the CHIRP Grant requests up to a total of \$40,000.00 if the Commissioners approve at their next meeting.

MOTION: Sue Ann Mitchell

SECOND: Kimberly Cates

AYES: 7 NAYS: 0

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the CHIRP Grant requests up to a total of \$40,000.00 if the Commissioners approve them at their next meeting, as presented

**IN THE MATTER OF ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION- SHERIFF:**

Sheriff's Office Lt. Mike Mulligan and Chief Deputy Chris McKeand requested approval of an additional appropriation for CHIRP CITL Grant, Grant Salaries, 8410-11706-000-0000 in the amount of \$2,000.00. The funds will cover security details for the above-mentioned grant in 2023.

MOTION: Kathy Groninger

SECOND: Tony Ciriello

AYES: 7 NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the additional appropriation in the amount of \$2,000.00 for CHIRP Grant CITL, Grant Salaries, 8410-11706-000-0000 as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION 2023 HMEP GRANT -EMA:**

Emergency Management Director Kip Shuter requested an additional appropriation in the amount of \$14,000.00 for 8168-36065-000-0000 HMEP Grant- Planning & Training for the grant that was approved in October.

MOTION: Joni Truex

SECOND: Kimberly Cates

AYES: 7 NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the request for an additional appropriation in the amount of \$14,000.00 for 8168-36065-000-0000 HMEP Grant- Planning & Training as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION REQUESTS-ARPA:**

Marsha McSherry, County Administrator, requested an additional appropriation in the amount of \$100,000.00 for ARPA – YMCA- Madison School, 8950-38071-000-0000.

MOTION: Tony Ciriello

SECOND: Sue Ann Mitchell

AYES: 4 NAYES: 2

Kimberly Cates- Opposed

Joni Truex- Opposed

Kathy Groninger- Abstained

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the additional appropriation request in the amount of \$100,000.00 for ARPA – YMCA- Madison School, 8950-38071-000-0000 as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF ENCUMBERING:**

County Auditor Rhonda Helser presented an encumbering report for November 2023 in the amount of \$18,750.00 for approval. The encumbering was processed for the County EDIT fund, Economic Development Corp (KEDCO).

MOTION: Kimberly Cates

SECOND: Sue Ann Mitchell

AYES: 7 NAYS: 0

MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the encumbering report for November 2023 in the amount of \$18,750.00, as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF COUNCIL YEAR END TRANSFER RESOLUTION:**



Council President Mike Long presented a year end transfer resolution for approval. Council Vice President Kathy Groninger made a motion for approval and read the resolution aloud:

**WHEREAS**, the Kosciusko County Council has made every effort to address requests for transfer of funds at the December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023 meeting and,

**WHEREAS**, the year end balances should be in the black and,

**WHEREAS**, the Kosciusko County Auditor is responsible for the disbursement of funds for the County,

**BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED**, that should any account be discovered by the Auditor to end the year in the red, the Auditor is authorized by the Kosciusko County Council to make transfers between accounts to accomplish all accounts to end in the black. The Auditor will report any transfers made to finish the year in the black at the January Kosciusko County Council meeting.

MOTION: Kathy Groninger

TO: Approve the 2023 Year End Transfer Resolution as presented.

SECOND: Sue Ann Mitchell

AYES: 7            NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED

**RESOLUTION NO. 23-14-12-002 (2023120464)**

As recorded in the office of the Kosciusko County Recorder.

**IN THE MATTER OF THE COUNCIL ELECTRONIC MEETING POLICY-COUNCIL:**

Council President Mike Long presented a revision to the Council's Electronic Meeting Policy for approval. Council Vice President made a motion to approve and read aloud the resolution.

**The revisions were made to the verbiage in the header and as listed below:**

**A revision to the header was made; it now reads:** A RESOLUTION AMENDING AND RESTATING THE POLICY BY WHICH MEMBERS OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL MAY PARTICIPATE BY ELECTRONIC MEANS OF COMMUNICATION

**Revision:** WHEREAS, the County Council (Council) is a governing body of Kosciusko County, Indiana; and, WHEREAS, this Electronic Meetings Policy shall amend, supersede, and replace in full the Electronic Meetings Policy previously adopted by the Council in 2021:

**Revision:**

Section 5. No member of the Council may participate by means of electronic communication in a meeting at which the Council conducts budget hearings or a budget workshop or at which the Council may take final action to:

- (1) adopt a budget;
- (2) make a reduction in personnel;
- (3) initiate a referendum;
- (4) impose or increase a fee;
- (5) impose or increase a penalty;
- (6) exercise the Council's power of eminent domain; or
- (7) establish, impose, raise, reduce, or renew a tax.

MOTION: Tony Ciriello

TO: Approve the amendments to the Council Electronic Meeting Policy Resolution as listed above.

SECOND: Dave Wolkins

AYES: 7            NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED

**RESOLUTION NO. 23-12-14-003 (2023120465)**

As recorded in the office of the Kosciusko County Recorder

**IN THE MATTER OF COUNCIL BUSINESS TRAVEL – CONFERENCE MEETING POLICY:**

Council President Mike Long opened discussion for the County Council Business Travel Policy. Councilmember Kimberly Cates questioned the wording concerning submitting meal receipts while attending a conference where the meal is provided. She recommended the information be reworded and motioned to table the matter until the wording is corrected.

MOTION: Kimberly Cates

SECOND: Joni Truex  
AYES: 7            NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Table the Council business travel-  
conference meeting policy until the wording  
is corrected.

**IN THE MATTER OF 2024 COUNCIL BOARD APPOINTMENTS:**

Mike Long presented the list of 2024 Council appointment recommendations stating there have been changes and he has taken all comments under advice. Council held a brief discussion in regards to the Wheel Tax Committee and determined that they will recreate the formation of the committee for 2024. Long stated Council had previously discussed the need to periodically review the Wheel Tax and advised that needs to be done. The appointments are as listed below:

<b><u>Council Member Appointments</u></b>	<b><u>Board/Committee</u></b>	<b><u>Term Expires:</u></b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Sue Ann Mitchell	Abatement Committee	12/31/24	(1)
	Airport Authority	12/31/24	(1)
	ARPA	12/31/24	(1)
	Opioid Committee	12/31/24	(1)
	Wheel Tax	12/31/24	(1)
<input type="checkbox"/> Joni Truex	KC Economic Dev Com	12/31/25	(2)
	Redevelopment Commission	12/31/24	(1)
	Non-Profit	12/31/24	(1)
<input type="checkbox"/> Kimberly Cates	KEDCO	12/31/24	(1)
	Wheel Tax	12/31/24	(1)
	Non-Profit	12/31/24	(1)
	IT/Cybersecurity	12/31/24	(1)
<input type="checkbox"/> Tony Ciriello	Airport Authority	12/31/24	(1)
	Emergency Management	12/31/24	(1)
	Merit Board (KCSO)	12/31/24	(1)
	Non-Profit	12/31/24	(1)
	Security Committee	12/31/24	(1)
	Warsaw Economic Dev.	12/31/24	(1)
<input type="checkbox"/> Dave Wolkins	Airport Authority	12/31/24	(1)
	Solid Waste	12/31/24	(1)
	Wheel Tax	12/31/24	(1)
<input type="checkbox"/> Kathy Groninger	Abatement	12/31/24	(1)
	Community Corrections		
	Advisory Board	12/31/25	(2)
	MACOG	12/31/24	(1)
	Opioid Committee	12/31/24	(1)
	WCDC (Main Street)	12/31/24	(1)
	Wage Committee	12/31/24	(1)
<input type="checkbox"/> Mike Long	Abatement	12/31/24	(1)
	Wage Committee	12/31/24	(1)

MOTION: Dave Wolkins  
SECOND: Kimberly Cates  
AYES: 6            NAYES: 1  
Joni Truex- Opposed  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the 2024 Council committee  
appointments as presented above.

**IN THE MATTER OF THE TOWN OF MILFORD ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION:**

Council President Mike Long advised the Town of Milford is forming an Economic Development Commission. The town has requested Council nominate a recommendation of a Council member to the Town Council President. Long advised Councilmember Kimberly Cates has agreed to be recommended to serve. The Town Council of Milford ordinance states a term expiration date for the County Council member as 2-1-25.

MOTION: Tony Ciriello  
SECOND: Sue Ann Mithcell  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Recommend Kimberly Cates to serve on the Town of Milford Economic Development Commission if appointed by the Town of Milford Council President.

**IN THE MATTER OF 2024 COUNCIL APPOINTED BOARD APPOINTMENTS:**

Mike Long presented the list of 2024 Council appointed board recommendations for non-council members as listed below:

<u>Board/Committee</u>	<u>Council Appointment</u>	<u>Term Expires:</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Airport Committee	Ernie Wiggins	12/31/24        (1)
<input type="checkbox"/> Airport Committee	Jon Garber	12/31/24        (1)

MOTION: Kimberly Cates  
SECOND: Kathy Groninger  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Appoint Ernie Wiggins and Jon Garber to the Airport Authority with a term expiring 12/31/24.

<u>Board/Committee</u>	<u>Council Appointment</u>	<u>Term Expires:</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> KCCRVC	Doug Shoemaker	12/31/25        (2)
<input type="checkbox"/> KCCRVC	Jessica Hartman	12/31/25        (2)

MOTION: Kathy Groninger  
SECOND: Tony Ciriello  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Appoint Doug Shoemaker and Jessica Hartman to KCCRVC with a term expiring 12/31/24.

<u>Board/Committee</u>	<u>Auditor Appointment</u>	<u>Term Expires:</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Parks & Recreation Board	Troy Turley	12/31/24        (1)

*Auditor appointment does not require a Council vote.*

<u>Board/Committee</u>	<u>Council Appointment</u>	<u>Term Expires:</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Parks & Recreation Board	Aggie Sweeney	12/31/25        (2)
<input type="checkbox"/> Parks & Recreation Board	Rob Bishop	12/31/25        (4)

*(Bishop’s term not expiring in 2023)*

MOTION: Kathy Groninger  
SECOND: Kimberly Cates  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Appoint Aggie Sweeny and Rob Bishop to the Kosciusko County Parks & Recreation Board as presented.

<u>Board/Committee</u>	<u>Council Appointment</u>	<u>Term Expires:</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> PTBOA	Brock Ostrom	12/31/24        (1)

MOTION: Sue Ann Mitchell  
SECOND: Dave Wolkins  
AYES: 7        NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Appoint Brock Ostrom to the PTBOA board with a term expiring 12/31/24.

<u>Board/Committee</u>	<u>Council Appointment</u>	<u>Term Expires:</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Redevelopment Commission	Jan Orban	12/31/24        (1)

MOTION: Tony Ciriello  
SECOND: Dave Wolkins  
AYES: 5        NAYES: 2  
Joni Truex Opposed  
Sue Ann Mitchell Opposed

TO: Appoint Jan Orban to the Redevelopment Commission with a term expiring 12/31/24.

MOTION CARRIED

<u>Board/Committee</u>	<u>Council Appointment</u>	<u>Term Expires:</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Tippecanoe Chapman RSD	Kim Hathaway	12/31/28 (4)
<input type="checkbox"/> Tippecanoe Chapman RSD	Jeff Thornburgh	12/31/28 (4)

MOTION: Sue Ann Mitchell  
SECOND: Kimberly Cates  
AYES: 7 NAYES: 0  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Reappoint Kim Hathaway and Jeff Thornburgh to the Tippecanoe Chapman Regional Sewer District Board with a term expiring on 12/31/28.

**IN THE MATTER OF THE COUNCIL MEETING & COUNCIL BUDGET MEETING DATES:**

Council Member Sue Ann Mitchell opened discussion on the 2024 Council meeting and budget dates. A revised 2024 meeting schedule which included budget meeting dates was presented. Council had a brief discussion concerning the budget process timeline for 2023 which was unfavorable. The budget meeting dates will be August 14<sup>th</sup> 8:30 AM-1:00 PM with departments, August 15<sup>th</sup> 8:30 AM -1:00 PM with departments and August 21<sup>st</sup> 4:00 PM for budget cuts and discussion. By scheduling the budget dates now; this will provide an 8 month notice for Council members to prepare their schedules for the time.

MOTION: Sue Ann Mithcell  
SECOND: Tony Ciriello  
AYES: 6 NAYES: 1  
Kimberly Cates- Opposed  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the 2024 Council meeting dates with the additional 2024 budget meeting dates.

**IN THE MATTER OF ELECTION OF 2024 OFFICERS:**

Council President Mike Long opened the floor for nominations. Councilmember Dave Wolkins nominated Mike Long to serve as Council President with a second from Councilmember Tony Ciriello.

MOTION: Dave Wolkins  
SECOND: Tony Ciriello  
AYES: 4 NAYES: 3  
Joni Truex-Opposed  
Kimberly Cates- Opposed  
Sue Ann Mithcell- Opposed  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the nomination of Mike Long to remain as Council President for 2024.

Long opened the floor for nominations for Vice President. Councilmember Tony Ciriello nominated Kathy Groninger to serve again as Vice President with a second from Councilmember Dave Wolkins.

MOTION: Tony Ciriello  
SECOND: Dave Wolkins  
AYES: 5 NAYES: 2  
Joni Truex-Opposed  
Sue Ann Mithcell- Opposed  
MOTION CARRIED

TO: Approve the nomination of Kathy Groninger to remain as Council Vice President for 2024.

**IN THE MATTER OF FURTHER BUSINESS:**

Sue Ann Mitchell advised the process is moving forward with the Opioid Grant and that the Sheriff's office will have funds to use for counseling and the Fellowship Mission will have funds for their building purchase. Mitchell advised the funds are being distributed by the State and that the annual money to be received is still pending. She advised that until funds are being received on a regular basis the County cannot completely move forward. The Opioid Committee will hold a public meeting as needed.

**IN THE MATTER OF FURTHER BUSINESS:**

Joni Truex commented on Reedy Financial Group stating she was disappointed in the six month trial run and recommended that they not be re-hired. Kathy Groninger stated she has been in discussions with the Commissioners and quarterly meetings are being planned to be held with Reedy Financial in 2024. Mike Long expressed his concerns stating that a strategic planning committee needs to be formed to utilize Reedy for long term goals, planning, and finance opportunities. Dave Wolkins stated in his research of what has been done so far from Reedy was the recommendation of changing a couple of accounts and added he would be recommending cancellation of the contract if nothing transpires in three months. Kimberly Cates added that the Strategic Planning Committee and the Commissioners need to work with Reedy Financial and hopes that the scheduling can be made a priority. Mike Long advised the Commissioners 2024 budget includes the fees for Reedy and this will be a commissioner's decision to renew the contract. The contract will be presented at the December 19<sup>th</sup> Commissioners meeting for approval and signature.

**IN THE MATTER OF FURTHER BUSINESS:**

Heard from Travis McConnell who wanted to provide information concerning a local facility. He stated Pierceton Woods Academy, Pierceton, IN was recently the subject of front-page news of the Indianapolis Star due to several neglect incidents in the past years. He expressed his concern that taxpayer dollars are not spent to support the facility and wanted to bring it to Council's attention. Council responded that they are aware of the issues. McConnell stated there have been letters composed in the past by local government and he'll be requesting that support from the Commissioners as well.

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