

REGULAR SESSION RUSH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

July 14, 2025

The Rush County Board of Commissioners met in regular session Monday, July 14, 2025, with Commissioners Ron Jarman, Kenny Aulbach and Jeff Wilson present. County Attorney Grant Reeves was also present. Auditor Tammy Justice was not present.

Ron Jarman called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. with the Pledge to the American Flag.

ADA & TITLE VI BIDS

- At 9:00 a.m. County Attorney Grant Reeves opened bids for the review and update of the County's Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Title VI of the Civil Rights Act policies and associated documentation. USI Consultants submitted a total bid of \$49,800.00. ADA Consulting of Indiana submitted a total bid of \$98,800.00. County Attorney Grant Reeves recommended the Commissioners take the bids under advisement to give time to look over all submitted information. Jeff Wilson made a motion to take both bids under advisement. Second, by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.

MINUTES

- Minutes of the Regular Session held on June 30, 2025, were presented. Kenny Aulbach made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Second, by Jeff Wilson. All were in favor. Motion carried.

CLAIMS

- Accounts payable claims for July 14, 2025, in the amount of \$506,254.76 were presented. Jeff Wilson made a motion to approve the claims. Second, by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.

PAYROLL

- Payroll for July 18, 2025, in the amount of \$267,031.92, was presented. Kenny Aulbach moved to approve the payroll claims. Second, by Jeff Wilson. All were in favor. Motion carried.

AUDITOR

- Auditor Assistant Heather Carlton requested approval from the Commissioners for a GIS Data Sharing Agreement between Rush County and Madison County Council of Government on behalf of Eastern Indiana Regional Planning Commission. Jeff Wilson moved to approve the GIS Data Sharing Agreement. Second, by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Auditor Assistant Heather Carlton requested the Commissioners approval to transfer \$1,260.00 from 1138.30020.00000.0000 Cum Cap Repairs and Maintenance to 1138.31317.00000.0000 Cum Cap Utilities 504 W. 3rd Street. Jeff Wilson moved to transfer the funds. Second, by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Auditor Assistant Heather Carlton presented the Commissioners with the Treasurer's monthly report for June.
- Auditor Assistant Heather Carlton advised the Commissioners a decision needed to be made regarding the courthouse landscaping and concrete bids

that were previously taken under advisement. Jeff Wilson made a motion to approve the bid for landscaping submitted by Vogels Florist and Landscaping. Second, by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried. Kenny Aulbach moved to approve the bid for concrete submitted by Schutte Excavating Inc. Second, by Jeff Wilson. All were in favor. Motion carried.

SHERIFF

- Sheriff Allan Rice gave a training update for his department to the Commissioners.
- Sheriff Allan Rice updated the Commissioners on the ongoing freezer issues.
- Sheriff Allan Rice advised the Commissioners he needs part time jailers due to losing employees to the new dog food plant.
- Sheriff Allan Rice advised the Commissioners in order to be compliant with the State Fire Marshal, the items that were recently moved inside from the semi-trailer would need to be moved again.
- Sheriff Allan Rice updated the Commissioners on the federal inmate status.
- Sheriff Allan Rice advised the Commissioners fair week went well with only one incident.
- Sheriff Allan Rice discussed with the Commissioners the new security board that will be effective in August.

HIGHWAY

- Superintendent Jerry Sitton presented the Commissioners with the June monthly reports for his department.
- Superintendent Jerry Sitton updated the Commissioners on the 1st covered bridge.
- Superintendent Jerry Sitton advised the Commissioners that the inside and outside arch ends on the west side of the Offutt Covered Bridge need updated otherwise the state would close the bridge. The estimated cost of repairs is \$44,870.00. Kenny Aulbach motioned to move forward with the repairs. Second, by Jeff Wilson. All were in favor. Motion carried.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

- Dixie Meyer requested permission from the Commissioners to get estimates for a sign in front of the building at 504 W. 3rd Street. Jeff Wilson moved to start getting estimates for the sign. Second, by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Dixie Meyer requested an update from the Commissioners regarding the building at 504 W. 3rd Street. Commissioner Ron Jarman advised Meyer that preliminary designs should be received in the next week.
- Dixie Meyer advised the Commissioners the Health Department would be offering vaccinations at the back-to-school event.

RECORDER

- Recorder Debbie Richardson requested approval from the Commissioner to sign a contract in the amount of \$56,022.90 with US Imaging for the next phase of scanning her books. Jeff Wilson moved to sign the contract with US Imaging. Second, by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.

CLERK

- Clerk Jenny Sammons thanked the Commissioners for allowing her to fill her open position and stated the new employee had started employment.

HUMAN RESOURCES

- Director Jodi Harr advised the Commissioners she had met with the Rush County Rec Center regarding Rush County employee memberships. The Rec Center has agreed to a 5% discount on monthly membership fees for full-time employees and a 50% discount on joining fees at the time of enrollment. Full-time employees would have membership dues payroll deducted and sent to the Rec Center by the payroll department. Harr and the Health Insurance Committee requested from the Council to utilize the health insurance fund 5202 to pay the Rec Centers monthly billing as well as reimburse employees \$20.00 as a wellness benefit for those who have visited the center at least 10 times per month. Harr advised the Commissioners she had obtained permission from the Rush County Council to utilize the health insurance fund and is now seeking approval from the Commissioners. Jeff Wilson made a motion to approve using the Health Insurance fund 5202. Second, by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried. Harr advised the Commissioners there will be an open house at the Rec Center for all Rush County employees and their families on August 13, 2025, from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm.

MISC

- Jon York with the Boys and Girls Club addressed the Commissioners and requested to be put in the 2026 budget for a \$25,000.00 donation. Commissioner Ron Jarman advised they would look to see what could be done.
- County Attorney Grant Reeves presented the Commissioners with Resolution 2025-9, Resolution Establishing Remote Participation in Meetings for Regular Business and During Certain Emergencies for approval. Jeff Wilson moved to accept Resolution 2025-9. Second, by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- County Attorney Grant Reeves discussed with the Commissioners the possibility of adopting a charge for enhanced access requests as well as a possible resolution regarding payment of ordinance violations.
- Sandy Fussner with the Chamber of Commerce requested permission from the Commissioners to use the Offutt Covered Bridge for a dinner party on September 19, 2025. Highway Superintendent Jerry Sitton advised the Commissioners he would not recommend due to the repairs that are needed on the Offutt Covered Bridge. Sitton advised that the Moscow covered bridge would be better suited for the dinner. Jeff Wilson moved to relocate the dinner to the Moscow covered bridge. Second, by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Commissioner Ron Jarman requested assistance from County Attorney Grant Reeves to help them get rid of the junk located behind the highway department that they were court ordered to remove from a property in Arlington.

Kenny Aulbach moved to recess the regular session to hold a public hearing on a vacated alley request. Seconded by Jeff Wilson. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Jeff Wilson moved to open the public hearing. Second, by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Ron Jarman called the public hearing for Alley Vacation to order at 9:30 a.m.

VACATED ALLEY

- Vicki Weitzel requested the vacation of an alley located in the Unincorporated Town of Manilla in Walker Township. Said alley running East and West and being 8 feet wide and 496 feet long running parallel to lots 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and part of lot 2 in the James W. Trees Addition to the town of Manilla, Rush County, Indiana.

After hearing remarks from the public, Jeff Wilson moved to close the public hearing. Second, by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Ron Jarman reconvened the regular session at 9:40 a.m.

- Jeff Wilson moved to approve and sign the ordinance for the vacation of an alley located in the Unincorporated Town of Manilla in Walker Township. Said alley running East and West and being 8 feet wide and 496 feet long running parallel to lots 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and part of lot 2 in the James W. Trees Addition to the town of Manilla, Rush County, Indiana. Second, by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Kenny Aulbach made a motion to adjourn. Second, by Jeff Wilson. All were in favor. Motion carried.

/Ron Jarman/
Ron Jarman

/Kenny Aulbach/
Kenny Aulbach

/Absent/
Jeffery Wilson

ATTEST:
/Tammy Justice/
Tammy Justice, Auditor