

REGULAR SESSION RUSH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS January 12, 2026

The Rush County Board of Commissioners met in regular session Monday, January 12, 2026, with Commissioners Ron Jarman, Jeff Wilson and Kenny Aulbach present. Auditor Tammy Justice and County Attorney Grant Reeves were also present.

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

Commissioner Ron Jarman called for the 2026 organization of the Board of Commissioners. Jeff Wilson made the motion to appoint Ron Jarman as Chairman to the Commissioners. Second, by Kenny Aulbach. Ron Jarman accepted. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Kenny Aulbach made a motion to appoint Jeff Wilson as Vice Chairman. Second, by Ron Jarman. Jeff Wilson accepted. All were in favor. Motion carried.

MINUTES

- Minutes of the Regular Session held on December 29, 2025, were presented. Jeff Wilson made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Second, by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.

CLAIMS

- Accounts payable claims for January 12, 2026, in the amount of \$824,973.23 were presented. Kenny Aulbach moved to approve the claims. Second, by Jeff Wilson. All were in favor. Motion carried.

PAYROLL

- Payroll for January 16, 2026, in the amount of \$268,790.86 was presented. Jeff Wilson moved to approve the payroll claims. Second, by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.

HUMAN RESOURCES

- Director Jodi Harr advised the Commissioners she had emailed the ADA ordinances for their review. Harr also stated the ADA report on the courthouse was also forwarded to them for their review.
- Director Jodi Harr read a letter of resignation/retirement from Surveyor Marvin Rees to the Commissioners. Rees's tenure will end March 27, 2026, after 25 years of service to Rush County. Ron Jarman thanked Rees for his service to the citizens of Rush County.
- Director Jodi Harr introduced representatives from First Financial to the Commissioners. Jordan Gates with First Financial presented the Work Life Program to the Commissioners. The Commissioners feel it is a good program and support moving forward with First Financial working with HR Director Jodi Harr to get the information out to all Rush County employees.

TREASURER

- Treasurer Susan Spaeth advised the Commissioners the December financial reports had been sent to them.

- Treasurer Susan Spaeth requested the Commissioners schedule the annual board of finance meeting for January 26, 2026, at 9:15 a.m.

AUDITOR

- Auditor Tammy Justice presented the Commissioners with the 2026 Financials Solution Group (FSG) proposal to not exceed \$25,000.00. Kenny Aulbach moved to approve FSG's proposal. Second, by Jeff Wilson. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Auditor Tammy Justice presented the Treasurer's December report to the Commissioners.
- Auditor Tammy Justice requested approval of the Commissioners for Resolution No. 2026-1A Adopting Indiana Code 5-23 and Taking Certain Other Actions Related ThereTo regarding the BOT process. Jeff Wilson moved to approve Resolution No. 2026-1A. Second, by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.

2026 APPOINTEMENTS

- Alcoholic Beverage Board – Jeff Wilson moved to reappoint Josh Toennessen for a term of 01.01.2026 thru 12.31.2026. Second, by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Board of Review – Kenny Aulbach moved to reappoint Kathy Dean and Kevin Snyder for a term of 01.01.2026 thru 12.31.2026. Second, by Jeff Wilson. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Carthage Henry Hensley Library – Auditor Tammy Justice has reached out and gotten no response. Kenny Aulbach will contact them regarding the appointment.
- Area Plan Commission – Auditor Tammy Justice advised the Commissioners she had received letters of interest from Melissa Meltzer, Eric Ward and Stormy Richardson. Kenny Aulbach recommended interviewing the three (3) interested parties. Jeff Wilson recommended setting up in person interviews with all three (3).

COURTHOUSE RENOVATION

- Ron Jarman advised the Commissioners KRM has presented an agreement for the design work and architectural work for the courthouse for approval. Jeff Wilson advised that 65% of the renovation is mechanical upgrades. Kenny Aulbach moved to approve the KRM agreement. Second, by Jeff Wilson. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- County Attorney Grant Reeves presented the Commissioners with the request for proposals/qualifications for the courthouse renovation project. Jeff Wilson moved to advertise the RFP for the courthouse project. Second, by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.

At 9:30 a.m. Jeff Wilson moved to close the Regular Commissioner meeting to hold a public hearing for a vacated alley in Milroy. Second, by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried. The public hearing was properly advertised.

VACATED ALLEY

- The Rush County Commissioners conducted a public hearing regarding the following petition to vacate a platted alley in the Unincorporated Town of Milroy in Anderson Township. Said alley running East and West and being 12 feet wide and 132 feet long located between lots 42 and 43 in the GW

Tompkins addition to the town of Milroy. The physical address of the property is 407 S. Pleasant Street, Milroy, Indiana.

Hearing no remarks from the public, Jeff Wilson moved to close the public hearing. Second, by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.

At 9:31 a.m. Jeff Wilson moved to open the Regular Commissioner meeting. Second, by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.

SHERIFF

- Sheriff Allan Rice advised the Commissioners he is in need of a full-time correction officer as well as a dispatcher. He has part-time openings as well.

HIGHWAY

- Superintendent Jerry Sitton advised the Commissioners that the paperwork submitted by Dave O'Mara for the CCMG bid of \$444,775.65 was good and bid could be approved. Kenny Aulbach moved to approve the bid placed by Dave O'Mara. Second, by Jeff Wilson. All were in favor. Motion carried.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

- Dixie Meyer advised the Commissioners the sign in front of the new health department building has been installed.

MISC

- Rushville Mayor Mike Pavey addressed the Commissioners regarding the back history on the Food & Beverage tax. Pavey stated the last couple of years, legislators have been more willing to write separate bills for the tax. Pavey stated that state representative Cory Criswell wrote a bill for the 2026 session that stated Rush County requested the Food & Beverage tax, however it was the City of Rushville that requested it. Pavey wanted to apologize and set the record straight on where the bill originated. Pavey will address the County Council as well.
- Ordinance 2026-1 An Ordinance Vacating an Alleyway in Milroy, Indiana was presented to the Commissioners for approval. Jeff Wilson moved to sign Ordinance 2026-1 vacating an alley in Milroy, Indiana. Second, by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Ron Jarman requested an update from Tara Hagan with SICPDC on the blighted projects.
- Janitorial Services Agreement for Gilliam in the amount of \$66,159.00 per year was presented to the Commissioners for approval. Jeff Wilson moved to sign the janitorial agreement. Second, by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Mary Richardson addressed the Commissioners stating she was working with APC & BZA regarding HB 1509 open door requirements. Richardson made several recommendations that County Attorney Grant Reeves will research. Richardson stated Ordinance No. 2015-8 requires property ownership for board appointments, and recommended the Commissioners revise that ordinance. Ron Jarman stated he personally feels someone might not own property but still would like to sit on a board to serve his or her community. Kenny Aulbach made a motion to amend Ordinance 2015-8 to remove property ownership requirement. Second, by Jeff Wilson. All were in favor. Motion carried. Richardson will be addressing the County Council on these concerns as well.

- Phil Wright, citizen of Manilla, requested the Commissioners involvement in cleaning up a property in Manilla with junk cars on it. Wright has been working with Area Plan Director Mike Holzback, and certified letters have been sent to the property owner. Ron Jarman advised Wright he would reach out to the BZA attorney to speed up the legal process.

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

/Ron Jarman/
Ron Jarman

/Kenny Aulbach/
Kenny Aulbach

/Jeffery Wilson/
Jeffery Wilson

ATTEST:

/Tammy Justice/
Tammy Justice, Auditor