

REGULAR SESSION RUSH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

May 4, 2026

The Rush County Board of Commissioners met in regular session Monday, May 4, 2026, with Commissioners Ron Jarman, Jeff Wilson and Kenny Aulbach 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.

MINUTES

- Minutes of the Regular Session held on April 20, 2026, 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 May 4, 2026, in the amount of \$435,762.31 were presented. Kenny Aulbach moved to approve the claims. Second, by Jeff Wilson. All were in favor. Motion carried.

PAYROLL

- Payroll for May 8, 2026, in the amount of \$266,629.19 was presented. Jeff Wilson moved to approve the payroll claims. Second, by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.

RIDE RUSH

- Kendra Waterman with Rush County Senior Citizens Center requested the Commissioners re-sign the paperwork that was approved on April 20, 2026, in blue ink.
- Kendra Waterman presented the Commissioners with the 5311 Rural Transit Grant Reimbursement in the amount of \$41,646.00 for approval. Jeff Wilson moved to approve the grant reimbursement. Second, by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Kendra Waterman presented the Commissioners with the Special Warranty Arrangement for approval. Jeff Wilson moved to sign the Special Warranty provisions. Second, by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Kendra Waterman presented the Commissioners with the Federal Fiscal Year 2026 Certifications and Assurances for FTA Assistance Programs for approval. Kenny Aulbach moved to sign the Federal Fiscal Assurances. Second, by Jeff Wilson. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Kendra Waterman presented the Commissioners with the Local Financial Certifications and Capital Use Assurances for approval. Kenny Aulbach moved to approve the Local Assurances. Second, by Jeff Wilson. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Kendra Waterman presented the Commissioners with Section 5311 Pass-through Agreement for Rural Public Transportation for approval. Jeff Wilson moved to approve the pass-through agreement. Second, by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Kendra Waterman presented the Commissioners with the Certification of Use of Project Equipment and Facilities for approval. Jeff Wilson moved to approve the Certification of Use of Project Equipment and Facilities. Second, by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.

- Kendra Waterman presented the Commissioners with Resolution 2026-5, a Resolution authorizing the filing of a CY2026 application for a grant under Section 5311/5339 of the Federal Transit Act for approval. Jeff Wilson moved to sign the application. Second, by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Ron Jarman inquired if Angela Cavaletto was still employed with the Senior Citizens Center. Kendra Waterman advised that yes, Angela is still employed.
- Kenny Aulbach discussed with the Commissioners the need for a technical assistance agreement between Union County CoA and Rush County Senior Services. After much discussion, Jeff Wilson moved to recommend a technical assistance agreement with Union CoA to the Board of Directors at the Senior Center. Second, by Ron Jarman. Kenny Aulbach abstained due to being on the Board of Directors at the Senior Center. Motion carried.
- Kenny Aulbach stated he would like County Attorney Grant Reeves to draft and send a letter to the Senior Citizens Center.

HUMAN RESOURCES

- Director Jodi Harr gave the Commissioners an employment update.
- Director Jodi Harr presented the Commissioners with an agreement from PHI Cares for memberships for Rush County employees who live outside the county. The rate has increased to \$65.00 per employee. Motion to sign the agreement was made by Kenny Aulbach. Second, by Jeff Wilson. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Director Jodi Harr updated the Commissioners on the employee health insurance renewal.

COURTHOUSE RENOVATION

- Greg Guerrettaz with FSG discussed the estimated debt service and tax impact as well as the lease rental bond analysis with the Commissioners. Ron Jarman noted that the commissioner's budget \$300,000.00 yearly for courthouse repairs that could potentially be used to offset the yearly bond payment. Guerrettaz advised that the county would need to decide on a 15- or 20-year option.

At 9:35 a.m. the Commissioners opened the meeting up for public comments regarding a proposed lease agreement entered into between the Rush County Public Building Corporation as lessor and Rush County Indiana as lessee. Jodi Harr requested the Commissioners discuss that 65% of the upgrades are mechanical upgrades and repairs.

At 9:40 a.m. Jeff Wilson moved to close the public hearing. Second, by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.

- County Attorney Grant Reeves presented the Commissioners with Resolution 2026-6, Resolution of the Board of Commissioners of Rush County, Indiana Authorizing the Courthouse Renovation Project, the Execution of a Lease Agreement and Related Matters for approval. Jeff Wilson moved to approve Resolution 2026-6. Second, by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.

SHERIFF

- Sheriff Allan Rice advised the Commissioners that the deputies involved in the officer involved shooting have returned to regular duties.
- Sheriff Allan Rice updated the Commissioners regarding the housing of federal inmates. Rice advised that he must obtain a full-time transport officer and he will need to purchase a second secured transport van. Rice will work on getting pricing.
- Sheriff Allan Rice advised the Commissioners the need for equipment/radio updates to ensure strong signals throughout the jail.
- Sheriff Allan Rice updated the Commissioners on the new vehicles that had been delivered.
- Sheriff Allan Rice advised the Commissioners that Nixel had received the cancellation letter that was sent to them effective June 8, 2026.

HIGHWAY

- Superintendent Jerry Sitton requested the approval of the Commissioners for an LPA Consulting Contract with Butler, Fairman & Seufert, Inc for replacement of Bridge 53. Jeff Wilson moved to approve the contract. Second, by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Superintendent Jerry Sitton requested the approval of the Commissioners for an LPA Consulting Contract with Butler, Fairman & Seufert, Inc for replacement of Bridge 189. Kenny Aulbach moved to approve the contract. Second, by Jeff Wilson. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Superintendent Jerry Sitton presented the Commissioners with the highway monthly report for April.
- Superintendent Jerry Sitton advised the Commissioners that the GPS system he uses is outdated and he will be including an additional \$19,000 to \$20,000 in his 2027 budget to get a new system.

MISC

- County Attorney Grant Reeves presented the Commissioners with a Release of Condition/Covenant and Extinguishment of Reversionary Right regarding a quit-claim deed dated October 17, 2025, for 2547 S Cross St. in Manilla for approval. Kenny Aulbach moved to sign the release. Second, by Jeff Wilson. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Ron Jarman requested approval from the Commissioners to sign a quote with CEI for surveillance equipment at the annex building in the amount of \$10,914.00. Kenny Aulbach moved to sign the quote. Second, by Jeff Wilson. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Ron Jarman requested approval from the Commissioners to sign a quote with CEI for data wiring at the annex building in the amount of \$19,517.00. Jeff Wilson moved to sign the quote. Second, by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Ron Jarman updated the Commissioners on the construction progress at the annex building.

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

/Jeff Wilson/
Jeffery Wilson

ATTEST:

/Tammy Justice/

Tammy Justice, Auditor