

DEKALB COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

June 23, 2025

Commissioners Present: President William L Hartman
Vice President James Miller
Vice President Kellen Dooley

Others Present: Auditor Susan Sleeper
Attorney Andrew Kruse

MATTER OF HUMAN RESOURCES

Dotty began with reminding everyone that today is the due date for the open enrollment forms. The county currently has 5 remaining open claims for workers compensation. Recruitment around the county departments was then covered.

PERF-Bridgette Lynch: Dotty let the Commissioners know that since she has been here the county has not enrolled part-time employees to join the perf plan and gave examples of how other municipalities handle part time employees in regard to PERF.

MATTER OF ZONE MAP AMENDMENT FOR 6481 & 6485 MERCHANTS DRIVE, LAOTTO

The DeKalb County Plan Commission held a public hearing on June 18, 2025, on the proposed zoning change from C4, Highway Commercial to I2, Industrial. The DeKalb County Plan Commission sent a *favorable* recommendation for the zoning change to the DeKalb County Board of Commissioners. Discussion took place.

Kellen Dooley made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-R-9, UDO-101; A Resolution amending the zone map located at 6481 & 6485 Merchants Drive, LaOtto. James Miller seconded and all approved.

MATTER OF 2026 HFI FUNDING

Cheryl Lynch presented changes to the HFI funding to the Commissioners that include:

- ~tobacco prevention and cessation are no longer funded by the HFI Funding effective 7/1/2025

- ~HFI Funding can only be used for Indiana residents and legal immigrants living in Indiana – documentation will be required for individuals to receive services/supplies and the Health Dept. plans to use REAL ID to verify.

and she is also seeking approval for her 2026 HFI Budget submission:

Cheryl also provided a handout on the 2026 HFI Funding requirements including School Liaison/Community Nurse position and Preparedness .5 position, along with the partners to provide the programs.

Regarding the 2026 Budget Submission Cheryl provided the budget line by line in the total amount of \$372,580 being requested.

James Miller made a motion to approve the 2026 HFI Budget as presented for Cheryl to submit. Kellen Dooley seconded and all approved.

Both Kellen and James feel that the health department has been put in a hard position and that the Health Department is doing the best they can at this time and that Cheryl is doing a great job. Kellen also pointed out that the Health Department has been helping with Sunny Meadows and it has been a tremendous help.

MATTER OF HIGHWAY

New Mower: Ben provided a quote from Truland for a 2022 New Ages Samasz Heavy Duty 5'3" 3pt Offset Flail Mower in the amount of \$10,875 that he would like to purchase and is seeking approval.

James Miller made a motion to approve Ben to purchase the 2022 New Age Samasz Heavy Duty Flail Mower from Truland in the amount of \$10,875. Kellen Dooley seconded and all approved.

Bridge #503: Ben went over the logistics of the bridge and does have the Task Order No. 3-On-call Agreement with United Consulting ready to be approved.

James Miller made a motion to approve Ben to move forward with the Bridge #503 Project on Auburn Drive over Cedar Creek with United Consulting. Kellen Dooley seconded and all approved.

Misc: Dust control is starting today, discussion on CR 14 paving between CR 35 and CR 39 or spraying solid.

MATTER OF INTER-LOCAL OPIOID FUND AGREEMENT

Michael Lapham presented an Inter-Local Agreement between DeKalb County and the City of Auburn, City of Butler, City of Garrett, Hamilton, Waterloo, Ashley, St. Joe and Corunna. This agreement has evolved from the original MOU that had been sent around previously. This inter-local agreement is regarding the pooling together of the Indiana NextLevel Recovery: Opioid Settlement dollars for the betterment of DeKalb County residents. Discussion took place.

Kellen Dooley made a motion to approve the Inter-local Agreement as described above and have the president to sign the document. James Miller seconded and all approved.

MATTER OF SPACE STUDY BID OPENING/ACCEPTANCE

The bids were opened at 10:58 by James Miller. The following bids were received:

American Structure Point: \$73,060 plus \$4,000 in reimbursables

The Ox Agency: \$62,000 (including all reimbursables)

Elevatus: \$75,000 plus reimbursables that include \$300 for printing and mounting of presentation boards, \$0.67 per mile cost of travel, and \$2,000-\$5,000 per building for Structural Engineering Evaluations.

James Miller made a motion to take the bids under advisement and table the decision until the next meeting. Kellen Dooley seconded and all approved.

James Miller would like to have an advisory committee put together to go forward with the space study to include The Treasurer, Larry Lane, 2 Council members and himself.

Kellen Dooley made a motion to have a committee put together for the Space Study going forward. James Miller seconded, and motion passed (2,0) with Hartman voting against.

William Hartman commented that he is not satisfied with the make up of the committee. James Miller said he is only going by the prior procedure of when Kellen suggested names for the Sunny Meadows committee. William Hartman said he has been hearing that Kellen has not been working with the committee that he had set up, Kellen responded with the meetings he has had, and the logistics of what is happening at Sunny Meadows and that many things are in a waiting period at this moment.

MATTER OF PAYROLL

Kellen Dooley made a motion to approve payroll for the period of June 1-14, 2025. James Miller seconded, and all approved.

MATTER OF CLAIMS

James Miller made a motion to approve General Claims, excluding the Knox Decorative Painting claim in the amount of \$16,629.63, consisting of warrant #136066 in the amount of \$1,809.48, and wire transfer #32760 thru 32882 in the amount of \$1,043,300.73 processed on June 23, 2025, along with Special Claims consisting of wire transfer #32759 in the amount \$117,041 processed on June 20, 2025 and Special claims consisting of warrant #136057 thru 136062 in the amount of \$5,801.62 and wire transfer #32723 thru 32724 in the amount of \$265.09 processed on June 16, 2025. Kellen Dooley seconded, and all approved.

MATTER OF MINUTES

James Miller made a motion to approve the minutes dated June 9th, 2025. Kellen Dooley seconded, and all approved.

MATTER OF OTHER DISCUSSION

Courthouse Rotunda for Comprehensive Plan: Chris Gaumer is requesting to use the Rotunda for the first unveiling of the Comprehensive Plan Draft on September 18th in the evening.

County Home Report for May 2025:

James Miller made a motion to acknowledge receipt of the May 2025 County Home Report. Kellen Dooley seconded and all approved.

Covered Bridge Certification:

Kellen Dooley made a motion to approve and all to sign the Annual Covered Bridge Certification. James Miller seconded and all approved.

Courthouse Security Committee Meeting: Commissioner Hartman announced there was a meeting held last week and will continue monthly with some changes coming.

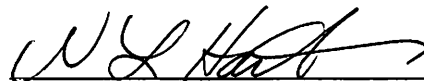
EMS Contract: Kellen Dooley provided everyone with the proposed contract for review, he does not want to discuss it until the County Attorney has time to review the contract.

2026 Budget: Auditor Sleeper provided the Commissioners with their budgets for the upcoming budget cycle and went over a few of the accounts that the Auditor takes care of and those that they need to make decisions on. Kellen Dooley brought up making the Commissioner President into a full-time position to be able to keep up on the contracts of the County.

Sunny Meadows: Kellen provided an update with one resident set to leave around July 1st. The paperwork is still being worked through, and it ends up being a waiting game on a lot of items.

Meal Reimbursement: James Miller and the Auditor are still working through the logistics of day trip reimbursements and fringe benefits.

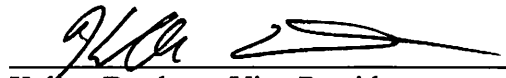
Baymont Inn: The hearing is scheduled and will be attended by William Hartman, the Treasurer and Attorney Kruse.



William L. Hartman – President



James Miller – Vice President



Kellen Dooley – Vice President

Attest:


Susan Sleeper, Auditor