

## DEKALB COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

July 25, 2025

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

Others Present: Auditor Susan Sleeper  
Attorney Andrew Kruse

### MATTER OF REASSESSMENT CONTRACT BID OPENING

Bids for the Reassessment of property were due in the Auditor's office by July 11<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am to be opened on July 25<sup>th</sup>, 2025. There was a total of two bids received from the following:

- 1)Nexus Group (current company since 2000): \$976,000 for the 4-year period
- 2)Tyler Technologies: \$892,860 for the 4-year period

*Kellen Dooley made a motion to accept the bids for Assessor Stonebraker to take under advisement and will return on August 4<sup>th</sup> to award the contract. William Hartman seconded and all approved.*

### MATTER OF BOARD OF FINANCE MEETING

Bill, as the President of the Board of Finance called the meeting to order at 8:37.

The Board of Finance met for the consideration of amending the Statement of Investment Policy that was previously approved in January 2025, to include verbiage of where interest will be receipted into from investments as well as including a long-term investment term of more than 2 years to a maximum of 5 years, with a maximum of 25% of the county's investment portfolio allowed to be place in a long-term investment term. After the Board of Finance approves the amendment, Treasurer Humbarger will take the policy to the Council for their consideration and approval.

*Kellen Dooley made a motion to approve the amended Statement of Investment Policy as submitted. William Hartman seconded and all approved.*

Bill closed the Board of Finance Meeting at 8:41.

### MATTER OF PAYROLL

*Kellen Dooley made a motion to approve payroll for the period of June 29- July 12, 2025. William Hartman seconded, and all approved.*

### MATTER OF CLAIMS

*Kellen Dooley made a motion to approve General Claims consisting of warrant #136163 thru 136168 in the amount of \$14,986.51, and wire transfer #33097 thru 33239 in the amount of \$687,315.50. William Hartman seconded, and all approved.*

## **MATTER OF MINUTES**

*Kellen Dooley made a motion to approve the minutes dated July 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025. William Hartman seconded, and all approved.*

## **MATTER OF OTHER DISCUSSION**

**Use of Rotunda for Big Ideas Workshop:** Sheriff Thomas did not have any issues with his staff working and can allow cellphones as courts would be finished. The plan is September 18<sup>th</sup> from 6-7 for the workshop. Kellen and Bill are both fine with the use of the Rotunda for this event.

**Misdemeanor Reimbursement Pilot Project:** The Indiana Commission on Court Appointed Attorneys has selected DeKalb County to participate in the Misdemeanor Reimbursement Pilot. The pilot is statutorily authorized to run through June 30, 2029, the Commission aims to be fiscally prudent. The initial period for this pilot project has been set for 18 months, to run through December 31, 2026.

*Kellen Dooley made a motion to approve the Misdemeanor Data Collection Pilot Agreement #2026CMPILOT02 as presented. William Hartman seconded and all approved.*

**Peterson Consulting Services 2025 Agreement:** This vendor assists in preparing the annual capital asset information for the annual financial report for the Auditor's office. The County has been using Peterson Consulting since 2016.

*Kellen Dooley made a motion to approve the Peterson Consulting Agreement for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2025, in the amount of \$3,895. William Hartman seconded and all approved.*

**Handbook Policy Update:** Senate Bill 409: Employee absence for certain meetings was passed in the 2025 Session, which means an employer cannot take adverse action against an employee who is attending a school attendance conference or a case conference for their child. Dotty Miller has provided the addendum to the handbook that has been approved by the County Attorney for approval.

*Kellen Dooley made a motion to approve the handbook addendum, 6.10 Absence for Attendance at Certain Educational Meetings. William Hartman seconded and all approved.*

**Shadarobah Horse Rescue Agreement:** Attorney Kruse has reviewed the agreement between DeKalb County and Shadarobah Horse Rescue and approves of the language.

*Kellen Dooley made a motion to approve the Shadarobah Horse Rescue Agreement for the term beginning July 1, 2025, and ending December 31, 2026, with payment terms of \$1,250 paid quarterly. William Hartman seconded and all approved.*

**Ordinance 2026-O-4: DCC 4-8-2:**

*Kellen Dooley made a motion to approve Ordinance 2026-O-4: DCC 4-8-2 An Ordinance of the DeKalb County Board of Commissioners for DeKalb County Surveyors Office on Private Pond Construction Requirements and Fees on SECOND and THIRD Readings. William Hartman seconded and all approved.*

**Otis and Executive Elevator Update:** The County entered into a contract with OTIS in 2013, with a renewal every 5 years. The renewals would have been 2018 and 2023, with the next renewal for 2028. This means the next time the County can terminate the contract according to OTIS is with a written notice between 90- and 120-days preceding March 26, 2028.

Commissioner Hartman is waiting for a return call from the Executive, but worst-case scenario is we terminate the Executive contract at the end of the initial term.

**SRO Agreement with Garrett Keyser Butler School:** Sheriff Thomas provided the agreement with updated dates and the term changed from 5 to 3 years. The price changed from \$55,000 to \$67,631 because it has not been adjusted since the contract started 5 years ago, and it reflects general wage increases that have been received by the deputies, and the new SRO officer has over 10 years with the County and gets paid more.

*Kellen Dooley made a motion to approve the SRO agreement with Garrett Keyser Butler Schools for the 2026-2027 school year with the Sheriff's office invoicing on or before June 1<sup>st</sup> for 67,631 to cover wages for the officer, \$2,000 for police vehicle use and \$2,500 for police equipment, with the payment terms of one-half of the amount to be paid on or before August 1, 2026. William Hartman seconded and all approved.*

**Courthouse Benches:**

William Hartman explained that he was at the forefront of the bench project and the intent was for the person wanting the bench to pay the bench purchase price and the cost of the memorial plaque. More discussion will take place at the next meeting when Jim is in attendance for the discussion.

William Hartman was going to make a motion to clarify the cost, but Kellen Dooley did not second so that Jim is available for the decision at the next meeting. Auditor Sleeper will listen the recording from 2024 to seek additional clarification.

**County Home June 2025 Report:**

*Kellen Dooley made a motion to acknowledge receipt of the June 2025 County Home Combined Report. William Hartman seconded and all approved.*

Kellen gave an update on Sunny Meadows and announced that 4 residents had moved out and now we have 13 residents remaining.

**Wood-Land-Lakes RC&D Land Trust:** A request for a \$500 annual contribution came before the Commissioners. The decision will be tabled until more information is received on what this money would be used for.

**Treasurer Monthly Financial Report 47-TR:** The Auditor has been made aware that she is supposed to be providing the monthly report to the Commissioners monthly. Auditor Sleeper has scanned in the January to June 2025 Monthly Financial Reports for the Commissioners to view.


*Kellen Dooley made a motion to acknowledge receipt of the 47-TR reports from January 2025 through June 2025. William Hartman seconded and all approved.*


**Baymont and Country Inn & Suites:** The County has filed lawsuits against both hotels who are failing to pay their monthly Innkeeper's Tax to the County. There is a default judgment awarded against Baymont. It appears Country Inn & Suites has tried to dissolve their corporation so it may be a challenge to collect on this case. We may get paid eventually on the Baymont case as they own the land and building.


Baymont is paying the 2025 Innkeeper's Tax but paying late. The treasurer's office is sending invoices for the late penalties, but Baymont is not paying. Discussion took place on what can or should be done.

Attest:

  
Susan Sleeper, Auditor

  
William L. Hartman – President

  
James Miller – Vice President

  
Kellen Dooley – Vice President