

DEKALB COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

September 2, 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 announced that fair parking is all set with the fair board for employee parking. Dotty brought the amended language for the handbook concerning sharing rooms for the handbook and a suggestion on where to also insert the verbiage in the Travel Resolution. The amended language is as follows:

‘It is the policy of the County that employees should not share rooms when on County business or training travel. Employees shall never be required to share the same bed and never be required to share the same room for County-related business or training travel. The County understands and appreciates the privacy needs of its employees. If there is a violation of this policy, the employee should contact the Director of Human Resources for the County.’

James Miller made a motion to approve the updated language on sharing rooms to be added to the employee handbook under 11.1 Travel Reimbursement policy summary, with the new language as presented with the understanding that anyone that currently has reservations together are allowed to do so. Kellen Dooley seconded and all approved.

Morgan then went over the recruitment around the County. Dotty discussed the updating and review of the ADA plan, which is their current large project.

Resolution 2025-R-12: A Resolution Appointing the ADA Coordinator:

James Miller made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-R-12: Appointing the ADA Coordinator. Kellen Dooley seconded and all approved.

Resolution 2025-R-13: Title VI Program and Implementation Plan

Kellen Dooley made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-R-13: Title VI Program and Implementation Plan. James Miller seconded and all approved.

The Maintenance Director job description was discussed, and all agree to have Dotty work with Larry to update the description.

MATTER OF ORDINANCE 2025-O-6: DCC 4-8-4 AN ORDINANCE ON THE SURVEYORS OFFICE SCHEDULE OF FEES FOR SERVICES RENDERED AND PERMITS GRANTED

Tyler Lanning explained the ordinance and the logistics of the fees.

Kellen Dooley made a motion to approve Ordinance 2025-O-6: DCC 4-8-4 as described above on FIRST Reading. James Miller seconded and all approved.

MATTER OF HIGHWAY

Insurance Reimbursements: Ben has been working with Andrew Kruse on reimbursements; one had a conflict of interest. Lucas Clevenger swerved to miss a deer at Bridge #133 on CR 64, Specialties came out and fixed the guardrail with a cost of \$9,200. Lucas Clevenger called with a lot of reasons why he couldn't pay and being in between insurance companies, so he doesn't have insurance currently and would like to set up a payment plan with the county. Lucas Clevenger was requested to send Ben an email with terms of payment by Monday (today) and he did not send the information. James Miller agrees that he should have had insurance, and it is a law in Indiana that you must carry insurance. The Commissioners agree to have Ben reach out to Mr. Clevenger and try to make contact.

CR 17 New Addition-Rotondo Estates: Previously there was discussion on paving the road. Ben received an email saying that Mike Westrick would pay the County the \$157,000 (prior estimate) to have the road done. There needs to be an agreement made to show the terms of the agreement, with payment being made directly to the County. James Miller would like the money paid up front and to have a plan for the payments. Ben would like to have a policy for future requests.

CR 60 Engineering: May 12, 2025, Engineering Study was brought to the Commissioners who approved of it but wanted Ben to ask the Council if they would fund the project and Ben hasn't heard anything. Kellen is in favor of the Commissioner paying from LITED for the study to move forward and hopefully be able to get this in a federal-aid project.

Kellen Dooley made a motion to fund the first 3 phases of the Engineering Study to be done with USI Consultants and to be paid from the LITED fund in the amount of \$142,400 for the items listed below.. James Miller seconded and all approved.

Topographic Survey: \$48,000

Bridge Design and Development (through phase 1): \$88,300

Utility Coordination (Verification only): \$6,100

MATTER OF PAYROLL

Kellen Dooley made a motion to approve payroll for the period of August 10-23, 2025. James Miller seconded, and all approved.

MATTER OF CLAIMS

Michelle Fosnaugh was in attendance to request the Commissioners pay for a FelgerHart Invoice in the amount of \$8,973.85 due to the amount so that she can ensure to have the funds to finish

out the year on other expenses that may come up, such as snow removal yet this year. Auditor Sleeper explained that it is crucial for the County to show sharing of expenses with DCCC and as the building is a County building it is appropriate for the expenditure to come from County General. Commissioner Hartman also said the County contributes with benefits and some payroll.

James Miller made a motion to approve General Claims consisting of warrant #136239 thru 136307 in the amount of \$143,055.81, and wire transfer #33537 thru 33659 in the amount of \$567,899.60. Kellen Dooley seconded, and all approved.

MATTER OF MINUTES

James Miller made a motion to approve the minutes dated August 18th, 2025, as amended. Kellen Dooley seconded, and all approved.

MATTER OF OTHER DISCUSSION

SpendBridge Letter of Intent:

James Miller made a motion to approve the non-binding letter of intent for the continuation of service. Kellen Dooley seconded and all approved.

Thrush Code Compliance Case: The County received an order from the courts to clean up the property. Chris Gaumer had asked Jhace to find a few quotes for cleanup, however with the holiday weekend Jhace was only able to get ahold of one company who is not interested in the job. Attorney Kruse will contact Jhace with a few names. The Commissioners will see what the Drainage Board decides.

InDigital Agreement: The amended agreement was sent and provided to the Commissioners, this was approved at last meeting and Commissioner Hartman will sign the DocuSign when it is received.

Space Study Update: James Miller gave an update that the space study is going well, and they have been meeting weekly, and the department heads have received an email so that the Ox Agency can meet with each of them for further questions.

Sunny Meadows Update: One more resident has transitioned out to another location and there are a couple leads on some others. There are 3 residents set to leave within the next 2 weeks.

Courthouse Security Committee Update: The Committee met with a gentleman of the Supreme Court that works with judicial security measures and discussions continue. Attorney Kruse added that there are many aspects of security measures that are not public information.

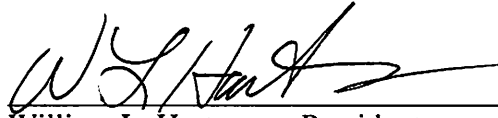
Baymont: The judgement was paid in full, and they are all up to date. There was a writ of execution that the Sheriff served the weekend prior to Labor Day, thus the payment was made in 3 different credit card payments to satisfy the judgement in full.

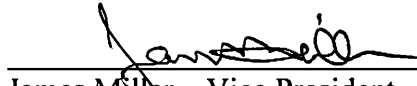
Country Inn & Suites: This appears to be uncollectable because the building is gutted and therefore we would not be able to do a writ of execution as there is nothing to seize. The person paying the taxes does not own the actual property, so unless there is a private investigation done to see if the person that paid the taxes has assets in other locations there is nothing to collect on. The current estimate of the judgement is \$15,300. Property Liens can only be put on if the same company owns the real property and is the same company that runs the business.

Graber CAFO mail: The Commissioner's received a CAFO Application Notice of Submittal in the mail. Chris Gaumer is going to get in contact with Leroy & Shyla Graber as the County has not received any requests on this Confined Feeding Operation Plan.

Attest:


Susan Sleeper, Auditor


William L. Hartman – President


James Miller – Vice President


Kellen Dooley – Vice President