

## DEKALB COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

September 29, 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 THOROUGHFARE PROCESS & RIGHT-OF-WAY

Brent Shull, Hamilton Town Manager, was in attendance concerning the thoroughfare process and does not feel that the County's process has merit and every time he turns around he is losing property. Brent also has an issue with the Right-of-Way line (a new issue) concerning Terry Lake Road and the deed language vs. what Beacon shows in their system. Ben Krafft expressed that he owns 20 acres, but beacon only shows 19.3 acres. Chris Gaumer explained to the Commissioners the subdivision of land/platting process and how the Plan Commission approves the dedication of right of way and then how the dedication of right of way becomes county property. Discussion went back and forth with the Commissioners requesting that Andrew Kruse and Chris Gaumer look into the dedication of right of way and bring back an explanation.

### MATTER OF PAYROLL

*Kellen Dooley made a motion to approve payroll for the period of September 7- 20, 2025. James Miller seconded, and all approved.*

### MATTER OF CLAIMS

*James Miller made a motion to approve General Claims consisting of warrant #136335 thru 136348 in the amount of \$24,636.32, and wire transfer #33818 thru 33942 in the amount of \$743,122.30. Kellen Dooley seconded, and all approved.*

### MATTER OF OTHER DISCUSSION

**Vital Records Document Fee Change:** The Health Department sent a letter requesting to change their current rates for death certificates from \$10 to \$15, due to the rising Coroner's fee and rising costs of paper and supplies. The Health Department now has the option of printing out county birth and death records which has increased their requests regarding Death Certificates from the local funeral homes. The letter also included what other counties charge for comparison.

*James Miller made a motion to approve the DeKalb County Health Department to increase the Death Certificate fee to \$15.00. Kellen Dooley seconded and all approved.*

**New National Opioids Settlement: Secondary Manufacturers:** The Opioids administrator has sent out a new proposed national Opioids settlement package. The State of Indiana is already a part of the Settlement, and now the local divisions, like the County need to decide if they want to be included in the settlement as well.

*Kellen Dooley made a motion to approve the President to sign the DocuSign agreement for this new Opioid Settlement when it is received. James Miller seconded and all approved.*

**County Treasurer's Monthly Report for August:**

*James Miller made a motion to acknowledge receipt of the August Treasurer's Report. Kellen Dooley seconded and all approved.*

**DeKalb County America 250 Stained Glass Driving Tour:** The commissioners received an email from Sarah Nelson, the coordinator for America 250 and she is planning a Stained Glass Tour for November. She is asking if the Courthouse could be part of the tour. Discussion took place and Commissioner Dooley will contact the Sheriff on the possibilities.

**Innkeeper's Judgement Distribution:** Auditor Sleeper explained how the paid judgement from the Baymont Innkeeper's Order was received and applied. A total of \$8,167.46 was received with \$1,162.53 for attorney fees per the order and \$50.00 for NSF fees to the treasurer per the order. The remaining \$7,194.93 should go to DeKalb County Tourism Commission.

*Kellen Dooley made a motion to approve the \$7,194.93 to be released to the DeKalb County Tourism Commissioner. James Miller seconded and all approved.*

**Drug Free DeKalb Grant Submissions:** Michelle Fosnaugh provided an application for both DCCC and Change Academy requesting the Commissioners approve them to be submitted. The DCCC grant application was in the amount of \$2,985 to assist with drug testing fees and remote breath alcohol monitoring fees. The Change Academy grant application was in the amount of \$1,500 to assist with drug screening tests.

*James Miller made a motion to approve Michelle Fosnaugh to submit Drug Free Dekalb Grant Applications for DCCC and Change Academy as presented. Kellen Dooley seconded and all approved.*

**Holiday Lakes Addendum to Real Estate Lease:** Attorney Kruse sent the updated lease between the Commissioners and Holiday Lakes that included the lot numbers listed on the lease.

*Kellen Dooley made a motion to approve the lease with the updated lot numbers as presented. James Miller seconded and all approved.*

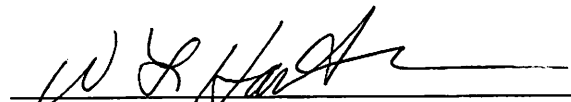
**Animal Welfare Alliance building request:** Courtney Butler sent an email seeking a building for use by a traveling group of licensed veterinarians that can fix 115 cats on October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025. This opportunity would take care of the number of cats that Humane Fort Wayne can do for us in 8 months. Discussion took place. Commissioners will contact Highway and Maintenance to see if any of our buildings will work.


**Otis/Executive Elevator:** A short discussion took place on the Jail Elevator and their maintenance agreement being expired. Auditor Sleeper will look into the situation further and report back to the Commissioners.

Attest:



Susan Sleeper, Auditor

  
William L. Hartman – President

  
James Miller – Vice President

  
Kellen Dooley – Vice President