

## DEKALB COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

October 13, 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 HIGHWAY

**2025-2 Community Crossings Matching Grant:** Ben Parker has the paperwork ready to submit for the next Community Crossings Grant cycle. The matching monies from the County are up to \$330,963.25 to do the following projects:

County Road 427 from County Road 36 to Waterloo town Limits (priority 1)

County Road 68 from County Road 427 to County Road 35 (priority 2)

*Kellen Dooley made a motion to approve and the president to sign the Letter of Commitment for the 2025-2 Community Crossings Matching Grant. James Miller seconded and all approved.*

**CR17 Rotunda Estates:** Ben asked the Commissioners if they had an idea on how to respond to Mr. Rothgeb concerning the differences in start dates, etc. Discussion took place. It was decided to respond with the complete date by September 1, 2026, and require full payment by May 1, 2026. Attorney Kruse will update the contract with the parameters discussed above.

**Dump Beds:** Ben has a couple trucks that will be in his fleet for quite some time, and he would like to purchase 2 new dump beds as the current ones are rusted bad and need to be replaced. *James Miller made a motion to approve Ben to purchase (2) Galion 10' Dump body Package beds from Kalida Truck Equipment in the amount of \$14,500 each. Kellen Dooley seconded and all approved.*

**Misc:** Ben let the Commissioners know that he has been working on all permits concerning the language and fees. Ben has been in contact with Attorney Kruse and will report back at the next meeting.

### MATTER OF ORDER ESTABLISHING PRECINCTS:

The City of Auburn did an annexation of 31.27± acres of land, known as the East Auburn Estates Annexation and it needs to be added into the precinct boundaries.

*Kellen Dooley made a motion to approve the Order Establishing Precincts for East Auburn Estates Annexation that was approved by the Auburn Common Council. James Miller seconded and all approved.*

## **MATTER OF PAYROLL**

*James Miller made a motion to approve payroll for the period of September 21- October 4, 2025. Kellen Dooley seconded, and all approved.*

## **MATTER OF CLAIMS**

*Kellen Dooley made a motion to approve General Claims consisting of warrant #136357 thru 136368 in the amount of \$24,577.33, and wire transfer #33943 thru 34045 in the amount of \$253,489.58. James Miller seconded, and all approved.*

## **MATTER OF OTHER DISCUSSION**

**Weights & Measures Invoice Discussion:** Commissioner Hartman explained there was an issue with the RAM van that was purchased at an auction that had a tracer on it that had messed up the computer system. The total price from Angola Chrysler, Dodge, Jeep, Ram was \$577.50. Auditor Sleeper reviewed the W&M budget, and this invoice can be paid from his budget. *James Miller made a motion to approve paying the invoice from the Weights & Measures Budget. Kellen Dooley seconded and all approved.*

## **Letter of Commitment State of Indiana Opioid Settlement w/ NEC:**

*Kellen Dooley made a motion to approve the President to sign the Letter of Commitment State of Indiana Opioid Settlement Dollar-for-Dollar Match Grant for the Northeastern Center. James Miller seconded and all approved.*

**Courthouse Event-Mr. Doubblestein:** DeKalb Central High School had requested to have a choir at the courthouse. The last discussion was whether singing is entertainment or creating a public forum concerning a political statement. The Commissioners agree this is entertainment not a political statement.

*Kellen Dooley made a motion to approve the courthouse to be used by the High School Choir for a one-night concert. James Miller seconded and all approved.*

## **DeKalb County America 250 Stained Glass Driving Tour:**

Kellen Dooley discussed with the Sheriff the option of his employees being available for tour. *Kellen Dooley made a motion to approve the America 250 Stained Glass Driving Tour to come in the courthouse on Saturday, November 8<sup>th</sup> from 6-9pm. James Miller seconded and all approved.*

## **Payroll & Bookkeeper Claims from April 2025-September 2025:**

*James Miller made a motion to approve the Payroll & Bookkeeper claims from April 2025 to September 2025 as presented. Kellen Dooley seconded and all approved.*

**Sunny Meadows update:** Kellen announced that we are down to 7 residents, with a couple leaving next week and the week after. Currently it looks like the beginning of December all residents will be transitioned to another facility.

**Humane Shelter:** James Miller announced there has been some progress with the contract and should be done by end of year.

**Country Inn & Suites:** Still in communication with the outside collection company to possibly be able to go after the hotel.

**RDC Meeting:** Kellen said there was some discussion on re-doing the TIF districts with some that are expiring or possibly expanding in some areas. Kellen understands the process as the RDC initiates the change and then it comes to the Commissioners for approval, but they would like to possibly know if the commissioners are in support of the changes in TIF districts before hiring consultants to do the work and then find out the Commissioners are not interested in entertaining the idea at all.

**Space Study:** The Ox Agency has talked to all the departments and things are still moving forward.

**Steele Benefit Group:** Auditor Sleeper explained that Steele has been working behind the scenes to get their system set up and ready to go for the ancillary policy renewal and will also do all our annual health insurance renewals as well. This will be a much smoother process and all computer based with the employees being able to complete the documents from anywhere. A DocuSign agreement will be coming from Steele Benefits.

**Timekeeping System:** Auditor Sleeper explained that Attendance on Demand and LOW have also been working behind the scenes and is coming along,

**SBS Portals:** Auditor Sleeper has been working with SBS portals to scan our documents. The focus is on minutes, ordinances and resolutions that will be available to the public and searchable by a single word, date, document type and located on our county website.

**Codification System:** Attorney Kruse and Auditor Sleeper have been in discussion on updating our system to be sure all documents that need the DeKalb County Code have them and verify our numbering system as well as being able to keep our code updated. There are a few companies that can do this, and it would be good to have this done.

Attest:

  
Susan Sleeper, Auditor

  
William L. Hartman – President

  
James Miller – Vice President

  
Kellen Dooley – Vice President