

# **COMMISSIONERS MEETING**

Troy D. Morgan Public Safety Center, 620 Green Road, Madison, Indiana

DATE 1/22/2026

Commissioners present: President Ron Lee, David Bramer and Robert Little  
Also present: Auditor Heather Huff and Commissioner's Administrative Assistant Sarah Alexander taking minutes

Commissioner Ron Lee called the meeting to order and led The Pledge of Allegiance along with Commissioners Robert Little and David Bramer. Commissioner Robert Little made a motion to approve the previous meeting minutes. Commissioner David Bramer seconded the motion. Motion passed. Commissioner David Bramer made a motion to approve all accounts payable vouchers. Commissioner Robert Little seconded the motion. Motion carried. Commissioner Robert Little made a motion to approve all payroll claim dockets. Commissioner David Bramer seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Commissioner Reorganization-** Commissioner Bramer made a motion to nominate Commissioner Robert Little as the President of the Board of Commissioners for 2026. Commissioner Ron Lee seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**Court Services Rental Agreement-** Ani Morley, Executive Director of Court Services, presented options for renewing the lease of the Court Services current building. The existing lease is set to expire at the end of February. Morley explained that the Board had two options: a 2-year lease at \$5,000 per month or a 5-year lease starting at the current rate of \$4,600 per month. She recommended approval of the 5-year lease, noting that the county does not presently have another facility large enough to accommodate the department's needs. Commissioner Lee made a motion to approve the 5-year lease. Commissioner Bramer seconded. Motion passed.

**Faith Weir - Jefferson County VSO-** VSO Director Faith Weir introduced Ron Higgins, Southeast District Service Officer with the Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs, who provided an overview of Senate Bill 433 (Indiana Code 10-17-1-9) and its new requirements for county Veteran Service Offices. The legislation establishes a mandatory training and compliance framework for all County Veteran Service Officers. Higgins stated that the Jefferson County Veteran Service Office is in 100% compliance with all current requirements and is recognized as one of the strongest and most proficient offices in the state. He commended Director Weir and her staff for maintaining an exceptional standard of service and accountability. Under Senate Bill 433, Higgins will be required to brief the Commissioners twice annually, with future reports serving as performance updates highlighting office achievements.

Faith presented the Commissioners with a 2025 annual report. The VSO filed 2625 claims/applications for veterans. Weir also reported office activity: 6661 phone calls, 2282 appointments and 287 trips. The VSO participated in many community outreach opportunities including seminars and informational discussions, WORX radio show, military appreciation days, VSG Veteran Day Event, and Jefferson County Veteran Day events. The VSO took over the Veteran Transportation Program. Weir presented the financial report: SCD/Veterans Pension/ Widows Pension-Annual compensation received \$1,982,014.56; \$952,411.15 retroactive compensation received; \$2,934,425.71 total compensation received; \$13,400 county burial allowance; 76 property tax abatements. Total of \$2,947,825.71 of tax-free monetary benefits to Jefferson County Veterans and Dependents. The commissioners thanked Faith for her work.

**Health Department** Administrator Lindsey Wyne presented the 2025 end-of-year activity summary. Wyne provided statistics on: Public Health Services, Emergency Preparedness, Food Safety & Environmental Health, Environmental Health Activities and Vital Records. In response to a question regarding measles activity in neighboring states, Wyne reported no local concerns and explained that other states have successfully isolated reported cases through effective contact tracing. No issues have been brought to the attention of the local health department.

**2026-01 CCMG Paving Bids-** Highway Office Manager Jon Green opened bids today for the CCMG paving. The following bids were received for 4 projects: All Star Paving \$789,988.50; Mac Construction \$842,863.50; Dave O'Mara Contractor \$688,600. Commissioner Lee made a motion to approve the bid with Dave O'Mara for the 4 projects. Commissioner Bramer seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Online Payment Portal-Municipay-** At the January 8<sup>th</sup> Commissioner meeting, Treasurer Meghan Hoskins presented a contract for new credit card processing company, called Municipay. The county attorney and Municipay have agreed to the terms of the contract. Commissioner Bramer made a motion to approve the contract. Commissioner Lee seconded. Motion carried.

**Department Updates**

**EMA-**Matt True reported that recent efforts have focused on weather-related readiness. Significant winter weather was forecast for the upcoming weekend. True noted that the department continues to coordinate with FEMA on outstanding matters and commended staff efforts in maintaining preparedness. Additional updates included warehouse improvements, inventory organization, and the disposal of outdated emergency supplies.

**Highway Department-** Jason Copeland reported that all trucks except one were fully operational and prepared for the expected winter storm. Copeland emphasized the difficulty of keeping up with snowfall if accumulation reaches projected levels and asked the public to allow plow crews adequate time and space to work safely. Concerns were raised regarding potential drifting due to wind and the risk posed to plow operators if vehicles attempt to pass or interfere with operations.

**Sheriff's Department-** Sheriff Ben Flint provided additional comments regarding winter-storm readiness, stating that deputies, emergency responders, tow companies, and highway crews can only do so much if travel advisories are ignored. The public was urged to adhere to all travel advisories, prepare in advance for necessary supplies, and avoid unnecessary travel during severe weather. The Sheriff noted that snowfall outcomes in the Ohio River Valley can vary widely, but all departments are prepared for the range of possible conditions.

**Animal Shelter Project Update-**Commissioners reported continued progress on the proposed animal shelter construction. Ivy Tech Community College has partnered with the county to support the project through its veterinary program. The plan would allow students to train in an up-to-date clinical setting adjacent to their classroom facilities. The partnership is expected to improve both animal care and workforce training opportunities. A private donor has already pledged \$10,000 toward the project.

**Auditor's Office-** Auditor Heather Huff reported that the Auditor's Office and the Treasurer's Office have officially gone live with Low Tax software. All 2025 transfers that had been delayed during the data conversion process have now been completed. Mapping updates are expected to be fully current within approximately one week. The Auditor expressed appreciation for staff who managed both the software transition and the deduction deadline simultaneously.

Commissioner Ron Lee made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner David Bramer seconded. Motion passed.

A video recording of this meeting is available on the [Jefferson County, Indiana Government YouTube channel](#).

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Heather Huff, Auditor

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Robert Little, President

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David Bramer, Member

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Ron Lee, Member