

**MARSHALL COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 20, 2026**

The Board of Commissioners of Marshall County, Indiana, met for a regular meeting in the Commissioner's Meeting Room 203, 112 W. Jefferson Street, Plymouth, Indiana at 9:30 a.m., Monday, April 20, 2026. Present were Commissioners, President Stan Klotz, Vice President Jesse Bohannon; and Member Adam Faulstich; County Attorney Sean Surrisi; and County Auditor Angela C. Birchmeier. The meeting streamed live at <http://www.youtube.com/@MarshallCountyIN>. Brandon Richie gave the invocation, the Pledge of Allegiance was recited, the President called the meeting to order, and the matters at hand were heard.

PUBLIC INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS

The attendees did not have public input on agenda items.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

Buildings & Grounds Supervisor Billy Schoff stated that the heating and cooling unit at the County Building needs repair or replacement. **Jesse Bohannon moved, second by Adam Faulstich, to initiate the bid process upon guidance from Attorney Sean Surrisi. Motion carried 3-0.**

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Highway Department Superintendent Jason Peters presented three requests from Jones Petrie Rafinski Corp as follows:

1. On Plymouth-Goshen Trail, between 3A Road and Miami Trail, in German Township, for the purpose of installing a force main.
2. On Plymouth-Goshen Trail, between Miami Trail and State Road 106, in German Township, for the purpose of installing a force main.
3. On 3A Road, between East Shore Drive and Plymouth-Goshen Trail, in German Township, for the purpose of installing a force main.

Jesse Bohannon moved, second by Adam Faulstich, to approve the three requests from Jones Petrie Rafinski Corp, as presented. Motion carried 3-0.

Superintendent Peters presented two right-of-way cut requests from Northern Indiana Public Service Company as follows:

1. Work Order #4000065307-WT: On Coffel Street and Shore Drive, in German Township, for the purpose of minor maintenance and upgrades to take place on the existing utility poles.
2. Work Order #53672-912: On Jarrah Road and 9A Road, in Center Township, for the purpose of minor maintenance and upgrades to take place on existing utility poles.

Adam Faulstich moved, second by Jesse Bohannon, to approve both rights-of-way cut requests from Northern Indiana Public Service Company, as presented. Motion carried 3-0.

Community Crossing 2026-02: Superintendent Peters stated that he has reviewed the bids. E&B Paving submitted the lowest bid in the total amount of \$1,243,322.95 and Superintendent Peters requested the Board accept the bid. **Jesse Bohannon moved, second by Adam Faulstich, to accept the E&B Paving bid in the amount of \$1,243,322.95. Motion carried 3-0.**

Superintendent Peters requested the Board award E&B Paving the Community Crossings 2026-02 Projects. **Jesse Bohannon moved, second by Adam Faulstich, to award the Community Crossings 2026-02 bid to E&B Paving. Motion carried 3-0.**

Superintendent Peters presented the Bid Acceptance for the E&B Paving Bid for signature. **Adam Faulstich moved, second by Jesse Bohannon, to approve and sign the Bid Acceptance for the E&B Paving Bid, as presented. Motion carried 3-0.**

Superintendent Peters presented an Agreement between the Marshall County Board of Commissioners and E&B Paving for Community Crossings 2026-02, for the following projects: Muckshaw Road, State Road 10 to 18B; 14B Road, State Road 17 to County Line; 15th Road, railroad to County Line; and 12B Road, town limits to US 30. **Jesse Bohannon moved, second by Adam Faulstich, to approve the Agreement between Marshall County Board of Commissioners and E&B Paving, as presented. Motion carried 3-0.**

Superintendent Peters presented the Local Roads and Bridges Matching Grant Agreement, Contract #100670, between the Indiana Department of Transportation and Marshall County. The grant agreement is to enable the State to award a grant of up to \$994,658.36, representing 80% of the eligible costs of the Community Crossings 2026-02 project. Superintendent Peters stated that President Klotz signed the contract on April 14th and requested ratification of the signature. **Jesse Bohannon moved, second by Adam Faulstich, to ratify the Local Roads and Bridges Matching Grant Agreement, as presented. Motion carried 3-0.**

Bridge 2540, Michigan Road Rehabilitation: DES No. 2501452. Superintendent Peters and the Board of Commissioners have scored the Letters of Interest. USI Consultants ranked as the top firm. The LPA Selection Review documentation has been submitted to the Indiana Department of Transportation for review and acceptance. Superintendent Peters is working on contract negotiations with USI Consultants.

Bridge 81, Mitigation Site: Superintendent Peters presented a letter from Stantec Consulting Services, Inc. expressing their appreciation for the opportunity to continue to support the county in their efforts to meet the permit conditions within the original 10 year monitoring timeline set forth in the permits. Based on discussions at the on-site meeting, a site action plan is needed to address site development concerns including planted tree species distribution, density and deer browse pressure. Shrub density is also below IDEM's permit success standards. To develop the site plan, Stantec will remove and dispose of existing tree tubes at the County Highway facility. Concurrently, Stantec will document the locations of surviving planted stems using GPS. This tree and shrub data will inform the development of a site planting plan, including species selection, seedling sizes, planting density and locations, and recommended tree protection materials and quantities. The draft plan, prepared in coordination with Highway Superintendent Peters, will be submitted to the agencies for review. Stantec proposed Contractor Agreement Change Order #2, in accordance with the original Contractor Agreement dated May 8, 2019 and Change Orders thereto in an amount not to exceed \$14,325. This Change Order will have no effect on the schedule. Superintendent Peters presented the Contractor Agreement Change Order #2 for ratification. **Adam Faulstich moved, second by Jesse Bohannon, to ratify Superintendent Jason Peter's signature on the Stantec Change Order #2, as presented. Motion carried 3-0.**

Bridge 231, Center Street, Bremen: The date of letting is August, 2027. No updates provided.

Bridge 88, 12th Road east of Olive Trail: DES No. 2201676. The date of letting is January 14, 2029. Superintendent Peters presented the LPA Consulting Contract between Marshall County and United Consulting for the replacement of Bridge 88, right-of-way services. The maximum payable under this contract shall not exceed \$26,825. **Jesse Bohannon moved, second by Adam Faulstich, to approve the LPA Consulting Contract between Marshall County and United Consulting, as presented. Motion carried 3-0.**

Bridge 108, East 7th Road: The date of letting is February 12, 2030. No updates provided.

Bridge Inspections 2022-2025 Phase II: DES No. 2101055. No updates provided.

Bridge Inspections 2026-2029: DES No. 2300183. No updates provided.

Bridge 232, Randolph Street: No updates provided.

Bridge 87, 11th Road: DES No. 1702839. No updates provided.

Mill Pond Dam Improvements: No updates provided.

Projects: Small Structure Improvements: No updates provided.

HSIP Countywide Striping Initiative: DES No. 2401543/Contract #T-46041. Superintendent Peters stated that a preconstruction meeting was held on April 13th at 11:00 a.m.

Road Work: The crews have been patching potholes, working on gravel roads, cutting tree brushes along the roadways, and monitoring high-water areas.

Equipment: Superintendent Peters stated he has received two estimates from Republic First National. The first estimate is for three pickup trucks, one new tandem truck, one new single axle truck, two used tandem trucks, and one loader, in the total amount of \$1,215,000. There would be six payments; the first payment in 2027 would be for interest only in the amount of \$55,331.10 and beginning in 2028 the annual payment would be \$271,281.03. The second estimate is for three pickup trucks, two new tandem trucks, two new single axle trucks, two used tandem trucks, and one loader, in the total amount of \$1,733,000. There would be six payments; the first payment in 2027 would be interest only, in the amount of \$78,920.82 and beginning in 2028 the annual payment would be \$386,938.29. President Klotz stated that the Cum Cap Development fund would be able to support a payment of \$271,281.03. **Jesse Bohannon moved, second by Adam Faulstich, to support Superintendent Peters seeking funding consideration from Council for the purchase of equipment. Motion carried 3-0.**

2026 Road Program: Superintendent Peters requested approval of the 2026 Road Program. **Adam Faulstich moved, second by Jesse Bohannon, approve the 2026 Road Program, as presented. Motion carried 3-0.**

JEFF BERGER

Jeff Berger, 6606 Ironwood Road, Plymouth, explained the drainage issues at Ironwood Road and 7th Road. Following discussion, the Commissioners indicated that the Highway Superintendent would look at the roadway for viable solutions.

HENRIOTT RISK MANAGEMENT & INSURANCE

Henriott Risk Management & Insurance Business Advisor Ryan Secord provided an Employee Benefits Capabilities PowerPoint Presentation, requesting an opportunity to review our programs. He stated that he would like to review our claims data, census, and current plan documents to prepare a comparison. **Jesse Bohannon moved, second by Adam Faulstich, to approve providing the information, as requested. Motion carried 3-0.**

SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Sheriff Matt Hassel presented the HWC IT Services Agreement for approval. The three year contract allows for 25 hours of remote and on-site support for a minimum fee of \$2,500 per month at the following sites: Jail, Civil Defense, EMA Office, and Courthouse Tower. HWC will bill at the rate of \$100 per hour for additional services performed beyond the minimum services. **Adam Faulstich moved, second by Jesse Bohannon, to approve the HWC IT Services Agreement, between the Marshall County Sheriff's Department and Hyper Wave Consulting LLC, as presented and to allow Sheriff Hassel to sign on behalf of the County. Motion carried 3-0.**

Sheriff Hassel stated that the department is purchasing four new vehicles and requested permission to sell a 2015 Ford Explorer, 2017 Ford Explorer, and two (2) 2019 Dodge Durangos at an upcoming County auction. **Jesse Bohannon moved, second by Adam Faulstich, to allow the Sheriff to sell four vehicles, as requested. Motion carried 3-0.**

MARSHALL COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Marshall County Economic Development Corporation President/CEO Greg Hildebrand provided a copy of the 2025 Annual Report. He highlighted the capital investment, Indiana ranking third in advanced manufacturing, the reduction in grant funding, upcoming events, the demand for electricity and the impact Chesco Energy would have coming to Marshall County.

ATTORNEY REPORT

HVAC Controls Project: Attorney Surrisi shared that the proposed HVAC controls project could be publicly bid or it might be a good candidate to try to the build, operate, transfer (BOT) procurement method that, pursuant to Indiana Code 5-23-1 et seq., the Commissioners approved the usage of by adoption of a resolution last year. The BOT process allows the County to publish a solicitation for proposals from qualified contractors. After selecting a preferred contractor, the County is allowed to negotiate a contract with the contractor. A public hearing is then held on the contract before it is approved. He noted that with the controls project being a retrofit of the new controls with the existing HVAC system, the BOT process may work well to allow the selected contractor to work closely with the Buildings & Grounds Supervisor and staff to finalize the scope of work before entering the contract.

AUDITOR REPORT

April 6, 2026 Minutes: **Jesse Bohannon moved, second by Adam Faulstich, to approve the April 6, 2026 minutes, as presented. Motion carried 3-0.**

April 6, 2026 Executive Session Minutes: **Adam Faulstich moved, second by Jesse Bohannon, to approve the April 6, 2026 executive session minutes, as presented. Motion carried 3-0.**

Accounts Payable Claims: **Jesse Bohannon moved, second by Adam Faulstich, to approve the accounts payable claims as presented. Motion carried 3-0.**

Payroll Claims: **Adam Faulstich moved, second by Jesse Bohannon, to approve the payroll claims as presented. Motion carried 3-0.**

Annual Report of the Common School Fund: Auditor Birchmeier presented the Annual Report of the Common School Fund for approval. **Jesse Bohannon moved, second by Adam Faulstich, to approve the Annual Report of the Board of Commissioners for the Fiscal Year Ending April 30, 2026 Common School Fund. Motion carried 3-0.**

PUBLIC COMMENT

Scott Calentine, 3190 Cottonwood Lane, Bremen, commented on energy sources and strain on the grid.

Kim Mishler, 2560 Kenilworth Road, Bremen, commented on the importance of following the Marshall County Comprehensive Plan and protecting the rural communities to minimize the loss of land.

Valena Clauss, Miami Road, Bremen, commented on the importance of protecting the family farms and having energy guidelines.

COMMISSIONER ITEMS

Vehicle Auction: President Klotz is anticipating an online County auction the week of May 4th.

Surveyor's Office / Oliver Ford Prepayment Request: President Klotz requested a prepay to Oliver Ford for the Surveyor's Office truck. **Adam Faulstich moved, second by Jesse Bohannon, to allow the Auditor to process the claim payable to Oliver Ford, as a prepayment, as requested. Motion carried 3-0.**

Sheriff's Department / CTi Prepayment Request: President Klotz requested approval to prepay the downpayment and then the remaining balance of the CTi claims when presented for payment. **Jesse Bohannon moved, second by Adam Faulstich, to allow the Auditor to process the claims payable to CTi, as a prepayment, as requested. Motion carried 3-0.**

Ordinance 2026-7: Certified Proposal to Amend the Marshall County Zoning Ordinance Regarding Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) / Energy Storage Systems (ESS): **Jesse Bohannon moved, second by Adam Faulstich, to approve Ordinance 2026-7: Certified Proposal to Amend the Marshall County Zoning Ordinance Regarding Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) / Energy Storage Systems (ESS), as presented, on first reading. Motion carried 3-0.**

Jesse Bohannon moved, second by Adam Faulstich, to suspend the rules and pass Ordinance 2026-7: Certified Proposal to Amend the Marshall County Zoning Ordinance Regarding Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) / Energy Storage Systems (ESS), on second and third reading. Motion carried 3-0.

Ordinance 2026-10: Certified Proposal to Amend the Marshall County Zoning Ordinance Regarding Farm-Scale Solar Energy Systems: **Adam Faulstich moved, second by Jesse Bohannon, to approve Ordinance 2026-10: Certified Proposal to Amend the Marshall County Zoning Ordinance Regarding Farm-Scale Solar Energy Systems, as presented, on first reading. Motion carried 3-0.**

Ordinance 2026-11: Certified Proposal to Amend the Marshall County Zoning Ordinance Regarding Data Centers: **Adam Faulstich moved, second by Jesse Bohannon, to approve Ordinance 2026-11: Certified Proposal to Amend the Marshall County Zoning Ordinance Regarding Data Centers, as presented, on first reading. Motion carried 3-0.**

Jesse Bohannon moved, second by Adam Faulstich, to suspend the rules and pass Ordinance 2026-11: Certified Proposal to Amend the Marshall County Zoning Ordinance Regarding Data Centers, on second and third reading. Motion carried 3-0.

Ordinance 2026-12: Certified Proposal to Amend the Marshall County Zoning Ordinance Regarding Carbon Capture: **Jesse Bohannon moved, second by Adam Faulstich, to approve Ordinance 2026-12: Certified Proposal to Amend the Marshall County Zoning Ordinance Regarding Carbon Capture, as presented, on first reading. Motion carried 3-0.**

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the board, Adam Faulstich moved, second by Jesse Bohannon, to adjourn the meeting at 11:22 a.m. Motion carried 3-0.

Stan Klotz, President

Jesse Bohannon, Vice President

ATTEST: _____
Angela C. Birchmeier, Auditor

Adam Faulstich, Member