

**FULTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**Monday, April 15, 2024**

**Meeting Called to Order** at 6:00 p.m. with Pledge to the Flag. Present: Bryan Lewis, Rick Ranstead, David Sommers, County Attorney Holli Shorter-Pifer. and Auditor Christina Sriver.

**EMS SERVICE** – Commissioner Ranstead asked for permission to begin contract negotiations for EMS service with Parkview EMS. Commissioner Sommers motioned to approve, Commissioner Lewis seconded; carries 3-0.

**PUBLIC WAY VACATION** – A request to vacate an eleven-foot alleyway running east and west lying directly north of Lots 1 & 10 New Harrisburg and a twelve-foot alleyway running north and south directly between Lots 1 & 10 New Harrisburg. The petitioner was to notify the neighboring affected property owner, the neighboring property owner is present and states she was not properly notified. This public hearing will serve as the notice. The request to vacate will be postponed until the next May 20<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**NORTH CENTRAL INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL (NCIRPC)** – The contract and invoice are tabled until the next meeting to discover if the expense was part of the FEDCO contract/budget. A resolution that was presented in the last meeting for a five-year economic development strategy/comprehensive plan was presented for consideration.

**RESOLUTION NO. 04152024**

**TO THE FUTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**  
**APPROVING THE 2024**  
**FIVE YEAR COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC**  
**DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY (CEDS)**

**WHEREAS**, the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) requires the submission of a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) to maintain eligibility for EDA grant and loan programs;

**WHEREAS**, the counties of North Central Indiana (Cass, Clinton, Fulton, Howard, Miami and Tipton) have engaged in a collaborative public planning process to update the region's CEDS;

**WHEREAS**, the North Central Indiana Regional Planning Council (NCIRPC) CEDS Committee has reviewed the 2024 CEDS and find that it reflects the development needs of North Central Indiana;

**WHEREAS**, the 2024 CEDS of North Central Indiana shall serve as the regional strategy for the six counties in North Central Indiana with each counties' concurrence;

**WHEREAS**, the NCIRPC Board of Directors approved the 2024 CEDS on January 9, 2024; and



**WHEREAS**, the counties of North Central Indiana have engaged the NCIRPC to implement the CEDS and to provide other programs and services for local and regional growth;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Commissioners:

1. Approve the 2024 CEDS to meet the eligibility requirements for the grant and loan program administered by the U.S. Economic Development Administration; and
2. Pledge continued financial support to the NCIRPC.

Commissioner Ranstead motioned to approve, Commissioner Sommers seconded; carries 3-0.

**CORONER CONTRACTS** – Commissioner Sommers motioned to approve the contracts for Jon Good, Margo Layman and Gail Karas for 2024, Commissioner Ranstead seconded; carries 3-0.

**TRAVEL AUTHORIZATION** – Commissioner Sommers motioned to approve the health department registrar travel authorization, Commissioner Lewis seconded; carries 2-0 with Commissioner Ranstead abstaining. Commissioner Ranstead motioned to approve other requests, Commissioner Sommers seconded; carries 3-0.

**HIGHWAY** – Commissioner Ranstead motioned to approve permit 24-16, Commissioner Sommers seconded; carries 3-0. John Geier updated on the department activities and grant activity. The right-of-way utility issues were cleared up for Bridge 161 and should stay on schedule. There will be a span of 30-45 days that Pulaski Highway Department will be closing sections of SR 17 one mile at a time to change culverts. John has been asked by INDOT to come up with a detour for the closed road. SR 25 will have a closure after the 4<sup>th</sup> of July causing a detour that John presents to Commissioners. Commissioners approve both detours. John would like to purchase millings at \$5/ton, an increase from \$3/ton that he paid last. Commissioner Ranstead motioned to purchase millings, Commissioner Sommers seconded; carries 3-0. The 4-H Fair Board requests assistance from the Highway Department for chip sealing and fog sealing pathways. Commissioner Ranstead motioned to allow the Highway Department to provide labor, Commissioner Sommers seconded; carries 3-0.

**COMMUNICATIONS/EMA** – Gail Karas discussed having a combined safety committee; she will present an ordinance to establish. Gail will work on an interlocal agreement with Rochester City. The department supported a local school for the eclipse last week. Gail discussed working with other agencies on shelters for the homeless. Gail discussed a HSHP grant and also a cyber security grant for up to \$150,000.

**SHERIFF** – There are currently 72 inmates. The department invoiced roughly \$54,000 last month for inmate housing. There will be a tv monitor for posting information at the jail to the public and to inmates.

**FEDCO** – Michael Ladd announced that he is gathering signed documents for the Stellar Community grant opportunity. He recently toured the Putts building to visualize the structural issues. Out of a request of \$80 million for the READI II grant opportunity \$35 million was awarded.

**4-H FAIR BOARD** – Steven Williams updated on the projects that were planned with the ARPA funding from the county including carpet replacement, installing new gates, water shut-off valve replacement/relocation, two new water fountains in the community building, new doors. Upcoming projects include upgrading another set of doors and speakers.

**FULTON COUNTY H.O.P.E.** – Amy Roe discussed a mobile advocacy opportunity through Beaman Home. They would like to use Fulton County as a test location.

**ROCHESTER CITY** – Mayor O’Dell stated that he has been working on finding a solution for the Putts building. Restoration would be the cheapest option to remedy the issues.

**MINUTES** – Commissioner Ranstead motioned to approve the April 1 meeting minutes, Commissioner Sommers seconded; carries 3-0.

**CLAIMS** – Approved as presented

Misc. Claims April 15	\$ 346,847.90
Utilities	\$ 9,207.30
LIT Distribution	\$ 743,615.08
Wheel/Sur Tax Distribution	\$ 77,293.62
Payroll 4/5/24	\$ 280,861.32
Payroll Deductions 4/5/24	\$ 100,548.47
Insurance disbursements for 3/21/24-3/27/24	\$ 5,150.29
Insurance disbursements for 3/28/24-4/3/24	\$ 8,256.75
Insurance fees for April	\$ 52,219.78
Insurance disbursements for 4/4/24-4/10/24	\$ 21,552.79

**TRANSFERS** – Approved as presented

Department	Fund	From Account	To Account	Amount
Probation Building	County General	Snow Removal	Landscaping	\$5,000.00
To cover expenses for landscaping at the new probation location				
Highway	LRS	Repair Building	Consult Fee	\$40,000.00
For consult fees as building repairs cannot be paid from LRS				

**ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS-** Approved as presented

Department	Fund	For	Amount
Highway	MVH	Other Charges	\$4,670
To pay for CDLs and CDL federal compliance			
Highway	Cum Bridge	Bridge #50	\$16,640
		Bridge #161	\$29,000
To cover future/current costs of bridge repair			

**OLD BUSINESS** – None

**NEW BUSINESS** – None

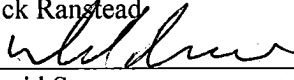
**PUBLIC COMMENT** – A lawsuit for defamation of character has been filed by a member of the public against a county employee.


**RECESS** – Commissioner Ranstead motioned to recess at 7:12 p.m., seconded by Commissioner Sommers; carries 3-0.

FULTON COUNTY BOARD OF  
COMMISSIONERS

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Bryan Lewis

  
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Rick Ranstead

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
David Sommers

  
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Attest: Christina Sriver, County Auditor

I affirm under penalties of perjury, that I have taken reasonable care to redact each social security number in this document, unless required by law: Christina Sriver

Prepared by: Christina Sriver

