

BOC meeting Aug 4 2026

Morton late. 12 on line All items passed unanimously.

Adjourned at 11:36

FIRST ORDER OF BUSINESS: Opening and Reading of Bids/Letters of Interest on:

- Project SS-92601: Frontage Road over Rogers-Clark Ditch (Division A) & Gordon Road over Niespodziany Ditch (Division B). Work includes the construction of a box culvert installation for new roadway intersection with sanitary sewer and water main crossings below the ditch, pavement reconstruction improvements to Strawberry Road, guardrail installation.

The bids will be reviewed by engineering.

Bids: C&E Excavating for Division A: \$1,430,295 B \$3,116,655

Rieth Riley: A: \$1,557,480 B: \$4,870,667

HRP: A: \$1,269,852 B: \$3,289,148

B. REPORTS AND REQUESTS FROM:

COMMISSIONERS:

a) Approval of the Accounts Payable Docket

b) Bills Passed by the County Council: Ordinances were passed unanimously by county council and not discussed by the BOC today.

36-26: Adds a data analyst position for \$58,871 and an Integration Specialist position for \$67,600.

37-26: Restructures the IT department in a budget neutral manner.

38-26: Appropriations for Community Correction/DOC Grant of \$278,771 for fiscal year 26-27 starting July 1, 2026. The County LIT fund was already appropriated. *(An additional \$150,000 was requested to cover increased court costs. But, it's confusing. There was also a listed cash balance of \$113,570.)*

IPG:

a) Approval of Contract Renewal with KM Property Maintenance for Code Enforcement (non-towing) Abatement Services. This renews the 2024 contract with Kyle McNamara for Weed and Rank Vegetation Control ordinance and Public Nuisance Ordinance enforcement. Other options besides KM were considered. There are other contractors for small scale work.

b) Approval of Change Order No. 3/Final Change Order with INDOT for Project Des. No. 1902817 – Mayflower Road Bridge Over Norfolk Southern/NICTD. This is a “non-monetary” change order that adjusts the final quantities for work items. But, Sky Medors then admitted the final contract cost was \$30,000 more than anticipated, but this amount is within the usual flux of contracts.

c) Approval of Final Inspection and Recommendation Report with INDOT for Project Des. No. 1902817 – Mayflower Road Bridge Over Norfolk Southern/NICTD: All work was found to be satisfactory.

d) Approval of Alexander Highway Garage Easement Agreement with AEP. Need to install new power underground to a transformer outside of the right of way. There is no cost to the county.

e) Approval of Consent Agenda: Adjust the speed limit on Jackson Road (Locust Road to Linden Road) to 30 mph.

PHYSICAL ASSETS:

a) Approval of Request to Advertise for County Building Roof Replacement. Bids will be read Sept 1st.

C. OLD BUSINESS: None

D. NEW BUSINESS: None

E: PUBLIC COMMENTS: (THREE MINUTE LIMIT)

Dan Caruso: Last week, Baxmeyer spoke to me in a heated tone about why I continue to speak up about the diverging diamond interchange. Industrial growth in the western part of the county has not had the input or support of the people actually being affected in New Carlisle.

Mike McManus: There was a previously passed resolution about absentee ballot mishandling by the Election Board. Were absentee ballots removed from the storage area by the elected clerk's attorney? There are questions about the integrity of our Election Board. We need to know what happened!

Brent Burkus: In support of Dan Caruso: What was said to him after the last meeting was unacceptable. There are citizen concerns about leadership and competence in the county. This is a "good government" issue. Represent the interests of the PEOPLE, not the lobbyists and lawyers! You have caused a lot of consternation in the county.

Derek Dieter: 70 days ago, Baxmeyer said we would have an answer about Portage Manor in 30 days.

Also, you said an investigator was hired by the county. For what? People are concerned. Please listen to them.

The City Council shut down their portion of the Continental Divide issue. We need to compare what was spent. Please answer my many questions.

Mary Countryman: INDOT responded to me that INDOT concluded there was no significant environmental impact and will begin construction in 2026 on the diverging diamond interchange. There are kids and other people walking in areas that are not safe due to the number of semis in the area. Again, the people of the area are not being heard. Kostielney engineered the IEC project in New Carlisle over the objections of the people there. We do not want this in New Carlisle! People will vote differently as a result.

Hazen: A comment correcting a current rumor: The TIF money in New Carlisle came out of the Honeysuckle agreement to expand broadband in the county. No pockets are being lined! There are falsehoods out there every day, and hate being expressed every week.