

## **BOC meeting 2/3/2026**

**Tuesday, February 3, 2026 11:00 AM, 4th Floor Council Chambers**

**All 3 commissioners and legal counsel present. 2 on line. All items passed unanimously.**

**Recessed at 11:23.**

A. FIRST ORDER OF BUSINESS: Opening and Reading of Bids/Letters of Interest on: None

B. REPORTS AND REQUESTS FROM:

COMMISSIONERS:

a) Approval of the Accounts Payable Docket

b) Bills Passed by the County Council: Ordinances

1-26: Number and salaries of employees, passed 9-0 in CC: replaces 1 probate Court Referee with 2 part-time Referees, and 1 Senior Advisor is replaced by 2 part-time Senior Advisors? The justification was confusing: "Judicial referee will be working two additional days hearing cases. To compensate for extra time and duties. Will be paid current salary and additional \$24,000 totaling \$102,000. This was approved at the 11/12/25 public meeting."

2-23: Number and salaries of employees, passed 9-0 County Council: Human Resource Director will move from PT30 to full time working 40 hrs per week. security Positions have taken on additional duties throughout the department with an increases in transports, and increase in court earring, and the Day Reporting Programs starting again.

3-26: The following departments need more money than was budgeted:

Emergency Management: \$55,800 for this first year of the local Emergency Planning Committee.

JJC From Senior Advisors Fund \$40,284 to Human Resources Directors and Deputies Fund

c) Appointment to the Animal Control Commission: This is a specialized appointment, requiring a person with knowledge of canine behavior. James Greenfield appointed.

IPG: Sky Medors PE

a) Approval of County Highway Division Contract with Teamsters Local Union

No 364 for 2026-2028. This is a 3-year contract 1/1/26 to 12/31/28. Approved by the Union. There were increases in pay for the Highway Dept, how longevity was paid, food stipends increased, double time for holiday work, and financial assistance for CDL training. (cost is \$4000, mostly paid by the Union). This was tabled last week, now passed unanimously. "This brings us up to par with surrounding areas so we don't lose so many people", per Hazen.

PHYSICAL ASSETS: Bree Roberts, Director

a) Approval of PerMar Security Services Agreement Contract Renewal Proposal: for fire and burglar alarm monitoring and service. This service has been in place for several years. Cost of this service is \$378.12 monthly. Olive Street Records Center, Mishawaka City Hall, and the City County Building are covered.

HEALTH: Renata Williams, Director of CARE

a) Approval of Application Request to the American Heart Association for

"Meeting People Where They Are" Grant: Approved by the BOH. The intent of the grant is to bridge the gap between healthcare resources and rural residents by integrating health initiatives into the local spaces where community member naturally congregate. The DOH plans to do at least 500 health screenings this year. The \$1500 grant will fund additional testing cartridges for 100 screenings of rural individuals. BP, BMI, lipid panel and A1c tests will be offered by the Community Health Workers.

Morton" So impressed by the quality and caring of our health Dept despite the drastic cuts in funding".

PROSECUTOR: Robert Risenhoover

a) Approval of Application Request for VOCA (Victims of Crime Act) Grant 2026: This is a continuation of the Prosecutor's Office Victim Services \$177,891 VOCA grant for the fiscal years 12/1/26 - 9/30/28. It requires a 20% match and is included in the Prosecutor's 2026 budget. Victim Advocates renew their certification yearly, and accompany victims through the court process.

C. OLD BUSINESS: None

D. NEW BUSINESS: None

E: PUBLIC COMMENTS: (THREE MINUTE LIMIT)

Dan Caruso: I understand the leaf issue from last week has been resolved, thank you.

The diverging diamond interchange in New Carlisle will cost \$50 million. We only need a go-around dog-bone-style interchange that will cost \$9000 only. The diverging diamond is scary the first time you are on it.

I know the data center was defeated on Dec 9th: Please support a 1-year moratorium.

Sky Medors responded that the diverging diamond interchange was chosen by approved methods and traffic analysis. In order to meet criteria, many factors and lots of options were considered but did not meet the level of service like the diverging diamond does. IDOT was involved in the selection of the interchange Baxmeyer said the county cost did not change, since this is Amazon dollars. (Baxmeyer acknowledged that the taxpayers still end up paying!) These are scary interchanges and will require public education.