

BOC March 10 2026

Tuesday, March 10, 2026 11:00AM, 4th Floor Main Council Chambers

10 on line. All 3 BOC and legal counsel present. Started at 11:00, recessed at 12:01 . All items passed unanimously.

No one to speak on agenda items today, noted Baxmeyer.

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

• Project R&S 92601D – Resurfacing/Rehabilitation on Various Roads Sky Medors read 2 bids. Milestone \$2,330,000, Reith Riley \$2,194,900. These bids will be reviewed by engineering.

B. REPORTS AND REQUESTS FROM:

COMMISSIONERS:

a) Approval of the Accounts Payable Docket

b) Employee of the Month: Maggie Bow 8/25, Misty Laczynski 9/25 , 2 of the 3 people who work in the plat room for the county, assisting people who buy homes to get ownership title so that utilities etc can turned on as soon as possible.

c) Approval of Office Lease Agreement Amendment with Beacon Health

System: The Paragon clinic office at 807 E Colfax Ave is renewed for the next 6 months.

d) Approval of Annual Wellness Screening Quote with Beacon Health System

for Services at Paragon Clinic: Beacon will continue to partner with SJC to deliver comprehensive personal health Assessment screening for approximately 1400 eligible employees, spouses, and retirees. The health screening includes height, weight, pulse, BP, BMI, glucose, lipid panel. results are sent to the employee's primary care physician. Ryan Carlson presented.

e) Approval of Claims Administration Agreement Fiduciary Amendment with

Auxiant: Auxiant is still delegated by the Plan Sponsor to make initial determination on claims for benefits under the Plan but is otherwise not a fiduciary. (the SJC is the fiduciary). Ryan Carlson presented; this is a small amendment to the existing agreement.

f) Approval of Stop Loss Insurance Application with HCC Life Insurance

Company for the single Employer Plan, cost is \$135,730 monthly. Premium rates for employees are \$43.27 for Single and Family is \$165. This backs up the health insurance contract for the county. Ryan Carlson presented. Premium savings for employees for this contract add up to about 1/2 million dollars for 2026.

g) Approval of Interlocal Agreement with Michiana Area Council of

Governments (MACOG) and the City of South Bend Establishing a Land Bank in St. Joseph County: MACOG will provide staffing and operations for the Land Bank. The SJC will provide legal and title services to secure the tax title deeds at no cost. Lisa Sumpter presented. This will allow development of vacant and underutilized properties. Baxmeyer: "the hangup with the County Council has been resolved; we don't need the presentation." There will be consistent reporting to the BOC of how the land bank is doing.

h) Approval of Resolution R-4-C-2026 – Real Estate Purchase Agreement for

14288 East Douglas Road, Mishawaka Terry O'Brien presented. Funding was approved by the Redevelopment Commission this morning. The plan is to widen the street and improve the railroad crossing. Cost to buy the property \$251,700. This is the 4th or 5th property to be acquired; there are a couple more properties that need to be acquired in order for this to move forward.

IPG: Bill Schalliol presented.

a) Approval of Interlocal Cooperative Agreement with the Indiana Department

of Transportation for Concerning the Construction of an Interchange at State Road 2 and Larrison Boulevard. Contract was originally approved by the state, but state later found that 2 changes were needed. Baxmeyer: "The state made the mistakes to begin with; this contract is taking a long time."

b) Approval of Memorandum of Understanding with International Motors LLC Regarding Water and Sewer Improvements for the Indiana Enterprise Center. Contract with GPR was approved a couple months ago. This MOU is for public water and sewer extensions in New Carlisle. This was approved by the Redevelopment Commission.

c) Approval of Water and Sewer Easement with International Motors LLC for 32104 State Road 2, New Carlisle, similar agreement to b).

PROBATE/JJC: Andrea Halperin presented.

a) Approval of Beacon Health Ventures Agreement for Nursing Services to Children Housed at JJC. This agreement dates back to 2017, but updates the contract. Paid out of the contractual services fund. Provides 13 hrs/ day services, 365 days per year.

HEALTH: Renata Williams, Ashely Helman, and Dr. Migliore presented.

a) Approval of Request to Apply for the American Medical Association (AMA)

Grant for the Community Health Impact Lab Program: supports physician-led initiatives in underserved areas, will support cholesterol and Aic cartridges. There is a grant requirement to have letters of support from area governing bodies, United Way, One Roof, SJCPL as partners. Ducomb Center and Chas. Black Center will be sites where these services are offered. There is no match required and existing services will not be cut back; this is a way to expand services.

Morton: "I appreciate the hard work of the DOH".

b) Approval of Request to Apply for the Automotive Safety Program (ASM) Car

Seat Inspection Station Grant: Last fall you approved this grant that gives out car seats, which was successful. We already have bilingual certified car seat inspectors. We will establish a car seat safety inspection site across the street; those who don't pass the inspection can get a free car seat.

c) Approval of Request to Apply for the Safe Routes to School Grant through

Health By Design to Indiana Department of Health: bike safety rodeo with helmet distribution for 200 children.

d) Approval of Agreement with WorkOne Northern Indiana for Work

Experience Program Services Dr. Migliore presented: Youth 16-24 years old can be placed in the DOH for an internship through WorkOne. The internships last 8-10 weeks, paid by WorkOne. This would help our units with data entry. Elliot Jeremiah from WorkOne spoke with us about this program. WorkOne recruits the potential interns. Paid by a federal grant to a 5-county region. This is a multiyear program.

ASSESSOR: Mike Castellon presented.

a) Approval of Agreement with Midwest Presort for 2026 Form 11 Mailing Services: mail or email to property owners about their property tax assessment. About 90,000 Form 11's were mailed last year. Due to postage increase, cost has gone up. Working through the tedious process of digitizing this Form 11 notice.

C. Old Business: None

D. **NEW BUSINESS:** Baxmeyer: Concern about NOT testing the sirens today at noon since SJC tested alarms last week and there are thunderstorms expected this week. This schedule of alerts needs to be on the county website.

Mr Kirsits did give a detailed explanation of why the tornado sirens will not be tested today.

E. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Dan Caruso: Thank you for having comments available for agenda items. The Diverging Diamond intersection is moving ahead, but New Carlisle folks don't believe the diverging diamond intersection is necessary and it is expensive. There are other ways to resolve the needs at Hwy 2 & Larrison and Hwy 2 & Strawberry. The construction traffic is temporary and the current traffic studies are not a true reading. The doggone interchange in LaPorte works great!

Steve Francis: TIFs and tax revenue follow up: the ARC will be studying this matter. Microsoft's stunning standard that they will not accept county tax abatements and will fund all extensions of water and sewer themselves. We desperately need funding revenue in the county and I look forward to the results of the TIF study.

Regarding the conservation corridor: We have a strong opportunity to preserve this area. The Comprehensive Land Use Plan must preserve sensitive conservation areas. The BOC needs to be involved in this effort.

(not specifically stated in this meeting, but the concern is about having a planned bike path through old growth forest, which should be left alone and undeveloped)

Andy Rutten: Following up on last week's comment about the Patriot railway expansion along Capital Ave: a lot of people in the community are concerned. There is interest in a local community forum on March 23 6-8 pm probably at Schmucker Middle School. The BOC is invited. I will follow up with more information and location. Right now, I don't have a lot of information to give constituents about the Patriot railway expansion.

Baxmeyer: Dan, we are not highway engineers and must rely on what the state recommended. This decision was made by INDOT, not our county. We appreciate your comments, but we do not have a say in this and it is not costing the taxpayers more money.

Morton: Your comment about the study being done at the wrong time is interesting and omitted Schalliol to respond: Schalliol says the INDOT study was a paper study not based on construction traffic. INDOT stated the dogbone interchange in LaPorte will not be built again anywhere as it is inefficient.

And to Steve's comments: Sen Neizgodski helped get the bill passed that allows this conservation effort.