

**Gibson County Board of Commissioners**  
**Regular Session**  
**July 01, 2025**

The Gibson County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on June 03, 2025, at 4:45 p.m. at the Southwest Annex.

Prayer was led by Vice President Montgomery followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**Commissioners Present:** Nick Burns, Kenneth Montgomery, and Chuck Lewis

**Minutes:** The meeting minutes of June 17, 2025, were approved as presented. Commissioner Montgomery motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Lewis. The motion carried 3-0.

**Claims:** President Burns called for a motion to approve claims. Commissioner Montgomery made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Lewis. The motion carried 3-0.

The Clerk and Treasurer reports were acknowledged.

**Department Reports**

EMS provided their run volume. The open house/ribbon cutting will be held on July 25th 3-6; this will give the public time to look at the new building.

Highway Department – Engineer Holden told Commissioners they are still chip/sealing roads. Bridge #74 has been closed for the federal bridge project, they hope to finish this project by harvest, but it is going to be a tight fit. Next year, bridge #73 will go out for bid. They have paving bids in and as soon as Council approves the additional appropriation, they will begin paving.

EMA Director McKinney told Commissioners they have requested proposals for the new outdoor warning sirens. She has received more weather radios as well as the hearing-impaired accessories for the weather radios. Director McKinney is working with the health department to provide CPR and AED training; working with the volunteer fire department to provide 800Mhz radios; providing hazmat response training; and working with town boards on flood plain areas.

Animal Services – Sharon Werne told Commissioners they broke ground on June 14<sup>th</sup> at 3p.m. for Phase I of their new building project. They are making progress on preparing the new building site. On June 21<sup>st</sup> Princeton Veterinary Hospital hosted a wellness clinic; they vaccinated 104 animals. Ms. Werne told everyone that the shelter is very crowded, and they would like the public to foster the animals to help with their overcrowding. One overcrowding initiative is working with county jail inmates by going to their houses to feed/water their animals rather than have these animals in the shelter.

**COMMISSIONERS OLD BUSINESS**

**Jail Project Update** – This update was given by Owner’s Representative Chief Deputy Ballard, and he told Commissioners they have been up and running for approximately one month.

**EMS Building Update** – Commissioner Lewis reported they have moved into the new EMS Building; they have had a final walkthrough, and they are taking care of minor items.

**Road Use Permit Bond – Gibson Solar** – County Engineer Holden explained that the solar company is transferring the road bond from one company to another; NIPSCO will issue the new road bond. President Burns called for a motion to change the road bond to NIPSCO. Commissioner Montgomery motioned to approve this action, seconded by Commissioner Lewis. The motion carried 3-0.

**Approval of Fuel Bids** – Engineer Holden and Attorney Spindler, together opened the fuel bid. Wabash Valley Fuel was the only bidder. The bid was as follows:

\$2.603 87 Octane

\$2.853 89 Octane

\$3.243 Premium Diesel on-road

\$2.638 Premium Diesel off-road

Engineer Holden recommended that Commissioners approve the only bid for Wabash Valley Fuel; the bid will be good until December 31, 2025.

President Burns called for a motion to approve the low bid. Commissioner Montgomery made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Lewis. The motion carried 3-0.

**Easement in favor of Gibson Water for Animal Services** – Attorney Spindler presented this easement to Commissioners. The waterline is in place; the easement needs to be formalized in favor of Gibson Water. President Burns called for a motion to approve the easement. Commissioner Lewis made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Montgomery. The motion carried 3-0.

**Update on Gibson County Senion Center** – Director Ronda Colbert gave statistics to Commissioners as she feels the traffic inside the center is up substantially and she would like Commissioners to provide money for flooring. She has bids and the low bid was \$13,468 with Holder’s Furniture providing the flooring and someone else providing the labor. Commissioner Burns feels the item should be tabled until the availability of funds can be reviewed. They invited Mrs. Colbert back to the July 15<sup>th</sup> meeting.

President Burns called for a motion to table the request until next meeting. Commissioner Lewis made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Montgomery. The motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Lewis asked who owned the transport vehicles; they are owned by the Center. He wonders if they could get fuel from the Highway Department, instead of paying retail price; the Highway Department will invoice them for the fuel. The highway department and the Center will work through the logistics and see if this will work for both parties. President Burns entertained a motion to revisit the fuel item at the July 15<sup>th</sup> meeting. Commissioner Montgomery made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Lewis 3-0.

## **COMMISSIONERS NEW BUSINESS**

**Gibson County Jail Auxiliary Parking Lot Project** – Attorney Spindler opened the bids.

Garmong                      \$199,950

Parker Excavating:        \$237,077.69

Attorney Spindler recommended the bids be taken under advisement; he will forward the bids to Three I for review and Commissioners can act at the July 15<sup>th</sup> meeting.

President Burns called for a motion to take the bids under advisement. Commissioner Lewis made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Montgomery. The motion carried 3-0.

**Committee to Score Storm Siren RFP’s** – Attorney Spindler requested that the Commissioners appoint a committee to score the storm siren proposals and make suggestions to Commissioners. Director McKinney explained that Indiana Code calls for EMA to have an advisory board; she feels this project would be a good place to use the advisory board. The board consists of a Commissioner, a Council Member, a Mayor, the Sheriff, and a Fire Chief. She has also asked Engineer Holden and Alex Angermeier from Angermeier Electric to observe. The RFP is due on July 29<sup>th</sup>.

President Burns called for a motion to approve a committee to review/score the storm siren RFPs. Commissioner Montgomery made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Lewis. The motion carried 3-0.

**Medical/Personal Leave (several)** – President Burns called for a motion to approve the medical/personal leaves. Commissioner Montgomery made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Lewis. The motion carried 3-0.

With no further discussions, President Burns called for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Montgomery made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Burns. The vote to adjourn was 3-0.

Minutes from July 01, 2025

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Nick Burns, President

  
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Kenneth Montgomery, Vice President

  
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Chuck Lewis, Commissioner

  
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ATTEST: Mike Watkins, Auditor