

Gibson County Board of Commissioners
Regular Session
December 01, 2025, at Southwest Annex

Vice President Montgomery led the prayer, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioners present:

- Kenneth Montgomery, Vice President
- Chuck Lewis, Commissioner
- Absent: Nick Burns, President

Meeting Minutes

- November 18, 2025 minutes approved.
- Commissioner Lewis made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Montgomery. The motion carried 2-0.

Approval of Claims

- Commissioner Lewis made a motion to approve claims, seconded by Commissioner Montgomery. The motion carried 2-0.

Acknowledgements

- Treasurer's Monthly Report
- Clerk's Monthly Report

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Sheriff's Department – Sheriff Vanoven

- Staffing Report
 - Deputies, Communications, & Community Corrections: Fully staffed.
 - Corrections positions: 18 of 21 filled.
- There was an average jail population of 110 inmates.

Jail Project Update – Owner's Representative George Ballard

- Auxiliary Parking lot is nearly complete; awaiting installation of lighting.
- Three I Engineering is conducting meetings regarding the removal of the old jail.
- Radio system is being updated.
- Owner's Representative Agreement ends at end of year.
- George Ballard requested an extension of the Owner's Representative Contract until demolition of the old jail is complete.

Commissioner Lewis motioned to continue the contract until demolition is complete, seconded by Commissioner Montgomery. The vote was 2-0.

OLD BUSINESS

Fuel Bids for Highway Department

- Heritage Petroleum
- Wabash Valley Fuel

Materials Bids for Highway Department

- Rodgers Group
- Midwest Municipal
- Metals Culverts, Inc.
- Wholesale Drainage Supply
- Civil Con
- Mulzer

Engineer Holden requested time to review all bids so he can make a recommendation at next meeting.

Attorney Spindler invited interested parties to come forward after the meeting to review bids.

Commissioner Lewis made the motion to table bids for review, seconded by Commissioner Montgomery. The vote was 2-0.

Francisco Solar, LLC– RWE Project Update

Legal Representation: Kyle Resetarits (Denton Law Firm)

- Economic Development Agreement
 - Project requested an extension of agreement and the tax abatement.
- Public Hearing today at 4:30 p.m.
 - Held to consider expanding the Economic Revitalization Area to support the project.
- Commissioners were asked to support the project and continue negotiations.
- Baker Tilly:
 - Available for questions and willing to provide any requested information.
- Commissioner's comments:
 - Commissioner Lewis says the economic development agreement and abatement discussion is ongoing, pending compliance with ordinances and property owner satisfaction.

Commissioner Lewis motioned to move the project forward, if negotiations are favorable for all parties, seconded by Commissioner Montgomery. The vote was 2-0.

MHMP (Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan) Update Costs

Presenter: EMA Director, Stephanie McKinney

- Plan Requirement
 - This federal requirement must be updated every five years.
 - Plan opens the door for federal funding of projects.
 - Director McKinney requested Commissioners cover the shortfall to hire Christopher Burke for the update.
 - Total cost: \$30,000
 - Grant amount: \$24,304
 - Difference: \$5,696.
- Background
 - The Hazleton Levy was noted in poor condition in the 2010 plan.

- This led to federal funding for repairs.
- In April 2025, heavy rain proved the repairs were essential - the levy held water inside as needed.

Commissioner Lewis motioned to provide the shortfall difference of \$5,696, seconded by Commissioner Montgomery. The vote was 2-0.

GIS On-Call Services Agreement – Scott Martin

- Professional agreement to extend previous contract on an as needed basis.
- Attorney Spindler reviewed and approved the agreement.

Commissioner Lewis motioned to approve the extension agreement, seconded by Commissioner Montgomery. The vote was 2-0.

Peabody Road Termination Agreement – Ed Hartzburge

- Six Roads listed on the termination agreement:
 - CR350S, crossing of CR1100, CR900 S, CR850 S, CR1150 E
 - Agreement 122 requests termination of everything on the agreement, except for two crossings.
 - A new bond will be submitted for the two crossings.
 - Commissioner Montgomery & Engineer Holden inspected the roads and believe they are in good or better condition.

Commissioner Lewis motioned to approve termination agreement, seconded by Commissioner Montgomery. The vote was 2-0.

- Larry Michel expressed concern that CR850 S is not ready for termination because it was patched, not paved.
- Commissioner Montgomery explained paving is premature since the road is not stable, paving now would cause uneven surfaces.
- Larry questioned why the bond is being released.
- It was clarified that the road was released years ago, but proper paperwork was never completed.

NEW BUSINESS

Health Insurance Coverage for Prosecutor and Chief Deputy -

- Both positions are considered state employees and have historically received state insurance.
- Central States has offered coverage.
- Coverage will be approved when Prosecutor is elected, and the chief is appointed with the earliest effective date being January 2026.

Commissioner Lewis motioned to approve the insurance coverage, seconded by Commissioner Montgomery. The vote was 2-0.

Small Structure Inventory, Three-Year Contract with SJCA – Engineer Holden

- Current inventory is 20 years old.

Commissioner Lewis motioned to approve the contract with SJCA, seconded by Commissioner Montgomery. The vote was 2-0.

Medical Leaves (0)

Public Comments

Gibson County Chamber of Commerce, Patty Vanoven

- Salvation Army "You Can Help Drive" on Friday at Fifth Third Bank at 3p.m.
- Christmas Parade will be on December 6th.
- Join the Chamber on New Years Eve at the Evansville Hockey game.

Adjournment

Commissioner Lewis motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Montgomery. The vote was 2-0.

Meeting Minutes December 01, 2025

Nick Burns, President

Kenneth Montgomery

Kenneth Montgomery, Vice President

Chuck R Lewis

Chuck Lewis, Commissioner

Mike Watkins

ATTEST: Mike Watkins, Auditor

