

Gibson County Board of Commissioners
Regular Session
March 03, 2026, at Southwest Annex

Commissioner Burns led with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioners present:

- Nick Burns, President
- Chuck Lewis, Vice-President
- Kenneth Montgomery, Commissioner(absent)

Meeting Minutes

- February 17, 2026, minutes were presented.
- Commissioner Lewis made a motion to approve minutes, seconded by Commissioner Burns. The motion carried 2-0.

Approval of Claims

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

Acknowledgement of Clerk & Treasurer reports.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Sheriff's Department – Sheriff Vanoven

- Staffing Report
 - Deputies have one opening.
 - Communication Department has three open positions.
 - Community Corrections is fully staffed.
 - Corrections have four open positions.
- There was an average of 102 in the detention center.
- Commissioner Lewis asked how many vehicles would be replaced this year; Sheriff Vanoven feels there will be three replacements.

EMS (Emergency Medical Services) Presented by Arica Cole

- EMS gave their monthly report.
- They recently hosted their first all-county training and plan to do more.

Health Department

- They are working on the purchase of the new building.
- They will have a meeting in April to decide what to do with the opioid funds.
- They are working with first responders on mental health training.
- The "Healthy You" program continues until April.

OLD BUSINESS

Old Jail Demolition Project Update – Owner's Representative George Ballard

- The Demolition Package is advertising; bids are due on 3/16/26.

NEW BUSINESS

Founding Ordinance – Requested by Mark Fehrenbacher

- Tabled as Mr. Fehrenbacher was not present.

E-Rep Agreement – Presented by Patrick Hickey

- There are no changes in the agreement or cost from last year.
- Commissioner Lewis motioned to approve as presented, seconded by Commissioner Burns. The motion passed on a 2-0 vote.

Road Study on CR 250 S

- This item will be assigned to a deputy.

Public Comments

Dilbeck Electric, presented by Josh Dilbeck

- Mr. Dilbeck is a businessman in Gibson County; he feels property taxes are no longer affordable and wonders what can be done to bring the cost down.

Larry Michel

- Agrees that Gibson County property taxes are too costly.
- He discussed the amount of money being captured from the TIF districts. He feels it is time to release this money back into the tax base.
- He does not feel the new TIF should be approved.

Roy Lynch

- Asked if the County Highway has plans to spray for invasive species. Commissioner Lewis explained that the highway department hires someone each year to do this spraying. One portion of the county was done last year and this year the other half will be sprayed.
- Commissioners are also exploring the idea of bringing back the “Weed Board.”

Adjournment

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

Meeting Minutes March 03, 2026



Nick Burns, President

Chuck Lewis, Vice President



Kenneth Montgomery, Commissioner



ATTEST: Mike Watkins, Auditor



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