

FAYETTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting – March 17, 2026

BE IT REMEMBERED:

That the Fayette County Commissioners of Fayette County, State of Indiana, met in regular scheduled session on the above date at 2:00 P.M. with the following present: Commissioners Dale Munson, Tracie Bever, and Dale Strong, and Auditor Jane Downard and County Attorney Geoff Wesling of said County and State.

Commissioner Munson called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

MINUTES:

Commissioner Strong moved to approve the minutes of March 3rd regular meeting and the March 12th special meeting, Commissioner Bever seconded the motion, and motion carried 3-0.

DEPARTMENT HEADS:

Animal Shelter:

Dave Ryckman was present to share a proposal he'd written to hire two part-time employees rather than one full-time employee, and also a suggestion to change the hours of the shelter to make it more accessible to the public. Dave is on the agenda for the April 7th council meeting. Commissioner Strong recommended Dave be sure to remind the council that the City of Connorsville shares half the expense for the shelter.

Highway:

Chris Gettinger presented a 144 to move Shawn Caudill from a seasonal position to a vacant full-time heavy equipment operator position. Commissioner Strong moved to approve the 144 as presented, Commissioner Bever seconded the motion, and motion carried 3-0.

Clerk:

Dawn Hughes requested commissioner approval to use county employees from the Sheriff's Department with the permission of Sheriff Zac Jones to help with moving voting equipment to the vote centers. Commissioner Bever moved to approve, Commissioner Strong seconded the motion, and motion carried 3-0. Vote Centers will be at New Heights Church, Baptist Temple Gym, Miller Building, and the Everton Fire Department.

Maintenance:

Josh Jarboe presented a 144 to hire Kelly Berry as a part-time custodian for the courthouse. Commissioner Bever moved to approve the 144 as presented, Commissioner Strong seconded the motion, and motion carried 3-0. Josh is still working on quotes for a water softener system.

Area Plan Commission:

Bill MacDaniel shared with commissioners that the Area Planning Commission recommended a public hearing to have a 12-month moratorium on data centers. He also discussed reformatting the zoning code and the need to hire his replacement prior to the end of the year. Commissioner Bever moved to allow Area Plan Commission to hold a public hearing regarding a moratorium, Commissioner Strong seconded the motion, and motion carried 3-0. Bill gave an update on doing the home inspections for the Owner Occupied Rehabilitation grant finalists.

Prosecutor:

Bette Jones presented a 144 to hire Terri Cavins to fill a vacancy in the Prosecutor's Office. Commissioner Strong moved to approve the 144 as presented, Commissioner Bever seconded the motion, and motion carried 3-0.

Extension:

Stephanie McCurdy thanked commissioners for their support in restoring her office manager to full-time. She also offered to help in any way with Purdue resources.

Sheriff:

Zac Jones shared that the Union County jail was damaged in the recent storm so we are currently housing 14 of their inmates until that damage can be repaired. County Attorney Geoff Wesling

asked if this might be an opportunity to open a dialogue with Union County that rather than repair their aging facility they contract with us to house their inmates.

PJ Garcia of Cintas was present to have new contracts signed. He accidentally presented the mandatory paperwork rather than the voluntary paperwork. The correct paperwork is being presented for signatures today. Commissioner Bever moved to approve signing the voluntary agreements, Commissioner Strong seconded the motion, and motion carried 3-0.

COUNTY ATTORNEY:

Geoff Wesling did not have anything at this time.

COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE:

No council representative was present.

MAIL:

None

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

Bid Award for 2026 CCMG was discussed. Butler Fairman made a recommendation on which bid would be the best bid, but we need to wait for confirmation from INDOT prior to awarding the bid. Commissioner Strong moved to take Butler Fairman's recommendation under advisement until we are sure of the funding from the State, Commissioner Bever seconded the motion, and motion carried 3-0.

Jarrod McGlothen was present for the Cemetery Board. They received a foundation grant last fall. They did some fence repair at Union Cemetery and cut down some trees, and some fence repair at Mt. Zion. There are more projects coming up in the near future.

Commissioner Strong shared that Eric Hopkins requested permission for the Fayette County Ministerial Association to hold the National Day of Prayer service on the courthouse lawn at noon on May 7th and Commissioner Strong made a motion to approve that request, Commissioner Bever seconded the motion, and motion carried 3-0.

PATRON CONCERNS:

None

PAYROLL AND CLAIMS:

Commissioner Bever moved to approve claims as presented, seconded by Commissioner Strong, and motion carried 3-0. Commissioners then signed all paperwork on camera.

ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Bever moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Strong, and motion carried 3-0. Meeting adjourned at 2:52 p.m.

Dale Munson
Dale Munson, President
Dale H. Strong
Dale Strong

Tracie Bever
Tracie Bever, Vice-President
Jane Downard
Attest: Jane Downard, Auditor