

FAYETTE COUNTY COUNCIL

July 7, 2026

BE IT REMEMBERED:

That the Fayette County Council of Fayette County, State of Indiana, met in regular session on the above date at 6:00 p.m. with the following present: Council members Sharon Cranfill, Scott Bevington, Bob Stewart, Gabe Nobbe, Tim Patterson, Connie Durham, and Kay Riker-Peyton along with Auditor Jane Downard and County Attorney Geoff Wesling of said County and State.

President Cranfill called the meeting to order at 6 p.m.

MINUTES:

Councilman Nobbe moved to approve the minutes from the June 2nd regular meeting, Councilman Bevington seconded the motion, and motion carried 7-0. Councilman Patterson questioned whether it was ethical for Councilwoman Cranfill to vote on the appropriation of the opioid settlement funds. Discussion was held. Attorney Wesling pointed out that there was a layer of protection that she did not vote on how to award the funds, only to appropriate spending the funds.

MAIL/EMAIL:

None

COUNTY ATTORNEY:

County Attorney Geoff Wesling did not have anything for the board at this time.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

None

COMMISSIONER REPRESENTATIVE:

Commissioner Munson gave an update on today's meeting. Commissioners provisionally approved three 144s. They gave grant application approval to Wade Walling for Emergency Management. They approved hiring Matt Nepote to appraise the courthouse for insurance purposes. The Health Department will be having their Annual Health Fair on September 19th. They appointed Chris Getfinger to be the ERC Bridge Coordinator.

144s:

Treasurer Jamie Durham presented a 144 to hire a full-time first deputy and a seasonal part-time employee. Discussion was held. Councilwoman Riker-Peyton moved to approve the hiring of a full-time first deputy and a part-time seasonal employee, Councilman Patterson seconded the motion, a roll call vote was taken with the following results: Durham abstain, Riker-Peyton Yes, Patterson Yes, Nobbe No, Stewart Yes, Bevington No, Cranfill Yes, motion carried 4-2 with one abstention.

Assessor Jeff Coleman requested permission to hire a full-time deputy. He has had a vacancy in the assessing assistant position but is requesting to hire a deputy rather than fill the assessing assistant position. Discussion was held. Councilman Patterson moved to approve the hiring of a full-time deputy, Councilwoman Riker-Peyton seconded the motion, and roll call vote was taken with the following results: Durham Yes, Riker-Peyton Yes, Patterson Yes, Nobbe Yes, Stewart Yes, Bevington Yes, and Cranfill Yes, motion carried 7-0.

Judge Paul Freed requested permission to hire a part-time employee replacement. Councilman Patterson moved to approve, Councilwoman Riker-Peyton seconded, and motion carried 5-2 with Councilpersons Cranfill, Stewart, Patterson, Riker-Peyton and Durham voting yes and Nobbe and Bevington voting no. As of the 19th of July Judge Freed is going to have to lay off Alicia Wedding, his second case manager for drug court, because the funding for her position through the opioid settlement money was not approved for another year. The DOC grant was cut to \$44,000 for 2027, so currently there is only enough money to fund the drug court through December 2027. Discussion was held about the future of Drug Court.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS AND TRANSFERS:

An Additional Appropriation to Community Corrections Trust Fund 1241 Account 20102 Supplies in the amount of \$40,000 was presented. Councilman Nobbe moved to approve the additional appropriations as presented, Councilwoman Durham seconded the motion, and motion carried 7-0.

OLD BUSINESS:

Councilwoman Riker-Peyton stepped down from the Finance Committee. Discussion was held.

NEW BUSINESS:

The 2027 Budget Hearing will be held August 11th at 6 p.m., and the 2027 Budget Adoption Meeting will be September 15th at 6 p.m.

Jason Semler of Baker Tilly did a brief presentation regarding MUST. Councilwoman Cranfill asked how Baker Tilly could help us. He made suggestions of how the next steps should be handled. Cost would be not to exceed \$35,000. They have ala carte services so we could pick and choose what we needed help with. Some of the counties they work with are sharing the expense with the other entities. He estimated 60-90 days total time to work all this out. Councilwoman Cranfill said this is a huge undertaking and we definitely need help. Jason said the MUST Take Force should be a one-time thing. Councilman Patterson said he is in favor of hiring a consultant. Councilman Nobbe said if we want the other entities involved, we need to contact them first before making a decision about hiring. Councilwoman Cranfill suggested we should go ahead. Councilman Bevington suggested we contact other entities and put off formal action until the August meeting. Councilman Patterson requested a formal quote and Jason said he would send us something in writing.

Stephanie McCurdy and Becky Marvel were present for the Purdue Extension Service. Becky Marvel is now our Regional Operations Leader. Purdue Extension is going through a transformation and trying to bring more and better services to counties.

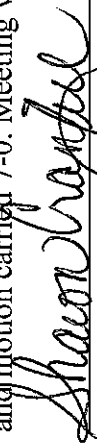
Councilwoman Durham asked Attorney Wesling about the women's center. He said nothing has been finalized yet.

PATRON CONCERNS:

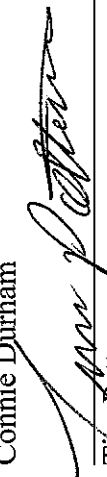
None

ADJOURNMENT:

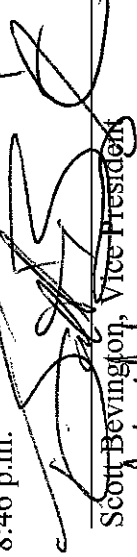
Councilwoman Durham moved to adjourn, Councilwoman Riker-Peyton seconded the motion, and motion carried 7-0. Meeting was adjourned at 8:46 p.m.

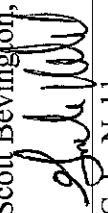

Sharon Cranfill, President


Connie Durham


Tina Patterson


Bob Stewart


Scott Bevington, Vice President


Gabe Nobbe


Kay Riker-Peyton


Attest: Jane Downard, Auditor