

## **Randolph County Commissioners**

**November 18, 2024**

The Randolph County Council met at their regular meeting at 9:00 AM in the Commissioners and Council Room in the Courthouse with the following members present: Board President Michael Wickersham, Gary Friend and Gary Girton. Also present was Randolph County Auditor Laura Martin, Sheriff Art Moystner and County Attorney Meeks Cockerill.

Pledge of Allegiance

### **Council's update**

Mike said first item on the agenda is our council's update. We have 3 council persons here I believe. Dave, Bev and Missy. Dave, do you have an update for us?

David Lenkensdofer said yes, I do, from our last meeting, and another item I'd like to present today. From our last meeting, we had a brief update from Dan Baker from RCU. I've asked him to be on our meeting agenda every month to just keep us informed and see what direction that group is headed. Heard a brief presentation from South Salem Solar that Meeks is working on currently. We passed the 2025 budget and salary ordinances, so, they're ready to go, effective January 1. Heard an agreement from Meeks again, on Headwaters 3. Is that correct?

Meeks nodded yes.

David Lenkensdofer said also, I think Meeks brought up about the ARPA monies that you guys will have to make a decision here shortly, and something about maybe going to salaries into the General Fund.

Mike said we're going to need to talk about that today.

Meeks said we have a different, there's a different idea now Dave. So, same outcome. Might go in the health, if we paid it from the health insurance. It might be a little easier for Laura.

David Lenkensdofer said okay.

Meeks said same outcome though, yeah.

David Lenkensdofer said whichever direction, but, I would like to encourage the county council maybe to make sure that money might be able to use out of the General or Health, wherever, for your jail project. I think you have a jail project coming up. And the last thing is the county council agreed to, at our budget hearing of \$250,000.00 out of the General Fund and 250,000 out of the Windfarm funds to be dedicated to the Rainy Day funds. So, I just was wondering if you

guys are doing the 250,000 from the Windfarm to go into the Rainy Day? Rainy Day stands at about 1.6 right now. Our goal is 3.1. This would make it up to 2.1 if we agreed to the 500,000. And we're slowly getting to our goal of the 3.1 in case of emergencies. So, that's all I had for today. Any questions?

Mike said okay. I don't have any. Do you have any, Gary? Okay. Thanks.

David Lenkensdofer said okay thanks.

Mike said Bev, Missy, you guys have anything? No.

**Darin James, Coroner- Office project and load system for truck**

Mike said next item is Darin James, County Coroner, has an office project that we've kind of talked about. Morning Darin.

Darin James said morning. I don't know if I got, I got the email out late on Friday, so, I don't know if you guys got the email or not. I do have some copies of kind of what was in the email. I don't know if you guys have read over what we are proposing or, I was asked to put something together. There is some importance to this project. If you guys have read through it, I can read through it, if not. The most important thing out of here is getting up to OSHA standards to me. What we're doing now is not standard. We don't own anything right now. The coolers and such are owned by the hospital. They're getting in pretty bad shape. They need a lot of work done to them. But again, we don't own them.

Mike said as I'm looking at these, Darin, we have one proposal for a remodel of the bay in the EMS building?

Darin James said yes.

Mike said that's for \$79,760?

Darin James said yes. That's just for the remodel itself.

Mike said and we have 2 proposals for the coroner's cooler.

Darin James said yes.

Mike said one, a six person and one, a four?

Darin James said that's correct. We currently have the hospital's that we use is currently a 4-person cooler. We can get by with that here. We have room for a 6-person if that's the way you guys want to go. There are times that the 4-person is full. We try to move them out as quick as we can.

Mike said I agree with you that obviously, we need to meet OSHA standards, and I think it's probably time that the county take on the ownership and responsibility for a coroner's office and equipment.

Darin James said this will put everything under one roof.

Gary Friend said it's 2 bays right, not one?

Darin James said 2 bays, yes.

Gary Friend said and concrete separation or block separation?

Darin James said uh huh.

Gary Friend said separate heating and cooling? I mean if you get you down to 10 degrees outside, but will it be enough to heat it in the hardest of winter?

Darin James said I'm not an HVAC person. I'll be real honest. I'm going off what the contractors told me. Now, there will be a separate heater in the garage area. No cooling in the garage where the truck's going to sit.

Gary Friend said I didn't see the garage heater in there.

Darin James said you might be correct. We did talk about that when I met with the contractor. I can get with him and see what that is going to cost. It's going to be just a regular, just a hanging, like they have now, but smaller in the garage area.

Gary Friend said I would challenge that it's already in here just not itemized.

Darin James said okay, I'll do that.

Gary Friend said that make sense?

Darin James said yes. The two mini splits were just one for the cooler room and one for the office itself.

Gary Friend said for the heat side. I mean, mini splits they'll click over to heat pump. It won't take care of that. Especially with all the concrete in there.

Mike said do you know how big they are?

Gary Friend said yea but if it's cold outside their not going to be able to overcome the masonry.

Darin James said sure.

Gary Friend said I agree that it's time for us to do it personally. You have one quote only. Is that all you were able to get?

Darin James said yeah, that's for a short time, yeah, I got one quote.

Mike said and that \$79,760, this is something we don't have to do it for a week.

Darin James said no.

Mike said and then the other is equipment, and it totals, if we go the 6, it would total a little less than \$100,000?

Meeks said you have to solicit bids.

Mike said we do?

Meeks said after 50, yeah.

Mike said is there any other group besides Mopec that supplies these coolers that you know of Darin?

Darin James said let me look into it. I don't know. How many do we need, three?

Meeks said well you just have to send them, yeah, three.

Darin James said okay.

Mike said send three?

Meeks said yep.

Mike said and they're the, the 6 cooler is 66,000, the 4 cooler is 45. I'm not sure which way we want to consider that?

Gary Friend said I think we should consider six.

Mike said are you okay with that?

Darin James said now the \$66,246 is including, that includes the install of \$16,000.

Gary Friend said on our financial side of it, one of the things, at least, I was thinking about is using ARPA funds. We're not going to get our contract in time to use ARPA funds. However, we can bring it to council and say we're going to return those funds into General in the proper manner, which the insurance, we're already under contract with that. It's all about being under contract is where we are.

Mike said and hopefully, council would be cooperative with that.

Gary Friend said I had spoke to the council, Dave, he was in agreement. I think maybe what we need today is a letter on a ruling to go forward and get the proper bidding, and let's get going.

Mike said I would accept that motion.

Gary Friend said I'll make that a motion.

Mike said do I have a second?

Gary Girton said yeah, I think so. It's an opportune time now since the building the new ambulance facility in Farmland that's just, and we just need to do it now, utilize the rest of that facility, and definitely cover the need that you have, which has been lacking for some time.

Darin James said so you need.

Mike said is that a second?

Gary Girton said yes.

Mike said all in favor of the motion to proceed the coroner to go forward with this project, signify by saying aye.

All aye votes. Motion carried.

Gary Friend said am I correct, we're moving forward with 6 coolers?

Mike said yeah. So, we need to find at least 2 other suppliers of those coolers.

Darin James said okay.

Mike said anything else this morning?

Darin James said I do.

Mike said oh, you've got a load system for the truck.

Darin said so, I've talked about this before. I don't know if I went to commissioners. I know I talked about it with the council, probably a year ago, maybe longer. Our current transport vehicle, we do have an automatic or a power load cot. We just don't have the load system in the truck. So, basically, you still manually load that vehicle. Normally, on scene, we don't have a problem. There're plenty of people. Once we get to the morgue itself, you're one person. If somebody weighs 400 pounds, that's 400 pounds on you. So, this load system can go in our truck. I wasn't sure if we could even install it. I've talked to Striker, I've talked to their installer. It can be installed. It's, the total price with install and a converter put in is \$36,517.61. It's

something we've been wanting to do for a while. I think, for safety, it's a good idea. A lot of times, you are by yourself, and this will help tremendously.

Mike said I would agree.

Gary Friend said I would too. It's part of getting where we need to be.

Mike said well this one, we can just go ahead and buy, can't we?

Gary Friend said yeah, I'm going to make a motion we buy it out of ARPA.

Mike said we have a motion to buy the load system for the coroner's truck at a cost of \$36,517.61 out of ARPA funds. Do I have a second?

Gary Girton seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Mike said very good. Okay.

Darin James said one other thing that wasn't on the agenda that was just, I got an email on it, we do this every year, it's a grant through the State Health Department. It's not money grant, it's a supply grant. They only gave us \$360.00 this year. It goes off the amount of violent deaths we have. It's down, which is good for this county. But that \$360.00 is still there to take. I'd like to have maybe approval that I know what will forward the grant.

Mike said we can give you approval. We've got a form that you need to complete. It needs to come to us, and then needs to go to council as well, so that internally, at the county, we know who has grants and where it's coming from and what it's used for.

Darin James said okay. I think I remember I filled that out last year.

Mike said so you could pick on of those up at Laura's office.

Darin James said okay.

Mike said okay?

Darin James said yep.

Mike said and maybe next meeting we'll act on that.

Darin James said okay.

Mike said okay.

Darin James said thank you.

Mike said thank you, Darin.

**Brad Mullen – Farmland EMS Equipment, Supervisor vehicle**

Mike said Brad Mullen, Farmland EMS equipment. Morning Brad.

Brad Mullen said morning. I submitted what we need to get the Farmland station equipped to, once it's done, to make it a fully functional station. I just had to put in the necessities that we need. We do have money for next year. The stuff we don't get now, we can always get next year on next year's budget. But I think the forms that I emailed is like the bare necessities that we need to get to get the station working for a 24-hour shift.

Mike said okay. Is this the complete list?

Brad Mullen said yes.

Gary Friend said is \$1,183.03 cents the sum total?

Brad Mullen said what was the number you gave? I mean, there're 3 separate totals. We have the total for the television, the plates, dishes, silverware, hot spot the bed frames, the microwaves. And then asked for 2 chairs for the desks to go in the rooms and then a stackable washer, dryer and a refrigerator, and then mattresses, the desks and chairs for the bedrooms and then our paging system that we currently have at our new station. Those are the invoices that I've got.

Mike said is this to equip the Farmland facility like the Winchester facility?

Brad Mullen said yes.

Mike said I would entertain a motion to approve this request.

Gary Girton made a motion to approve. Gary Friend seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Laura said where from?

Mike said are we paying that from ARPA?

Gary Friend said yes.

Mike said okay. Where we started with it. We got a supervisor vehicle?

Brad Mullen said yes. This is something we've looked at for a while and we finally got quotes in and stuff like that. What we would like to utilize it for is whenever me and Dalton are on call, we have a vehicle that we can help out on other calls. We can respond if there's, the truck is out in Farmland, I can respond in Farmland. If he has a truck and someone one in the Winchester area, he can respond on those calls. It'll be equipped exactly like our ambulances, and we can do

everything but transport with it. It'll have the cardiac monitor in it. It'll have the LUCAS device, all the meds and drugs, airway bags. We'll be able to go to over to Ball to pick up our meds, because that's where our meds are at. And at this time, we don't have a line item for mileage. We have, be able to use the employees that we have in paramedic school. We have 5 employees right now that started paramedic school. And be able to help them if they have to go to a test site to take a test or to do clinicals and like that to keep them, you know, their driving a ways to do that.

Mike said how's that happen now?

Brad Mullen said it's on them. They're not at a stage right now where they're doing clinicals.

Mike said how do we go to Muncie now to pick up meds?

Brad Mullen said I drive my personal vehicle.

Mike said and the county pays you for that?

Brad Mullen said no.

Mike said they don't?

Brad Mullen said no. I don't charge mileage because we don't have a line item for that, and I mean, ever since I've been an assistant director, that's just, you drive your personal vehicle, you run over there, you grab the meds and come back.

Mike said well I'm not sure that's correct. I'm not sure it raises to the level of buying another vehicle in my opinion. I guess, I'm thinking, we've gotten along without the supervisor vehicle for a long time. I don't know if that's something, I mean, I think if you're driving on behalf of the county, it needs to be county expense. And I think there should be a line item for your mileage in there if you're using of your car. That, I wouldn't have a problem with. I'm not particularly ready to go ahead and buy another vehicle for the emergency services. I don't know how everybody else feels.

Gary Friend said I think we're on the edge of it, the two facilities now. You see chase vehicles for the EMS and fire is not uncommon. We could revisit this, and how's it working with Farmland and Winchester. And I don't think it's an extraordinary request because it's a normal part of EMS. Even on the personal vehicles your taking for medicine, are you properly secured with these type of meds that you are getting?

Brad Mullen said on the chase vehicle or on my own personal?

Gary Friend said personal.

Brad Mullen said I don't have anything in my own personal vehicle.



Mike said I wasn't aware that was happening.

Brad Mullen said yeah. I mean, it happens a lot, because if I know that Farmland truck is out, and have a call over there, it's my job as the boss to make sure that that patient gets some kind of care started before either Delaware County comes or our truck comes from Winchester, or Winchester fire comes.

Mike said you're saying you use your personal vehicle for that?

Brad Mullen said yes.

Gary Friend said anybody on site, just to get there?

Brad Mullen said yeah.

Mike said is that somebody, is that something new or has it been going on since you've been here?

Brad Mullen said I've done it ever since I've worked there. When I was not even in administration I would, if we, if the pager goes off and it's close, Diane and Duane has always said you can respond and help out.

Mike said and how often do you think that happens?

Brad Mullen said several times. I mean, just last week it was like 4 or 5 times I responded in. We go to Ball at least 2 times a month. We've had, I mean we had an accident last week, you know, we had to.

Mike said do you think this activity will increase because of Farmland?

Brad Mullen said I'd say a very good possibility, because you know, we're adding another paramedic truck over there. That chance of we have to go over to Winchester and fill up their narcotic boxes, I mean, we can only keep so much drugs in that narcotic box. And if they use it.

Mike said are we still expecting Farmland to be open by the end of the year?

Brad Mullen said yes.

Mike said so, once we're open then in January and maybe February, we could see how that tracks and revisit that.

Brad Mullen said we could.

Mike said is that what you're thinking?

Gary Friend said yeah. I think we're on the more positive side of needing it, but proving it also.

Mike said well I guess in the meantime Brad, I'm not sure, maybe it's too late to do that, not sure if it is, I guess I wish we would have known beforehand that you're using your personal vehicle and not being paid for it.

Brad Mullen said I mean I was just going on how I was trained prior to.

Mike said over the years, I forget how many years you've been in that office, but that's a lot of mileage.

Brad Mullen said yeah, 26 years.

Mike said that's a lot of miles you've given to the county frankly.

Brad Mullen said uh huh.

Mike said I'm not sure we could do anything about that though.

Gary Friend said no.

Mike said not in the past. Between now and the end of whenever you guys act on it.

Gary Friend said there're two things going on. One, using it for that and two showing up and you're there in body and spirit, but the chase vehicle would have equipment too.

Mike said so, do you have a quote for this vehicle?

Brad Mullen said I do. I have a quote for the vehicle to have it totally equipped and wrapped and detailed.

Mike said I think it would be a value to email it to Laura so she could share it with us.

Brad Mullen said okay.

Mike said okay. Want to table this?

Gary Friend said yes.

Mike said \$50,465 quote, is that the bid?

Brad Mullen said yes.

Mike said well, I don't think I have that.

Brad Mullen said I do have some funds that I would be able to buy the radios, some of the other equipment for it.

Mike said did you email it to me?

Brad Mullen said I emailed it to everybody.

Mike said this is part of your equipment email?

Brad Mullen said there was, I did that the equipment first and then I did this one second.

Mike said the only, I guess, advantage of moving before the end of the year is if we sign a contract by this vehicle is we could use ARPA to pay for it, if that's what you want to do.

Gary Friend said no, they're not on the email on that one.

Mike said so, if you could email that to us, maybe we can take a look at it in the first week of December.

Laura said we've got all these items you're adding to ARPA, we have to have contracts by the end of this year on all of these.

Mike said right.

Laura said just so they know.

Mike said the contract would be signed.

Brad Mullen said when I talked to the guy from Kelley Chevrolet, it was this one that has the state bid, he sent me an invoice and he said it's not that we're saving this vehicle or anything like that, it just says if you want it, it's still here. When I emailed to him, talked to him on Friday, he said that both, all three of them are still sitting there that we looked at.

Mike said well if you'd send that to Gary Girton and I.

Brad Mullen said okay.

Mike said we can take a look at it and revisit it at the first meeting in December.

Brad Mullen said okay.

Mike said okay. You will need to give us an update on that building in Farmland as well. Okay. Anything else?

Brad Mullen said no. That'll be it.

Mike said do you have any questions of Brad? Okay. Thank you.

Brad Mullen said thank you.

**Joe Copeland, Chad Roots and Perry Knox – Road Study**

Mike said Joe Copeland. Chad, want to come up too?

Joe Copeland said morning. We're here to talk about the scoping study that was done by SJCA for improvements to County Road 1000 West, 800 North and the sight distance improvement at State Road 1 at 800 North. They finalized the study. There're three different proposals with estimates on how much it will cost. The cheapest is treatment option two. There're three options. First one is using geo grid and stone and that's \$4,140,100.00. Option two is cement stabilization, and that's 3,730,000 and then concrete pavement is 6,656,000. I could understand that. I'll let SJCA take us from there and kind of give a re-cap.

Mike Wenning said okay. Thank you. We looked at the corridor, two roads going through there, kind of road 1000 West and County Road 800 North. The concept here is that the aggregate company is going to have to have, I think it says on page 5, about 10,000 loaded vehicles per year for 50 years or so there. So, the three options that we did not take any geotechnical work, so we're kind of guessing at the sub-surface requirements for that. That's why we had the first two options there with two different concepts for stabilizing the area. The third one, the concrete, that's your most durable one, probably closer to the 50 years as opposed to the asphalt surface for the first two options that we showed. This also includes some culverts, some small structure and culvert replacements through here and a few new ones for the new alignment. The alignment over to, I believe it's State Road 1, yes, was changed because coming down off the hill from the south and the sight distance is sub-standard in that area. So, moving the entrance of the road to the north alleviated that problem. We did look at another option where we would maintain the existing alignment, but it maintained some S curves where it veers to the south and then we would need to put in two sub-standard curves or an S curve coming up to State Road 1 and decided that wasn't really a viable option for this. That's kind of the overview for the study. I don't know if you've had a chance to look at it or if there are any questions at this time?

Mike said what's that distance between existing County Road 800 North and the proposed road?

Mike Wenning said that's a great question. Let's see if I've got that in here. So, this all is to scale, so it's about 400 feet.

Mike said 400 feet?

Mike Wenning said uh huh, plus or minus.

Mike said it looks like this project also includes an improvement and widening of the turn radius off 1000 West and 800?

Mike Wenning said it does. It also includes the widening of the road. It's currently 22-foot width, 2 11-foot lanes. I think this would make it 2 12-foot lanes in there, but you're absolutely correct.

Mike said for both county roads or just?

Mike Wenning said for both of them, yes. We figure with that many trucks, you probably need full width lanes.

Mike said and I haven't looked at it as close as I would intend to, but is there any way that that information can be pulled out of these expenses without rebuilding 800 North to the north, meaning what the cost of the increased width of two roads are, plus the cost of the greater radius in that turn?

Mike Wenning said the way we did the quantities, we can pull that number out.

Mike said I think that would be valuable, that my understanding going to the north may be difficult any way. And the wider road and the bigger radius would obviously help the county and help the company. And then the alternative to rebuilding 800 North might be to go to the state and say what could you do for us here?

Mike Wenning said okay.

Mike said now we have a sub-standard intersection that's going to get many, many trucks over the next 50 years, what can you do? And I know, I think Tom Chalfant has always mentioned down on 100 South the state coming in and cutting that hill down, and maybe they could do that up north to get rid of that hill to make it more visible, to make it less

Mike Wenning said I did look at the extent of what they would have to do to cut that hill down to get the sight, and it wasn't part of the study here, it was just laying some lines on the grass, and it was more extensive than the relocation here.

Mike said oh really? But it would be state money if we'd get that through, so.

Mike Wenning said yeah.

Gary Friend said this, the flood plain down there on the option of 800. Are we in flood plain there?

Mike Wenning said we're in, I know there was some ecological concerns up towards the north end that we weren't certain of, it wasn't that complete of a study that we performed for that. I believe there are some potential flooded areas on the 100 year.

Gary Friend said on the north side of the bridge, it completely shuts down.

Mike Wenning said okay.

Gary Friend said from heavy water, every time.

Mike Wenning said okay.

Gary Friend said so, on the south side of the bridge if that 800 is moved that far north, is it then going to be in the flood plain and by that, all the trucks are going to back route down 1000 all the way to 32?

Mike Wenning said no. The new road will be built above the flood plain.

Gary Friend said Highway 1.

Mike Wenning said Highway 1 is, I can double check on that, but I was led to believe that everything was out of the flood plain for the new construction.

Gary Friend said at Highway 1,

Mike Wenning said at Highway 1.

Gary Friend said you can't go north on flood days no matter what.

Mike Wenning said okay.

Gary Friend said no matter what, you'd always be going to the south.

Mike Wenning said okay.

Gary Friend said on the right flooding. Basically, if you're out there from that memorial all the length of the bridge is under water, multiple times a year. Now it would have to go to the other side I would think, a little bit. A fellow that used to live up in there, he couldn't get home from time to time, legend has it.

Mike Wenning said okay.

Gary Friend said there's an existence of flooding up in there.

Mike Wenning said we can check that out as well.

Gary Friend said okay.

Mike Wenning said yeah, we didn't do anything to improve Highway 1 in this.

Gary Friend said well understandable. That's my question if you get 800 down there, we can't use it anyway. Sit there and wait for the water to recede.

Mike Wenning said right.

Gary Friend said I have a couple of questions if this continues on through there, one, are their grant opportunities to help get this built out for Randolph County on our part. Two, I guess is US

Aggregate interested in any kind of help on it, whether it's even in kind stone to help us build it out. Three, is well let's just say we go through all of this, we spend quite a big amount of money, can we do truck control and not let them go down 1000 all the way to Highway 32? If they're heading west and southwest, they're not going to want to come out on 800 on 1 and go over and jog around there in Farmland. They're going to shoot down 900 and 1000. And then we'll just have two other destroyed roads. With a brand new road, we just built. How do we get around that?

Joe Copeland said weight limit is the only way I know.

Gary Friend said what do those trucks weigh?

Chad Roots said I don't have that right here.

Meeks said 88,000 pounds.

Joe Copeland said somewhere in that neighborhood, yeah.

Meeks said you can go 10% over 80,000.

Gary Friend said yeah, I was wondering what the stone trucks weigh?

Meeks said well I don't know about the stone trucks. I just know the grain trucks.

Joe Copeland said a triaxle will hold 20 ton legally. A quad will haul, what, 22 ½ ton legally.

Gary Friend said so, do you weight limit those two county roads and give a pass for agriculture, how's that fair? How's that work?

Joe Copeland said I've seen it done in other counties.

Meeks said you've still got to have enforcement.

Joe Copeland said yeah.

Meeks said you've got to have the scales.

Joe Copeland said I've seen it done.

Chad Roots said a typical load weight of a triaxle would not exceed the 73,280. And between 42 and 52,000 unloaded, so, we've got unloaded and loaded half in and half out, basically, at any given time. But, I can, and you've raised a couple of questions I don't mind addressing if you'd like.

Mike said go ahead.

Chad Roots said I guess to address the first foremost concern was, you know, the US Aggregates participation, this is provided to us, Mr. Copeland sent us a copy, just so we kind of had an idea of what was going to be presented to the commission this morning. And I went ahead and asked that we take a look at kind of monetizing the stone volumes and the options to see what we could do to assist in the project. We don't have those commitments yet, but we're actively looking at how we can. Obviously, it would be very beneficial to not only the project for the county, us to have it there and available, so, we're looking at what we can do there. That's being done as we speak. I guess secondly, my couple thoughts is the new terrain that's been proposed in option 1 by shifting that north, the flood plain issue has always been of a concern because that does wash out, as we know. The sight distance was a concern for safety, which is why we, I think, kind of proposed this is a possibility. Those loaded trucks heading northbound on 1, those rear collisions was the big concern. A loaded stone truck northbound turning in, somebody coming over that hill was that kind of safety concern is what we originally presented. So, just as a reminder to kind of that was what we had, our number one concern was safety. If it's time, I can also kind of give an update where the two quarries are on timing. Because the truck, the loads on each truck kind of vary from time to time, given how much is being hauled out, 10,000 has been a generic number of quantity trucks. In 2024, this year, so far, we've estimated that number has been about 12,000. So, we're exceeding the number that we'd anticipated. That's been about a little over 10,000 at the existing Ridgeville, and we've put about 2,000 out of the new Fairview quarry. The Fairview, what we've done is, in order to manage safety for the community and the neighbors down there, we've only sent the minimum amount of customers there, the major projects, if we can deal with just one customer whose got a project, a significant project, we want to send him there, him or her, so that we can manage that driver. That way, they're not all over the place doing, we're trying to minimize the disruption as much as we can. We're also trying to direct traffic so that we don't have two-way crossing at the moment on 800. So, we're sending them in different directions to try to try to help safety, so we don't have crossings. We've also increased phone activity down there to notify property owners when we do the blasting. So, I'm not sure if the commission has heard from any neighbors, but we have, we're giving them a heads up as well. Moving forward, in 2025, we're actually looking at somewhere around a 60/40 split on the truck traffic transitioning from Ridgeville to Fairview. So, I'm anticipating about 6500 trucks in 25 coming in and out of Fairview, and about 4700 out of Ridgeville. 2025 will be that major year where we're ramping up the production out of Fairview. And in terms of the actual final stone that's being blasted in Ridgeville, that's likely to cease in 25. We'll continue to sell specialty products out of Ridgeville, but the reserve will be virtually depleted. We'll just be mixing up specialty products.

Gary Friend said that's a 50-year quarry over there at Fairview?

Chad Roots said Fairview, 50 plus.

Gary Friend said 50 plus.

Chad Roots said correct.

Gary Friend said as we're going through this, I don't want you at all to feel like you're the villain for doing business here.



Chad Roots said appreciate that.

Gary Friend said not at all. I really don't. We've just got to get. You are not. Thank you. I mean, probably been at Ridgeville 50 years?

Chad Roots said or, yeah, or more.

Joe Copeland said is there a chance that the new quarry will have an asphalt plant coming in?

Chad Roots said not, likely not, a sister company of ours. If there was, if there was a supplier that was, or a user that was interested, we would entertain the idea. Of course, we would want to do it in conjunction with what the community would want. So, that's not something we would go rogue with. But, at the present time, there's not been expressed interest.

Joe Copeland said or a concrete plant?

Chad Roots said nobody of convenient that I know of for the project, off hand.

Gary Friend said Chad, is there any real chance of getting any land to the north of, does that materialize? I know you've been working with the landowners up in there prospecting out. Has it been on the favorable side or the unfavorable side of a land acquisition?

Chad Roots said for where the proposed road project is here?

Gary Friend said yeah.

Chad Roots said I would say probably unfavorable. The requests by the property owner that we've tried to work with had been kind of to the degree of, try and use the right words here.

Gary Friend said so, if we have to come down 800 to Highway 1 in its current route, what can we do there I guess, that's probably going to be more than likely, I don't even know how we can.

Mike said I think two things, one is that the roads, if we can invest in widening the roads, that's going to improve that situation, and obviously, improving the turn radius, but I think we go to the state and talk to them about what's going to be happening out there for the next 50 years, and try to make that intersection safer. I don't, you probably know what it would take to not necessarily change the road but put some safety flashers or trucks entering the intersection, those ones they have at Deerfield now on 28, I don't know if, those were kind of strange to me when I saw them at first, but I think they're kind of handy to have now. As you're going north on 27, you know somebody is waiting there at 28, so you alert yourself that somebody might pull out in front of you. So, I don't know. I don't know what else, I don't know what else can be done. It doesn't warrant a stop light I suppose, but I don't know. Who knows what the state is going to decide?

Gary Friend said the state is well aware. I've actually contacted them a little bit, a couple, three months ago. They're aware and they've asked me some questions. We don't have any answers yet. We'll get them a study, we don't know.

Mike said so, I think at this point, for me, I think if we could pull out the cost of widening and the turn radius and see where that takes us, and then we look at US Aggregate's participation, and maybe there is a grant out there beyond Community Crossings. I suppose that is one that we could seek for this, I would think. Could we not?

Mike Wenning said and we were thinking we could also break this into two projects for funding-wise. Each road kind of lends itself to its own project. So, depending on how the funding comes in, that would be an option.

Gary Friend said yeah, I think on that one, we just plan on the next one. So, we know we have to begin doing something. And I think that's going to be more likely route what Mike was saying, We're not going to go north. And I don't know legally, Meeks, what we need to do to begin truck control? It's not the stone quarry's responsibility for truck control. So, I don't think.

Meeks said you've got to get scales and you're got to have enforcement if you're going to go a limit.

Gary Friend said we can certainly get a lot of signage up to make a discouragement. I mean, can you actually keep them on Highway 1 when they go to the south?

Meeks said you only can do it with limits. I mean, weight limit. We looked at this when we did that Frost law. And literally, we went back and forth and unless you're going to commit to buy weights, because the state won't come in and, if you stop somebody, they won't come with their weights. You have to have your own set.

Mike said okay. Gary, you have any questions?

Gary Girton said no, I think it looks like we need to really be studying this and thinking about it, and try to come up with a plan, because it's something that's going to go. But just off the cuff to start with, that's a lot of money, but there are options out there, you know, we've got some funding and basically, I don't know, Joe, you know all about the grants that we're applying for, and does this affect the ones that we need for other projects if we applied for a grant for this? How's that going to come out.

Joe Copeland said it shouldn't. I mean you're limited on Community Crossings.

Gary Girton said right.

Joe Copeland said is limited to a million or a million and a half, depending on what they give us for next year, but, that's the only limitation that I can think of. And now, they only pay for construction on Community Crossings, 75% of construction, that's it. No inspection, no design,

any of that, right-of-way, none. I wish there was a way we could reduce the amount of earthwork on some of this and see if we could, if we could reduce that amount, I'm hoping, and use, and maybe raise the grade a little bit, so we don't have to do a lot of that earthwork, and use 53 stone to compact the base with, and then put the asphalt down. Now, the asphalt can be put down by contractors or there's a paver now owned by this county.

Mike said that's right. Getting better every day.

Joe Copeland said yes. And he can, they can lay that asphalt. It'll be a special mix, a harder mix that asphalt plants can make. You'll be putting down a mix that you typically see, probably at an interstate or around truck stops and things with the heavy loads. But if we could, if we could do that and they could edge it, I mean, with stone, that would save a lot of money. Now you've still got trucking bills to get that asphalt there. That's why I'm asking Chad if they're going to have a plant. It would be nice to have a plant close by and the trucking costs go way down.

Mike Wenning said pure aggregate on this shows \$122,000.00 on all three options. That's complete, compacted and place. So, in the grand scheme of things, that's not the big number. It's the asphalt which contains aggregate.

Gary Friend said earthwork is a big number too isn't it?

Mike Wenning said it is, yes. Going cross country, and again, once your designer has a better feel for the sub-surface conditions, for the actual survey and everything, these numbers will be honed down. I will say these numbers are, whenever we had to make a decision, it went a little on the conservative side, just to make sure you were covered on here.

Gary Friend said so, I guess Joe, I mean, can you notify Greenfield of where we're at with this?

Joe Copeland said yeah, I can talk to him.

Gary Friend said this is not like planning for the future. This is on top of us.

Joe Copeland said I can send him a copy of this. McNeil, the new district traffic engineer, he's a good guy. He's real helpful.

Gary Friend said maybe next month let the commissioners know what we can do to begin immediately to take steps forward. But we really, we could talk about it, we talked about it and planned on in, but we actually begin to need to start taking action on that.

Joe Copeland said it would be nice if we could.

Gary Friend said and before I lose my train of thought, what would happen when construction starts to that stone quarry's traffic? I mean, if we got the road shut for I don't know how long, what does that do, I mean, does everybody, I mean, it's pretty well landlocked up in there. You don't have a lot of options.

Chad Roots said yeah. As I recall, when this was open at one time in the past, some of the traffic went down River Road, which was worse, as you can imagine. You know, I imagine that that would likely be the case again. Or, if, while 800 was being worked on, it would take 1000 down to 700 North instead to access 1. It depends on how that construction legs were performed. We can also look at temporary truck traffic detours through the site for example, which could be a possibility. A runaround, some options like that.

Gary Friend said Chad, I'd ask you, I mean, are you comfortable with where we're trying, where we're trying to get?

Chad Roots said I think there's a good partnership going on here. I very much appreciate the county's recognition that, and I think we want to be good partners in helping here. I look at this earthwork number and I'm startled. I wish we did our own earthwork and had our equipment there. Unfortunately, it's pressing and hauling, we outsource all our work as well, all our stripping, so, I don't have the equipment to help. But, I think we're working on the right approach, and we want to find ways to help here. And I'm going to continue to work with DOT as well.

Mike said okay. Anything else for us?

Joe Copeland said yes. Have you got time for a few other items this morning?

Mike said I think so. Thank you, gentlemen.

Joe Copeland said thank you for coming. I wonder if Robin Warner and Patrick would come up. Bridge 304. On Carl Street in the city. Yes sir. I think you need an update on where we're at and what's going on with that structure. And to give you, in case you get a phone call, you'll know what's going on. Go ahead Robin.

Robin Warner said good morning commissioners. Bridge 304 has run into some unique issues.

Gary Friend said can I ask who you are though?

Robin Warner said I'm Robin Warner. I the director of construction inspection for SJCA. It's run into some unique issues and the fact that the contractor has decided to move forward earlier than we had anticipated. But, they have every right to move forward. They were told that there was a water main attached to the bottom of the bridge deck in the CIB, the contract information book. It stated that that water main would not be moved until March 16<sup>th</sup>. It would be out of the way by the 16<sup>th</sup> of March. They have elected to go ahead. They demolished the entire bridge deck. They tell me that they have pot holed and they know where the water line is. Neither myself nor the agent from Indiana American Water have any idea where it's at now. And we, at Indiana American Water's request and we also consulted with the county engineer, told them they must stop working, because not knowing where it's at, if that water line becomes damaged, I see several houses that are going to be without water. And I'm certain the votary wouldn't be real happy. So, at the moment, the project, we have told them to stop. And we, just this

morning, found out there is a possibility we will be meeting out there, Patrick, did you say Wednesday?

Joe Copeland said Wednesday at one.

Patrick said yes sir.

Robin Warner said Wednesday at one, to, I think they're going to try to show us where it's at so we can determine if the footer of the existing bridge, we're tearing it out, will interfere with that water line.

Mike said so, are you meeting the contractor out there or you're meeting the water company out there?

Robin Warner said yes.

Mike said both?

Robin Warner said yes. We have required the contractor to now prove to SJCA as the inspection team, and to Indiana American Water, since they own the water line, where that water line is at in relationship, and we want to know what their plan is to not damage the water line.

Joe Copeland said with the age, what were you told about the age of that water line?

Robin Warner said it is suspected that that water line was put in in 1898. So, it's probably somewhere north of fragile. Looking at the houses in that part of town, I don't doubt that to be true at all. I think it's there. There has been an issue with the sanitary sewer, getting it put in. That's being addressed on a design side from, that's HWC is working for the city of Winchester on that? The city of Winchester on it, the sanitary utility. So, that's all being addressed as quickly as possible. At this point though, I would say that there's a chance that that water line may interfere with that work since we don't know where it's at.

Mike said it may interfere with the sanitary sewer?

Robin Warner said it could. I can't say that it does because I don't know where it's at.

Mike said ultimately, Indiana American Water is going to need to replace that water line, I'd think.

Robin Warner said yes, and they are on schedule to do so by March 16<sup>th</sup>.

Mike said March of next year?

Robin Warner said 25.

Gary Friend said which was the plan anyway, right?

Joe Copeland said yes, yes.

Mike said we've kind of uncovered it for them now, they ought to be able to get their quicker.

Robin Warner said well, we haven't exactly uncovered it. No, they can't get their quicker, and please don't hold me to this, gentlemen, because this is what the agent from Indiana American Water told me that they, they're in the bidding process and March 16<sup>th</sup> is about as quickly as they can move.

Mike said is that right?

Robin Warner said yes.

Mike said okay. One o'clock at the bridge.

Robin Warner said yep.

Mike said Wednesday.

Robin Warner said Wednesday.

Mike said well, we appreciate the update. Okay.

Robin Warner said anything else you need, Joe?

Joe Copeland said no, I think that's it.

Gary Friend said the contractor okay with the stop order?

Joe Copeland said no.

Robin Warner said no, they have not. They're somewhat resistant.

Meeks said that's why you might get a call.

Mike said a call from the contractor?

Robin Warner said oh yes.

Mike said okay.

Robin Warner said I would suspect it. They're not overly happy with me.

Mike said what is his name?

Robin Warner said it I Brumbaugh Construction.

Mike said okay, that's right.

Robin Warner said I would guess it would be a gentleman named Troy Myer.

Mike said okay.

Joe Copeland said yes sir. Thank you.

Gary Friend said he is though, honoring the stop work order, correct?

Robin Warner said as far as we know. We will be checking on our way out today. I have an inspector that lives here in Randolph County. If I need to, I'll have her check it every day.

Mike said okay. Thank you.

Joe Copeland said next item, it's Federal Aid time. Applications are due December 6<sup>th</sup>, I believe it is. And we would like to add a bridge to that list. We'd done 284 before, the one that's closed. We'd done 114, the historic bridge, and we'd done, now we want to do bridge 303. On the list of replacements, it's number 16, but wasn't scheduled until 2029. This would put it with a Federal Aid grant, put it at 2030.

Mike said that's the one just south of Carl Street?

Joe Copeland said yes. What's it called, Orange?

Perry Knox said Orange Street, where the school is and park.

Mike said between the school and the park?

Joe Copeland said yeah. It's got a load limit on it now. And we'd like to move forward and add it to the list that we applied for. So, to start out, we have a task order. INDOT requires that if you have a consultant do an estimate of the construction and design for the entire project, that you need to have an agreement. And sometimes they will ask that question, do you have an agreement? And they're looking for it, okay. In other words, they don't want freebies being done for favoritism, is what they're, I think is the intent. So, there's a task order for \$1,500.00 to do the, to put all the numbers together.

Mike said you don't have the time to do this?

Joe Copeland said oh, I wouldn't. I don't have the knowledge currently, to be able to set those numbers.

Mike said okay.

Joe Copeland said it changes so quickly today, with inflation.

Mike said okay. So, it's going to cost us \$1,500.00 to add this to the Federal grant list basically?

Joe Copeland said yes.

Mike said and then the expenses go from there. Why it's on the load limit now, it serves a lot of traffic to the school in between Main Street and the school. I think it's probably a good thing to do.

Gary Friend said motion to approve. Where were you going to fund that? Do you have an idea? Through the highway department?

Joe Copeland said not, I don't, not yet. I think the bridge is going to be pretty.

Gary Friend said the 1500?

Joe Copeland said oh, the 1500, yeah, we can take it out of bridge.

Gary Friend said yeah, okay.

Joe Copeland said no problem.

Mike said have a motion to approve the task order number 4 for bridge 303. Do I have a second?

Gary Girton seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Mike said okay.

Joe Copeland said on that note, here's a financial commitment letter which the state requires for these projects. Got to have these things. That one is for 303, and then the next one we wanted to put in of course, is 114, which is the steel truss bridge that we've been putting in the last few years.

Mike said what's the north south road that is between?

Perry Knox said east west, 300 South.

Mike said I know, what two roads is it between?

Perry Knox said south of Parker City, right?

Mike said west of One?

Perry Knox said yes.



Mike said okay.

Perry Knox said it's got a real low posting on it right now. It's in pretty rough shape.

Joe Copeland said and then this one is 284, which we've been putting in. That's the one that's closed. The steel truss, if I remember, has completely rusted through. And with that, I'd like to ask your concurrence about priority, because they ask for priority when I submit these. With your approval, I'd like to do the 114, then the 303, and then 284. Put 114 priority. Is that okay with you?

Mike said then why is that priority?

Joe Copeland said we've been putting it in for some time now, and I know the farmers are having to go around it. They can't cross it. I think it's a 6-ton limit now.

Perry Knox said it's real low.

Mike said I don't have a problem with that ranking. 114, 303 and 284.

Gary Friend said I don't either.

Joe Copeland said then I will be going to the council meeting then, the first of next month to, for a financial commitment letter if you're in agreement.

Mike said and your plan, at this point, is to take it out of Cum bridge fund, and other funds if necessary?

Joe Copeland said yes.

Perry Knox said last year we applied for three bridges. Just got one awarded, so, this year, applying for three.

Joe Copeland said I figure we're on the one list.

Mike said things might change now, you never know.

Joe Copeland said it'll surprise me if it does.

Perry Knox said yeah, that's why you have to prioritize them.

Mike said so, I'd entertain a motion to approve the county's financial commitment letters for bridge 114, 303 and 284.

Gary Girton made a motion to approve. Gary Friend seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Joe Copeland said next item, it needs some survey work done on a bridge. I want to replace the super structure on the bridge and I'm having difficulty getting the measurements I need. So, I've asked SJCA if they could do the measurements and get me what I need to be able to do it. And then I'll take it from there and I'll get an estimate and get it up here and get your approval and move forward with. It's on bridge 68, which is on 800 East there at 550 North. There by the church. It's currently a steel beam bridge with a concrete deck, and that's what I'm putting back on.

Mike said and you'll be doing this with yourself then?

Joe Copeland said yeah, the rest of it, I'll do, I'll take care of.

Mike said so this is task order number 5, \$5,900.00 to do the survey data on the existing structure 68.

Gary Girton made motion to approve.

Gary Friend said I'll second. Where are we paying for it from?

Joe Copeland said I'll take that out of bridge also, Cum bridge.

Mike said motion and a second, all in favor?

All aye votes. Motion carried.

Joe Copeland said okay, next item. I'm getting close to finishing. I didn't know if you had heard, but we had submitted for Community Crossings back in July, for resurface on 800 East from State Road 28 up to 700 North. That was approved. We have the money. We even, the state has matched the construction 75%. So, I'd originally asked for less because of what we had asked for before exceeded the 1 1/2 million, but when the final bids came in, they were lower. So, they were good enough to give us the full 75% on this project. So, what I'm looking at is bid date. We've got to hurry up and get it bid so I can get it bid and get the agreement set up so we can get our money. Of course, it'll be done in 2025. So, I'm looking at December 16<sup>th</sup>, if that's okay, at your regular meeting, have it due in Laura's office at 9:00. Do you have a preference for actually opening it, 9:00, 9:30?

Mike said we typically open them first thing.

Joe Copeland said I can make it 9:00 o'clock.

Mike said the only issue with 9:00 o'clock is that is we're, if somebody brings it in at 8:59, then somebody has to bring it up from the office at 8:59 to be here. So, I guess, what I would request is if you could stay down there until the last moment then you can come up and bring the last bid. Is that fair?

Joe Copeland said yeah, that's good.

Mike said that work for you?

Laura said that's fine.

Mike said then we'll do it first thing.

Joe Copeland said alright, 9:00 o'clock.

Mike said that, or we could have the bids due by close of business on Friday. That would be the 13<sup>th</sup>. That would be really the preferred way for the auditor's office and then there's no question that if they're not in by Friday the close of business day, if anybody comes in Money is not brought up here.

Joe Copeland said would you prefer 3:00 o'clock, Laura for making them due or?

Laura said we're there until 4:00, so whatever you want to set it for.

Joe Copeland said we'll make it 3:00 to make sure that we have no complaints.

Mike said okay. You don't have to be there for that.

Joe Copeland said I'll put the notice to bidders in there. Now next item, and last item, is the annual bids, due date and when they're going to be awarded. I'm figuring due date would be that Monday the 16<sup>th</sup> if December, but we can make it Friday and do it that way.

Mike said yeah, Friday would be preferred.

Joe Copeland said alright, we'll do it Friday.

Gary Friend said at 3:00.

Joe Copeland said Friday at 3:00. We'll do the same thing.

Mike said okay.

Joe Copeland said and then you can read them then on Monday the 16<sup>th</sup> and then I'd like to have time to go over, and some of them have a lot of prices on them like pipe, for instance. There's a huge number of prices for pipe. Have a chance to look at it and put it all together, and then come back at a later meeting and then they can award, we can make recommendations.

Mike said we typically meet one more time in December.

Joe Copeland said okay. I just need to know when that will be, so.

Laura said I'll email you.

Mike said Laura will email you of that meeting date, because she hasn't told us when it is.

Joe Copeland said okay.

Laura said it's on your normal schedule, but I don't know what that date is. I don't have that schedule with me.

Joe Copeland said I'll just put it in the notice to bidders they'll award it the next regular meeting.

Mike said will Jay be involved in the annual bids? Are you going to?

Joe Copeland said oh yeah.

Mike said yeah, so, okay.

Joe Copeland said I've got them, a draft put together, and I need to go over the specifications with Jay to finalize. That's it, finally.

Mike said okay, thank you.

### **Scott Rudd – Main Stream Fiber – Broadband investment**

Mike said Scott Rudd, the Main Stream Fiber, broadband investment.

Scott Rudd said morning. My name is Scott Rudd and we want to be real efficient with your time today. You've got a big agenda and we do have something I think is very important for your consideration today. You'll be happy to hear we only have one thing to request of you, and that is your support for a private investment that is very significant in fiber to the home, business and farm in Randolph County. Sitting beside me is Mark Gabriel from Main Stream Fiber. Main Stream is a client of mine and in preparation for this meeting, I've reviewed about 10 years of state and federal and private investment in broadband in Randolph County. And in summary of that review, I would tell you it's not a very pretty picture here in Randolph. Currently, you have very little fiber in the ground. And you have a lot of wireless coverage. And you've got a little bit of cable. And so, you've had some wins in some Federal grants and then those wins were defaulted. Your most significant win was a LTD wireless 1400 location award. They defaulted. In the meantime, you lost the opportunity to pursue several state grants. Out of 4 state grants, you received one this most recent round, from New Lisbon for, I think, it was about 500 locations or so, fairly small award. So, you've got, it appears to be a pretty big appetite for fiber. Your wireless coverage, as I mentioned, is extensive. It's typically not considered a kind of a future proof type of technology to have wireless. Unfortunately, that wireless coverage has prevented others from applying for state and federal grants to serve those locations. And so, you've kind of been somewhat stymied in your investment opportunity here, which leads me to Mainstream Fiber, an Indiana based company that is interested in making what I consider a very significant investment in fiber primarily with private funds. The one thing, the one request that we have of you today is simply your support for their private investment and their grant application to a federal program called BEAD, which is kind of our last best chance in the state to secure

significant public funding for broadband. It's \$868,000,000.00 available to Indiana alone for broadband. Again, it's called BEAD. And it's bearing down on us here very quickly. So, kind of got our last chance and we've got Mainstream Fiber here. Mark Gabriel would like to give you some information on the investment they'd like to make.

Mark Gabriel said thank you for your time. We really appreciate this. Just quickly, Mainstream has been in business approximately 10 years. Did our first project 2014. We're based in Brown County. Since then, we are now providing service in 12 counties in Indiana. Indiana based. We decided to stay in Indiana alone and provide service to rural areas throughout Indiana. In the previous 4 next level grant rounds, we've been fortunate to get awards in each of those 4 rounds, approximately \$23,000,000.00 of grant funding for our projects. So, as Scott said with BEAD, this is a federal grant. The state of Indiana got \$868,000,000.00 for broadband. This is the first round that is coming up. It's going to happen fairly quickly and what we're proposing, the funding is for unserved underserved as the FCC looks at the maps and determines those areas. So, in Randolph County, we're proposing a project buildout that will do approximately 800 unserved underserved areas as far as passings, which are businesses and/or households. 140 miles, a 140 miles will pass 2700 locations to reach those 800. And that would be the initial project. Project cost is 8.2 million dollars. And if we were successful in getting an award, we have two years to do that buildout of that project in the county. This is, Mainstream, basically, provides fiber to the home. We provide residents gig speed, if they want that. About 60% of our customer base now has about, has gig speed to their homes. With businesses, we obviously can provide multi-gig speed, which we do with other customers in other counties in the state. As Scott said, part of this an important piece, and BEAD is a letter of support, is actually worth 5 points of the 100 points in the rubric that's used. If we get that letter, I think, it provides an opportunity to be more successful in the application route. And that's really what we're requesting. Do you want to show them the map?

Scott Ruud said yeah, sure. If you'd like, we can leave you a map that shows the locations and areas. Happy to provide that.

Mark Gabriel said and as we do with all the counties we're working with, we encourage you to take a magic marker and mark up areas and say you're missing this piece. So, and we can go back and re-engineer the proposed project. So, the map reflects, the blue lines on there reflect where the buildout would be proposed. And that equates to about 140 miles of fiber. About 80% of that will be aerial. The remainder will be directional boring. But that's, that would be the eligible areas as the FCC defines it. And that's what we would be building out.

Mike said so, is BEAD the program that the state has been promoting that the provider enters agreements for cost of the service going forward?

Scott Ruud said yes.

Mike said okay. Based on this map, it doesn't have any cable or fiber, got a little bit of cable where you are going, but no fiber where you're going.

Mark Gabriel said right. And that's, and that's, yeah, from a company's standpoint, if there's existing fiber, it doesn't make a lot of sense from an investment standpoint to build over somebody else's fiber. Obviously, if there's wireless or cable, then, and there's eligibility, we would, that's where we're going to pursue it pursue those opportunities.

Mike said so, do you have a form letter?

Mark Gabriel said we can provide that.

Mike said I see no reason not to support this project.

Gary Friend said does this project block anything else from going on?

Mark Gabriel said no.

Gary Friend said multiple people could bid projects for Randolph County?

Mark Gabriel said they could. Yep, they could. And they can choose not to get a support letter from you and still bid on the project. I just, you're going to lose 5 points.

Gary Friend said no hidden cost for Randolph County Government?

Mark Gabriel said in a number of cases, counties do put in some money. It's fairly minimal.

Gary Friend said what you're asking, there's no hidden cost down the road to say if you don't help, we're not going to finish?

Mark Gabriel said no.

Gary Friend said at all?

Mark Gabriel said no, no.

Scott Ruud said yeah, so we would just ask for your permission to obtain a support letter or your approval.

Mike said okay. Send that to Laura and she can get it to us and we'll take a view of it and act on it at our next meeting if that's okay.

Gary Friend said I have no problem with that.

Mark Gabriel said and we can look, and then you can look at it, tweak it how you want to tweak it, but we can give you kind of a what at least, to start with, and you can ingest it as you wish.

Mike said that sounds good. Okay.

Scott Ruud said thank you.

Mike said thank you for coming in.

**Brad Dilger and Wynter Wagoner, EDP - Riverstart 3, Substantial completion, Riverstart 4, Current status of Civil work, Road Use, and signage and Riverstart 5, General update on Project timing and location, submitting of County Agreements and Headwaters III update**

Mike said Brad and Wynter.

Brad Dilger said morning commissioners. I've got a few handouts here.

Mike said apologize for skipping over you last week regarding the bond letter.

Wynter Wagoner said I thought we would get to it at the end or skip it until this meeting but thank you for approving that. I think it went around to Laura for signatures.

Meeks said there is a letter. Is that the letter? I think they've already approved it.

Gary Friend said we approved it.

Mike said we approved it. We just haven't signed it.

Wynter Wagoner said that is separate from Headwaters II. So, I was here the last meeting with Ken for the third phase in the northwest corner of the county, Headwaters III, and you know, no changes from the project updates as far as two weeks ago. But just really here to see that the agreements, the county agreements are in process. Meeks has been reviewing those with his team. And yeah, hopefully, come December, we can have those approved.

Mike said okay. Good.

Brad Dilger said any questions for Headwaters III before I move into my few items here?

Meeks said let me just interrupt. Headwaters III. We have the agreements. I've had the meeting with Baker Tilley and Rick, and we're really close to having those things hammered out. And we do have an analysis from Baker Tilley, and I think the company's agreeing with that analysis. All that, I think, is ready to go and there should be a preliminary resolution maybe for the council on next month, and then there's be, hopefully, final agreements for you guys by two weeks from now. Hopefully, by the end of this week.

Mike said and how far east is it coming again?

Wynter Wagoner said how far east? We're showing about right, in the northeast corner, we kind of go over to 200 West, in the southeast, it gets a little closer to 300.

Mike said okay.

Wynter Wagoner said a little jagged there. Nothing, I can show you those.

Mike said and as I think I mentioned last meeting, those are, there's only going to be 50?

Wynter Wagoner said yeah, at most. Yeah, that final number.

Mike said then those would have to be spread out.

Wynter Wagoner said yes. And that final number will probably be closer like between 46 or 47. But, because we're still determining that final model, that number will be.

Mike said this seems like a broad territory for 50, compared to one and two.

Wynter Wagoner said yeah, much more spread out for sure, yeah. Plus, there's all, like four townships up there in that corner.

Mike said okay. I don't have any more questions? Do you? Do you have anything else, Meeks?

Meeks said we had a meeting, no, I don't have anything.

Mike said very good.

Brad Dilger said also going from wind to solar. So, just some updates, or one update really for Riverstart III. So, that's the project under construction just north of Modoc. They're going through their operational testing right now and they should see commercial operation in early weeks of December. So, they're really close to wrapping that up. They'll obviously, still need to go through and do some punch list items, but major operations have already started slowing down. As indicated I think, about a month ago, the lay down yard is now vacated and back over to the landowner there. So, moving along really well there. It was a little bit of a rough start but got there finally. Moving on to Riverstart IV, one of two again, I'd just give an update on where the contractor is. So, they're moving from the southwest corner to the northeast corner, in that direction, with earthwork going on. Just, you know, their standard. Their standard creating a more level ground out there for the solar panels to be installed, and then going back through and doing their erosion control measures, planting grasses, and you know, installing the access roads. The substation is really far along. So, that's just north of 300. They're actually taking a break for the remainder of, at least this month, they'll come back in December because they're a little bit, our contractor is a little bit ahead of AEP's contractor who is building the switch yard. So, once AEP can get some more of their work done, we'll come back and that substation switch yard will be connected. So, good progress there. A note on the road use. So, we've talked before and the commissioners have created a temporary ordinance for the lower speed limit. That work is still ongoing, and those signs should be installed by the end of this week. I know that there is a, that 45-day window.

Meeks said before you can write a ticket.



Brad Dilger said yeah, before, I did the calculation, I think it's like December 15<sup>th</sup> or 16<sup>th</sup>, based on the publishing date?

Meeks said yeah, they can give warnings, but you just can't write a ticket.

Brad Dilger said but just giving an idea of that timeline. So, those signs should be appearing. In the map that I provided is a markup from our contractor, White Construction, showing where the signs are going to be, speed control areas, and additional construction sites. It's a little bit busy of a map, but, I feel like it shows everything that we discussed where signs will be placed. Another item, just to bring your attention to it, our contractor is working to fix a pretty massive pothole on 500 between 9 and a 1000. They've kicked around the idea of cold patch. That's going to be a bit of a band aid solution and also just packed gravel in there. So, I'm happy to talk to Jay about future solutions. But it's going to be hard to maintain that over the winter months with the freeze thaw. But we're going to keep working on it, but just wanted to alert you guys that is being addressed. They plan to get that completed by the end of this. So, we'll continue to track that one and anything else that pops up, because again, we are definitely taking care of.

Gary Friend said then in the spring when the freeze and thaws over again, you'll go in there and fix it for the long haul?

Brad Dilger said yeah. For sure. And then whatever final repair needs to be done after we conclude construction, that'll be worked in as well. But it just a bad time of year to start laying in any permanent solutions.

Mike said yeah.

Brad Dilger said also related, I did send out a, and I have an open question out to the highway department surveyor about something we were asked about from the contractor. So, they, they're having a hard time on those narrower roads, narrower intersections getting larger tractor trailers through there. So, they've asked about you know, widening some of those turns temporarily, just by temporary means, so they can more easily make those turns. So, I reached out to Jay and the surveyor, and Gary, you were on that same thread, and Jay was on there, just to try to determine a path forward. I sort of see it as the same plans and approvals that would be needed as from the drainage board like showing a plan of what is proposed, how we're going to deal with drainage, what the materials are going to be put down, and just wanted to see if there was any guidance there on how we should proceed in operating within the county right-of-way?

Meeks said I think your biggest issue, we have this exactly come up with Headwaters I, that the, you'll find, because it's in that area, that the intersection, our easements aren't that big.

Brad Dilger said okay.

Meeks said Headwaters I actually went out and purchased easements, temporary easements.

Mike said and built up the corners.

Meeks said and built the corners and then took it out. I know that happened. It happened to my grandpa's farm, so, I'm certain of it. But, I would say to go through the highway, but you're going to find that, that's going to be your issue.

Brad Dilger said okay.

Meeks said you'll have to go back to those landowners.

Brad Dilger said so, we're going to need to be operating outside of the easements?

Meeks said I would highly suspect that. But you know, those were big blades.

Mike said depends on which intersections and how many intersections you'll need that.

Meeks said yeah. You're going to find that those intersections are, school buses have trouble turning those intersections.

Mike said your business would be to, you could probably restrict them to just a few intersections and force the traffic to go that way.

Brad Dilger said and I think the plan is to treat a more of a perimeter route and have just a few that need to be addressed. But as that develops, I'll keep the commissioners involved and if we need to go through drainage again, we will and get all of those necessary private easements if we need to.

Meeks said I think the best bet is to go through the highway first.

Brad Dilger said okay. So, just something I wanted to alert you guys about you know, a we kind of move through there.

Mike said okay.

Brad Dilger said signage, we talked about, and then on to Riverstart V. So, that is our next phase. It's a 100-megawatt project. We talked about it in the spring. We had a road use study, or a road study started, and we're still waiting on the completed analysis there. What is shown is just the general project area. Not all of that real estate will be used, but that is our general area. And as work progresses there, we are working with AEP to construct a new switch yard there on their existing transmission line. And that work is slated to start in July, as latest I saw. So, we're here to show this map and also just present that we have submitted to Meeks the county agreements. So, this is in preparation for our permitting that's going to be happening in the Spring, and we'll need to have these.

Gary Friend said any way you can darken up the road number on these so, we can read them? I tried to blow it up on the printer.

Brad Dilger said these, I know, I printed this out on Friday and it doesn't show up very well.

Mike said 750 North, is that the furthest north that goes basically?

Brad Dilger said that's correct. And the substation will be just south of 700 North.

Mike said and then to the south, is that?

Brad Dilger said that's 28 that runs through there. So, there's just the one parcel that's south of 28.

Mike said so, yeah, that's 28, so, then the county road south of there, okay, and then east and west, just write these on here. It looks like what is that, 500 East?

Brad Dilger said it is.

Mike said okay.

Brad Dilger said and I can get you guys a better.

Gary Friend said I can't read that.

Mike said and the furthest road on this map east of the, what is that road?

Meeks said I think that's 600.

Brad Dilger said it should be 600. And I'll provide a clearer map.

Mike said 600 runs through the.

Meeks said 6, 5, 4, 3. I think Saratoga's up that far.

Brad Dilger said this should be 550 and the northwest, north, south, it should be 600,

Mike said well that means it would only be a mile wide?

Brad Dilger said it's mile-ish, yeah. It's a smaller site. It's a 100-megawatts, so, similar to Riverstart III.

Mike said okay.

Meeks said so, what I would like to vote if it's okay to hire Baker Tilly and Rick to proceed with the analysis that we've done the last two. I have forwarded to them, I told them we're going to have a meeting and wanted to get you guys' approval.

Gary Friend said you need a motion for that?

Meeks said probably a good idea.

Mike said I'd entertain a motion to hire Baker Tilly and Rick Hall and his firm to review our documents for Riverstart V.

Gary Friend made a motion to approve. Gary Girton seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Brad Dilger said and just a general note, as I see Riverstart on here and Headwaters and we've got a lot of renewables on the agenda, all of this is in an effort to meet the needs of the system operator here within Randolph County's a part of, so they're trying to fulfill a 110-gigawatt deficit by 2030. So, that's, it's a huge number. And even a transmission owner, AEP, who, you know, I've mentioned earlier that is on Riverstart IV and Riverstart V, they have put out an RFP to try to meet 4000 megawatts of generation. So, this is a part of those goals by both AEP and PJN. So, the need is definitely there, which is why we're wanting to move you know, swiftly as possible through these agreements so we can continue to meet the needs.

Mike said so, what's their deadline for the 4000 megawatts?

Brad Dilger said we just submitted that RFP, as part of that RFP two weeks ago and they'll be shortlisting projects in the spring and then awarding final projects in the summer. So, it's, our package was very promising. It meets all the needs that they are trying to do. It's within their transmission zone, their system. And so, feel good about putting that power directly on to the AEP grid and having them be the offtake for that. It seems to make a lot of sense. And they've actually, they are in such shortfall of generation that they are starting to pick up projects that are outside of the PPA and RFP process.

Mike said so, you're pretty certain you're going to get this business?

Brad Dilger said 100%.

Meeks said you said 110 gigawatts?

Brad Dilger said PJM is trying to hit 110 gigawatts by 2030. And PJM is the independent system operator here.

Gary Friend said that is a lot.

Brad Dilger said yes, it's a huge, and that's due to you know just.

Gary Friend said how far out, I mean, how many projects in the state of Indiana and the Midwest? I mean, you can't do it all in Randolph County?

Brad Dilger said no sir. PJM operates, they're within the zone all the way over into Chicago, down across the northern part of the state into Ohio. So, it's all over the region. But it just shows like that is what they're expecting the need is going to be by 2030.

Gary Friend said maybe you know, maybe you don't but one of the questions I hear a lot is where does this power go? I mean, I know it's a commodity, but where does the transmission of this power end up?

Brad Dilger said yeah, so, just the few projects that we're talking about here, they go into the AEP transmission system. That can go directly to their distribution network, or it can go to the REMC. I think Jay County gets theirs from AEP.

Gary Friend said so legitimately, the power produced in Randolph County could end up coming back through their AEP?

Brad Dilger said 100%.

Gary Friend said okay.

Brad Dilger said like electricity, the most efficient way to transfer that is the closest point to point. Theoretically, it could go further but it's going to go in the most efficient manner possible.

Gary Friend said well it's a commodity, corn's a commodity, you can go anywhere.

Meeks said well the engineers from Headwaters on the first one said that the proton hits the grid and then the proton is going to go to the path of least resistance.

Gary Friend said right.

Meeks said so, it's probably going to end up here.

Gary Friend said yeah, which is the path of least resistance.

Meeks said yeah, well, it could end up in New York or wherever.

Brad Dilger said but generally, it stays local. I guess if all things could be aligned in the most specific way, it could go from the furthest point within the grid, but it's very unlikely. There're so many breakers that has to be in a very specific manner for that to happen. But just wanted to mention that you know, because, you know, I see a lot of renewables, you guys talked about South Salem on there. So, the need is 100% there. And just wanted to kind of mention that.

Mike said okay. We'll work with you as we can.

Brad Dilger said I appreciate it. Thank you very much.

Mike said thank you.

**Ed Thornburg – Utility agreements**

Mike said Ed Thornburg, utility agreements.

Ed Thornburg said this group of work orders is going to amount to 23 utility poles, 8,204 feet of buried wire and 22,988 feet of overhead wire. Most of the overhead is over lashing on existing cable.

Mike said okay. So, you're recommending all of these I trust?

Ed Thornburg said yes.

Mike said looks like 5 for Indiana and Michigan?

Ed Thornburg said yeah. Those are the pole drops.

Mike said and 1 for Frontier, 2 for Frontier and 3 for Frontier?

Gary said 4.

Ed Thornburg said 4.

Mike said okay. And you're recommending all of them?

Ed Thornburg said yes.

Gary Girton made a motion to approve all the utility agreements presented. Gary Friend seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Ed Thornburg said can I get a copy of this map by chance?

Mike said I think it would be fair to just go ahead and give it to you. Can you make a copy of it?

Ed Thornburg said I'll see.

Mike said it doesn't have to be that big for me.

Ed Thornburg said the only scanner we have on site here would make it black and white, but I've got other people who could get a color one. So, we'll see what we can come up with.

Mike said okay. You don't need it, do you, Gary?

Gary Girton said no.

Meeks said I'm certain that guy has it on computer. When you get that thing you can ask him for it.

Mike said well, we could do that.

Gary Girton said do what?

Mike said we could ask Scott Rudd.

Mike said why we're signing these, the mayor is not here today, is he? Is Joe still here?

Gary Girton said no.

Mike said I want to make a point to invite the mayor to that meeting down on Carl Street. I think that probably be a good idea.

**Other Business:**

**Art Moystner, Randolph County Sheriff**

Mike said brings us to other business. Art, Randolph County Sheriff. Not here.

**Minutes of October 7 and October 21**

Mike said that brings us to our minutes of October 7<sup>th</sup> and October 21<sup>st</sup>. We received a copy of both of these via email.

Gary Friend made a motion to accept. Gary Girton seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

**Payroll Claims \$322,236.94**

Mike said our payroll claims in the amount of \$322,236.94 are at our place. I'd entertain a motion to approve the payroll claims.

Gary Friend made a motion to approve. Gary Girton seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

**Regular Claims \$478,586.68**

Mike said next item our regular claims in the amount of \$478,586.68. We received a copy of these via email. I'd entertain a motion to approve the regular claims.

Gary Girton made a motion to approve. Gary Friend seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

**SJCA Claim \$5,090.00**

Mike said next claim is the SJCA claim in the amount of \$5,090.00. This is for work on county road 1000 West.

Gary Girton made a motion to approve. Gary Friend seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

**BF&S Vision Trail Claim \$1,480.00**

Mike said next is a BF&S Vision Trail claim in the amount of \$1,480.00. I'd entertain a motion to approve this claim for the trail.

Mike made a motion to approve. Gary Friend seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

**Club 720 Claim \$2,000.00**

Mike said next claim is the Club 720, the Housing Resource Hub claim in the amount of \$2,000.00. I'd entertain a motion to approve this claim.

Gary Girton made a motion to approve. Gary Friend seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

**Randolph County United Claim \$20,134.34**

**Randolph County United Tourism Claim \$2,365.66**

Mike said next two claims, a Randolph County United claim, one in the amount of \$20,134.34 and the second one is the Randolph County United Tourism claim in the amount of \$2,365.66. I'd entertain a motion to approve both of these claims.

Gary Friend made a motion to approve. Gary Girton seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Mike said that brings us to the end of our claims. Art, do you have anything for us?

Art Moystner said I do not have anything for you this morning unless you have something for me?

Mike said I do not have any questions. Anybody have any questions for Art?

Gary Friend said no.

Mike said okay. Thank you.

**SRI Agreement, Resolution 2024-12 Intent to Conduct Commissioner's certificate sale**

Mike said well the next item is our SRI agreement, resolution 2024-12, our intent to conduct the commissioners' certificate sale. This is an annual agreement that we have with SRI.

Gary Friend said the only thing I'd like, I don't know if you could get it to them Laura, could you put the town down on the description? You get the streets, you get the legal description, but it doesn't tell you what town it's in.

Laura said okay.

Mike said who prepares that sheet?



Laura said I don't know, Danita does or they do. I'm guessing they send it to us.

Mike said for me, have to look each one of them up and they've evidently looked them up. I don't know why it couldn't be to add the city.

Laura said I'll talk to them.

Mike said that's a good point, Gary. So, our agreement, has it changed any?

Laura said no.

Mike said we agree to pay SRI 15% of all amounts collected.

Laura said that fee is added to the property owner.

Mike said yeah, the property owner pays that.

Meeks said if they redeem.

Gary Friend said this is the same exact restructure as last year?

Mike said yes.

Meeks said it hasn't changed.

Mike said it's a live?

Laura said yeah.

Meeks said I don't like the internet ones. You get random from everywhere, and it's not conducive to getting that stuff back on the tax roll.

Mike said right. So, in order to have the certificate sale, we need to, have somebody to provide, do the sale services for us, and SRI seems to do a good job for us.

Gary Friend made a motion to approve.

Mike said I have a motion to approve this contract with SRI under the same terms and conditions as last year. Do I have a second?

Gary Girton seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Mike said next we need to pass a resolution 2024-12. It's a resolution establishing intent to conduct a commissioner's sale to sell tax certificates for properties that are severely delinquent in payment of property taxes. We have an exhibit of a list of those properties that will be attached

to this resolution. Looks like there are 29 properties in total. I'd entertain a motion to approve this resolution 2024-12 by title only, a resolution establishing the intent to conduct a commissioners' sale to sell tax certificates for properties that are severely delinquent in paying their property taxes.

Gary Girton made a motion to approve. Gary Friend seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

### **Financial Commitment letter READI 2.0**

Mike said next item is a financial commitment from READI 2.0. This was sent to us from Neal Adams, the superintendent of Randolph Eastern School. This is a funding commitment for the ECI READI 2.0 project for A Little Learner's Preschool and brave little daycare number 786. This is, I believe, the one that we loaned, it is, loaned \$100,000.00 to Randolph Eastern School Corporation to help get this little learners back on track for Randolph Eastern. Daniel, do you have anything to share about this as far as READI?

Daniel Baker said no sir. I haven't seen that letter, but I've asked Jackie to come and take the lead on this.

Mike said okay, it's basically saying, restating what we've done and we're sending it to the Indiana Economic Development Corporation. On behalf of Randolph Eastern School Corporation.

Daniel Baker said correct.

Mike said and it does speak as a financial commitment, as a public dash local loan match towards this project.

Daniel Baker said and that's just to make sure we can submit the project up to the state while we seek the final funding.

Mike said and we've already, they've already taken the money out?

Laura said right.

Mike said so, this just means that we're in support of them seeking more money from the state through READI. So, I'd entertain a motion to authorize me to sign this on behalf of the county.

Gary Friend made a motion to approve. Gary Girton seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

### **2025 Randolph County Holiday Schedule**

Mike said next item is the Randolph County holiday schedule. We need to approve this holiday schedule.

Gary Friend made a motion to approve. Gary Girton seconded the motion. All aye votes.  
Motion carried.

**ARPA Discussion**

Mike said ARPA fund discussion. I think we've all received the email from Laura that using General funds to pay, or using ARPA to pay payroll, would be, create kind of a nightmare for the payroll system. So, we need to look elsewhere to spend the ARPA funds, other than the ones we spent this morning on the coroner.

Meeks said I received an email from Jason this morning. Did you see that too, Laura?

Laura said I did.

Meeks said he thought we could use it, well we believe now, we can use it for the health insurance premiums.

Mike said sure.

Meeks said we have a contract. The contract is through June 30<sup>th</sup>, shouldn't be a problem. It's a contractual obligation.

Gary Friend said it's more than what we have left.

Meeks said is it more than what we have left? I didn't ask that question.

Laura said well it came to 9 hundred and some thousand. I don't know if you want to if there is going to be excess, use it for the other items we talked about?

Mike said I suggested the property casualty insurance.

Gary Friend said yeah.

Mike said defray that cost.

Laura said I mean, probably health insurance will take it, but because we take a portion of that out of highway and health.

Meeks said we have a contract through when, June 30<sup>th</sup>?

Laura said October. We just renewed it in October of this year to October next year.

Gary Friend said I think it's a good idea to use those contractual insurance programs.

Mike said is there a motion?

Gary Friend said yes, that is a motion.

Mike said I have a motion to use the unspent, unappropriated.

Gary Friend said we don't have to do it though, just to give us.

Meeks said next meeting. We're going to do it this next meeting.

Mike said say it again?

Gary Friend said I was just wondering if we don't do it legally, now, but we do it at the last possible date, so we can actually work into ARPA in the next meeting?

Mike said we can do that.

Gary Friend said is that too long?

Laura said it just makes me nervous, even what you guys did today, getting the paperwork we need to cover it.

Mike said want to do it at our next meeting?

Gary Friend said yes.

Mike said that will give you a month to deal with it, and two other meetings.

Gary Friend said and then we'll just shut it off.

Mike said are you okay to wait until December 3<sup>rd</sup>, or the first meeting in December, Gary?

Gary Friend said it doesn't matter to me.

Gary Girton said it doesn't matter to me. It's Laura is the one that's going to take the hit.

Mike said I think we can do it in December.

Gary Friend said okay.

### **Rainy Day Fund**

Mike said okay. It's not on the agenda, but council brought it up, the Rainy Day fund. We've talked about that previously, committing, agreeing with council, committing \$250,000.00 from alternative energy funds the county has, to the Rainy Day fund, which would make a \$500,000.00 contribution to the Rainy Day fund.

Gary Friend said I'll make a motion that we do this. We did it last year.

Mike said have a motion, do I have a second?

Gary Girton seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Mike said that brings us to the end of our agenda. Laura, do you have anything for us?

Laura said I do not.

Mike said Laura doesn't have anything. Meeks, do you have anything?

**Meeks – South Salem Solar**

Meeks said yes. I just wanted to confirm, we did hire Rick and Jason on the South Solar Project too, but I don't think you guys voted on it. So, if you could vote on that.

Mike said have they done the work?

Meeks said they're in the process of doing the work. We're having another meeting on Friday and I was looking through my notes and I noticed that you guys did not approve that. Although, we talked about it.

Gary Friend said we have to pay.

Meeks said I would much rather have approval from you guys.

Mike said I'll move that we hire Baker Tilly and Rick Hall for South Salem Solar project.

Gary Friend seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Meeks said and that project is moving forward. We do have the analysis that's been shared with the company. They are doing their analysis of it because they haven't, I'm not sure they've seen the 10-year 100% abatement, so there's a, there's just more meetings and more, understanding, them understanding what we're trying to do. So, I have another meeting on Friday. Any of you would like to join, let know. But, I think it's just going to be going over numbers.

Mike said okay. Anything else?

Meeks said hopefully, we have those agreements by the next meeting for you guys too. We're real close on those also.

Mike said okay. Gary Friend, do you have anything?

Gary Friend said no.

Mike said Gary Girton, do you have anything for us?

Gary Girton said no, I do not.

**Mike Wickersham – Bridge 32 Plaque**

Mike said I have one thing I want to follow up on the bridge 32 plaque, and Jay has left. So, I reached out to the property owner out by the bridge and his name is Jeff Allen. And he indicated to me that he wanted a plaque because he was born the same year that the plaque is, that the bridge was built, in 1961, and wanted to hang that plaque on his wall. And then I got word that the Harper, as you recall, it's the Harper bridge over White River, they still have family in the area, so, I reached out to Rod Heltz, H, e, l, t, z, who lives in Ft. Wayne, and he is related to Eugene Harper, the man who the bridge is named after, although his first name is not on here, but Rod told me that Eugene Harper owned a lot of land around the bridge and they named it after him. I don't know if it was an agreement with the county that I'll sell you right-of-way if you name the bridge after me, or if he was just generous in that respect. But, Rod Heltz, they have a family reunion here for the Harper family every year, either at the fairgrounds, or this year it's going to be at the Beeson Park, because the fairgrounds is not going to be available. But, he would like to take both plaques and share them with his family.

Gary Friend said I agree with that. They were a direct descendant.

Mike said I'm inclined to agree with giving them to Rod Heltz and let him share them with his family. So, is that a consensus?

Gary Friend said that is a consensus.

Gary Girton said yes.

Mike said I'll let Jay know at the highway department that that's a consensus. Got rid of the plaques. That's the only other thing I had.

**Citizen Comments (3 minutes)**

Mike said do we have any citizens here that would like to make comments this morning?

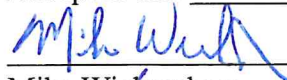
**Adjournment**


Mike said hearing none, I'd entertain a motion to adjourn.

Gary Friend made a motion to adjourn. Gary Girton seconded the motion. All aye votes.

Meeting adjourned.

Accepted this 30 day of December, 2024

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mike Wickersham

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Gary Friend

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Gary Girton

Attested:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Randolph County Auditor