

JULY 7TH 2025

REGULAR SESSION

PULASKI COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

The Pulaski County Commissioners met in regular session Monday July 7th, 2025, 6:00 PM at the Pulaski County Highway Department garage. Commissioners present were Donald Street, Michael McClure, Jennifer Knebel with County Auditor Teresa Bryant and Count Attorney Jacob Ahler.

Also present were Teresa Hansen, Raymond Hansen, Joe Moyer, Brian Young, Isaiah Tidwell, Frank Stone, Connie Ehrlich, Sherry Fagner, Scott Fritz, Tom Miller, Bob Barger, Franna Barger, Darrel Gudeman, Natasha Daugherty, Randy Davis, Mark Ingram, Gail Lambert, Larry Lambert, Jerry Tuley, Dennis Bope, Margarita Bope, Nathan Origer, Jenny Keller, John Kramer, Tim Hollandsworth, Chris Schramm, Megan Galbreath, Joe Moyer, Katie Wittingham.

President Street opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

IN RE: DONALD STREET, COMMIMSSIONER

Donald and Auditor Bryant met with County's employee health insurance representative and they were informed renewal would be issued with a 9.5% rate increase on health, no change in vision, dental nor benefits. County has traditionally paid 70% with employees paying 30%. Donald made a motion to approve renewal quote, pending Council approval, with County paying 70%, Michael seconded. With no further discussion, motion carried unanimously.

IN RE: AFSHIN KHASRAVI, NETWORK OF CARE (BY SKYPE)

Network of Care for Behavioral Health connects communities to vital mental health services through a centralized, user-friendly platform, utilizing internet for social good. It provides access to comprehensive community services, information support and assistance on a localized level. Their website can provide help for depression, addiction and the homeless. Directs people to local resources. Donald asked is there are any counties in Indiana using their services. At this time, there are no counties.

IN RE: TOM MILLER/FRANK STONE/JERRY TULEY—ROADWAY CLOSURE

Donald stated that all of the Commissioners had been out to look over the site. Jennifer suggested the compromise of closing Merl Avenue from CR300S to south line of Lots 23 & 36. All involved parties agreed to this compromise. Jennifer said Commissioners would like the area to remain open for emergency vehicles. Jenny asked County Attorney Ahler and he will check on process. He thinks will need an ordinance. Donald asked them to talk to their attorney, Tim Murray. Tom said he wants to plant some pine trees but would still have open area. Jennifer made a motion to close Merl Avenue from 300S to south line of lots #23 & 36, Michael seconded. With no further discussion, motion carried unanimously.

IN RE: NATHAN ORIGER, CDC*I. Courthouse Project*

A. Change Orders: Nathan presented Change Orders 79 and 80 for Commissioners approval. This is for installation of lights in the bell room of the tower and the repair/replacement of floor tile in main-roof vestibule, totally \$11,359.62. The structural integrity of the tile has been lost and efforts to repair/replace broken pieces were causing problematic ripple effects. Jennifer made a motion to approve Change Orders 79 and 80, Donald seconded. With no further discussion, motion passed unanimously.

B. Project Finances: With the approval of Change Orders 79 and 80, owner's contingency current balance is down to \$30,180.91. Tone & Blank has more than \$250,000. available in the construction contingency.

C. Project Progress: Second punch list took place last Tuesday and July 1st has been established as the official day of substantial completion. Construction trailer and fencing will be gone by end of July and our Superintendent will be shifting to a part-time presence. Still waiting on a few door slabs that are delayed and some door hardware. Furniture installation started this morning, with completion within 2 weeks, except for the meeting room table.

II. CDC/General Updates

A. Comprehensive Plan: Statement of Qualifications are due to Nathan's office by 3:00 PM July 14th. Interviews will then be scheduled. Nathan asked Jennifer to represent the Commissioners on the interview committee.

B. County Website: Recent meeting documents need to be uploaded to be accessible when the website goes live. The new website should be live by August 1st if not sooner.

C. Revolving Loan Fund: Nathan has been contacted by 3 existing business owners in the last few months. All current borrowers are in good standing. RLF has more than \$360,000. to lend.

D. Housing Projects: As of 3 weeks ago, Sullivan Development was on schedule to deliver the finished Willow Creed Villas apartment complex by mid-September. They will start making monthly payments on their County's mortgage when completed.

The required appraisals have been completed on both the County farm and the privately owned land discussed for a land swap, moving the proposed READI 2.0-funded project forward. Nathan will bring details to the Commissioners and redevelopment Commissioners in the very near future. As it currently looks, the County would end up receiving cash in addition to the land.

IN RE: KATIE WITTINGHAM, GLOBE LIFE

Katie would like to partner with the County to offer employee benefits (Life and Supplemental) through Globe Life. There would be no cost to the County and paid by payroll deductions. In the event employee is no longer employed by the County, they can take the coverage with them with no premium change. Auditor Bryant said the County currently has Assurity, which is about the same thing. Donald wants to do more research before signing any agreement.

IN RE: JOE MOYER, PROPERTY OWNER

Joe questioned Donald's prior statement of the number of solar acres as he did not think it was correct. Donald said a 4th permit had just been issued, making 15,058 acres now. Joe said there are 17,000. acres under lease. Joe state his concerns with setbacks and other issues. Donald said the APC could make changes to the UDO anytime.

IN RE: OTHER BUSINESS

Jennifer made a motion to approve and sign claims and payroll #12, Michael seconded. With no further discussion, motion carried unanimously.

Michael made a motion to approve and sign minutes from 6/16/2025 regular session, Jennifer seconded. With no further discussion, motion carried unanimously.

Prosecutor asked for authorization to pay \$5,100. for their ½ of the Celebrite subscription, as above her spending limit. They share this with the Sheriff. Donald made a motion to approve payment, Jennifer seconded. With no further discussion, motion carried unanimously.

Michael made a motion to approve and sign INPRS Authorized Agent Designated to Perform Necessary Duties, Jennifer seconded. This form will designate County Auditor as the County's authorized agent. With no further discussion, motion carried unanimously.

Prosecutor submitted "Request to Apply for Grant" –VOCA Grant 26-28. This is their Victim's Assistance grant, which they have had for many years. Donald made a motion to approve, Jennifer seconded. With no further discussion, motion carried unanimously.

Advanced Time Accrual Form submitted for approval. This is for our new timekeeping system that will allow moving information from old system to new one. Michael made a motion to approve, Donald seconded. With no further discussion, motion carried unanimously.

Medicare Secondary Payer form is to inform Anthem that they are the primary payer with Medicare secondary. Donald made a motion to approve, Jennifer seconded. With no further discussion, motion carried unanimously.

Jennifer made a motion to approve submitted conference requests, Michael seconded. With no further discussion, motion carried unanimously.

TREASURER: Laura Wheeler, State Called Treasurers' Conference, August 5-8, Evansville
ASSESSOR: Holly Van Der Aa +1, Annual AIC Conference, 9/29 to 10/1, French Lick

IN RE: DISCUSSION

Jennifer commended EMS Director Natasha Daugherty as EMS was almost fully staffed for the month of June.

Jennifer is concerned on where the \$250,000. EDA money went. Per the agreements, this money was to come to the County. Did this money come out of County funds or where? There is no written documentation and Jennifer wants an audit to track funds. Have been told money went direct to prior County Attorney Kevin Tankersley and he disbursed the funds. Auditor Bryant said her office would be audited within 6 months by the State. Information is needed from solar companies, Barnes & Thornburg and BakerTilly. Auditor Bryant will look back to January 2020 for any payments. County Attorney Ahler said it has been confirmed through looking at the minutes that the County never approved those payments. There Should have been written documentation from all parties.

Jennifer has received several new complaints on the solar project. Michael Spiegla has a port-a-pot in front of his house on CR100N. He also complained of the garbage and debris and washboard roads. Mathew Clouser, on CR200N, asked if 2 separately owned properties are able to be combined within one fence. His property has been ruined for hunting, which is why he bought it. What can he do? County Attorney asked if the solar companies were in violation of their agreement. If not, this would not be a County issue. Tim Hollandsworth with VS Engineering said the fencing is hindering wildlife. Josh Stamper told Jennifer that there are ORV being driven on roads without registration.

Tax abatements were given to Mammoth 1 & 2 and Mayapple partially based on their statement that 25% of hired employees (not haulers) would be from Pulaski County. Jennifer was given figures from Mammoth that out of 260 employees, only 13 are from Pulaski County (3.8%). Donald thinks it would be hard to get more Pulaski County employees based on our low population.

Jennifer again stated Pulaski County needs a moratorium to protect our citizens. Donald said the APC has the ability to make changes to the EDO or approve a moratorium and bring to the Commissioners.

IN RE: VS ENGINEERING

Tim Hollandsworth said that they sent a Scope of Services to Commissioners on June 23rd and are waiting for them to review and approve. Tim will resend. Mayapple is using Vialetics for road inventories. VS is tracking repairs that Mammoth is doing. CR500S was closed last week due to a washout and awaiting engineering information to repair. CR300N is being repaired this week. The 2nd Emergency Services meeting was held last week.

IN RE: PUBLIC COMMENT

JOHN KRAMER: Michael voted for a moratorium at an APC meeting, then turned around and voted no with Commissioners.

MARGARITA BOPE: Regarding the number of Pulaski County employees of solar, are there those who have been turned away? Is it possible for these companies to hire 25%?

DENNIS BOPE: Thinks landowners should be considered in the number of Pulaski County employees as they are being paid.

GAIL LAMBERT: While campaigning last year, she visited over 100 homes in Rich Grove Township and only 3 spoke in favor of solar. Asked Commissioners to enforce setbacks.

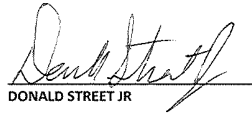
JENNY KELLER: Jenny is County Surveyor and last week saw that fencing near 700W 200N is only 33' from the ditch. When ditch is cleaned, at least 50' setback is needed. Donald suggested she start with talking to VS as they are to be a liaison with solar companies. Donald suggested talking to the drainage board attorney. Jenny will talk to the Project Managers.

ISAIAH TIDWELL: Wanted Commissioners to know that Globe Life is being investigated by SEC and DOJ for business practices.

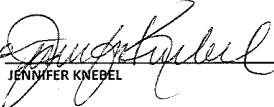
BOB BARGER: He has been union all his life and all people have to do to join a union is pay dues. He complained about the gas station across from Sander's and parking around Tippy's but Donald said this is a Town issue.

With no other business to discuss nor public comment, Michael made a motion to adjourn at 8:00 PM, Donald second and motion carried unanimously.

Approved and signed this 21st day of July 2025 by the PULASKI COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.


DONALD STREET JR


MICHALE MCCLURE


JENNIFER KNEBEL

ATTEST: 
TERESA BRYANT, AUDITOR, PULASKI COUNTY, IN