

DECEMBER 8<sup>TH</sup> 2025

REGULAR SESSION

**PULASKI COUNTY COUNCIL**

The Pulaski County Council met in regular session Monday December 8, 2025 6:04PM at the Pulaski County Courthouse meeting room. Councilmembers present were Michael Tiede, Jeffrey Richwine, Tim Overmyer, Bradley Bonnell, Albert Gutwein with County Auditor Teresa Bryant. Councilmembers Sheila Hazemi and Kenneth Boswell were present by ZOOM.

Also present were Connie Ehrlich, Gail Lambert, Gary Kruger, Franna Barger, Bob Barger, Judge Mary Welker, Natasha Daugherty, Nathan Origer, Leeann Wright, Lindsey Barts, Katie Surma. Stephen Tabler.

President Tiede amended the agenda to add Leeann Wright.

**IN RE: JUDGE MARY WELKER, CIRCUIT COURT**

Roeing has been to the Circuit Court offices attempting to get their computers running. The computers are 7 years old and Roeing determined they need to be replaced. Estimate from Roeing is \$10,493., which is in their budget but Judge Welker wants to transfer \$12,000. to cover any program upgrades. Jeffrey made a motion to approve transfer, Bradley seconded. With no further discussion, motion carried unanimously.

**IN RE: NATASHA DAUGHERTY, EMS**

Natasha requested merit raises for employee years of services. She has had 3 individuals join her team with 67 years of experience. She asked for half of their years of service. Kenneth asked if these are normal raises or something different. These are like the lateral transfers that have been approved for the Sheriff's Department. There would be a \$14,328. increase and may need a budget adjustment. Boswell also asked if there is documented proof of their training and years of service. Natasha said this information is available on the State database and has been verified. Some of the individuals have certifications that Natasha does not have, like hazmat and fire. Albert made a motion to approve years of service adjustment for the three individuals. Jeffrey asked if effective January 1, 2026—Yes. Jeffrey than seconded the motion. With no further discussion, motion carried unanimously.

**IN RE: NATHAN ORIGER, CDC**

Nathan asked Council to fund a new county comprehensive plan. Commissioners had authorized him to distribute Request for Proposal to consultants and to publicize this opportunity pending Council financing the project. Current plan is 17 years old. President Tiede, Vice-President Hazemi, Commissioners Knebel, Building Inspector and Nathan previously interviewed 2 firms for this project, but we had unexpected issues relating to the anticipated project cost as compared to the local-match amount that had been authorized by the Commissioners. We had to drop the project at that time due to grant application supporting new fire station in Medaryville. This project needs to be funded by the County with either solar-project funds, CDC budget or a combination. The preferred firm had 3 price points ranging from \$80-120,000. but we are also sending a more robust RFP and Nathan's list includes 13 firms. Kenneth believes a new plan is long overdue but would like to see it funded with something other than solar money. Michael said Rainy Day fund could be used or a combination. Nathan said money could come out of his Professional Services line, which has just over \$100,000. He would be comfortable with committing 50% for the project. Kenneth made a motion to move forward with a maximum of \$120,000. Jeffrey seconded. Motion carried 4-3 with Michael, Sheila, Kenneth, Michael in favor and Bradley, Tim, Albert opposed.

**IN RE: LEEANN WRIGHT, COMMUNITY FOUNDATION**

Leeann introduced Lindsay Barts of Roots Yoga Project and Community Navigator Katie Surma. Katie asked Council for approval to use opioid settlement money to fund another year of jail yoga program. This has already been approved by Commissioners. Jail Commander Steve

Tabler says there are less problems in the jail as inmates cannot participate if they get in trouble. Not as much recidivism. Helps with depression—trauma release program. Kenneth asked if this is a new program and it was started in 2025. Jeffrey made a motion to approve funds out of opioid settlement, Albert seconded. With no further discussion, motion carried unanimously.

**IN RE: APPROVE AND SIGN**

Bradley made a motion to approve and sign 2026 Council meeting schedule, Albert seconded. With no further discussion, motion carried unanimously.

Albert made a motion to approve and sign Council minutes from 11/10/25 and Executive session minutes from 10/20/2025, Bradley seconded. With no further discussion, motion carried unanimously.

Kenneth made a motion to approve and sign 2026 County Matrix Ordinance for Salaries and Wages, Jeffrey seconded. With no further discussion, motion carried unanimously.

2026 Attorney contract presented. \$6,000. Retainer with \$230. per hour fee, up from \$200. Sheila made a motion to approve and sign attorney contract, Kenneth seconded. With no further discussion, motion carried unanimously.

**IN RE: TRANSFERS**

Bradley made a motion to approve all transfers as presented, Albert seconded. With no further discussion, motion carried unanimously.

**MAINTENANCE: \$199.00 from Cumulative Capital Development to Building Repair**  
**PROSECUTOR: \$50.00 from Garage Supplies to Dues/Subscriptions**  
**CIRCUIT COURT: \$12,000.00 from Examination of Prisoners to Equipment**  
**HIGHWAY: \$40,000.00 from Workers Comp to Group Insurance**  
**HIGHWAY: \$2,500. from Professional Services to Superintendent OT**  
**HIGHWAY: \$3,500. from Tires & Tubes to Mechanic OT**  
**HIGHWAY: \$80,000. from Gas, Oil, Lube to Equipment**  
**DRAINAGE BOARD: \$720.00 from Special Joint Board Meetings to Drainage Board Members**  
**EMS: \$2,200.00 from Patient Care Equipment to Patient Care Supplies**  
**EMS: \$270.00 from Postage, \$147.00 from Health Services, \$245.00 from Computers, \$190.00 from Schools & Seminars, \$250.00 from Donations to Equipment Repair & Maintenance**  
**EMS: \$5,000.00 from Oil & Fuel to Radios**  
**EMS: \$1,000.00 from EMS Education, \$250.00 from Printing & Advertising to Uniforms**  
**RECYCLING: \$4,000.00 from Steel Strapping to Hauling of Trash**

**IN RE: ADDITIONALS**

There were no new additionals.

**IN RE: ADVERTISED ADDITIONALS**

**VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER: \$7,171.00 to Veteran's Service Officer**  
**SHERIFF: \$817.00 to Service Contracts, \$14,183.00 to Medical Services (Inmate)**  
**DRAINAGE BOARD: \$360.00 to Board Members**

VSO will need additional later on in 2026.

**IN RE: DISCUSSION**

There was no discussion.

**IN RE: OTHER BOARD BUSINESS**

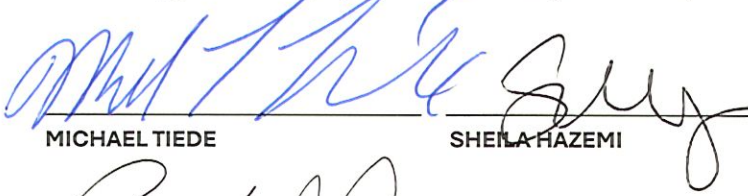
There was no new board business.

**IN RE: PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

With no other business to discuss, Albert made a motion to adjourn at 6:38 PM, Bradley seconded. With no further discussion, motion carried unanimously.

Approved and signed this 12<sup>th</sup> day of January 2026 by the Pulaski County Council

  
MICHAEL TIEDE

SHEILA HAZEMI

  
JEFFREY RICHWINE

  
BRADLEY BONNELL

TIM OVERMYER

  
ALBERT GUTWEIN

  
KENNETH BOSWELL

ATTEST:   
TERESA BRYANT, AUDITOR, PULASKI COUNTY, IN