

JANUARY 12TH 2025

REGULAR SESSION

PULASKI COUNTY COUNCIL

The Pulaski County Council met in regular session Monday January 12th 2026 6:00PM at the Pulaski County Courthouse meeting room. Councilmembers present were Michael Tiede, Sheila Hazemi, Jeffrey Richwine, Bradley Bonnell, Albert Gutwein, Tim Overmyer, Kenneth Boswell with County Auditor Teresa Bryant.

Also present were Joe Moyer, Tonya Bonnell, Bob Barger, Josh Stamper, Sherry Fagner, Natasha Daugherty, Judge Mary Welker, Gary Kruger, Chris Kline, Max Troyer, Ignacio Poncio, Connie Ehrlich, Gail Lambert, Randy Davis, Brandi Larkin, James Pierrou, Rhonda Pierrou, Darlene Olds, Dave Olds, Rudy DeSabatine, Dalton Rogers, Deb Rogers .

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

IN RE: ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Bradley made a motion to nominate Kenneth for President and Michael for Vice-President. With no further discussion, motion carried 4-3 with Kenneth, Tim, Albert, Bradley in favor and Michael, Sheila, Jeffrey opposed.

IN RE: NOT YOUR PARENTS (NUP) MEDIA

NUP based out of Fort Wayne and works with companies, businesses and governments to help communicate clearly, consistently and credible when facing complex or highly visible issues. They use multiple facets of media. \$5,750. monthly and can be paid through CDC. Can cancel with 30-day notice. Sheila made a motion to approve contract, Michael seconded. Albert wanted to table this matter to get a better understanding. Motion carried 4-3 with Michael, Sheila, Jeffrey, Kenneth in favor and Tim, Albert, Bradley opposed.

IN RE: CHRIS SCHRAMM, SHERIFF

Chris presented Commissary Report for 2025. He is required to make quarterly reports. \$490,665. has been generated from housing federal, IDOC and Level 6 inmates. The jail is 30 years old and there is a big issue with the showers leaking. A business in Georgia has looked at the showers and will be giving an estimate. Chris said the jail inspection said that County would probably need new jail in 15 years. Need to keep jail in the Justice Center since both courts are there. Jeffrey would like to see 2-3 more officers in jail. Tim asked about cost of federal prisoners. Chris said cost is in the \$40.s and reimbursement is \$72 per day, which Chris got increased last year. Nathan said there is about \$260,000. In Cumulative Jail fund that could be used to replace showers. Michael made a motion to approve the year-end commissary report, Jeffrey seconded. With no further discussion, motion carried unanimously.

IN RE: NATASHA DAUGHERTY, EMS

Natasha asked for an additional appropriation of \$9,500. to buy a vehicle from the Sheriff's Department. This has already been approved by the Commissioners. This vehicle will be used as a chase vehicle to be on stand-by. There will be no additional equipment needed. Kenneth said there would need to be an amendment to the Policy Handbook in order for Natasha to take the vehicle home. Per County Attorney, the hospital survey should be available this week. Bradley is concerned about having another vehicle to maintain. Why does EMS have to pay the Sheriff for the vehicle—to reimburse them for not having a trade-in vehicle. Michael & Kenneth want to wait on the feasibility study. Michael made a motion to table this request, Bradley seconded. With no further discussion, motion carried unanimously.

IN RE: NATHAN ORIGER, CDC**I. Transfer and Additional Appropriation Request**

Transfer: \$220.00 from Schools, Meetings & Seminars to Internet Service
Since CDC moved their office to the Courthouse, internet services at the Winamac Municipal Utilities Complex is no longer needed. There is no money for this appropriation in his 2026 budget. The internet service at EMS and Transfer/Recycling is not a dedicated fiber connection but relayed from the old CDC office to EMS to Solid Waste. Current service needs to stay active until the County decides how to pay for the service to EMS. The old CDC service will end

February 27th and EMS will be activated the same day. Someone needs to take responsibility for the existing services at the west annex.

Additional Appropriation \$20,000. for Professional Services
County is being sued by a property-owner over recent ERA designation/tax abatement decision for the Mammoth Grazing Lands/Mammoth Pastures project. In the past Council has used CDC's profession line to cover legal expense. Bradley asked how much in CDC's professional services and he has around \$100,000. but \$60,000. is earmarked for the comprehensive plan. Bradley also asked if Mammoth could pay for this and Nathan did not think so as it was a Council decision and Mammoth is also being sued.

II. Tax-Abatement Follow-up

Council members received an email 10/13/2025 regarding concerns about the ERA designation/tax abatement request under consideration at that time. Nathan responded to a couple of the more pressing issues raised in that email. Complete details are available at Auditor's Office.

IN RE: APPROVE AND SIGN

Jeffrey made a motion to approve and sign 12/8/2025 regular session minutes, Tim seconded. With no other discussion, motion carried unanimously.

IN RE: TRANSFERS

Jeffrey made a motion to approve CDC transfer as submitted, Kenneth seconded. With no further discussion, motion carried unanimously.

FROM: 32500 Schools, Meetings & Seminars	\$220.00
TO: 32400 Internet Services	\$220.00

IN RE: ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION

Natasha had requested \$9,500. Additional Appropriation for EMS to purchase chase vehicle, which Council tabled.

Nathan requested \$20,000. Additional Appropriation for Professional Services, which Council tabled.

Auditor reported that Indiana no longer requires Additional Appropriations be advertised. These need to be put in Gateway. Council will discuss at a later meeting if they want to continue advertising.

IN RE: DISCUSSION

Highway Superintendent Gary Kruger reported that Pulaski County has be awarded \$636,800. Community Crossing grant for a bridge project. Gary is concerned that Council may have to enact a wheel tax or benefits may be limited under future grants.

Sheila made a motion to reappoint Michael to KIRPC board, Kenneth seconded. With no further discussion, motion carried unanimously.

Sheila brought up that corrections are need on the 2026 Matrix on EMS. It should be 2.5% between longevity boxes, not 2/3% or 2.4%. Sheila proposed giving the \$2.00 raise at the top base rate. Jeffrey made a motion to approve corrections, Kenneth seconded. With no other discussion, motion carried unanimously.

IN RE: OTHER BOARD BUSINESS

Michael was on the APC board and did not want to remain. He made a motion to appoint Kenneth to the APC board, Jeffrey seconded. With no further discussion, motion carried 5-2 with Michael, Sheila, Kenneth, Tim, Jeffrey in favor and Bradley , Albert opposed.

IN RE: PUBLIC COMMENT

Sherry Fagner: Board actions affect everyone who lives here, She has had multiple trespassing on her property by solar people but then we give them a 20-year abatement. Do your homework.

Jennifer Knebel: She is a commissioner and asked who on Council tracks solar payments as there are outstanding payments from March 2025. Sheila said the President. County needs to follow-up on these payments.

Natasha Daugherty: Asked if the commissary report is public information.

Dalton Rogers: Asked Sheila if she does not have a conflict of interest by catering for solar companies. Dalton suggested any councilmember with a conflict of interest needs to file.

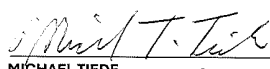
Brandi Larkin: Requested that Council meetings be moved back to 7:00PM as they were before 2025. The earlier meetings conflict with Winamac town meetings. County may not be responsible for attorney fees. Lose interest on late payments.

Deb Rogers: Went to BZA meeting to question if repairs will be made to non-solar roads that are being used.

With no other business to discuss, Jeffrey made a motion to adjourn at 7:15 PM, Bradley seconded. With no further discussion, motion carried unanimously.

Approved and signed this 9th day of February 2026 by the Pulaski County Council.


KENNETH BOSWELL


MICHAEL TIEDE


SHEILA HAZEM


TIM OVERMYER


BRADLEY BONNELL


JEFFREY RICHWINE


ALBERT GUTWEIN

ATTEST: 
TERESA BRYANT, AUDITOR, PULASKI COUNTY, IN. +