



**MINUTES  
MONROE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS'  
JUNE 26, 2019  
NAT U HILL III MEETING ROOM  
COURTHOUSE  
BLOOMINGTON, IN**

The Monroe County Commissioners met in a regular meeting on June 26, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. with the following members present: Lee Jones, Vice President; and Penny Githens, Commissioner. Also present: Jordan Miller, Payroll Administrator; Jeff Cockerill, Attorney; Angie Purdie, Commissioners' Administrator; Lisa Ridge, Public Works Director; and Anita Freeman, Deputy Auditor. Not present: Julie Thomas.

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Jones

**II. AMENDMENT TO AGENDA**

Githens made a motion to add Resolution 2019- 11 as item "G" to the agenda. Jones seconded.  
**Motion carried by voice vote.**

(Jones) Jeff would you like to explain.

(Cockerill) Resolution 2019-11 is very similar to the resolution we did for Van Buren Township. It's a resolution to set some parameters if Bloomington Township wanted to enter into the Monroe Fire Protection District. We're setting parameters that they have to do to show you before you will entertain a public hearing to add that addition.

(Jones) Thank you.

**III. COMMISSIONERS' PUBLIC STATEMENT**

Statement read by Githens



- Pushed out road closings, weather updates and other pertinent information via social media
- Worked with Rita at Tech Services to get info out on our county web page
- We are continuing to collect information on damages
- Met with the Director of Indiana Homeland Security (IDHS), Brian Langley and Director of Emergency and Response, Erin Rowe to tour sites damaged from last week's tornado
- We are in contact with the state regarding our qualification to receive SBA (small business association) Loans and Disaster Relief Funding
  - This is quite a process and will allow homeowners to receive low interest loans to assist in rebuilding
  - If they do not qualify for SBA Loans then Disaster Relief Funds would be available to them
  - We will keep the wheels rolling on this and keep you informed as to our progress, SBA assessments teams are scheduled to be in our county today

I am amazed at this community and our ability to work together and collaborate on so many different fronts. There are lessons to be learned and more hurdles to get past but I am so pleased about where we are. Someone said to me last week that first responders are the perfect mix of angel and warrior... isn't that a great picture?

(Jones) Thank you. Would you explain a little bit more about registering people who might have needs if they lose electricity?

(Moore) Sure. We have a program in our county through our central dispatch call Smart-911. There is information on our county website, [www.co.monroe.in.us](http://www.co.monroe.in.us). It's a place where you can register if you have a disability and it will allow central dispatch to know what those disabilities are. So if you call 911 those first responders will know ahead of time what those disabilities are. It also helps us with our data base of various people who might need different resources in a disaster. It allows us to know that at this residence they need power before another because they have certain a need. So if you are one of those individuals in our county and haven't gone to Smart-911, I encourage you to do so.

(Jones) Thank you.

(Githens) And will there be any grants available through the state for anything?

(Moore) That's why they are here today and tomorrow to review what we have. We're still trying to meet the FEMA threshold. We are still trying to collect all of our numbers to see if we qualify. That is by the State of Indiana it's not from Monroe County. We have to meet a very high threshold to meet the state FEMA reimbursement. It is very unlikely that we will meet that but we as a county are trying very hard to meet those numbers. The next option would be SBA loans for homeowners who have been affected could go and meet with people a place set up close to the affected area for 5 days. They can come in and see if they

qualify for a loan. Those loans are at a very low interest rate, normally they're at less than 2%. They can also roll their mortgage into that loan, it has to be someone who is on our list of people that we have provided a damage assessment for. It can't be just anyone in the community, it's only for the ones we have on the list that qualify. If they don't qualify for the loan then we can do paper work for the Indiana Disaster Relief Fund and they could potentially qualify for up to \$10,000.

(Jones) Thank you.

(Githens) Thank you Allison.

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(Ridge) This is a statement on behalf of the Highway Department, Toby Turner Supervisor and myself, Lisa Ridge.

On June 15<sup>th</sup> 2019 Monroe County experienced tornados which caused property damage. The Monroe County Highway Department (Highway) was notified immediately of roads which were impassable. Crews worked around the clock on that day and the following days to ensure roads were operable. Highway ceased all other activities for the week of June 17<sup>th</sup> to clear debris from Monroe County's public roads. On June 23<sup>rd</sup> more severe weather impacted Monroe County. Once again Highway responded to clear public roads. The clearing work was preformed to carry out Highway's core mission: to protect and assist those who use more than 715 miles of public roads in our County.

Highway cannot undertake work, which falls outside of its essential duties or on private property, unless allowed by law. Without legal authority, Monroe County cannot and will not enter on to private property or use taxpayer's dollars to clear privately owned land. Unless debris affects road conditions Monroe County is not responsible for clearing debris placed in right of way by private citizens. In fact, citizens who place debris in the right of way may be responsible if such debris causes drainage issues, therefore, we request that citizens not place debris in the right of way near a public road.

Please know that Monroe County respects private property and works to be good stewards of taxpayer dollars. Monroe County will ensure that public roads are clear and safe for travel. While Monroe County's extreme weather conditions have resulted in delays to Monroe County's paving schedule, we look forward to resuming our work in that regard and continuing to serve all Monroe County residents.

Please contact Monroe County Legal Department, 812.349.2525, if you have any questions or concerns. If a roadway is impassable please contact the Highway directly, 812.349.2555 or 812.825-5355.

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(Purdie) Is anyone here from Washington Township? Because I was asked to read an update that was from the township trustee if that's ok. This is coming from Barb Anderson-Ooley of the Washington Township Trustee's office. She says, We finally have a game plan for storm damage clean up. First, I need anyone who would like volunteers to clear up leaves and limbs from their property to email her at [OoleyB@yahoo.com](mailto:OoleyB@yahoo.com) so she can add you to the list. If you also need help getting the trees cut up for firewood let her know that. She does not want to intrude on anyone who does not want help. Secondly, please begin to moving green fill to the roadside, NOT in the road. Please make sure you talk to her about this. The township will be having large equipment in to remove the limbs and leaves from the side of the road but that equipment cannot go on there unless they've got that knowledge that you want that picked up. Thirdly, spread the news if anybody can help give her a call or email. If you have questions please call the township office at 812.876.1158.

(Githens) Is that just for residents of Washington Township?

(Purdie) Yes.

(Githens) Because I know there were other impacted areas.

(Purdie) Right, but this is for Washington Township.

(Jones) I would like to thank everyone who responded to these tornados or straight line winds. It was an amazing job to deal with everything that had happened, people work hard and for a long time to get it cleared up.

(Githens) I was out also and toured the areas on my own, and I know there were a lot of families impacted by this. I think another thing we need to make sure of is, that if they have issues, to contact their homeowners insurance.

## **V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- **JUNE 19, 2019**

Githens made a motion to approve. Jones seconded.

**After call for public comment, motion carried by voice vote.**

## **VI. APPROVAL OF CLAIMS DOCKET**

- **ACCOUNTS PAYABLE – JUNE 26, 2019**

Githens made a motion to approve. Jones seconded.

(Miller) Total for Accounts Payable - \$94,250,715.22

- \$90,202,957.53 – Settlement Distribution
- \$3,291,407.58 – LIT Distribution

**After call for public comment, motion carried by voice vote.**

## VII. REPORTS

- CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT – MAY 2019
- WEIGHTS AND MEASURERS – MAY 16 – JUNE 15, 2019
- TRAFFIC/ROAD UPDATE

## VIII. NEW BUSINESS

### A. MOVE TO APPROVE: JUVENILE DETENTION ALTERNATIVES INITIATIVE AND PROGRAMMING GRANTS.

**FUND NAME: JDAI                      FUND NUMBER: 9143 & 9145                      AMOUNT: \$54,523**

Githens made a motion to approve. Jones seconded.

Good morning. My name is **Troy Hatfield** and I'm Deputy Chief Probation Officer and with me is Jeff Hartman, our Juvenile Division Supervisor. Since 2014 the Circuit Court and Probation Department have been implementing Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiatives, also known as JDAI. This initiative focuses on reducing the number of juveniles being securely detained while ensuring that detention is used in rare and appropriate circumstances to protect the safety of the child and/or the community. Additionally, JDAI targets the creation and implementation of appropriate detention alternatives for keeping youth safely in the community. When we look at some of our numbers we've been doing this since 2014, if we compare 2017 and 2018, the number of youth securely detained went down 11%; our total admissions were down 32%; our total bed day use was down 41%; and our average length of stay was down 22%. All of this in part due to the efforts of the JDAI process and all that also means a lower cost for our community. The juvenile detention cost went down from about \$270,000 in 2017 to \$164,000 in 2018 so we're saving a lot of money with this initiative. Through this initiative we have several communities that meet to help further our goals including one getting started to help address race, equity and inclusion. This grant will help us continue our efforts and we hope for the Commissioners endorsement and support for that.

(Jones) Thank you. It sounds like this program has been extremely successful.

(Hatfield) It's doing quite well and we believe it's in part to some of those alternatives we are able to offer through this grant.

(Githens) I have two quick questions. On the first page of the grant agreement it says we're responsible for submitting monthly reports, who exactly is responsible in terms of the title of the person?

(Hatfield) Sure. Christine McAfee is our Juvenile Detention Alternatives Coordinator in our department and she completes those monthly reports and they are approved by Jeff and then they are sent off to the Department of Corrections who funds this grant.

(Githens) Excellent. Can you tell us what goes on under coordination and programming?

(Hatfield) Sure. Coordination when the grant originally started was to help fund personnel expenses to get us started, to have an identified coordinator within the County that could help work through the process, work with the committee's on identifying what our needs were in terms of detention alternatives. We're using that money, because it decreases every year, a little bit differently but it's to help support all of our committee work locally that help direct our actions on what to do and what alternatives to provide and to map to show our progress. So the coordination goes to supporting that committee work. The programming helps support more of what you'd traditionally think of programming in the community the alternatives that we're providing. One alternative we use is electronic monitoring at times so it helps play the cost of that. We partner with local agency Family Solutions they help provide a day reporting program. We help provide transportation to get kids to and from that program. The programming will also help with training on how to appropriately build skills and work with these youth as well.

(Jones) For transporting kids to and from day reporting, is that a matter of making funds available or do you actually pick them up and take them there?

(Hatfield) The Department of Child Services will reimburse Family Solutions for the day reporting program, but they won't reimburse some of those extra things that we want to provide to make sure the kids are able to get there such as transportation. So Family Solutions will do that for us. They'll pick up the kids at their homes and bring them in to programming or from school and bring them over to programming and then we help reimburse the cost of that transportation that DCS won't reimburse.

**After call for public comment, motion carried by voice vote.**

**B. MOVE TO APPROVE: AMENDMENTS TO THE BI, INC. ELECTRONIC MONITORING SERVICES AGREEMENT.**

**FUND NAME: COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS GRANT**

**FUND NUMBER: 9141**

**AMOUNT: \$17,614.50.**

Githens made a motion to approve. Jones seconded.

(Jones) How often are these units lost or stolen or damaged approximately?

(Tom Rhodes) Very rare. Our officers are very aware that we need to retrieve our equipment. A couple of years ago I complimented an officer who used our scanner and figured out that an ankle was inside a big garbage dumpster and he went dumpster diving to get back our equipment. I think the last two or three years, maybe one or two; it's very rare. We don't encourage people to cut and run but we tell them the equipment is very expensive and if you get it into your mind that you are going to escape then just please leave the equipment there at the house so that we can pick it up. Amazingly enough a lot of them have been very cooperative in that regard.

(Githens) In the proposal there are two different types of anklets. Can you explain when you would use one versus the other?

(Rhodes) One is radio frequency; that is really old technology now. It's mainly used with land-lines. We use those on people who are mainly on a curfew. It will actually detect when they will come home and when they leave. Our other equipment that we use more frequently would be GPS. Law requires that we use it for violent offenders, sex offenders, and others because we want to know where they are at all times. We can turn on the computer and map and see where the folks have actually gone and we can also ping to see where they are right now. It's great for public safety and to make our program more accountable.

(Githens) Thank you.

**After call for public comment, motion carried by voice vote.**

**C. MOVE TO APPROVE: AGREEMENT WITH BLEDSOE, RIGGERT, COOPER AND JAMES REGARDING KARST FARM PARK IMPROVEMENTS.**

**FUND NAME: NON-REVERTING PARKS      FUND NUMBER: 1179 – 38110**

**AMOUNT: \$7,650**

Githens made a motion to approve. Jones seconded.

(Kelli Witmer) The athletic complex at Karst Farm Park will be thirty years old next year. With that comes drainage problems that we've been having, irrigation problems, so to have informed decisions the Park Board would like to hire Bledsoe, Riggert, Cooper and James to do an assessment of all our drainage, any sink hole problems that we may be having, and any irrigation do we need to increase irrigation or change irrigation. Now in another month I'll be visiting you again with another contract with Bledsoe, Riggert, Cooper and James they're going to an analysis on artificial turf on 1 to 4 fields. The Park Board just needs more information to make better decisions, so this is what this is all about.

(Jones) Thank you. Any questions?

(Githens) I have been out there and some of it is pretty boggy at times.

(Witmer) Unfortunately we have a lot of clay, like the rest of the county. When water comes into a clay bowl, the water rises and it doesn't go very far. So when you have athletic fields and the amount of rain that we've had the water doesn't go anywhere and then people don't get to play and that doesn't make people happy.

(Jones) Did you say field 5 is developing a sink hole?

(Witmer) We don't know. We've had Planning and Building departments out to look at it. From the naked eye you probably can't see it but our crew is out there every day and they've noticed something's not right. We've had Indiana University also out there to look at it. We also want Bledsoe, Riggert, Cooper and James to look at it too. So like a normal person walking



around they won't see anything, but for us who look at the field every day we're noticing something is going on, we don't know why and we want to know what that something is. (Jones) So we're not worried about falling into a sink hole?

(Witmer) No, no, no we're not worried about it. We do notice minute changes because our water changes then. Instead of water being over here now water is over here and the question is why and we need to have those answers.

(Jones) Thank you.

**After call for public comment, motion carried by voice vote.**

**D. MOVE TO APPROVE: AGREEMENT WITH LOCHMUELLER GROUP, INC.**

**FUND NAME: TBD**

**FUND NUMBER: TBD**

**AMOUNT: TBD**

Githens made a motion to approve. Jones seconded.

(Ridge) We have firms that we have general services agreements with on an as needed basis and it is on an hourly rate. This firm is going to help us with some assistance of some grants that could be out there for some of our bigger infrastructure projects.

**After call for public comment, motion carried by voice vote.**

**E. MOVE TO APPROVE: INDOT CHANGE ORDER #3 FOR HUNTERS CREEK ROAD PROJECT.**

**FUND NAME: LOCAL ROAD AND STREET**

**FUND NUMBER: 1169**

**AMOUNT: \$130,128.30**

Githens made a motion to approve. Jones seconded.

(Ridge) This change order is needed to have the project closed out. Due to the heavy rains this spring, there are two areas that have had slope failure and edge of road bank stabilization that will be needed for the project. Our County Engineer supports these improvements through the design and for the longevity of the roadway and approved the stabilization for the project.

(Jones) Thank you. Do you have questions?

(Githens) No. I didn't know where Hunters Creek was before all this so I've looked it up.

(Jones) Will this create a condition where it is less likely to happen if we have weather like this?

(Ridge) That's our goal.

(Jones) Ok, thank you.

**After call for public comment, motion carried by voice vote.**

**F. MOVE TO APPROVE: AGREEMENT WITH MILESTONE CONTRACTORS, LP FOR THE COMMUNITY CROSSING MATCHING GRANT PAVING PROJECT.**

**FUND NAME: MOTOR VEHICLE HIGHWAY**

**FUND NUMBER: 1176**

**AMOUNT: \$975,019**

Githens made a motion to approve. Jones seconded.

(Ridge) Bids were opened on June 5<sup>th</sup> 2019 at a public meeting. Milestone was awarded the project for being the lowest most responsive bidder. Attached is the contract for the paving projects that were awarded in the last call for projects in the Community Crossing Matching Grant Program. The contractor projects the start of the road paving projects will be August 2019. The roads to be done are Jonathan Drive, Liberty Drive, Old SR 37 South, from SR 37 to just south of Rogers Rd; and then all the roads in the Highland Village Subdivision will be paved.

(Jones) Thank you. Do you have any questions?

(Githens) No. When I look at the maps it's pretty extensive under taking.

(Ridge) We're getting ready next week opens the next call for the next round of the Community Crossing. They do them two times a year now. We were out assessing the roads that we want to include into that next call so we stay a little bit ahead of it.

(Githens) Thank you.

(Jones) I know those roads were in need of some help so thank you for getting to it.

(Ridge) There are a lot of roads out there that need a lot of work.

**After call for public comment, motion carried by voice vote.**

**G. MOVE TO APPROVE: RESOLUTION 2019-11; EXPANSION OF THE MONROE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT TO INCLUDE BLOOMINGTON TOWNSHIP.**

**FUND NAME: N/A**

**FUND NUMBER: N/A**

**AMOUNT: N/A**

Githens made a motion to approve. Jones seconded.

(Cockerill) And I said briefly earlier, this is kind of continuing the trend of consolidating fire departments within the county. This request has come from the Bloomington Township Trustee to explore the possibility of merging their fire department with the current Monroe Fire Protection District. If you recall Van Buren Township is doing a similar thing and we did a similar resolution for them, which essentially states the ground rules that they need to meet in order to come to the County Commissioners to consider the question and have the public hearing process outlined in the statute. It is essentially they need to complete a public engagement process including public engagement meetings, and they need to give a notice that they are going to do this in the paper. And for the people in the unincorporated portion of Bloomington Township they need to do a petition for their people, but in those other three



particular township board members. I think it makes it much easier for communities to plan going forward for fire protection and to fund them more stably. I urge you to support this effort and I certainly as a property owner will be supporting this when I receive the post card. So thank you.

(Jones) This is just a very similar process to what we've just gone through with Van Buren Township joining the district so we are already practiced at it.

**After call for public comment, motion carried by voice vote.**

## **IX. APPOINTMENTS**

Githens made motion to appoint the following. Jones seconded.

- Dee Owen – Drainage Board – remainder of 4 year term.
- Susan Gray – Human Rights Commission – remainder of 2 year term.
- Polly Sturgeon – Historic Preservation Board – remainder of 3 year term.
- Teddie Phillipson-Mower – Environmental Commission – remainder of 2 year term.

**After call for public comment, motion carried by voice vote.**

## **X. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Monroe County Fair starts Saturday, June 29 through Sunday, July 7, 2019.
- Accepting applications for all boards and commissions.
- NO COMMISSIONERS' MEETING JULY 3, 2019.
- Next Commissioners' meeting is Wednesday, July 10, 2019, at 10am in the Nat U Hill meeting room, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the Courthouse.

## **XI. ADJOURNMENT**

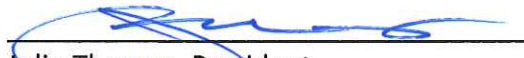
Jones adjourned meeting.

The minutes of the June 26, 2019 Board of Commissioners' meeting were approved on July 10, 2019.


**Monroe County Commissioners**

Ayes:

Nays:

  
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Julie Thomas, President

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Julie Thomas, President

  
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Lee Jones, Vice President

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Lee Jones, Vice President

  
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Penny Githens

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Penny Githens

Attest:

  
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Catherine Smith, Auditor



**MONROE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
WORK SESSION AGENDA  
MONROE COUNTY COURTHOUSE  
JUDGE NAT U. HILL III MEETING ROOM  
BLOOMINGTON, INDIANA  
June 26, 2019**

- 1. John Robertson – Parks & Recreation**
  - a. Capital and Equipment Requests
  
- 2. Penny Caudill, Health Administrator/Eric Evans, Chief Technology Officer**
  - a. Request approval of Health Department obtaining a commercial AZURE account
  
- 3. Jackie Nester – Planning Department**
  - a. Approval of Work-Study Agreement between the Monroe County Planning Department and IU, Bloomington Federal Work Study Program
  
- 4. Lisa Ridge – Highway Director**
  - a. Miscellaneous
  
- 5. Legal Department**
  - a. Miscellaneous
  
- 6. Angela Purdie – Commissioners' Administrator**
  - a. Miscellaneous