

WARRICK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
REGULAR SESSION
COMMISSIONERS MEETING ROOM
107 W. Locust Street, Suite 303
Boonville, Indiana
February 9, 2026
4:00 P.M.

The Warrick County Commissioners met in regular session with Stacey Franz, Vice President and Terry Phillippe, Member present. Commissioner Sarah Seaton was not present for this meeting.

Attorney Cliff Whitehead and Administrator Debbie Bennett-Stearnsman were in attendance.

Auditor Michael Dietsch and Official Recording Secretary Kristine Georges attended and recorded the minutes.

Commissioner Meetings can be viewed via YouTube: Warrick County, Indiana Government

Vice President Stacey Franz called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

**AREA PLAN COMMISSION
REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF SURETY
C-24-040 LIGHTHOUSE STORAGE**

Area Plan Director Molly Barnhill presented a Request for Release of Surety for C-24-040, Lighthouse Storage of Newburgh LLC, by Ryan Gelarden, Project Manager. The County is holding \$6,937.70 in surety for entrance construction. They have had one year. The letter of credit expires March 5, 2026. County Engineer Bobby Howard is good with the release and recommended approval. Commissioner Terry Phillippe made the motion to approve. Commissioner Stacey Franz seconded the motion. The motion carried 2-0.

**REZONING
PC-R-25-11
ORDINANCE 2026-01**

Ms. Barnhill presented a rezoning for PC-R-25-11, petitioner and owner is Mark E. and Jamie M. Greer. It's to rezone approximately 0.806 acres located on the side of Carey Road approximately 970 feet north of the intersection of Tennyson Road and Carey Road from C-3, Highway Commercial, to A, Agricultural. It's Skelton Township, 20-5-7. The complete legal is on file and this was advertised in The Standard on January 2, 2026. It was passed unanimously by the Area Plan Commission Board. No remonstrators were present. Commissioner Terry Phillippe made a motion to approve Ordinance 2026-01. Commissioner Stacey Franz seconded the motion. The motion carried 2-0.

(Ordinance 2026-01 is located on Page 5 of these Official Minutes)

**STREET CONSTRUCTION PLANS
PP-26-01 KIRBY PUD**

Next, she presented Street Construction Plans for PP-26-01, Kirby PUD. The petitioner and owner is 2400 Green River Investments, LLC, by Chris Combs, Managing Member. It's approximately 11.649 acres located on the north side of Oak Grove Road, approximately 1000 feet west of the intersection of Oak Grove Road and Bell Road in Ohio Township, 15-6-9. The complete legal is on file. It was advertised in The Standard, January 29, 2026. Glen Meritt with Cash Waggoner was present. This is for roads. Mr. Howard has no issues and recommended approval. Commissioner Terry Phillippe made a motion to approve. Commissioner Stacey Franz seconded the motion. The motion carried 2-0.

(APC Paperwork is located on File in the Auditor's Office)

**ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION
EMS 2025 ANNUAL REPORT**

Tony O'Neal from Warrick EMS was present to review the 2025 Annual Report. The report was given to the Commissioners. He reviewed the different trainings completed with the various groups in the County, work done on the ambulances, and the remodel for the Lynnville EMS. Mr. O'Neal also went over updates to equipment, certifications, and the replacement of a command vehicle. He also reviewed the statistics for the county with runs for 2025.

Commissioner Phillippe asked about when the fire department gets sent out with medical runs. Mr. O'Neal said that there is a critical list he reviewed that triggers the run. Sometimes they may also need a lift assist for larger patients that would precipitate the run. This does make more runs for the fire department but improved services. There was a brief discussion. The Commissioners thanked EMS for all their work.

**ACTION AGENDA
E-REP SERVICE AGREEMENT**

Economic Development Director Steve Roelle was present to review the 2026 E-REP Service Agreement. He went over what E-Rep does and that this is an agreement that has been in place for some time and the funds are in place

for the renewal. Commissioner Terry Phillippe made a motion to approve the agreement. Commissioner Stacey Franz seconded the motion. The motion carried 2-0.

(E-Rep Agreement is located on File in the Auditor's Office)

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF REGIONAL DESIGNATION FOR FEDERAL DEVELOPMENT RESOLUTION 2026-02

Mr. Roelle also presented a Resolution in Support of Regional Designation for Federal Development. He reviewed what has already been put in place and how it would work and the benefits to the County and to the regional area. Commissioner Terry Phillippe made a motion to approve Resolution 2026-02. Commissioner Stacey Franz seconded the motion. The motion carried 2-0.

(Resolution 2026-02 is located on Page 8 through ___ of these Official Minutes)

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES
FEBRUARY 2, 2026**

Minutes for the February 2, 2026 Regular Session meeting were presented to the Commissioners for approval. Commissioner Terry Phillippe made the motion to approve the minutes. Commissioner Stacey Franz seconded the motion. The motion carried 2-0.

APPROVAL OF STOP THE BLEED ORDINANCE

This was removed from the agenda.

APPROVAL OF PURCHASING ORDINANCE

Next was the approval of a new Purchasing Ordinance for the County. Sheriff Wilder asked to speak and says he has not seen this final version and would like to give input. This is something that would affect their department and others like the Highway Department and Economic Development. He would really like to see the final draft as he was told he would. There was a discussion between the Sheriff and the County Administrator. She said that all issues she felt were addressed in the final draft. The County Attorney said that the Sheriff and others were consulted on multiple times on all the changes. Sheriff Wilder still wanted to be able to see final draft as every draft had changes on the numbers. There was continued discussion. Commissioner Phillippe went over how this policy came about and seeing the need as well as issues with the credit cards. Commissioner Franz agreed and that it would help make smaller purchases easier. Commissioner Terry Phillippe then made a motion to table. Commissioner Stacey Franz seconded the motion. The motion carried 2-0.

Ms. Bennett-Stearsman asked about sending the final draft. Attorney Whitehead said that they need to get it finished up as it has been going on for almost a year and stated that the final version had the approval of at least two of the Commissioners. Commissioner Phillippe said he would like to table for more discussion. There was then discussion on the current policy. There was also discussion between the County Engineer and the County Attorney about the credit cards. Mr. Howard also spoke to some of the issues in the policy that didn't work for their department and he has sent emails to the effect.

Commissioner Phillippe said that he wants to see the department heads be okay with the policy and any issues addressed. Ms. Bennett-Stearsman asked if he would like another meeting scheduled. Commissioner Franz felt that Commissioner Phillippe should be present for any meeting scheduled for that purpose of moving it forward. Attorney Whitehead encouraged having one meeting for everyone to sit down to avoid the side conversations. Ms. Bennett-Stearsman said they can set that final meeting which was decided to include all department heads. Sheriff Wilder also came back up to say that he just wants to be able to give some final input, but know that the Commissioner have the final say. No other action was taken.

**COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
AP VOUCHER – FEBRUARY 9, 2026**

The AP Voucher dated February 9, 2026 in the amount of \$1,037,804.62 was presented for payment. Commissioner Terry Phillippe made a motion to approve the claims. Commissioner Stacey Franz seconded the motion. The motion carried 2-0.

AP VOUCHER – UNCERTIFIED

There was an Uncertified Claim in the amount of \$650.00 that had been previously tabled. An explanation had been submitted by Community Corrections for charges involving parking during a training conference. Auditor Mike Dietsch spoke to the issues with the claim and supporting documentation. The Commissioners took a brief moment to look over all the paperwork. There are still some questions to the charges. Commissioner Terry Phillippe made a motion to table the claim. Commissioner Stacey Franz seconded the motion. The motion carried 2-0.

(AP Vouchers are located on Pages 6 through 7 of these Official Minutes)

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer's Report for January 2026 was presented. Commissioner Terry Phillippe made a motion to accept the report. Commissioner Stacey Franz seconded the motion. The motion carried 2-0.

(Treasurer's Report is located on File in the Auditor's Office)

APPROVAL OF PURCHASE OF ANIMAL CONTROL COMMUNICATIONS RADIOS

Animal Control Supervisor Brandon Russell was present. He reviewed the reasons for getting the radios. He would like to also have a connection with Dispatch and has been in contact with the Sheriff about this. Commissioner Phillippe said he would like to see an MOU between Dispatch and Animal Control. There was a brief discussion over the MOU and what would be needed. Sheriff Wilder said that they did discuss going through Dispatch, but it is what channel to put them on and still be monitored, that they are reviewing. Otherwise, they are good with working with them. Commissioner Phillippe feels they need to get all the boxes checked before approval. Mr. Russell was asked if there was a timeline. He said they can wait. Commissioner Terry Phillippe made a motion to table. Commissioner Stacey Franz seconded the motion to table to February 23rd. The motion carried 2-0.

SECURITY CENTER DRAW 35

Ms. Bennett-Stearnsman presented Draw 35 for the Security Center in the total amount of \$2,813,348.29. Commissioner Terry Phillippe made the motion to approve. Commissioner Stacey Franz seconded the motion. The motion carried 2-0.

(Security Center Draw 35 is located on File in the Auditor's Office)

CONFLICT OF INTEREST STATEMENT

Ms. Bennett-Stearnsman presented a Conflict-of-Interest form for Sheriff Mike Wilder. The Commissioners accepted the statement.

(Conflict-of-Interest is located on File in the Auditor's Offices and on Indiana Gateway)

ACQUISITIONS ADMINISTRATOR COUNTY SURPLUS

Acquisitions Administrator Sherrie Sievers presented five miscellaneous wood chairs from the Warrick County Treasurer's Office as surplus. Commissioner Phillippe said he would like to see them go somewhere. Ms. Sievers said that she can send them to Restore. Commissioner Terry Phillippe made the motion to declare surplus. Commissioner Stacey Franz seconded the motion. The motion carried 2-0.

MISCELLANEOUS CAPITAL ASSETS

Ms. Sievers presented a list of items as requested by the Auditor's Office to be declared surplus. There are items that need to be cleared out the capital assets system. Ms. Sievers went over the notes received. She said that some were possibly already declared surplus, but numbers or other information was not provided to allow the disposal from the software or that they were items carried over when the software was put into use and those items are no longer in the offices. Notes were made for the items that the Commissioners reviewed. Ms. Sievers read the following into the record:

Assessor	Printer	32114	Too old to know
	Printer	KOOD	Too old to know
Highway	14 Used Van Body	2293	Sold
	2007 Gradall Excavator	0237	Sold
	2008 Ford F-250	2471	Sold
Recorder	Printer	1043	Destroyed
Sheriff	Cabinet		Destroyed
	C25 Card		Destroyed
	Dodge Durango	9740	End of lease
	2014 Charger	5118	Sold
	2016 Charger	5871	Sold
	2016 Charger	5134	Sold
	2017 Charger	0100	Sold
	2004 Ranger	6302	Sold
	Ford Explorer	2517	Sold
Superior I	Dell Computer	GX7451	Recycled
	Hayes Modem		Too old to know.
	Dell Computer	41-581	Recycled
	Dell Computer	5DWV1	Recycled
Superior II	Plexiglass		Destroyed
	Plexiglass		Donated
Treasurer	Dell Computer	252-814	Trade-in.
	Dell Computer	252-845	Recycled
Election	Two Computers	7676	Donated
	HP Printer 4100	A#ABA	End of Lease

Parks & Rec.	Dell Projector & Screen	1140	Too old to know
County Council	Scag Turf Tiger II	19600	Trade-in
Building Department	Acer Processor		Destroyed
	Dell Computer & Athlon tower	60SGM	Too old to know
	HP Laptop	5050	Too old to know
	Dell Server Processor	8831	Trade-in.
	2019 Dodge Ram 1500		

Commissioner Terry Phillippe made a motion to approve the declaration of surplus. Commissioner Stacey Franz seconded the motion. The motion carried 2-0.

STATEMENT ON PURCHASING POLICY

Ms. Sievers also wanted to say that the Purchasing Policy discussed earlier in the meeting was good, but she has concerns on the \$5,000.00 limit that was set. This will put more work on Purchasing Department for the Sheriff, Highway Department, and Economic Development. The increase could cause a need for additional help in an already busy department. Ms. Bennett-Stearnsman said that there is State statute that covers some of the purchasing by the Departments.

**COUNTY HIGHWAY/ENGINEER
BID OPENING – CMG 2026-01**

County Engineer Bobby Howard presented the bids for resurfacing with the Community Crossings grant. He reviewed the roads that this would cover. Mr. Howard opened the three bids:

JH Rudolph	\$1,135,033.75
E & B Paving	\$ 921,834.25
Metzger Construction	\$ 973,748.00

Due to the State's requirements, Mr. Howard asked that they approve the low bidder contingent on review of the paperwork. Commissioner Terry Phillippe made the motion to award to E & B Paving subject to review. Commissioner Stacey Franz seconded the motion. The motion carried 2-0.

The bid paperwork was available for viewing.

**COUNTY SHERIFF
INTERNET SERVICE**

Sheriff Wilder wanted to stress that they need to get this done. There are vendors that can't get their work done and it could keep things from moving forward. Ms. Bennett-Stearnsman said that two Commissioners had already approved with going with Net Savvy's recommendation. They can't ratify today, because a contract has not come in. Commissioner Phillippe said he had an issue with the recommendation. No other action was taken.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

The County Attorney had nothing to present.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

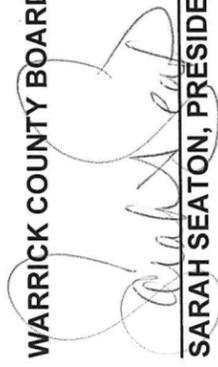
Barton Heath – Mr. Heath had some concerns about the Data Centers. The State is enticing these centers and they're draining the areas they come in. He said they are only a benefit to the landlords. They import employees. Commissioner Phillippe said that he doesn't disagree, but there is no eminent conversation or project happening. A scout came in just looking at the area. Commissioner Franz also said that nothing has come through APC. Mr. Heath said he wants to see projects, but healthy projects good for the county and community.

ADJOURNMENT

The next Warrick County Commissioners' meeting will be held on Monday, February 23, 2026 in the Commissioners' meeting room at 4:00 PM. Commissioner Terry Phillippe made the motion to adjourn. Commissioner Stacey Franz seconded the motion. The motion carried 2-0.

Meeting adjourned at 4:57 P.M.

WARRICK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



SARAH SEATON, PRESIDENT



STACEY FRANZ, VICE PRESIDENT



TERRY PHILLIPPE, MEMBER

ATTEST: 

MICHAEL J. DIETSCH, AUDITOR
WARRICK COUNTY, INDIANA

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by *Kristine Georges*, Official Recording Secretary

2024R-001095
PATRICIA E. FERRY
WARRICK COUNTY RECORDER
RECORDED AS PRESENTED ON
02/11/2026 02:22 PM
REC FEE: 0.00
PAGES: 3



WARRICK COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' ORDINANCE # 260
PLAN COMMISSION DOCKET # PC-R-25-11
AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE WARRICK COUNTY, INDIANA
COMPREHENSIVE ZONING ORDINANCE BY REZONING CERTAIN
REAL ESTATE IN WARRICK COUNTY, INDIANA

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF WARRICK COUNTY, INDIANA:

Section 1. That the Warrick County, Indiana Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance and the Warrick County Zoning District Maps dated February 1, 2005, and made a part of said Ordinance, be and the same are hereby amended as follows:
That the boundaries of the "C-3", as shown on said Warrick County Zoning District Maps, be amended as to the following described real estate:
Part of the Northwest quarter of the Southeast quarter of Section 20, Township 5 South, Range 7 West, in the Warrick County, Indiana, and more particularly described as follows:
Commencing at an iron pin found at the Northeast Corner of said Quarter Quarter Section; thence South 00' 00" West along the East line of thereof, 270.0 feet to a mag-nail set at the Point of Beginning; thence South 00' 00" West along the East line 130.0 feet; thence North 89' 44" 58" W 270.0 feet; thence North 00' 00" 00" East 130.0 feet; thence S 89' 44' 58" East 270.0 feet to the point of beginning.
which real estate is now zoned and classified as part of the "C-3" District, as shown on the aforesaid Warrick County Zoning District Maps, so that said above-described real estate shall be and the same is hereby rezoned and reclassified from said "C-3" District to said "A" District.
Section 2. All Ordinances and parts of Ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.
Section 3. This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage by the Board of Commissioners of the County of Warrick, State of Indiana.

ATTEST:


County Auditor
2-9-26
Date Approved

President, Sarah Seaton
Member  Phillippe
Member, Stacey Franz

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
WARRICK COUNTY, INDIANA

2026-2

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF WARRICK COUNTY, INDIANA, IN SUPPORT OF PURSUING DESIGNATION AS AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of Warrick County, Indiana, and other local governments in the region actively participate in cooperative economic development initiatives through the Evansville Regional Economic Partnership (E-REP);

WHEREAS, E-REP and its member jurisdictions have adopted a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) in accordance with guidance from the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA);

WHEREAS, Warrick County has consistently demonstrated its commitment to fostering regional economic growth, collaboration, and strategic investment;

WHEREAS, designation of the Evansville region as an Economic Development District (EDD) by the EDA — in partnership with E-REP and participating jurisdictions — is expected to enhance regional competitiveness, expand access to federal funding and technical assistance, and further the implementation of the adopted CEDS;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of Warrick County, Indiana, that:

1. The County formally supports and endorses the pursuit of EDD designation by the EDA for the region as defined by E-REP and its adopted CEDS.
2. The County commits to continued active participation in regional economic development planning, including the provision of staff support, data sharing, and other appropriate contributions toward EDD-related efforts and CEDS implementation.
3. The President of the Board of Commissioners, or their designee, is hereby authorized and directed to take such actions, sign such documents, and make such representations as may be necessary to advance and support the EDD application and related processes.
4. If any section, paragraph, or provision of this Resolution is found to be invalid or unenforceable by a court of competent jurisdiction, such finding shall not affect the remaining provisions, which shall continue in full force and effect.
5. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its passage and adoption.

Adopted this 9th day of February, 2026.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF WARRICK COUNTY, INDIANA

By: - Absent - Sarah A. Seaton

By: [Signature] Terry J. Phillippe

By: [Signature] Stacey Franz

ATTEST:

By: [Signature]
Michael Diecksch, Auditor

APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM:

By: [Signature]
Cliff Whitehead
Warrick County Attorney