

ALLEN COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 21, 2016
8:30 AM

The Allen County Council met on Thursday, April 21, 2016 at 8:30 am in the Discussion Room at Citizens Square. The purpose of the meeting was for additional appropriations, transfer of funds in excess of the current budget, grants and any other business to come before Council.

Attending: Robert A. Armstrong, Joel M. Benz, Larry L. Brown, William E. Brown, Roy A. Buskirk, Tom A. Harris and Sharon L. Tucker.

Also Attending: Tera Klutz, Auditor; Nick Jordan, Chief Deputy Auditor; and Becky Butler, Administrative Assistant.

The meeting was called to order by President Roy Buskirk with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silent prayer.

Roy Buskirk: Good morning everyone. First on the agenda is the approval of the March 17th and March 29th meeting minutes. Are there any additions or corrections?

Bill Brown: Move to approve the minutes from March 17 and March 29, 2016.

Larry Brown: Second.

Roy Buskirk: All in favor signify by saying aye, opposed, same sign. The motion passes 7-0. Next is the financial report from Auditor Tera Klutz.

Tera Klutz: Good morning, Council. In your packets are the March 31st financial statements for the General Fund and all of our major funds. The General Fund today is tracking at 25% of the year and that is as expected as some of the revenue comes in, especially Excise Tax and Property Tax in the next few months. Today you have zero appropriation requests in the General Fund and \$83,086 in Other Funds.

Roy Buskirk: The microphones are low key this morning. They are working but it is very little.

Tera Klutz: If you have any questions, I would be happy to entertain them.

Roy Buskirk: Did you hear the last comment she made? Do you have any questions?

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Bill Brown: I will make a motion to approve the financial report.

Bob Armstrong: Second.

Roy Buskirk: We have a motion and a second. All in favor say aye, those opposed, like sign. The motion passes 7-0. And now, Nick, would you give us the unemployment.

Nick Jordan: Good morning, Council. On your agenda, you see January and February. March has since been released. March, non-seasonally adjusted rate for Allen County is 5.3%. Indiana is 5.5%. Illinois is 6.8%. Michigan is 5.1%. Ohio is 5.4% and the National is 5.1%.

Roy Buskirk: Several of them went up a tenth of a point.

Nick Jordan: If you look in comparison to a year ago, March 2015, the labor force for Allen County has increased about 8,100 people. Of that approximately 7,400 are employed which leaves only around 700 to 800 unemployed. There has been great improvement since March of 2015.

Roy Buskirk: Thank you. It should improve with the new developments that are coming in this year. We have appropriation requests of \$83,086 today and the first thing on the agenda is two Board Appointments.

Becky Butler: Only one is here. Roger Brugh is here.

Roy Buskirk: Why are we doing it now?

Becky Butler: It is an update. They are coming to give you an update on their meetings.

Roy Buskirk: Oh, okay, I am sorry. The table is yours.

Roger Brugh: My name is Roger Brugh and I am the Council's appointee to the Child Care Facilities Board and Roy is a member too. I am Chairman of the Board and have been on the Board for five or six years. We meet four times a year and it is not a labor intensive type thing. We are the only facility of its kind still left in Northeast Indiana. A lot of it has been going towards foster care and less towards this type of facility. I think things are run extremely well out there. Chris is the manager and frankly, Jean, your assistant, does one ton of work. As far as significant things that have happened, a lot of times there are none. Things just go along. There have been a couple and one of the biggest, in my opinion, is DCS out of Indianapolis. They have raised the rate that we get per child, per night. It

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went from \$155 to \$190. That was upon their hard work and request and that is a big help. As of yesterday, there were 17 children there. We don't have a lot of control of that. We have a max that we can take of 25 and frankly you can get them in the middle of the night. Normally, their court functions come in there. There are young children, six, seven or eight and on up to 18. Obviously there is a girl's wing and a guy's wing. The food is very plain but it is excellent. Of the four meetings, three are out there and at least two of them, we go and have lunch. The kids look around and wonder who the old people are that are sitting around our tables. On a minor level but a good one, one of the Board Members is Edith Niemeyer. She is the representative from Northwest Allen County Schools who takes care of the school for the kids. In and of itself, it is kind of interesting. It is kind of like a one-room schoolhouse. There is a teacher and a teacher's aide. We got fiber optic brought up there and what that means is that if a child comes in from East Allen School District, they have to be transferred in the old way to Northwest Allen County School System. The curriculum might be totally different. What they studied yesterday, Northwest might have studied three months ago. What they do with this new system is to keep them on their old program. If they are one of the lucky children and can go back home to their parents and haven't lost a beat. Other than that there are things that are brought up at the Board meetings like a new water heater and things like that. Other than that I think it runs pretty well. I know I'm probably not supposed to bring this up but one thing that has always made me wonder a little bit, from owning businesses for years and years; well over half of the children that are out there being cared for are Fort Wayne City. I don't think the City donates to the pot. I don't know if that can be directed or changed but that would be a big help. I think that is about all I had. I would be happy to answer any questions.

Roy Buskirk: A couple of things that I might add to that is that we accept children from other Counties. Usually that is up to twenty but that number varies quite a bit because our previous meeting four months ago and there were 22 children at that time. Now it is down to 17. The average stay is 20 days or less and then put them into foster homes, if possible. There are different ways in which they are served as far as placement. Once in a while you run into, and Chris can take over now, over 100 days because of some violent issues by that child. Isn't it?

Chris Dunn: We currently have a female that has been there 120 days. We are having a problem finding a place for her to go because of her age and IQ level. She is on a waiting list for several facilities around the State. We do get some that are often repeat visitors and have some bad behaviors and it is difficult to find some place to take them.

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Roger Brugh: The 20 days are not written in stone. You can reapply to the State for another 20 days. It is not as if at 20 days you have to shove them out the door.

Roy Buskirk: And one of the big things, Roger, that you mentioned about the schools. Before, we had to do a whole bunch of paperwork because of transferring them from one School Corporation to another. With this new approach, it eliminates a lot of that paperwork. We charge the outside Counties the same that the State reimburses us?

Chris Dunn: We actually charge the State for all of the residents and therefore we have to charge them the same rate.

Roy Buskirk: Does anyone else have any questions or comments? Thank you very much.

Larry Brown: Thank you for your service, Roger.

Roger Brugh: I enjoy the work.

Roy Buskirk: We will move onto the Solid Waste Management District.

Nick Jordan: Just to recollect, each fall you adopt the Solid Waste budget as a binding tax unit and therefore you also approve their additional appropriations.

Tony Burrus: Good morning, Council. I am Tony Burrus with the Allen County Solid Waste District. I come today to request an additional appropriation of \$1,104,750. This is to replace some equipment, our tub grinder and our front-end loader. We purchased the front-end loader in 1996, used, and we have gotten our monies worth out of it but it is now beginning to fail. The tub grinder was bought in 2009 and it should be lasting a lot longer however we have been having some major fail problems. When it is throwing actual parts that are welded, it has become a safety issue. We are looking at replacing that.

Roy Buskirk: You move that from site to site.

Tony Burrus: Yes, we utilize the grinder and loader from multiple sites but mainly at the Republic Services and at the City Bio-solids but we do go to other communities. We have gone into Hometown and Monroeville and have gone across County lines to assist others for mutual aid. What this is, if you haven't seen it, is this is a large piece of equipment. Some people equate it to a large garbage disposal. It does 50 tons an hour. To bring that into

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perspective, it will take a telephone pole and make it into complete mulch in about five minutes. It has a grapple and what the grapple will pick up will go into the fourteen foot wide tub and we produce mulch at 50 tons an hour.

Roy Buskirk: On the mulch, what happens to the mulch?

Tony Burrus: The mulch is utilized by various sources.

Roy Buskirk: Do we sell some of that?

Tony Burrus: We don't own those sites. We offer this service as part, the District is charged with reduction of waste. Yard waste comes in and we utilize those sites and reduce the material by a 33%-50%. That material is left for them to manage.

Roy Buskirk: Okay. Fund 8210, is there revenue generated for that fund?

Tony Burrus: The Solid Waste Fund is funded through tipping fees. Those are fees assessed by the District on the local final disposal as defined by State statute. The maximum that we can charge is \$2.50 a ton.

Tom Harris: And that is where we are at?

Tony Burrus: Yes. That \$2.50 a ton is for everything generated outside of Allen County and \$1.35 for everything generated within Allen County. That fee was in cooperation with the landfill. The landfill owners said we should we should be charging those who contribute to our landfill more and so that is what we have done since the creation of the District. That generates an average of about \$1.2 million a year. What we are asking for the additional appropriation from is the reserve funds.

Bill Brown: Having been on the Solid Waste Board years ago, what is the relationship with the City at this point? I know they do some grinding and we do some grinding.

Tony Burrus: They do additional grinding. What we are in the business to do is yard waste as defined by the statute, three inches in diameter and six inches in length, although we don't take a measuring stick to it. Sometimes they will get other materials such as land clearing materials that if we have the opportunity, we will try and grind it. If we can't, it is left there and they can utilize it since it is their site. Sometimes they bring in somebody for some of that or we will get it through the next rotation.

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Roy Buskirk: The one thing we must keep in mind is that the City does pay on that because the taxpayers pay a County tax.

Tony Burrus: The City contributes through their Solid Waste contract. That is about \$100,000 a year to the budget. That is what is assessed through the tipping fees because we are 99% tipping fees.

Tom Harris: A question in terms of the use of the grinders and such, are there any fees for that? When you talk about tipping fees that is through the disposal of waste and such but not a fee to use this particular grinder.

Tony Burrus: We are beginning to look at our plan but when we developed the plan instead of creating our own compost site which had to be registered with certain State requirements, we decided to use those that already had permits that would not be in conflict with them. It was still an economic evaluation as to what was the best way of going and that is what we were doing.

Tom Harris: I am not necessarily interested in names but what is your biggest entity that uses this grinder, comes through and has to have materials ground up? Would that be like the City of Fort Wayne, the County or is it other private organizations that might bring that to you?

Tony Burrus: Since we don't manage the sites, I can't tell you who is bringing in the materials to each site. I do know that the Lake Avenue site is busier than the Republic site mainly because of their hours.

Tom Harris: But is it fair to say that just citizens use that more than other entities? Contractors and citizens use that more?

Tony Burrus: Yes.

Tom Harris: This particular tub grinder that you are getting is this bringing you back up to the same standard or is this a newer fancier one that slices and dices. Is it taking us up from technological standpoint?

Tony Burrus: We feel that the one we have was not necessarily the best at the time but it also met the standards and complied with the purchasing rules.

Tom Harris: So, is this the top model or the middle model?

Tony Burrus: It is one of their top models because we upgraded the engine from a 750 horse to a 1,000 horse. That is so you don't overtax it. We were

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operating at almost 90% performance on the engine. If you keep doing that with any piece of equipment, you are going to wear it out a lot faster.

Tom Harris: Okay, so this is going to be able to do more.

Tony Burrus: This would be equal to what we have now. It is almost impossible for an operator to maintain 50 tons per hour.

Joel Benz: I just had one quick question about the people that you got quotes from. I am sure you did your due diligence and obviously I would like to see local guys in this but it looks like you are going out to Michigan for one.

Tony Burrus: The manufacturers, there are only three in the country. We are looking at both through the NJPPA Group which is a bidding group and consortium that the County belongs to as well as GSA for the pricing on this.

Joel Benz: Thanks.

Tom Harris: I'm sorry but I have one other question to ask. After this purchase you will still have \$2 million left in the surplus funds?

Tony Burrus: Roughly \$1 million.

Tom Harris: Okay, thank you.

Roy Buskirk: Just curious and I have heard before that the current machine runs about 50 gallons of gas an hour or something like that. Is that about what it is?

Tony Burrus: Yes, diesel fuel.

Roy Buskirk: It kind of floored me when I heard that but I can see if you are running that at 90% capacity on the engine, it is going to burn more too. Are there any other comments or questions? I will entertain a motion.

Bill Brown: I do have one question. It has been deemed that it is smarter to contract this or do this ourselves compared to subcontracting? Is that pretty much the way it is these days?

Tony Burrus: I would say yes but we are also evaluating those options. Our budget, like the County's budget, is very limited. How we can save those dollars and stretch those without doing major rate increases. We have some play in there but understand our waste stream is 65% industry. That is going

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to go on the businesses and we are looking at that and when to do those things and also, how to make this a little more effective and manage our cost.

Bill Brown: I remember when they bought this last tub grinder and you had a recommendation that we didn't go along with. We would probably be in better shape if we had listened to you.

Tony Burrus: My opinion would be that is absolutely true.

Bill Brown: Having said that I will make a motion...

Roy Buskirk: Wait a minute, Tom has one more question and this is the last one, Tom.

Tom Harris: What is the length of time for the tub grinder? How long would that last? Are they available for resale? Does anyone pick these things up?

Tony Burrus: People do purchase the used ones. They should last fifteen years.

Roy Buskirk: So, you traded this one in on the new one?

Tony Burrus: We will trade it in or sell it.

Roy Buskirk: Now I will entertain a motion.

Bill Brown: I will make a motion to approve the Resolution 2016-4-21-2, appropriation request from Fund 8210, Special Solid Waste Management in the amount of \$1,104,750.

Sharon Tucker: Second.

Roy Buskirk: We have a motion and a second. All in favor say aye, those opposed, like sign. The motion passes 6-0-1 (Armstrong abstained). Thank you, Tony. Community Corrections is next.

Jeff Stevens: Good morning, Council, I am Jeff Stevens, Senior Finance Manager at Community Corrections.

Amy Kreiger: Amy Kreiger, Deputy Assistant Director at Community Corrections. We are very excited to talk today about our continued Joint Veterans Court Initiative that we have. We are here to talk about an appropriation for \$19,390 that we have received from the Indiana Judicial

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Center. This is to continue incentives for the Veterans that are participating in the Joint Veterans Court and to look to hire a Veterans Court Mentor.

Roy Buskirk: And you said that you have received this money from the State?

Amy Kreiger: Yes.

Roy Buskirk: Does anyone have any questions?

Tom Harris: You might talk briefly about this role and what the person will do.

Amy Kreiger: Okay. We would like to see the Mentor work within the community to assist the Veterans get connected with the many services that are out there for the Veterans right now. The VA is providing a number of mental health and substance abuse treatments and getting them service connected. The Mentor Coordinator would illicit individuals that would want to serve as a Mentor and coordinate those services. These Mentors would work with the veterans, one-on-one.

Tom Harris: And this would differentiate from the County Veteran Officer in what way?

Amy Kreiger: It would be serving as the coordinator to make sure we have volunteer mentors. The Coordinator would be paid but the Mentors would be volunteering and they would check in with the Veteran and making sure they get to their appointments, ensuring that they are staying sober and work as a sober support system. The Joint Veterans Court has a Veteran-to-Veteran meeting once a week and dealing with the issues when a Veteran returns home.

Tom Harris: But more specifically, to make clear that these are individuals that are going through the Community Corrections program versus just Veterans that could go the Veterans Affairs Officer.

Amy Kreiger: Correct.

Tom Harris: I just wanted to make sure that this is two different things.

Amy Kreiger: Yes, these are individuals that are under the Veterans Court Program. They have been convicted of some type of offense.

Tom Harris: Thank you.

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Roy Buskirk: Are there any other questions?

Bill Brown: I will make a motion to approve the appropriations in the IJC Veterans Treatment Fund 857, Contractual in the amount of \$6,000; Travel, \$2,460 and Other Services for \$10,930 with a total of \$19,390.

Tom Harris: Second.

Roy Buskirk: All in favor say aye, those opposed, like sign. The motion passes 7-0. There is another item?

Bill Brown: I will make a motion to transfer within the Home Detention Fund 236 from Salary Adjustment for \$6,500 to Uniforms for \$750; Other Repairs and Parts, \$750 and Forensic Tools, \$5,000 for a total of \$6,500.

Bob Armstrong: Second.

Roy Buskirk: We have a motion and a second. All in favor say aye, those opposed, like sign. The motion passes 7-0. Next is Economic Development.

Scott Harrold: Scott Harrold with the Department of Planning Services and I have my legal protection here with me. Bill just wants billable hours.

Roy Buskirk: This is very similar to what we did on Dupont and Diebold.

Scott Harrold: Yes. You stole my opening.

Roy Buskirk: Let's go for it, Scott.

Scott Harrold: This is very similar to what we had a few months ago. This is down by the Airport and Bluffton Road and Pleasant Center area. The County has a TIF District where General Mills located several years ago. XPO, which had a groundbreaking yesterday, is just to the north of McFadden Road. The County has existing obligations for the Redevelopment Commission for work that was done for General Mills and is also supporting XPO. There are additional commitments in the future and we want to be safe and make sure that the County maintains authority in that area. There is no indication that this area is going to be annexed but better safe than sorry.

Roy Buskirk: They are looking at the east side of the Airport.

Scott Harrold: This is the first I have heard of it. Anyway, in this case, the lease would be for the road portion of the project. Basically this process would assign that loan to the Redevelopment Authority and then leased back to the

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Redevelopment Commission. It is really just a complicated way to make sure that the County retains jurisdiction in the future. With that I will take any questions.

Tom Harris: Just a comment on that. We are kind of encouraging this kind of format and process to go forward on a lot of our projects, right? That is to make sure the funding source coming in remains in that and if annexation occurs in other areas, we don't lose that funding source.

Scott Harrold: Right.

Roy Buskirk: Are there any other questions?

Bill Brown: I will make a motion on Economic Development for Resolution 2016-04-21-1 providing prior approval of a proposed lease between the Allen County Redevelopment Commission and the Allen County Redevelopment Authority.

Tom Harris: Second.

Roy Buskirk: We have a motion and a second. All in favor say aye, those opposed, like sign. The motion passes 7-0. Sheriff, come on up.

Dave Gladieux: Good morning, Dave Gladieux, Sheriff of Allen County. I have two of those grants that I apply for every year. One is the Drug and Alcohol Consortium grant and the other is the alien assistance grant, the SCAAP grant. These are non-matching funds and money from the Feds. The funds have been going down quite bit and last year's figure was on \$6,100. It is based on a population thing and if we don't have the population, we don't get the refunds. Good sign or bad sign, however you want to look at that. I will tell you my population last year was down quite a bit. At times I had over 100 beds empty. That has come to an end rather abruptly as of January 1st. It is now increasing every week and has reached over-capacity several times in the past few weeks.

Roy Buskirk: And the reason is because of the felony...

Dave Gladieux: House Bill 1006. It is kind of concerning because that has all happened in a three month period and this is going to be an ongoing thing. I am hoping that Community Corrections can step up to the plate and there are some things in the works with Work Release in regards to getting a little bit bigger location. I don't see any need to do anything at the Jail as far as construction but let's hope we can work it out in other ways.

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Larry Brown: If I could interrupt and ask a question, is there a plan either formulated or is being formulated to finish and complete the wing, provide staffing and what that might cost? We have asked for that months ago and yet to receive it.

Dave Gladieux: I know it has been talked about but I don't think we have had any official meetings on it. Not with me, anyway. I think the Commissioners may have touched base with a contractor or architectural firm to take a look at it. What they have received, I have no idea.

Larry Brown: As we go into the budget cycle, we will need input from you of what staffing requirements would be if we have to jump forward on that.

Dave Gladieux: I understand that. There are a couple of different projects going on with regards to 1006, Work Release and things like that. I think they are looking at the Work Release Project as a possible answer, short-term anyway. You never know but it could turn into a long-term. I don't see any reason to go up on that building. Certainly finish what we've got possibly. When I hear something, you will hear something.

Roy Buskirk: Do you have a question?

Sharon Tucker: I do. Dave, on the increase that you have seen, was it a big return from the State or is it just from sentences?

Dave Gladieux: The Level 6 that would normally go to DOC is not going to the DOC but staying here. I ran the numbers and it is around 60% of the 1006 clientele, if you will, would have been sent right away but aren't. The other percentages have additional charges that are still pending.

Sharon Tucker: Do we anticipate any return from the State that are on the 1006 or do they hold them?

Dave Gladieux: No. Once they are there, they are there. I am not taking them back. It is from sentencing on beginning January first. It is concerning that it increased that much that quick. We work real well with the Judges and they know what our population is. They get that figure every day.

Roy Buskirk: The State did come up with a huge amount of money to reimburse the Counties for this additional cost. If I remember right, it sounds like a lot of money but when you divide it by 92, it is not too much for each County. Was it like \$100 million or something?

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Dave Gladieux: It started out around \$60 or \$80 or something like that and then it went all the way down to a ridiculous amount and I don't know what happened to it.

Tom Harris: As a liaison with the Sheriff, we had a chance to sit and talk about this a few days ago and the fact that there are several, as the Sheriff mentioned, variables involved even moving Community Corrections to what 1006 is doing to us to the availability to the fourth floor of the Jail to Work Release to moving Work Release. I know there is discussion going on about trying to tie all of the variables together and I don't want to put you on the spot but in recent discussions, your thought of completing the fourth floor was not necessary at this time. Is that fair or is that too much?

Dave Gladieux: There has been some discussion about adding floors to the Jail and I don't see that as a need, at all. In the next 12 to 24 months, I don't but it depends on what the Work Release Program does and gets some of those inmates into that program. I don't see the finishing of the floor that you are talking about.

Tom Harris: Is it fourth floor or fifth?

Dave Gladieux: It is the fourth floor of that newer tower. It is closer to the intersection of Clinton and Superior.

Tom Harris: The philosophy is if you build it, they will come. The concern would be if the State is thinking let's drive more people to Community Corrections, does it make sense to spend all of the money in the Jail if we are going to drive people out of the Jail and into Community Corrections. All of those pieces kind of have to come together.

Dave Gladieux: There is also the piece that these Level 6 inmates are not eligible for Work Release or Community Corrections. They are probably a little more eligible for Community Corrections than they are for Work Release. I am willing to sit down and lighten up a little bit on what we accept. The way I look at it is the State of Indiana has lightened up on who is going to go to prison, we are going to have to follow suit or we are going to have to become little prisons. I don't think we need to do that. That is where we are right now.

Roy Buskirk: So that people understand, when the Jail was originally built, it was built four floors high, right?

Dave Gladieux: The very first construction back in 1980? Yes that was four floors.

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Roy Buskirk: Okay and there is the possibility of the way it was designed for building a fifth or sixth floor, two additional floors on top.

Dave Gladieux: Right, not on that section. The newer section was in 2003, if I am not mistaken, with the Federal lawsuit about overcrowding. That was the \$22 million project and when Misdemeanor Court moved over there. That portion of the Jail was designed to have the ability to add two more floors to it. I personally don't see the need for that right now. That would be overkill, in my opinion.

Roy Buskirk: I guess I didn't realize that there was still part of the tower left.

Dave Gladieux: That is the one that is costing us a lot of money.

Roy Buskirk: On maintenance and everything.

Dave Gladieux: Oh, absolutely. If I had my dream, I would tear it down and start over but I don't have that. It is more of a nightmare than a dream.

Larry Brown: Just real quick before your thought process jumps way forward, into downtown development thinking, steel requirements have changed since that Jail was built. It is much like the Rousseau Centre that was built with the intention that expansion could go up. Steel requirements codes have changed. It has to be thoroughly reviewed on whether it still can be cost effectively raised. Things have changed.

Roy Buskirk: Okay.

Dave Gladieux: That is an interesting point. I am just a silly cop and don't know construction stuff.

Roy Buskirk: Is there anything further?

Bill Brown: Yes, I have a question. I guess the Jail is part of this piece. We talk about the Jail being built for 700 and some folks and has been populated at about 600. Obviously, the State changing their regulations about not accepting D-felons is bringing these people back into the community. To some degree, we are receiving these criminals because of our good works with the problem-solving courts and things like that. That is pretty well a given, is that right? We have a lower population, more beds and it appears to me that the State has viewed what Allen County has done as problem-solving and relieving their need to incarcerate locally. Now that they are coming back, what is the next step to get fewer people in the Jail? I would just kind of like

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hearing your opinion of that. I think ultimately, if we can figure out ways to have fewer people going into the Jail that could reduce our costs overall.

Dave Gladieux: First of all, it is not my call but I will throw my two cents in there. I have no problem with programs, to a certain point. If a person has been on a program four or five times, it is time to cut your losses and put the man or woman where they belong. That is just my own personal opinion. I have no problem expanding those programs, Work Release included. I think that is our only option. There are three options, Work Release, Community Corrections or my Jail. If you want to put those in cost, the Jail is going to be the number one most expensive place for them to be. My concern is, as I empty that Jail or flow people to Community Corrections or Work Release, it is the build it and they will come concept. I am a realist. You build me a 1,000-bed Jail and it is going to have 1,000 people in it.

Bill Brown: I guess that is kind of my point. Who is the team, like you said it wasn't your call? Ultimately we want fewer people in the Jail because those costs, we all know they have all kinds of extremities, legs, et cetera. That makes for more expense.

Dave Gladieux: That is exactly what the State of Indiana thought and that is what they have moved upon in creating 1006. It is a cost shift and no longer their problem. It is now our problem. I appreciate the fact that we all have to sit down and figure out what we are going to do with these people. Those three options are it, right now. I don't think we need to add to the Jail right now but maybe in a year or so we talk about maybe finishing part of it. I think we ought to see where the programs are going to go. The State wants those programs to work as well. That is pretty obvious because the funding stream is very favorable to Community Corrections.

Bill Brown: It just seems like with all of the players out there, the schools, Drug and Alcohol Consortium, Park Center and the mental health entities and Judicial, there really needs to be a committee formed. To me, this is a summit type scenario so that we are looking at how to continue to reduce the Jail population. We have a hallmark in Allen County as having the ability to do that. The State has changed the rules and we are going from 600 and some in the Jail to 700 and some.

Dave Gladieux: The 600 you are referring to was a temporary thing and I would like to be able to sit here and explain why.

Bill Brown: That is what I wanted to know.

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Dave Gladieux: But I can't. Last year, at this time, traditionally in the winter months our population increases but not as much as in the summertime. It trails in the springtime and as the weather warms up, our population goes up. It never did last year. In fact, it actually went down to where I had 100 beds available. I am scratching my head all last year wondering why. No one could figure it out. I don't know if it was in preparation for 1006 and maybe the Prosecutor and Judges saw that coming and thought they would get some room. I don't know. Those days are gone and over with and we are back up to capacity.

Bill Brown: That is a good point. That is kind of the reason I asked why there were 100 beds. Ultimately the fewer people in Jail, the better off we are.

Dave Gladieux: No doubt. I think our rollover last year was pretty decent and we actually had that one class action lawsuit and we paid for that out of excess Medical. It really helped us. One hundred beds, I think you guys have a pretty good idea of how much that costs.

Bill Brown: Yes that is a lot of money and is a big deal. It would be interesting to know the ratio of the population of Allen County in general and the Jail population over the last 25 years. I'll make a note of that.

Tom Harris: I would like to make one comment and then move for a motion. I would probably respectfully disagree, Bill, with you on the fact that the thought is we are going to be able to decrease the number of people in our Jail. I think that is not going to happen based on what the State is trying to do.

Bill Brown: That is not what I said, Tom. What I said was there were fewer people in the Jail. I didn't say I projected there would be a decrease. I asked the question as to how we might be able to decrease the Jail population.

Tom Harris: That is fair and I appreciate that. I think you mentioned that we are doing some things right in this area in order to reduce that.

Bill Brown: We absolutely are.

Tom Harris: I will disagree that the trend will continue because the State wants to keep criminals at a local level.

Bill Brown: I didn't say the trend would continue so how can you disagree with me on that?

Tom Harris: I was going to make that point.

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Bill Brown: But you are not disagreeing with me and I didn't say it was going to happen.

Tom Harris: Well said. With that I would like to move for approval for the Sheriff to apply for the Drug and Alcohol Consortium grant for the in-car video cameras for a total of \$26,475 and also for permission to apply for the SCAAP grant for the salaries of Officers incarcerating undocumented criminal aliens with at least one felony or two misdemeanor convictions during Jul 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015.

Bob Armstrong: Second.

Roy Buskirk: All in favor say aye, those opposed, like sign. The motion passes 6-0-1 (Tucker absent). And now we have the vehicles.

Dave Gladieux: The third item is a request for appropriation from the Federal Asset Seizure Fund 206. I have purchased two vehicles to replace two vehicles that were at the end of their life. Rather than doing that out of the budget, I am coming to you to take care of it out of the Federal Drug Seizure Fund.

Roy Buskirk: So these have to be used in that department.

Dave Gladieux: No. I can use them on the streets or however we find necessary. I have bought several vehicles from that as well as Commissary.

Roy Buskirk: But there are some restrictions on that fund as far as using it.

Dave Gladieux: Yes. I can't pay salaries and it is very similar to the Commissary Fund. You can't use it for salaries and benefits but you can use it for training to offset costs for the taxpayers.

Roy Buskirk: Are there any questions on this?

Tom Harris: I will make a motion for the appropriation in the Federal Asset Seizure Fund 206 for vehicles in the amount of \$63,696.

Bob Armstrong: Second.

Roy Buskirk: We have a motion and a second. All in favor say aye, those opposed, like sign. The motion passes 6-0-1 (Tucker absent).

Bill Brown: It is a good idea that the liaison makes the motion.

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Roy Buskirk: We have always tried that.

Bill Brown: They are more familiar with the situation.

Roy Buskirk: We have tried also to have the liaison lead the discussion but it doesn't always work out that way. Next is the Building Department and Mr. Brown, you are up.

Larry Brown: I just noticed that my agenda goes from page one to three.

Roy Buskirk: We are moving right along quicker that way. Is there anyone from the Building Department?

Larry Brown: While Dave is coming up, I want to share with you that Dave is looking forward to retirement in a few months.

Tom Harris: One more budget season with us?

Dave Fuller: It depends on how slowly you move.

Roy Buskirk: Because he is not slow on any of his part.

Dave Fuller: Good morning, Dave Fuller with the Allen County Building Department. I am here to ask for a transfer of funds from a salary account to a maintenance agreement account. There is a correction. I inadvertently given Becky 36-14 and it should be 36-07 for the account that it is being transferred to. The money is for our new inspection request app. This is a phone app for iPhone and android phones. You may recall about a year and three months ago our IVR system failed on us and that was the interactive voice system where contractors called in inspections automatically. It was downloaded to Accela to our cars' computers and the inspectors could pick up those inspection requests. It stopped working because the software for the IVR was incompatible with the new version that was implemented for Accela. It took about six months for Accela to figure out that they couldn't fix it. It wasn't an Accela provided IVR system. We started looking for a new IVR system and found out there was also a hardware problem and the server needed to be upgraded. It was going to be close to six figures to get the software development and the new hardware. We started looking for other options and found an Accela partner that does phone apps called City Gov app. They have developed a new wireless app for our inspectors to use in the cars to replace the Accela wireless. We have also contracted with them to do the phone app to replace the IVR. That development is complete and we are ready to implement. We are in the process of testing this week and so far we have not been able to break it. It has been very reliable. It is simple and

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intuitive and so what we are asking is a transfer from some excess funds in a Commercial Inspection position to cover the annual maintenance and development cost of this app. The funds that we have available are because we had a Commercial Inspector leave at the end of December and move to Michigan. His wife took a job transfer and he moved with her. It has taken a while to find a new person. The position has been filled and the person started April 11th and so we are on track with that. We have about three months' worth of salary in that account that we would like to transfer to cover the cost.

Roy Buskirk: I know that Larry and I appreciate you getting the phones fixed because of serving on the Permitting Board. That was one of the biggest complaints was the phone system was terrible. Are there any questions for Dave?

Bill Brown: Just a quick comment for clarity. We all know, at this table, this was not the Building Department's problem. It was something that they tried diligently to fix. I just want to make sure that is understood by the public.

Dave Fuller: What's happened since the IVR was down; the contractors are calling in and talking to someone in the office. The Clerks are then inputting those inspection requests into our computer system. To give you a little bit of an idea, we've had 45,740 calls since the IVR system went down and kudos to the Clerks for picking up the slack and dealing with that. This will allow them to take a breath and get back into their real jobs.

Roy Buskirk: That was a lot of staff time. I will entertain a motion.

Larry Brown: I move to approve the transfer from Commercial Inspector, 100-2901-424.13-31, for \$10,000 to Maintenance Agreement, 100-2901-424.36-07 for \$10,000.

Tom Harris: Second.

Roy Buskirk: We have a motion and a second. All in favor say aye, those opposed, like sign. The motion passes 7-0.

Dave Fuller: Thank you very much and let me say it has been a pleasure working with the Council for the last fourteen years.

Roy Buskirk: While we have a moment, Chris, earlier in the discussion it came up that the Commissioners are working on possible remedies for the Jail. Do you know if they are?

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Tera Klutz: You might as well invite him up. He is next on the agenda.

Chris Cloud: If we can get through the first item, then I will be happy to get into that. That way, Dawn can get back to HR. Chris Cloud, Executive Assistant for the Board of Commissioners.

Dawn Kennedy: Dawn Kennedy, Human Resources Compensation Specialist.

Chris Cloud: As we promoted our current Controller to Purchasing Director, we had an opening and HR typically looks at that position and reviews it to make sure everything is okay. One of the things HR brought to our attention was that the position met the exemption for administrative exemption to become a salary employee as opposed to hourly employee. They recommended that we change the salary ordinance and we had no problem with that. We are just here to change it from hourly to salary and nothing else changes.

Roy Buskirk: Okay, is there any discussion on that?

Tera Klutz: I just have one question. In light of the Federal guidance, they are talking about making any salary under \$50,000 to not be available to be exempt, was that considered?

Dawn Kennedy: Yes, we discussed it mostly within HR because it was a concern that I had originally too. Our thought right now is we are not doing anything based on what could happen because we are not sure yet. They could move that number down. It has happened in the past and we are just not sure yet. We are trying to be proactive and running reports to see how many employees it will affect so that once it does happen, we can act on that.

Tera Klutz: Is it going to happen or is it still a proposal?

Dawn Kennedy: It is still in the discussion phase. They are slowly moving it into the next phase and they haven't announced anything officially yet.

Tom Harris: A September timeline is when it is supposed to but the potential of this getting pushed back is out there as well. If a lot of discussion comes in from those HR people around the country, they may have to push it back. The ramifications of that change are huge.

Tera Klutz: I know. Thank you.

Dawn Kennedy: The timeline has changed a little bit on that and we will update the Personnel Committee as we have updates. We are watching that too and making sure that we are checking in weekly.

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Tera Klutz: Thank you.

Bill Brown: The Personnel Committee, how did they come down on this?

Tera Klutz: It didn't go through Personnel Committee.

Bill Brown: Didn't need to, I guess.

Roy Buskirk: So we are basically changing from hourly to salary.

Dawn Kennedy: Correct.

Bill Brown: I will make a motion for consideration of a salary ordinance amending the salary of the Controller at PAT 4, \$43,315 and Exempt.

Tom Harris: Second.

Roy Buskirk: We have a motion and a second. All in favor say aye, those opposed, like sign. The motion passes 7-0.

Chris Cloud: To answer your question, yes although I don't know that it really solves the problem. We have been talking, in a larger view, of what to do with the North Complex. Work Release is at the Byron Hospital Facility and they have a segregated wing off to the side of about 108 beds. Knowing that Byron desires to have its own facility sometime in the future, we don't want to leave Work Release in a gigantic building. We have looked at some options and talked about things. As the Sheriff noted, the Jail population was considerably down for a while and he is not kidding when he says it went from 650 to 740 in about two weeks. Whatever fluke was happening, it is clearly gone. When we have talked with them, it would not drastically reduce the number of people in the Jail. I think the guess, at the time, was 25 to 50 people are on a wait list at any one time or could be on a wait list. He would have to change some of the regulations. Last summer, when we looked at it, there was nobody on a wait list. It all depends on who is in there because only certain offenses are eligible for Work Release. It can't be violent and they have to have employment. Given any person in the Jail may not meet all of the criteria, three weeks later when they are out and the next person might. He can't necessarily tell us that he always has this number of people. Sometimes there is a waiting list and sometimes there is not. It would help but not solve the long-term problem of Jail population. Either way, a new facility needs to be figured out because they can't stay where they are. It is going to happen but is just a matter of when. He is also talking about increasing the Federal Work Release folks that they take from the Feds and we would be compensated for that. There is an opportunity for us to build a

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facility larger than we need and take on more Fed folks and as we have the need for that we can kick the Fed folks' reserve beds out and use them for us. There has been a lot of talk but not a lot of action. It is still in progress but nothing solid yet.

Roy Buskirk: I can understand the thinking behind that with the Federal prisoners and stuff but what they pay does not necessarily cover the entire cost to the County.

Tom Harris: I can speak to that in that we just spoke to the Sheriff about this but we just received the increase from the Federal reimbursement and it has gone up for the County and is coming through the process now. Charlie mentioned that to me the other day that it has happened.

Roy Buskirk: I know one of our surrounding Counties are accepting Federal but have gradually reduced that number because it doesn't cover their cost.

Tom Harris: I will just make one comment on this issue. I've been thinking a lot about this and having a lot of discussion about it but one of my major concerns is I try to look five to ten years out and even longer but if the State is successful in being able to push more criminals to the local seat and it works by putting them into programs or whatever, do you think that will slow down? Or, do you think it will increase? My concern is the State if this program is successful, and they want it to be, they are going to continue to have more criminals stay locally instead of sending them to the State. I don't think our trend should be anything but probably an increase over five to ten years anyway.

Roy Buskirk: The other problem with that is the State; since they changed this their actual costs have not gone down proportionally as what they thought. Go ahead, Larry.

Larry Brown: All of this discussion is good. It makes me think there needs to be, and I hope you all know I hate meetings just for the sake of meetings, a committee or something like that needs to be brought together that all bodies relevant are involved and participating including the fiscal bodies of City and County. You all know and have heard that this community is going to grow to one million and you know damn good and well that a percentage of those are going to end up in the Jail. It's going to happen. The Jail population overall is not going down. One day it may be down. One month it may be down. One year it may be down. It is generally going to increase. As the fiscal body, we need to have the information brought to us as a five-year plan, a ten-year plan so that it is not a last minute. The Jail is like a motel. Hopefully you are only at 75% of occupancy but there are times you have to be ready for 100%

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occupancy. All of these efforts to grow the community affect everything including the Jail and the criminal justice system. The Commissioners are the executive branch and we are the fiscal branch and it seems to me that between the two we should try to formulate a committee that has the Court system and all of the criminal bodies involved and you as liaison, blah, blah, blah.

Tom Harris: Larry, as part of the record, we did have one last year prior to 1006 going into effect. The group came together and the Commissioners had several different meetings with the Judges and the Sheriff and such. We were trying to figure all of that out before 1006 went into effect. It has now going into effect and we have not met since to see the result but that is a great point and probably the right time to do that again.

Bill Brown: One comment on that. Forty years ago when the Jail was built, the consultant that was in town for a yearlong study with a lot of people involved recommended a different model of a Jail. Single story and much more community oriented Work Release type of Jail. I have not actually seen the study but had been projected to go onto the property on State Street that had been vacated by the mental health group over there. It wasn't looked upon favorably by the neighborhoods. Actually it was my brother that did the study and I don't think he has a copy of that anymore but it would be interesting to look back and see what that was all about. It was a different model and I have never seen it and it is probably out in the archives someplace. We might be in a different place today than where we are right now and with a different method. That is kind of the long term and I am going to apologize because I didn't really want to go back and forth there but I think you were disagreeing with something I didn't say and maybe I did say it. Anyway, I want to apologize for that. My point that I was trying to say is as a community we don't want to go preset with the Jail is going to grow. We are going to have more people in the Jail. Granted that may be the status quo and might be what will happen. We really want to go forward with a mindset of how do we reduce the Jail population and how do we figure out how to not have people go to the Jail because they are bad actors. We want fewer bad actors in the community. That was really my point looking down the road as you talked about five, ten, fifteen and twenty years. We really need to envision what we want our County to be and I think it is a smaller Jail population. I like to think back about the days when allegedly fifty years ago when the Sheriff bought his own gun. There were different types of things in place and it was way different years ago. I think we need to figure out how we get back to those times.

Larry Brown: May I speak?

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Roy Buskirk: Yeah.

Larry Brown: Bill, to complement those remarks, I challenge you to keep in mind people like Judge Heath.

Bill Brown: He is doing a great job.

Larry Brown: The model that he has created is a way to improve the future.

Bill Brown: Absolutely.

Larry Brown: If we had the ability to teach people how to become good parents, a lot of our problem would go away. We don't have that ability.

Bill Brown: ACJC has gone from a max of 150 to down around 50 now. Those are rough numbers but my point is to Judge Heath's great work. I have known Judge Heath and his family since I was a teenager, awesome people. I am glad to hear you say that because that is what I am talking about. What are the methodologies that we can use here locally, in Allen County, to fix this problem of people being incarcerated?

Larry Brown: It involves the churches and parenting, it involves programs like Judge Heath has created.

Bill Brown: I get all of that and I think we are enabling Judge Heath by grants et cetera. We need more of that.

Roy Buskirk: The one thing in which Sharon and I are the liaisons to that and we worked on it for probably nine months or so and it is a point system if a child is incarcerated or are released to a parent or some type of program. That is one thing that has improved the number of people that are incarcerated. It seems to be working very good and I will give credit to Judge Heath because the Check and Connect on children skipping school has worked very well. I think that is what the Sheriff was referring to that he would have to go through and look at the individual inmates to see if some of them would qualify for some of these other programs. I know the State is looking at Community Corrections to take on a lot more responsibility but as I pointed out to some of the Legislators that also costs money. Just because the Jail cost has been reduced, Community Corrections' cost goes up considerably. Yes, Chris.

Chris Cloud: I am going to add one more wrinkle to that conversation. If you talk to Kim Churchward, she will tell you she has people that are eligible for her programs but can't get in because they do not have a place to live. They

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have requirements of not living with the people who may also have felonies. That may have been family or they may not have any place to live. She has approached the Commissioners about needing a bed facility as well. I agree with Councilman Brown that it is probably a global group getting together to bring down the Jail population but if she is going to take on more in Community Corrections, she has some issues of her own. It isn't cheap on how to get on her program; well she can't because there is a waiting list for her program. Instead, they are in the Jail or still at the State because they can't find housing here. That is another wrinkle in the problem. It is very much a bigger issue of how to make all of this work. The second thing, as Tom mentioned, one of the things I heard is that we don't know what the effects are going to be from 1006. Unfortunately you have to wait and see how many people the State drops in our lap before we can react. It is a reaction position but I think we are starting to see the first folks and it is not a trend yet but it is an increase. It will be interesting to see if the increase maintains itself or if it is a temporary fluke.

Tom Harris: Mr. President, if I can make one more comment. If you talk to the judicial folks as well as the law enforcement folks, what I hear is that this trend of trying to keep criminals at the local level maybe not in Jail or in incarceration will continue until something bad happens. The feeling of those folks is something will happen in the future that will be bad. That is meaning that somebody that should have been in Jail but wasn't and is in some kind of a program and they do something to someone in a very bad way. Do the State Legislators reverse course because of the pressure of the public that says we have to lock certain people up and cannot keep creating programs like this. That is out there and we ought to be cognizant of that thought could happen.

Roy Buskirk: The next thing on the agenda is for the Commissioners to discuss CEDIT and everybody has met with the Commissioners on that, correct?

Chris Cloud: If I could, there are three takeaways from this conversation. Return on investment from economic development partners. That is a conversation that the Commissioners were having with Greater Fort Wayne, Inc and you all will be having with them and Greater Fort Wayne, Inc as well. I think that is one takeaway from that. Second is that we do recognize there is a cash balance in CEDIT. Taking away the Highway side for projects, an effort was made to build up funds to a certain level. As you mentioned, if you are holding those funds to things that haven't happened yet, you are going to have excess balance. Obviously we will be working with Council to figure out what the best use of those excess funds might be. The Commissioners also understand that they have a role to play in the Work Release facility and have already internally assumed that they would be a

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financial partner in that process. There is also another facility that the Sheriff has talked about with the K-9 all in an effort of getting things off of the north campus. There are expenses there and the Commissioners know that they will be partnering in that. The third thing is as Regional Cities ideas come up and come to you, they really should be directed to the Commissioners first. We have economic development funds and there is a plan in place. If it is too big of a request, it might come back to County Council but rather than spending the cash balance in the General Fund or Rainy Day money, it really should be looked at for economic development first. I think they agree that it is a much better use of that fund.

Tom Harris: And with the buy-in from Council.

Chris Cloud: Absolutely. That makes way more sense than us having a cash balance and asking the General Fund to pick up the cost of a project. We need to preserve the cash balance in the General Fund for actual issues that come up during the year and not for economic development. I think the issues that you all suggested were good and we will be looking towards those conversations in the future.

Roy Buskirk: That also makes a lot more sense than raising sales tax or Local Option Income Tax.

Chris Cloud: I would prefer to keep as much money in my pocket as possible.

Roy Buskirk: Are there any other questions for Chris? Appreciate you coming.

Joel Benz: We appreciate the Commissioners taking the time to sit down with all of us individually.

Chris Cloud: If there are any other questions about the Commissioners' side or Highway's side feel free to ask. I know Highway especially because of the ins and outs of the Federal aid projects, they come back four or five times a year for Federal money but Kim and Bill are always happy to answer any questions you have.

Roy Buskirk: Where are the Commissioners on the Controller position?

Chris Cloud: Pending a successful pre-employment drug screen, we will have a new employee May 4th.

Roy Buskirk: Okay, thank you. Discussion and Other Business, Jim Posey is listed on there and I think all of you are aware of what that is for. We will be

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able to take care of that invoice out of the Council's budget. The only other comment on that is that in the next two to three weeks we will be having an Executive Session with him to bring us up to date. Are there any other items that need to be brought up?

Tera Klutz: I just wanted to bring to your attention the special distribution that the County is going to receive next month. The new law is attached to the handout that was provided to you today but I wanted to give you a summary because we are going to receive that money yet this month, April, and then we will have until the end of May to distribute it out to the County, the Cities and Towns and all of the units except for the schools. We have some options on where to place that money and so I want you guys to be thinking about it. Next month I would like to maybe have a decision on what we want to do with this money. We will make the distribution after your meeting. For those that were at the breakfast, they already saw that we are going to get approximately \$5.4 million. At least 75% of that or \$4.1 million has to be used exclusively for roads and bridges and a few other transportation expenses such as recreational parkways or airports. The specific items are listed in the attachment on page four. It is the front of the last page in the packet. The 75% can be deposited into a new special fund or into the Rainy Day Fund. Either way, it has to be spent for those purposes outlined in H. My recommendation is to stick the 75% into a new fund because it will be much easier to track the expenses as they are paid. We don't have to spend it right away but for tracking purposes, it will be much easier. The remaining 25% is \$1.3 million and may be used for any lawful purpose. Options are the General Fund or the Rainy Day Fund or we could even create a Home Rule Fund. We have heard of lots of different capital expenses for the future but the last bullet point is important to note that another law which awards tax units across the State more road funding. You can apply for it at the State level but you can only apply for it if you provide a match and the match can only come from three sources. This is one of the sources. The 25% would also count as a matching source for new road funding. The other two revenue sources that we can use include any Rainy Day Fund or any new revenue that the County would receive increasing a Local Road and Street type of revenue after July 1, 2016. Some discussion points may be using the whole 100% for roads and bridges because we can double our money. I don't know where the Highway is and what kinds of projects they have. I don't think this is a lot of money for Allen County to use on projects but usually you see the millions of dollars that we appropriate when we do a project.

Tom Harris: Is this a one-time or an ongoing process?

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Tera Klutz: This is a one-time distribution. I do foresee the matching program that the State has provided to be ongoing. They put this new money available for units to use if they can match it. I feel like the State always wants the locals to put money into the pot.

Tom Harris: So, creating that second fund probably helps you guys immensely to be able to track it.

Larry Brown: Question, Tera, when you say match, do you have any idea of what the match amount would be 80/20, 90/10, 50/50?

Tera Klutz: I believe it is 50/50 and the current guidelines are only up to \$500,000. INDOT is currently working on the guidelines and they want every County to get some and as Beth pointed out at the breakfast, have of the money has to go to Counties with populations of under 20,000 people.

Roy Buskirk: Wasn't it under 50,000?

Tera Klutz: I think half the Counties will fall into that population under 20,000. I know where you got the 50,000 from.

Roy Buskirk: I mean Wells County is even over the 20,000.

Tera Klutz: Maybe I am getting confused with the numbers. There were a lot of numbers floating around.

Roy Buskirk: There was.

Tera Klutz: That is just something to think about. We will definitely want direction on May 19th, when you guys meet again.

Larry Brown: I don't want to call for a vote but I like your idea of a special account or special fund. Call it what you will but it will be a whole lot easier for you.

Bill Brown: I agree.

Larry Brown: And for transparency.

Roy Buskirk: And for us as far as matching or whatever. It is very possible that you won't match all of it and so you are going to have to keep a balance.

Tera Klutz: All right. I like that there is some general discussion and I think there will be guidance from the State Board of Accounts coming out in the

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next two weeks. If for some reason that will not work according to their guidelines, I will let you know.

Larry Brown: Thank you.

Roy Buskirk: Do we have any upcoming meetings or liaison reports?

Larry Brown: I will share with you a couple of things. I knew eventually that it was coming but it still kind of shocked me that Dave Fuller has announced his retirement. I want to say it is July 31st.

Nick Jordan: Yes, July 31st.

Larry Brown: I don't pretend to understand this but in checking with my liaison assignments, I heard back from Stacey O'Day that the State is constantly throwing curves and another one of many deadlines has been changed regarding assessment. I am not sure what she is trying to tell me but I believe she was prepared for a January 1 deadline but they all of a sudden changed it to March 17th. I guess my point is as some or all of you get that periodic bump from the State about Counties making deadline requirements for filing this or that or whatever for the State, I find it interesting that the State changes deadlines and we get slapped.

Tera Klutz: I can answer that. The Assessment Date is January first of 2016 for bills for 2017. She is getting ready to mail our Form 11's and send values to the Auditor however, the Legislators met and ended their session on March 17th and effectively changed the agricultural rate need retroactively to January first of 2016. She is now redoing all of the Ag properties before she can mail out Form 11's before that file will eventually get to the Auditor and before we eventually certify to the State. That is what I think she was referring to. You guys were copied on all of the emails that said "We haven't received these values yet." The goal, at the end of the day, is to have on-time tax bills the following year and to provide the most accurate values we can to the State because that is what tax rates are set on.

Larry Brown: I believe you are 100% accurate. As of Tuesday, she was still waiting on the DLGF to release a new rate, according to this. Also, I will share with you that one of my more favorite assignments is as representative to the CCP. I would be happy to copy this to you but hey produce for their Board a monthly variance report. It is a financial report of their spending, budget versus actual. Just an FYI, they have more than one but I don't know if that means 3, 5 or 7 open positions and so in their personnel line item they have money that has not been spent and will probably continue through the end of the year and will have rollover dollars.

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Roy Buskirk: Do they have any more overtime?

Larry Brown: That has not been mentioned. I don't believe so. The dollars spent on overtime is down from the budget. That is all I have to report. Oh, wait a minute. There is one more thing. If you recall, for some time we have encouraged the Maintenance Department under the guidance of Dan Freck to take over maintenance of the Jail. That happened effective January 1. There have been some bumpy roads but the Sheriff is supportive and the Jail Commander is supportive. The maintenance staff has been trained on how to properly work with prisoners and tools and all of that. Dan reports to me this week that they are caught up on the stack of work orders. The first of April they filled a second shift Plumber and an Electrician to work in the Jail for stopped up drains and lightbulbs and those kinds of things. Those had been getting done on overtime. Things are moving forward and I think the end result will be a much better situation.

Joel Benz: If that is all you've got, I have one quick one. This is from the Court system and John McGauley emailed me about the double murder trial that is coming here from Harrison County with a death penalty. They were expecting several hundreds of dollars in associated cost that they were not going to be able to pay out of their budget and they have kind of worked through things and talked with Harrison County. Harrison County has agreed to pay those costs up front and that has allowed them to stay within their budget. That is good news for us and also efficient on the Courts behalf. I am appreciative for them working that out.

Roy Buskirk: That trial is over, isn't it?

Joel Benz: No, this is another one.

Tera Klutz: It is amazing how well other Counties view our justice system.

Roy Buskirk: Yes, it is.

Tera Klutz: It is a testimony to the Judges.

Roy Buskirk: Tom, do you have an update?

Tom Harris: Just to reiterate what Larry talked about from the Sheriff's point of view that he is very pleased with this change with the Maintenance Department. He has mentioned that in recent discussions. I think it would be beneficial for Council if we would get four or five or six of these projects on a piece of paper because of the amount of variables are all over the place with Work Release and Community Corrections and 1006 impact and the various

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things that are happening. These are big financial pieces that are coming at us in the future. Let alone the economic development of the Regional Cities pieces that may be coming at us. These are two huge things coming towards Council. I will try to put a list together on some of those and keep those in the forefront of our minds because with this influx of money coming in, it might help to offset some of these projects coming at us but yet we have the City of Fort Wayne deciding to wipe out \$5 million of our revenue at the same time. There are a lot of things to think about.

Bob Armstrong: The only thing I've got is we had our Legislative Breakfast wrap-up. Beth stated that they will be coming to do their platform in December. I would highly recommend that we, as a Council, are involved in that platform. There are a lot of moving parts and a lot of things we need to look at for funding and stuff. Just speaking for myself, I don't know unless I was left out of the loop but I had no meetings or conversations of the Legislative Platform for 2016. It would have been nice, as in years past, where we were involved in all of that. Correct me if I am wrong but did they meet with us or was that the Commissioners' platform and they didn't come before us or ask for any of our input? I think we need to be more involved in that process and not left out looking in.

Tom Harris: I would agree with that.

Roy Buskirk: I was not contacted as President.

Tom Harris: And I was President last year and my perception was that it was usually "oh my gosh, we have to get this pulled together" and all of a sudden everything comes together and we are just an oversight or missed. Strategically it makes sense that we are in that lineup going forward and heads up from the President would be beneficial for everybody.

Roy Buskirk: Yes and we discussed that a few years ago and complained about the fact that we were being left out. Here again this year, we were left out. Bill.

Bill Brown: I was at the Soil and Water Conservation annual meeting along with Roy. It was very informative. That's about it.

Sharon Tucker: I attended the County Extension's Annual Meeting which was very good. One of the things they have on the horizon is trying to figure out how they can continue to merge the gap between urban and rural. They are doing a lot of urban farms which seems to be positive. A lot of conversation that we were having around the table with Bill's concern about keeping the Jail population down because that is a program that helps people

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have things to do. It is always jobs that help reduce crime. If people have jobs, we would have less crime and less need to have the Jail filled. That takes me to one of my questions in going back to what the Auditor had presented. Could some of this \$1.3 million be used for some of these discussions that we have talked about with the Jail facility? Would we be able to use some of that for that?

Tera Klutz: Yes.

Sharon Tucker: Okay.

Roy Buskirk: Just following up on what Sharon was saying there. For the last several years, the Extension through their 4H Club, I get upset that people think 4H is all for rural communities and is all livestock and that. There are many, many, many different projects that are good for the urban community and children. A lot is training and possibly even career jobs that they can go into because they found interest in a particular project. Is there any public comment?

Vickie Hadley: I have copies of my annual report.

Bill Brown: Approval to waive the reading on any matter approved today for which it may be deemed necessary for the County Council meeting of April 21, 2016.

Sharon Tucker: Second.

Roy Buskirk: All in favor please signify by saying aye. The motion passes 7-0.

Tom Harris: Move to adjourn.

Sharon Tucker: Second.

Roy Buskirk: All in favor please signify by saying aye. Opposed like sign. The motion carries 7-0. There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 10:14.