

POSEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TUESDAY, MARCH 17, 2026.

The Board of Commissioners met in a regularly scheduled meeting at the Hovey House, 330 Walnut Street, in Mt. Vernon on Tuesday, March 17, 2026. Commissioners Bill Collins and Eric Koester were in attendance. Auditor Maegen Greenwell and County Attorney Joe Harrison were also in attendance. Commissioner Greg Newman was absent.

Commissioner Bill Collins welcomed field trip participants from Mt. Vernon Junior High eighth-grade class who were in attendance to observe the meeting.

Father Allyn Rutherford led the Commissioners in prayer.

MINUTES

E. Koester made a motion to approve the minutes from March 3, 2026; B. Collins seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 2-0.

B. Collins made a motion to approve the minutes from March 9, 2026, Executive Session; E. Koester seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 2-0.

CLAIMS

E. Koester made a motion to approve the claims as presented; B. Collins seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 2-0.

TREASURERS REPORT

E. Koester made a motion to approve the February Treasurer's report as presented; B. Collins seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 2-0.

CLERK'S REPORT

E. Koester made a motion to approve the February Clerk's report as presented; B. Collins seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 2-0.

POSEY COUNTY HIGHWAY BIDS AWARDED

B. Collins stated that the Commissioners opened highway paving bids at the last meeting and took them under advisement.

Steve Schenk, Posey County Highway Superintendent, stated that his recommendation is the following:

Section VII A: Chip and Seal: JH Rudolph

Section VII B: Patching Material: JH Rudolph and Davis Enterprises

Section VIII: Hot Mix Paving: David Enterprises for low bid

JH Rudolph for backup bid

B. Collins made a motion to accept the recommended bids from the highway superintendent; E. Koester seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 2-0.

WESTERN BYPASS BIDS AWARDED

Justin Hoffman with American StructurePoint addressed the Commissioners regarding the recently received bids for progress on the Western Bypass project.

Mr. Hoffman stated that all three companies that submitted bids had completed all necessary paperwork correctly. Mr. Hoffman stated that all bids were reviewed and that, under the Indiana Code, the Commissioners may weigh factors such as a contractor's ability, capacity, and experience on prior projects when awarding bids. Mr. Hoffman stated that, using this provision, it was determined that the apparent low bid from Weddle Brothers failed to demonstrate their ability, competence, and experience to perform the desired work.

Mr. Hoffman stated that American StructurePoint recommends that the bid from Ragle Inc., in the amount of \$12,460,089.51, be considered the lowest, most responsive, and responsible bid. B. Collins made a motion that the low bid from Weddle Brothers is not considered a responsible bid, Weddle Brothers has failed to demonstrate their ability, competence and experience to perform the work required under this project and thus accept the recommendation from American StructurePoint and award the bid for the Western Bypass project to the lowest, most responsive, and responsible bidder of Ragle Inc. in the amount of \$12,460,089.51; E. Koester seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 2-0.

HIGHWAY 69 SOUTH NUISANCE COMPLAINT BIDS

Posey County Building Commissioner Ed Battieger stated that in the last several weeks, there has been progress on this property. Mr. Battieger stated that an interested buyer of this property is in attendance for this meeting.

Lucian Bratcher spoke to the Commissioners regarding the work he has been doing on this property. Mr. Bratcher stated that he plans to have the majority of this property cleaned up by this weekend. Mr. Bratcher stated that this includes pulling down the uninhabitable trailer and remodeling the livable trailer.

B. Collins made a motion to table action on this property until the April 7, 2026, Commissioners meeting to allow for cleanup to commence; E. Koester seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 2-0.

4224 STATE ROAD 69 NORTH COMPLAINT

Posey County Building Commissioner Ed Battieger addressed the Commissioners regarding a complaint at 4224 State Road 69.

Landowner Matt Allyn addressed the Commissioners regarding this complaint. Mr. Allyn stated that although he owns the land, he does not own the trailer that is involved in this complaint. Mr. Allyn stated that he has been in contact with the owner of the trailer, who stated that the inside is cleaned out and that the owner plans to have the outside cleaned up in early spring. Mr. Allyn stated that if that does not happen, he plans to work with the owner to clean this up himself.

E. Koester made a motion to table action on this property until the May 7, 2026, Commissioners meeting to allow time for cleanup to commence; B. Collins seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 2-0.

COMMUNITY CORRECTION GRANT APPLICATION

Brittany Buttler with Posey County Community Corrections addressed the Commissioners regarding the 2027 grant application process for Community Corrections. Mrs. Buttler stated that Community Corrections is fully funded from this grant, along with user fees.

Mrs. Buttler spoke to the Commissioners about the current outlook for Community Corrections and historical data supporting the need for this program.

B. Collins made a motion to approve the request to apply for the Community Corrections grant for the year 2027; E. Koester seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 2-0.

COMMUNITY CORRECTION ADVISORY BOARD APPOINTMENT

Brittany Buttler with Posey County Community Corrections addressed the Commissioners regarding an open Community Corrections advisory board position. Mrs. Buttler stated that she is recommending that the Commissioners appoint Gary Snelling to the Community Correction advisory board for the remainder of the current term. E. Koester made a motion to approve this request; B. Collins seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 2-0.

ORDINANCE PROPOSAL FOR SHERIFF FEDERAL FORFEITURE FUND

Posey County Auditor Maegen Greenwell stated that the Sheriff currently has a deputy working on federal forfeiture cases, and it has come to light that the only federal forfeiture fund the County uses is under the control of the County Prosecutor's Office. Mrs. Greenwell stated that, to keep these funds separate, they are requesting the creation of a Sheriff's Federal Forfeiture fund to be used solely by the Sheriff's office.

B. Collins made a motion to waive final reading and approve this ordinance; E. Koester seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 2-0.

INMATE COMMISSARY CONTRACT/ INMATE JAIL VIDEO VISIT CONTRACT

Posey County Sheriff Tom Latham provided the Commissioners with a Commissary contract for consideration. Sheriff Latham stated that updates from the SEC required changes to the current contract; however, this will be a 48-month extension of the current contract with updated terms. Sheriff Latham stated that the inmate video visit contract is being updated and renewed for the same reasons.

B. Collins made a motion to approve both of the presented contracts; E. Koester seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 2-0.

KOORSEN JAIL SPRINKER PROPOSAL x2

Posey County Sheriff Tom Latham provided the Commissioners with two proposals from Koorsen for the jail's sprinkler system.

E. Koester made a motion to approve these proposals; B. Collins seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 2-0.

J&K SHERIFF RADIO PROPOSAL

Jamie Bradford with Posey County Dispatch presented the Commissioners with a proposal from J&K for a service agreement for the Sheriff's radios. Mrs. Bradford stated that the cost of the service agreement will cost \$5,705.18 per year.

B. Collins made a motion to approve this proposal for the service agreement; E. Koester seconded. B. Collins stated that the Commissioners will cover the cost for the first year, and in subsequent years, the Sheriff can include this in his budget.

The motion carried with a vote of 2-0.

REZONING REQUEST

Jerry Cottner with Posey County Area Plan addressed the Commissioners regarding a request to rezone 113.03 acres at or near 6400 Caborn Road from Agriculture to Residential Single Family. Mr. Cottner stated that this request was heard at the Area Plan meeting on March 12, 2026, and passed with a vote of 6-0.

Mr. Collins opened up the public discussion portion of this meeting.

A representative with MJC Development informed the Commissioners that this rezoning will allow a residential subdivision with 210 homesites to be developed on this property over a three-to four-year period.

Bob Goebel at 5930 Caborn Road addressed the Commissioners regarding several concerns, including drainage and traffic patterns.

Debbie Head, 5930 Caborn Road, addressed the Commissioners regarding traffic concerns with one entrance and one exit, and the safety concerns.

B. Collins made a motion to approve this request; E. Koester seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 2-0.

E911 DISPATCH BUILDING GENERATOR BIDS OPENED

B. Collins stated that the Commissioners received the following bids for a generator project at the Dispatch building:

Capital Electric: \$126,015.00

Deig Brothers: \$114,500.00

MelKay: \$171,059.00

DeBra Kuempel: \$189,950.00

B. Collins made a motion to table these bids to allow time for review; E. Koester seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 2-0.

ANIMAL CONTROL DISCUSSION

B. Collins stated that the Commissioners recently hired a new animal control officer, Clay Cliford. Mr. Collins stated that the City of Mt. Vernon has requested that the County take over animal control duties in the City of Mt. Vernon. Mr. Collins stated that he has presented a proposal to the city requesting \$38,000.00 annually and including the option to purchase the

city's current animal control vehicle for \$1.00. Mr. Collins stated that he is planning to request that the County Council add an additional part-time animal control officer for the County, which would be covered by the \$38,000.00 from the city.

B. Collins made a motion to move forward with the request to add an additional part-time animal control officer for the County to be covered with the \$38,000.00 from the city; E. Koester seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 2-0.

DEPARTMENT UPDATES

Posey County Sheriff Tom Latham gave the following inmate housing update:

DOC: 10

Vanderburgh County: 13

Posey County: 92

Total 115

Vanderburgh County income is \$14080.00

Posey County EMS Director Paul Michelletti gave the following report for February:

203 Request

148 Transfers

\$83,198.69 revenue

Mr. Micheletti stated that the new ambulance should be arriving prior to the sixth of April. Mr. Micheletti stated that he has one full-time position available.

Posey County EMA Director Carrie Thompson addressed the Commissioners regarding the ongoing issues with the Wadesville storm siren. Mrs. Thompson stated that Centerpoint is currently looking for any interference that might be causing the issues. Mrs. Thompson states that Mounts Electric is also working on a solution to this issue.

Mrs. Thompson stated that she is still looking into her options to switch the current emergency warning software, CodeRed, which is not performing at its best for the County.

Bill Collins

Bill Collins

Greg Newman

Eric Koester

Eric Koester

Maegen L. Greenwell

Attest: Maegen L. Greenwell