

COUNCIL MINUTES
BOONE COUNTY, INDIANA
February 10th, 2026

Council Members: You are hereby notified that there will be a regular meeting of the Boone County Council at the Boone County Office Building, 116 W. Washington St., in the Connie Lamar Meeting Room, Room 105, in the City of Lebanon, on Tuesday, February 10th, 2026, at 8:30am.

Councilwoman Hostetter called the meeting to order. Council members who were also in attendance were Shari Richey, Kevin Van Horn, Dan Lamar, Dustin Plunkett, John Riner (via Zoom), and Aaron Williams.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Councilwoman Hostetter asked for a motion to approve the January 13th, 2026 meeting minutes. Councilman Plunkett requested to fix the error of Councilwoman to Councilman Plunkett under Council Comments. Councilman Lamar made a motion to approve with the change. Councilwoman Richey seconded the motion. A roll call vote was done. The motion carried, 7-0.
- Councilwoman Hostetter asked for a motion to approve the December 31st, 2025 Executive Session meeting minutes. Councilman Plunkett made a motion to approve. Councilwoman Richey seconded the motion. A roll call vote was done. The motion carried, 6-1 as Councilman Lamar voted nay as he was not present for the meeting.

LEGAL UPDATE

Attorney Lee stated that he and Haley are still going through the information on the Justice Center expenses and will update the council when they are finished reviewing everything.

NEW BUSINESS

- Councilwoman Hostetter asked for a motion to approve the 2025-2026 encumbrances. Councilwoman Richey made a motion to approve. Councilman Plunkett seconded the motion. A roll call vote was done. The motion carried, 7-0.
- Sheriff Tony Harris presented Ordinance 2026-01, an ordinance establishing a non-reverting firearms fund for the Boone County Sheriff. This is the first reading, and the council wants to suspend the rules to approve in this meeting. Councilman Lamar made a motion to suspend the rules. Councilman Williams seconded the motion. A roll call vote was done. The motion carried, 7-0. Councilman Plunkett made a motion to approve the ordinance. Councilwoman Richey seconded the motion. A roll call vote was done. The motion carried, 7-0.
- Michael Nance with Community Corrections presented the 2025 annual report. The council members acknowledged the annual report.
- Michael Nance is requesting a new position in the Project Income fund for a custody staff member in the residential center. It will be a full-time position paid at a maximum of \$47,000 a year. He does not need to request additional funds to pay for this position.

Councilman Williams made a motion to approve. Councilman Plunkett seconded the motion. A roll call vote was done. The motion carried, 7-0.

RE-APPROPRIATIONS

- Assessor Jennifer Lasley hired Attorney Alex Bruggenschmidt to represent her regarding the ongoing issues with the RFP's received for work done in her office. She chose one vendor (GUTS) and the Commissioners want her to use another (Nexus). She does not agree with them on the vendor they want her to use. She then rejected both bids and is now requesting to be able to hire employees to do the work in house and needs to do a re-appropriation from the contract lines to payroll lines. Councilwoman Hostetter is requesting that Assessor Lasley call other vendors and get new bids on the existing RFP (assessment & re-assessment of real property). The Assessor has also made a request to extend the current vendor contract for one year until they can decide on what route they are going. The Commissioners denied that request and received a letter from the vendor Nexus threatening to sue the county. She stated she has done everything that has been asked of her by the Commissioners and Council and just needs to get the work done in her office that is already behind and doesn't want to delay tax bills going out. Council Attorney Lee told the council that the current vendor GUTS can still do the work needed to be done on the personal property. Attorney Bruggenschmidt stated that the Assessor is not required to use a vendor per state statute, therefore she should be able to hire employees to get the work done in time.

**The council took a recess for 10 minutes. Councilman Williams made a motion to recess. Councilwoman Richey seconded the motion. A roll call vote was done. The motion carried, 7-0.

At this time, the council is suggesting the Assessor use a process of a matrix or scoring system to select the "best" bid for the work to be done. They are also suggesting that she put out the RFP (assessment & re-assessment of real property) to the other vendors in the state, submit a new contract for personal property, abatements, etc. with GUTS to the Commissioners, and have a special meeting on Friday, February 27, 2026 with the Commissioners to decide how to move forward. The re-appropriation requests for this meeting are being tabled. Councilman Williams made the motion to table both re-appropriation requests, 6a. & 6b., and to table the salary ordinance amendment, 8b. Councilman Plunkett seconded the motion. A roll call vote was done. The motion carried, 7-0.

- Nick Parr presented three re-appropriation requests.
 - a. In the county general fund from the Highway Director line (1000.0529.6908) for \$12,224 to the Road Preservation line (1000.0529.7053).
 - b. In the 1173 MVH fund from the Road Preservation line (1173.7054) for \$12,224 to the Truck Drivers line (1173.7010).
 - c. In the 1173 & 1176 MVH funds from the Truck Drivers line (1173.7010) for \$12,224 to the Truck Drivers line (1176.7010).

Councilman Lamar made a motion to approve all three re-appropriation requests. Councilwoman Richey seconded the motion. A roll call vote was done. The motion passed 6-0. Councilman Williams was not present for the vote.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS

- Auditor Debbie Crum presented an additional appropriation request in the county general Unemployment line (1000.0068.5159) for \$36,000. Councilwoman Hostetter opened a public hearing for public comment. Upon hearing none, she closed the public hearing. Councilman Van Horn made a motion to approve. Councilman Plunkett seconded the motion. A roll call vote was done. The motion passed 6-0. Councilman Williams was not present for the vote.
- Michael Nance presented for Judge Petit for an additional appropriation request in the county general Pauper Attorney line (1000.0202.2132) for \$40,000. Councilwoman Hostetter opened a public hearing for public comment. Upon hearing none, she closed the public hearing. Councilman Williams made a motion to approve subject to reimbursement from Community Corrections. Councilman Plunkett seconded the motion. A roll call vote was done. The motion passed 7-0.

SALARY ORDINANCE

- Auditor Debbie Crum presented the amended salary ordinance for multiple funds with slight discrepancies in salary calculations. Councilman Lamar made a motion to approve. Councilwoman Richey seconded the motion. A roll call vote was done. The motion carried 7-0. She noted she needed the council to advise if the Facilities Admin Assistant and the Clerk First Deputy were exempt or non-exempt for the salary ordinance. To discuss further with the County Attorney and Director of Administration, the council will table this portion of the amendment. Councilwoman Richey made a motion to table the exempt items. Councilman Lamar seconded the motion. A roll call vote was done. The motion carried, 7-0.
- Michael Nance with Community Corrections had salary ordinance amendments for multiple funds as he switched where he was paying certain positions including the new position in fund 1122 from earlier in the meeting. Councilman Williams made a motion to approve. Councilman Plunkett seconded the motion. A roll call vote was done. The motion passed 7-0.
- Auditor Crum presented the Highway Department amendments in county general and MVH funds for title changes and salaries. Councilwoman Richey made a motion to approve. Councilman Plunkett seconded the motion. A roll call vote was done. The motion passed 7-0.
- Auditor Crum noted that fund 1161 needs to include an On-Call line for \$10,400. Councilman Lamar made a motion to approve. Councilwoman Richey seconded the motion. A roll call vote was done. The motion carried 7-0.
- The salary ordinance amendments for the Assessor were tabled for this meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

- Councilman Van Horn presented his recommendation for the 2026 board appointment for Discover Boone County for an unincorporated member. Councilman Van Horn made a motion to approve Dustin Plunkett for that position on the board. Councilwoman Richey seconded the motion. A roll call vote was done. The motion carried, 7-0.

- Councilman Van Horn made a motion to table the Justice Center expenses update. Councilwoman Richey seconded the motion. A roll call vote was done. The motion carried, 7-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jodi Stewart, Debbie Ottinger, and Nicolle Schell gave public comments.

COUNCIL COMMENTS


Councilman Plunkett spoke about the Area Plan's Comprehensive Plan and the public's input on it.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilman Williams made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Plunkett seconded the motion. A roll call vote was done. The motion carried, 7-0.

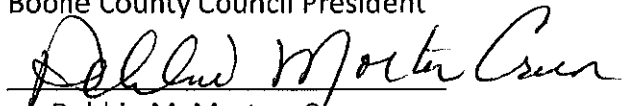
Minutes prepared by:

Caryn Strode, Deputy Auditor.



Jennifer Hostetter
Boone County Council President

3/10/26
Date



Debbie M. Morton-Crum
Boone County Auditor

3/10/26
Date