

**MINUTES  
FOUNTAIN COUNTY COUNCIL  
AUGUST 21, 2017 at 8:00 A.M.**

**The following Fountain County Council members were present at the meeting:  
Dudley Cruea, Tom Booe, Joe Whittington, Jim McKee, Jim Hershberger, Dale Clawson and Bill Glover.**

## MINUTES

A motion was made by Jim Hershberger and seconded by Bill Glover to approve the minutes of the July 17, 2017 meeting as presented. Vote: 6-0

## ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS

## Resolution 2017-29

PUBLIC SAFETY – JAIL

1170-0380-33302	Medical Supplies	\$15,000
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A motion was made by Tom Booe and seconded by Jim Hershberger to approve the total additional appropriation requests of \$15,000. Vote: 7-0

## TRANSFERS – CLERK

\$600 From 1000-0001-22000 Office Supplies

To 1000-0001-33880 Bank Fees

A motion was made by Joe Whittington and seconded by Dale Clawson to approve the \$600 transfer to pay for the increased bank fees. Vote: 7-0

## APPOINTMENTS – JAIL BUILDING COMMITTEE

A motion was made by Tom Booe and seconded by Jim McKee to appoint the following Council Members to the Jail Building Committee for 2017: Joe Whittington and Jim Hershberger. Vote: 7-0

**RESOLUTION 2017-30**

A resolution approving the designation of Fountain County as a vote center county.

A motion was made by Jim Hershberger and seconded by Dale Clawson to approve Resolution 2017-30.

**PETITION-VAN BUREN TWP Karen Seibold**

Since there are 2 Firemen on her board, the council needs to approve her Non-binding budget. The council took a copy of their budget and will look it over and act on it at the next meeting in September when they adopt the budgets.

## BUDGET HEARINGS

Bud Peach (County Highway), Garth Kagels (Ambulance), Bob Cates (Veteran Service Officer), Bill Sanders (Sheriff), Commissioners/Brenda Hardy ( Auditor), Stephanie Campbell (Judge), Daniel Askren (Prosecutor), Kathleen Wesley (E-911), Wanda Taylor ( Recorder ), Colleen Chambers (Treasurer), Josh Whittington (Coroner), John Kirkpatrick (Soil & Water), and Courtney Stierwalt (Purdue Extension) were all seen the council to discuss their budgets for 2018. The Assessor's, EMA, LEPC, Health, LHM & Health Trust and Co Drug Free Community were also discussed without representation.

## Budget Review

The council needs to cut \$800,000 from the County's Budget. The LIT funds for CEDIT and Public Safety are all going to receive less funds in 2018.

## County Highway - Bud Peach

He requested an increase in pay for his employees, stressing that they are all very hard workers. The cost for bridge inspections and building repairs have increased. He would like to get the highway garage painted and fix up the truck garage. Another big increase would be the group health insurance. This will affect all departments. He asked for the opportunity to hire another employee for part time work in the summer. Retirees within the county would work out the best.

With the State wanting the counties to keep better track of their inventory, a new loader is going to be needed that weighs each load.

## Ambulance - Garth Kagels

He is requesting a 4% salary increase for his employees. He explained his reasoning for medical supplies increasing so much on next year's budget as being because the medical supplies have nearly tripled in price since 2010. He also is requesting an increase in the computer maintenance line item for a computer system that does the scheduling and keeps track of clocking in and out.

**Veteran Service Officer - Bob Cates**

A request for a 2% pay increase was the only change for the 2018 budget.

**Sheriff - Bill Sanders**

He has requested 2 more deputies, 1 Jailer, 2 vehicles and a 5% salary increase. Also, for the Sheriff pension, he has requested that they go with the 26 year policy as an incentive for senior officers to stay on the department.

The council decided to take the vehicles out of their budget and look at taking the money out of Public Safety or County Farm. Three of their vehicles have more than 100,000 miles on them. The council requested a list of cars and their mileage be brought to the next meeting.

They are trying to not take inmates to Warren County Jail. They have gotten hurt there and it costs Fountain County more money.

**Auditor - Brenda Hardy**

She asked for a 3% raise for her employees and additional pay increase for the 2 that do HR/Payroll in the office. They are certified in HR which is considered a consultant. With the increased work load due to FLSA guidelines, (ACA) Affordable Care Act, disputes, dept. of labor investigation, Internal Control duties assigned to Auditors Office, etc.

**Judge - Stephanie Campbell**

The state took away funding for the small claims/traffic Judge. The county will have to pay for it themselves. To help in funding for this, she is invoking probation collection fees where the person will not be let off of probation until their fines/fees are paid in full. She is hoping this will cover the extra expenditure for the county. She also raised the budget in computer maintenance. With their new system, they may need new computers if their current ones can't handle it.

**Treasurer - Colleen Chambers**

She requested a 2% salary increase and asked for an increase in travel. She will not be able to go to an AIC class on cyber security because, there isn't enough funds.

**Solid Waste - Colleen Chambers**

Solid Waste as well as all departments has a group insurance increase. She requested a 2% salary.

**Prosecutor - Daniel Askren**

He requested a 3% salary increase for his employees. Everything else on his budget remained the same. With E-Filing, he is hoping it will cut down on paper and ink.

**Recorder - Wanda Taylor**

Computer Maintenance showed an increase because they will be needing a new server. The council said they should be able to take it out of the Recorder's Perpetuation Fund.

**E-911- Kathleen Wesley**

She requested a 4 % increase in salary. She has 6 operators. She is short 2 operators. She also would like to make one of the operators an Assistant Director. She is having a hard time filling that position.

**Clerk - Paula Copenhaver**

She requested a 3.5% increase in salary. Also, she is working on having the bank fees lowered. They are getting out of hand. Tablets will have to be purchased if the county goes to being a Vote Center County. The books are called E-Pole and cost \$28,000 each.

**Purdue Extension - Courtney Stierwalt**

Increases for her employees at a 2% increase and a 1.5% increase for the Educators which is set by Purdue.

**Coroner - Josh Whittington**

He is in need of a new camera and laptop. All of the equipment that he has is not up to date. Autopsy expenses needed to be increased as well.

**Prosecutor - Daniel Askren**

He requested 3% increase in salaries for the IV-D Administrator, Clerk, and Secretary.

**Transfers – Infraction Deferral**

\$5,000            From    2400-0000-17800 Project Pullover  
                         To        2400-0000-33380 Project Pullover

A motion was made by Tom Booe and seconded by Bill Glover to approve the transfer of \$5,000.

Vote: 7-0

**Budget Review - discussion**

The Council continued to discuss the budgets that were presented from earlier in the day. A few suggestions were made but, no decisions about salary increases were made at this time. Further discussion will be done on the budgets at their next meeting.

**The Next Meeting Will Be September 18, 2017 at 9 A.M.**

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Attest – Brenda Hardy, Auditor

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Dudley Cruea, President

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James Hershberger

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Tom Booe

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Dale Clawson

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Bill Glover

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James McKee

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Joe Whittington

Resolution 2017-30

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE DESIGNATION OF FOUNTAIN  
COUNTY AS A VOTE CENTER COUNTY

WHEREAS, Indiana Code 3-11-18.1 allows counties to adopt the vote center model and,

WHEREAS, the County Council of Fountain County approves the designation of  
Fountain County as vote center county and,

WHEREAS, the county election board has the responsibility for properly drafting a vote  
center plan for Fountain County, which will take effect upon unanimous vote of the county  
election board and having the plan is properly filed with the Indiana Election Division;

BE IT SO RESOLVED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF FOUNTAIN COUNTY  
that Fountain County is approved to operate as a vote center county, upon the  
required approval and filing of the county vote center plan.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF FOUNTAIN COUNTY

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Adopted this 21<sup>st</sup> day of August, 2017

ATTEST: Brenda Hardy  
Fountain County Auditor

This instrument prepared by Teryl D. Martin, Fountain County Attorney, Covington,  
Indiana.

I affirm under the penalties of perjury I have taken reasonable care to redact each Social  
Security number in this document, unless required by law. /s/Teryl D. Martin