

Miami County Commissioners Meeting

March 17, 2025

Meeting Information

- Date & Time: 2025-03-17 09:00 am
- Location: 25 N. Broadway Peru IN 46970 GAR Room
- Attendees:
- Commissioner Fred Musselman
- Commissioner Brenda Weaver
- Commissioner Mark Horner
- Auditor Annette Phillippo
- Marlene Mickelson – MC Artisan Gallery
- Jim Deniston – 10 Krypto
- Kerry Worl – Highway
- Courtney Schmitt – Purdue Extension
- Matt Maverick - Broadband

Meeting Notes

- **Miami County Artisan Gallery and Visual Arts Festival**
Marlene discussed the upcoming Visual Arts Festival, highlighting changes to the event hours to accommodate community needs. The new hours for 2025 will be from 10:00 am till 6:00 pm. The festival will feature seven spotlight artists. Including Roxanne Mann, Dan Harshman, Karen Riddles, Dave Roberts, Beth Clary-Schweier. Along with the Miami tribal Indians, and the Sisters of Rose this will truly be a visual arts festival. We will have entertainment of Jason Burntill and his jazz band along with Lew Little and his band. There will be an online photograph contest. We make this as simple as possible for the people to be creative and learn from artists. We have a partnership with the community, so we won't have any food vendors.
The event will be held on May 10th at 25 West, North Broadway.

Commissioner Weaver stated that she volunteered last year for a few things to help last year and made a motion to approve the festival this year to be held on the West lawn with utilities and water. Commissioner Horner 2nd the motions. Motion passed 3-0

- **Printer Replacement**

Jim Deniston discussed the need to replace printers. Auditor Phillippo and I met with Sharp, and they supplied us with a list of printers that need replacement. There are printers that are outdated and frequently require maintenance that currently are not in the budget. Our plan is to budget for many of them next year.

I am asking for additional appropriations of \$24,660 to take care of the printers with urgency.

Commissioner Weaver made a motion to do additional appropriation of 24,660. to replace printers. Commissioner Horner 2nd the motion. Motion approved 3-0.

- **Equipment Operator and Truck Driver Reassignment**

Kerry Worl proposed reassigning two equipment operators to truck drivers to save costs. This change aims to optimize the workforce for seasonal needs.

Commissioner Musselman asked to entertain a motion to make that change? Commissioner Horner moved. Commissioner Weaver Second. A motion was approved to reassign two equipment operators to truck drivers. Passed 3-0

- **Bridge 46 Project**

Discussion on the approval and paperwork for Bridge 46 going into Denver. The paperwork has been received and needs signatures for approval to proceed.

- **Fee Increase for Road Cut**

Proposal to increase the fee for road cut from \$450 to \$625.

A motion by Commissioner Weaver and the second by Commissioner Horner was made to approve the fee increase. Approved 3-0

- **Equipment Auction**

Notification about the auction for two trucks, a grader, and a tractor happening this weekend.

- **Deer Removal Policy**

Discussion on the policy for removing deer hit by vehicles and ending up on private property. Consideration of costs and responsibilities for removal.

Greg Inslee charges 125.00 if he picks up dead deer and the Highway department charges 75.00 per guys. Kerry said it is cheaper to hire Greg Inslee when we need to pick up deer on special occasions.

Commissioner Musselman brought up discussions on who's responsibility it is to pick up deer or dead animals. It is not the responsibility of the country to remove the animals. Commissioner Musselman mentioned that if you get in an accident, you file an insurance claim. Depending on the insurance, it's possible a homeowner could then file a claim to have Greg Inslee pick up the animal. Musselman indicated that it ultimately falls under the responsibility of the property owner.

According to the DNR, if a deer is dead on private property, it's the homeowner's responsibility. There are wildlife control operators that if you can't do it yourself, you can call them, and they have a list of people you can call for assistance with a fee.

Kerry Worl stated that the state doesn't remove deer unless they are in the middle of the roadway.

- **Furniture Pickup Program**

Discussion on the pickup of furniture dumped on county roads and the effectiveness of the current program.

- **4C Health Update**

Dr. Carrie Cadwell provided an update on 4C Health's activities, including the opening of an inpatient psychiatric facility and psychiatric urgent care in Miami County. It's a big investment. On capital investment here in Miami county it's about 11 million dollars.

The Psychiatric urgent care part is open 24/7, 365 days a year. Urgent issues can be either mental health or substance use. Today it's for adults they hopefully soon opening the adolescent component. Family members or law enforcement are allowed to drop off people in need at the facility for assessment.

Miami County, Olivia Hayes, is now working with us, and so we are providing primary care services.

Olivia is seeing people for the community. A lot of that is the folks that we're seeing whether it's individuals with substance use or even severe mental health conditions, oftentimes it's very difficult for them to follow up with primary care in another location, so it's kind of like one-stop shopping. She's also providing consultation for our inpatient unit, which is nice to have.

4C Health has expanded services and facilities in Miami County, with significant investments and new programs.

Purdue Extension

Courtney Schmitt with Purdue Extension updated us on few different programs for Community Health and Development Initiatives.

- **Better Health Program**
The Better Health program in Miami County focuses on nutrition education and managing diabetes. Participants can attend eight classes and receive food supplies. The program is funded by the Miami County Health Department and is open to the community.
- **4-H Program Growth**
The 4-H program in Indiana has grown by 41,000 members, with Miami County seeing an increase of 37 members. Efforts are being made to diversify the program beyond agriculture.
- **Ag Women Engage Conference**
The Ag Women Engage conference in Fort Wayne involved organizing speakers and keynotes. It focused on farm succession planning and had around 500 participants.
- **Farm Succession Planning Program**
A farm succession planning program was conducted with collaboration from Kansas and Nebraska specialists. It included virtual and in-person sessions.
- **Junior Master Gardener Program**
The Junior Master Gardener program is being conducted in North Miami for fifth graders, with a separate adult training program.

- **Matt Maverick with Broadband update.**
The Miami County Broadband involves construction work near the reservoir and aims to be completed in four to six months.

Matt is working on a deal to add TV to our packages with Mulberry Telecommunications based out of Mulberry, they're a co-op like we are. We'll be offering the steaming service just like Hulu Live or YouTube TV, those that are out there.

- **Circus City Festival Arrangements**
Commissioner Musselman read some requests for Circus City, which runs from Saturday, July 11th through July 19th. And they are asking for permission to use the sidewalk in front of the courthouse during Circus Week, permission to use the parking lot and Court Street for rides and booths. Along with access for water. Before the meeting Commissioner Musselman pointed out they are also asking for key access, which none of the commissioners were in favor of.

A motion was made by Commissioner Horner and a second by Commissioner Weaver was made to grant permission for all the requests except key access to the courthouse. Motion passed 3-0

- Requests to close Wayne Street Bridge during the Circus City Festival parade. July 19, 2025 at 10:00 am

Commissioner Horner made a motion to allow the bridge for the parade, Commissioner Weaver seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0

- **Courthouse Beautification**

Commissioner Weaver motioned to approve an estimate of \$750.90 for plants around the courthouse. Commissioner Horner seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0

- Motion by Commissioner Weaver and 2nd by Commissioner Horner to approve Payroll claim. Passed 3-0
- Motion by Commissioner Weaver and 2nd by Commissioner Horner to approve claims. Passed 3-0
- Motion by Commissioner Weaver and 2nd by Commissioner Horner to approve prior meeting minutes. Passed 3-0

Commissioner Weaver made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Horner 2nd the motion and it passed 3-0.

- **ADJOURN**

MIAMI COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS


_____, Chairman
Keith Musselman


_____, Vice Chairman
Brenda Weaver


_____, Member
Mark Horner

Attest: 
_____, Auditor
Annette Phillippo



3/17/2025

To: Board of Commissioners,

Regards: I'd like to request an increase in the **Application for Road Cut fee** from **\$450.00 to \$625.00**. The justification is below. **(NO UTILITY OR COMMERCIAL CUTS INCLUDED)**. See attached Ordinance No. 5/17/2021.

| # of LOADS | Material | Cold Patch delivered to site by driver. | Truck & Driver hauling | Totals |
|------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------------|------------------------|----------|
| 2 | 73, or 53 Stone \$236.00 | TYPICALLY, 1 TON \$114.00 | \$275.00 | \$625.00 |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |

Requestor: *Kyle Ward*
Highway Superintendent

Attest: *Annelle Phillips*
Auditor

Date: *3/17/25*

Board of Commissioners,
Keith Musselman, Chair *Keith Musselman*
Brenda Weaver, Member *Brenda Weaver*
Mark Horner, Member *Mark Horner*