

VIGO COUNTY COUNCIL
Sunshine Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, May 4, 2021 at 5:00 P.M.
Council Chambers, Vigo County Annex

Pledge of Allegiance

President Aaron Loudermilk called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Calling of the roll

Present: Brenda Wilson, Travis Norris, Marie Theisz, Don Morris, Vicki Weger, David Thompson, and Aaron Loudermilk.

First reading by summary reference of proposed ordinances and resolutions

- i. ROC 2021-018, Additional Appropriation Ordinance 2021-09: Drug Free Community – appropriation into Operating Expenses
- ii. ROC 2021-019, Additional Appropriation Ordinance 2021-10: EDIT – construction of a restroom facility
- iii. ROC 2021-019, Additional Appropriation Ordinance 2021-15: County General – construction of a restroom facility
- iv. ROC 2021-020, Resolution of Reallocation 2021-04: Juvenile Justice Center – out-of-series transfer
- v. ROC 2021-021, Additional Appropriation Ordinance 2021-11: Juvenile Justice Center – appropriation from Non-Reverting Juvenile Justice Center Care of Prisoners Fund to various line items in that fund
- vi. ROC 2021-022, Salary Ordinance 2021-12, Additional Appropriation Ordinance 2021-12: Juvenile Justice System – Add two (2) additional full time employees
- vii. ROC 2021-023, Additional Appropriation Ordinance 2021-13: Public Defenders – purchase of a vehicle
- viii. ROC 2021-024, Additional Appropriation Ordinance 2021-14: Homeland Security Fund – purchase of a vehicle for EMA
- ix. ROC 2021-025 – Additional Appropriation 2021-16: Road Closure Fund – appropriation for money to buy a flatbed semi-trailer
- x. ROC 2021-026 – Salary Ordinance 2021-13, Additional Appropriation Ordinance 2021-17: Vigo County Health Department – amend salary for Environmental Health Supervisor
- xi. ROC 2021-027 – Public Safety LIT Options for Distribution to Units for Distribution in 2022

Public Comment

There were none.

Communications from elected officials, other officials or agencies of the County

Commissioner Brendan Kearns asked about the additional agenda item pertaining to distribution to units in 2022. He noted that Nevins Township had an issue about the request they submitted. President Loudermilk said he was unaware of any requests being submitted just yet. Mr. Kearns wanted to be sure that Nevins Township would not miss out and be sure that they were funded. President Loudermilk noted that these distributions would be discussed tonight and voted on next week and that requests would likely be made after that.

Reports from committees

There were none.

Ordinances relating to appropriations.

i. ROC 2021-18 Additional Appropriation Ordinance 2021-09: Drug Free Community

There was no one present on behalf of this request. Council Administrator Kyliisa Miller noted that the revenues that are collected through the Courts go into this designated fund and can only be used for the Drug Free Community. They usually look at the cash balance at the end of the year and then request to have that appropriated for operating expenses during the next year. She did point out that nothing had been appropriated since 2018. It does appear that they have been making expenditures consistently but they have requested a budget again for 2021. As it looks now, it is fundable.

ii. ROC 2021-019, Additional Appropriation Ordinance 2021-10: EDIT

Commissioner Mike Morris was present on behalf of this request. The Parks Department has created a plan to use some of the acreage the County received from Pfizer to create a series of trails, totaling about 11 miles, and naming it after the previous head of the Parks Department, Keith Ruble. Ruble Park will run right behind the main campus of Ivy Tech. The Commissioners would like to partner with Ivy Tech and build a restroom facility at the trailhead, which will be on land owned by Ivy Tech, for patrons visiting/using the trails. Ivy Tech will maintain the facilities once they are constructed and provide a parking area for visitors using the trails. Adam Grossman, Superintendent of Vigo County Parks, gave a short presentation. They hope to have a September opening. These will be natural trails with a lot of unique features such as log crossings, ladder bridges, etc. that will attract people to come out and use them. Rachel Mullinnix, Executive Director of the Ivy Tech Terre Haute Foundation, also gave a short presentation. Ivy Tech did apply for a grant through the DNR for their Next Level Trails program in order to help extend the trail for Ruble Park onto the main campus and then help to extend it over to Dixie Bee Elementary School so that the students could also utilize the park. It would also connect the Garden Quarter housing development to Ruble Park. Part of that grant was to be used to construct a stand-alone restroom facility at the trailhead. Unfortunately, they were declined in the initial round of funding. They do, however, feel they have a really good chance in the third round this Fall. However, in order to have everything in place for the opening, they need to have the restroom facilities ready before

the next grants are awarded. This partnership will benefit everyone involved. Auditor James Bramble noted that this request is in conjunction with the next one on the Agenda....it is one request for \$170,000.00 with the decision being which fund to take it out of. Mr. Bramble's recommendation was to take it from the General Fund rather than EDIT. The question was raised whether it would be an option to use some of the COVID relief money to replace the monies being expended out of EDIT for the broadband project and Mr. Bramble responded affirmatively. There was a brief discussion regarding that matter. An in-depth discussion with questions and answers took place regarding this project.

**iii. ROC 2021-019, Additional Appropriation Ordinance 2021-15:
County General**

As previously noted, this is in conjunction with the prior request and is a choice of what fund to use for the requested additional appropriation.

**iv. ROC 2021-020, Resolution of Reallocation 2021-04: Juvenile
Justice Center**

Norm Loudermilk, Executive Director of the Juvenile Justice center, was present. He is asking that \$31,000.00 be transferred from the food line item in their general fund to the Vehicle line item in order to purchase a new vehicle that includes a prisoner transport restraining system. The current vehicles they have are old and are starting to require a lot of maintenance. They are still usable for local transport but not dependable for lengthier trips that they are being required to make to other locations around the State. They are also going to have to start transporting meals from the Jail to the Juvenile Detention Center and their current vehicles do not have the cargo space to accommodate such. The new vehicle would also be equipped with a video system that will protect both the detainees and the employees. They currently have enough revenue to make this transfer and still meet all the food expenses for the year. Questions and discussion then took place.

**v. ROC 2021-021, Additional Appropriation Ordinance 2021-11:
Juvenile Justice Center**

Norm Loudermilk also presented this request. This is requesting an additional appropriation from the Non-Reverting Care of Prisoners Fund to Building Repair and Locks, Audio and Video line items. The \$3,000.00 being requested for Locks, Audio and Video will cover the security camera/restraint system for the vehicle in the prior request. The \$65,760.00 being requested is for completion of several repairs/expenses currently in process. The question was raised whether the Commissioners had been requested to pay for some of the building repair expenses. Mr. Loudermilk responded that there were some other larger repairs (i.e. roofing issues, ceiling repairs, wall issues, paving of the parking lot) that are going to be requested of the Commissioners so he is trying to use his resources to pay for some of the smaller items. There was some concern expressed about expending all these funds in the event that an emergency might happen that would require a large expenditure and the resources might not then be available. When the question was asked if there were any other large expenditures that could be foreseen, Mr.

Loudermilk responded that the only other thing he could see might be an addition to the building since they were out of space. There was some additional discussion.

vi. ROC 2021-022, Salary Ordinance 2021-12, Additional Appropriation Ordinance 2021-12: Juvenile Justice Center

Norm Loudermilk also presented this request. The bare minimum number of staff at any given time to operate a shift is three but the optimum number is four to cover any event that will happen. One must be in the Control Room at all times, leaving two (which have to be a male and a female) available for school, intake, court transport, meals, recreation, physical education, showers, and visitation. The day shifts have a full complement of detention officers and needs no further help. However, night shifts are only able to be staffed with the bare minimum number. If someone calls in sick, is on vacation, or is required to leave the facility to transport (both a male and female staff are required to do this), this requires use of relief staff to cover or someone is required to work overtime. Last year, a little over \$131,000 was spent in relief staff salaries. The cost to hire two additional full-time staff would be virtually the same. However, money would be saved in training, clothing, etc. It is hard to keep part-time employees and each time you replace a part-time employee, there are training and clothing expenses that are incurred which are significant. Questions and discussion took place.

vii. ROC 2021-023, Additional Appropriation Ordinance 2021-13: Public Defender

Gretchen Etling, Chief Public Defender, was present for this request. \$12,000 was initially requested due to the fact that they did not have the final amount before the request was submitted. The cost actually is going to be for \$10,271.00 plus the docking fee plus the purchase fee. This money is being requested from the Supplemental Public Defender account which generates its receipts from public defender fees. The money spent out of that fund is reimbursed by 40% from the State and that reimbursed money comes back to the General Fund rather than the Supplemental Fund. With the reimbursement that comes back, the cost to the County actually would be \$6,162.60.

viii. ROC 2021-024, Additional Appropriation Ordinance 2021-14: Homeland Security Fund

Commissioner Brendan Kearns was present for this request. EMA has had the misfortune of two vehicle accidents. One vehicle was totaled and another one was rebuilt but probably should have been totaled. They have a third vehicle that is a big truck that is used to pull trailers, etc. but they have been using it as their primary vehicle since it is all that they have right now. The rebuilt vehicle is being returned to them this week. The amount they received for the vehicle that was totaled is approximately \$12,000. A replacement vehicle (a 2021 Ram 1500 Classic Special Service vehicle) has been located in Bloomington, Indiana, costing \$33,000. Retail is about \$42,000 but with the government discount, it will total about \$33,000. It will include flashing strobes and a towing package that can be used for hauling purposes. They have money in an account to purchase the vehicle but are requesting permission from the Council to transfer that money and use it to purchase said vehicle. They plan to use the \$12,000.00 toward some other vehicle at a later time but that will be addressed during the budget process for next

year. There was a discussion about an appropriation and grant monies. Brendan Kearns also wanted to take a moment to congratulate and publicly thank the EMA on the terrific job they have been doing during the COVID crisis.

ix. ROC 2021-025, Additional Appropriation 2021-16: Road Closure Fund

Larry Robbins, Vigo County Engineer, was present. He is asking for an additional appropriation from the Road Closure Fund. This fund has been around for a long time with a cash balance in it that really has no appropriation for it to be used. Documentation was circulated showing that an ordinance had been passed by the Commissioners some time ago allowing these funds to be used to purchase county vehicles and/or equipment. Therefore, he would like to appropriate this into the New Equipment line in order to purchase a flat bed semi-trailer in order to transport their equipment around the county to help maintain the roads. This will clear out the fund. There is no additional revenue coming in to it.

x. ROC 2021-026, Salary Ordinance 2021-13, Additional Appropriation Ordinance 2021-17: Vigo County Health Department

Joni Wise, Vigo County Health Department, was present for this request. The current Environmental Health Supervisor took over that position last August. They attempted to change the pay grade in past years but it did not happen. When the old supervisor was here, she made substantially more than the employees she supervised due to the fact that she was grandfathered in at a higher pay rate and her longevity. That is not the case with the current supervisor. Entry level pay for that position is the same or less than the employees she supervises. There is no Pat C category for her to go to. They tried to move it to an EXE A but that didn't happen. Ms. Wise is asking that the supervisor be fairly compensated for the position she holds. Pay classification was addressed in 2018 or 2019. It was felt then that this would become an issue down the road and now it has. The question was asked what the reason was that it was not changed to EXE A. Ms. Wise said that they were never given a reason. There was continued discussion about this. President Loudermilk commented that he has misgivings about the Council deciding these types of matters on a continued basis. He believes it is unfair to all parties. Discussion continued. Ms. Wise stated that while she totally understands the comments being made, she also felt that it was unfair for a supervisor to make the same or less than the employees she was supervising. Commissioner Brendan Kearns proposed that this be reviewed by WIS and then our HR Department do a market analysis and see what the results are so that possibly the results could help with the decision to be made. There was some continued discussion. Mr. Kearns asked if he could get the analysis information to the Council by Friday if this could be voted on next week. That was agreeable.

xi. ROC 2021-027, Public Safety LIT Options for Distribution to Units for Distribution in 2022

Aaron Loudermilk spoke about the distribution chart that had been distributed at the beginning of the meeting to add this matter to the Agenda. This concerns the distribution






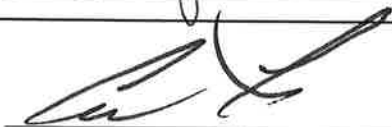
of monies for the various Fire Protection Districts throughout the county. He then explained how these distributions came into being versus using a percentage amount based on the number of runs. It was felt that the 65/35 runs/levy distributions were the most fair and equitable way to distribute the money. This was based upon discussions with the Fire Chiefs, those in the fire protections districts and Council members. There is no action to be taken on this tonight. This is for informational purposes and can be thought about and discussed in the coming week so that the Council can act on this at next week's meeting. Once it has been acted on, the Fire Departments will then know what is coming to them for their distribution and they can start formulating their requests. Their cut-off is either the last day of June or the first day of July. It was noted that this was the third year of working with this formula and there have been no complaints. Council Administrator Kylissa Miller noted that this was an annual process that has to be done per the State statute. A resolution will have to be adopted in August amending the LIT funds so that you give a specific amount that they're going to receive. The rate is not actually being amended, the portion that goes to these units is what is being amended.

Don Morris made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 p.m. David Thompson seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote of 7-0, the motion was unanimously approved.

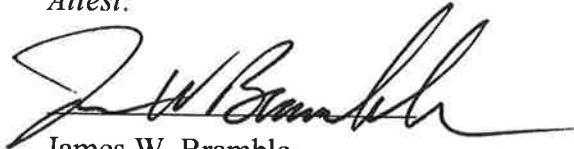
MINUTES OF THE VIGO COUNTY COUNCIL
SUNSHINE MEETING
May 4, 2021

15th

Presented to the Vigo County Council, read in full and adopted as written this ~~8th~~ day of June, 2021.

Aye <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Absent <input type="checkbox"/>		Travis Norris	
Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>			
Aye <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Absent <input type="checkbox"/>		Marie Theisz	
Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>			
Aye <input type="checkbox"/>	Absent <input type="checkbox"/>		Don W. Morris	
Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>			
Aye <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Absent <input type="checkbox"/>		Vicki Weger	
Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>			
Aye <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Absent <input type="checkbox"/>		Brenda Wilson	
Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>			
Aye <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Absent <input type="checkbox"/>		David Thompson	
Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>			
Aye <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Absent <input type="checkbox"/>		Aaron Loudermilk,	
Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>		President	

Attest:



James W. Bramble
Vigo Auditor

VIGO COUNTY
Public Safety LIT Options for Distribution to Units
For Distribution in 2022

Unit	Runs	Percentage	DISTRIBUTIONS		DISTRIBUTION COMBINATIONS						
			Run	Levy	40R/60L	50R/50L	60R/40L	65R/35L	70R/30L		
Honey Creek FPD	1,807	30.4004%	\$ 77,996.45	\$ 133,302.93	\$ 111,180.33	\$ 105,649.69	\$ 100,119.05	\$ 97,353.72	\$ 94,588.39		
Linton	131	2.2039%	\$ 5,654.42	\$ 4,012.46	\$ 4,669.24	\$ 4,833.44	\$ 4,997.64	\$ 5,079.77	\$ 5,161.83		
Nevins	211	3.5498%	\$ 9,107.50	\$ 4,012.46	\$ 6,050.48	\$ 6,559.98	\$ 7,069.48	\$ 7,324.31	\$ 7,578.99		
New Goshen FPD	201	3.3816%	\$ 8,675.86	\$ 9,808.24	\$ 9,355.29	\$ 9,242.05	\$ 9,128.81	\$ 9,072.24	\$ 9,015.57		
Otter Creek	746	12.5505%	\$ 32,199.97	\$ 16,941.51	\$ 23,044.89	\$ 24,570.74	\$ 26,096.59	\$ 26,859.53	\$ 27,622.43		
Pierson	93	1.5646%	\$ 4,014.21	\$ 5,795.78	\$ 5,083.15	\$ 4,905.00	\$ 4,726.84	\$ 4,637.79	\$ 4,548.68		
Prairieton FPD	151	2.5404%	\$ 6,517.69	\$ 16,495.68	\$ 12,504.48	\$ 11,506.69	\$ 10,508.89	\$ 10,010.02	\$ 9,511.09		
Riley FPD	531	8.9334%	\$ 22,919.82	\$ 25,858.09	\$ 24,682.78	\$ 24,388.96	\$ 24,095.13	\$ 23,948.25	\$ 23,801.30		
Lost Creek FPD	619	10.4139%	\$ 26,718.21	\$ 7,133.27	\$ 14,967.25	\$ 16,925.74	\$ 18,884.23	\$ 19,863.51	\$ 20,842.73		
Shepardsville/Fayette	82	1.3795%	\$ 3,539.41	\$ 5,562.00	\$ 4,752.96	\$ 4,550.71	\$ 4,348.45	\$ 4,247.37	\$ 4,146.19		
Sugar Creek FPD	1,372	23.0821%	\$ 59,220.32	\$ 27,641.41	\$ 40,272.97	\$ 43,430.87	\$ 46,588.76	\$ 48,167.77	\$ 49,746.65		
Total	5,944	100.0000%	\$ 256,563.86	\$ 256,563.83	\$ 256,563.82	\$ 256,563.85	\$ 256,563.87	\$ 256,564.28	\$ 256,563.85		