

**VIGO COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**Meeting Minutes of Reconvened**  
**October 12, 2021**  
**Monday, October 18, 2021 at 3:00 p.m.**  
**Council Chambers, Vigo County Annex**

President Aaron Loudermilk reconvened the October 12, 2021 meeting and called the meeting to order at 3:00.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Calling of the roll**

**Present:** R. Todd Thacker, Travis Norris, Marie Theisz, Vicki Weger, Brenda Wilson, David Thompson, Aaron Loudermilk.

President Loudermilk stated that this meeting was being reconvened to continue the discussion of the 2022 budget that started on October 12, 2021. Brenda Wilson gave a lengthy speech about the budget process and the issues she had with many of the decisions made with the budget that was presented to the full Council. Among the many comments she made, she noted that she had three pages that, in her opinion, needed to be clarified or amended. Brenda Wilson made a motion to rescind the 2022 budget with the 4.75% employee raise. Council Attorney Robert Effner was asked for guidance on this motion. He stated that the a Motion to Reconsider would be the appropriate motion to be made. He said the Motion to Rescind, although he thought it should be a Motion to Reconsider because you can't rescind it without reconsidering it, needed to be made by a member of the prevailing side. With Councilwoman Wilson voting no to the motion passed on the 12<sup>th</sup>, she would not be eligible to make the motion. It would be in order for anyone else who voted yes to make the motion. But in either case, her motion would need a second to allow it to be voted on. Ms. Wilson then asked the Council President to either reprimand or evict any person from the room, whether it is another Council member or someone in the audience, who disrespected any Council member. She then said she had researched the matter and was asking for a Motion to Rescind and gave her reasoning. She reiterated that she was making to Motion to Rescind. There was further lengthy discussion regarding clarification. With the lack of a second to the motion, the motion died. Travis Norris made a motion to reconsider the 2022 budget. Brenda Wilson seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, voting was as follows: Todd Thacker – nay; Travis Norris – aye; Marie Theisz – nay; Vicki Weger – nay; Brenda Wilson – aye; David Thompson – aye; Aaron Loudermilk – aye. By a 4-3 vote, the motion passed. Brenda Wilson made a motion to amend the 2022 budget as presented with the 4.75% raise to employees to be back to the 2021 levels with some exceptions. She asked if it was appropriate to state the motion that way. President Loudermilk advised that he thought so if she listed the exceptions. She then began to read her three pages of exceptions containing amendments to various line items of departments. President Loudermilk asked for some clarification as to exactly what she was asking. It was determined that everyone should have a copy of her list rather than just a few people.

The meeting paused while copies were made for everyone. After the list was provided to everyone, President Loudermilk restated that Ms. Wilson had a motion on the floor and asked if the copy that had been provided was the exceptions. Ms. Wilson stated affirmatively with one exception that was not on the list yet. President Loudermilk stated that she would have the right to go over each and every item or, upon advice from Council Attorney Effner, it was determined that each Council member could review the list and then it just be entered as a matter of record and Ms. Wilson could state the one additional item that had not been added. Ms. Wilson then stated that the additional item was that the base compensation for all county employees, not including positions set by state agencies or state statute be at 4% more than the 2021 base rate. That includes all employees. No sliding scales. All other items to remain at the 2021 budget amount. There was lengthy discussion about comparisons between the 2021 budget and the 2022 budget that Ms. Wilson was proposing. President Loudermilk restated the motion on the floor as follows: 2021 budget with an additional on top of what the employees are receiving for 2021, an additional 4% raise with the exceptions on the three pages provided that were entered into record. Ms. Wilson stated that some of the exceptions are as the departments requested, other things are as the Budget Committee recommended. The rest of every other line stays at the 2021 level. And no sliding scale for elected officials. David Thompson seconded the motion. There were questions asked about specific line item amounts and lengthy discussion took place. Marie Theisz made the comment that comparing the 2021 budget and the 2022 budget would not be a fair comparison and some things will get cut that are truly needed. Discussion continued. Todd Thacker noted that any of these things that are being suggested will impact some department heads without them being able to make their case. Ms. Theisz also stated that the \$500,000 that was added in to the Sheriff's budget for body cams may end up being covered by a grant. If that money is added back in to the budget, it will even things out considerably. Ms. Wilson said that amount was in her exceptions. Lengthy discussion continued. Todd Thacker called for question and explained that call for question means a vote needs to be taken on whether or not to terminate this discussion at this point and if a 2/3 majority passes the call on the question, then you go straight to a vote for the motion and second on the floor. Council Attorney Effner concurred with this assessment, however, he feels the call on question needs to be seconded. Vicki Weger seconded the call on question. Mr. Effner stated that if you vote aye, you are voting to end the discussion and nay means you want to continue talking about it. Upon a roll call vote, voting was as follows: Todd Thacker – aye; Travis Norris – aye; Marie Theisz – aye; Vicki Weger – aye; Brenda Wilson – aye; David Thompson – aye; Aaron Loudermilk – aye. 7-0 vote terminates the discussion. President Loudermilk then called for a vote on the motion and second on the floor. Upon a roll call vote, voting was as follows: Todd Thacker – nay; Travis Norris – nay; Marie Theisz – nay; Vicki Weger – nay; Brenda Wilson – aye; David Thompson – nay; Aaron Loudermilk – aye with Mr. Loudermilk correcting himself by saying nay. By a vote of 6-1, the motion is defeated.

President Loudermilk stated that the issues before the Council now is information regarding compensation, employee raises for 2022, the sliding scale system, and the additional requests of employees. Mr. Effner said that since the Council had voted to reconsider the measure, he felt that there should be a vote on the original budget as it was

approved Tuesday to make the record clear. Marie Theisz made a motion to reinstate the budget that had been approved on Tuesday, October 12. Todd Thacker seconded the motion. Before a vote was called, it was clarified that this would take it back to where we started the meeting with 2s, 3s and 4s approved and a 4.75% raise in compensation. Upon a roll call vote, voting was as follows: Todd Thacker – aye; Travis Norris – nay; Marie Theisz – aye; Vicki Weger – aye; Brenda Wilson – nay; David Thompson – aye; Aaron Loudermilk – aye. With a 5-2 vote, the motion carried. Mr. Loudermilk then said the meeting was open for discussion regarding compensation. The ceiling is set at 4.75%. Discussion then began regarding compensation. Marie Theisz commented about the possibility of a bonus coming from the 2021 budget and if we are able to do that, she believed that would be a whole separate entity to decide. Her personal feeling was that she would rather keep the compensation at the 4.75% rate rather than stipends/bonuses and stated her reasoning. Todd Thacker made suggestions on ways to increase the pay for jailers. David Thompson commented that he was in favor of a 4% raise with a stipend/bonus. There was discussion that if the bonus was paid out yet this year, it would be an additional appropriation from the 2021 budget, not the 2022 budget. Vicki Weger noted that she felt the 4.75% compensation rate was needed. Brenda Wilson noted that she concurred with Councilman Thompson's feeling that the raises and bonuses should be separate and given both. President Loudermilk noted that any bonus could not be voted on tonight but the discussion had tonight was important. He also noted that his feeling was, and had been from the beginning, that compensation should be 4% and gave his reasoning behind it. He also spoke in favor of a bonus/stipend and stated why. He also stated that he was not in favor of implementing a sliding scale for elected officials and supplied his reasoning. Marie Theisz also noted that she was in favor of a bonus yet in 2021. Mr. Bramble noted that if they wanted to go for the 4% raise in the salary ordinance and they passed the numbers as presented, that leaves some money that had been allocated in the proposed budget available for whatever changes may come with the compensation study. David Thompson made a motion that pay rate increases be set at 4% across the board and not include the sliding scale for elected officials. Brenda Wilson seconded the motion. Clarifications were briefly discussed before a vote was taken. Upon a roll call vote, voting was as follows: Todd Thacker – nay; Travis Norris – aye; Marie Theisz – nay; Vicki Weger – nay; Brenda Wilson – aye; David Thompson – aye; Aaron Loudermilk – aye. With a 4-3 vote, the motion passed.

President Loudermilk stated that next month the salary ordinances would be adopted and potential bonuses would be discussed. A request to transfer funds will need to be prepared and given to the Auditor's Office for the November Sunshine meeting. There was a brief discussion about the total amount to be transferred. The parameters for eligibility would be decided next month. There was discussion and clarifications about the budget to be signed tonight. Travis Norris made a motion to approve the Ordinance or Resolution for Appropriations and Tax Rates. Todd Thacker seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, voting was as follows: Todd Thacker – aye; Travis Norris – aye; Marie Theisz – aye; Vicki Weger – aye; Brenda Wilson – aye; David Thompson – aye; Aaron Loudermilk – aye. The motion unanimously passed.



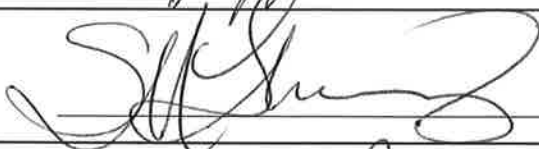




President Loudermilk stated that some numbers in Resolution 2021-18 that had been passed at last Tuesday's meeting had needed some correction and will need to be amended. Vicki Weger made a motion to reconsider Resolution 2021-18. Travis Norris seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote of 7-0, the motion unanimously passed. David Thompson made a motion to amend Resolution 2021-18 as follows: the amount of the investment to the construction to be \$190,000,000; the permanent casino jobs to be 750; and the annual contribution and net new economic activity to be \$150,000,000. Brenda Wilson seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote of 7-0, the motion unanimously passed. David Thompson made a motion to approve Resolution 2021-18 as amended. Brenda Wilson seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote of 7-0, the motion unanimously passed.

### **Adjournment**

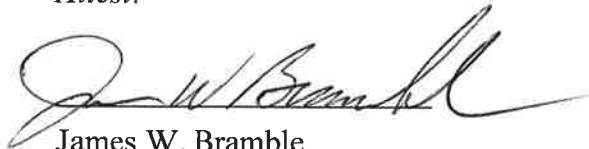
Marie Theisz made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Todd Thacker seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote of 7-0, the meeting was adjourned at 5:23 p.m.

**MINUTES OF THE VIGO COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**CONTINUATION MEETING OF OCTOBER 12, 2021**  
**OCTOBER 18, 2021**

*Presented to the Vigo County Council, read in full and adopted as written this 9<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2021.*

Aye <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Absent <input type="checkbox"/>	R. Todd Thacker	
Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>		
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 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, President	
Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>		

*Attest:*



James W. Bramble  
Vigo Auditor

## **RESOLUTION 2021-18**

### **A RESOLUTION OF THE VIGO COUNTY COUNCIL CONVEYING TO THE INDIANA GAMING COMMISSION ITS SUPPORT FOR THE APPLICATION OF HR TERRE HAUTE, LLC TO RECEIVE THE LICENSE TO OPERATE AN INLAND CASINO IN VIGO COUNTY, INDIANA.**

**WHEREAS**, HR Terre Haute, LLC, (“HRTTH”), has advised Vigo County that it has applied to the Indiana Gaming Commission (“Commission”) for a license to operate an inland casino in Vigo County, Indiana;

**WHEREAS**, the owners and officers of HRTTH have owned and operated casinos in the State of Indiana and many other jurisdictions;

**WHEREAS**, HRTTH has identified real estate within the Terre Haute city limits in Vigo County commonly known as approximately 19 acres located north of the intersection of Interstate 70 and route 46/40/641 on which it intends to invest over One Hundred and Ninety Million Dollars to construct gaming and non-gaming amenities with the Hard Rock ® brand, which will create approximately 650 union construction jobs, 750 permanent casino jobs, and annually contribute \$150,000,000 in net new economic activity;



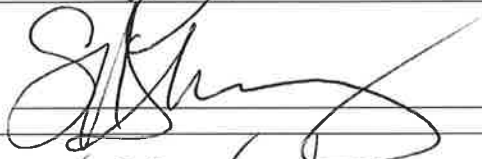
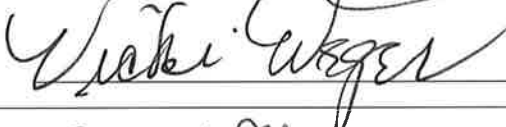



**WHEREAS**, the casino project proposed by HRTTH will result in millions of new tax dollars , annually, for the benefit of the City of Terre Haute, Vigo County, Vigo County School Corporation, West Central 2025, and the State of Indiana;

**WHEREAS**, Indiana Code 4-33-6.7-4 (5) requires the Commission to consider whether an applicant has a resolution of support from the legislative body of the unit in Vigo County where it seeks to locate.

**NOW THEREFORE, IT IS FOUND, DETERMINED, AND RESOLVED** by the Vigo County Council that:

1. It is in the best interests of Vigo County that the Commission award the license to operate the inland casino in Vigo County to HRTTH.
2. The Vigo County Council supports the application of HRTTH to operate the inland casino in Vigo County.
3. The County Clerk shall serve a copy of this resolution on the Commission by U.S. Mail addressed to Executive Director, Greg Small, at its offices located at East Tower, Suite 1600, 101 West Washington Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204.

*Presented to the Vigo County Council, read in full and adopted as amended this 18th day of October 2021 (meeting reconvened from October 12, 2021)*

Aye <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Absent <input type="checkbox"/>	R. Todd Thacker	
Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>		
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 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, President	
Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>		

*Attest:*

  
James W. Bramble, Vigo County Auditor