

passings (which is considered a home or business). That would still leave about 1500 houses/passes remaining. During the two-year period it would establish the footprint and would then work on the edges.

Chad Aker recently attended the Hoosier Huddle and spoke with Steve Cox, from the Indiana Broadband Office, regarding BEAD funding. Of the total grant, 75% was provided from the state and 25% from the provider. Some counties were not including any match at all. Mr. Gardner explained the additional could be requested through the BEAD program. They discussed areas that are located within Connect America Fund (CAF) that can't be considered and are blocked from any kind of BEAD program funding. Autumn Marshall, ECI's regional coordinator for broadband support training & education, explained that was awarded to Community Fiber between FCC and that internet service provider, which left out local government. A lot of Salamonina was awarded CAF so they would not be allowed to participate in the BEAD program. Their own investment could cover those locations, but would be omitted from BEAD eligibility. Bill Walters, ECI Regional Planning Director, explained it is more wireless than fiber connection and works in more rural locations. He added wireless is less reliable and that there is a time limit associated with those projects to be completed.

Rex Journey asked why the county was not awarded funding the first time and if the county would receive any for the next round. Mr. Gardner explained the first was for NLC (Next Level Connection) funds and this grant would be through BEAD. He added a lot of the money went to companies already existing in a location looking to expand and not projects. Mainstream has been told that those not selected in Next Level would be first in line for BEAD monies. Rex also questioned when we would know their decision. November 1, 2024 is the expected timeline for the announcement. They think a strong letter of support from the county would greatly help the county with the grant application. Mainstream plans to submit an application regardless and plans to support Jay County throughout the process. Chad Aker asked if the county were to allocate money towards this, what would be the timeline to contribute. When Mainstream has worked with other counties, they have allowed them to pay over a seven-year time period. Rex Journey asked what the timeline to complete the project would be. Jeff Marston said Mainstream would start designing and begin construction of the project immediately. A big obstacle in the beginning is getting through the permitting process.

RADIOS

Samantha Rhodelamel, Emergency Management Director, gave an update on the contract with Ritter Strategic Services. Barry Ritter was unable to attend the meeting due to a prior engagement. However, Mr. Ritter has already spoken to Motorola and the state regarding the project. They will administer an end user survey in the next 1-2 weeks. Once completed it will give a better idea of needed inventory and estimated cost. The cost of the radios will be the easiest and quickest information to provide the county. October would be the earliest for any sort of pricing on needed infrastructure, such as new towers. Mr. Ritter felt at this time, it would not be in his best representation to provide any numbers, but is going to get this information as quickly as possible. It is possible they may be able to get by with less equipment, as technology is more advanced with this type of system.

Harold Towell questioned if everyone in the county is on board with this project. Ms. Rhodelamel reported that other entities are willing to be part of this project, but the biggest concern is with the funding. Gary Hendershot, deputy director from Community Corrections, expressed concern as a self-supporting department to pay for new equipment. Sheriff Ray Newton assured them they would be included in the transition. Ms. Rhodelamel spoke in response to concerns about the highway department being able to communicate with the new system. The county highway department has a completely different system, and cannot operate daily on the emergency system, as it is against state law. Cindy Bracy questioned what would happen in emergency situations, such as weather, to communication through the new radio system. Ms. Rhodelamel explained in the event an emergency disaster is declared, the county can write in county plans to allow them to temporarily operate on the systems. The decision would need to be made if a radio is necessary for every truck in the highway department, as this would be an additional cost to the county. Currently, the highway dispatcher contacts their office, who then contacts a sheriff dispatcher to report any needed information. Ms. Rhodelamel felt that decision should be made by the highway department. Sheriff Ray Newton offered other ways to communicate to his department besides radios, citing cellphones. He felt that the county cannot keep waiting for other people to get on board, noting this subject has been discussed since 2021.

Dave Haines, discussed a recent vehicle pursuit within the county and how the lack of communication ability made other departments unable to assist. He noted this is a major safety issue for the officers. Ms. Rhodelamel added she was present in dispatch during the pursuit and witnessed dispatchers unable to contact anyone through radio. She added the fact that our deputies are supposed to protect us, though with this lack of communication, who is protecting them. Chad Aker noted getting the cost analysis from Ritter would give a better idea of what can be done. He remarked that this is something the county really needed to do. Ms. Rhodelamel cited that 51% of the people in the county live in a town or city versus 49% that live in a rural area. Cindy Bracy explained that out of the 12 townships in the county, 10 have no/limited radio contact. She believes that these statistics support that this project should be a priority. Mr. Aker added, besides ARP funds there are other options that could be used for the project such as windfarm, EDIT, Infrastructure, Cum Cap and Rainy Day. Mrs. Bracy questioned if there were any matching grants the county could utilize to help pay for this. Ms. Rhodelamel believes from time to time, Motorola does offer grants, but that they would be the best to answer this question.

Mr. Aker added there were other uses identified for ARP monies included in the county economic development plan such as a heated County Highway building that is estimated to cost \$2.2 million, County Public Safety building for an EMS Base/ Health Department/Coroner building that is estimated to cost \$3 million, or a Solid Waste building that is estimated to cost \$1.6 million. He suggested decisions be made when the final information is received, which is planned to be the end of October or the first of November. Mr. Journey agreed, adding there is no reason to hurry the decision, as there should be no problem allocating the money by the end of the year between all the potential projects. Mrs. Bracy spoke in favor of the radio project and felt that a commitment should be made now instead of waiting until closer to the December 31, 2024 deadline. Bill Walters, ECI, advised the county to consult with Baker Tilly, to help determine the best avenue and other possible funding options.

FUNDING REQUEST








Gary Hendershot, deputy director Community Corrections, spoke to members regarding a funding request. Their department is a self-revenue only agency and they were impacted by COVID which resulted in lost revenue. Cindy Bracy asked if there was a way to increase the number of offenders that participate in their program. Mr. Hendershot stated that there are a lot of components in order for that to happen. The decision to participate is mainly up to the offender with most now choosing to complete jail time rather than community corrections or probation. They are asking for money to pay for their building rent for 2025 and 2026. At this time, they pay \$6,000 per year from user fees that are collected. Mr. Aker said that if the department is only asking for \$12,000, this could be paid from the commissioner's budget.

Auditor, Emily Franks, gave members information about other possible fund options. The information includes the amounts that are remaining in the fund and how it can be spent. She also explained that the LIT-Public Safety fund could be used to pay for the radio project. Currently, the fund is used to pay for vehicles and wages for the Sheriff's department. There will be more discussion for a possible increase to the public safety portion of the local income tax rate (LIT). This increase would include every city and town and could be used towards the cost of the new radio system.

With no further business, Faron Parr made a motion to adjourn at 7:20 PM; Dave Haines seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

JAY COUNTY COUNCIL

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ATTEST: 
JAY COUNTY AUDITOR

AUGUST 14, 2024

The Jay County Council met in session on Wednesday, August 14th, 2024, at 6:00 PM, in the auditorium at the Jay County Courthouse. Attending from the council was Harold Towell, Randy May, Faron Parr, Jeanne Houchins, Cindy Bracy, Dave Haines, attorney Wes Schemenaur, auditor Emily Franks, and Matt Minnich, presiding. Jeanne Houchins made a motion to approve the minutes from July 17, 2024 and the joint session from July 29th. Dave Haines seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

Additional Appropriations:

COUNTY GENERAL Jail-Medical & Hospital \$3
1000-380-20-0040 Jail-Medical & Hospital \$~~157,600.00~~
Larry "Ray" Newton, Sheriff, came to the council to request more money for inmate medical expenses. There have been more medical bills than anticipated, including a monthly expense of \$4,500 for one inmate's medication. They have also had to pay unexpected bills from 2023. He is hoping this will cover bills through the end of 2024. Faron Parr made a motion to approve this request. Randy May seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

BACKHOE REPAIR & REPLACEMENT Equipment Loan Payments \$24,576.29
4903-001-40-0048 Equipment Loan Payments
Brad Daniels, Surveyor, explained they purchased a backhoe in 2023, after budget approval. They need the money now to cover loan payments for this purchase. Faron Parr made a motion to approve the additional. Dave Haines seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

READACTION FUND Professional Services \$1,560.00
4916-001-30-0148 Professional Services
The Recorder is requesting an additional to pay for redaction services from their current software vendor, CSI. Dave Haines made a motion to approve the additional. Jeanne Houchins seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

HOMELAND SECURITY Equipment \$9800.00
8111-001-40-0022 Equipment
Samantha Rhodahamel, EMA director, requested an additional for a grant fund used to purchase pediatric kits. The kits are used during disaster training exercises for pediatric emergencies. The money has already been spent, but an additional is needed now that the state has reimbursed. Cindy Bracy made a motion to approve the request. Faron Parr seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

HMEP GRANT 20.703 Training \$12,849.98
8116-001-30-0028 Training
Samantha Rhodahamel, EMA director, requested an additional for a grant funds used for HAZMAT awareness and propane training of first responders. Jeanne Houchins made a motion to approve the request. Cindy Bracy seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

TITLE IV-E REIMBURSEMENT Pauper Counsel \$1,460.00
8891-001-30-0087 Pauper Counsel
Brandon Murphy, Chief Public Defender, requested an additional for reimbursement funds that they receive yearly. The funds will be used to pay for various office expenses. Faron Parr made a motion to approve the additional from the Title IV-E Reimbursement fund. Dave Haines seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

ARP- 2021 Professional Services \$1,100.03
8950-001-30-0148 Professional Services
An additional appropriation for Professional Services to pay RFA, Rundell Ernstberger & Associates, was presented to council for their approval of their most recent invoice. The services are related to the 68-acre project. Faron Parr made a motion to approve the additional appropriation from ARP. Jeanne Houchins seconded the motion and the motion passed by majority vote with Harold Towell & Cindy Bracy voting against the motion.

TRANSFERS
Brandon Murphy, chief public defender, requested several budget transfers to cover changes he is planning to the current budget. In July, a public defender left to accept the position as Chief Public Defender in Blackford County. He would like to eliminate the position and divide the case load amongst the remaining employees. If there is a need for an additional person, they could utilize pauper counsel funds to hire another defender on an hourly basis. Mrs. Bracy questioned the current average caseload. Mr. Murphy could not estimate the number but believed it to be approximately 80-90% of the criminal defendants in the county. He went on to explain each defender is allowed to have 100-120 cases per year, with an estimated 500-700 criminal cases in the county per year. Mr. Minnich questioned if there is a correlation between the salary of each public defender and the number of cases they represent. Mr. Murphy explained the minimum salary for a full caseload public defender is \$80,000. He is

requesting \$85,000 for two max caseload defenders based on their experience and the number of cases they handle. There is currently one defender that is already taking on the max case load with a current salary of \$80,175.16.

1000-202-10-0090 Public Defender (Asst. Public Def. wages) to 1000-202-10-0139 (Asst. FT Public Def. wages) \$2,412.42..

1000-202-10-0090 Public Defender (Asst. Public Def. wages) to 1000-202-30-0087 (Pauper Counsel) \$18,000.00.

1000-202-10-0090 Public Defender (Asst. Public Def. wages) to 1000-202-10-0048 (Public Def. wages) \$5,345.00.

Jeanne Houchins made a motion to approve the transfers as presented. Faron Parr seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

Sheriff Ray Newton asked council for approval to transfer funds in the current budget to cover employee over-time through the end of 2024. The jail has been short staffed, mainly corrections officers, and have been required to cover shifts using employees, including merit officers, more than their regular work schedule. Council approved his requests, a total of \$50,000, as follows:

1000-380-10-0016 Jail (Cooks) to 1000-380-10-0022 (Other Comp) \$7,500.00

1000-380-10-0140 Jail (Jail Maintenance/FT) to 1000-380-10-0022 (Other Comp) \$5,529.60

1000-380-10-0135 Jail (FT Security) to 1000-380-10-0022 (Other Comp) \$6,339.20

1000-380-10-0112 Jail (Jail Sergeant) to 1000-380-10-0022 (Other Comp) \$19,588.80

1000-380-10-0114 Jail (Jailers) to 1000-380-10-0022 (Other Comp) \$11,042.40

Jeanne Houchins made a motion to approve all five transfers for the jail. Dave Haines seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

Heath Butz, Health Department administrator, asked council to approve a transfer funds for part time wages and operating supplies. The transfers will be used to pay part time help that is needed due to an increased amount of work from the loss of an employee. The department also needs to purchase programming supplies in order to meet health first funding guidelines.

1161-001-10-0142 Local Public Health Fund (Health Educator) to 1161-001-20-0048 (operating supplies) \$1,000.

1161-001-10-0143 Local Public Health Fund (School Liaison) to 1161-001-20-0048 (operating supplies) \$14,000.

1161-001-10-0142 Local Public Health Fund (Health Educator) to 1161-001-10-0083 (wages-part time) \$8,000.

Faron Parr made a motion to approve all Health Public Safety transfers. Cindy Bracy seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

1000-201-10-0039 County General (Wages-Overtime) to 1000-201-10-0064 (Translator) \$1,750.00 was requested. This amount is needed to cover an upcoming trial in October that will require a translator services. Jeanne Houchins made a motion to approve the request. Dave Haines seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

SUNCHIEF SOLAR-SCOUT

Spencer Micali, Associate Project Manager and Mark Wengierski, Vice President of development, both from Scout Clean Energy, came to council to give an update regarding the Sun Chief Solar project, located in Jay County. Mr. Micali explained Scout Clean Energy is the leading US renewable energy developer with more than 150 full-time employees across the country and is based in Boulder, Colorado. They currently have 1400 megawatts of projects in operation or under construction including the Bitter Ridge Windfarm, that is located in southwest Jay County. The Sun Chief Solar project is a 100 mega-watt solar farm, that is located 70% in Jefferson Township and 30% in Richland Township and was originally permitted in November 2021. Scout is planning to utilize existing transmission lines as during the installation of the Bitter Ridge project, they purposely oversized the overhead transmission lines next to the Jay substation and are anticipating no issues in connecting.

Mr. Micali noted that they are exceeding the mandated setbacks that have been set by the county through ordinance. The project will have a split season construction schedule that will begin in summer and scale back in the winter. Construction would then begin in the spring and complete the following summer. During construction there will be approximately 100-150 workers on site. Following construction, they plan to have up to two full-time employees on site during operations, doing general maintenance, cleaning, and assisting with sheep grazing vegetative land management. He stated the company will be investing roughly \$100,000,000 towards this project as stated in their SB-1.

Lastly, the interconnection process with PJM was discussed. PJM is the regional transmission operator whose alteration of procedures has caused significant delays. All planned projects have now been divided and routed into one of three groups: Fast track, transition cycle 1 and transition cycle 2. The Sun Chief Solar project does fall into the fast-track route and is expected to receive initial approval August 30, 2024. After confirmation from PJM, a facilities study would be completed by March 1, 2025. They are hoping to have an interconnection service agreement towards May 15, 2025. In the current economic development agreement, the project is expected to begin by December 31, 2024 and be completed by December 31, 2025. Due to delays, they would like to alter their abatement documents to start construction no later than December 31, 2026, and a completion date of no later than December 31, 2027. The timeline extension in the EDA does go beyond the proposed project schedule, beginning construction in the summer 2025 and reaching commercial operations by the summer 2026, but allows for any future unanticipated delays. The extension will ensure that this will be the only amendment to the EDA. Scout is requesting a two-year extension that will require the council and commissioners to approve an amended EDA & SB-1. They plan to present the amendment for approval at September 2024 council meeting.

SHERIFF

Larry "Ray" Newton, sheriff, came to the council to discuss a change to his Trustee from CoAmerica to Baird Trust. This will be a savings to the county of approximately \$4,000 annually. The merit board would like to change the vesting time from 10 years of service, to 20 years of service. They believe this will help with retention of employees. Mr. Newton presented three documents for approval that include the trust agreement, supplementary trust agreement, and the vesting documents. This change has already been approved by the pension board, but requires council's approval. The finalized documents will be sent to McCreedy and Keene. Mr. Newton also informed the council they recently discovered CoAmerica was paying a benefit to the spouse of a deceased member for several months in error. The roughly \$11,000 has been returned, but CoAmerica had no intention of trying to getting the money back for the county. County attorney, Wes Schemenaur, has already reviewed the agreements. Dave Haines made a motion to approve the change from CoAmerica to Baird Trust and increase the vesting time from 10 years to 20 years. Jeanne Houchins seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

JAY COUNTY FAIR BOARD

Aaron Loy, President of the Jay County Fair Board, came to council with an EDIT funding request for 2025. The board is requesting \$26,050 that will be used to help pay for the cost of insurance at the Jay County Fair Grounds. He explained by paying for the insurance, they could use other budgeted funds to pay for infrastructure projects such as replacing and fixing water lines, upgrading electrical, drainage and water issues, correcting safety issues. He told the council the proceeds from the 2024 county fair were approximately \$53,000, which is higher than normal. He explained that although the fair was exceptional compared to the seven year average of \$36,000, the cost in other areas has increased considerably. Since 2018, the utility costs have increased from \$59,000 to

\$95,000 annually. The cost of insurance has also increased from \$29,000 to \$44,000. He believes that without support from outside groups, they will be unable to keep the facilities that they currently have.

Mr. Loy has consulted with other counties around the state and found that a majority of them receive assistance from their local government in different ways. There are some counties who budget annual amounts for non-specific uses. He explained budgeting the money this way could be useful as match dollars towards potential grants. Mr. Loy introduced Caden, who was an intern for the fair this year. Although, he is not from the county, he wanted to give his support for the Jay County Fair. He spoke highly of Jay County's fair and fairgrounds, especially compared to others across the state.

Lastly, Mr. Loy clarified they were not asking for a decision on funding today, but wanted the council to understand why they might in the future. He explained the fair has received other funding in the past from the county, but only receives \$1,500 annually through the commissioner's budget. He asked they consider funding more annually to allow them to maintain facilities regularly and do more planning. Cindy Bracy questioned what portion of the fairgrounds is owned by the county. Mr. Loy explained the county owned the original 40 acres that encompasses from Votaw street to the 4-H area, which includes almost all the buildings on the grounds. Mrs. Loy explained the board has had to donate time and resources for many things in order to save money. While they could not give an estimate of the number of hours or equipment they have had to donate, the council encouraged them to keep track of their time to help towards any potential grants in the future. Mr. Towell added the fair brings money into the county, and should receive more than \$1,500. Mr. Loy assured the council that giving the fair more funding would come back to the county in a positive way.

CIRCUIT BREAKER REVIEW

Emily Franks, auditor, gave council information from DLGF to the council regarding estimated circuit breaker changes for 2025 budget. The council is required by statute to review the estimated circuit breaker and the impact it will have to all units. Council reviewed the DLGF estimated levy amounts as well as the DLGF estimated circuit breaker impact upon all county taxing units. The units analyzed were: Jay County, Bearcreek Township, Greene Township, Jackson Township, Jefferson Township, Knox Township, Madison Township, Noble Township, Penn Township, Pike Township, Richland Township, Wabash Township, and Wayne Township. Also, the Town of Pennville, City of Dunkirk, Town of Bryant, Town of Salamonia, Town of Redkey, and the City of Portland. Furthermore, the levy and circuit breaker amount for the Jay County Public Library, Penn Township Library, Dunkirk Library, the Jay County School Corporation, and Jay County Solid Waste District (though there were none levied against this non-tax-based unit) were discussed. Faron Parr made a motion to make no recommendation to those units regarding the circuit breaker impacts. Dave Haines seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

PROPOSED LIT RATE

Emily Franks, auditor, explained to the council following the July 29th ARP meeting, she notified all units of the non-binding increase to the LIT economic development rate and also included an increase the public safety rate and a lower levy freeze rate. The inclusion of the public safety rate would allow for other potential funding options for the countywide radio project. As noticed it would increase the rate to the maximum allowable of 2.5%. This increase would change the public safety rate from .2% to .4%, the economic development rate from .25% to .5% and decrease the levy freeze rate from .25% to .2%. The DLGF has yet to release their LIT estimates for 2025.

Ms. Franks was unsure about the decrease to the levy freeze rate and as it is dependent upon receiving the 2025 estimates. She would like the council to look at purposely underfunding the rate in order to utilize the stabilization fund. It is projected to have a 2024 ending balance of \$5,000,000 which would allow for a 20-year relief before changing the rate again. Mr. Minnich questioned what expenses were currently being paid out of the public safety fund. Ms. Franks explained the fund is under the sheriff's budget and is currently budgeted for the sheriff's salary, six correction officers, 3 merit deputies, and pays for 2-3 vehicles annually. She added she will need to know by September 18, 2024 if council would like to continue to move forward with the changes. If so, she will submit the advertising and noticing for a public hearing at the October council meeting.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE UPDATE

Council discussed the recommendations from the recent personnel committee meeting. The public defender's request was discussed with Wes Schemenaur, that this request is for this year and that the budget for next year will not be amended. Mr. Murphy requested the salary be approved retroactive to July 1, 2024 and no increase for each salary for the 2025 budget. This would require an amendment to the salary ordinance. No amendment was prepared as the request was denied by the personnel committee. Jeanne Houchins made motion to approve their request effective July 1, 2024. Faron Parr seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

The personnel committee recommended to the council they approve \$55,000 for the retirement center director's salary. The current salary for the part-time director is \$23,777 with a budgeted \$30,900 for 2024. Matt Minnich stated the requested amount is close to the average pay for directors in other facilities in Indiana and other county department heads. The current budget will not increase, as they would like to combine the salary of another position, the finance coordinator, and the current director salary. They are hoping to fill the position as full-time once the new salary is approved. Harold Towell expressed disagreement with this decision and believed the council should look at ways to reduce the budget. Cindy Bracy felt that with better management, they would see a positive change for the facility. After further discussion, Mr. Minnich requested a quarterly update from the Jay County Country Living Advisory Board of Directors. Faron Parr made motion to approve the change to full time for \$55,000. Jeanne Houchins seconded the motion and the motion passed by majority vote with Harold Towell voting against the motion. Mr. Parr added that the Country Living facility is a service for the county and that he felt that the pay is what keeping the facility from being a success.

At their last meeting, council voted to accept a new job description of assistant highway superintendent and set the salary at \$52,757.00. The matter was asked to be looked at again by the department as the position would not be making more than the road foreman, and would be overseeing them. The personnel committee reviewed and recommended the salary for the position be set at \$58,000, just above the road foreman of \$56,243.00. Jeanne Houchins made motion to approve the recommendation and set the salary at \$58,000 to be effective the beginning the next pay period, paid out on the first pay being September 6, 2024. Faron Parr seconded the motion and the motion passed by majority vote with Harold Towell voting against the motion.

Council reviewed a personnel committee recommendation for both the Clerk and the Auditor. County Clerk, Jon Eads currently serves as a voter registration clerk. Effective July 1, 2024, per state HEA 1328, when a county clerk also serves as a voter registration clerk, they are entitled to a stipend not to exceed \$2500. The stipend will only be paid on the even numbered years and would continue for future clerks. Jay County Auditor, Emily Franks, also requested a stipend that would be paid each year per HEA 1328. She originally submitted the \$2,500 request to the personnel committee in June and has it requested in her 2025 budget. She presented council with a list of all the additional duties. She explained the stipend would be for the 67.5% increase in meetings over the last 2 1/2 years. A list of duties for before, during and after meetings was read with her estimating at least one day of work per each meeting. The extra meetings represent an additional 5-6 weeks' worth of work annually. Mr. Eads stated that the \$2,500 can be transferred to cover this year's budget and that he would not need to request additional funds. Faron Parr made motion to approve the stipend pay request for both the Clerk and Auditor. Jeanne Houchins seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Lastly, council discussed wage changes for the 2025 budget. The personnel committee recommended all employees to be paid based on the WIS external midpoint recommendations. For the employees that are already at the recommended external midpoint, they

would like to give a 2% increase. Ms. Franks presented 2025 budget estimates with a brief overview of balances in different funds. Due to the short timeline between meetings, the projections include WIS recommendations with a 3% for other employees. She also explained the potential impact to the county regarding salary changes based on the recommendation of WIS midpoints, department requests, and personnel committee. Ms. Franks provided council with a copy of Ordinance 2016-11 which lays out specific steps regarding new position requests or amending existing positions. She asked the county to adhere or revise the ordinance moving forward. Mr. Minnich added he believed due to all the changes that have been made to the pay scale should be reviewed and bring divided levels within each classification back together. Council took no action on any of these matters.

COUNTYWIDE RADIO UPGRADE


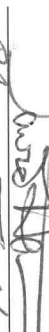



Ms. Franks asked for direction on advertising an additional appropriation for the Ritter Strategic Services phase 2 study for the countywide radio project in the amount of \$178,500. While the council had discussed the project being paid for out of ARP monies, the first study was paid out of Economic Development Windfarm. Mrs. Bracy believed ARP funds would be best due to timeframe. Cindy Bracy made motion to pay for the Ritter Strategic Services phase 2 from ARP funds. Jeanne Houchins seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

With no further business for the council Faron Parr made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Dave Haines seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 7:59 p.m.


JAY COUNTY COUNCIL

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ATTEST:



JAY COUNTY AUDITOR