

with MSS Engineering for plans for a new public safety building. Chad Aker seconded the motion and the motion passed by majority vote, with Duane Monroe dissenting.

OTHER BUSINESS

The claims docket for August was presented for commissioner approval. Doug Horn made a motion to approve the claim docket as presented. Duane Monroe seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

The payroll docket was presented for commissioner approval. Duane Monroe made a motion to approve the payroll docket as presented. Doug Horn seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

Emergency claims related to the Owner-Occupied Rehab Program were presented for commissioner approval including: three claims to Mooreland Roofing for \$6,500, \$12,250, and \$13,590 and a claim to Fortitude for \$1,500. Doug Horn made a motion to approve the claims as presented. Duane Monroe seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

The commissioners received notice the county had been approved for the IGIO SEED Grant related to NG911 Consulting. The grant would cover costs up to 30,000, with an agreement with Schneider Geospacial to complete the work on behalf of the county. Doug Horn made a motion to approve the agreement as presented. Duane Monroe seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

With no further business, Doug Horn made a motion to adjourn at 11:22 a.m.; Duane Monroe seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

JAY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Chad Aker

Duane Monroe

Doug Horn

Attest:

Jay County Auditor

SEPTEMBER 8, 2025

The Jay County Commissioners met in session on Monday, September 8, 2025 at 9:00. a.m. in the courthouse auditorium. Attending was Doug Horn, Duane Monroe, auditor Emily Franks, attorney Wes Schemenaur, and Chad Aker, president. Duane Monroe made a motion to approve the minutes from the joint session on August 13, 2025 and the regular session from August 25, 2025. Doug Horn seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Heath Butz, administrator, came to the commissioners for acceptance of a \$50 gift card donation to the health department. Duane Monroe made a motion to accept the \$50 donation as presented. Doug Horn seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote. Their contract for the Health Bioterrorism Coordinator will need to have the county required contractual language added and will be presented at the next meeting. Lastly, Mr. Butz asked for permission to pay fees to Wex Bank including a \$75 late fee and a \$50 reactivation fee due to a payment lost in the mail. Doug Horn made a motion to approve the late fees while the department work on trying to get a credit back to the account. Duane Monroe seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Samantha Rhodehamel, director, came to the commissioners to give a quarterly update on operations. She will be closing out the HMEP grant in the next month and was approved by IGIO for the SEED grant related to 911 updates to the county GIS. Their salary reimbursement grant should be awarded soon. A list if meetings attended and upcoming was presented to the commissioners along with thanks from the district six head veterinarian for their work with the bird flu outbreak. Mr. Monroe suggested the county be notified of the proposed routes ahead of implementation, if there is another outbreak.

COUNTYWIDE RADIOS

Barry Ritter, owner Ritter Strategic Services, came to the commissioners to discuss the countywide radio project. Mr. Ritter had met with the City of Portland and the county highway regarding the needs for their department which has changed some of the equipment quoted. The highway amended their request from 50 radios down to 25 mobile radios for each employee instead of every piece of equipment. City of Portland would like to add additional radios for the police department but lowered the request to one console for their dispatch. The estimated total cost of equipment came in at about \$1.4 million.

Mr. Aker questioned if the county could save any money by not activating the LTE feature or purchasing a lower grade of radio. Prash, a representative from Motorola, explained the additional discounts provided to the county by going with the higher tier radio made the cost roughly the same. However, the county would be able to turn the LTE feature on or off and explained the benefit of a standardized platform across the fleet. Mr. Ritter also explained the county would be agreeing to the project ahead of any interlocal agreements with outside departments.

The topic of a centralized dispatch was briefly discussed, but was explained it was a separate conversation from the radio project. Mr. Ritter explained 911 centers in Indiana were consolidated back in 2014 with the sheriff's office being the one 911 PSAP for the county. Portland Police department has a dispatch center for their police only, and do not take 911 calls. If it is a call for service in Portland proper, it is transferred to Portland by the county. However, important data is lost during that transfer. After raising those concerns to the sheriff's department, they have changed the policy for those calls where they are notified and dispatched. The city of Portland has the ultimate say in whether their dispatch continues. Mr. Aker wanted everyone to have the information as the new system would be the best time for consolidation and for everyone to understand the county's responsibility.

Duane Monroe made a motion to proceed with Motorola, pending financial approval by county council. Doug Horn seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

HIGHWAY

Robert Howell, superintendent, came to the commissioners to give a monthly update on operations. They are continuing to dig soft spots on conversion roads and mowing around culverts and signs. Truck 111 is scheduled to go Oregon, Illinois to Emyre for uplift of the new distributor tank. The repair work on Bridge #113 on 600 W between SR 26 and 200 N was started today. The road will be closed until further notice. They estimate CivilCon will be there to install on Thursday, but must wait for the guardrail to be installed before reopening the road.

They will be applying Bridge #64 for federal funding in December with help from SJCA. SJCA Task Order #2 was presented for commissioner approval. Duane Monroe made a motion to approve Task Order #2 as presented. Doug Horn seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote. The commissioners also approved Mr. Howell to take a dump truck to the Westminster daycare on September 18th, 2025 from 3-5 p.m. for their touch a truck event. A utility ROW on 400 S between Industrial Park Road and 1100 W and then two on 1100 W was presented to commissioners for approval. More details were requested from the commissioners before approval.

COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTER RENT

The rent for the office at the community resource building with the City of Portland was discussed. It is possible JCDC will need the office for their community developer position, but not until after the first of the year. The county has office equipment in the room that they would not need if they move forward with renting the space. The commissioners will revisit the matter in December, but will continue to pay the rent per the contract.

OPIOID SETTLEMENT- PURDUE PHARMA

A Purdue Pharma Bankruptcy plan related to the opioid settlement was brought to the county from attorneys Cohen and Malad. Doug Horn made a motion to approve and sign the documents as presented. Duane Monroe seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

JAY COUNTY REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Ted Champ submitted his resignation from the Jay County Redevelopment Commission effective September 4, 2025. Duane Monroe suggested the appointment of Jeff Bailey for the remainder of the year. Chad Aker asked for himself to be appointed to the commission as he is already up to date on the process and current projects. Doug Horn understood the benefit of being up to speed, but saw the benefit in other opinions. Doug Horn made a motion to appoint Jeff Bailey to the Jay County Redevelopment Commission for the remainder of 2025. Duane Monroe seconded the motion and the motion passed by majority vote.

LETTER OF SUPPORT

Mercer County commissioners asked the Jay County commissioner to sign a letter of to request the USDA's assistance and to study drone activity over livestock activities in West Central Ohio and East Central Indiana. Doug Horn made a motion to approve and sign the letter of support as presented. Duane Monroe seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

OTHER BUSINESS

The payroll docket was presented for commissioner approval. Duane Monroe made a motion to approve the payroll docket as presented. Doug Horn seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

The Jay County Country Living Report for August was presented for commissioners' approval. Doug Horn made a motion to approve the report as presented. Duane Monroe seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

The clerk's report for August was presented for commissioners' approval. Doug Horn made a motion to approve the report as presented. Duane Monroe seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

The treasurer's report for August was presented for commissioners' approval. Doug Horn made a motion to approve the report as presented. Duane Monroe seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

A claim to MSS Engineering for \$33,570 as a downpayment for work on the proposed public safety building was presented for commissioner approval. The claim would be paid pending council approval of a transfer in infrastructure. Doug Horn made a motion to approve the claim as presented. Chad Aker seconded the motion and the motion passed by majority vote, with Duane Monroe voting against the motion.

Emergency claims related to the Owner-Occupied Rehab Program were presented for commissioner approval including: All Circuit Electrical LLC for \$13,625, Dave's Heating & Cooling LLC for \$13,904, Fortitude Consulting LLC for \$21,980, Mustard Seed Remodeling for \$21,988.63, Mustard Seed Remodeling for \$6,668.70, Dave's Heating & Cooling LLC for \$260, All Circuit Electrical LLC for \$8,035.88, Mooreland Roofing & Construction LLC for \$2,900, Mooreland Roofing & Construction LLC for \$9,414, Mustard Seed Remodeling

for \$5,520.02, Moorland Roofing & Construction LLC for \$12,400. Doug Horn made a motion to approve the claims as presented. Duane Monroe seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

With no further business, Doug Horn made a motion to adjourn at 10:20 a.m.; Duane Monroe seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

JAY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Chad Aker

Duane Monroe

Doug Horn

Attest: *Emily Franks*
Jay County Auditor

SEPTEMBER 8, 2025 EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Jay County Commissioners met in session on Monday, September 8, 2025 at 10:20. a.m. in the courthouse auditorium. Attending was Doug Horn, Duane Monroe, auditor Emily Franks, attorney Wes Schemenaur, and Chad Aker, president, presiding. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss Initiation of litigation or litigation that is either pending or has been threatened specifically in writing per (IC 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(2)(B) and to discuss a job performance evaluation, employee specific compensation, or employment matters of individual employees per (IC 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(9).

The meeting was adjourned at 10:52 a.m.

JAY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Chad Aker

Duane Monroe

Doug Horn

Attest: *Emily Franks*
Jay County Auditor