

**DECEMBER 10<sup>TH</sup>, 2025**

The Jay County Council met in session on Wednesday, December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2025, at 6:00 PM, in the auditorium at the Jay County Courthouse. Attending was Randy May, Faron Parr, Harold Towell, Cindy Bracy, auditor Emily Franks, county attorney Wes Schemenaur and Matt Minnich, president presiding. Absent were council members Michael Brewster and Bryan Alexander. Cindy Bracy made a motion to approve the minutes from November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025 meeting. Faron Parr seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

**ADDITIONALS**

**COUNTY GENERAL**

1000.12200.00000.0005	Sheriff- Wages Other Compensation	\$46,754.41
1000.11300.00000.0006	Surveyor- Wages Second Deputy	\$35,000.00
1000.16300.00000.0161	Courthouse- Wages Part Time Custodian	\$9.41
1000.14502.00000.0622	Retirement Center- Incentive Pay	\$5,000.00

Faron Parr made a motion to approve all additional appropriations for county general as presented. Randy May seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

**LIT - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

1112.32310.00000.0000	West Jay Community Center	\$17,000.00
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The additional appropriation was in relation to four new furnaces for the community center. They would like to pay it ahead of the 2026 budget. Harold Towell made a motion to approve the additional as presented. Cindy Bracy seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

**HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT - MVH**

1176.14900.00000.0533	Employer- Group Health Insurance	\$22,000.00
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The additional appropriation was due to two additional employees taking the insurance in 2025. Faron Parr made a motion to approve the additional appropriation as presented. Cindy Bracy seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

**OPIOID UNRESTRICTED FUNDS**

1238.31970.00000.0000	A Better Life/Brianna's Hope	\$25,000.00
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The additional appropriation requested was for A Better Life. Brianna's Hope to use towards their new ROKU channel created based on their podcast. Cindy Bracy made a motion to approve the additional appropriation as presented. Faron Parr seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

**FIREARMS FUND**

4906.21800.00000.0000	Ammunition, Flares	\$2,000.00
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The additional appropriation was requested to purchase Taser cartridges for the sheriff's department. Faron Parr made a motion to approve the additional appropriation as presented. Cindy Bracy seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

**Hazard Materials Grant**

8116.32800.00000.0000	Training	\$18,100.00
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The additional appropriation was presented from Emergency Management for the Hazardous Materials Grant. Faron Parr made a motion to approve the additional appropriation as presented. Cindy Bracy seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

**Multi Hazard Mitigation Grant**

8118.32700.00000.0000	Training	\$4,860.00
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The additional appropriation was presented from Emergency Management for the Multi Hazard Mitigation Grant. Cindy Bracy made a motion to approve the additional appropriation as presented. Faron Parr seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

**Owner Occupied Rehab Grant**

8127.31480.00000.0000	Professional Services	\$12,380.19
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The additional appropriation presented was needed to appropriate the money from homeowners who paid monies to cover amounts over \$25,000. Cindy Bracy made a motion to approve the additional appropriation as presented. Faron Parr seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

**ARP-2021 CLFRF**

8950.31480.00000.0000	Professional Services- Ritter	\$79,300.00
8950.42000.00000.0000	Financial Software	\$9,300.00

The additional appropriation presented was to cover Ritter Strategic Services invoice #202309 and #202296 for the countywide radio project. The financial software would be to cover 2026, which comes with a \$10,500 discount if paid early. Cindy Bracy made a motion to approve the additional appropriations for ARPA as presented. Faron Parr seconded the motion and the motion passed by majority vote with Harold Towell voting against the motion.

**2025 Community Crossings Grant**

9119.43200.00000.0000	Bridge Repair	\$768,750.00
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An additional appropriation for the 2025 Community Crossings Grant was presented for approval. Faron Parr made a motion to approve the additional appropriation as presented. Cindy Bracy seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

**Transfers:**

1000.12500.00000.0005 Co. General- Sheriff, Wages-Deputies to Wages SRO (13400) \$120.00  
1000.21500.00000.0005 Co. General- Sheriff, Reserve Uniforms to Telephone (32600) \$2,000  
1000.21100.00000.0005 Co. General- Sheriff, Office Supplies to Telephone (32600) \$1,000  
1000.21800.00000.0005 Co. General- Sheriff, Ammunition & Flares, to Telephone (32600) \$950.45  
1000.22200.00000.0005 Co. General- Sheriff, Gas, Lube and Oil to Contractual Services (32700) \$7,800  
1000.21700.00000.0005 Co. General- Sheriff Tires to Equipment Repair (31600) \$5,000

Faron Parr made a motion to approve the Sheriff transfer total of \$16,870.45. Cindy Bracy seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

1000.11401.00000.0380 Co General- Jail Wages-Jailers to Wages- Other Compensation (12200) \$7,000  
1000.11190.00000.0380 Co. General- Jail, Wages Communications officer to Wages Other Comp (12200) \$20,000

1000.11201.00000.0380 Co. General- Jail Wages- Jail Sergeants to Wages- Other Compensation (12200) \$10,000  
1000.11401.00000.0380 Co. General- Jail, Wages Jailers to Wages Other Compensation (12200) \$10,000  
1000.32380.00000.0380 Co. General- Jail, Jail Meal Contract to Medical & Hospital Supplies (24000) \$10,000  
Harold Towell made a motion to approve the Jail transfer total of \$57,000. Faron Parr seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

1000.16100.00000.0068 Co. General- Commissioners Unemployment to Insurance-Bldg, Liab, Vehicles (36800) \$10,000  
1000.11800.00000.0068 Co. General- Commissioners Employer PERF to Insurance Bldg Liab Vehicles (36800) \$20,000  
1000.12200.00000.0068 Co. General- Commissioners Other Comp to Insurance Bldg, Liab Vehicles (36800) \$6,000  
Faron Parr made a motion to approve the Commissioner transfer total of \$36,000. Cindy Bracy seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

1000.38400.00000.0161 Co. General- Courthouse, Repair Building & Structures to Wages-Overtime (13900) \$1000  
Cindy Bracy made a motion to approve the Courthouse transfer total of \$1,000. Faron Parr seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

1000.11600.00000.0544 Co. General- Cemetery, Clerical to Maintenance of Cemetery Stones (39400) \$601.64  
1000.21100.00000.0544 Co. General- Cemetery, Office Supplies to Maint. Of Cemetery Stones (39400) \$75  
Cindy Bracy made a motion to approve the Cemetery total of \$676.64. Faron Parr seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

1151.13900.00000.0000 JEMS, Wages-Overtime to Wages EMS Reserves (19500) \$52,916.12  
1151.22200.00000.0000 JEMS, Gas, Lube & Oil to Wages- EMS Reserves (19500) \$24,000  
Faron Parr made a motion to approve the JEMS transfer total of \$76,916.12. Randy May seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

1236.19400.00000.0000 LIT\_ EMS Wages Paramedics to Wages- Overtime (13900) \$38,000  
1236.19400.00000.0000 LIT-EMS Wages- Paramedics to Wages- Shift Supervisors (13201) \$11,000  
1236.19400.00000.0000 LIT\_EMS Wages-Paramedics to Wages- EMTS (19300) \$13,000

Faron Parr made a motion to approve the LIT EMS transfer total of \$62,000. Randy May seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

1181.11202.00000.0000 Plat Book- Wages Deputy EGIS to 39 Degrees North Contract (31610) \$7,154  
Cindy Bracy made a motion to approve the Plat Book transfer as presented. Faron Parr seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

1000.18201.00000.0622 Co. General-Co Home Wages- Head Cooks/Activities to Wages- Part Time (11602) \$3,000  
1000.18300.00000.0622 Co. General-Co Home Wages- Housekeeper Supervisor to Wages- Part Time (11602) \$835.78  
1000.18500.00000.0622 Co. General-Co Home Wages- Repair & Maintenance to Wages- Part Time (11602) \$2,500  
1000.21700.00000.0622 Co. General-Co Home Tires to Wages- Part Time (11602) \$140.00  
1000.21900.00000.0622 Co. General-Co Home Other Garage & Motor Supplies to Wages- Part Time (11602) \$107.22  
1000.23601.00000.0622 Co. General-Co Home Building Materials & Supplies to Wages- Part Time (11602) \$289.98  
1000.24000.00000.0622 Co. General-Co Home Medical & Hospital Supplies to Wages- Part Time (11602) \$150.00  
1000.24100.00000.0622 Co. General-Co Home Household Supplies to Wages- Part Time (11602) \$1,086.96  
1000.24200.00000.0622 Co. General-Co Home Meals to Wages- Part Time (11602) \$4,691.35  
1000.24500.00000.0622 Co. General-Co Home Misc. Supplies to Wages- Part Time (11602) \$859.62  
1000.24600.00000.0622 Co. General-Co Home Water Softener Salt to Wages- Part Time (11602) \$600.23  
1000.31200.00000.0622 Co. General-Co Home Travel/Mileage to Wages- Part Time (11602) \$150.00  
1000.39500.00000.0622 Co. General-Co Home Medicaid Co-Payments to Wages- Part Time (11602) \$331.90  
Faron Parr made a motion to approve the County Home transfer total of \$14,743.04. Cindy Bracy seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

#### **JOURNEY HOME/COUNTY HOME**

Justin Lester, director of advancement, came to the council to discuss the possibility of using the county home facility. Mr. Lester explained Journey Home is an organization to prevent veteran homelessness. They also provide transportation of veterans to appointments, currently serving up to 25 veterans per week. The Veterans Administration had toured the facility and submitted a detailed report on items of concern, not recommending the facility for the potential location. However, Journey Home believes some items would be easy to remediate and would like the opportunity to continue to explore options. Some of the items mentioned included a structural engineer to review, an electrician to look at wiring, as well as fire specialist to review alarms and sprinklers. Lessor items included testing for lead paint, moisture testing in the basement and rodent control. All inspection costs would be the responsibility of Journey Home. Lastly, Mr. Lester would like to keep the facility as one plot of land, citing income from the facility in lieu of requesting money from the county. He will be sending the financials to the commissioners and council this week.

#### **REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION FUNDING REQUEST**

Members from the Jay County Redevelopment Commission had requested the county council and county commissioners vote as board on whether to request the commission allocate additional monies to the 68-acre project. The commissioners made no motion at their meeting on November 24, 2025 to request funds from the commission, then voted to rent the land out for 2026. Mr. Schemenaur explained if the parties were looking to mutually terminate the agreement, they could ask for further work from REA be paused until a final decision is reached. Mr. Monroe then mentioned a recent conversation with Baker Tilly regarding reallocating the ARP monies. Cindy Bracy made a motion to stop the 68-acre project.

Mr. Minnich informed members that the conversation included ways to recoup the monies. Mr. Schemenaur cautioned members about the risks of moving forward with the change, as the risk could not be quantified. As there is not currently a way for the county to receive approval from the treasury ahead of the change. Mr. Minnich also cautioned that the monies be spent on something the county would need in case it was required to be returned. Mr. Towell seconded the motion as presented. The motion was opened for discussion. Mr. Towell did not

believe the match money would be approved by the Jay County Redevelopment Commission. He added a housing project could be revisited with a different scope in the future. Mr. May did not like the idea of terminating the project but believed that is where it was headed. Mr. Parr added it was a big dream project and would not like to jeopardize any of the other grants by terminating the project. Mrs. Bracy explained the READI 2.0 monies would be reallocated to another housing project. A vote was called for, with the motion passing by unanimous vote.

**2026 SALARY ORDINANCE**

A 2026 Salary Ordinance was presented for council approval. The salary ordinance was approved in November but had the following changes. The first was to move the Retirement Center repair and maintenance position to the Commissioners as there will be no supervisor moving forward. Larry "Ray" Newton, sheriff, explained his request to have two courthouse security officers both at Civilian Pole B instead of a supervisor as Civilian Pole C and one position at Civilian Pole B. He stated that any managerial duties would be performed by his chief deputy. The supervisor position is currently open, which would maintain the current security officer's classification. The new officer would then start at the same rate. Cindy Bracy made a motion to approve the 2026 Salary Ordinance with the following changes. Faron Parr seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

With no further business for the council, Cindy Bracy made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Harold Towell seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote. The meeting was adjourned at 7:12 p.m.

**JAY COUNTY COUNCIL**

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ATTEST:   
JAY COUNTY AUDITOR