

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.

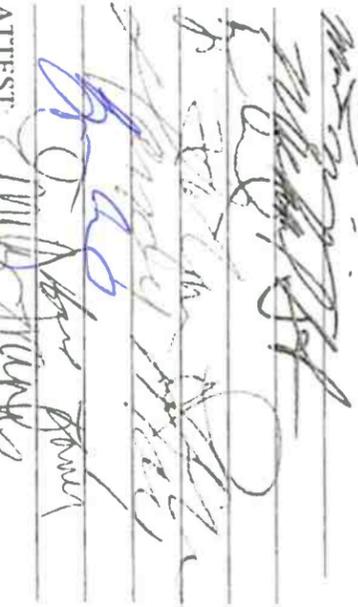
2026 SALARY ORDINANCE

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

JANUARY 14TH, 2026

The Jay County Council met in session on Wednesday, January 14th, 2026, at 6:00 PM, in the auditorium at the Jay County Courthouse. Attending was Randy May, Bryan Alexander, Michael Brewster, Faron Parr, auditor Emily Franks, county attorney Wes Schemenaur and Matt Minnich, president presiding. Cindy Bracy attended virtually and council member Harold Towell was absent. Bryan Alexander made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 10th, 2025 meeting. Michael Brewster seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken: Cindy Bracy voted aye, Randy May voted aye, Faron Parr voted aye, Michael Brewster voted aye, and Bryan Alexander voted aye, with 5 ayes and 0 nays the motion passed by unanimous vote.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Michael Brewster made a motion to retain Matt Minnich as president of the Jay County Council and Cindy Bracy as vice president of the Jay County Council in 2026. Faron Parr seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken: Cindy Bracy voted aye, Randy May voted aye, Faron Parr voted aye, Michael Brewster voted aye, and Bryan Alexander voted aye, with 5 ayes and 0 nays the motion passed by unanimous vote.

ENCUMBRANCES

An encumbrance for **1135.43200.00000 Cum Bridge Fund- Bridge Repair** in the amount of \$1,750 was presented for council approval. Bryan Alexander made a motion to approve the encumbrance as presented. Faron Parr seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken: Cindy Bracy voted aye, Randy May voted aye, Faron Parr voted aye, Michael Brewster voted aye, and Bryan Alexander voted aye, with 5 ayes and 0 nays the motion passed by unanimous vote.

An encumbrance for **1138.43900.00000 Cum Cap Development Fund- Highway Barn Repairs** in the amount of \$13,850 and the following from the Health Bioterrorism and Community Corrections Grants. Faron Parr made a motion to approve the remaining encumbrances as presented. Randy May seconded the motion and a roll call vote was taken. Cindy Bracy voted aye, Randy May voted aye, Faron Parr voted aye, Michael Brewster voted aye, and Bryan Alexander voted aye, with 5 ayes and 0 nays the motion passed by unanimous vote.

- 8109.11600.00000.0000 Health Bioterrorism Grant- Part time Clerk \$749.37
- 8109.11700.00000.0000 Health Bioterrorism Grant- Employer Social Security \$129.69
- 8109.10110.00000.0000 Health Bioterrorism Grant- Part Time Nurse \$744.40
- 8109.21100.00000.0000 Health Bioterrorism Grant- Office Supplies \$47.83
- 8109.24000.00000.0000 Health Bioterrorism Grant- Medical Supplies \$364.80
- 8109.31200.00000.0000 Health Bioterrorism Grant- Travel Expense \$389.84
- 8109.33600.00000.0000 Health Bioterrorism Grant- Printing & Advertising \$1,000
- 8109.34600.00000.0000 Health Bioterrorism Grant- Misc. Expense \$5,716.67
- 8109.31560.00000.0000 Health Bioterrorism Grant- Preparedness Coordinator \$7,800
- 8109.31130.00000.0000 Health Bioterrorism Grant- Equipment Maintenance Contract \$4,374.28
- 8109.42200.00000.0000 Health Bioterrorism Grant- Office Equipment \$222.08

- 9116.11700.00000.0000 2025 Community Corrections Grant- Social Security \$427.76
- 9116.11800.00000.0000 2025 Community Corrections Grant- Deputy Director \$2,766.40
- 9116.14806.00000.0000 2025 Community Corrections Grant- Director \$2,590.38

DEPARTMENTAL AND BOARD APPOINTMENTS

Matt Minnich presented the 2025 list of departmental and board appointments and asked if any changes would like to be made from the prior year. Bryan Alexander made a motion to approve all departmental appointments presented. Michael Brewster seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken: Cindy Bracy voted aye, Randy May voted aye, Faron Parr voted aye, Michael Brewster voted aye, and Bryan Alexander voted aye, with 5 ayes and 0 nays the motion passed by unanimous vote. The appointments are as follows for 2026:

Bryan Alexander:	Commissioners, Drainage Board, Infrastructure, Auditor, Courthouse
Harold Towell:	Sheriff, Jail, E911, County Corrections, JEMS, EMA, LEPC
Cindy Bracy:	Retirement Center, JCDC, Coroner, Veteran Service Officer, Cemetery
Michael Brewster:	Assessor, Board of Appeals, Reassessment, Recorder, Clerk, Elections, Treasurer
Faron Parr:	Cum Bridge, Cum Cap, Highway, LR & S, Surveyor, Backhoe Repair
Matt Minnich:	Building & Planning, Extension, Health, Health Maintenance, Health Bioterrorism
Randy May:	Circuit Court, Superior Court, Probation, Public Defender, Comm Corr, Prosecutor

BOARD APPOINTMENTS

Jay County Community Corrections Board:	Randy May
Jay County Cybersecurity Committee:	Michael Brewster
Jay County EDIT Advisory Committee:	Faron Parr, Harold Towell, Bryan Alexander, Michael Brewster
Jay County Development:	Cindy Bracy
Jay County Joint Zoning Board:	Faron Parr
Jay County Personnel Committee:	Matt Minnich, Cindy Bracy
Jay County Plan Commission:	Harold Towell, Chuck Huffman
Jay County Redevelopment Commission:	Randy May
Jay County Regional Sewer District:	Harold Towell, Cindy Bracy
Jay County Retirement Center Board:	Michael Brewster
Jay County Road Committee:	Harold Towell
Jay County Solid Waste District:	Faron Parr, Bryan Alexander
Jay County Tax Abatement Advisory Board:	Faron Parr, Bryan Alexander
Jay County Property Tax Assessment Board of Appeals (PTABOA), 2-year term,	Randy Geesaman and Kelly Herman.

JAY COUNTY DEVELOPMENT CORP.

Ceann Bales, director, introduced the council to the recently hired director of community development, Colby Cline. A quarterly update for October-December 2025 was provided to the council with projects worked on and metrics for the year. An East Central Indiana Wage and Benefit Analysis completed October 2025 was also provided to members. The average hourly wage in the region was \$27.08 for entry level, \$31.06 for average wage and \$34.16 for the highest wage. The largest proportion of employees were between the ages of 41 and 45 years old. Lastly, Mrs. Bales highlighted in the report concerns related to childcare availability in the area.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Erinly Franks, auditor, gave council members a financial report for fiscal year 2025 including totals for both budget and cash balances. The county overall ended strong in large part to the increase in income taxes, due to the large double filer in the prior year and bank interest. Those numbers have decreased for 2026 as expected. Ms. Franks informed council they would need to determine how much of the property tax replacement credit supplemental distribution should be used towards 2026 taxes. Due to Senate Enrolled Act One, taxes will be different from prior years for most people with some seeing increases and some decreases in their bills. Lastly, the current and upcoming LIT structure provided by the Association of Indiana counties' recent webinar was given to council members. Jay County was listed as receiving the biggest negative fiscal impact from the new structure, in some part due to the decrease from the large double tax filer. However, proposed legislation would see the already decreased amounts to the county be lowered further for other municipal units. She urged members to reach out to state legislative members to inform them of the negative fiscal impact of the decision on the county.

With no further business for the council, Faron Parr made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Randy May seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote. The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

JAY COUNTY COUNCIL

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NAY

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ATTEST: _____	_____

JAY COUNTY AUDITOR