SEPTEMBER 28TH, 2026

The Jay County Commissioners met in session on Monday, September 28th, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. in the courthouse auditorium. Attending was Doug Horn, Chad Aker, auditor Emily Franks, attorney Wes Schemenaur, and Duane Monroe president, presiding. Doug Horn made a motion to approve the minutes from September 14th, and September 17th, 2026. Chad Aker seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

HEALTH- BIOTERRORISM GRANT

Elasha Lennartz, administrator, came before commissioners to present the Preparedness Coordinator grant with Amy Blakley for the new grant cycle (July 1, 2026 -June 30, 2027). The total contract for the grant cycle is $16,800. Chad Aker made a motion to approve the contract as presented. Doug Horn seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

HIGHWAY

Bob Howell, superintendent, came before commissioners to discuss a few items. He first discussed the purchase of a roller that was not put into his plans for the budget for a total purchase price of $159,800. The department was looking at purchasing a dump truck and two pickup trucks. Instead, they would like to purchase a dump truck, one pickup truck and put a downpayment on the roller of around $28,000. The purchase and loan would be around January/February of 2027. Mr. Howell discussed the benefits of purchasing the roller including multiple uses and the elimination of rental costs which can be $1,800 for two days (including delivery). Chad Aker made a motion to allow him to move forward with the purchase pending budget approval from the council. Doug Horn seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

Mr. Howell then discussed transfer of vehicles and equipment between departments. They would like to go ahead and transfer a 2015 Ford F-250 to courthouse maintenance and take back their 2012 Ford F250. Doug Horn made a motion to approve the transfer of vehicles. Chad Aker seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote. The surveyor is also slated to transfer a pickup to the department once they receive their new vehicles next year. Mr. Howell requested to scrap their 1993 Ford Ranger. Chad Aker made a motion to approve scrapping of the vehicle. Doug Horn seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

Samantha Rhodehamel, EMA director, spoke regarding the highway's 2022 Cargo trailer. The Emergency Management and Health Department would like to consolidate down from their camper and cargo trailer to the one 20ft 2022 cargo trailer. The trailer would then be stored in their bay located in the annex. Chad Aker made a motion to approve the request as presented. Doug Horn seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

ECIRPD EDD DESIGNATION

East Central Indiana Regional Planning District submitted a letter of support they would like from commissioners to approve for them to become a federally recognized Economic Development District. Doug Horn made a motion to table the matter until the organization could be present to answer questions. Chad Aker seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

PROPOSED ZONING ORDINANCE

The commissioners received a favorable recommendation from the Jay County Plan Commission to consider an ordinance amending the Jay County Zoning& Subdivision Map at 7518 E SR 67 Bryant, between CR 700 E & CR 850 E, on the north side, parcel#38-04-09-300-007.003-032 from Commercial (COM) back to Agricultural Residential (AR). Chad Aker made a motion to set a hearing for October 13th, 2026 at 5:45 p.m. Doug Horn seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

SKYCREST SOLAR

Skycrest Solar presented commissioners with recommendations for two engineering firms, Westwood and Stantec, to come up with estimates for the decommissioning bond. The

commissioners must approve the engineers per the decommissioning agreement. Mr. Schemenaur explained that if the commissioners approved the engineers today, estimates would be presented at their October 26th meeting for approval of the bond amount. The bond would be put in place by November and would officially break ground in December. Doug Horn made a motion to approve the two engineers as presented. Chad Aker seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

JEMS

Gary Barnett, shift supervisor, came before commissioners and presented monthly financials including billing information. Attended a meeting a few weeks ago regarding District 6 and are working on a program to start carrying blood products. A proposed contract has been forwarded to the county attorney for review. If it all goes through, they will start carrying red blood cells and plasma next March. Chad Aker discussed getting Spillman on tablets and asked Mr. Barnett to look into getting quotes for new tablets.

OTHER BUSINESS

The claims docket for September was presented for commissioner approval. Doug Horn made a motion to approve the claims docket as presented. Chad Aker seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

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

Emergency Claims were presented for commissioner approval. The first from Goodhew Roofing for $23,500 related to roof repair at the retirement center and to Amy Blakely for $1,400 related to the Bioterrorism Coordinator grant. Doug Horn made a motion to approve the claims as presented. Chad Aker seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote. A final invoice to JH Consulting Inc for $3,920 related to the HMEP Grant. Chad Aker made motion to approve the claim as presented. Doug Horn seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

Doug Horn questioned where the commissioners could find the standards for animal control. Mr. Schemenaur would need to investigate statute but suggested the county might put out a request for proposals or qualifications for the first half of 2027. It would require the county to outline what would be necessary for the services. The commissioners asked Mr. Schemenaur to review the matter.

With no further business, Chad Aker made a motion to adjourn at 9:38 a.m; Doug Horn seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

JAY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Duane Monroe

Chad Aker

Doug Horn

Attest: **Jay County Auditor**

OCTOBER 7th, 2026

The Jay County Commissioners met in special session on Wednesday, October 7th, 2026, at 10:30 a.m. at Bridge #249 located at 800 S, East of 800 E. Attending was Doug Horn, Chad Aker, auditor Emily Franks, and Duane Monroe president, presiding. Also present was highway superintendent Bob Howell, assistant superintendent Stephanie Klarer, Road Foreman Spencer Patterson and United Consulting's Mike Campbell and Brian Frederick.

The purpose of the meeting was to review the task order provided by United Consulting. Mr. Frederick explained the task order was preliminary and included every potential cost associated with the bridge through post installation. They would need to complete a hydraulic study to determine the final size needed for the bridge. However, he explained the replacement bridge would need to be extended at least five feet on both ends to avoid the current substructure. Mr. Monroe expressed concern the bridge was designed to meet the max amount allowed for the Community Crossings Grant (CCMG) and not based on need.

A brief discussion was had regarding what items would likely be reduced in the task order. Mr. Monroe stated three quotes had been obtained for the project with two at a relatively similar price and one at roughly half the price. United Consulting asked to make sure the quotes were comparable, as mostly judgment was used in this stage. Mr. Aker agreed the county had a limited budget and would like to see the bridge built as required to replace the failing structure.

Mr. Howell suggested moving forward, firms visit the sites in person with the department before submitting paperwork. Ms. Klarer added they were trying to set a standard for bridges at 30 feet. The commissioners agreed it would be better for the county if they could maximize CCMG funds by completing a bridge and another project. It would most likely not cover two bridges but might include a paving or deck overlay project in conjunction with a bridge replacement.

Lastly, the topic of giving work to firms in a rotation was mentioned by Ms. Klarer. Mr. Monroe asked for quotes in the future as opposed to giving work based on a rotation. The matter was tabled for the highway department to review the other quotes and for United Consulting to review their current task order. With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

JAY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Duane Monroe

Chad Aker

Doug Horn

Attest: **Jay County Auditor**