

PIKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

REGULAR MEETING

JUNE 16, 2025 @ 8:30 am

Mark Flint  
Jeff Nelson  
Ryan Coleman

**1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

BOC President Mark Flint called the meeting to order. All Commissioners were present in addition to County Attorney Val Fleig, County Auditor Judith Gumbel, and County Administrator Kristi Dischinger. Others who were in the audience who signed in include Pike County Sheriff Jason McKinney, Chief Deputy Sheriff Dallas Killian, Pike County Coroner Nick Henson, Pike County Councilman Jon Craig, CEDA Coordinator Lindsey Denno, Assist EMS Director Doug Mounts, Jeff Davis Sr. , Jack Onyett, Highway Office Manager Melanie Britton, EMS Director Chris Young, County Prosecutor Darrin McDonald, Deputy Prosecutor Logan Tedrow, County Councilman Jeff Harting, Tara Lloyd and Press Dispatch Editor Sherri Griffin.

**2. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES JUNE 2, 2025**

President Flint asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes. Hearing none, he called for a motion to approve. Motion to approve was made by Commissioner Ryan Coleman and seconded by Commissioner Jeff Nelson. Motion passed 3 – 0.

**3. APPROVAL OF CLAIMS FOR JUNE 16, 2025**

President Flint asked if there were any questions or concerns regarding the claims. Hearing none, he called for a motion. Commissioner Coleman seconded by Commissioner Nelson motioned to approve the claims. Motion carried 3 – 0.

**4. OLD BUSINESS**

**a. Open RFPQ's Buffalo Trace Trail Project**

Only one response was received to the RFPQ advertised for the Buffalo Trace Trail Project. Therefore, the proposal was not scored. The responder was Garmong. This project is possible due to a 5-million-dollar unmatched grant. The RFQ invited qualified parties to submit proposals and statement of qualifications to design, construct, and maintain a 2.5-mile trail connecting to the 5-mile fitness path in Petersburg, Indiana. The bid was \$960,000. Ashley Willis with Pike County Growth Alliance stated that the price for the project is locked in and no change orders will be allowed. Commissioner Nelson asked if it was normal for this phase of the project to be 20% of the total project cost. Ms. Willis said that it was. President Flint asked if there was a motion to accept the Garmong bid for this phase of the project.

Commissioner Coleman seconded by Commissioner Flint motioned to approve the Garmong bid. The vote was 2 – 0 with Commissioner Nelson abstaining because one of the routes proposed for the trail goes through the back of his property.

**b. Prosecutor's Office Opioid Fund Request-RISE Peer Recovery**

### **i. Additional & MOU**

Prosecutor Darrin McDonald and Deputy Prosecutor Logan Tedrow presented the details as known of RISE Peer Recovery, a treatment plan for people recovering from addiction and substance abuse. RISE has operated in Daviess County for multiple years and has/is currently providing services at no cost to Pike County for 25 people. The project features a Peer Recovery Coach who is a successful recovering addict. This coach is available to the addict 24/7 to teach/help the addict navigate his/her treatment and recovery program.

The recidivism rate of previous Pike County treatment programs has been about 33%. In researching the options available in other counties, the Prosecutor learned that there are programs with a 14.5% or better recidivism rate. To achieve this, he realized that the County must do something different.

When looking at the current recidivism rate for the Pike County RISE participants, it is encouraging to note that it is only 5%. Prosecutor McDonald acknowledged that we were looking at a relatively short period of time.

Prosecutor McDonald's proposal is to use the \$80,000 plus that is currently in the County's Restrictive Opioid Fund 1237 to pay the cost of one RISE Peer Recovery Coach. The cost of one coach is \$75,000 for a year beginning August 1, 2025, to July 31, 2026. This is detailed in the MOU presented to the Commissioners.

An Additional Appropriation will have to be passed for use of the \$75,000 in Fund 1237, Opioid Restrictive to cover the first year of the program. There are multiple grants available for this programming. The Prosecutor's Office will seek these out as options to pay for the future years' programs.

The Commissioners all spoke favorably of the program. Commissioner Coleman seconded by Commissioner Nelson motioned to approve the MOU and the additional. Motion passed 3 – 0.

## **5. NEW BUSINESS**

### **a. EMS Transfer**

EMS requested a transfer of \$120.00 from Professional Services to Postage to cover the cost of a Post Office Box. Commissioner Coleman seconded by Commissioner Nelson motioned to approve the transfer. Motion passed 3 – 0.

### **b. EMS New Hire – This item was tabled.**

### **c. Sheriff Fire Protection Proposals**

Sheriff McKinney explained that the main fire panel in the jail is 32 years old. A couple of sensors have gone out and replacements cannot be found. The current contract for the inspection of the panels is with Koorsen. Sheriff McKinney obtained quotes from Koorsen and Tri-State Fire Protection INC. to replace the panel parts.

Tri-State Fire submitted a quote is \$450 for Annual Fire Alarm Inspection, \$65 for Annual Fire Extinguisher Inspection, \$250 for Annual Sprinkler Inspection, and \$150 per Semi-Annual Kitchen Hood Inspection. They also submitted a quote of \$28,892.68 for replacement of the fire alarm components including pull stations, smoke detectors, fire alarm panels and modules.

Koorsen currently holds the inspection contract. They presented a quote to replace and install parts that will work for the panel. The quote is \$37,974. They said that this was not a hard number because the part prices might be affected by the tariff battle.

Commissioner Coleman motioned to approve the Tri-State quote for \$28,892.68 to update the fire panels. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Nelson. Motion passed 3 – 0.

**d. Covered Bridge Statement**

Ms. Dischinger explained that this statement has been requested by the State Comptroller's Office verifying that Pike County has no covered bridges. It requires the signature of the Commissioner's.

Commissioner Nelson, seconded by Commissioner Coleman, motioned to approve the Memorandum provided by the Comptroller's Office. Motion passed 3 – 0.

**e. Financial Services Group Agreement for Services & Additional Appropriation**

Pike County Council President Jon Craig requested that the Commissioners consider an agreement with Financial Solutions Group, Inc to assist the County Council in the budget process. State Senate Bill 1 passed in the 2025 Legislative Session is filled with sweeping changes. He stated that the Council is really struggling. Property tax rates are decreasing; local income tax as it is now will be gone in 2027 – The replacement will have to be adjusted annually; business personal property tax is scheduled to be eliminated by 2031; wheel tax and sur tax will have to be passed in the County if the County wants to be eligible for the increased funding available for roads (we will leave thousands of dollars on the table if we don't.); utility tax rates, a large portion of Pike County tax revenue, are not clearly defined; and deductions have been significantly redefined. He stated that a committee of Council members had a team meeting with FSG, and the committee felt that it would be a good idea to engage their services. At the June 10, 2025, Council Meeting, Council motioned to ask the Commissioners to approve an agreement with FSG at a cost not to exceed \$30,000 for the remainder of 2025. It will also require an additional appropriation for \$30,000.

Commissioner Nelson asked how the County could sustain our programs if the funding is not going to be available. Commissioner Coleman stated that the service sounded like a good idea to him.

President Flint asked the others if there was a motion.

Commissioner Nelson, seconded by Commissioner Coleman motioned to approve the FSG, Inc. agreement and to approve an additional appropriation from CEDIT, Fund 1112 for \$30,000 for professional services. Motion passed 3 – 0

**6. BUSINESS BY COMMISSIONERS**

**a. Front Steps Handrail-tentative**

County Administrator Dischinger stated that elderly citizens had difficulty with the steps from 9<sup>th</sup> street to the Court House. She asked to make the steps more ADA compliant with handrails. Two quotes were received.

Sisson Steel for 2-single line handrails – galvanized steel at \$4,555. Available with Powder-coat black for an additional \$968.

Onyett Fabricators, 4-handrail sections, 1-1/2Sch 40 pipe, with black powder coat finish - \$7,525.

Ms. Dischinger has concerns as to whether the rails should flare at the sidewalk or not. She does not want them to impede any traffic on the sidewalk.

Commissioner Coleman seconded by Commissioner Nelson motioned to approve the Sisson Quote for the handrails. Motion passed 3 – 0.

**b. Teamcare Non-Bargaining Unit Participation Agreement**

Ms. Dischinger reported that there would be no increase in the group medical insurance premiums for 2026. She stated that this was a first since her employment with the County. The cost is \$440.70/week.

President Flint asked if there was a motion to approve the rates.

Commissioner Nelson, seconded by Commissioner Coleman, motioned to approve the rate. Motion carried 3 – 0.

**c. Clerk-Treasurer Monthly Reports, April & May 2025**

The reports were available for the Commissioners review.

**d. Streaming of Public Government Meetings**

Ms. Dischinger and the Commissioners again discussed the options available for streaming the meetings to the public. It is agreed that the options go from simple to elaborate and from almost zero expense to over \$80,000. Following the last meeting Ultimate Technology Group did a little session that was shared with the Commissioners. The meeting today was streamed utilizing our system. We had a small echo. But it was streamed.

Commissioner Nelson remains aggravated that Ultimate Technology won't come down to Pike County with the recommended equipment to demonstrate how it will look and work. He feels that the price is extremely high when the process can be done with a cellphone on a stick. His thought is that all we "have to do" is stream it. It doesn't have to be a movie production.

Commissioner Coleman's concern remains with how easy it will be for people using the system to operate it without Ms. Dischinger having to be at every meeting.

Ms. Dischinger said that she would go back and ask Ultimate Technology specifically to come to Pike County for a demonstration.

President Flint said that he was tabling the discussion for one last time. The decision must be made. County must stream by July 1<sup>st</sup> per statute. If the County goes with Ultimate Technology we were originally told that it would take 6 to 8 weeks to have the system installed and working.

**e. EMS Building**

Director Young stated that there were a few punch list items to complete.

**f. Tuckpointing Project**

Administrator Dischinger said the work is supposed to start any time. The hold-up is the company getting their bond. Commissioner Nelson said the company had equipment in the Methodist Church parking lot. Ms. Dischinger said that she was not notified that it was there. Ms. Dischinger said that she would check with them again.

**7. BUSINESS BY PUBLIC – None**

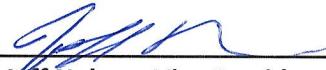
**8. ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to come before the group, President Flint called for a motion to adjourn.

Motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Coleman and seconded by Commissioner Nelson. Motion carried 3 – 0.



Mark Flint, President



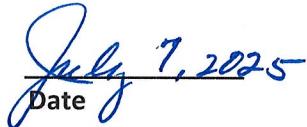
Jeff Nelson, Vice President

Ryan Coleman, Member

Attest:



Judith Gumbel, Auditor



Date