

**PIKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 20, 2026 @ 8:30 am**

**Mark Flint
Jeff Nelson
Ryan Coleman**

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mark Flint, President of the BOC called meeting to order. All Commissioners were present. Also present were County Attorney Val Fleig, County Administrator Kristi Dischinger, EMS Director Chris Young, Asst EMS Director Doug Mounts, EMA/E-911 Director Kyler Henry, Sheriff Jason McKinney, Chief Deputy Sheriff Dallas Killian, Chief Deputy Auditor Audra Warner, Misty Brenton Deputy Auditor, EDC Director Ashley Willis, Ed Schuessler Patoka Township Fire Department, R.C. Klipsch Petersburg Mayor, Melanie Britton Office Manager Highway Department, and Braydon Downing with BF&S. Absent was Judith Gumbel, Pike County Auditor for medical reasons.

2. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES January 5, 2025

President Flint asked for any questions regarding the minutes. Hearing none, he called for a motion to approve. Motion to approve made by Commissioner Coleman and seconded by Commissioner Nelson. Motion carried 3 – 0.

3. APPROVAL OF CLAIMS FOR JANUARY 20, 2026

President Flint asked if there were any questions regarding the claims for January 20, 2026. Hearing none, he called for a motion to approve claims. Motion was made by Commissioner Nelson and seconded by Commissioner Coleman. Motion carried 3 -0.

4. OLD BUSINESS –

- a. **Courthouse RFP -Tables**
- b. **CHIRP Grant**

County Administrator Kristi Dischinger stated the County has the actual grant, and County Commissioners have talked to the Sheriff Department. Everything for the Grant has been set up. Dischinger needs formal approval from the Commissioners so that it is reflected in the meeting minutes with the Commissioner's sign off. President Flint asked if there were questions. Hearing none, he called for a motion to approve the CHIRP Grant. Motion was made by Commissioner Coleman and seconded by Commissioner Nelson. Motion carried 3-0.

5. NEW BUSINESS

- a. **Approval to Advertise for Bids CCMG 2026**

Melanie Britton Office Manager for Highway stated this is just for our regular bid to advertise for the approved Community Crossing projects. President Flint asked if everything is the same as what we do every year? Britton stated that nothing had changed. She stated that they (Flint and Britton) had discussed that whenever we accept

the bids, we will just go ahead and roll next meeting. She said that will allow the County to meet the timelines. President Flint stated there were basically only a couple of materials. Britton agreed. President Flint asked if anyone had questions. Hearing none, he called for a motion to accept. Commissioner Nelson seconded by Commissioner Coleman motioned to approve. Motion carried 3 – 0. Britton said CCMG Grant Contract goes hand to hand with the CCMG Bids.

b. CCMG Grant Contract

President Flint mentioned CCMG Grant Contract. Dischinger said INDOT sent Britton a draft. It said the docu sign would be forthcoming, but she doesn't have it yet. Dischinger stated if Commissioners wanted to go ahead and approve the draft, it shouldn't be any different. Then she could just docu sign it whenever it comes in on Mark's behalf. President Flint asked if anyone had questions. Hearing none, he called for a motion to accept the contract as per the draft. Commissioner Nelson seconded by Commissioner Coleman motioned to approve. Motion carried 3-0.

6. BUSINESS BY COMMISSIONERS

a. Arevon Bond Release, Resolution 2026-01

President Flint mentioned Arevon Bond Release. This is a resolution. County has received the money from Arevon; 1st payment was received in the amount of \$374,226.91 and a 2nd payment was received in the amount of \$1,006,723.09 with a total of \$1,380,950.00. This is just releasing all the roads that were under the bond. President Flint asked if anyone had questions. Hearing none, he called for a motion to approve the bond release. Commissioner Nelson seconded by Commissioner Coleman motioned to approve. Motion carried 3-0.

b. Employee Handbook and Policies

President Flint stated there were a few changes in the employee handbook. Ms. Dischinger asked if she needed to go through all of them. President Flint said, "No." Dischinger explained there were several policies that were discussed during an executive session held on January 6, 2025. That during the executive session Auditor Gumbel and Chief Deputy Auditor Warner, the Commissioners, herself, and County Attorney Fleig were present. Most of the changes were tweaks to make the policies more streamlined, easier for the Auditor's Office to enforce, and to just be clearer. She stated she sent the changes to the Commissioners. Anything in red was coming out of policy. The blue was just a change, and then yellow was something that was added.

The main change was the introductory period, which is going away from 910 hours and going to a flat 6 months. This includes part-time, full-time, 40 hours, 35 hours - doesn't matter. Six months from an employee's anniversary date is the introductory period. She said the group thought it would be easier than calculating 910 hours for everybody in different departments. She thought that this is probably the biggest change that she can think of that completely changes something. Ms. Dischinger asked Chief Deputy Warner if she could think of any other big changes.

Dischinger stated on the Travel Policy the State Call Letter will be required if it is a state called meeting. Valet parking is going to be paid for since it's hard to find parking

especially when Indy is doing road maintenance. Commissioner Coleman asked if we should change the policy that allows an overnight hotel stay if the distance to the location requires two hours of travel. Dischinger stated that it is currently two and a half hours, but since we now have the interstates some people can make it to Indy in two hours. She said this topic was not discussed at the executive session so she just didn't want to make that change. Commissioner Coleman stated he thinks two hours would be pushing it if people stop and need to use the restroom or grab something to eat or whatever. President Flint agreed, and he personally makes the trip every week. Dischinger stated initially the two and a half hours was so we would include Indy overnight lodging. That would give them an extra 30 minutes in case they had to stop. It's on page 11 on the back of page 10 in the blue. "Overnight lodging will be provided for training meetings where travel is required that takes two and a half hours or more..." Commissioner Nelson stated that he thinks two and half hours. Dischinger asked, "Stay at two and a half hours?" Commissioner Nelson said, "I think so." President Flint said, "It's two, if you don't stop, to get downtown." Commissioner Nelson stated, "So without any trouble you can get down there?" President Flint agreed. Dischinger stated that this is excluding Indy from the overnight policy if you're okay with that.

She said that a section was removed from the PTO policy that only referred to the transition period to PTO. Dischinger asked Warner did you have a change?

Dischinger stated elected officials and department heads will not be required to turn in who bereavement days are for, but elected officials and department heads are required to keep a permanent record that states who the bereavement is for. So, if state board of accounts asks who that bereavement was for, the official or department head will need to know. Dischinger said she will send this out with all the changes highlighted so you guys see them and what it was changed to.

Warner brought up the Overtime. Dischinger stated for the two departments, if an employee is working in two departments, the overtime will get paid from the department that causes the overtime which would be generally part-time if the primary position is full time. So, your full-time, whoever your full-time employee is, they are kind of getting the benefit of having that full-time person at straight time at their straight time pay. So, if you have a secondary department come in, they'll have to pay the overtime on that person. Pike County Attorney Val Fleig stated that overtime like this has only occurred once. In other words, if somebody works one job at \$20 an hour and works another job at \$30 an hour and the department paying the position at \$30 an hour pays the overtime, the employee doesn't get \$45 an hour. It is a weighted average between the two positions. The Auditor's Office knows how to calculate that now. So, it may fall somewhere between those two rates, but they don't automatically get time and a half of that last job. That is strictly federal labor standards act.

Ms. Dischinger said that these were the main changes just by skimming through it. President Flint asked her if she will be sending this out to everybody? Dischinger said, "Yes, she would." President Flint requested that she note the changes. President Flint asked if anyone had questions on the changes. Hearing none he called for a motion to accept the employee policy changes. Commissioner Nelson seconded by Commissioner Coleman motioned to approve. Motion carried 3-0.

c. Credit Card Policy Revision, Resolution 2026-01

Dischinger stated the credit card policy wasn't in the handbook. The major change in the credit card policy will be that a lot of times people requesting credit cards will email Dischinger. The Commissioner's want the email request to go to Judith Gumbel, Pike County Auditor. Gumbel will forward it to Dischinger. It must be written, which it was always supposed to be but not necessarily done. Also, the Commissioners want the departments to use the county's bank for the credit cards. So, at this time departments are directed to go through German American. If a department has a case of fraud and is alerted of fraud, the department needs to notify Gumbel as well. This way Gumbel and the Auditor's Office can watch for it on a bigger scale. May not be just for the specific card; other county information could have gotten leaked as well. Dischinger sent a form to the Commissioners and remarked that a form was not discussed at the meeting. She asked if the Commissioners wanted a standardized form. If so, after approval the department could take the form to the bank. Otherwise, they must wait for the minutes to be approved then take that to the bank. The bank wants something in writing. President Flint stated that he likes the standardized form. Dischinger also stated that work stuff paid for by the county must be shipped to a business address. It needs to be one of the county office addresses. President Flint stated evidently there has been some stuff shipped sent to individual homes. Commissioner Coleman stated it raises a flag whenever something has been shipped to your home address when it is county related. President Flint asked Deputy Auditor Warner if this was something SBoA had mentioned. It was.

President Flint called for a motion to accept the Credit Card changes. Commissioner Coleman seconded by Commissioner Nelson motioned to approve. Motion carried 3-0.

d. Employee Schedule – Matron

Dischinger stated the matron has asked to go to a four-day work week. She currently does Winslow as well. If Winslow does not require a full eight-hour day she will have to make those hours up on the three days she is at the Courthouse. Dischinger stated she thinks it would be a good idea. It is hard to mop and wax and stuff when people are walking in and out, especially in the winter with salt. President Flint asked what day is the day she will be taking off, basically Tuesday? Dischinger stated it would be kind of a new adventure for the courthouse. President Flint said he is ok with trying it and seeing if it works. President Flint asked if anyone had questions on the changes. Hearing none, he called for a motion to accept the change. Commissioner Nelson seconded by Commissioner Coleman motioned to approve. Motion carried 3-0.

e. Commissioners' Calendar 2026

Dischinger stated this is just like we did last year. It just shows when the meetings are, when agenda items are due, and the holidays. Generally, ours are always due at noon on the Wednesday before Commissioner Meeting. If there is a holiday or anything that would impact that a little bit, it may change a day or two. The calendar is just to be sent out to department heads, so they know when everything is coming up.

f. 2026 Appointments

President Flint asked if everything in green is that ready to go. Dischinger stated everything in green is ready to go. Dischinger said she had talked to those people, and they were onboard with reappointment. Anything that is for the Commissioners she did not mark it green. President Flint stated that there are probably some on here that they need to go ahead and appoint.

There was a long discussion regarding the appointees. In the end, President Flint asked the Commissioners if they are ok with approving everyone of the list. If there are any questions after this let the Commissioners know. President Flint called for a motion to accept the list. Commissioner Coleman seconded by Commissioner Nelson motioned to approve. Motion carried 3-0.

The appointments by the Commissioners were as follows:

Board of Finance – All 3 Commissioners and Treasurer – Annual

Weed board – Mark Flint through 12/31/2026

Health Board – Carl Benner – R through 2026

Janet Graff – D through 2026

Kelly Cook – D through 2026

Clint Shoultz – D already through 2026

Honesto Fenol – D already through 2026

Vacancy from Mayor Klipsch

Library Board Kelly Potter through 2027

Deb Troutman through 2028

Drainage Board All Commissioners

Rich Williams

Park & Recreation Kyle Adams – But notes say he resigned

Solid Waste All Commissioners

Vacancy – 1 Winslow Appt

Public Defender Board Kyler Henry through 2027

Wabash Valley Comm. Corrections

Chris Yon Will go through 2026 but would like to come off

Brian Maxwell through 2026

1 or 2 vacancies (Chris Yon)

Growth Council Mark Flint through 2026

Region 15 Jeff Nelson through 2026

Jeff Harting through 2026

Ryan Coleman through 2026

Revolving Loan Board

Carla Willis through 2028

Ed Boyd through 2028

Jeff Harting through 2026

Jefferson Township Fire District

Scott Fulcher through 2024 not contacted

Todd Dawson through 2025 not contacted

Brian Mounts through 2025 not contacted

Regional Mental Health

Jeff Nelson Length not stated

Petersburg Plan Commission

Rhonda Warner through 2026

Jodie Elkins D through 2028

Shawnee Trace Workforce

Jeff Nelson through 2023---?

Patoka Twp Fire District board

Ed Schuessler through 2026

Ralph Bertram ??

Charles Barr through 2026
 Tri-Cap Cindy Gaskins through 2026
 Redevelopment Commission
 Mark Flint
 Ryan Coleman
 Kristi Dischinger
 PTA BOA Jim Shultz - D Must now be staggered 2026?
 Kristi Dischinger asked to be off in 2026
 E-911 Advisory Board
 Jeff Nelson through 2026
 JRAC Kullen Cook
 Tourism Commission – 4 to be appointed by Commissioners
 Employee appointments These were appointed at 1st January Meeting
 County Administrator Kristi Dischinger
 EMS Director Chris Young
 Highway Superintendent Josh Byrd
 Veteran's Officer Dennis Weitkamp
 County Attorney Val Fleig
 EMA Advisory Board Mark Flint
 Courthouse Security Jeff Nelson
 Regional Development Authority Committee
 Mark Flint
 Technology Committee
 Kristi Dischinger
 Compensation Review Committee
 Jeff Nelson 2022

g. Clerk & Treasurer Monthly Reports – December 2025

h. Department Reports

EDC - Ashley Willis

A lot of things are going on with EDC. What she wanted to do for 2025 was a business attraction report. Some of the items in her attraction report included:

New Prospects that come in 2025, there were 36.

What are Ongoing Prospects. That is looking at prospects that went from 2025 and carried over into 2026. 2025 was a new administration year for federal and state. There is a lot of uncertainty in the market. She feels that there are at least 5 ongoing projects.

Site Visits - we had six in person visits. There are ongoing conversations all the time.

Assistance with New Startup Businesses and that is including the Tech Center. Currently providing assistance to eight businesses.

Information to Indiana Small Business Development Center.

For 2026 new investments that we know of are not energy related. That is over 18 million for this coming year.

Projects that did not get finished in 2025 - those will carry over into 2026. Non-Energy investments commitments are over 19.9 million.

2026 Projects and Priorities just wanted to make it more comprehensive and easier to follow and track.

Housing Development - a lot. Highlighting some of those would be Meadow Subdivision, the Smith Housing Edition, Prides Creek Apartments, Affordable Housing Program, and light cleanup. They closed on their first property in Winslow.

Buffalo Trace Trail will have a public open house. February 19 is the open house for the new trail. That is open to the public. They sent out mailers with letters of information to property owners that may be impacted

Generation Springs Infrastructure development for the Shell building project. The Geotech has been completed. Highlighting county road 300 improvement. Power generation of course is always important. We are a power generated community.

Business Attraction, Business Retention, and Business Expansion -highlighting that a good part is through our collaboration with Ivy Tech and Vincennes's University. Coordinating partnerships and opportunities with Pike County School Corporation with their work-based learning program and trades. Also how to continue to develop that pipeline of information through K-12 with summer camps and things. Surveys available about training. We do have adult basic education that is free of charge. VU is doing certified medical assistant training.

EMS – Chris Young

Received notice on remount being done earlier than expected.

Sheriff – Sheriff McKinney

Guys are staying busy. Gave Council update on 2025 receipted in money for holding inmates, almost \$300,000.

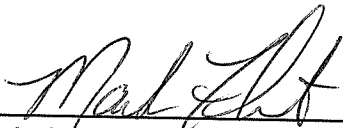
Courthouse – County Administrator Dischinger


Dischinger stated that she sent the Commissioners an email about the Tuckpointers wanting a small absence due to it being the coldest part of the year. This is usually the end of January through February. They are unable to do the concrete work that is left up on the roof and the limestone seals when it is below freezing. They are asking to remove the lifts, remove everything so they don't have to pay for it while they are absent. They are planning on coming back in March. Dischinger stated they are mostly done. They have some fine-tuning of things. Tuckpointers want to know if that is ok. President Flint stated I am sure that is fine. Commissioner Nelson stated those guys have worked days that he couldn't believe they were working.


7. BUSINESS BY PUBLIC – None

8. ADJOURNMENT

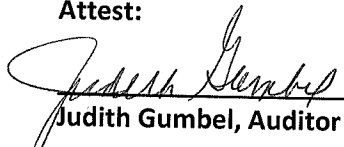
With no further business to come before the BOC, President Flint called for a motion to adjourn. Motion was made by Commissioner Coleman and seconded by Commissioner Nelson. Motion passed 3 – 0.


Mark Flint, President


Jeff Nelson, Vice-President


Ryan Coleman, Member

Attest:


Judith Gumbel, Auditor

2-2-26
Date