

**COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR SESSION
March 2, 2026**

The Grant County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on March 2, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. in the Grant County Complex Council Chambers located at 401 South Adams Street, Marion, IN.

In attendance were Commissioners Shane Middlesworth, Chuck Poling and Ron Stewart. Also present were Auditor Angela Jarvis, County Administrator Beth Winters, Attorney Martin Harker, and Chief Deputy Auditor Cori Anderson.

Commissioner Middlesworth called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. Kevin Hicks led in prayer. Commissioner Stewart led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PREAPPROVED CLAIMS

February 23, 2026: General: \$321,786.31
Other: \$ 47,718.33
Highway: \$204,734.79
TOTAL: \$574,239.43

CLAIMS

March 2, 2026: General: \$174,272.87
Other: \$143,175.59
Highway: \$ 1,910.72
TOTAL: \$319,359.18

PAYROLL

Payroll #5 carried a gross total of \$710,344.63. Formal preapproval was given on February 24, 2026, and paid out on February 27, 2026.

Minutes

None.

Commissioner Stewart made a motion to approve by consent all the above items. Seconded by Commissioner Poling; motion carried 3-0.

Monthly & Annual Reports

Clerk January 2026 report. Received in as presented.

Board Updates

Councilman Greg Kitts made a request to move forward on the jail meetings and added options 4 & 5 to the list of options. Number 4 being we do nothing, number 5 being a drug rehab center.

Commissioner Poling asked about the negotiations for the parking lot. Commissioner Poling expressed I talked to the Mayor and Gary Fordyce, they stated they were told we were not interested in the parking lot. Commissioner Stewart expressed we will reach out to the mayor and let him know we are still interested.

Commissioner Poling stated I also reached out to Mayor Bill Rock he stated he is in favor of the D-Home and will do what he can to help but is on board with us doing it for 8-10. Commissioner Middlesworth stated I would like to hear it from the mayor himself.

EMA Report

Director Bob Jackson gave an update on the fire that occurred at the Marion VA. Director Jackson thanked the individuals and business that provided water, food and relief items to the scene. The VA says this was a 20-million-dollar loss, the possible cause was heating/electrical equipment.

Director Jackson expressed that March is severe weather preparedness month, there will be a statewide drill next week.

Central Dispatch Report

Director Kevin Hicks gave an update on 911 calls and an employee update.

A. Grant County Amateur Radio MOU-Director Hicks gave an explanation and the details of the MOU. EMA Director Jackson commented in support. Commissioner Stewart made a motion to approve as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Poling; motion carried 3-0.

IT Report

Director Marcus Elliott stated we have the courts “zoom room” completed.

Highway Report

Superintendent David White opened the asphalt bids as follows:

Brooks Construction-\$78 per ton

Asphalt Materials- Liquid Asphalt AE90S \$484.32 per ton

Klink Group-Liquid Asphalt AE90S \$518.64 per ton

Commissioner Poling made a motion to approve for review. Seconded by Commissioner Stewart; motion carried 3-0.

Superintendent White expressed we did not get awarded the grant this time for bridge #712 (Branson Street). There is still time for funding. All the Community Crossing information for 2026 has been submitted.

Health Department

Tara Street stated there is nothing to report but the Health Board as me to provide you with the 2025 report.

Veterans Service Office

Andrea Sparks gave an update on SB433 IC code 10-17-1-9 and explained services.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Salin 911 Flooring Installation Quotes-Tabled-meeting after Commissioners meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

A. JEAN Team Equitable Sharing Agreement-Sheriff Del Garcia explained the equitable sharing agreement. Commissioner Stewart made a motion to approve the equitable sharing agreement certification. Seconded by Commissioner Poling; motion carried 3-0.

B. Malcon Indiana-Annual Countywide IV-D Cost Allocation Plans Contract-Auditor Angie Jarvis stated there are no changes from last year. This is the annual allocation plan for 2025 to 2027. Commissioner Stewart made a motion to approve as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Poling; motion carried.

C. ECI-Commissioner Middlesworth stated I received an email from ECI asking for a letter of recommendation. Commissioner Stewart made a motion to approve sending a letter of support. Seconded by Commissioner Poling; motion carried 3-0.

D. Applied Innovation Letter Agreement-Administrator Beth Winters expressed this is to remove a printer on the lease list. Commissioner Poling made a motion to approve as requested. Seconded by Commissioner Stewart; motion carried 3-0.

E. TKE Elevator Contract Change Order-Commissioner Middlesworth expressed we received a change order from TKE concerning the telephones in the elevators in the amount of \$5,894.12. Commissioner Stewart made a motion to approve the change order for TKE. Seconded by Commissioner Poling; motion carried 3-0.

F. County Liability Insurance Proposal- Greg Lane and Josh McCorkle gave various updates on asset liability and recommendations to keep the deductibles as is. Commissioner Stewart made a motion to approve as recommended. Seconded by Commissioner Middlesworth; motion carried 2-1.

G. Certificate Sale-Commissioner Middlesworth read the Resolution for the Commissioners sale. Auditor Jarvis expressed the date will be April 28, in person. Commissioner Stewart made a motion to approve resolution #2-2026 as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Poling; motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Stewart made a statement on the Data Centers on 69 and 26. I would like to recommend we do a 24-month moratorium on any data center coming to Grant County in an unincorporated area. Commissioner Stewart made a motion to approve the 24-month moratorium on any data center coming to Grant County in an unincorporated area pending legal review. Seconded by Commissioner Middlesworth; motion carried 3-0.

Molly Early, 1717 Summerfield Dr, Marion, is opposed to data centers on farmland and towns. Mrs. Early gave mega watt usage examples and has a petition started.

Chris Kelner, Upland, is here to promote the listening sessions that are coming up.

Ed Hartman is requesting cancellation of TIF districts.

Randy Adkin supports comments made by Ed Hartman.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Randy Adkins strongly encourages Greg Kitts recommendation on 2 additional options for the jail project.

Commissioner Middlesworth gave a closing jail statement and encourages option 3 with a reduced slice of the pie. Taxes are already in place for a new building. Commissioner Poling expressed some have their own thoughts on rehabbing the D-Home. Commissioner Stewart stated this project is long overdue, the current jail is at the end of its useful life. Discussion ensued.

The next Commissioners' meeting will be on March 16th, 2026, at 10:00 am.
Commissioner Middlesworth recessed the meeting at 11:31 a.m.

A complete video record can be found under the GC YouTube Page, Quick Links.