

January 14, 2025

Council Chambers
Vigo County Government Center
Terre Haute, Indiana

Roll call:

Present: Mark Clinkenbeard, Chris Switzer, Mike Morris

Others present: Auditor Larry Hutchings, Chief Deputy Auditor Morgan Elkins, Terry Modesitt, Bill Watson, Kara Wright, Jordynne Shelton, Adam Grossman, Tona Bean, Leanna Moore, Elizabeth Stiverson, Danielle Isbell, Bob Rhodes, Jose Thompson, Chris Eldredge, Scott Swan, Joni Wise, Mandy Bales, Katie Mundy, Andrew Martin, Larry Robbins, Kevin Gardner, Norm Loudermilk, Emily Owens, Molly Funk, 2 other members of the public, WTHI

Pledge of Allegiance. Mark Clinkenbeard called the meeting to order at 9:00am and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Review of minutes/claims. Auditor Larry Hutching presented the Board with the minutes for the organizational meeting from January 07, 2025 for approval. Mike Morris made a motion to approve the January 07, 2025 minutes as presented. Chris Switzer seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote 3-0, the motion was unanimously passed.

Mr. Hutchings then presented the Board with expenditures for the period December 31, 2024 through January 03, 2025 in the amount of \$557,622.09. Mike Morris made a motion to approve the December 31, 2024 through January 03, 2025 claims in the amount of \$557,622.09. Chris Switzer seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote of 3-0, the motion was unanimously passed.

Property Demolition Bids-Mark Clinkenbeard. Mark Clinkenbeard presented the Board with demolition bids for 10 properties. 1 property through McGuire for a total of \$6,123.00, 7 properties through JCB for a total of \$49,100.00, 1 property through S&G for a total of \$6,900.00, 1 property through Bell and Bell for a total of \$3,550.00, and landfill fees totaling \$28,000.00. The total for all 10 properties is \$93,673.00. Mike Morris made a motion to approve the bids. Chris Switzer seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote 3-0, the motion was unanimously passed.

Ordinances for Juvenile-Norm Loudermilk. Norm Loudermilk, Director of the Juvenile Center, took the podium and wanted to give an update on the group homes. Norm proposed Ordinance 2025-1 for Non-Reverting Ordinance Vigo County Juvenile Justice Center-Amendment that would amend original ordinance from 2020, which was a Non-Reverting Ordinance for the Juvenile Justice Center only, where they captured out of county fees and used that money for the Juvenile Justice Center. By amending the ordinance, it would allow those funds to also be used for the Group Homes until other revenue streams are developed. Currently, one Group Home in particular is in need of a dishwasher due to the current one leaking, 3 of the 4 bathrooms have appliances that leak, the current refrigerator is apartment sized and the home is in need of a bigger one for approximately 8 children, there are no microwaves, no couches, all of the bunk beds are broken. In short,

it would be a starting over process. Norm's target opening date is February 14, so he would like to get everything in place by the end of the month. Norm has already brought contractors over for minor repairs. The firearm system is currently not being monitored and that needs to be fixed before kids are able to stay there. Norm proposes that with the ordinance change being requested, revenue will be freed up. The approved budget for the Juvenile Center is \$288,000.00 in the non-reverting fund. He stated that there is still over \$300,000.00 in that fund and they continue to get money every day and he would like to use some of that money for the Group Homes. He stated that in the first 24 hours of Department of Children Services finding out the Group Home is staying, he received 24 requests to put kids in these homes showing that the need is there but improvements have to be made. Norm opened the floor to the Commissioners for questions. Mike Morris stated that he had a different Non-Reverting Fund amount and that he will check with Norm on that. Mr. Switzer confirmed that Norm still has to go to Council to get appropriation. Norm also stated that this is a user fee and not tax dollars and they will leverage out of county detainee money to upgrade Group Home or leverage state money from DCS but either way it must be approved by Council. County Attorney Terry Modesitt stated that he reviewed the ordinance and is ok with it from a legal standpoint. Mr. Switzer then went on to comment on the state of the Group Homes currently and that so many kids are sleeping on DCS office floors. He stated how Norm has stepped up to take on this monumental project to deal with children who have trauma and distress at home and need emergency placement in those times. 1 Group Home has to be re-licensed and needs major improvements and another has improvements to be made and some remodeling. Chris Switzer made a motion to approve Ordinance 2025-1. Mike Morris seconded the motion. Upon a 3-0 vote, the motion was unanimously passed.

Norm then proposed Ordinance 2025-2, Non-Reverting Ordinance Vigo County Group Homes for Children. It will establish a Non-Reverting Fund for Vigo County Group Homes which will capture revenue used to provide training, Continuing Education, maintenance repair, purchase of supplies and equipment, and safety and security for the Group Homes. This fund cannot be used for salaries, over-time, or any pay of any kind other than structural improvements or staff training. Norm stated that right now DCS allows him to charge \$1100 per day per child. Hypothetically, there could be 8 kids multiplied by \$1100 per day and again by 365 days a year, that's \$3.2 million per year. The budget for the Group Home is \$1.4 million for the year, which brings enough money back into the county to offset the budget. Norm spoke about repairs and expenditures needed, including cars and broken furnaces at the Group Home. Norm is asking to share the money re-couped by the county showing 75% of all future income to go to the Vigo County General Fund and 25% of future income to be placed in a Non-Reverting Fund for Vigo County Group Homes for Children to be used for Group Home projects for any of the locations. This ordinance is the same as the ordinance for the Juvenile Justice Center but will be solely for the Group Homes. Terry Modesitt stated that he reviewed the ordinance and had no issues with it from a legal standpoint. Mike Clinkenbeard thanked Norm again for stepping forward and taking this on. Chris Switzer stated that they have given Norm 1 year to see if this will be successful, along with restructuring employees and there will be no additional costs to taxes or General Funds. Chris Switzer made a motion to approve Ordinance 2025-2. Mike Morris seconded the motion. Upon a 3-0 vote, the motion was unanimously passed.

Hamilton Center Update-Emily Owens. Next to the podium was Emily Owens, Chief of Clinical Outreach with The Hamilton Center, to give an annual update. The report is dated from July 01, 2023 through June 30, 2024. Emily Owens gave a report for Patients Served in State Fiscal Year 2024 Who Resided in the County, Additional State Fiscal Year 2024 Numbers, and Count of Referrals from separate sources. Ms. Owens then presented a pie chart for Primary Payor for Fiscal Year 2024 in Vigo County along with State Fiscal Year 2024 Community Outreach, events attended, and new partnerships with Hamilton Center in Vigo

County. She gave Counts of Patients Served that Resided in Vigo County for SFY 2024 for adults and youth along with locations for Addiction Treatment Services with ASAM Level of Care Provided at Same Location and Evidence-Based Practices Utilized in Addiction Treatment. She also noted that treatment is now available for gambling addictions. Next a bar graph was presented with the five most common addiction substances taken by adult patients and another bar graph for addiction substances taken by youth patients. Emily Owens presented numbers for Mental Health Services for adults and youth along with locations of Mental Health Treatment for Youth and locations of Mental Health Treatment for adults using Evidence-Based Practices Utilized in Mental Health Treatment. On her last page was listed the ten most common primary mental health diagnoses of adult patients and another list for youth patients. Emily Owens added, outside of the report, that they do offer a 16-bed in-patient unit for adults at the main location which provided approximately \$4.6 million of expense to operate. They also provided around \$2 million for charity care that they do not get reimbursed for but know there is a need. The Hamilton Center staffs 361 Vigo County residents in the Vigo County location. Emily Owens opened the floor to the Commissioners for questions. Chris Switzer asked who the Appointment is to The Hamilton Center Board. Emily stated that it currently is Andreas Kummerow. Chris Switzer then stated that under House Enrolled Act 1454, community mental health centers not administered by a hospital license under Indiana Code 16-21-2 shall include a member of the county fiscal body or member of the Board of County Commissioners or designee decided by the Commissioners and that they would like the Appointment to belong to a current Commissioner rather than a designee. Emily agreed and asked how they would like to proceed, and Mr. Switzer stated that County Attorney Terry Modesitt will reach out to Emily. Mike Morris then asked if the casino shares in any revenue with Mental Health and the answer is no. Mark Clinkenbeard then asked what the wait time is like for a patient coming in from the street for assessment. Emily stated that they offer walk-in status then do triage questioning. They also offer a Crisis Diversion Center that is open 24/7 for immediate crisis. For ongoing needs or appointment based treatment, typical wait time is around 2 weeks however, they do offer routine treatment same day. No other questions.

Public Comments. There were none.

Comments or other business from Commissioners or other Elected Officials. Mike Morris gave appreciation to the Highway Department for snow treatment.

The next meeting will be January 21, 2025. The meeting recessed at 9:34am.

Mark Clinkenbeard

Chris Switzer

Mike Morris

Attest:

Larry T. Hutchings II, Auditor