



**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF ALLEN**  
Citizens Square Suite 410 · 200 East Berry Street · Fort Wayne, IN 46802  
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**RICHARD E. BECK    THERESE M. BROWN    F. NELSON PETERS**

**MINUTES**

**Commissioners' Legislative Session  
10:00 AM Friday, March 29, 2019  
Council Chambers Courtroom – Citizens Square**

Commissioners Present:                      Nelson Peters, Therese Brown and Rich Beck

Others Present:	Chris Cloud	Commissioners Office
	Mike Green	Commissioners Office
	Bill Fishing	County Attorney
	Beth Lock	Commissioners Office
	Bill Hartman	Highway Director
	Mike Thornson	Highway Dept.
	Edwar Klotz	Resident
	Brian Roemke	Resident
	John Eastes	Leo – Town Council
	Keith Schlegel	City of New Haven
	Barry Steinman	Resident
	Roger Hadley	Farm Bureau
	Rosa S Rodriguez	Journal Gazette

Commissioner Peters called the meeting to order at 10:05 AM. Commissioner Peters led the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

- 1. Consider approval of the minutes of March 22, 2019.** Commissioner Beck made a motion to approve minutes of March 22, 2019. Commissioner Brown seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.
- 2. Consider approval of Bid Award for Bid Ref # 01-19 for 2018 Community Crossing Matching Grant for 2019 Concrete Street Repairs in Old Auburn Place and Oak Crossing subdivisions; to the lowest bidder Garcia Concrete Construction, Inc. for \$1,627,898.00.** Bill Hartman, Highway Director, stated our engineers estimate for this was \$2,050,150 and we had 4 bidders. Commissioner Beck made a motion to approve Bid Award for Bid Ref # 01-19 for 2018 Community Crossing Matching Grant for 2019 Concrete Street Repairs in Old Auburn Place and Oak Crossing subdivisions; to the lowest bidder Garcia Concrete Construction, Inc. for \$1,627,898.00. Commissioner Brown seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.
- 3. Consider approval of Change Order # 41 for Lafayette Center Rd/CR 900 North in Allen and Huntington County's, Project # 1200213; in the amount of \$1,701.95.** Bill Hartman, Highway Director, stated this is the guardrail radius at SE corner of CR900N and US24 in Huntington County. We have an interlocal agreement that we will all approve any extras on this project. This is the 7<sup>th</sup> time this corner has been hit during this contract period. The state highway has funds to cover this cost. Commissioner Brown made a motion to approve Change Order # 41 for Lafayette Center Rd/CR 900 North in Allen and Huntington County's, Project # 1200213; in the amount of \$1,701.95. Commissioner Beck seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

4. **Consider approval of Sign Request to post a “Stop” sign at Willow Springs Pl at Red Bluff Dr intersection in Chestnut Hills subdivision.** Bill Hartman, Highway Director, stated this was at the request of the neighborhood association in Chestnut Hills. Our traffic engineers have looked at this and they recommend that it be posted. Commissioner Beck made a motion to approve the sign request. Commissioner Brown seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

5. **Public comment on the re-establishment of a Major Bridge Fund**

*\*Note: Public Hearing on re-establishment scheduled for April 12\**

**Beth Lock**, Director of Allen County Government Affairs, gave a presentation to explain the Major Bridge Fund tax rate.

**Edwar Klotz** – 10013 Garman Rd. – Leo – He expressed that he did want safe bridges and good roads but he didn’t want increases on property taxes.

**Brian Roemke**, 21721 Antwerp Rd., Harlan, represented the Allen County Farm Bureau as chairman of the policy committee and also a landowner. He stated that farmers have no way to pass on the increased costs as they are at the mercy of the global trade, commodity prices and mother-nature. He encouraged the Commissioners to look at other ways to fund this. He said agriculture is making just 50% of what they did five years ago. He stated he has no argument at all that it is necessary.

**John Eastes**, 11428 Grabill Rd., Leo, represented the Leo Town Council as Council President. He read a letter of support for adoption of new rates for major bridge fund into the record. He also expressed his support for the formation of a bridge advisory group. He expressed his concern that the unknown factor of inflation has been taken into consideration. He also expressed the impact of weight limits if that were to happen.

**Keith Schlegel**, Director of Engineering for the City of New Haven, wanted clarification regarding if a community such as New Haven would enter into an inter-local agreement that the Major Bridge dollars can be used on any bridge that is over 20 feet in length and not just limited to 200 feet in length as per the other counties in the state of Indiana. He also stated he would like to have representatives from New Haven on any bridge advisory group formed. He also wanted an understanding of how bridge project were going to be prioritized through different communities.

**Barry Steinman**, 23526 Dawkins, Woodburn, retired farmer and landowner and Jackson Twp. Trustee, stated he understands the need for good bridges but expressed his concern about cost to farmers and asked that they consider alternative methods.

**Roger Hadley**, 5505 Bull Rapids Rd., Woodburn, County Farm Bureau President, expressed his concern about the property and equipment taxes for an 800-1000 acre farm. He stated the bridge fund level they have today that would be about \$12,900 per year. If the fund level went to the maximum level that would raise it to about \$33,000 per year. He really wants them to look at alternative sources such as a user tax. He said he does understand we need good bridges.

6. **Consider approval of appointment to the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum Board of Trustees.**

Chris Cloud, Chief of Staff, stated the name before them is Don Gerardo. Commissioner Brown made a motion to approve appointment of Don Gerardo to the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum Board of Trustees. Commissioner Beck seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

7. **Consider approval of claims for payment.** Commissioner Beck made a motion to approve the claims as submitted in the amount of \$627,597.86. Commissioner Brown seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

8. **Other Business**

**9. Approval to waive the 2nd Reading on any matter approved today and for which it may be deemed necessary for the Legislative Session of March 29, 2019.** Commissioner Beck made a motion to approve the waiving of the 2nd Reading on any matter approved today and for which it may be deemed necessary for the Legislative Session of March 29, 2019. Commissioner Brown seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

**10. Comments from the Public**

**11. Motion to Adjourn.** Meeting adjourned at 10:47 a.m.

*Allen County does not discriminate because of disability in the admission to, or treatment or employment in, its programs or activities. The Human Resources Director has been designated to coordinate compliance with nondiscrimination requirements contained in Section 35.107 of the Department of Justice regulations. Information concerning the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act, and the rights provided therein, and Allen County's ADA policy is available from the ADA Coordinator. Suggestions on how the County can better meet the needs of persons with disabilities may be submitted to the ADA coordinator at: Human Resources Department, 200 East Berry Street, Suite 380, Fort Wayne, IN 46802, or by phone at (260) 449-7217.*