Be It Remembered that the Greene County

 Board of Commissioners met in Regular

 Session on Tuesday, April 1, 2025, at 9:30 a.m. in the Commissioners’ Room on

 the third floor of the Courthouse.

The meeting was called to order by Nathan Abrams.

The Pledge of Allegiance opened the meeting.

Present were Nathan Abrams, Rick Graves and Ed Michael.

**Re: Minutes**

Ed Michael moved, and Rick Graves seconded, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on March 18, 2025. Motion passed 3-0.

**Re: Claims**

Ed Michael moved, and Rick Graves seconded, to approve the claims submitted for Tuesday, April 1, 2025. Motion passed 3-0.

**Re: Payroll**

Ed Michael moved, and Rick Graves seconded, to approve the payroll submitted for Friday, April 4, 2025. Motion passed 3-0.

**Re: Greene County Community Correction- Lynn Wininger**

Lynn Wininger sought approval to submit the Greene County Community Corrections DOC Grant application. Lynn is requesting $680,923.00, the same amount as the last fifteen years. Rick Graves moved, and Ed Michael seconded, to approve the request to submit the grant application in the amount of $680,923.00. Motion passed 3-0.

**Re: Greene County Magistrate Court (Services Agreement)**

Rick Graves moved, and Ed Michael seconded, to approve the agreement between Joshua Marion and Greene County, Indiana. The scope of services is for Marion to provide research services on an as-directed basis for the Magistrate Judge on topics of immigration law throughout the calendar year 2025. The hourly rate is $20.00 per hour for a maximum of 25 hours. Motion passed 3-0.

**Re: IT Department (Services Agreement)**

Ed Michael moved, and Rick Graves seconded, to approve the agreement between AS 2, INC., and Greene County, Indiana. The scope of services is for Assessor data migration from the old server to the current server and to establish access for the assessor and deputies, to be completed within 90 days of the date the agreement is fully executed. The total price for the project is $500.00. Motion passed 3-0.

**Re: Letter of Support (Westgate and Crane Water and Wastewater Expansion)**

Rick Graves moved, and Ed Michael seconded, to approve the letter of support for the Westgate and Crane Water Wastewater Expansion. SIDC is currently working on a grant opportunity for the Crane Village to get the project done as well as to attach the proposal to federal legislation that may pass and be funded sooner than the 2025 Continuing Resolution. The project includes the construction of a new 300,000 gpd wastewater treatment plant, upgrades to both the water and wastewater collection systems, enhancements to the wellfields supplying water to the park, an upgraded water main from the wellfields to the technology park, and a new elevated storage tank within the park. Motion passed 3-0.

**Re: Greene County EMA (Generator Maintenance Agreement)**

Ed Michael moved, and Rick Graves seconded, to table the decision to move forward with the current Maintenance Agreement for EMA until the next April meeting. Maintenance Supervisor Tim Barker is currently getting quotes to include all of the County’s generators that provide more services and maintenance. Motion passed 3-0.

**Re: Greene County Economic Development Corporation**

Rick Graves moved, and Ed Michael seconded, to approve the Agreement for Community and Economic Development Services between the Greene County Economic Development Corporation and Greene County, Indiana. The President and Secretary of the Board have changed names. Motion passed 3-0.

**Re: Greene County Economic Development Corporation**

Greene County Economic Development Corporation Director Brianne Jerrels stated that she continues to work on new projects with Prometheus Energetics, LLC. Jerrels stated that she and Nathan Abrams met with Simon Shewmaker, from the developer ACMI, and will continue to meet with Simon every two weeks during the project. Brianne stated that Prometheus Energetics, LLC, is still working on the entrances and exits and are still working on the wastewater plan for the site.

Brianne stated that housing remains a crucial need in the county, more so with the promise of Prometheus.

The Commissioners thank Brianne for the update.

**Re: Discussion Items – EHS Loss of Mental Health Providers**

Emily Bock, director of the fetal and child mortality review program for Greene County and six other counties, presented the Commissioners with statistics for Greene County relating to mental health services that are needed in the county. Those statistics include:

* Infant mortality rates for the years 2018-2022 at 7.9%- 2nd highest in the region
* Child mortality rates for the years 2018-2022 at 7.7%- highest in the region
* Child Abuse
* Child Removals- 52% are due to parental substance abuse
* Suicide Rate for Greene County- 3rd highest in the region

Bock stated that Greene County does have a mental health crisis and that needs are not being met. Bock also stated that around 20-25 years ago, Healthy Family Services was created through Title V Funding and that currently Hamilton Center holds the contract for that funding. Bock stated that Greene County schools have not received adequate service for the last 3 or 4 years. Bock stated that other programs are being run at full capacity due to the lack of adequate services from Hamilton Center.

Sean McBride, the Director of Department of Child Services informed the Commissioners that he is also has seen services provided by Hamilton Center decline in the Greene County area, and DCS is contracting services out in the region due to the lack of services provided. McBride stated that Hamilton Center lacks the ability for therapists to help the children in the area, can leave the children endangered. McBride also stated that he has spoken with many families who complain of long waits and virtual, rather than personal, interactions.

Ken Howard, the Assistant Principal at Eastern-Greene High School, presented the Commissioners with a letter written by Eastern-Greene Superintendent Doug Lewis. The letter states that Eastern-Greene Schools have been lacking services from the Hamilton Center and the letter was essentially requesting that the schools be released from the Hamilton Center contract.

Sheriff Dallaire advised that the Greene County Sheriff’s Department was also lacking services, so the Sheriff’s Department contracted mental health services through QCC. The Sheriff stated that the Hamilton Center signed into the jail only 14 times in 2023, 25 times in 2024, none to date in 2025. Sheriff Dallaire stated that released inmates are still referred to Hamilton Center for services.

The Sheriff did state that the Hamilton Center has a great working relationship with the Therapy Court and JRAC.

Commissioner Nathan Abrams told the attendees that the most beneficial thing that Eastern Greene can do is to contact their legislators regarding this matter. This matter can only be changed at State level, County Government does not have the ability to interfere in the state arrangement with Hamilton Center. Commissioner Abrams also stated that he understands the lack of mental health services and that it seems to be a problem everywhere.

**Re: Cindy Rotman- Hamilton Center**

Cindy Rotman from Hamilton Center stated she has not personally received a phone call from any of the individuals present and she would love to talk with each of them individually. Rotman stated that Hamilton Center would love to expand on the services that they are already offering to Eastern-Greene schools. Rotman stated that every Wednesday Tessa Baker is at the elementary and middle school.

Rotman stated that she did receive a letter from Mr. Lewis, and she responded by telling him that she would be taking the decision up the chain, and it would be discussed internally. Mr. Lewis also asked for Hamilton Center to send a letter to Centerstone waiving school services and allowing Centerstone to service the schools, but Rotman was confused as to why the letter came from Eastern Greene rather than from Centerstone. Rotman apologized for taking up the Commissioners’ time.

**Re: Discussion Item (County Council Redistricting)**

Clerk Jamie Thompson informed the Commissioners of the need to redistrict the County Council districts due to population imbalance as of the 2020 census. According to that census, there are variations up to 24% and the districts need to be below 10% to stay with guidelines. A new precinct proposal has been circulated among the Commissioners. The Commissioners will consider a redistricting ordinance on April 15, 2025, at 9:30 am. Redistricting must be concluded before June 30th, 2025.

There being no further business to come before the board, Ed Michael moved, and Rick Graves seconded, to adjourn. Motion passed 3-0.

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Nathan L. Abrams Edward L. Michael Rick Graves

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Heather Perry, Auditor