

STATE OF INDIANA)
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COUNTY OF CLAY)

MAY 4, 2026

The May 4, 2026 Regular meeting of the Clay County Commissioners was called to order by President Bryan Allender at 9:00 a.m. Those present included Commissioners Paul Sinderson, Marty Heffner, and Bryan Allender. Also attending was Eric Somheil, Attorney for the County Executive. Patricia A Foxx made a record of the proceedings to wit:

Brison Swearingen, Sheriff led the Pledge to the Flag followed with prayer by Marty Heffner.

A motion to approve April 6, 2026 Regular Meeting minutes, and Claims Meeting minutes April 27, 2026 was made by Marty Heffner and seconded by Paul Sinderson. Motion carried 3-0.

Bryan Allender open the floor for the Public Hearing meeting for Clay County and Bowling Green Volunteer Fire Department's IOCRA Fire Station Construction Project.

Kristy Jerrell, Jerrell Consulting & Grant Administrator, took over the meeting explaining the procedures and steps for the Fire Station. This is the second Public Meeting being held on May 4th, 2026 at 9:00am in the Commissioner's room 106. The Resolution 2026-05 authorizes the application for submission and local match commitment of the Bowling Green Volunteer Fire Department's IOCRA Fire Station Construction Project. Monica Wallace from the audience approved the Resolution 2026-05 for the Bowling Green Volunteer Fire Department's IOCRA Fire Station Construction Project.

Bryan Allender asked for a motion to close the Public Hearing.

Paul Sinderson made the motion, seconded by Bryan Allender, to close the Public Hearing. Motion carried 3-0.

IN THE MATTER OF CONSIDERATION OF COUNTY HEALTH OFFICER

Bryan Allender presented the County Health Officer from the approval of the County Health Board meeting last Board Meeting. The Board approved Dr. Camillo M. Mendoza as the Clay County Health Officer for a four year term for the years 2026-2026.

Paul Sinderson made a motion, seconded by Marty Heffner, to approve Dr. Camillo M. Mendoza for a four year term for the years 2026-2029 as the Clay County Health Officer. Motion carried 3-0.

IN THE MATTER OF CONSIDERATION OF INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Kevin Hinton, SW District Service Officer gave an update for the Veteran's Office be in compliant per Indiana Code 10-17-1-9 effective January 1, 2026. Our Clay County Veteran's officer is Randy Kaelber who is in compliant according to the Indiana Code 10-17-1-9.

The Commissioners acknowledge and appreciate the work that Randy Kaelber has done for our Veterans along with being in compliant with the updated changes.

IN THE MATTER OF CONSIDERATION FOR MEMORIAL DAY PROCLAMATION

Paul Sinderson, presented the Memorial Day Proclamation.

MEMORIAL DAY PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, throughout our country's history, courageous men and women have answered the call to protect and defend the core values upon which the United States of America was founded: Freedom, Liberty, and Justice for all, and

WHEREAS, Freedom is not Free and over one million Americans have paid for our Freedom with their lives, and

WHEREAS, On May 5, 1868, General John A. Logan, Commander in Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, issued General Order Number 11 to all comrades throughout the land, designating May 30, 1868, for the purpose of strewing with flowers or

otherwise decorating the graves of comrades who died in defense of their country during the late rebellion and thereby creating the first Memorial Day, and

WHEREAS, the holiday known as Memorial Day was first celebrated by the people of Waterloo, New York on May 5, 1866, and then again on May 5, 1867.

WHEREAS, on June 19, 1926, by joint resolution, the United States Congress authorized and directed the Secretary of War to accept a tablet commemorating the designation of May 30, as Memorial Day, and

WHEREAS, at that time, Memorial Day was made a national holiday and changed from honoring those who died fighting the Civil War to honoring all Americans who died fighting in all of our wars, and

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved to increase awareness and respect for the true meaning of Memorial Day that the month of May be designated as National Remembrance Month in honor and remembrance of our nation's war dead.

Approved by the Clay County Commissioners on Monday, May 4, 2026.

Bryan Allender

Bryan K. Allender

Marty Heffner

Marty A. Heffner

Paul Sinderson

Paul R. Sinderson

A motion to approve the Memorial Day Proclamation as presented was made by Paul Sinderson and second by Marty Heffner. Motion carried 3-0.

IN THE MATTER OF PUBLIC COMMENTS

Rick Anderson, Verge Energy presented a hand out of the Energy Saving Project.

Carl Trout, Airport Board President, presented an update on the airport. The runway, lights, and trees are in need of maintenance. INDOT did a review of the area and they found that the Airport was in violation of the trees being too high for the planes to land.

Kate Baughman, The Brazil Times lead reporter asked if one of the Highway employees had totaled a truck. The Commissioners said no truck was totaled.

IN THE MATTER OF ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Paul Sinderson and seconded by Marty Heffner. Motion carried 3-0.

Clay County Commissioners

Attest:

Clay County Auditor