



Discover Boone County Meeting Minutes

October 14, 2025

Present:

Tim Beyer
Matt Gentry
Justin Hage- via Zoom
Megan Lingerfeldt
Wendy McMann, Secretary/Treasurer
Kate Swanson, President
Kevin VanHorn, at the beginning of the meeting
Doug Weisheit
Violet Worth

Courtney Darcy – Board Attorney

Allyson Gutwein (CEO)

Pursuant to Ind. Code § 5-14-9-1 *et seq.*, Discover Boone County discloses the name of each appointed officer serving on the board, along with the appointing authority and board term of each appointed officer:

1. Kevin VanHorn – Boone County Council appointee – Jan 1, 2025, to Dec 31, 2025
2. Tim Beyer – Boone County Commissioners appointee – Jan 1, 2025, to Dec 31, 2025
3. Matt Gentry – Town of Whitestown appointee – Jan 1, 2024, to Dec 31, 2025

Note: No vacant spots on the board as of October 2025.

Opening of the Meeting:

The Discover Boone County (DBC) Board of Directors met on October 14, 2025, in the Discover Boone County building. The meeting was called to order by Kate Swanson, President, at 4:31 p.m.

In the Matter of Public Comments:

No public comments.

In the Matter of Consent Agenda - Director's Report, Treasurer's Report and August 2025 Meeting Minutes:

Matt Gentry made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Motion was seconded by Doug Weisheit. The motion carried 8-0.

CEO Report, Treasurer's Report, and the Minutes from the Previous Meeting, where no changes or discussions were needed.

In the Matter of Old Business:

Attorney Update and Comments: Courtney Darcy, Board Attorney, reported that ordinance copies were sent to the hotels, she is sending a certified copy to the county auditor, and there were discussions of the best way to explain the implementation of the ordinance with the county treasurer. Doug Weisheit made a motion to send a follow-up reminder letter, sent by certified mail, about implementing the next tax collection from the attorney. The motion was seconded by Kate Swanson. The motion carried 8-0.

Taxes and Audit: Amanda Meko with Barnes Dennig gave an update on the audit. She explained the audited financial statements, that there were no accounting rule changes in 2024, stated there were no difficulties with the audit, explained the adjustments, reported there were no disagreements with management, and that internal control matter recommendations were made as related to the adjustments. Wendy McMann reported that taxes will be filed by November 15, 2025, upon approval of the audit. The finance committee will meet in November with Sarah about checks and balances for the new system. There was discussion about annual auditor options. Wendy McMann made a motion to accept the audit. Doug Weisheit seconded the motion. The motion carried 8-0.

Bank Approvals: There was another discussion that everyone authorized on the bank account should be able to receive and view the statements from the bank online. Kate Swanson made a motion to approve that the four approved signers on the account should be able to have access to the bank statements online. The motion was seconded by Violet Worth. The motion carried unanimously.

Policy Manual Approval: Highlighted items have already been approved and are being compiled into a single, comprehensive policy manual. Items marked as "new" or "summary" represent newly proposed content. The format of the technology plan will follow a similar structure to that of the employee handbook.

Doug recommended notifying the appointing bodies in November in regard to which board members are up for reappointment-some appointments are for one-year terms, others for two-year terms. The notification should include each member's attendance record. Appointing bodies will be asked to make their reappointments in December to ensure readiness by January 1. Violet Worth made a motion to approve as presented. Matt Gentry seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

In the Matter of New Business:

Other New Business:

Fairgrounds Scheduling Program: Jack Jones has requested an additional \$10,000 in funding for the fairgrounds due to the upcoming retirement of their scheduler. The funds would be used to implement an online scheduling program. They have also submitted a request to the Community Foundation for support. Board members raised several questions, including whether the request is for software purchase or a subscription, and whether the cost is a one-time investment or an ongoing annual commitment. The request was tabled to the next meeting and is pending further information.

Additional Discussions: Allyson reported that Boone County still has the highest occupancy in the state.

Allyson gave an update on talking with the Indiana Tourism Association (ITA) about the proposed temporary suspension of the 30-day exemption from the innkeeper's tax. ITA recommends reconsidering this request and having more discussion about this proposal prior to going into the next legislative session. The board previously voted to move forward; however, there was more discussion about the concerns raised by the ITA.

Allyson also reported that the Indiana Tourism Association Summit, that was held at Dull's Tree Farm, in September was a great success.

Doug Weisheit made a motion to adjourn, and Wendy McMann seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:28 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Leigh Ann Akard.