

Resolution 2024-07

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF LAWRENCE COUNTY, INDIANA**

**RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of Lawrence County, Indiana, is the county executive of Lawrence County and has the statutory authority to manage the operations of the County;

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of Lawrence County, Indiana, has the sole authority to create, empower, and appoint a county administrator to assist the Commissioners in their management of the County;

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of Lawrence County, Indiana, has exercised its statutory authority and created and empowered the position of the Lawrence County Administrator;

WHEREAS, the Lawrence County Council has eliminated the funding for the administrative director, which position had previously exercised the duties of Lawrence County Administrator;

WHEREAS, the Lawrence County Council eliminated the funding for the administrative director without prior consultation;

WHEREAS, the Lawrence County Council contends that a financial crisis requires the elimination of the position;

WHEREAS, the Lawrence County Council is responsible, as the fiscal body of Lawrence County, for the present financial state of the County;

WHEREAS, the Lawrence County Council has failed to manage the financial affairs of Lawrence County in a responsible and appropriate manner;

WHEREAS, tens of thousands of people in Lawrence County have no problem estimating their income and living within their means without having financial emergencies requiring drastic cuts to their budgets;

WHEREAS, the Lawrence County Council has failed to live up to the example set by tens of thousands of taxpayers who expect better from their County Government;

WHEREAS, the Lawrence County Council has refused to fund the position of Lawrence County Administrator;

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners, recognizing the expectation the taxpayers have that County Government operate in a fiscally sound manner, has attempted to find funding for the position that would not add a single dollar to the budget;

WHEREAS, the Indiana Constitution prohibits the legislative branch from exercising or interfering with the powers, duties, and responsibilities of the executive branch;

WHEREAS, the Indiana Constitution forbids requiring services without just compensation;

WHEREAS, the Lawrence County Council's refusal to fund the position of Lawrence County Administrator is interference with the Board of Commissioners' statutory powers and responsibilities;

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners deplors the refusal of the Lawrence County Council to cooperate and fund the position of Lawrence County Administrator;

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners recognizes and respects the principle of separation of powers enshrined in the Indiana Constitution; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners recognizes and respects the clear injunction of the Indiana Constitution not to require services without just compensation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of Lawrence County, Indiana, deplores and condemns the interference of the Lawrence County Council with the orderly operation of Lawrence County Government.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of Lawrence County, Indiana, deplores and condemns the violation of the principle of separation of powers enshrined in the Indiana Constitution by the Lawrence County Council.

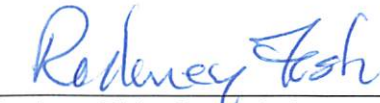
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be delivered to each member of the Lawrence County Council and made available for distribution to the public and press and a copy posted outside the Lawrence County Auditor's office in the Lawrence County Courthouse.

**DATED** this 30th day of December, 2024.

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF  
LAWRENCE COUNTY, INDIANA**



Wallace Branham, President

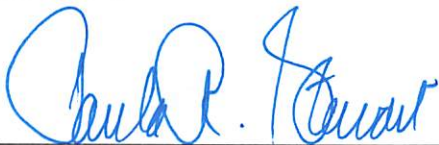


Rodney Fish, Commissioner



Dustin Gabhart, Commissioner

**ATTEST:**



Paula R. Stewart  
Auditor of Lawrence County, Indiana