

WARREN COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING
JUNE 17, 2025

Council present for the meeting: Ben Dispennett, Ethan Foxworthy, Neil Ellis, Dwain Akers, Brady Foster, John Hetrick, Nicolas Weston.

Public: Scott Regal, Craig haggard, Doug Hess,

Department Head/Elected Official – Robin Weston-Hubner, Auditor; Charity Perigo, Chief Deputy Auditor; John Comer, Commissioner; Jim Morson, EMA Director; Craig Greenwood, Commissioner; Randy Haddock, Surveyor; Bonnie Adams, Prosecutor; Anthony Pruitt, Sheriff


1. The Council Meeting was called to order by Ethan Foxworthy, Council President.
2. Ethan Foxworthy, Council President led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. New Business:
 - a. Addition Kuri Tec Abatement. Ben Dispennett made a motion to approve the agenda seconded by John Hetrick, all voted in favor.
 - b. Ben Dispennett made a motion to approve the Council minutes for May 20, 2025 Council Minutes seconded by Nicolas Weston, all voted in favor.
 - c. Wheel Tax – Discussed financial options of adopting a County Wheel Tax. Adoption deadline is August 31st to begin January 1 2026. Consideration as revenue would be used for Community Crossing Grant county match of 25%. Discussed roads paved with the CCG funds.
 - d. 2026 Budget Information – Weston-Hubner presented 2026 Budget Books to the Council. Discussed July 14th budget meeting lunch and additional budget meeting in August as State will not deliver 2026 revenue estimates until August as well as certified net assessed values will not be finalized until late July due to the legislative changes. Ben Dispennett made a motion to move the August Council Meeting to August 19th at Noon to finalize the 2026 budget seconded by Nicolas Weston, all voted in favor.
 - e. Sheriff 2026 Budget – Sheriff Pruitt explained the salary matrix for the Sheriff Deputies which removed longevity for the deputies and added for years of service increases. Explained issues discovered with the original adopted matrix and 2026 budget will fix these issues which are highest paid deputy making more than Sargent and 3 deputies were miss calculated. There would be no cost-of-living increase in 2026 for the sheriff's department. This is a \$22,000 increase for 2026. Jail commander line is now 12th Correctional Officer rather than Commander. Discussed correcting the salaries now rather than waiting until 2026, decided to wait until 2026. Salary matrix is based on years of service completed as of January 1st of the following year. Council requested a summary before July 14th budget meeting. Sheriff Pruitt explained the cost-of-living increase for the Sheriff Department is 0 and passing on to the Correctional Officers which is requested at 4%. Vehicles for 2026 will be 2 new Tahoe's. Sheriff Pruitt requested Council Members to contact him with any questions.
 - f. Prosecutor 2026 Budget – Prosecutor Adams explained increased office rent but decreased several other budget lines, salary increase of 2%. Explained part time help budget line. Cases are continuing to climb in high level felonies. Currently at F1 pending; F5 - 7, F4 - 4, F3 - 3, F2 - 4. Pending numbers are climbing which takes time to get certified records of conviction on cases that are habitual. Adams explained the prosecutor special funds used as required by State. To help with case load, would like to hire a retired investigator.
 - g. Additional Appropriation – Dwain Akers made a motion to approve Jordan Creek Wind Farm Fund 4918 \$22,500 additional appropriation for road study by HWC and create a line; \$123,041.33 amend May 20th meeting approval Rainy Day Fund additional appropriation and create a line seconded by John Hetrick, all voted in favor with Ben Dispennett abstaining.
 - h. Axxess PC, Scott Regal; IT Director – Regal explained items are needed for our next steps to attain requirements of cyber security. Explained ransom ware attacks. IT budget needs to be enough to cover items required as cyber security is vital. Asked to keep the budget the same if at all possible.
 - i. Abatements 2025 pay 2026 Kuri Tec - Weston-Hubner explained questions concerning 2024 abatement new for 25 pay 26. Discussed data received from Kuri Tec concerning project
 - i. Kuri Tec Manufacturing Real Property, 2025 – Foxworthy opened the floor for a motion finding that Kuri Tec Manufacturing Real Property substantially complied with their State of Benefits Abatement. John Hetrick made a motion to approve Kuri Tec Manufacturing Real Property Abatement seconded by Dwain Akers, all voted in favor.
 - ii. Kuri Tec Manufacturing Personal Property 2025 abatements - Foxworthy opened the floor for a motion finding that Kuri Tec Manufacturing Personal Property substantially complied with their State of Benefits Abatement. Neil Ellis made a motion to approve Kuri Tec Manufacturing 2017 Real Property Abatement seconded by Nicholas Weston, all voted in favor.
4. Old Business:
5. Elected Official/Department Head comments:
 - a. Sheriff Anthony Pruitt – Department of Correction owes the County \$65,846.25. Funds should be to the County in the near future as the State approved DOC budget.
 - b. Doug Hess, LEDO Interim Director – Hess explained Town of Williamsport will meet June 19th to award bid for the Williamsport Pool. LEDO will be opening bids for READI I approved trail.
 - c. Randy Haddock, Surveyor – Inquired about Hannum, Wagle & Cline Engineering contracts with County and Community.

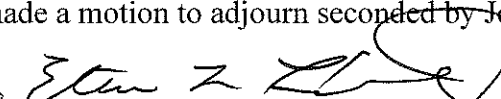
6. Public Comment:

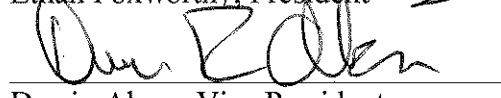
Next Council meeting July 14, 2025 @ 8:00 a.m.

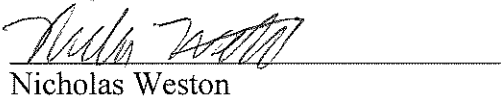
There being no further business Nicholas Weston made a motion to adjourn seconded by John Hetrick, all voted in favor.

ATTEST:


Robin Weston-Hubner, Auditor

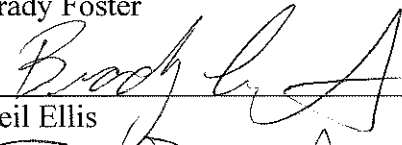

Ethan Foxworthy, President


Dwain Akers, Vice President

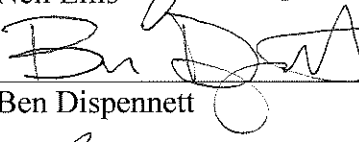

Nicholas Weston



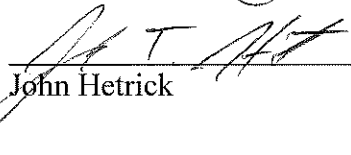
Brady Foster



Neil Ellis



Ben Dispennett



John Hetrick