



## **MEETING MINUTES**

**Meeting Date: October 21st, 2025**

**Location: Brown County Public Library -  
Room A**

**RDC website: [www.choosebrowncounty.com](http://www.choosebrowncounty.com)**

### **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order with the following members in attendance:

- Sue Lindborg - President
- Jeremiah Reichmann - Vice President
- Chris Schneider - Secretary
- Amy Oliver - School Board Representative

**Absent Members:** Alyn Brown, David Coucke

**Additional Attendees:** Tim Clark - Brown County Commissioner, Brian Tadlock - Quality of Life Committee

### **Approval of Minutes**

Chris Schneider moved to approve September 16th minutes. Jeremiah Reichmann seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

### **Old Business**

#### **Comprehensive Plan RFP**

The Commission reviewed the comprehensive plan RFP, which has expanded from four pages to a comprehensive document based on the RFP used for the initial comprehensive plan. Several items remain to be filled in, including budget allocation and steering committee formation.

Commissioner Clark will present the RFP to commissioners and coordinate with the **Area Plan Commission (APC)**, which has the lead role on this initiative. Background: The previous draft comprehensive plan was not approved due to insufficient community engagement. The RED grant application was also unsuccessful for the same reason.

## **Quality of Life Committee Coordination**

Brian Tadlock reported that **Indiana University (IU)** will conduct three listening sessions in March 2026 through the Sustaining Hoosier Communities program. Topics will include education, employment, natural resources, health, housing, and recreation.

The **Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB)** offered to assist with email distribution and publicity for community engagement activities. Discussion focused on coordinating efforts to avoid duplicative meetings.

## **New Business**

### **Economic Data Presentation**

Commissioner Clark presented economic data for the comprehensive plan context:

- Tourism gross wages: \$21 million annually
- County adjusted gross income: \$510 million
- 77% of county wages earned outside the county
- County functions primarily as bedroom/retirement community

Infrastructure updates: \$39 million approved for wastewater expansion from Woodland Lake to Lake Lemon. Helmsburg and Bean Blossom secured sewer improvement funding.

### **Comprehensive Plan Components**

Commissioner Clark outlined critical comprehensive plan elements:

#### **Zoning clarity needed:**

- Residents need to understand permitted uses in their zoning districts
- Clear process for zoning changes required
- Weighted decision matrix needed for consistent application
- 2011 comprehensive plan provided clearer guidance than current draft

### **Missing plan elements:**

- Water service rollout planning
- Fire protection and emergency services
- Medical services access
- School strategic planning

### **Community Engagement Strategy**

Ten community meetings proposed: five special interest groups (housing, arts/culture, infrastructure, tourism, education) and five location-based meetings. Preference expressed for statistically valid surveys (approximately \$4,000) rather than anecdotal responses.

### **2026 Work Plan**

The Commission agreed to develop a formal work plan for the December meeting. Comprehensive plan development with community engagement remains the top priority. Members to consider whether they wish to continue serving in 2026.

### **IEDC Inquiry**

The Commission received an inquiry from Roy Martin, Director of Business Retention and Expansion at **Indiana Economic Development Commission (IEDC)**. Chris Schneider responded, but has not received a response.

### **Follow-up Actions**

- Commissioner Clark to discuss RFP with commissioners and APC leadership
- Commissioner Clark to report back on willingness to proceed with RFP
- Commission to develop 2026 work plan for December meeting
- All members to consider continuation of service in 2026

### **Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned. The December meeting will focus on 2026 work plan development.