

**PERRY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES – OCTOBER 20, 2020**

The Perry County Board of Commissioners met at 8:00 a.m. as was duly advertised at the Armory Annex. Commissioners attending the meeting were President Thomas J Hauser, Bill Amos and Randy Kleaving. County Administrator Teresa Kanneberg and Auditor Pam Goffinet were in attendance by phone, Sheriff Alan Malone was at the meeting and so was a *News Representative*.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

CLOSING OF COURTHOUSE TO THE PUBLIC

The Commissioners discussed about closing of the Courthouse to the public due to the high numbers of Coronavirus in the County. Randy made the motion to close the Courthouse to the public except for early voting for the end of the week and the next week. Bill seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. The Auditor's office will be closed until November 2, 2020 due to the whole office being on quarantine.

As far as the offices being staffed, each elected official is to operate their office as they see fit. The Commissioners can't tell them how to run their offices. It is not in their scope of powers whether someone is there or not as long as the work is being done. We are not limiting staff to come in, just access to the public. It was stated that we will be back to normal operations on November 2 and back to running the front desk.

PAYROLL

The payroll docket was approved in the amount of \$145,325.14 for the payroll distributed on October 9, 2020. Randy made a motion to approve the docket, and Bill seconded. Motion carried 3-0. Overtime pay in the amount of \$3,158.63 was issued for the Health Department employees to be reimbursed by the CARES ACT. Randy made the motion to approve the pay, seconded by Bill. Motion carried 3-0.

MINUTES

Minutes from the meetings of September 8, 2020 and September 15, 2020 were mailed to the Commissioners for their review. Bill made the motion to approve the minutes as written, seconded by Randy. Motion carried 3-0.

CONTRACT – X-SOFT – TAX SIDE FOR ASSESSOR'S OFFICE

Mendy Lassaline, Assessor, presented the Commissioners with a contract from X-Soft for the tax system in her office to replace Thomson Reuters which is what she currently has. She said the money has been budgeted for next year for a 5-year lease payment. After that, there is just a general maintenance charge. Mendy said that Attorney Chris Goffinet has reviewed and said it is okay. She said she needs approval to move forward to be ready for the switch at the beginning of the year. Randy made the motion to accept the contract, seconded by Bill. Motion carried 3-0.

CONTRACT – VEHICLE LEASING

Sheriff Alan Malone came before the Commissioners to present to them a contract for leasing 5 vehicles from Sternberg in Jasper, Indiana which will all be pick up trucks. He said the maintenance bills on the four vehicles they currently have to trade in are really high. Alan commented that with this leasing, on the fourth year, we can buy the vehicles or trade in and get more. He said they will be in good shape with the new truck purchased from the CARES ACT and plan on keeping two chargers they have. The new lease vehicles will be turn key ready. Alan informed the Commissioners that the first year he plans on paying the full amount of \$40,000 from the Inmate Housing fund in 2021 and then each following, he will pay \$20,000 from the Inmate Housing fund and the other \$20,000 will be budgeted by the Council. Alan commented that at today's meeting is the intent to sign the contract. He said if the contract is signed before the end of the year, we can do a contract carryover of this year's funds. Randy made the motion for the intent to sign with legal approval, seconded by Bill. Motion carried 3-0.

APPLICATION FOR ROAD CONSTRUCTION

Alvin Evans informed the Commissioners that Lochmueller Group provided a proposal to assist Perry County in preparing the INDOT funding application for the estimated cost and scope for the New Terrain Roadway project. They gave a proposal amount for the services for a fee of \$400.00. In addition, a \$100.00 to participate in the INDOT project review process. These fees can be paid from the Waupaca TIF funds. There already was money set for the new road. Bill made the motion to approve, seconded by Randy. Motion carried 3-0.

It was also stated that the entrance road needs to be on the inventory list. This is the access road to Waupaca, Steel Road, which is .28 miles long. It is from the Highway to the stop sign at Webb Wheel, not to the guard shack. This will open it for INDOT to do something at the intersection. Randy made the motion to add to the list, seconded by Bill. Motion carried 3-0. Highway Superintendent, Steve Howell, said he is worried about liability of the big trucks.

TRANSFER

Administrator Teresa Kanneberg presented the Commissioners with a transfer request of \$1,687.00 from Ambulance Equipment to Ambulance Service within the Commissioners budget in the LIT-Public Safety fund. This is needed to subsidize losses of the ambulance service. Randy made the motion to approve the transfer, seconded by Bill. Motion carried 3-0.

LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR MEGGITT

Teresa informed the Commissioners that Executive Director of PCDC Erin Emerson reached out to the County on behalf of Meggitt needing a letter of support for their business. Tom read the full letter. They are looking at an expansion that would increase their ability to produce parts for the Department of Defense. This is important as their business is commercial air and has been impacted by COVID. To do this expansion, they are seeking federal funding through the Defense Product Act Title III Program. This is an opportunity for Meggitt to invest in important defense supply line manufacturing that maintains advanced manufacturing jobs in the US while protecting our national security. This would involve \$9.8 million to improve the building. This will increase their tax base also and help the County. Randy made the motion in support of the letter for the expansion, seconded by Bill. Motion carried 3-0.

CARES ACT EXPENSES

There were some CARES ACT expenses brought before the Commissioners for their approval. They were:

- Administrative Office – computer with upgrade to Windows 10 Pro and able to operate remotely with phone capability and also for door control application. Total of \$2,237.00. Randy made the motion to approve, seconded by Bill. Motion carried 3-0.
- Health and EMA Offices – washer and dryer for hazardous cleaning items. Need to decon clothes so they don't have to take them home. Total of \$1,700.00. Randy made the motion to approve and Bill made the second. Motion carried 3-0.
- Sheriff and Jail Office – Randy commented that if there is any left, he would like to see hazard pay for the ones on the front line. This would be for the Sheriff Deputies, Jailers and Health Department. He said the Health Department was stepping aside. Randy said the Detention workers and Deputies came in everyday and had to do a lot more during the pandemic. This expense is eligible. Other employees worked from home but they had to come in everyday because they cannot do their job remotely. He would like to see \$1,500.00 to each employee from the CARES ACT. Tom commended the Health Department of excusing themselves since they are receiving overtime pay. Sheriff Alan Malone said that since the pandemic started, they had to set up a temporary booking area in the garage. They had to do so much more to keep themselves and the inmates safe. Alan said he won't accept it but he wants this for the Chief Deputy and on down. This would go to 25 employees total, 23 full time and 2 part time employees that really stepped up. Total of \$37,500.00. Randy made the motion to approve, seconded by Bill. Motion carried 3-0

Teresa announced that the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners will be held on Monday, November 2, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.

The meeting ended in open session at 9:00 a.m.

Minutes approved this 15th day of December, 2020.

Thomas J Hauser
President

Randy Kleaving

Bill Amos

Minutes prepared by: Pamela L. Goffinet, Perry County Auditor