

**PERRY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MEETING - JANUARY 19, 2021**

The Perry County Board of Commissioners met at 8:00 a.m. on Tuesday, January 19, 2021 via zoom as duly advertised. Commissioners present for the meeting were President Thomas J Hauser, Gregg Jarboe and Randy Kleaving. County Administrator Teresa Kanneberg was present for the meeting. A Representative from the *News*, the County Attorney, and Sheriff Malone were not present.

PAYROLL CLAIMS

County Auditor Pam Goffinet presented the payroll claim docket for payrolls that was distributed on January 4, 2021 for \$147,852.64 and on January 15, 2021 for \$146,644.21. Randy made a motion to approve the claim and allowance dockets and Gregg seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

MINUTES

The minutes from the meetings of November 17, 2020 and November 24, 2020 were sent to the Commissioners for their review. Randy made the motion to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Gregg. Motion carried 3-0.

2021 EQUIPMENT RENTAL RATES – HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Highway Superintendent, Steve Howell, presented the Commissioners with the equipment rental rates for the year of 2021. These rates are applicable to equipment owned by the Perry County Highway Department in doing work for any other agency in the year of 2021. Steve said the rates are the same as last year. This is required for each piece of equipment. Randy made the motion to approve the rental rates, seconded by Gregg. Motion carried 3-0.

BOARD APPOINTMENT – HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION

This appointment was tabled at the last Commissioners meeting. There were two letters of interest submitted for the Hospital Association appointment.

They are: Sean Risse – asking for reappointment
Monica Stutsman, NP – new interest

Monica is not employed by the Hospital. She doesn't have a party affiliation at this time. Party affiliation doesn't matter for this appointment because of the other members on the board. Gregg made a motion to appoint Monica, died for a lack of a second. Randy made a motion to appoint Sean, seconded by Tom. Randy commented that Sean knows what is going on and the board doesn't meet that often. Tom said he thought a lot about this and he wants to invite new people. He doesn't want to discourage anyone. Vote taken and carried 3-0.

OCRA GRANT – COVID-19 RESPONSE PHASE III

Erin Emerson, Director of the Perry County Development Corporation, has been the leader on this project and Jenny Matheis with Indiana 15 Regional Planning Commission, along with Amanda Crockett, PCDC. This grant is an OCRA COVID Phase III funding grant for a total of \$250,000.00 that can be awarded to the County. It has a variety of uses. Erin said it is best to apply for the grant on the County level for businesses during COVID-19. She said she is getting a list of businesses together that were impacted during COVID in the community. It is best to do the prework to strengthen the application. We will get bonus points for being rural. Erin commented that they are getting testimonials from ones interested and they have 15 to 20 on the list now. Tom said Indiana 15 is putting this together at no charge. The only thing is the administration fees on where to pay them from. It is 2 ½ % of the \$250,000.00 which is \$6,250.00. The money can come from the grant or be paid as a local match. We will get points for this also.

Jenny said she would like to have an idea where the funds are coming from by the end of February for the application. She informed them of the process which is: 1st part was the proposal that was due on January 29, 2021. The 2nd part is the full application

which is due by February 26, 2021. Between parts 1 and 2, a public hearing needs to be held and other stages that OCRA requires.

Tom commented that he would like to see them seek private funding first for the administration fees, then county funding or the city. Jenny said they have had meetings with the cities and town which is better for the application. She said they will reach out to the city also for the match. Gregg said he appreciates the work Erin has done and for the community. Randy commented that we get the local match, it will make it better also.

Jenny said that unemployment claims are low now and that the County is recovering. This does not help with the points. Erin said they need to tell the story of the community to get all the points possible.

Tom said they need to open bids for the grant administrator. Administrator Teresa said they received two letters of response but one is not interested at this time. There was only one bid turned in.

1. Indiana 15 Regional Planning Commission – see bid for the bid amounts.

Gregg made the motion to accept the bid of Indiana 15, seconded by Randy. Motion carried 3-0.

Teresa said they need to set the public hearing date. Jenny commented the timeline is already mapped out. The public hearing date is set for Tuesday, February 16, 2021 at 9:00 a.m.. Indiana 15 Regional Planning Commission will advertise the hearing. Tom said hopefully they will step forward.

RESOLUTION – REGARDING EMPLOYEE ABSENCES DUE TO COVID-19

Tom said he had Attorney Chris Goffinet to prepare a resolution regarding employee's absences due to COVID-19. He said the CARES ACT that paid for employees being off for quarantine and isolation ended on December 31, 2020. They didn't have to use any other benefit. The County has under 500 employees. So to be fair to the employees and not set up for undo burden on the County, we need to continue this on in some way. Tom commented the resolution says to pay up to 80 hours if isolated due to COVID-19 by the County Health Department and unable to fulfill his or her duties as an employee. The supervisor shall immediately notify the Perry County Auditor that the affected employee has been placed in isolation and as well as the date they have been released from isolation so the HR in the Auditor's office can track this. This resolution will begin on January 1, 2021. The departments need to keep the quarantined individuals productive during this period. Gregg made the motion to accept the Resolution, seconded by Randy. Motion carried 3-0.

The meeting was recesses for the Board of Finance meeting.

BOARD OF FINANCE REORGANIZATION

County Treasurer, Amanda Lasher, came before the Commissioners for the Board of Finance meeting. The Board of Finance is made up of the three Commissioners and the County Treasurer.

Randy made the motion to elect Tom as the President of the Board, seconded by Gregg. Motion carried 3-0. Randy also made the motion to elect Amanda as the Treasurer, seconded by Gregg. Motion carried 3-0.

Amanda had previously mailed the Investment and Deposit Policy and an Interest Earnings worksheet she created of the three banks the County uses. The Commissioners had no questions for Amanda. Copies of the reports are on file in the Treasurer's office. Randy made the motion to close the meeting, seconded by Gregg. Motion carried 4-0.

Teresa announced that the next Board of County Commissioners meeting would be on Monday, February 1, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. by zoom.

Meeting ended in open session at 8:50 a.m.

Minutes approved this 16th day of March, 2021.

Thomas J Hauser
President

Randy Kleaving

Gregg Jarboe

Minutes prepared by: Pamela L Goffinet, Perry County Auditor