

PERRY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MEETING MINUTES
May 21, 2024

The Perry County Board of Commissioners met at 6:00 p.m., as was duly advertised. Commissioners: President Randy Cole (RC), Rebecca Thorn (RT), and Randy Kleaving (RK) were in attendance. First Deputy Kelli Wilgus was also present. There was no *Sheriff, Attorney, or News Representative* in attendance.

The meeting opened with all present reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA

RK made a motion to approve the agenda as amended, seconded by RT. Motion carried 3-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- a) None

MINUTES

- a) 05.06.2024

RK made a motion to approve, seconded by RT. Motion carried 3-0.

ARP FUNDS

- a) RC stated the ARP met and he sent the list of items that were approved at that meeting to the other Commissioners.
 - 1) This includes an ambulance and internal equipment in the amount of \$530,000. The County will be able to purchase another ambulance with a remounted box, and it will also replace Life Paks, which is the internal equipment inside of the ambulances. Once this equipment is eight years old, components are not able to be obtained and are not repairable. The County is currently using this equipment and it is nine and ten years old. Also included were upgrades to some medical equipment.
 - 2) RC stated that there was a demonstration of a LUCAS device, which will give chest compressions while a patient is being transported, versus an individual giving chest compression. This allows the EMT to administer drugs and monitor the patient. This is included in the Ambulance amount.
 - 3) Also being funded is AEDs, which is a combination of two for Sheriff's vehicles, two for Tell City Police vehicles, and several that will be placed in the County, which amounted to \$19,653.
 - 4) Pulse Point, which an app that you have on our phone, was approved for the First Responders who are actually trained. This notifies First Responders where AEDs are located when at a particular building. It will assist First Responder for quicker response, knowing where the life-saving equipment is located. This will be \$18,000 for installation, and in year two it is less money, being just a maintenance fee.
 - 5) First Responder bags, being either backpacks or some type of satchel, will be purchased and supplied with all the necessary tools costing \$15,000.
 - 6) The eye doctors have a device for the scanning of the back of the retina, which identifies many potential health problems that an individual may have. These potential health problems can be treated early for a better prognosis with a person's eyesight. This device will be located at the new facility of Invision Eyecare and no one will be charged for the use of this machine, as it is being purchased with County funds. Cost for this device is \$98,985. There will be an annual Health Fair where their services, along with other, will be located in their parking lot where people can come and get screened.

The total for all these purchases is \$681,638, which has been allocated for. This would have to be bid out when it comes to that point.

RT acknowledged her gratitude to Dr. Michael Daum for all his assistance with this.

RK stated that the County will be in the same situation for an ambulance in a couple of years. The County needs to be looking in their budget on how funds can be built to replace another ambulance. RC stated the life expectancy of this equipment is eight years per the vendor. RK asked with the supply-chain issue, if

an ambulance is ordered now, can you get it in two years? RC stated the County has the box, so all that is needed is the chassis. There are a couple of vendors who will remount the box, so a spec needs to be done and bid this. He believes this ambulance should be back in 2025 at the latest.

RT made a motion to approve the use of these ARP funds as presented, seconded by RK. Motion carried 3-0.

- b) RC stated that at the last Commissioner's meeting, there were two grants available from Homeland Security at \$150,000 each. A meeting was held before the ARP meeting, and several of the people attending will be a part of this First Responder program. The main goal is to get more trained First Responders within Perry County, especially outside the city. They are currently working on any individual who donates time and effort to be educated as a First Responder will have no liability. The County does not want anyone to suffer because they were trying to help someone else. RC further stated that Deaconess has offered to pay all the expenses associated with training and books for the first thirty who sign up. These classes will start sometime in the Fall.

With discussion of the grants, it was decided to let Steve Hauser, EMA Director, apply for one grant, and the First Responders to apply for the other one. RC stated that with discussion with Hauser, he felt the radios are more urgent and would be the one he applies for. The First Responders are going to try to get additional equipment.

RK made a motion to approve one grant application for \$150,000 for the First Responders and one grant application for \$150,000 for the EMA, seconded by RT. Motion carried 3-0.

KRISTINIA HAMMACK, AUDITOR

- a) Health Insurance Claims: \$47,966.10

RC stated that it appears the health claims are better.

RT made a motion to approve, seconded by RK. Motion carried 3-0.

- b) Health Reinsurance: \$32,233.14

RC stated that the County self-insures for \$60,000. At a threshold, once the County has paid out "X" amount of dollars, which RC is not sure of the exact amount; it is substantial. This reinsurance will kick in and start paying some of these costs.

RT made a motion to approve, seconded by RK. Motion carried 3-0.

- c) 05.20.24 Payroll: \$183,864.61

RT made a motion to approve, seconded by RK. Motion carried 3-0.

- d) 05.20.2024 Payroll Withholdings: \$39,568.95

RK made a motion to approve, seconded by RT. Motion carried 3-0.

- e) 05.21.2024 AP Claim docket: \$192,194.34

RK asked RC if there was any clarification from the last meeting regarding payment that was held back, and RC stated he never heard any more about it.

This had to do with a Sheriff Sale and Kim Bryant. Further clarification will be provided by the Auditor's office.

RK made a motion to approve, seconded by RT. Motion carried 3-0.

COMMISSIONERS

- a) Revision to the Personnel Policy Handbook

The threshold salary people were changed, so the handbook was reviewed so that the County does not have individuals that are being deemed as salaried when they are not eligible based upon their wages. First Deputy Kelli Wilgus confirmed that there are exempt employees that will not longer fit that threshold, so they will have to be changed back to non-exempt or an increase will have to be given. It was decided in the committee to recommend for now, until after budget session, to take them from exempt to non-exempt. RC stated that he was not aware of what actually happened, which it changed in mid-year, and the County is budgeted for the entire year with salaries. RC stated the County would be breaking Federal law if it continued to treat these employees as exempt, when in reality their salaries do not support that position after July 1st. If the salary structure is changed, it may be revisited and rechange the handbook for 2025. RT stated there will be two changes, one July 1st and again in January, 2025; RC stated they are substantial increases. Wilgus stated the committee decided to go with the January 1, 2025 amount and use that one until January 1st, the next budget session.

Wilgus stated that exempt employees do not receive comp time, they receive flex time. The flex time has to be used by the next pay period that it is earned.

RT asked if County Attorney Andrew Foster will need to review this, and Wilgus stated that Waggoner, Irwin and Scheele reviewed it and everything looks okay. RT made a motion to accept the revised Personnel Policy Handbook as presented, seconded by RK. Motion carried 3-0.

- b) The next meeting will be Monday, June 3, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. at the Courthouse Meeting Room.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:29 p.m. CST.

RK made a motion to adjourn, seconded by RT. Motion carried 3-0.

Randy Cole
President

Rebecca Thorn
Vice-President

Randy Kleaving

*Minutes prepared by:
Kristinia L. Hammack, Auditor*