

PERRY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MINUTES – NOVEMBER 15, 2022

The Perry County Board of Commissioners met at 9:00 a.m. as was duly advertised. All three commissioners (President Thomas J Hauser, Randy Kleaving and Randy Cole) were in attendance. First Sheriff Deputy Eric Dickinson was also present. There was no *News Representative* or *County Attorney* in attendance.

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

AGENDA

Deleted from the agenda, approved payroll distribution of November 7th, 2022. This was covered at the last meeting. Randy Kleaving made the motion to accept the deletion, seconded by Randy Cole. Motion carried 3-0.

CLAIMS

Pam explained the error with the EMA and The Patio Steakhouse claim. Wrong line item was written down and has now been corrected. A check was still needed to be written to The Patio for a LAPC meeting. A motion was made by Randy Cole to approve and seconded by Randy Kleaving. Motion carried 3-0. The \$1,800.00 claim that was tabled from the last meeting was discussed. Mendy was able to find money in the reassessment fund. The money will be transferred out of this fund. This claim still needs to go before the Council to be approved.

PAYROLL

Payroll benefit claims of \$8,128.55 was paid out. This was the only one since the last meeting. Randy Kleaving made a motion to approve, seconded by Randy Cole. Motion carried 3-0.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS

LED lighting was discussed for the Courthouse. Bids were taken and awarded to May Electric. Funding will be coming out of the ARP Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Grant Fund for the Courthouse. The bid amount was \$21,719.00. Also, up to \$35,000.00 of that same fund will be utilized to upgrade the telephone and telecommunications within the various county owed public buildings. Tom Hauser mentioned that a new ordinance amending the American Rescue Plan will need to be done. Chris Goffinet, County Attorney prepared the new ordinance. Additional appropriations were approved at this time. Randy Cole made a motion to approve, seconded by Randy Kleaving. Motion carried 3-0.

INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT – RIVERS EDGE ANIMAL SHELTER

There is an interlocal agreement with the new Animal Shelter representative(s). It is the same agreement as in the past with some changes, the name being one. Rivers Edge Animal Shelter contingent to the interlocal agreement. Perry County will be giving \$35,000., Tell City \$35,000. and Cannelton \$2,500. Both Mayors are in support of these figures. This will be the next step to opening the shelter. Randy Cole asked about the amounts not matching. Cannelton should be \$5,000. not \$2,500. Question was also asked when payments will start. Contract says November 2022, dollars were budgeted in 2022. Tom Hauser said that the date can be changed. The animal shelter is not county owned. Tom Hauser said that they will oversee their own money. Then give reporting to the Animal Control Board and they report to the Council and Commissioners. The new name was questioned and it was discussed that the Perry County Animal Shelter name belongs to the group of people who were in charge of it in the past. The 501C3 is also still tied to this name and is filed with the state. No one else can have that name. Perry County has a contract with the newly named entity. Question was asked why the Shelter will need to answer to the Animal Control Board and who has control over them. Tom Hauser stated that control is with the Commissioners and County Council. The Animal Control Board just collects information and passes that onto the Commissioners and County Council. Randy Cole stated that the Perry County Council has oversight and that they could request quarterly reports as to what their financial standing is at any given time. Tom Hauser stated that he was not sure how much public information a 501C3 entity has to supply. Concern was raised that this not be another agency that will not share their books. Tom Hauser stated that they would have to share their records,

especially when asking for more money and the Council has the right to say no. He also said that the contract does not give her (or the shelter) the right to unlimited funds. Randy Kleaving stated that in the past when the Animal Shelter asked for money, the Council only gave them some, not the full amount. The Council will still have the same power. Commissioners have control of the wording and the County Council has control of the money.

How appointments are made to the Animal Control Board were questioned. Tell City, Cannelton, Perry County, Commissioners and County Council all have representatives appointed to the Animal Control Board. A staggered four-year term is the term limit.

Shelter use of a vehicle was questioned. Tom Hauser shared his idea to allow the shelter to use an old coroner's van. It is completely open and all the cages and equipment would fit. Rebecca Thorn brought up the truck that was around during Lee Chestnut's time as sheriff and the fact that he said, that the vehicle could be used for animal transport. It was questioned as to whether that vehicle could not go back to the animal shelter. At that time the truck became a sheriff's vehicle. The Commissioners are unaware as to the condition of it or even if it's still around. Rebecca Thorn asked if the vehicle could be returned back to the shelter. Tom Hauser said that he would have to check on that. Randy Kleaving suggested that when and if a vehicle is found that it is parked in a central location so that it is accessible to whoever needs it. Rebecca Thorn did express her concern that to open the shelter without use of vehicle, was still leaving the transporting of animals to law enforcement. Rebecca has visited other shelters and that they have their own (shelter) vehicle. Transportation should be in place before they open. Tom Hauser stated that it was not asked for in the shelter contract.

Rebecca Thorn then asked if the contract with Harrison County will be voided. Tom Hauser said that the Harrison County contract is case by case and that we should still keep it in place, for the time being. Randy Cole also commented that there is a lot of planning and information that needs to be figured out. Such as insurance coverage, liability, who is responsible for what, etc.

Tom Hauser to talk to Molly from the shelter to get a starting date of operation. Randy Kleaving made a motion to approve the Counties portion of funding, the rest to pass to Tell City and Cannelton, seconded by Randy Cole. Motion carried 3-0.

TRIBAL FUND

Randy Cole stated that we have applied for a grant similar to the ARP grants and did receive \$93,767.94 for 2022. Randy Cole asked for formal approval of the grant. Commissioners and Council to determine what to do with the money. There is more flexibility and less restrictions with these funds. Very broad instructions, however, cannot be used for lobbying and no dues to NACO or AIC. Annual report will have to done on the fund to show where the money was spent. Randy Cole made a motion to accept the grand, seconded by Randy Kleaving. Motion carried 3-0.

MISCELLANEOUS

Megan Jaspersen from Purdue Extension office provided 2022 annual report. What was done during the year. Thanked the Commissioners for the continued support.

Pam announced that the next meeting of the Board of Commissioners will be held on Monday, December 5, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.

Thomas J Hauser
President

Randy Kleaving

Randy Cole

Minutes prepared by:
Pamela L Goffinet, Perry County Auditor