

PERRY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MINUTES – JUNE 6, 2022

The Perry County Board of Commissioners met at 6:00 p.m. as was duly advertised. Commissioners Thomas J Hauser, Randy Kleaving and Randy Cole were in attendance. Also present were County Administrator, Teresa Kanneberg, County Attorney, Chris Goffinet, and Sheriff Alan Malone. A representative from the *Perry County News* was not present.

AGENDA

Tom said there is an addition to the agenda:

1. Additional Appropriation – Benefit Admin Program
2. Highway Department – Appropriations and Transfers

Randy K made the motion to approve the agenda with the amendments, seconded by Randy C. Motion carried 3-0.

CLAIMS & PAYROLL APPROVAL

Randy C made the motion to approve payroll that was distributed on May 23, 2022 in the amount of \$158,290.35 and payroll that was distributed on June 6, 2022 in the amount of \$151,019.41. Randy K seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Randy C made the motion to approve claims dated June 6, 2022 for County General \$417,044.81, Highway \$129,595.72 and Advances for \$2,528.12 and \$26,357.75 for a total of \$575,526.40. Randy K seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

PAYROLL BENEFIT CLAIMS

Randy K made the motion to approve the payroll benefit claims for county insurances in the amount of \$13,384.95, seconded by Randy C. Motion carried 3-0.

MINUTES

The minutes of special meeting on March 11, 2022 were mailed to the Commissioners for their review. Randy K made the motion to approve them as presented, seconded by Tom. Motion carried 2-0-1 with Randy C abstaining.

AMENDMENT TO STANDARD LIFE INSURANCE POLICY

Auditor Pam Goffinet commented that Standard Life is the new life insurance for Perry County for 2022 for all full time county employees. The coverage amount is for \$25,000 for each employee. She explained that the way their billing is set up, the amount of coverage changes for employees turning 65 and older on their birthdate month. This is difficult for payroll to catch each change for certain months for the payment on the billing. This amendment is to standardize it so that anyone that turns 65 or older that year, Standard will notify us January 1 for what the amount will be for those employees for the whole year. This will help us get the billings right for payment and for what we withhold from the employee also. This is just an administrative change needed. Randy C made the motion to approve the amendment, seconded by Randy K. Motion carried 3-0.

STEELE BENEFITS ADMIN PROGRAM

Michael Blink with Steele Benefits came before the Commissioners to explain their program to them. He said his company is to help administer the county's benefits a little easier. The company is out of Indianapolis, Indiana and they have been in business for 21 years to help groups enroll and administer benefits. He said a few years back they made the transition from carrying the paper apps for payroll benefits (medical, dental, vision, basic life and etc..) to being modernized on a computer system. This system is what helps the payroll deputy with plan administration, new higher enrollment, open enrollment happening. After all that is done, there are changes that happen throughout the year with employees (babies, staff changes, bills need updated, and age off reductions). He said their system maintains all that eligibility of all the plan rules in the system. This way the payroll deputy has only one place to make sure is correct and whole with carriers that have been elected. This is one system to streamline practices. It helps to manage insurances, W-2's, 1095's and 1094's. The employees have access to the system anytime. This will create efficiently in the Auditor's office. There are three things that make their system good:

1. Confirmation statement when finished as to what the employee has chosen for benefits.
2. Option to enroll with spouse present.
3. Helps with payroll deductions, reports and billings.

Auditor Pam Goffinet said this system works great with our new software, LOW system. If there is a provider change, we send email to Steele and they will take care of it. The cost for the program is \$10,900 annually. Randy C asked if the Auditor's office was acceptable of this new system. Payroll Deputy, Tasha Park, said yes. Mike said there is a 90 opt out in the agreement. Pam said we want to go live with this on January 1, 2023. We are asking now because it takes time for them to get all our insurances with employee information entered and for training before we start this in November of this year. The Commissioners decided they needed to review the contract first and then they will approve.

LETTER OF SUPPORT- SOIL AND WATER GRANT

Darlene Fischer of the Soil and Water District came before the Commissioners to discuss the Deer Creek Lake Dam. Darlene read to them that Deer Creek Lake Dam is a flood control structure which was completed in 1979. It is currently under the responsibility of the Perry County Soil and Water Conservation District. The land where the dam is located is owned and operated by the USDA Forest Service. It was originally designed as a low hazard dam. After the dam was built, residential development occurred below the dam which changed the structure into a high hazard classification. In 2021, the Soil and Water District had an assessment study completed and the price of that study was \$23,000.00 and was paid by a federal grant which the SWCD received through the Natural Resources Conservation Service. She said the purpose of the study provides assessment of the current operational and maintenance condition, breach inundation zone, hazard classification, existing hydraulic capacity, current compliance to existing state and NRCS (Natural Resource Conservation Service), design criteria and predict potential alternative to bring the structure back into full compliance. Right now, since the housing is below the dam it is not in compliance as a high hazard dam. This study also assists in determining future actions concerning the potential rehabilitation of the dam to extend the life of the dam and meet the current dam safety criteria banning engineering from Plainfield, IN who performed the evaluation. The safe profitable maximum precipitation is 6 hour rainfall, which is about 28.2 inches without over topping the embankment. In the study, there were four options brought up to help bring the dam up to high hazard standards. They are:

- 1.

ADDITIONALS AND TRANSFERS – HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Highway Superintendent, Steve Howell, requested a transfer of \$100,000.00 from Surtax and Wheel fund to the Motor Vehicle Highway fund for Heath Insurance. Auditor Goffinet explained that with our new software for payroll, it takes the employer share from the fund of 1173 and 1176 where the employee is paid from. Steve said we cannot take from Surtax and Wheel because we do not pay from there with salaries. The next transfer is from Surtax and Wheel to Local Road/Bridge Matching Grant fund in the

amount of \$120,000.00. This is for the County’s share of the one million awarded for Community Crossings for road projects. This helps to cover our share; we still have some left in there from last year also. The third transfer is for \$100,000.00 from Bituminous in MVH-Restricted fund to Local Road/Bridge Matching Grant fund. This is also to help with our share of the matching grant. Steve also had an additional appropriation request for \$220,000.00 for County Road Improvements within the Local Road/Bridge Matching Grant fund. This is from the transfers putting the money in the fund. This is getting the match ready for the projects. He also had another additional appropriation for \$715,000.00 within the Local Income Tax fund for County Road Improvements. This will cover the balance for the Community Crossing projects and a couple other roads they plan on paving this year. Randy made the motion to approve all the requests, seconded by Tom. Motion carried 2-0.

RESOLUTION – AUTHORIZATION FOR EXECUTION OF INDOT AGREEMENTS

Attorney Chris Goffinet said the Highway Department received an email from the state. They have moved to electronic applications and forms and all the contracts to be signed by e-sign now through a portal. So, in order to do that, they have requested the Commissioners to adopt a resolution for this. He said once the Commissioners approve the contracts with the state, then the president is authorized to sign those contracts. He said this will make it easier to administer the contracts. We currently do this with other programs. Randy made the motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Tom. Motion carried 2-0. (See Attachment “A” R-C-22-2)

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION - UNEMPLOYMENT

Administrator Teresa Kanneberg prepared an additional appropriation for \$4,600.00 for Unemployment within the Commissioners budget in County general. This is to cover a former employee receiving unemployment compensation. This amount should cover expected billings received through August. We also anticipate more months yet to cover. There was only \$1,000.00 in the budget for 2022. Randy made the motion to approve the additional, seconded by Tom. Motion carried 2-0.

MISCELLANEOUS/PUBLIC COMMENTS

Cindi Taylor commented on the railroad tracks in the Town of Troy. Who should she talk to and get them to round it off. Randy said it is in the INDOT plan to take care of it. Tom said they are going to raise it.

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Teresa announced the next meeting of the Perry County Board of Commissioners is scheduled for 9:00 a.m. Tuesday, May 17, 2022.

The meeting ended in open session at 6:16 p.m.

Minutes approved this 16th day of August, 2022.

Thomas J Hauser
President

Randy Kleaving

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