

PERRY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MINUTES – AUGUST 16, 2022

The Perry County Board of Commissioners met at 9:00 a.m. as was duly advertised. Commissioners in attendance were President Thomas Hauser, Randy Kleaving and Randy Cole. Also present was Chief Deputy Eric Dickenson. There was no *News Representative* in attendance.

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

AGENDA

There were several items to add to the agenda.

1. Resolution – National Forest Service
2. Phone System – Courthouse
3. LED Lighting – Detention Center
4. County Administrator position

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

PAYROLL AND PAYROLL BENEFIT CLAIMS

The payroll was distributed for August 15, 2022 to all county employees for \$152,484.01. Randy C made the motion to approve, seconded by Randy K. Motion carried 3-0. Randy K approved the payroll benefit claims for payroll insurances in the amount of \$77,353.83, seconded by Randy C. Motion carried 3-0.

MINUTES

The minutes of May 5 and May 17, 2022 had been mailed to the Commissioners for their review. Randy C made the motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Randy K. Motion carried 3-0.

COVERED BRIDGE CERTIFICATION

Auditor Pam Goffinet explained this is an annual certification from the State on the covered bridges that the county has. She stated we only have one that is shared with Spencer County. So, by sharing the bridge, Perry County receives half of the funding from the State which is normally around 900.00 a year. All three commissioners need to sign the certification. Randy K made the motion to approve the certification, seconded by Randy C. Motion carried 3-0.

AFFIDAVIT FOR PAYMENT - PCDC

Alvin Evans with the Perry County Development Corporation presented the Commissioners with an affidavit to authorize Old National Bank to make certain payments from a Construction Fund established by the Trust Indenture dated December 1, 2014, and the Third Supplemental Trust Indenture dated as of April 28, 2021, between the County and the Trustee. It was explained that these invoices will be paid from bond proceeds and that the projects were already approved by the Redevelopment Commission. The invoices for payment are: Exhibit A - \$10,800.00 payable to Perry County Development Corporation for Riverview Industrial Park Stream Mitigation. Alvin said this was a change order #1 that additional trees were requested by IDEM upon inspection of site in 2020. They were planted by the contractor in Spring 2021 but not in correct locations. The payment was held until trees were planted in proper locations which occurred in Spring 2022 when weather permitted and approved by the Engineer. Randy C commented that we are already committed to this. Alvin said yes. Randy C stated to Alvin that he would like to have the affidavits before the meeting to have time to review them. Randy K made the motion to approve the affidavit, seconded by Randy C. Motion carried 3-0.

CONTRACT WITH REGION 15 – NEW ZONING MAPS

Tom commented that Tara Damin resigned from the Planning & Zoning board and Susan Miller was elected the new chairperson. He said there was a contract with Indiana Region 15 to redo the zoning maps. Susan was supposed to be here to present this. Tom said that Chris has review the contract and found it to be in order. Randy C asked if there were any changes in zoning. Tom said there were no changes, just updating the zoning maps to reflect the changes that have been made over the years. Randy C asked if it is electronic where people can actually access it. Tom yes, it will be accessible on line. The maps have not been updated since the early 2000's. It was decided to table this until the end of the meeting.

TRANSFER – DRUG FREE COMMUNITY FUND

Randy C said Attorney Chris Goffinet was going to look at the fund usages and he said he also looked into it further. He said he is struggling when he got the actual approved plan from the state and under their mission statement, it says to address health and social issues in the community resulting from substance abuse. Randy C read other parts of the plan. The schools fall under the guidelines with what they are doing with the money for what the fund was set up for. On the application, it says the grant committee seeks to find a cross-section of projects that directly address the treatment, prevention, reduction of alcohol & tobacco and other drug use or abuse in Perry County, Indiana. Randy C says he struggles with the laptops. If the laptops come in, then anything that would be related such as tires for the car that could be used for travel to a drug bust or anything and next the funds become diluted and its main purpose to reduce substance abuse. We could miss something we are trying to accomplish. Tom stated the Substance Abuse Board decides the best path of the funds towards substance abuse initiative. Randy C said he would prefer to keep them in their lane of substance abuse treatment part. This way the schools can go on with their programs. Randy K said what if we go ahead and approve it all and then communicate with the board. Randy C said that will send out a message to all. If it happens once, it will continue on. Chief Deputy Eric Dickenson said the laptops are used for one common denominator for when they investigate drugs and alcohol. They are used for inception to this position. He said the substance abuse committee sent the grants to the state and they were awarded. The laptops are used for call for services the officers receive in real time of the incident. The officers use the laptops to create reports and those reports are used by the Judicial system. Eric said in the past, they used test strips for drugs and alcohol and breathalyzers. The laptops help handle the case. Randy C said the test strips and breathalyzer do fall under the program. He said he is concerned that there will not be enough funding down the road when expanding the expenses out. Eric asked the Commissioners what they wanted the Sheriff department to apply for. Randy C said he would like to see to be active in the program to interact with the community on drugs and alcohol for prevention for the young and old. Eric said they don't apply for other programs of it because so many other entities do. Randy C said the state has programs to buy vehicles, do they have any to buy laptops. Randy K stated the state did approve and Eric said yes. Randy K said they cannot operate without computers. Randy C said it is not an issue of needing them, just where they are coming from. Eric informed the commissioners of what kind of computers they are needing to get. He said they are \$1518.00 apiece and \$66.29 for charger. He said they requested a grant in the amount of \$3,758.30. That quote was for the cost of 3 computers. The cost has come down. Now they would like to get 4 of them and the balance remaining of \$700.00 would be paid by the Sheriff. Randy K made the motion to approve the transfer in the full amount, seconded by Tom. Motion carried 3-0 with the exception of Randy C for the school and not the laptops. Tom said the board was put in place and we need to trust their judgement. There was more discussion concerning this for the future.

2023 COMMISSIONERS BUDGET – EMS AND PCMH

Randy C stated he met with Brian Herwig, CEO of Perry County Memorial Hospital, about the issues of the EMS and the PCMH. He said they are fighting costs for raises for employees and fuel. He said we should give the amounts requested to the Council and see what they can do with limited funds. This is a tough issue. It needs to be explored just not at budget time. Randy K said we are still getting a bargain than other

counties. It is a service for the county, not a money maker. The amounts put in the budget were:

County General -	\$562,119	Ambulance Service
Public Safety-	\$562,119	Ambulance Service
	\$104,500	Equipment
	\$200,000	Ambulance Lease

Tom said part of the reason was because the hospital is not getting adequate reimbursements back from Medicare/Medicaid. It is only 31%. Randy C made the motion to accept the amounts in the budget as they are, seconded by Randy K. Motion carried 2-0-1 with Tom abstaining.

RESOLUTION – NATIONAL FOREST SERVICE DISTRIBUTION ELECTIONS

Auditor Pam Goffinet informed the Commissioners in order for the county to continue receiving National Forest Distribution funds. She said they need to sign a resolution or make a motion in the minutes that the county still wants to continue getting the money. This money goes into County General. She suggested doing a resolution to have on file and it needs to be sent to the State by August 31, 2022. Attorney Chris Goffinet prepared a resolution for the Commissioners to approve. Randy K made the motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Randy C. Motion carried 3-0. (See attached resolution R-C-22-3)

COUNTY PHONE SYSTEM UPDATE

Randy C said that several office holders, commissioner, and council had a meeting with PSC back in May. They want to put in the service of voice over call. He said currently the county has a three-year contract with AT & T that expires at the end of the year. When it rains, the phone lines go out. Randy C said we have fiber optic in the building. He commented that if we pursue this, we need to get new hardware and switches. He questioned how do we pay for it. What do we do going forward. We don’t want to get in another bad three-year contract. It was asked if Auditor Goffinet can call PSC for an update on the phone system. Then we will see what our next steps are. The Commissioners gave their support for the change in the phone system.

LED LIGHTING – SHERIFF OFFICE AND DETENTION CENTER

Randy C said they have requests for proposals for LED Lighting for the Sheriff Office and Detention Center. Attorney Chris Goffinet has reviewed them and approved it. They are now waiting on funding. He said there could possibly be a two-year payback on electric savings. The cost is estimated at \$50,000 to \$60,000 to do both buildings, Detention Center and Courthouse. Randy C said we need idea of funds and not waste the vendor time. Tom said he supports the project; we need to talk with the Council. Next is to put bids out and do the buildings separate on the bidding. It was decided to approach the Council about the funding, then do the bids. Auditor Goffinet is to put this on the Council agenda for August 25, 2022.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR POSITION

Tom said they have received one application for the County Administrator position. When looking at her application, her salary is double to what the position pays now. Tom said this is a personnel issue to have an Executive Session. It was advertised for six weeks and it has been four weeks so far. Need to wait to see what other applications come in.

MISCELLANEOUS

Charlie Baumeister, County Councilman, spoke for Susan Miller on the Planning and Zoning board. He said Tara Damin’s main goal before she left was to redo the zoning maps for the county. He said they had a contract and the first cost to do the maps was \$12,000.00. In the 2023 budget, there is only \$1,200.00 in the line item. After the budget was done, Indiana Region 15 said they would do it for \$4,700.00. Attorney Chris Goffinet has okayed the contract. He said the money was already appropriated at the last

Council meeting. There were still some questions regarding this. Randy K made the motion to table this, seconded by Randy C. Motion carried 3-0.

It was announced that the next scheduled meeting of the Board of Commissioners is scheduled for Monday, September 6, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. at the Courthouse.

The meeting ended in open session at 10:54 a.m.

Minutes approved this 5th day of December, 2022.

Thomas J. Hauser
President

Randy Kleaving

Randy Cole

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