

PERRY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES – May 1, 2023

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. Auditor Kristinia Hammack, Sheriff Alan Malone, and Attorney Andrew Foster were also present. There was no *News Representative* in attendance.

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

AGENDA

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- a) Greg Jarboe reported that the phone system is done, the question he has is what to do with the 104 old phones. RC asked is there any value in them? Greg responded that any value will be expended with boxes, shipping, and labor expenses. Greg suggested we add it to our surplus. Auditor, Kristinia Hammack stated she would add it to the next agenda.
- b) Cindy Taylor brought to the Commissioner's attention the railroad crossing on Hwy 66 in Troy, Indiana. They are very rough and causing damage to vehicles. The State has said they are going to address this need, but keeps putting it off. RC stated he would get in contact with the Port Authority and see if they can be of any help in solving this issue.

MINUTES

- a) 04.18.2023

RT made a motion to accept, seconded by RC. Motion carried 3-0.

KRISTINIA HAMMACK, AUDITOR

- a) 04.24.2023 Payroll in the amount of \$161,643.53
- b) 05.01.2023 Claim Docket
- c) Life Insurance Claim: \$1491.01
- d) Health Insurance Claims: \$114234.30

RK made the motion to accept, seconded by RT. Motion carried 3-0.

STEVE HOWELL, HWY DEPT. SUPERINTENDENT

- a) Steve Howell presented Bids for the Road Improvements.
- b) Steve Howell stated that the change to the interest being receipted into the General Fund causes the Highway Dept. to lose about \$14,000 a year. He also mentioned that Cumulative Bridge Fund being cut back in 2007. He stated his job is to speak up for the cuts to the Highway Department.

HWY DEPT. ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS

9141.44501.00000.0534 (Community Crossings Grant)
1176.23300.0000.0534 (MVH-Bituminous)

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

HWY DEPT. TRANSFERS

FROM: ACCOUNT #1176.24302.00000.0531 \$ 3,000.00
SALT
TO: ACCOUNT #1176.32201.0000.0531 \$ 3,000.00
TRAINING

SAMANTHA HURST, PROSECUTOR

- a) Sam Hurst presented to the Commissioners an expenditure request from Prosecuting Attorney Law Enforcement Fund. Per Indiana Code 34-24-1, a portion of the proceeds from the sale of seized property is to be distributed to the Prosecuting Attorney and deposited into a non-reverting fund. Money received is to be used to benefit law enforcement agencies, and expenditure requests are to be approved by the executive. Money has been received in

the past for seizures of property, and requests have been made from the Prosecuting Attorney's Law Enforcement fund which have been brought to the Commissioners for approval. The last request from this fund was on October 7, 2019 to help fund the purchase of body cameras for Tell City Police Department officers. Recently, the Prosecuting Attorney received \$3,135.00 as a result of the sale of a vehicle that was seized from the Tell City Police Department. I am requesting \$455.00 from the Law Enforcement Fund to be paid to the Association of Indiana Prosecuting Attorneys, Inc. to cover an order for 2023 Indiana Criminal Code Books that will be distributed to county law enforcement officers. We provide these books every year to them and have paid for them in the past from our Pretrial Diversion Fund. However, the cost for this year's order will exceed what we will have remaining in our budget after commitments we have made to the Sheriff's Department and Tell City Police Department to help fund their body cameras.

- b) Samantha Hurst presented the new lease agreement from the Tell City Electric Company. She was happy to report that the monthly rent payment was going down by \$300. RC asked how long was the term of lease, and Samantha informed it was a 5-year lease agreement. RC asked the other Commissioners their thoughts, but he referred to this past week when Samantha was out here at the courthouse for trials and he spoke with her in between cases. She informed him that by the time she drove back to her office she wouldn't have much time before having to be back out at the courthouse. RC stated he is guessing that this happens often, and Samantha concurred. RC stated he would like for us to look into possible options in moving the Prosecutors' Offices to the courthouse possibly look into a space planner. RC asked Samantha if she would check with Tell City Electric and see if they would be ok with a 1-year lease, she stated she would ask. RT and RK agreed a 1-year lease is a good idea.

COMMISSIONERS

- a) RT reported updates on the animal shelter building maintenance; The security door has been installed. Thomas Glass is going to repair the back door. Kieser Electric is looking at the EXIT sign wiring and camera. Roofing company was contacted in regards to still having leaks. They are currently in TN, but will be in contact when they are back. RT reported that sadly the guttering is not down, and it has been 6 weeks with no response from the voicemails or text messages she has left. RT stated she would like to go with a different contractor due to this holding up other work to be done. It was discussed and all the Commissioners agreed to send a notice to the current contractor that the project was awarded to giving them 7 days to get the work done.

RK made the motion to accept, seconded by RT. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioners received a bid from She Paints for painting the outside of the building.

RT made the motion to accept, seconded by RK. Motion carried 3-0.

- b) RC introduced Kim Roberson with the Perry County Health Department, stating that she was here to give an update on the Chestnut Grove Property. Kim informed that the property is owned by Tony Hollinden, and is being sold on contract to Elden Kendel. A Notice of Nuisances was sent to both Hollinden and Kendel, noting the camper that is on the right of way, garbage, etc. Kim reported that on her first visit Elden was very upset and aggravated, but a few days later called and apologized. Kim feels he has made a lot of progress to cleaning up the property. RC asked if he was given a deadline? Kim answered no, not as of now. All 3 Commissioners agreed that sending a letter giving him a deadline would be the next step. Attorney Andrew Foster agreed to send a letter with an acceptable clean-up plan with a set deadline of 60 days.
- c) RC opened a discussion on a mobile home that is parked along the roadside on Coon Club Road. A family is living there, with no running water or sewage system. The Health Dept. has sent letters, Kim Roberson has been out there twice. RC said we will have to see if it is on the right of way or the property.
- d) RC also discussed the zoning confusion, of 2-mile perimeter outside of the city limits that the City of Tell City has control of. Yet they say they have no authority. RC stated the issue is someone needs to enforce zoning, if the City of Tell City is not

going to enforce it, the county will take back the 2-mile perimeter. RC spoke with Mayor Chris Cail and both City and County attorneys are looking into the legalities.

e) RC asked Attorney Andrew Foster if he could put step by step procedures on vacating a road. He feels these procedures need to be available to the public, and suggested they be posted on the county website.

f) RC stated he would like to invite the PCVB (Perry County Visitors Bureau) to our next meeting.

g) RC informed that he was at the last County Council meeting and the Sheriff’s Department is applying for a Cops Grant. It would be funded by the grant for 4 years: 100%-75%-50%-25%-0%. The need for another officer is apparent, and he would like for the Commissioners and Council to work together on brainstorming options for funding.

h) RC reported that the county has an opportunity for a charging station. If anyone has any interest or location ideas to let the Commissioners know.

i) RT mentioned the issue with “dumping” on Sycamore Road. This is something we need to address.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 a.m. CST.

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

The next meeting of the Board of Commissioners will be held on Tuesday, May 16, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.

_____ Randy Cole President	_____ Rebecca Thorn Vice-President	_____ Randy Kleaving
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*Minutes prepared by:
Kristinia L. Hammack, Auditor*