

PERRY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MEETING MINUTES
December 17, 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. Auditor Kristinia Hammack and Sheriff Alan Malone were also present. There was no *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 modified, seconded by RT. Motion carried 3-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

a) Charlie Baumeister, Clerk

Baumeister appeared as the Clerk to speak on two issues.

1. There is not an election next year, only a referendum in Cannelton, but during early voting there were several people who fell in the Courthouse meeting room. Baumeister stated that possibly between now and 2026, when there is an election, a different location could be used for this. He was just asking the Commissioners to start thinking about this. RK asked Baumeister if he knows if the early voting has to be in a government building? Baumeister was not sure but will do some research on this.
2. The swearing-in ceremony is January 2, 2025 at 8:00 a.m.

MINUTES

a) 12.02.2024

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

CHARLIE BAUMEISTER, CLERK

a) Postage Meter Contract

Baumeister appeared seeking approval of a lease agreement with Southern Business Machine. The Clerk is in need of a new postage meter in the office, as the current one was purchased in 2014. The current machine is not up to standards with the Postal Service, and it can not be updated.

Baumeister stated that he will be approaching the County Council this Thursday for funding to pay for the equipment, plus there is a monthly rental. This has been being paid for several years at a rate of \$152 per month. With the new agreement, the rental will be \$55 per month. Pending Council approval, there is a contract that will have to be signed to purchase the meter and sign the rental agreement.

The equipment software is \$5695, and with currently having money to use towards this, he will be requesting \$5536.73. There is an annual maintenance agreement of \$815.99 per year, which is a little higher than the current rate of \$795 per year. This is already budgeted, so the only additional cost will be purchasing the meter. The Clerk's office mails all the Court papers, and Baumeister stated it is important to the Court that the postage machine is updated. RT asked if there is software that can update the current postage meter, and Baumeister stated no. Baumeister further stated that if the new meter gets approved, Southern Business Machine will bring a new base and take the old meter. RC asked Baumeister if Southern Business Machine is giving anything for the old meter, and Baumeister stated that in the agreement, the County still rents it. The postage on the current meter will be transferred to the new meter.

RC reiterated that the County is going to pay approximately \$5,600 for the postage machine, \$815 per year annual fee for software, plus an addition \$55 per month, which buys the County zero postage.

RC stated it seems that the County is purchasing the machine, and also being charged approximately \$1,400 to \$1,600 a year, and this does not buy any postage. RC thinks that if the County is going lease the meter and pay those types of service fees, then the County would not have to purchase the machine. It appears the County is paying for the machine and then leasing it after it is already

paid for. RC asked Baumeister if he checked for other vendors for a postage meter, and he responded no, this was dropped in his lap.
Baumeister will reach out to other counties to inquire as to what vendor they use.

STEVE HOWELL, HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT

a) IDOT road closure on Copper Rd

Howell stated he reached out to the State and they went out and videoed the road. The State will pay for any damages and will video the road again after the project is complete. Howell will need to contact the State each time the County works on the road for prior approval, and was told to keep a record of what the County does and will not have to call every time.

This project will take approximately four months.

RK made a motion to approve and sign the Memorandum of Understanding Unofficial Detour on Local Roads, seconded by RT. Motion carried 3-0.

b) Howell stated that at the last Commissioner meeting, he was asked to check on a guard rail. The cable guard rail cannot be used along the side of the road, it is only for median in the middle on an interstate, as they have too much give in them. Howell has looked at the other guard rails, and the one the County normally uses is the least restrictive as far as size. RT asked if this will be only one piece of guard rail, and Howell confirmed this.

RT asked Howell when he planned to install this guard rail, and he responded whenever he is told to do this by the Commissioners.

RT made a motion to install the guard rail on Leopold Road at 34, seconded by RK. Motion carried 3-0.

KRISTINIA HAMMACK, AUDITOR

a) 12.16.2024 Payroll: \$186,183.20

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

b) 12.16.2024 Payroll W.H: \$40511.98

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

c) Health Claims: \$48,375.34

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

d) 12.17.2024 AP Claim Docket: \$449,807.64

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

e) PCDC Affidavit for payment

Hammack stated that a signature is needed as it was previously approved at the last Commissioner meeting. This is for remedial work that was contracted out.

COMMISSIONERS

a) 2025 Contracts

1. Perry County Development Corporation

RC stated that he is currently speaking with some other similar organizations just for background information. He has two or three that he is still talking to.

RT made a motion to table until more information is received.

2. Glenn's Cleaning Service

Hammack stated there has not been a price increase, but the County has never had the waxing included on their contract. This is why the County continued to run short, as the waxing expense was not included.

Hammack stated that it is her understanding that Glenn's Cleaning Service will be also cleaning the Prosecutor's office as well. Sheriff Alan Malone asked that the Sheriff office be combined with this contract as well, as he pays for this out of Commissary. RC stated that the County has several issues, being how contracts are being written, to clearly specify the County's insurance coverages. RC further stated that if the county's vendors are covering the liability, then the county needs to make its Brokers and Insurance Agents aware of this, as it lessens the County's potential liability as a County.

RC asked Hammack to confirm with Glenn's Cleaning Service that the contract will include the Prosecutor's offices at the Courthouse.

RC asked Malone if the cleaning of the Sheriff's office is incorporated in this contract, would there be any cost savings? Malone stated that they would only need the front lobby, the Sheriff offices, and the bathrooms cleaned. Hammack asked Malone to email her his contract, and RC stated it is worth considering.

RK made a motion to table until more information is received from Glenn's Cleaning Service, seconded by RT. Motion carried 3-0.

3. True Roll

Auditor Hammack stated that she is wanting to hold off on this at this time.

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

4. Discuss other general contracts that need reviewed

Hammack stated that there has not been a work session and she feels that the County needs to evaluate the contracts that the County currently has. RC stated he feels service contracts need to be looked at, as it seems the County pays for maintenance, but every time something breaks the County pays for it. RC stated that the County needs to make sure it has the insurance coverage by these contractors in place.

b) GIS Agreement for Signature

RC stated that this agreement was approved for the Ambulance Service, so that the ambulance can be tracked no matter where it is within the county, and direct them to the location of the individual and/or where the phone call is coming from. Currently the police can be sent to the location and they can be tracked through dispatch. RK asked if this works with cell phones, and RC responded yes. RT asked if this will be available for the first responders, and RC responded it is there. It will be tied in with the Pulse Point System. It will direct where the call is coming from, where AEDs are located, and where bleed kits are located no matter where you are in the county.

RC stated that all is needed is signatures, as it has already been paid for and approved.

c) Convention and Visitors Bureau

RC has spoke with Attorney Andrew Foster, and RC would like to change the number of people that are on this Board from eleven to seven. He feels too many people on a Board causes it to not function as efficiently as a smaller Board. The Commissioners would appoint four members and Tell City would appoint three. RC suggests that the County appointments would be two individuals at two-year terms, and two appointed at one-year terms. That way there is a rotation and some consistency with the Board.

RK asked that the people currently on the Board would step away, and apply to be reappointed, and RC confirmed this. Stan Goffinet, member of the CVB Board, agreed with the Board going to seven members, as the current number has been dysfunctional.

RK asked that it is okay that the Commissioners have total say as to how this is set up, and RC responded that Foster explained it is rather simple to modify. Foster would have to rewrite the Ordinance if the Commissioners decide to go this route.

RT made a motion for the reduction of members on the CVB Board from eleven to seven, seconded by RK. Motion carried 3-0.

d) Finance Policy

RC is wanting to establish a Fund for interest income to be placed in. This is the County's Finance and Investment Policy. The Commissioners and Treasurer are on the Finance Committee. A separate Ordinance will be passed by the Council. Hammack asked if all the interest will be taken out of the General Fund and put in this Fund, and RC stated there will be a specific fund it will be put into.

Hammack asked if this will start going forward in 2025 and not go back, and RC stated that will be a decision of the Council.

RK stated the County will be able to track interest better this way.

Hammack stated that she feels this is a great idea as far as setting up this fund, but the County has worked really hard to build the General Fund up. Prior to last year, interest was being divided between accounts and it has gone from having 16% of the estimated expenditures on reserve to ending 2023 right under 25%.

The County is projected to be at 38% at the end of 2024.

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

e) Solid Waste

RT gave an update regarding the outlook of Solid Waste.

f) The next meeting will be Monday, December 23, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. at the Courthouse Meeting Room.

g) RT express her appreciation to RK for all his years of hard work and service as a Commissioner. RC did as well.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:54 p.m. CST.

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

Randy Cole	Pam Jamniczky	Rebecca Thorn
President	Vice-President	

Minutes reviewed by:
Kristinia L. Hammack, Auditor

Minutes prepared by:
Leisa M. Ecker, Deputy Auditor