

PERRY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MEETING MINUTES
July 7, 2025

The Perry County Board of Commissioners met at 9:00 a.m., as was duly advertised. Commissioners: President Randy Cole (RC), Vice President Pam Jamniczky (PJ) and Rebecca Thorn (RT) 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

PJ made a motion to approve the agenda as modified, seconded by RT. Motion carried 3-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- a) None

CHARLIE BAUMEISTER, ANIMAL WELFARE BOARD

- a) Ordinance

Baumeister stated he has spoken to the other entities in the County, Tell City, Troy and Cannelton, and they are in favor of this Ordinance. These entities feel that the County needs to step forward and adopt the County Ordinance first. Baumeister is asking the Commissioners to accept this Ordinance as written. RT asked that there will be one Ordinance for the whole County, and Baumeister responded the other entities will mirror the County's Ordinance. Some of the writing in the County Ordinance does not pertain to the city. Enforcement is the biggest item and everyone needs to be on the same page.

RC asked Attorney Andrew Foster if he has reviewed this Ordinance, and Foster responded yes, there have been a couple different drafts. It does have parts that are more specific to the County that may have to be replaced with the city or town.

Baumeister stated the only thing changed from the last draft regarded the definition, changing it from Animal Control to Animal Control/Law Enforcement. Currently there is not an Animal Control Officer.

RC asked Baumeister if he has had discussions with police enforcement, and Baumeister responded yes. There were questions regarding the fines in the Ordinance, and Baumeister stated that it is up to the Animal Welfare Board that fines could be waived if they choose to do so.

RC asked Foster if he needed to look at the final draft before it is voted on, and Foster responded it has to be published as it is calling for fines. Anytime fines are imposed on people, it has to be published in the paper so that the public is aware, and then the Ordinance can be passed later. However, Foster stated that the Commissioners could pass the first reading and publish for consideration with the fines. RT asked how many times it has to be published, and Foster responded he believed twice.

Baumeister stated that by the County taking the first step at this meeting, he would hope Tell City would get on board next week, and everyone is on board by the time the County finalize the Ordinance. RC stated the other entities will be under the same requirement to publish.

RT made a motion to publish the Ordinance for contingent action as of the August 4th meeting, seconded by PJ. Motion carried 3-0.

STEVE HOWELL, HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT SUPERINTENDENT

- a) Discuss the Right of Way on Boyd Road

Howell stated that on the previous Thursday, he received a call from C & R Construction, who is doing the waterline extensions for And-Tro on Boyd Road and that area.

There are two spots that they were going to bore. The boring crew that was out there stated that the angle of the road is going to cause a bow in the pavement if they bore it, or they think it will. C & R Construction is wanting to know if they can open cut it, and that if they agree to come back and fill it with base material,

base coat, asphalt, and mill it back so many feet on each side of that. Then it would be paved over with surface so that it is a smooth transition and no bump in the road.

RT stated she does not have a problem with this, but is the road going to be shut down at all? Howell responded it should not be for a very long time.

RC stated that in the event it would sink in a year, that they would fix it.

RT made a motion to allow, seconded by PJ. Motion carried 3-0.

b) Calls regarding dumpsters on road

RT stated the County has received several calls regarding dumpsters being near the roadway on county roads. These dumpsters are a safety hazard, as they are 1 ½ foot off the road. Howell stated some are closer than that.

RT wanted to make sure property owners ensure that dumpsters are at least 10 feet off the road. This is for the County right of way, plus for public safety.

Howell stated he was just made aware about the dumpster situation the prior Wednesday and Thursday. He believes they have been newly placed.

c) Paving

RT asked Howell when the paving would be starting, and Howell responded that he was not sure of the exact date when C & R Construction will start on Branchville and the others, but he expects it to be in the next two or three weeks.

d) Buzzard Roost area

RC stated that the past weekend, he was in the Buzzard Roost area, and with the slides and concrete barriers there, he asked if Howell had any plans or ideas how to stop that sliding from happening? Howell responded no, it has been doing that for several years, but got worse this year. Howell stated that if you take a private road at the bottom of the hill, which is past the boat dock, the whole hill is sliding and is up against a porch on a house. RC stated that the whole entire hill is sliding. Howell responded there is a rock shelf that looks like it has pretty well slid off and is down on the bottom part. Howell does not know if it will stop with that.

RC asked if the County could sheet pile in that area, and if the County could get into something solid? Howell responded that was done several years ago when you are first going up the hill on the right. Lutgring Brothers was hired to drive some piling and replace some different things; however, it is very expensive to do.

RC asked if there is anybody who could look at this, as people do not need to lose access to their homes, and Howell responded Lochmueller Group could look at it for no charge. RC responded to Howell to ask them what their suggestion would be in that area to try to control it.

JONATHAN BLAKE, RJL SOLUTIONS

a) Blake gave a brief update on RJL Solutions work for Perry County.

They have been reviewing the comprehensive plan that was done in 2015, as well as some other historical records that were provided by RC, in relation to economic development work done in the past, as well as current priorities. Following that analysis, Blake will have some more written recommendations for the board.

Currently, they are evaluating two grants for the County Council. One is the LEI light elimination grant, which is through the endowment.

The tour of Waupaca was move to August 4th.

Blake has met with Cannelton Mayor Graves and his team regarding downtown Cannelton, some of their priorities, and how that may align with the Commissioner and Council's priorities.

Blake stated that one item that is old business, or carryover from a previous meeting, was the formation of the Perry County Economic Development Inc.

This has been created as part of RJL's work to ensure that Perry County is represented on the Indiana First Board.

Indiana First and SWIDC (Southwest Indiana Development Council) had adopted rules that all LEDOs (Local Economic Development Organizations) needed to work for a nonprofit. Therefore, the Perry County Economic Development Inc.

was established. Directors need to be appointed to this board. The initial appointment was Commissioner Cole as President of the Board of Commissioners.

It is RJL's recommendation that the County Commissioners have three positions on this board, and the County Council have three business positions as well. Action did not have to be taken at the meeting.

Blake stated that once the initial board is brought together, then it can work through the bylaws, election of officers, authorize the additional required finance, and then talk about the economic development strategy.

Blake stated that in terms of economic development programming and where the County is headed as a community, one thing that was identified is that the County really is in need of a policy on incentives and how incentives will be used and when used. RJL is working through some recommendations that would ultimately result in an incentive program, looking at everything from tax abatements to tax increment financing, and other tax incentive packages that are allowed through the State for local and county government. This would include eligibility criteria, how many jobs are brought in, wages of those jobs, capital investment, and the long-term goals of the economic development project. The business recruitment and attraction efforts identified lost business opportunities, and having some type of report that showed where these businesses went if they did not come to Perry County. Blake provided business and recruitment attraction projects that RJL has been evaluating and/or submitted proposals to the Indiana Economic Development Corporation for Perry County. As RJL receives updates from the State as to where these projects went, if they went somewhere else in the State or they went somewhere else in the region. Updates will then be provided to the County based on the information that is available to RJL from the IEDC.

Blake requested that the Commissioners appoint one of the Commissioners to the Indiana First Ready Committee, to serve as the representative and voting member to that organization.

RC asked based on the list of projects provided by RJL, does the County have sufficient sites available for these companies to offer to them? Is a building also a challenge? Are these things that the County needs to look at and plan for when it can address some of these areas? RC also asked what RJL's recommendation would be? Blake responded that there are sites in the County's inventory, and sometimes companies want a green field property where it is a blank field today, and they can do whatever they want on it within reason. Blake stated that as opportunities come through and they see the County is missing the mark, then there will be areas that the County would want to potentially look at as far as the County investing to make the site more competitive. Blake feels Perry County has a good assortment of properties. Blake mentioned that the old GE building is certainly something that can be utilized in the future.

RT nominated PJ as representative on the Indiana First Ready Committee, seconded by RC. Motion carried 3-0.

ARNOLD MASONRY

a) Bond Release

This bond is with Cincinnati's Insurance Company, which was the expansion for the Prosecutor's office. They are looking to release the contractor, and RC stated that as far as he knows, the project is completed.

RT made a motion to release the bond, seconded by PJ. Motion carried 3-0.

MINUTES

a) 06.17.2025 Meeting

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

b) 06.23.2025 Special Meeting

PJ made a motion to accept as presented, seconded by RC. Motion carried 2-0-1 (RT abstained).

KRISTINIA HAMMACK, AUDITOR

a) 06.20.2025 Payroll: \$201,527.73

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

b) 06.20.2025 Payroll W/H: \$43,118.93

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

c) 07.04.2025 Payroll: \$204,076.90

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

d) 07.04.2025 Payroll W/H: \$43,830.36

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

e) IV-D Bonuses: \$10,696.50

This is for the Prosecutor’s office.

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

f) Dental Claims: \$130.61

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

g) Vision Claims: \$139.31

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

h) Life Insurance Claims: \$1,662.56

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

i) Health Claims: \$83,943.29

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

j) 07.07.2025 Solid Waste Claim Docket: \$903.78

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

k) 07.07.2025 Account Payable Claim Docket: \$1,494,748.62

RC stated that a large portion of this amount is a bond payment for the TIF districts.

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

COMMISSIONERS

- a) Board Appointments
 - 1. Health Board
- Tabled
- 2. Perry County Redevelopment Authority
- RC stated this is the group that was titled to the property. It is not overly active, just for issuing bonds, buying property, transferring property, and things of that nature. They work I conjunction with the County and the Redevelopment Commission.
- Two letters of interest were received, which were from Larry Kleeman and J.R. Flynn, to fill the vacancy. RT asked if this is politically appointed?
- RC responded not that he could find.
- PJ made a motion to nominated J.R. Flynn, seconded by RT. Motion carried 3-0.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, July 15, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 a.m. CST.

PJ made a motion to adjourn, seconded by RT. 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