PERRY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MEETING MINUTES
September 2, 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 and Attorney Andrew Foster were also present. There was no *Sheriff* or *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) Charles Baumeister, Animal Welfare Control Board

Baumeister had a couple questions regarding the Animal Control Ordinance that will be discussed later in the meeting.

Baumeister stated there had not been a discussion, but apparently at a couple of meetings, it was brought up that if this Ordinance was adopted, the Board that is sitting would have to be reappointed. Baumeister stated this was never discussed. It was believed that the Board would stay intact, and the two new members would be added to it. Someone mentioned that by law all members would have to be reappointed, and asked Attorney Andrew Foster if that was correct.

Foster asked if Baumeister was referring to the draft Ordinance where it was requiring the whole board be reappointed? Baumeister responded that someone said that if a new Ordinance was written, that the people currently serving would have to go back and be reappointed. Baumeister further stated that it would take another couple of months to get everyone reappointed due to the way meetings are staggered by the different entities.

Baumeister wanted to ensure that the five members that are currently serving will stay on the board, and if the Ordinance is passed, the two new ones will be added. Foster responded that this would have to be added to the Ordinance, and it has to be made clear. Foster stated that the Ordinance could be passed as presented and then amend it. RC stated it cost $1,300 to advertise, and Foster responded that he does not think it needs to be readvertised, as the County is not introducing a new fine. Foster continued to state that the only time it would have to be advertised is if a new fine or fee is being introduced that people could be subject to. If the composition of the board is changing or allowing the current board to stay in its current fashion, that would be an amendment that is not introducing a new fine, as that fine is already there.

Baumeister asked if the Ordinance is passed at this meeting, could an amendment be made and passed at the same meeting? RC responded he felt that would be a little difficult. Auditor Hammack asked Baumeister if the County is sure this is the way it is written in the Ordinance? Baumeister responded that the Ordinance does not say anything regarding the previous board members. This question was brought up at the Council meeting. RC responded that this board is not starting a completely new organization, and Baumeister responded that members are just being added to it. RC stated this Ordinance is dealing with Animal Control, not board.

Foster stated that the Ordinance that was drafted was over a period of time. Items have been added. The Ordinance contains verbiage about the board being established. RT stated that was the original Ordinance when it was established. Baumeister added that the only thing the new Ordinance did was to add two new members. Baumeister wanted to ensure that the board does not run into problems later regarding this. Foster stated that the Ordinance could be amended; if it is passed it could state that the County's intent with this Ordinance was the continuing of the current board, and adding the two members. Something in writing could then follow this up at a later date, which would make it more explicit.

b) Jim Carter

Carter stated that last month, he appeared before the Commissioners requesting the creation of a restricted fund to assist with the cat problem. At that time, the Commissioners suggested to Carter to go back to the Animal Welfare Board and get approval from the board to do this. Carter stated that the board has passed the concept unanimously.

Carter asked the Commissioners to reconsider that a special restricted fund, specifically for the help of spay and neuter of the feral cats in Perry County where there are hotspots, be approved.

Carter stated that if additional help is not received by February, 2026, for the hotspots, these feral cats are going to start multiplying in February. Carter is wanting to get something in place to try to control this before the end of the year.

Carter stated the Perry County Humane Society and Rivers Edge Animal Shelter are the only two organizations that have paid out of pocket to spay and neuter. The last time assistance was given to Perry County residents, 77 were spayed or neutered through a State program. However, there are more and more reproducing.

Carter stated that the Animal Control Board would be the organization that would oversee how the money is being spent through the supervision of the Commissioners. Carter further stated that by establishing this fund, the Commissioners nor the County has to put a penny in that fund. Carter will solicit private donations to put in this fund.

RC stated that when the County gets involved with this type of fund, the County has to establish an Ordinance. It must be very specific as to who can use them and the purpose; the County has to go through the process of how the money is spent. The Commissioners would have to have appropriations through the Council. RC stated that Attorney Foster would need to take a look at exactly how this could be structured; if County government gets involved, the County is not going to take on any liability for any actions carried out by whomever is in control of that money. RC gave an example of a cat that mistakenly something happens, the County would not have an interest in participating in a lawsuit. In addition, this will be subject to audits through the State Board of Accounts.

RC stated that currently the County contracts with the Animal Shelter, with RT adding she does not want to take away from the Animal Shelter. PJ stated what Carter is doing is more of a personal thing; she does not think the County should create any extra funds, or set up anything to tie up the County's business into a personal agenda. PJ continued to state that it is really hard to draw that line, and where do your draw that line? If a fund is set up for the cat problem, and then somebody else wants the County's help setting up another fund, and then this creates more work and more audits. PJ suggested Carter set up his own accounts.

RT asked Carter if he can not set up a fund through the Humane Society? Carter responded that the Humane Society only has one and one-half year of revenue to do this. RT reiterated to Carter if they can not set up a fund through the Humane Society? Carter responded no, he does not want that entity because funds are needed from County, not just the private sector, as well as the City.

RC asked Carter can the Animal Welfare Board not take some initiative regarding this? RC stated County funds are tight. The premise is that the Humane Society could not collect this under their name, but if it is in the County's name, then a lot more money would come in outside of any County funds. RC feels there is opportunity through the existing group.

Attorney Foster stated by looking at the Animal Welfare Ordinance, the board can accept, use, and expend funds or other resources from sources other than the State if resources are awarded pursuant to a specific objective that the board is authorized to accomplish under this Ordinance. Foster stated that it is not as much as signing up a fund, he believes that the Welfare Board would have to talk to the County Council about whether they are willing to fund, by putting money into the Animal Control budget towards that objective. Foster state the question is how is this being implemented once the fund is created? The County can make a restricted fund; however, it comes back to who is administering the funds, who would be pulling the funds out, how they would be used, what entity is responsible for the receipts, etc. The Auditor would have to make sure that part is being followed. Foster stated that the question lies in how this would be implemented once the fund is created.

Charlie Baumeister stated that the only reason he voted for the restricted fund was with the understanding that there would be a structure before any money was spent.

RC stated that Carter's intent, the end goal, is positive, however, is it being made so difficult through all the steps that the government has to take? PJ added where does the County draw the line? Does every citizen come in and ask for a fund because they want to raise money for their personal agenda?

RC asked Foster to look into this, and asked the Commissioners to think about this, along with Carter having any additional ideas he can provide to the Commissioners. RT stated her concern is that she does not want to hurt the Animal Shelter with any kind of funds or anything else.

TARA LUCAS, COUNTY HEALTH NURSE SUPERVISOR

a) Resource Fair

Lucas stated that on October 2nd from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., the Health Department is co-hosting a Resource Fair with Lincoln Hills. Last year, Lincoln Hills hosted this primarily themselves. By Co-hosting, they are hopeful to get a better turnout and bring some of her people to the table as well.

Lucas is requesting permission to have some food trucks at the Armory location. The cost is covered by Lincoln Hills. There will be no County funds. Lucas just needs the Commissioner's permission to have them on site. Lucas further stated that any time this has been done in the past for any of their events where people have donated or paid for time for a food truck, she has always asked for the Commissioner's approval.

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

MINUTES

a) 08.19.2025

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

KRISTINIA HAMMACK, AUDITOR

a) 08.29.2025 Payroll: $191,405.70

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

b) 08.29.2025 Payroll W/H: $43,492.11

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

c) Health Claims: $93,791.10

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

d) Dental Claims: $188.62

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

e) Vision Claims: $191.79

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

f) Life Insurance Claims: $1,624.42

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

g) 09.02.2025 Solid Waste Claim Docket: $2,632.72

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

h) 09.02.2025 Account Payable Claim Docket: $127,721.05

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

i) Solid Waste Appropriation (to spend Solid Waste operations revenue)

RC stated that this is to allow Solid Waste to utilize tipping fees and ticket sales in their budget. To be able to use this, it has to be appropriated.

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

j) Capital Projects Fund Appropriation (Courthouse parking lot paving)

RC stated that the Commissioners will be considering this paving later in the meeting. The fund is there and it has been earmarked to pave the entire parking lot after the Prosecutor's office was completed.

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

k) General Fund Additional Appropriation for Publications

Hammack stated that with the expense of the Animal Welfare Ordinance, being $1,300 each publication, the Animal Control Board paid one-half of this, and the County is paying the other half. This had to be advertised two times. To pay this bill, the County needed $557.62 in appropriation, which would bring this to zero. Hammack is asking for an additional appropriation of $1,000, which will leave a little under $500 to get through the rest of the year for any publications.

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

COMMISSIONERS

a) Animal Control Ordinance

RT made a motion to accept this Ordinance as presented, with the intent to continue with the current board, which an amendment will be created to specify this, with the board being expanded by two additional members, seconded by PJ. Motion carried 3-0.

b) GIS Mapping access for An Island

RC stated this is something they have done in the past, and it is necessary to approve to let them to continue to use the County GIS system.

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

c) RES Invoice and Affidavit

RC stated this is an on-going multi-year contract which controls the weeds and the erosion control on the site west of the Foundry. RC added the cost is approximately $10,000 and is a contract that was signed.

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

d) Courthouse Parking Lot Paving Bids

RC stated that the County received three bids, with the lowest bid being from Libs Paving. They are new at doing work for the County, and some of their work has been reviewed and have met with their engineer.

Libs paving will try to break up the paving into half segments so it is not so disruptive. The amount of their bid was $98,600.

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

e) LIT Paving Contract

RC stated that the County accepted bids at the last meeting. There were two bids received. The lowest bid was E & B Paving for $363,727.50. This is for numerous roads that need patching.

PJ made a motion to approve the E & B Paving bid, seconded by RT. Motion carried 3-0.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, September 16, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:37 a.m. CST.
RT made a motion to adjourn, seconded by PJ. 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