

PERRY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
July 6, 2026

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

RT made a motion to approve the agenda. PJ asked for a correction of the next Regular Meeting being July 21st, 2026 @ 6pm. Motion was made by RT, seconded by PJ. Motion carried 3-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- a) Charles Baumeister, Perry County Animal Welfare Board. Had some questions concerning the Animal Violation Clerk Ordinance.
- According to the ordinance there should be a Violation Clerk who is a member of the board to collect fees. Charles Baumeister was not aware that any board member could collect fees. At one time there was talk that this Violation Clerk was working in the Clerk's Office. Clarification is needed on this.
 - Second, question: When, county police officers are issuing citations and someone comes in to pay those fines, where is the money going? Auditor Hammack stated that at this time those fees are going into the general ordinance fund. Charles Baumeister asked if that money could be deposited into the animal fund. Auditor Hammack and Attorney, Andrew Foster will look into this.
 - Charles Baumeister also asked for the date that the Animal Welfare Board needs to have their budget letter turned in asking for funds in 2027. Auditor Hammack stated she is working on budget preparation this week, and will email the budget calendar to Charles Baumeister.

RJL SOLUTIONS

- a) No update

Warren Taylor, Parks and Recreation Board

- a) Eagles Bluff Park-Concrete is breaking at the observation point. There are 2 posts on the viewing deck that are in need of repair. Three estimates were submitted. Warren Taylor asked the commissioners if there was any money in their funds in which to pay for this repair. RC asked if there was a maintenance budget for Parks and Rec. Warren Taylor said that there was, but it was a small amount. RC asked that they exhaust all funds that were budgeted first and then ask for an additional appropriation. Crew of Two came in with the lowest bid. Jacob Austin will reach out to them and get their vendor information, to make sure they can start the work. Warren Taylor also asked about tearing down the old bathroom that is in rough shape. At this time, it is only used for storage. Warren Taylor talked to Steve Howe asking if the highway dept. could help with tearing down the building. It was decided that the building could be torn down.

MINUTES

- a) 06/16/2026 Regular Meeting

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

KRISTINIA HAMMACK, AUDITOR

- a) 07.03.2026 Payroll: \$176,536.81

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

- b) 07.03.2026 Payroll W/H: \$36,879.46

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

- c) Vision Insurance: \$287.69
RT made a motion to approve, seconded by PJ. Motion carried 3-0.
- d) Dental Insurance: \$357.10
PJ made a motion to approve, seconded by RT. Motion carried 3-0.
- e) Life Insurance: \$1,598.03
RT made a motion to approve, seconded by PJ. Motion carried 3-0.
- f) Medical Insurance: \$44,494.37
RT made a motion to approve, seconded by PJ. Motion carried 3-0.
- g) 07.06.2026 Solid Waste Claim Docket \$9,566.71
PJ made a motion to approve, seconded by RT. Motion carried 3-0.
- h) 07.06.2026 Accounts Payable Claim Docket: \$18,332,259.32 RC questioned the amount and KH stated that approx. \$15,000,000.00 was settlement.
PJ made a motion to approve, seconded by RT. Motion carried 3-0.

COMMISSIONERS

- a) Coroner Fund Ordinance - at this time everyone is ok with how this ordinance reads.
PJ made a motion to approve, seconded by RT. Motion carried 3-0.
- b) Annual Covered Bridge Certification – Perry and Spencer counties share the Huffman Mills covered bridge.
PJ made a motion to approve, seconded by RT. Motion carried 3-0.
- c) State of Emergency Proclamation – RT stated that this was because of the last severe weather event we had. The county had bridge damage, quite a bit of road damage and washed-out culverts. In order to possibly get funds for repairs we have to have an emergency proclamation signed.
PJ made a motion to approve, seconded by RT. Motion carried 3-0.
- d) Clerk's Office Litigation – RC stated that there is an ongoing issue with the dismissal of an employee in the Clerk's office. The commissioners became aware of this after everything had occurred, but they are tasked with determination as to what they feel is the best option for the county and the taxpayers. RC stated that the commissioners can't hire or fire anyone. This is at the discretion of the elected department head. RC went on to say that the county has spent substantial money on a professional HR policy manual for purposes like this. Discussions have been had on what can and cannot be done, how this should be addressed, and what we would like the outcome to be. However, the commissioners can only make suggestions. RC stated that we should revisit this to make sure that this does not become a reoccurring event. PJ commented that her and Auditor Hammack have had some discussions and a system is in play. Auditor Hammack stated that Human Resources Administration is handled in the Auditor's Office. This HR situation was untreading waters for the office. In collaboration with the commissioners and legal we now have a plan of action and Auditor Hammack feels that we have a system in place. Going forward everything has to be in writing and then submitted to legal counsel. After that, legal will handle the matter. Auditor Hammack also stated that both herself and Clerk, Joan Hess, received guidance from Attorney Andrew Foster regarding this matter. RC stated that the dismissed employee has requested payment for lost wages for the year and attorney fees totaling \$29,786.84, if the county settles. The county would also provide a neutral reference and then we would also admit no admission or liability of wrongdoing. The county would also receive a full and final release of all claims arising out of the employment with Perry County. If the commissioners approve this Attorney, Andrew Foster can draft the settlement paperwork for approval by the council to pay out those funds.
PJ made a motion to approve, seconded by RT. Motion carried 3-0.
- e) Hospital Board Appointments – Two seats are available. Two commissioners to serve now with the third coming on board whenever the expiration of the next term on the hospital board or the next occurrence of a vacancy. PJ made a motion to appoint RC, seconded by RT. Motion carried 3-0. RT made a motion to appoint PJ as the second commissioner, RC seconded. Motion carried 3-0.
RC and PJ are now hospital board members.

The next regular meeting is Tuesday, July 21st, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.
The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 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:
Kimberly Lasher, Deputy Auditor