PERRY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
September 15, 2026

The Perry County Board of Commissioners met at 6:00 p.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 was also present. There was no *Sheriff*, *Attorney* 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 as presented, seconded by PJ. Motion carried 3-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

a) Mary Kay Elder appeared to make one final appeal on the Traci Vinet litigation. Elder stated that an office holder can fire a First Deputy for political reasons because the First Deputy would take office if something happened to the current office holder. Elder added that the judge in the unemployment proceedings is not actually a judge but an attorney that oversees administrative proceedings. Elder went on to state that on page 9 of the handbook, it states the introductory period is intended to give new, rehired, promoted and/or transferred employees the opportunity to demonstrate their ability to achieve a satisfactory level of performance and to determine whether the new position meets their expectations. The county uses this period to evaluate employee capabilities, work habits and overall performance. If expectations are not met, employees can be released from employment at any time. All new, rehired, promoted and/or transferred employees work on an introductory basis for one year from date of hire. Elder added that there has been no lawsuit filed, it was only threatened. RC stated that Ms. Vinet's attorney had said that it would be filed. Elder urged the board to reconsider a payout. Elder closed her comments by stating that she believes taxpayers money can be better spent than paying someone who cannot do the job.

b) James Carter appeared on behalf of Charlie Baumeister to discuss the dog problem in the county. Carter stated that they had received a call from Hagedorn Farm concerning dogs being dropped off and abandoned. Carter added that there have been three dogs shot in the last few weeks at the farm. Several of the dogs that were abandoned had killed 4 calves at the farm. Carter went on to add that the state is now involved and has administered a rabies test on one of the deceased dogs. The state is not allowing any of the remaining cattle from the farm to be sold until they have the results of the test. Carter also added that several other farms in the area have complained of abandoned dogs attacking or killing their livestock as well. Carter stated that there was a dog tax up until 2005 and then Indiana Code 6-9-39 was passed which gives County Councils the option to adopt a local ordinance to impose a tax on anyone who keeps or harbors a dog. Carter went on to add that there is no money to help fund the animal issues in the county. Carter is asking for the Commissioners to support doing away with Indiana Code 6-9-39 and to help come up with a long-term solution to the animal issues in the county.

MINUTES

a) 09.04.2026

PJ made a motion to approve, seconded by RT. Motion carried 2-0-1. RC abstained.

b) 09.08.2026

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

KRISTINIA HAMMACK, AUDITOR

a) 09.15.2026 Solid Waste Claim Docket: $4,388.37

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

b) 09.15.2026 AP Claim Docket $715,943.20

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

The Commissioner next Regular Meeting will be Monday, October 5, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:15 p.m. CST.
PJ made a motion to adjourn, seconded by RT. Motion carried 3-0.

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Randy Cole	Pam Jamniczky	Rebecca Thorn
President	Vice-President	

Minutes reviewed by:
Kristinia L. Hammack, Auditor
Minutes prepared by:
Derika L. Roark, Deputy Auditor