

**PERRY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES – AUGUST 1, 2022**

The Perry County Board of Commissioners met at 6:00 p.m. as was duly advertised. Commissioners Thomas J Hauser, Randy Kleaving and Randy Cole were in attendance. Also present were County Administrator, Teresa Kanneberg, County Attorney, Chris Goffinet, and Sheriff Alan Malone. A representative from the *Perry County News* was also present.

AGENDA

Tom said there were additions to the agenda:

1. Add Steve Howell, Hwy Supt. – Transfers and Additional
2. Add Warren Taylor, Coroner – Ordinance
3. Add Make up of the ARP Committee

Randy K made the motion to approve the agenda with the amendments, seconded by Randy C. Motion carried 3-0.

CLAIMS & PAYROLL APPROVAL

Randy C made the motion to approve payroll that was distributed on August 1, 2022 in the amount of \$103,059.99, Randy C seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Randy K made the motion to approve claims dated August 1, 2022 for County General \$284,952.69, Highway \$91,337.27 for a total of \$376,289.96. Randy C seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

PAYROLL BENEFIT CLAIMS

Randy C made the motion to approve the payroll benefit claims for county insurances in the amount of \$144,981.44, seconded by Randy K. Motion carried 3-0.

AGREEMENT – CORONER RECORDS WITH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Coroner Warren Taylor came before the Commissioners in reference to the coroners' records that the Historical Society of Tell City has. We have talked earlier about this and I have an agreement that Attorney Chris Goffinet developed to help take care of the situation. Warren said he talked with Mark Ress and explained what was in the agreement and he said he didn't have any problem with it. He said to bring it to the next Historical Society meeting on Monday to explain it to their committee. It is basically going to give the Historical Society control of some of our old records but there are some guidelines that they have to fulfill. If somebody wants to see the records, they are going to have to make them available at a reasonable time to view. Warren said the records they will have will be 1863 to 1935. He will retain the other records for law enforcement to see. They will be kept at the coroner's office. Warren said he has checked in photo copying or micro fishing the records. He has also talked with other counties and nobody has done this. Randy C asked if a copy of the agreement have been given to the Historical Society and Warren said no, he just got it today. He talked with them. There was one stipulation added that at this time or no time in the future can the Historical Society say we owe them for maintaining or repair of the records. Randy C asked Chris if the Historical Society dissolves, Chris said they are still the county records and are on loan to them. The records would return to the County. We would seize the records back and figure out at that time what to do with the records on where to store them. Chris said he could add a sentence at the end that in the event of the dissolution of the Historical Society, the records would be returned to the County Coroner. We put this under paragraph 6. Tom told Warren that he came up with the best solution for this problem. Randy C made the motion to approve the agreement with the change, then Tom will sign it, seconded by Randy K. Motion carried 3-0.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS AND TRANSFER- HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Highway Superintendent, Steve Howell, presented the Commissioners with an additional appropriation for \$50,000 for Stone, \$50,000 for Culverts and \$60,000 for Gas within the Motor Vehicle Highway-Restricted fund. This is to put the money back for what was used for the Community Crossings Grant match and the stone money to be able to spend 50% of the MVH money. The other additional appropriation is from the Cumulative Bridge fund in the amount of \$45,000 for Steel, \$14,500 for BR#82 on CO

RD #192 and \$12,300 on BR #164 on CO RD #262. This was talked about last month. There was a mistake on the estimate. There also is one transfer of \$3,600 from Temporary/Seasonal to Safety Training within the Motor Vehicle Highway fund. They need this for CDL training. Randy K made the motion to approve the requests, seconded by Randy C. Motion carried 3-0.

ARP COMMITTEE – MAKE UP OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Tom stated he wanted to clarify how many people we are wanting on the committee. He said the discussion he had with the Council at their meeting last week is that they would like to retain seven members on the committee. He said this is the first we need to clarify is if we support seven or entertain a motion for otherwise. Randy K asked how many on there now. There are four: Tom Hauser, Charlie Baumeister, Sherri Flynn and Keith Huck. Randy K said at the last meeting, we would move it down to five and he still believes five is a good number because when you put too many people on any committee, it slows the work down. He asked the public if Randy C wants to come back on, would they be satisfied with a five-member committee. Randy K said the reason he is doing this is because he wants this money out of here for the people. These small businesses have waited too long. If we go after more members, we have to give a six-week notice. So, this will hold up the process again. There were lots of comments from the public and more discussion. Randy K said if we go ahead and advertise, the current members can still meet and move forward. Attorney Chris Goffinet commented there has to be four on the committee then for a majority. Randy K made the motion to have a seven-member committee, operate with five for now, and put Randy C on the committee for the Commissioners. The second was made by Tom. Motion carried 3-0. The six weeks will be the September 20th meeting to appoint the new members. They will also review the previous applications.

TRANSFER – SUBSTANCE ABUSE COMMITTEE

Auditor Pam Goffinet informed the Commissioners that this was a transfer aligns the appropriated amounts in the fund to balance with the Perry County Substance Abuse Committee's report to Indiana Criminal Justice Institute. The Commissioners previously did the additional for their different buckets they have that came down from the State: Administrative, Prevention & Education, Treatment & Intervention and Law Enforcement Justice. She said now they need to transfer the money around for the grants that were awarded in the different buckets. It is not an additional funding request; it is just moving the money around to provide the proper funding for what they have awarded. Randy C asked if there are three categories that give out the grants. He asked if we create issues when a grant is specific to a certain use and we transfer it to another bucket and we are outside the parameters. Auditor Goffinet replied that the Substance Abuse Committee when awarding these grants, they know what should apply for what. Randy C said they are probably using these for good uses but just want to make sure we are doing what is right. Auditor Goffinet said this money is from what they collect off fees that is collected in the Clerks office. Chris said that part of fines and fees that are paid by criminal defendants are some of this. The substance abuse committee submitted the transfer to the Administrator which was Connie Berger, Administration of the committee. Randy C said he doesn't have a problem with this if Chris looks at it or something. Chris said he will check on to make sure there are no grant restrictions on the use of the funds or restricts the transfer of the funds. Sheriff Malone said there are restrictions, you just can't ask for anything. Chris said yes there are restrictions but are they properly honoring them directly. Alan stated that they did approve the three sections of the grants and we have asked for computers and it matches what the grant is. He said they do a lot of their reports on those computers for their arrests. Randy C said he would prefer to table until Chris looks into it. Randy C made the motion to table until the next meeting, seconded by Randy K. Motion carried 3-0.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION – ARP GRANT AWARDS

Tom said that he and Auditor Goffinet talked with Dan Hedden with Baker Tilly who is going to be the County's representative for the ARP. We asked him what is the proper way to distribute the funds and the legal route. Since the ARP committee has agreed on \$1.2 million of the first phase to be disbursed out in grants. The Commissioners now need to ask for an additional appropriation to the Council in the amount of \$1.2 million for the grants. Once the Council approves, then it can be paid out

in claims for the individual grants. The claims can be submitted by the ARP committee and then by law approved by the Commissioners. If it is not all granted out, a reduction in the appropriation can be done and redistributed into another bucket. This keeps us from waiting months down the road to get the money out. Randy C said he would like to ask the entire committee before he does anything. He would like to approach it as what we have now with the 11 approved and confirmed, we appropriate that amount and we can pay them out. We can move these through the system and if we need to speed it up, we can have a special meeting in 48 hours to move the process along. Randy C just wants to make sure that you are not approving \$1.2 million. He said we may struggle to find enough people that fall into that category to distribute that amount of funds. Tom said he is trying to put this money in place that the ARP committee can distribute it out. So, they are not waiting another month for another Council meeting and we could have special meetings or we can appropriate the amount of \$1.2 million that we decided as the ARP committee to give that amount out in grants. We need to move that money so we can do that. There was a lot more discussion on this appropriation from the Commissioners and the public. Randy K asked if they can appropriate a lesser amount. Randy C said maybe do \$500,000.00. Randy K made the motion to appropriate \$1 million for the grants, seconded by Randy C. Motion carried 3-0. This way it shows the people we are putting this on the fast track.

Tom made it clear they are not cutting anybody out on the decision on how to spend the money. First, the ARP committee makes the recommendation to the Commissioners on what and how much they want to spend on a project or item. Next the Commissioners have to approve and update the ARP plan. Then they approve an additional appropriation that next goes to the Council to approve for the funding and to spend it.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION – UNEMPLOYMENT – COMMISSIONERS BUDGET

Auditor Pam Goffinet explained this additional appropriation of \$5,263.00 is an estimate for what might be needed for unemployment of an employee that is currently drawing wages. It is figured on the amount for the rest of this year and for January 2023 since we do pay claims in January. We actually have no idea how long they will be drawing off the county. Randy C made the motion to approve the appropriation, seconded by Randy K. Motion carried 3-0.

APPOINTMENT ANNOUNCEMENT– HOSPITAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Tom said there is an opening for an appointment on the Hospital Board of Trustees at the end of September that is held currently by Rita Mahoney. It is a four-year term and must be a resident of the county. The board is split and made up of three democrats and three republicans. This appointment is a democrat position. Like other positions, this needs to be advertised for six weeks and will be made at the September 20, 2022 meeting. Randy C asked if this appointment can be made at the end of the year. Tom said the appointment ends September 30th.

APPOINTMENT ANNOUNCEMENT – PLANNING COMMISSION AND ZONING APPEALS BOARDS

Tom commented that Tara Damin resigned from the boards of Planning Commission and Zoning Appeals due to health reasons. He said they hope to fill the boards with the same person as Tara served on both boards. This appointment will also be advertised for six weeks and will be made at the September 20, 2022 meeting. They will finish out Tara's term which ends December 31, 2024. Tom read the qualifications for the applicants.

2023 COMMISSIONERS, COURTHOUSE, CUMULATIVE CAPITAL, AND PUBLIC SAFETY BUDGET APPROVAL

The 2023 budgets have been gone through and figures inputted for next year. They were sent to the Commissioners for their review. There was discussion on the Perry County Hospital and the EMS requests. Tom stated he would be abstaining on anything for these two topics. Randy K made the motion to approve all the budgets with exception to do the requests of PCMH and the EMS, seconded by Randy C. Motion carried 3-0.

MISCELLANEOUS

Sheriff Alan Malone wanted to go back and discuss the Substance Abuse Committee request. He said organizations fill out the grants and they are brought to the Substance Abuse Committee and they decide on what to award in the grants. He said if the board approved them, why not the Commissioners. Randy C said there may be grant restrictions, whether State or Local. Alan said the grants awarded are turned into the state for approval. He has the schools asking for vaping detectors and he wants to get them there. Randy C explained his side of it. He asked if Substance Abuse program, why are they buying computers. Alan said they are in compliance with the rules. He said the Commissioners already approved the initial grant. Randy C said he just doesn't want to make an error.

It was brought up about Perry Central School parking a bus for drop off and pick up of students at the Sheriff Detention Center. The County does not have the title to the road. It was never put on the county inventory. Sheriff Malone said it is owned by the city. Attorney Chris Goffinet said it was never vacated in the city's right of way. It was stated that we need to work with the city on the road. Alan said he is looking out for the best of the students. He said he talked with Tara Bishop, Superintendent of Perry Central, and if there is a safety issue, this will be addressed again.

Teresa announced the next meeting of the Perry County Board of Commissioners is scheduled for 9:00 a.m. Tuesday, August 16, 2022.

The meeting ended in open session at 7:30 p.m.

Minutes approved this day of December, 2022.

Thomas J Hauser
President

Randy Kleaving

Randy Cole

*Minutes prepared by:
Pamela L Goffinet, Perry County Auditor*