

**PERRY COUNTY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
June 22, 2023**

The Perry County Council met on the above date at 5:00 p.m. as was duly advertised. Council members in attendance were President David Etienne (DE), Keith Huck (KH), Earla Williams (EW), Paul Malone (PM), Stan Goffinet (SG), and Kelli Harding (Kelli). Sheriff Alan Malone, and Auditor Kristinia Hammack were also present. There was no *Attorney* or *News Representative* present.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA

DE asked for any additions to the agenda. KH wanted to update the public of the EMS for the public. KH mentioned there is a self-appointed committee that met with the hospital consisting of Randy Cole, DE, and Kelli. DE stated this is typical county business. Kelli stated she is an elected county official, and took it upon herself on 1/6/23 to reach out to the President of the Commissioners and the President of the Council because she had concerns and wanted to talk to CEO of the hospital. An appointment was made with the CEO. Kelli stated back in March when they met, that is when the \$25,000 was brought up by the hospital that they could use a little more funding to increase wages to get more personnel because staffing is a problem. Randy Cole took this to the Commissioner's and the \$25,000 was passed. Then it came to the Council in a public meeting and motion to fund the \$25,000 was passed. Wages have increased for EMT's and paramedics, positive progress. PCMH has partnered with Deaconess Hospital and have opened up EMT classes to allow EMTs from here to get their certification. Kelli stated she has sent information to hospital regarding a \$5.7 million grant from the Indiana Department of Homeland Security that they would need to apply for. There are other opportunities on the Department of Homeland Security website where the county can post job opportunities that other EMT and paramedic personnel can look for a job. All across the state you can post job opportunities, and our county does not have any posted on them. Kelli stated she sent this information to the hospital as she is actively working as a council member to try to find solutions. It is not a self-appointed committee; it is called taking initiative as an elected official. SG mentioned the hospital is in transition with new CEO and the new CEO was not aware of the \$25,000. Kelli confirmed the new CEO was not aware, but now knows. The hospital has posted they have increased paramedics starting wages, which are higher than surrounding counties. DE stated there is nothing to be added to the agenda. If not an emergency, items will not be added 48 hours prior to the meeting due to people not aware of what is being discussed. Auditor Hammack made recommendation as an elected official for all committees to contact her for items to be added to agenda by the Monday at 5:00 pm the week of the meeting.

SG made the motion to accept, seconded by EW. Motion carried 6-0.

MINUTES

a) 5/25/23

There was an adjustment on the minutes. PM made motion to pay PCDC invoices that died without a second. Correction has been made. Also, the starting time should be 5:00 pm not 4:00 pm. Changes have been made.

PM made the motion to accept seconded by SG. KH abstained. Motion carried 5-0-1.

b) 6/8/23

KH made the motion to accept, seconded by PM. Motion carried 6-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were none.

KRISTINIA HAMMACK, AUDITOR

- a) Discussion regarding new copier for Auditor's office. Phil Jahn with Hoosier Business Machines met with her informing her that they can no longer guarantee getting parts for the copier, as it was purchased in 2014. The contract for service has been extended until the end of 2023. A trade-in option for same service and updated model will cost \$5899.00, which is good until July 17, 2023 and a minimum 10% increase after that date. Auditor Hammack stated \$5899.00 is not in the 2023 budget and could possibly be put this in the 2024 budget. Kelli asked

how old the copier is in the Administrator's office, which Auditor Hammack was not sure but it is newer than the Auditor's office copier. PM asked if the \$5899 was with trade in and Hammack responded that yes, a new copier is \$16,000. Kelli asked if county can go ahead and sign a contract to purchase next year in order to avoid 10% increase. Auditor Hammack will reach out to Hoosier Business Machines. SG said he wants this on the 2024 budget.

b) Additional Appropriations

- Sheriff-Inmate Housing--#4929.12102.00000.0005--\$12,000.00

This is money needed to pay part-time officers when full time officers are on vacation, personal time, sick or training. Auditor Hammack stated this is not coming out of the General Fund, they have money in Inmate Housing. Sheriff Alan Malone advised his department is short staffed with a new deputy hired, but he will be at the academy for 6-8 months. Sheriff Malone added he is also one correctional officer short as well. PM asked if this amount will last until the end of 2023, and Sheriff Malone responded he hopes so. Kelli asked about the line item in the budget for inmate housing overtime, if this amount can be used first, and then the additional can come after this. Sheriff Malone explained the \$15,000 is for full-time employees. He does not want to take any of the remaining approx. \$7000 as he will need that to finish out the rest of the year.

DE asked if you could pay the \$12,000 out of the \$15,000, and then come back for additional appropriations. Sheriff Malone said he did not want to have to keep coming back for additional appropriations. Auditor Hammack said the \$12,000 additional will take care of the rest of this year, and will budget more next year. It will come out of Inmate Housing.

PM made motion to accept, seconded by KH. Motion carried 6-0

- EMA-Statewide 911—Replace CAD server at Central Dispatch
 - #1222.38103.00000.000--\$10,279.00
- County General-Coroner to cover storage of cadavers outside of Perry County
 - #1000.31800.00000.0007--\$200.00

KH made the motion to accept, seconded by PM. Motion carried 6-0.

- County General-Sheriff's Salary--\$1000.11100.00000.0005--\$3,223.00
- This is due to the Prosecutor's increase of salary starting 7/1/23. Sheriff's salary is currently set at 50% of the Perry County Prosecutor's salary. This is state mandated.

PM made the motion to approve, seconded by KH. Motion carried 6-0.

- Auditor-Riverboat--#1191.44700.00000.000--\$12,095.00

Auditor Hammack is removing additional request to purchase from LOW the Time and Attendance software. We are going to hear from another vendor, An Island, who will be presenting at the July 3, 2023 meeting. Auditor Hammack is tabling this matter in order to make an educated decision. She will try to get LOW down here as well to present, and would like Council to see presentation also. Possibly have earlier session with joint for payroll presentation. Discussion tabled.

c) Transfers

- Cumulative Cap Dev Fund-Temporary loan pay back

FROM: ACCOUNT #1138.50000.00000.0068	\$100,000.00
Cumulative Cap Dev Fund	
TO: ACCOUNT #1114.50000.00000.0068	\$100,000.00
Special Legislation	

EW made motion to approve, seconded by SG. Motion carried 6-0

- Health Department Transfer

FROM: ACCOUNT #9170.32000.00000.0610	\$511.87
Local Health Trust Grant	
TO: ACCOUNT #9162.32200.00000.0610	\$511.87
Local Health Trust Grant	

This was a bookkeeping error in 2022 due to timing of invoice and new Grant funding.

KH made motion to approve, seconded by SG Motion carried 6-0

COUNCIL

- a) Every year the County Council has to review the CF1's for tax abatements for the county. ATTC, which is a number of them, Indiana Municipal Power, and Invision Eye Care, which is new and nothing to review yet. They were all filed timely by May 15, 2023 and are in compliant.

PM made a motion to approve, KH seconded. Motion carried 6-0.

- a) PCDC contract needs to be approved every year. The County Commissioners did enter into a contract, and the Perry County Council needs to approve the funding of the contract and pay invoices.

KH made motion to approve, seconded by EW. Motion passed 6-0

The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m. CST.

PM made a motion to adjourn, seconded by SG. Motion carried 6-0.

Kristinia Hammack announced that the next meeting of the County Council will be held on Thursday, July 27, 2023, at 5pm CST.

Minutes approved this 27th day of July, 2023

President, Perry County Council

Minutes prepared by:

Kristinia L. Hammack, Perry County Auditor