

**PERRY COUNTY COUNCIL
MINUTES – MAY 26, 2022**

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, Danny Bolin, Charles Baumeister, Lynn Fulkerson, Earla Williams, and Paul Malone. There is no seventh member as of this meeting. Council Attorney S. Rod Acchiardo and Sheriff Alan Malone were in attendance for the meeting. There was no *News Representative* present.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA

There were several items added to the agenda. They were:

1. #14 – Earla Williams – update on PCDC
2. #15 – Jane James – Salary Amendment form #144, Add new clerical position and 2023 clerical salary amounts
3. #16 – Job Description – change hours
4. #17 – Update on payoff of Detention Center bonds

Paul made the motion to accept as amended, seconded by Charlie. Motion carried 6-0.

MINUTES

Minutes from the meetings of February 24, 2022, March 8, 2022 and March 24, 2022 were mailed to the members for their review. Earla made the motion to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried 6-0.

TRANSFERS

The Highway Superintendent, Steve Howell, requested a transfer of \$100,000.00 from Bituminous in the MVH-Restricted fund to Local Road/Bridge Matching grant fund. He said this getting the money in place for our matching share of the Community Crossings Matching grant. The second transfer request is \$100,000.00 from Surtax and Wheel Health Insurance to the Motor Vehicle Highway fund. The Highway Department is moving this money out of the Health Insurance line item in the Surtax and Wheel fund because the new payroll system will not take the employer share out from this fund. It only takes it from where the employee is paid from. The last transfer is from Surtax and Wheel fund Bituminous line to the Local Road/Bridge Matching grant fund in the amount of \$120,000.00. This is also getting the County matching share ready for the Community Crossings grant.

TRANSFER APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE

CC-22-04

WHEREAS, IT HAS BEEN DETERMINED THAT IT IS NOW NECESSARY TO TRANSFER MONEY FROM ONE MAJOR BUDGET CLASSIFICATION TO ANOTHER MAJOR BUDGET CLASSIFICATION IN THE FOLLOWING NAMED BUDGET; NOW THEREFORE:

SEC. 1. BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF PERRY COUNTY, PERRY COUNTY, INDIANA, THAT THE FOLLOWING TRANSFERS BE MADE IN THE FOLLOWING MADE BUDGET:

HIGHWAY FUND

TRANSFER	\$ 100,000.00	
FROM:	ACCOUNT #1173.23300.000.0531	\$100,000.00
	BITUMINOUS	
TO:	ACCOUNT #9141	
	LOCAL RD/BR MATCHING GRANT FUND	
WITHIN:	PERRY COUNTY HIGHWAY BUDGET	

SURPLUS, SURTAX & WHEEL FUND

TRANSFER \$ 220,000.00

FROM: ACCOUNT #4913.12300.000.0534 \$100,000.00
HEALTH INSURANCE
TO: ACCOUNT #1176
HEALTH INSURANCE

FROM: ACCOUNT #4913.23300.000.0534 \$120,000.00
BITUMINOUS
TO: ACCOUNT #9141
LOCAL RD/BR MATCHING GRANT FUND
WITHIN: PERRY COUNTY HIGHWAY BUDGET

ADOPTED THIS 26th DAY OF MAY, 2022

NAY

AYE

LYNN L FULKERSON /S/
CHARLES BAUMEISTER /S/
DANNY BOLIN /S/
EARLA WILLIAMS /S/
PAUL J MALONE /S/
DAVID A ETIENNE /S/

ATTEST:

PAMELA L. GOFFINET /S/
PERRY COUNTY AUDITOR

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS

Perry County Sheriff Alan Malone requested an additional appropriation for Sheriff Salary in the amount of \$1,130.00 within the County General fund. The Sheriff is paid 50% of the Prosecutor Salary and their increases take effect on July 1, 2022. This amount will bring the Sheriff salary to 50%. Paul made the motion to approve the request, seconded by Earla. Motion carried 6-0.

The Perry County Commissioners requested \$4,600.00 for an additional appropriation for Unemployment within the County General fund. Auditor Goffinet explained that we have one former employee receiving benefits and this amount should get us to August. There was only \$1,000.00 budgeted for 2022 in this line item. Charlie made the motion to approve the additional, seconded by Danny. Motion carried 6-0.

Highway Superintendent Steve Howell requested \$715,000.00 from the LIT Economic Development fund for County Road Improvements. Steve said this is to help fund part of the paving for road projects. He said they are only going to be able to pave half of what they wanted to with the increase in prices. Steve explained which roads they were paving from two different funds, LIT Economic Development fund and the Community Crossings Grant fund. They will be taking bids for these projects. He also commented that the Commissioners passed an Ordinance that if any loggers tear up the roads, the Highway can stop them from traveling on it. Paul made the motion to approve the request, seconded by Charlie. Motion carried 6-0.

Sheriff Alan Malone request an additional appropriation in the amount of \$11,820.00 for a Security Systems Updates Jail Tracker within the LIT-Special Legislation fund. This is for maintenance in the jail. Auditor Pam Goffinet explained that this request was before the Council in March from this fund and it was denied. Then the Council did a motion of intent to be paid from the Inmate Housing fund. So, at the April meeting, it was changed again to pay it out of the LIT-Special Legislation fund again. David said he didn't remember it. Randy Cole spoke up saying the Council was talking about the recorder for the jail during the meeting because he asked the question if this is the same as we already passed before. The answer was no. He said it is a

recording device. He didn't think this ever came out of this fund. Pam said this got changed to come out of the LIT fund because he had something else coming out of the Inmate Housing fund. Alan said he had a recorder for \$30,000.00 that was taken from the Inmate Housing fund. Auditor Goffinet said that he explained how the Inmate Housing fund was going down. Charlie asked Alan when this needed to be paid. He said it is already like two months behind. David asked is this is an operating expense or a capital improvement. He said to him it is an operating expense and if it should be taken out of the LIT-Special Legislation fund. Alan commented that it is an upgrade to the computer system. Randy Cole commented that Attorney Chris Goffinet testified the state legislature controls what the LIT fund could be spent for but it has been reaffirmed that it is in the jail. He said to consider paying off the bonds first before spending more money. David said the fund cannot be used for operating costs such as utilities, service agreements, janitorial services or medical services. It can be used to improve, renovate, remodel, or equip the county jail. Alan commented his is all for paying off the Detention Center bonds but leave some funds in the fund for the future. He said this is the same as in the past to pay for upgrades. Randy said there will be excess money after the bonds are paid. David said the question is if this is legit to pay from the LIT-Special Legislation fund. Charlie said it is advertised from the LIT fund and according to Chris, it can be used for this. Lynn said can we approve it and have Attorney Rod Acchiardo to research it. Rod said they are putting the cart before the horse. He said he attests that it is legitimate expense. It is needed and helps to organize the inmates. Charlie made the motion to approve this request from the LIT fund, seconded by Lynn. Motion carried 5-1 with David voting against it.

The Perry County Redevelopment Commission requested \$1,800.00 for Professional Services within the TIF #4 Webb Wheel fund. This was work done for the Tell City Troy Twp. School Corporation by the Redevelopment fund. Charlie made the motion to approve the additional, seconded by Lynn. Motion carried 4-0-2 with David and Paul abstaining.

Highway Superintendent, Steve Howell, requested \$220,000.00 for County Road Improvements from the Local Road/Bridge Matching grant fund. This needs to be appropriated after the transfers were made to put the money in the fund. Lynn made the motion to approve the request, seconded by Danny. Motion carried 6-0.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE NO. 22-CC-06

WHEREAS, IT HAS BEEN DETERMINED THAT IT IS NOW NECESSARY TO APPROPRIATE MORE MONEY THAN WAS APPROPRIATED IN THE ANNUAL BUDGET; NOW, THEREFORE:

SEC. 1. BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF PERRY COUNTY, PERRY COUNTY, INDIANA, THAT FOR THE EXPENSES OF THE TAXING UNIT THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL SUMS OF MONEY ARE HEREBY APPROPRIATED OUT OF THE FUNDS NAMED AND FOR THE PURPOSES SPECIFIED, SUBJECT TO LAWS GOVERNING THE SAME:

COUNTY GENERAL FUND	AMOUNT REQUESTED	AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	AYE	NAY
<u>PERRY COUNTY SHERIFF</u>				
#1000-11100.000.0005 SHERIFF SALARY	\$ 1,130.00	\$ 1,130.00	6	0
<u>PERRY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS</u>				
#1000-12400.000.0068 UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION	\$ 4,600.00	\$ 4,600.00	6	0
COUNTY GENERAL FUND TOTAL:	\$ 5,730.00	\$ 5,730.00		

LIT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND

<u>PERRY COUNTY HIGHWAY</u>				
#1112-44501.000.0534 COUNTY ROAD IMPROVEMENTS	\$ 715,000.00	\$ 715,000.00	6	0

LIT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
FUND TOTAL: \$ 715,000.00 \$ 715,000.00

LIT SPECIAL LEGISLATION FUND

PERRY COUNTY JAIL
 #1114-44201-000-0381 \$ 11,820.00 \$ 11,820.00 5 1
 SECURITY SYSTEMS UPDATES-
 JAIL TRACKER

LIT SPECIAL LEGISLATION
FUND TOTAL: \$ 11,820.00 \$ 11,820.00

TIF #4 WEBB WHEEL FUND

PERRY COUNTY REDEVELOPMENT
 #4404-31501.000.0701 \$ 1,800.00 \$ 1,800.00 4 0
 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

TIF #4 WEBB WHEEL
FUND TOTAL: \$ 1,800.00 \$ 1,800.00

LOCAL RD/BRIDGE MATCHING GRANT FUND

PERRY COUNTY HIGHWAY
 #9141-44501.000.0534 \$ 220,000.00 \$ 220,000.00 6 0
 COUNTY ROAD IMPROVEMENTS

LOCAL RD/BRIDGE MATCHING
GRANT FUND TOTAL: \$ 220,000.00 \$ 220,000.00

ADOPTED THIS 26th DAY OF MAY, 2022

NAY

AYE

CHARLES BAUMEISTER /S/
 LYNN L FULKERSON /S/
 DANNY BOLIN /S/
 EARLA WILLIAMS /S/
 PAUL J MALONE /S/
 DAVID A ETIENNE /S/

PAMELA L GOFFINET /S/
 PERRY COUNTY AUDITOR

NEW HEALTH GRANT AND FORM #144 FOR SALARIES

Health Nurse Tara Lucas came before the Council asking for approval of a grant that they did not apply for. Every three years there is a local health department annual survey. She said they have done this survey every year. She commented that a lot of health departments were not responsive enough so they sweetened the deal from the state level. They had completed their survey and found out there was a \$1,000.00 that would come from the state to be used for wages and benefits. It will be split four ways for a one-time payout. This survey was done on off time and during work hours. This survey is vital for the statistics for the Health Department standpoint. Charlie made the motion to approve the grant and also the form #144 for salaries, seconded by Earla. Motion carried 6-0.

Tara also mentioned the Pediatric Immunization Grant that she brought up at a previous meeting. She said they just got an official email that they were approved for the grant. It will start July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023. She said this is very beneficial for the county.

RECORDER – REPLACE FULL TIME POSITION AND REQUEST PART TIME POSITION

Jane James, Recorder, sent an email out to the members explaining her request. She said she had several things for them. First, she wanted to ask for approval to fill the full time Second Deputy position in the Recorder’s office that recently became vacant

with the resignation of Courtney Lamon. This position is critical in operating the Recorder's office. Secondly, she said she would like approval to hire an additional temporary part-time office clerk that would be funded fully through the Recorder's Perpetuation fund. She said she is not requiring any County General money for this position. This position would be for 42 hours per paid period at \$13.00 per hour. The start date would be June 13, 2022. The amount to be paid from the Recorder's Perpetuation fund would be \$8,511.00 for salary and social security for the remainder of 2022. Jane commented that when the first part time job description was approved, it was agreed between the Council and Jane to reevaluate annually. This statement will also be included in the additional part time job description. Thirdly, she would like the Council to approve this additional position for 2023 like she has to every year. Fourth, she would like to revise the first part time position job description from 28 hours to 42 hours per pay period. This would take effect on January 1, 2023 because the position is already set for this year.

Documents were handed out on the IC code on the Recorder's Perpetuation fund. This fund can be used with appropriation for the preservation of records. She said back indexing qualifies for the use of this fund. She said she plans to come every year at budget time to take supplies and all from this fund and not County General. She will only ask for salaried from the General fund. To inform the public, she said they have documents that require back indexing that have already been scanned and integrated into the AVID software program. The duty of this part time clerk would be back indexing these documents. Back indexing is a term used for manually indexing older documents that were not recorded electronically. These documents would be indexed by name, legal description, date recorded and associated documents making them searchable to the people. It would also help the Recorder and staff to furnish the requested documents more efficiently to our emails, phone, and walk ins customers. She said they are constantly asked how far back are their records on the computer. We are making progress but we want more. She said the office has been providing enhanced access for 14 years and the customers want more back indexed. The customers pay for the enhanced access through Laredo and Tapestry programs. At the present time, there are 15 Laredo users that pay a monthly enhanced subscription fee. These are everyday users located all over. They don't want to spend their time traveling to the office. David asked about the fee. Jane said this fee goes into the enhanced access fund and they have to pay FIDLAR because they are providing the access. Once the back indexing is done, they will always get money for the enhanced access fund from the fees. She said these are not the recorder's perpetuation fund. Also, in 2021 there were around 2000 searchers. These users use the tapestry program and pay a user fee. The documents in her office are very valuable. Mary Lee Smith, Chief Deputy, also said a few words about their programs and needs. This is the best way to access the documents. She said it is not about how many employees they will have but just to get the job done. David asked how far are the documents done. 1989 back to 1973 in the Miscellaneous books. Jane said there are enough funds to pay both part time positions to get the job done. The money is not coming out of County General. They have paid for all upgrades and equipment by themselves from their funds. Paul made the motion to fill the full-time position, seconded by Earla. Motion carried 6-0. Lynn made the motion to hire an additional temporary part time employee, seconded by Charlie. Motion carried 6-0. Paul made the motion to revise the first temporary part time position on the hours, seconded by Danny. Motion carried 6-0. Charlie made the motion to approve both temporary part time positions for 2023, seconded by Lynn. Motion carried 6-0. Lynn made the motion for job description for new part time to be at 42 hours, seconded by Danny. Motion carried 6-0.

PLANNING AND ZONING OFFICE

President board member, Tara Damin, came before the Council not requesting approval on the Planning and Zoning budget but just to consider the information. She said she has notice things that were lacking in the office. One is code enforcement. We have ordinances out there and it is hard for a part time director to look things over and make sure people are getting their permits. Secondly, a permitting process, we have one but nothing too formal. Most communities have an online service where you can file for a permit and set up a meeting. We don't have that on our website. Tara said she has been working to update the forms for the office. On staff qualifications, we do not have a building inspector to go out and make sure the building got built. Next is the compensation to pay a staff member to do all these things. Most counties have a full-time director. She said we have a dated process; it is not user friendly. The zoning maps have not been updated since 2008. She has met with Lisa Gehlhausen with Region 15 since they did it the last time. It will take money to do it and they do not have it in their

budget. The other thing is the comprehensive plan needs to be updated. It was last done in 2015. She said we definitely don't need a new plan. She commented that the planning board did identify areas of need that will require additional funding for the department. She did say they don't see hiring anybody full time right now. She said we are not prepared for growth in Perry County at this point. The county is missing out on grant opportunities. Maybe a new person can do a dual role. David thanked Tara for what she is doing.

TEMPORARY TRANSFER ADVANCE

Auditor Goffinet explained at the April meeting there was a temporary advance for County General dollars for the month of April in the amount of \$300,000.00. At the end of the month, it would have been in the red. She said she used \$175,000.00 of that to get the month of April back in the black for the cash. She said especially in the levy funds she cannot be in the red at the end of the month. As of today, May 26, all the levy funds are good again except for County General. She said she needs to ask for \$275,000.00 to get the fund through for the end of May. She said there is \$125,000.00 left from last months request and the fund is over \$372,000.00 in the red. She said this mainly because we have not settled tax dollars yet. That will be in June. She also said all this will be paid back with settlement dollars. The cash flow is not there and only payroll and monthly claims have been coming out of the fund. Charlie made the motion to approve the request, seconded by Paul. Motion carried 6-0.

TENTATIVE 2023 BUDGET SCHEDULE

Auditor Pam Goffinet presented the Council with the 2023 budget schedule to check their calendars and make sure the dates work for all of them. The most important ones to them is the public hearing on September 14th at 5:00 p.m. and budget session days of September 27th, September 28th, and September 29th at 8:00 a.m, all day. The adoption date is October 19th at 5:00 p.m. They are to notify her as soon as possible if the dates do not work for them.

COUNTY COUNCIL CALLED MEETING

It was stated that Paul and Charlie would be attending the State Called Conference for Councilmen in Bloomington, In. this year. It is June 24, 2022. David is considering it.

UPDATE OF PCDC

Earla said there was a PCDC meeting May 10, 2022 and she forwarded reports to the council members. She said that Waupaca had a recent announcement that plant #6 in Etowah is having parts of their plant idled resulting in the layoff of over 500 employees. Relocation package of \$15,000 is being offered to those interested in relocating. They were presented with Pick Perry bags filled with local items and information. This could mean possible growth bur it comes with worry of housing and child care. Perry County is part of 21st Century Talent Region. This group has determined that better understanding the regional child care landscape in terms of meeting the needs of working parents is foundational to achieving the goals of the group. Pick Perry offers afterhours at different businesses in the county. This event was created based upon feedback of local businesses leaders and HR managers. Also, housing remains a main area of focus. There are projects in planning or in process. Randy Cole brought up the potential sell of Tell City Chair Company that was the 7th Street warehouse for Waupaca. He said the county put in over \$900,000 in the building and collected \$200,000 in leasing. We need to look for this money coming back to the county.

DETENTION CENTER BONDS

David said he has Jason Semler, Baker and Tilly, to look into the steps for new rates when the bond is paid off. He will offer assistance if he can. He will have a phone call with Jason on June 2nd. He will find out if the county will collect the income tax through the rest of 2022 once paid off. He said there will be around \$2.5 million left in the fund. He did find out that local income tax does not offer for maintenance money to be put aside for future use.

There being no further business to come before the council, Charlie made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Lynn seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0, with adjournment at 6:35 p.m.

Minutes approved this 25th day of August, 2022.

President, Perry County Council

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