

**PERRY COUNTY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
July 13, 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), Paul Malone (PM), Stan Goffinet (SG), Earla Williams (EW) and Keith Huck (KH). Auditor Kristinia Hammack was present. There was no *County Attorney* or *News Representative* present.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

DE asked for a moment of silence to remember those events that recently happened in our community and our county.

AGENDA

Additions to agenda:

- b) AIC Conference
- c) Approval to post open position in the Auditor's Office.

KH made the motion to accept, seconded by PM. Motion carried 5-0.

KRISTINIA HAMMACK, AUDITOR

- a) Hoosier Business informed Auditor Kristinia Hammack that the copier in the Auditor's Office which was purchased in August 2014 is aging out. Hoosier Business submitted a quote to get a new updated copier comparable to the current copier features we currently have at a price of \$5899.00 with the trade-in of the old one. Auditor Hammack was asked to look into a couple of things due to their quote was good until July 17, 2023. One item was if went ahead and purchased the copier now, could we wait and pay for it in 2024. Auditor Hammack forwarded an email from Phil Jahn of Hoosier Business to the County Council members that if they wanted to do it that way, we would have to pay \$1500.00 down now and the remaining in January 2024. The other item was what would be the turn-around time of ordering the machine, which would be no more than a month.

Auditor Hammack looked into funding options and feels she has come up with the best source for this. In the 1181 Plat Book Fees fund, which are fees taken in by the Auditor's Office, there is a cash balance of \$65,598.25. She feels it is not going to really matter if we pay with an additional appropriation in 2023 and pay the full \$5899.00 out of Plat Book, or if we pay \$1500.00 now and the remaining balance in January 2024. She stated this Plat Book fund brings in an average of \$15,000.00 each year. DE asked if this \$15,000.00 was partially the result of providing copies, and Hammack replied yes.

PM asked if there is no advantage to pay it all now versus waiting until January 2024 to pay off, maybe an additional discount? Auditor Hammack replied there is not, that Hoosier Business was doing this as a courtesy because \$5899.00 was not in the 2023 Budget. In addition, if we were to pay out of General Fund in 2024, it makes sense to pay out of the Plat Book since the copier brings in a lot of these fees. KH asked what would be the maintenance cost for the new copier, with Auditor Hammack responding it is the same as the old copier, based on usage. The last bill was \$57.00.

KH feels the county should have a policy where more than one quote be obtained on anything over \$5000.00. DE agreed we need to adopt a policy. Auditor Hammack stated policy is currently at \$50,000.00, with KH stating he feels that is not acceptable. Anything over \$5000.00 in the future should have more than one bid.

KH made motion of intent to take the next level for additional appropriation so we can move forward to get the copier and take the money out of the Plat Book Fees fund, seconded by EW. Motion carried 5-0.

- b) Auditor Kristinia Hammack mentioned that the AIC Conference in September is fast approaching, and wanted to remind anyone who was going to the conference and staying at the hotel in French Lick to get their rooms booked in order to get the room discount.

- c) Auditor Hammack had a deputy resign and would like the Council to give a little time to see if she will replace the position. Changes are being made in the Auditor's Office and she feels she is not in the position to know the benefits of these changes, and would like to take it slow and not jump in too soon. She stated she has a good staff and all offices have highs and lows of busy times, and the Auditor's office is currently going into budget. KH proposed to approve the posting of the position in the future with possibly it being part-time.

KH made the motion to accept, seconded by SG. Motion carried 5-0.

There being no further business to come before the council, KH made a motion to adjourn the meeting. PM seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0, with adjournment at 5:15 p.m. CST.

Kristinia Hammack announced that the next meeting of the County Council will be held on Thursday, July 27, 2023, at 6pm CST.

Minutes approved this 13th day of July, 2023.

President, Perry County Council

Minutes prepared by: Kristinia L. Hammack, Perry County Auditor