

**PERRY COUNTY COUNCIL  
ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING MNUTES**

**January 2, 2024**

The Perry County Council met on the above date at 5:00 p.m. as was duly advertised. Council members in attendance were David Etienne (DE), Keith Huck (KH), Stan Goffinet (SG), Kelli Harding (Kelli), Earla Williams (EW), and Gale Garner (GG). Paul Malone was live streamed with Google Meet. First Deputy Kelli Wilgus and Sheriff Alan Malone were also present. There was no *Attorney* or *News Representative* present.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**AGENDA**

KH made the motion to accept, seconded by PM. Motion carried 7-0.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

- a) Recorder Jane James stated that one of her part-time employees resigned and she asked for permission to refill that position. KH asked if that is paid out of the Recorders Perpetuation Fund, and James confirmed this. This job entails back indexing.

KH made a motion to approve filling this position, seconded by GG. Motion carried 7-0.

**REORGANIZATION OF BOARD**

- a) Elect President, Vice-President
  - 1. PM made a motion to nominate David Etienne as President seconded by KH. There were no other nominations. Motion carried 7-0.
  - 2. SG made a motion to nominate Kelli Harding with no other nominations. Motion carried 7-0.
- b) 2024 Monthly Meeting Schedule
  - DE stated he prefers to keep the meeting schedule the same as 2023, and KH stated he agreed and if it becomes an issue towards the end of the year, it can be addressed at that time.

PM made a motion to keep the schedule the same as 2023, which is the fourth Thursday of the month at 5:00 p.m., seconded by KH. Motion carried 7-0.

**COUNTY COUNCIL**

- a) Board Appointments
  - 1. Alcohol Beverage Board**

There is one position open, and Randy McBrayer expressed interest in continuing on this Board.

KH made a motion to reappoint Randy McBrayer, seconded by Kelli. Motion carried 6-1-0 with EW abstained.

- 2. Perry County Development Corporation (PCDC)**

This is a delegate position with a one-year term that was held by EW.

Kelli nominated EW as a delegate for PCDC, with no other nominations. Motion carried 7-0.

- 3. Parks and Recreation Board**

There is one appointment which is a four-year term. Warren Taylor currently was on this board and has expressed interest in continuing to serve on this Board.

KH made a motion to reappoint Warren Taylor to the Parks and Recreation Board, seconded by EW. Motion carried 7-0.

- 4. Property Tax Assessment Board of Appeals**

There are two appointments with three candidates sending letters of interest, Kelli Harding, Pam Jamnicky, and Megan Fritchley. Kelli asked First Deputy Wilgus about a question raised at the Commissioners meeting regarding political affiliation to ensure that there is not more than a simple majority, and asked if Wilgus was able to verify that? Wilgus responded she was an Independent.

Kelli nominated Pam Jamnicky. SG nominated Kelli Harding. KH nominated Megan Fritchley. Kelli asked DE if each Council member gets one vote, and the lowest number get dropped off, and he confirmed this.

KH and PM voted for Megan Fritchley, making it two votes.

SG, GG, DE, EW and Kelli voted for Kelli Harding, making it five votes.

Commissioner Randy Cole stated that the Council has two positions, so they are allowed two votes each.

SG, GG, DE, EW and Kelli voted for Pam Jamniczky, making it five votes.

Kelli Harding and Pam Jamniczky were elected to the Board.

#### **5. Public Library Board**

There is one appointment and Patsy Alvey expressed interest to remain on that Board.

KH made a motion to appoint Patsy Alvey, no second. Motion carried 7-0.

#### **6. Redevelopment Commission**

There are two appointments, with two individuals who expressed interest.

Kelli made a motion to reappoint William Dickerson and Jon Scheer on the Redevelopment Commission, seconded by KH. Motion carried 7-0.

#### **7. Health Board**

With the new legislation, the fiscal body of the county has a Council appointment to the Health Board. The only official letter of interest was received from Corey Filley.

KH made a motion to nominate Corey Filley, nomination closed. Motion carried 7-0.

#### **8. Indiana 15 Regional Planning Commission**

This is a one-year term currently being served by Kelli, and she has submitted her letter of interest.

SG nominated Kelli, seconded by EW. No other nominations. Motion carried 7-0.

#### **9. Solid Waste Management District Board**

This position is currently being held by PM.

KH made a motion to appoint GG, seconded by PM. Motion carried 7-0.

#### **10. American Rescue Plan (ARP)**

There is a vacancy and Kelli submitted a letter of interest.

KH nominated PM, and SG nominated Kelli. Nomination closed.

KH and PM voted for PM, making it 2 votes.

SG, GG, Kelli, DE, and EW voted for Kelli, making it 5 votes.

Kelli was elected to the ARP.

#### **11. Courthouse Security Committee**

KH is currently serving this position.

Kelli nominated KH. Motion carried 7-0.

#### **12. Plan Commission (Perry County Zoning and Planning Board)**

This is a one-year term. Kelli stated that the Commissioners had two open positions, and no one applied, so they will readvertise for this.

Kelli nominated KH. Motion carried 7-0.

#### **13. Personnel Policy Committee**

DE stated that by virtue of being President, he is on this committee, and there is one other position for a Council person. Kelli is currently on the committee and has expressed interest in continuing to be on this committee.

SG made a motion to keep DE and Kelli on the Personnel Policy Committee. Motion carried 7-0.

#### **14. Emergency Management Advisory Board**

DE is on the Board by virtue of being President.

Kelli nominated DE. Motion carried 7-0.

#### **15. Community Corrections Advisory Board**

EW currently serves on this Board.

KH nominated EW. Motion carried 7-0.

Kelli stated that a letter needs to be sent to all the applicants thanking them for their interest, both selected and non-selected, as well as a Conflict-of-Interest form that is required by State Statute. This includes the members of the Council that serves on a Board or Committee. She believes they need to be filled out every year and uploaded into Gateway. In addition, if the appointments could get a link to the Open-Door Law Requirements sent in these letters as some people may not be aware of it.

KH asked if the Parks and Recreation Board is having their meeting in the Courthouse Meeting Room, and Warren Taylor stated they are still at the Moose. KH stated that it reads they are the second Wednesday of the month at 5:00 p.m. at the Courthouse. KH stated having them at the Moose is dead wrong. There is no reason they are not held at

the Courthouse. Taylor stated their Board voted on it. SG stated he believes that State Statute requires them to be in the Courthouse. Taylor stated in the past when they did have meetings at the Courthouse, they had no where to hold them with other meetings being held, and the Moose was offered. KH feels whoever allowed these meetings to be held at the Moose, whether it was the Commissioners or the Council, it needs to be overwritten and the meetings held at the Courthouse. KH stated those meetings should be live streamed. Kelli stated that Parks and Recreation Board could call the Auditor's office and get on the monthly schedule that reserves the Courthouse Meeting Room for them.

Cindy Taylor asked if this meeting location would also pertain to the CVB? Kelli stated they would have to investigate this, and that the Council needs to review the CVB budget at their next meeting, as the Council has to approve it or not. Kelli stated it is State Statute requirement that the county fiscal body has to look over, review, and approve or not approve that budget.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:26 p.m. CST.

KH made a motion to adjourn, seconded by SG. Motion carried 7-0.

Minutes approved this 25<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2024.

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President, Perry County Council

*Minutes prepared by:*

*Kristinia L. Hammack, Perry County Auditor*