

**PERRY COUNTY COUNCIL
MINUTES – FEBRUARY 24, 2022**

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, Charles Baumeister, Danny Bolin, Lynn Fulkerson, Earla Williams, Randy Cole and Paul Malone. Sheriff Alan Malone was also present.

AGENDA

There was one addition that needed to be added to the agenda:

1. Adopt New Salary Ordinance

Paul made the motion to approve the agenda as was amended, seconded by Earla. Motion carried 7-0.

MINUTES

Minutes from the meetings of December 16, 2021, and January 5, 2022, were mailed to the Council members for their review. Charlie made the motion to approve the December 16th minutes, seconded by Danny. Motion carried 6-0 with Randy abstaining. Paul made the motion to approve the January 5th minutes, seconded by Randy. Motion carried 7-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

David read off a letter from Jim Carter that was given to each member concerning dog tax. Jim said in his letter that he would be back in the near future with a formal request regarding IC 6-9-39 known as the county option dog tax. He says this is a way of controlling the stray cats and dogs. He wants the Council to consider passing a dog tax in the county. Charlie made a motion to table this until the next meeting to be able to talk to the attorney about this. He said even if we charge this, the collection of the tax is going to be impossible. It will cost more in the long run. Randy said we need to wait until the Commissioner meeting on March 7th and see how the contract will be. Need to ask Harrison County on how they handle this. Earla seconded the motion to wait until March 24th meeting. Motion carried 7-0.

TRANSFERS

The Perry County Commissioners requested \$35,000.00 to be transferred from Ambulance Service to 911 Dispatch Service within the Commissioners budget in County General. Tom said this money was in the Perry County Memorial Hospital budget to subsidize the dispatch services. He said the county is responsible for all the entities amounts to dispatch except for Tell City's amounts. He said since it is in the budget, we give for ambulance service subsidy; we are taking it out so it will save a step of not going to PCMH and then going to the city. David commented that he hoped the budget of the ambulance doesn't change next time. Tom said this will just reduce it. Randy wanted to make sure this was in the budget of the commissioners, and we paid it out as a subsidy to the hospital. Tom said yes, we paid the losses once a month. This is just making it simpler, so the hospital doesn't have to collect it from the county and pay it to the city. Auditor Goffinet replied this will be paid monthly to the city along with the other budgeted amounts. Paul made the motion to approve the transfer, seconded by Danny. Motion carried 7-0.

TRANSFER APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE

CC-22-02

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:

TRANSFER \$ 35,000.00

FROM: ACCOUNT #1000-068-3000.87

\$ 35,000.00

AMBULANCE SERVICE CONTRACT

TO: ACCOUNT #1000-068-3000.99

911 DISPATCH SERVICE

WITHIN: COUNTY GENERAL BUDGET

ADOPTED THIS 24th DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2022.

NAY

AYE

DAVID A ETIENNE /S/

EARLA J WILLIAMS /S/

PAUL J MALONE /S/

DANNY BOLIN /S/

LYNN FULKERSON /S/

CHARLES BAUMEISTER /S/

RANDALL COLE /S/

ATTEST:

PAMELA L. GOFFINET /S/

PERRY COUNTY AUDITOR

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS

Clerk Rachel Roark requested an additional appropriation in the amount of \$1,000.00 for Maintenance Voting System within the County General fund. Rachel said she has an annual maintenance agreement locked in for four years for \$13,000.00 and the budget was approved for \$12,000.00. She said going forward the budget amount will be for \$13,000.00. Charlie made the motion to approve the amount, seconded by Lynn. Motion carried 6-0 with Paul abstaining.

The Perry County Health Department submitted a request for \$10,000.00 for Overtime Wages, \$10,000.00 for Health Nurse salary, \$1,530.00 for Social Security and \$2,240.00 for Retirement with the Health fund. This was from an intent that was approved at the last Council meeting. Tara Lucas, Health Nurse, came before the Council stating after the next payment of overtime, they are willing to take compensatory time off over overtime pay going forward. They were waiting to see where they were and where they were headed with the pandemic. Charlie asked if they will be able to use the comp time according to the personnel policy. Tara said she is concerned about that. She said the six-month window may have to be waived also. Charlie thanked them and said he knows it is hard for all of them to take off at the same time. Randy asked if they would have enough to operate the vaccine clinic with the Health Department staff. He said maybe they could come in later to stay later on those days. Tara commented that the Health Department still needs to function. We only have one nurse right now. It might be an issue. It takes all of them to make it work. She said they are doing all they can to reduce the hours come April. Charlie asked if the health board or the Commissioners need to change their hours. Tara said not to change it now, they only have one more month to do. Gail Edwards says it will be easier to take off the hours, just not on Wednesdays. David said this was a good option to go to. Tara said they are doing what they can. Randy asked about the \$100,000.00 grant they talked about. Tara said the rules have changed and we are no longer feasible or applicable for it. Randy asked if any other department could use it. Tara informed him that it has to be run by the Health Department. Danny made the motion to approve the request, seconded by Earla. Motion carried 7-0.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE NO. 22-CC-03

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	APPROPRIATED	AYE	NAY
<u>PERRY COUNTY ELECTION BOARD</u>				
#1000-062-3000.65 MAINTENANCE VOTING SYSTEM	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	6	0
COUNTY GENERAL				
FUND TOTAL:	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00		
<u>HEALTH FUND</u>				
<u>PERRY COUNTY HEALTH DEPT</u>				
#1159-610-1000.13 OVERTIME WAGES	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	7	0
#1159-610-1000.15 HEALTH NURSE SALARY	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	7	0
#1159-610-1000.21 SOCIAL SECURITY	\$ 1,530.00	\$ 1,530.00	7	0
#1159-610-1000.22 RETIREMENT	\$ 2,240.00	\$ 2,240.00	7	0
HEALTH FUND TOTAL:	\$ 23,770.00	\$ 23,770.00		

ADOPTED THIS 24TH DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2022.

NAY

AYE

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

ATTEST:

PAMELA L GOFFINET /S/
PERRY COUNTY AUDITOR

SHERIFF OFFICE – NEW GRANTS

Sheriff Deputy, Eric Dickenson, came before the Council to seek approval of them to apply for a Traffic Safety (SAVE- Stop Arm Violation Enforcement) grant that is administered by the Indiana Criminal Justice. This grant pays hourly salary for off duty deputies to follow Perry Central school buses throughout the county for violations and public safety. This is the second year for this grant. Last year our Sheriff office received an impressive accommodation for the work of our deputies during the 2021 SAVE grant. He said this is a reimbursable and matching type grant. The county’s portion is to pay the FICA tax of the salaries at 7.65%. He said last year the county’s responsibility was \$516.28 for the payroll the state paid out in the amount of \$6,748.80. The amount was reimbursed less the FICA contribution in the 4th quarter of 2021. He said he believes the County’s responsibility will be about the same as last year. He said after talking with Auditor Pam Goffinet, the FICA could come from Deputy Poehlein’s salary. He will not be returning from active military duty until October 2022. The grant is for the Spring, mid-March to mid-May and Fall, August 1 to September 15th. Eric said it is a competitive grant and they will use between \$6,000.00 and \$10,000.00. It will be paid out at the same time as regular payroll. Randy asked if they will be using our cars and gas. Eric commented that there are two parts of the matching share, and the other is the miles we use. Randy asked if this will be an overtime issue. Eric said this is separate from the overtime. Earla asked how effective this is. Eric stated we spend more time in the school zones looking for moving violations. It is for prevention. Paul made the motion to allow the grant, seconded by Charlie. Motion carried 7-0.

PROSECUTOR OFFICE – NEW GRANT

Caitlin Stewart, Victim Advocate with the Prosecutor Office, informed the Council that she has to apply for this VOCA grant every two years for her position. She said it became available to apply for 10 days before and she is now requesting approval to reapply for this grant. They have received this grant for the past 25 years. This grant is for the period of October 1, 2022, to September 30, 2024. The application is due March 31st. The grant pays 80% and the County pays 20% which will come from the Pretrial Diversion fund. Charlie made the motion to apply for the grant, seconded by Lynn. Motion carried 6-0 with Paul abstaining.

COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS – NEW GRANT

Director of Community Corrections, Traci Fischer, informed the Council that she applied for a grant (Community Coordination Grant) two weeks ago. She had a very short time period of one week to get it submitted. She also informed them that she just learned they received grant approval from the state. This grant is to ensure local units of government have the necessary resources to develop, improve, align and enhance coordination related to access to treatment for substance use disorder and mental health. She said this will enhance services at the Detention Center and others. She applied for \$85,710.00 and received it. There is no county match for this grant. Randy asked if this is the first year for this grant. Traci said yes, it is. She also said this is a collaboration of the Local Justice Reinvestment Advisory Council and other Justice agencies. Paul made the motion to approve, seconded by Danny. Motion carried 7-0.

BOARD APPOINTMENT – PTABOA BOARD

David commented that there are four letters of interest turned in for the PTABOA board. They are: Kelli Harding, Zach Harding, Tony Hollinden and Lee Chestnut. David read off the requirements for the board. You have to be 18 years of age, knowledgeable in the valuation of property, 3 of 5 must be resident of Perry County, and no more than 3 of the same political party. Charlie said he called each member that applied, and Mr. Hollinden asked if we needed three realtors on the board. He said he asked them about the knowledge of property, and they are all more educated on this issue than I am. Charlie recommended that they vote on the applicants individually. It was commented that the newspaper was wrong, they voted in two republicans and one democrat. Randy made the motion to elect Kelli Harding, seconded by Lynn. Motion carried 5-1-0 with Paul voting against and Earla abstaining. Charlie made the motion to elect Lee Chestnut, seconded by Randy. Motion carried 7-0. David thanked all that applied. On the board are two in real estate, one insurance agent, one banker and one informed citizen.

PERSONNEL POLICY CHANGES

David read off the changes wanting to be made to the personnel policy. They are:

1. Personal Appearance – T-shirts with inappropriate slogans, muscle shirts, crop tops, and provocative or revealing clothing should be avoided. Examples of inappropriate pants include shorts, extremely holey jeans and pants worn below the waist or hip line.
2. Personal Leave – Full time Courthouse employees shall be entitled to 28 hours of paid personal leave at regular pay on their one-year anniversary. Sheriff employees will be entitled to 32 hours and full time Highway employees will be entitled to 40 hours.
3. Personal Leave for New Hires – New hires shall be entitled to one half of their paid personal leave time after the completion of six months of employment with the county. And, one half of their paid personal leave time on their completion of their first year. On the January 1st of each additional year following the employee will accrue personal time as defined above in 4.3.

These changes were approved and passed at the last Commissioner meeting and also requires Council approval. Auditor Goffinet informed them that Waggoner, Irwin and Scheele, consultants, helped with the wording for the policy. Randy asked about time, how and when do you receive it when hired. Auditor Goffinet said it makes it bad when hired in December because personal time does not carry over to the next year. It has to be used by December 31st or you lose it. There was more discussion on this. Charlie made the motion to approve the changes, seconded by Paul. Motion carried 7-0.

INTENT FOR COMPENSATION FOR COMP TIME – HEALTH DEPARTMENT

The health department talked about this earlier in the meeting that going forward they are going back to compensatory time instead of being paid for overtime. Charlie made a motion for no funding going forward for comp time, seconded by Paul. Motion carried 7-0. If the pandemic situation changes, then will have to look at changing it again.

DISCUSSION ON WATER SOFTNER – DETENTION CENTER

Randy stated that he and Paul went to look at the water softener for the Detention Center. He commented that there was a motion of intent given at the December 16, 2021, meeting to the Sheriff. He said it was needed and ordered. These are not standard to grab off a shelf. Randy wanted to know what the “motion of intent” meant. Does this mean it is okay to order. Auditor Goffinet explained that the motion of intent was done for an additional appropriation because when it was presented, the additional has to be advertised 10 days before the meeting. The meeting was in January, and we couldn’t do the additional then. We do not do additional in the month of December. The Sheriff knew how bad it was and couldn’t wait until their meeting in January. Motion of Intent is used when something is needed before asking the council at the next meeting and waiting on the approval of the appropriation. It is mainly a timing issue.

HIRING PRACTICES

Randy said he wanted to talk about this. When he was at the school, they would post and advertise all positions. This would give time for applications to come in. The county is doing this. We also have the job description for the position being filled. He said so if the council wants to modify any of the requirements, add or reduce so that it is some type of a process, we post it, notify people to give them a period of time acceptable to send in applications. This would eliminate people coming in and saying they would like to have that job. He said we should post all the positions. This would make it uniform if hiring within. Auditor Goffinet said we have done this before; you hire within and fill the other position available. She said it has been a standard thing to move someone up in the office. It is in our personnel policy to promote and transfer internally.

NEW SALARY ORDINANCE

David stated that the 2022 Salary Ordinance that was done from budget time reflects 27 pay periods and after changing the pay dates to Mondays, it should reflect 26 pay periods. Paul made the motion to adopt the new salary ordinance, seconded by Danny. Motion carried 7-0.

There being no further business to come before the council, Paul made the motion to adjourn the meeting, and Danny seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0, with adjournment at 6:14 p.m.

Minutes approved this 26th day of May, 2022.

President, Perry County Council

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