

- Building Permit Fee Fund— Planning & Zoning; Social Security
#4911.12100.00000.0101 \$276.00

DE made a motion to approve, seconded by BH. Motion carried 6-0.

- Building Permit Fee Fund— Planning & Zoning; Office Supplies
#4911.21100.00000.0101 \$200.00

PB made a motion to approve, seconded by DE. Motion carried 6-0.

- General Fund— Sheriff Office; Longevity
#1000.14000.00000.0005 \$8,373.12

Brad stated that these are changes due to the new grade level, and Kelli responded the salary matrix to cover through 2026, this appropriation as well as the following for Sheriff.

GG made a motion to approve, seconded by BH. Motion carried 6-0.

- General Fund— Sheriff Office; Incentive
#1000.14100.00000.0005 \$6,000.00

BH made a motion to approve, seconded by DE. Motion carried 6-0.

- General Fund— Sheriff Office; Rank
#1000.14200.00000.0005 \$3,000.00

BH made a motion to approve, seconded by GG. Motion carried 6-0.

- General Fund— Sheriff Office; Holiday
#1000.12500.00000.0005 \$2,492.64

BH made a motion to approve, seconded by PB. Motion carried 6-0.

- General Fund— Sheriff Office; Police Officer
#1000.11201.00000.0005 \$4,559.60

BH made a motion to approve, seconded by DE. Motion carried 6-0.

- General Fund— Sheriff Office; 2nd Deputy
#1000.11300.00000.0005 \$4,559.60

BH made a motion to approve, seconded by GG. Motion carried 6-0.

- General Fund— Sheriff Office; 3rd Deputy
#1000.11400.00000.0005 \$1,771.04

BH made a motion to approve, seconded by PB. Motion carried 6-0.

- General Fund— Sheriff Office; 5th Deputy
#1000.11700.00000.0005 \$1,771.04

BH made a motion to approve, seconded by DE. Motion carried 6-0.

- General Fund— Sheriff Office; 7th Deputy
#1000.12901.00000.0005 \$5,576.24

BH made a motion to approve, seconded by GG. Motion carried 6-0.

- General Fund— Sheriff Office; 9th Deputy
#1000.13200.00000.0005 \$6,083.60

BH made a motion to approve, seconded by PB. Motion carried 6-0.

- General Fund— Sheriff Office; 10th Deputy
#1000.13230.00000.0005 \$1,517.36

BH made a motion to approve, seconded by GG. Motion carried 6-0.

- General Fund— Sheriff Office; 11th Deputy
#1000.13400.00000.0005 \$13,401.68

BH asked what was the reason for this to be so much larger, and it is a change? Kelli asked if was the Lieutenant or Chief? Auditor First Deputy Kelli Wilgus responded that this is the Sargent.

BH made a motion to approve, seconded by DE. Motion carried 6-0.

- General Fund— Sheriff Office; Lieutenant Deputy
#1000.13100.00000.0005 \$9,349.04

BH made a motion to approve, seconded by PB. Motion carried 6-0.

- General Fund— Sheriff Office; First/Chief Deputy
#1000.11200.00000.0005 \$13,304.56

BH made a motion to approve, seconded by GG. Motion carried 6-0.

- General Fund— Sheriff Office; Social Security
#1000.12100.00000.0005 \$7,401.84

BH made a motion to approve, seconded by GG. Motion carried 6-0.

- General Fund— Sheriff Office; Matron
#1000.11107.00000.0005 \$2,637.60

Kelli stated that this is due to statute states this needs to be at the lowest pay grade.

BH made a motion to approve, seconded by PB. Motion carried 6-0.

- General Fund— Sheriff Office; Social Security

#1000.12100.00000.0005 \$202.26

BH made a motion to approve, seconded by DE. Motion carried 6-0.

- General Fund— Sheriff Office; Retirement
#1000.12200.00000.0005 \$295.32

Kelli stated this is for the Matron.

DE made a motion of intent to approve the \$235.32 additional for the Matron's retirement, seconded by GG. Motion carried 6-0.

ERIC DICKENSON, CHIEF DEPUTY

a) CHIRP Grant

Dickenson stated that the award period of this grant will be October 1, 2026 to September 30, 2027. The deadline for the grant to be submitted is April 19, 2026. Dickenson stated that the title of the grant is Comprehensive Highway Injury Reduction Program (CHIRP). It encompasses Click It or Ticket, which is a high visibility enforcement initiative that is focused on preventing and reducing traffic injuries, and fatal crashes caused by motorists who are exceeding the posted speed limits, failing to properly use their safety belts, and engaging in unsafe behavior or distracted driving. In addition, this also encompasses the driving under the influence and enforcement project. This is focused on reducing the traffic injuries and fatal crashes due to individuals who are operating while under the influence of drugs or alcohol, or a combination of both. Finally, it encompasses the stop arm violation enforcement project, which is referred to as Project Save. School buses are followed, looking for dangerous driving behavior while on their routes, picking children up, and also in the evening routes. This targeted by looking for people who are violating the school bus stop arm.

Dickenson stated that in 2023, the County was doing Project Safe only. In 2023 the County had five separate fatalities in Perry County. The Sheriff office obtained permission to engage in all three initiatives, and the first year that they engaged in all three, it went from five fatalities in 2023 to three in 2024. There was a full year of enforcement. In 2025, it has reduced down to two. The Sheriff's department believes that this is an evidence-based program; it is effective and efficient. There have been zero so far in 2026.

Dickenson stated this is a reimbursable grant. It is a 20% match, but there is no cash exchanged with it being a NHTSA (National Highway Traffic Safety Administration) federal grant, with the Sheriff department being a subgrantee; Indiana Criminal Justice Institute is who is grantee. This is a federal grant, and it will not pay FICA. 7.65% of the 20% match comes from that. The remaining could be seen in terms of retirement that is attached to those payrolls.

Dickenson stated that when the deputies are working this, they are solely devoted to this. They are not answering calls or have people on the roadways. This is completely overtime. They are working in the off-duty state where they can focus on traffic enforcement.

Kelli asked Dickenson if he knows what the ask is going to be, or is it going to be more than last year since the wages went up or just less hours? Dickenson responded less hours.

Dickenson stated that there is a push for traffic safety partnerships. Possibly that is something they will look at next year. It is too short of a window. The three agencies in the county, Tell City, Cannelton, and the Sheriff's office all participate in this program. In a traffic safety partnership, all three continue to participate, but there is one grant instead of the three writing individual grants. There would be one submission for pragmatic reporting and fiscal reporting, versus all three doing it at once. The three coordinators could work together to reduce that load. It would be a little more efficient. The difference would be instead of the Treasurer's office getting a deposit, the payment would go to whoever the lead agency is. That lead agency fiscal body would push out what is owed to the other agencies based on a report that is received.

Dickenson stated that the Assistant Chief Biever, Chief Hall, and Dickenson attended a webinar, and may be something they look at next year. Hammack asked what are the benefits of doing it that way? She added it sounded more like how things are done when the County disburses LIT. This would be more of a reimbursement. Hammack stated that the agency that is not receiving it initially, then they are going to run negative and then be reimbursed for it.

Kelli asked that if there is a pool of money, it would be a first come first serve if there is not a set number of hours that each one is banking on? If everyone is just racing for the money, then what happens to the ones that were working and the

money is gone? Hammack added that there is more margin for error. Dickenson responded that having access to the grants, and to be able to say at any given time that there is a balance in each three. Hammack responded there has to be a budget to set those for appropriation. Kelli asked that reimbursements are received quarterly, and Dickenson confirmed this. Kelli asked Hammack that when those are received, it goes back to wherever it was pulled from? Is that how this works? Hammack responded yes.

Kelli asked Dickenson if he has any idea how much the ask might be, and he responded probably around \$25,000.

CF made a motion to approve to apply for the CHIRP grant, seconded by GG. Motion carried 6-0.

PAYMENT TO FERDINAND

Kelli stated that she would like to get this advertised for payment at the end of the month. Hammack responded that she had this on her list for discussion at the 23rd meeting, however, that would push this off another month. Kelli responded that Ferdinand has really worked with the County, and the Sheriff has done a good job of going ahead and getting started on his part.

Kelli asked the Council where they wanted to take this from to pay it. The Sheriff budget has some cash, but not a lot. CF stated that it appeared that there is a healthy balance in River Boat. Kelli responded that the Council has to be mindful because all the revenue is being budgeted from there now. She added that there is some money in that fund that could be used for the approximate \$29,000.

CF made a motion to take the additional for the Ferdinand bill from River Boat cash, seconded by BH. Motion carried 6-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:36 a.m. CST.

PB made a motion to adjourn, seconded by GG. Motion carried 6-0.

Minutes approved this 23rd day of April, 2026.

President, Perry County Council

Minutes reviewed by:

Kristinia L. Hammack, Perry County Auditor

Minutes prepared by:

Leisa M. Ecker, Deputy Auditor