

PERRY COUNTY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
June 25, 2026

The Perry County Council met on the above date at 5:00 p.m. as was duly advertised. Council members in attendance were Kelli Harding (Kelli), David Etienne (DE), Cory Filley (CF), Gale Garner (GG), Brad Harth (BH) and Paul Brockman (PB). Auditor First Deputy Kelli Wilgus was also present. There was no *Sheriff, Attorney* or *News Representative* present.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA

DE made the motion to accept as presented, seconded by GG. Motion carried 6-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- a) None

MINUTES

- a) 05.28.2026 Regular meeting

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

AMANDA HINTON, PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE SUPERVISOR

- a) Request to fill full-time position-Vital Records/Immunization Coordinator/CMA
- b) Request to fill part-time position-Emergency Preparedness Coordinator

Hinton appeared to ask to be able to post both of these positions. Kelli responded that one position is not changing, as it is a grant funded position, and the current employee in the Emergency Preparedness Coordinator position is retiring. Hinton confirmed that. Kelli asked if this position will remain the same, or were duties added to this position? Hinton responded that she kind of switched that position around based on the new contract with the state.

With the Vital Records Immunization Coordinator, the CMA was added. Kelli asked Hinton to give more detail on this addition. Hinton responded that with another person, the Health Department can open up immunizations more days a week, with possibly offering one late evening each month. Kelli asked that it is more beneficial to the public to have this person be a CMA so that they can help with the immunizations? Hinton responded yes, they can help with immunizations, TB tests, health screenings, and STI testing. Kelli asked that previously, it was just the Vital Records and Coordinator could not do that? Hinton responded that they could be certified to do TB tests.

Kelli stated that it is her understanding that part of this is funded through Health funds and part of it is funded through the HFI (Health First Indiana) funds, and asked will this person be made aware that the HFI portion of this is a grant fund, so if some reason that grant would go away? Hinton responded yes. Kelli added this would be the same scenario with the Emergency Preparedness Coordinator.

BH made a motion to fill the full-time position of the Vital Records/Immunization Coordinator/CMA, seconded by PB. Motion carried 6-0.

BH made a motion to approve the part-time Emergency Preparedness Coordinator. Kelli stated that this is a contractual position that is grant funded. Motion seconded by DE. Motion carried 6-0.

KELLI WILGUS, AUDITOR'S OFFICE FIRST DEPUTY

- a) Cash Transfer

- FROM: 9174 FSSA Health Grant \$1,720.00
TO: 1122 Community Corrections 2026 \$1,720.00
Project Fund

Wilgus stated this transfer was requested by Traci Fischer. There is no need to do any kind of additional. It is just moving cash. Kelli stated that this is something that can be used for this purpose, and was approved by the local JRAC (Justice Reinvestment Advisory Council) committee. She added that as long as it was approved and all things are checked, then she is okay with it. DE added that Fischer provided invoices to go with this.

CF made a motion to approve the transfer, seconded by GG. Motion carried 6-0.

b) Additional Appropriation Request

- EDIT-Highway Projects Fund—Highway Department; County Road Improvements

4923.44501.00000.0534 \$260,000.00

Steve Howell stated this is money from their regular road fund, some will be Community Crossings, and some will be used for paving.

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

Howell stated that there were allegations on Perry County Candor that the County paved some roads because of friends and relatives living on them. He stated that has never happened while he has been superintendent. He added that if anyone has any questions regarding this to please contact Howell direct and ask him; he will explain why the County paved a road. It is not because he had a friend or relative living on it.

c) 2026 Budget Calendar (for setting 2027 budgets)

Wilgus stated this calendar is for the 2027 budget meetings and the budget sessions.

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

d) 2027 Payroll Calendar

Wilgus stated that this was prepared to get ready for the budget session to be handed out at the same time. There are 26 pays, which is the same as in 2026. CF questioned the Council's preference for the January 4th payout to be two days late versus the day before? CF asked if payroll could be processed and have it done quicker on the holidays like that? Wilgus responded that it can be processed, but it needed to be the January 4th date in order to not fall in the 2026 budget.

BH made a motion to approve the 2027 payroll schedule, seconded by DE. Motion carried 6-0.

e) 2027 Holiday Calendar

Wilgus stated this is being done to prepare for the upcoming budget sessions. There are normally 14 holidays, however the New Year's holiday for 2028 falls on a Saturday. When a holiday falls on a Saturday, it is moved back one day to be the Friday. By doing this, it causes 2027 to have 15 holidays. In 2028, there should be 13 holidays.

BH made a motion to approve the Holiday Calendar, seconded by CF. Motion carried 6-0.

COUNTY COUNCIL

a) Ordinance to amend section number 33.110 for the reimbursement to County by Prisoners/Detainees

Kelli stated this Ordinance was read at the last meeting. She read the Ordinance aloud at this meeting.

Kelli stated that this change in the Ordinance was at the request of the Sheriff and the Jail Commander due to the increase in prices and all costs in general. The new amounts are State Standard. Kelli added that the County Attorney drafted this Ordinance and agreed that it was in order. The Ordinance number is O-CC-26-2.

PB made a motion to approve the Ordinance, seconded by GG. Motion carried 6-0.

b) Kelli stated that she reached out to Chief Deputy Eric Dickenson regarding the vehicles that were purchased in January, which were the three Durango that were purchased for the Sheriff's department. The upfitting for those is still being worked on. Dickenson stated that at least one should have these vehicles by July 10, 2026.

c) Ordinance for Home Detention Fund

BH stated that in regards to the minutes of the last meeting, the Council had some contention associated with that home detention program that was instituted by a previous administration. There was no attached Ordinance to those funds.

The Council tried to encumber those funds thinking they had been essentially a match that the Council previously paid for. Judge Lucy Goffinet brought it to the Council's attention that was a program. BH added that it was asked for a search to see if there was an Ordinance creating that fund, and was it found? BH asked DE if he looked into this, and DE responded that he researched the minutes at length plus Data Pitstop, and found no mention in any of those minutes of ever an Ordinance or even the discussion. BH stated that the way this was described at the meeting the prior month, it sounded like it was a useful way of setting some money aside so that they could grab hold of it in an emergency for purposes like

that. The Council thought it was a wise idea and useful to those offices. BH added that the Council committed at that time that if an Ordinance was not found, that the Council would produce one. It now falls upon the Council to step forward sometime between the current and the next meeting to come up with an Ordinance. Kelli confirmed that. Kelli added that she or another Council member could work with Judge Goffinet to ensure the wording is correct, and then get it to the Council attorney to make sure he is okay with it. DE asked that this is normally set up under Community Corrections? Kelli responded that she had asked Auditor Kristiana Hammack if she had the time to check with Community Corrections, thinking maybe they could look through their records and see if they had anything. DE stated that normally those Ordinances are adopted under Community Corrections. BH stated that this did cause some confusion because this fund had money in it. Kelli stated that Hammack did not get a chance to speak with Fischer, and maybe give her a chance to speak to Fischer first. Kelli added that if Fischer cannot find one, then someone from the Council can be designated to work with Fischer to get the verbiage correct, then present it to the Council attorney before the next Council meeting. BH will work with Fischer on this.

The next regular scheduled County Council Meeting will be on Thursday, July 23, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. at the Courthouse.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:24 p.m. CST.

BH made a motion to adjourn, seconded by CF. Motion carried 6-0.

Minutes approved this 23rd day of July, 2026.

President, Perry County Council

Minutes reviewed by:

Kristinia L. Hammack, Perry County Auditor

Minutes prepared by:

Leisa M. Ecker, Deputy Auditor