PERRY COUNTY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
September 24, 2026

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), Gale Garner (GG), Brad Harth (BH), Cory Filley (CF) and Paul Brockman (PB). First Deputy Auditor Leisa Ecker was also present. Council President Kelli Harding (Kelli), Roger Peter (RP) and Auditor Kristinia Hammack were absent. There was no *Sheriff, Attorney* or *News Representative* present.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA

CF made the motion to accept as modified, seconded by BH. Motion carried 5-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

a) Steve Howell appeared to discuss a transfer request that he states was pulled from the agenda. Howell explained that the request was to avoid having to pay future interest to Durcholz Excavating. Howell stated that Durcholz Excavating has turned in an invoice under the advice of his attorney charging $2,389.11 in interest for travel. Howell stated that he wanted to transfer the money in order to avoid having to pay additional monthly interest. BH and DE discussed holding a special meeting once payment is finalized for Durcholz Excavating.

MINUTES

a) 08.27.2026
BH made a motion to approve as amended, seconded by GG. Motion carried 5-0.

b) 09.03.2026
GG made a motion to approve, seconded by BH. CF abstained. Motion carried 4-0-1.

c) 09.14.2026
CF made a motion to approve, seconded by BH. PB abstained. Motion carried 4-0-1.

PC CONVENTION, RECREATION & VISITOR'S PROMOTION COMMISSION

a) 2027 Budget—Barry Stiles

Gross Revenue Projected	
• Innkeepers Tax	$140,000.00
• Indiana Trust Interest Income	$16,000.00
Total Income	**$156,000.00**
Personnel	
• Director Salary (Annual Contract-1099)	$63,750.00
Office Operating Expenses	
• PC News Subscription	$80.00
• Tri-State Mailing System- Printer Contract Postage	$500.00
Insurance	
• Covered by county	$0.00
Rent-Utilities	
• Internet PSC	$60.00
• Rent	$0.00
• Verizon	$465.00
• ICloud Storage	$40.00
Professional Services	
• Budd Terry & Associates (checking, taxes)	$15,000.00
• IT Support	$1,000.00
• Graphic Design/Website Developer	$2,000.00
Travel Expenses	
• Hotel	$3,000.00

- Meals $1,000.00
- Meetings/Seminar/Tradeshow Registration Fees $3,000.00
- Mileage/Parking $1,000.00

Sponsorships/Membership Dues

- Miscellaneous $5,000.00
- SIRMC-Warrick $1,000.00
- Perry County Chamber Membership $165.00
- Ohio River Way $300.00
- Indiana Bass Federation $3,000.00
- Hoosier Open Tournament (every other year) $3,000.00
- Deer Creek Bass Trail $3,000.00
- Indiana Tourism Association $850.00
- Phoenix Bass Fishing League $3,000.00

Local Events/Donations

- Shubael Little Pioneer Village $2,000.00
- Perry County Coon Club $2,000.00
- Tell City Historical Society $100.00
- Bristow Car Show $1,000.00
- Schweizer Fest Road Run $500.00
- Misc. Donations $500.00
- Abraham Promotion $1,000.00
- Tell City Regional Arts (Paint Perry) $1,500.00

Advertising Expenses

- Digital Marketing $36,000.00
- Southern IN Tourism Guide $1,100.00
- Indiana DNR Recreation Guide $3,000.00
- Travel Indiana, LLC $4,800.00
- Radius Indiana/Discover Indiana $2,500.00
- Promo Items (giveaways) $2,500.00
- Marengo Distribution of Brochures $4,200.00
- IN State Festival Association $4,000.00
- YouTube and other Social Media Platforms $15,000.00
- Brochures $5,000.00
- Miscellaneous $6,000.00

Equipment

- Software (Adobe Creative Cloud, Canva & Chat GPT) $1,000.00

TOTAL EXPENSES **$203,910.00**

INCOME VS EXPENSES DIFFERENCE **-$47,910.00**

Stiles added that there is a war chest fund that is available to pull the additional fees from in order to save taxpayer dollars.

CF made a motion to approve the budget, seconded by BH. Motion carried 5-0.

LEISA ECKER, FIRST DEPUTY AUDITOR

a) **Additional Appropriation Request**
   - MVH Fund--HWY; Road Improvemnt
     1176.44501.00000.0534 $500,000.00
     PB made the motion to approve, seconded by BH. Motion carried 5-0.
   - LIT Major Maintenance Project Fund--Sheriff Office; Repair Building and Fixtures
     4934.36100.00000.0005 $12,000.00
     BH made the motion to approve, seconded by PB. Motion carried 5-0.
   - General Fund—Courthouse; Building Maintenance
     1000.36107.00000.0161 $1,054.24
     CF made the motion to approve, seconded by BH. Motion carried 5-0.
   - General Fund-Coroner; Autopsy
     1000.31700.00000.0007 $10,000.00
     BH made the motion to approve, seconded by GG. Motion carried 5-0.

- LIT/PSAP Fund—Dispatch Services
  1235.38000.00000.0000 $19,430.00
  CF made the motion to approve, seconded by PB. Motion carried 5-0.

COUNTY COUNCIL

a) **2026 EMS Capital Equipment Fund—**Additional Appropriation discussion
DE mentioned that there is $40,000 currently set aside for the Ambulance Replacement fund, and an additional $60,000 is needed to equal the $100,000 set aside for the equipment replacement. First Deputy Auditor Leisa Ecker stated that funds from the Rainy Day Fund in the amount of $31,45.13 were put in this fund in 2026, as well as payment received from ambulance replacement parts in the amount of $38,000. The total amount currently in the EMS Replacement fund is $139,435.13, and $200,000 total is need for 2025 and 2026. Ecker added that there is $40,000.00 in the HFI fund leaving only $20,564.87 left to meet the two-year goal. DE suggested taking the remainder out of the River Boat Fund.

BH made a motion of intent to fund the remaining amount into the EMS fund, seconded by DE. Motion carried 5-0.

The next regular scheduled County Council Meeting will be on Thursday, October 15, 2026, at 5:00 p.m. at the North Annex Training Room.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:34 p.m. CST.
BH made a motion to adjourn, seconded by GG. Motion carried 5-0.

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President, Perry County Council

Minutes reviewed by:
Kristinia L. Hammack, Perry County Auditor
Minutes prepared by:
Derika L. Roark, Deputy Auditor