

**PERRY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES – MAY 4, 2020**

The Perry County Board of Commissioners met at 6:00 p.m. as was duly advertised VIA WebEx (Audio Only). Commissioners Thomas J Hauser, Bill Amos, and Randy Kleaving were in attendance. Also present were County Administrator, Teresa Kanneberg, County Attorney, Chris Goffinet, and Sheriff Alan Malone. A representative from the *Perry County News* was not present.

CLAIMS & PAYROLL APPROVAL

Randy made a motion to approve all claims. Bill seconded the motion, and motion carried 3-0. The commissioners signed claims dockets in the amounts of \$372,271.51 and \$8,863.33 for county claims and \$121,384.15 for highway claims, and advance payment claims of \$15,493.22, \$673.44, \$1,654.68, and \$231.44 for a grand total of \$520,571.77. The payroll docket was approved in the amount of \$142,217.53 for payroll distributed on April 27, 2020. Randy made the motion to approve the payroll, seconded by Bill. Motion carried 3-0.

MINUTES

Minutes from the meetings of March 10, March 19, and March 27, 2020 were mailed to the Commissioners for their review. There being no changes, Randy made the motion to approve all three sets of minutes as written, seconded by Bill. Motion carried 3-0.

UNOFFICIAL DETOURS – BOX CULVERT REPAIRS

Highway Superintendent, Steve Howell, informed the Commissioners about two different unofficial detours that were going to take place. The first one is Atwood to Abbott to Azalea roads. This is for a small structure, installing a box culvert, on Highway 145. The second detour has to be sent back to redo because the road numbers are incorrect. It was on State Road 62 and several Perry County roads into Dubois County. This also was for installing a box culvert. Steve said he wanted to start the right of ways before the Community Crossings Grant projects. It will take one to two weeks from start to finish. Tom said he would like to see signs go up when it is actually ready to close. He said when they are put up too early it affects businesses and residents. Randy made the motion to approve the unofficial detours, seconded by Bill. Motion carried 3-0.

BID SPECS – BITUMINOUS SURFACING OF ALAMO, ABBOTT AND DEER CREEK ROADS – CCMG-2020-1

Steve Howell also informed the Commissioners that they have bid specifications ready for approval for bituminous surfacing of Alamo, Abbott, and Deer Creek roads. The bids have to be turned into the Highway Department no later than 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 28, 2020 and the bids will be opened sometime after 6:00 p.m. on Monday, June 1, 2020. Attorney Chris Goffinet reviewed the specs and found them to be in order. Steve said they also sent them to INDOT for review. Randy made the motion to approve the specifications, seconded by Bill. Motion carried 3-0.

APPLICATION TO CUT RIGHT AWAY – ROCKY POINT AREA

Steve Howell, Highway Superintendent, also had an application to cut right of way from Wes Richard on Apalona Road to bore water line to feed and water cattle. Randy made the motion to approve the application, seconded by Bill. Motion carried 3-0.

POLLING PLACES FOR PRIMARY ELECTION – JUNE 2, 2020

Clerk Rachel East along with Election Board members Mary Kay Elder and Lynn Enman approached the Commissioners with the circumstances of the coronavirus. They

are struggling to have 11 polling places to be open and have enough workers for all of them. She said the Election Committee orders that the Election Board and the Commissioners are to make the decision of where the voting will take place. There is the option to have the three local schools as polling locations. Rachel said she has talked with Brad Ramsey and Chris Hollinden of Tell City High School and Tara Bishop of Perry Central School and they are all on board to use the schools for the primary election. She hasn't talked with anyone from Cannelton High School at this time. Rachel said we are in a time crunch. We are searching for ideas and the best thing to do.

Tom said then we would eliminate all the voting places except for the schools. Rachel said that Tell City 1 through 8, Troy, Troy Township 1 & 2 would be at Tell City High School. Cannelton 1 & 2 and Tobin would be Cannelton High School and the rest would be at Perry Central School. Randy said he is okay with Perry Central except for Clark 1 & 2. He is concerned of the time difference for voters to get there. He wants to open the Bristow polling place also. Mary Kay said the concern is getting workers. She said the absentee voting has surpassed the past elections. Lynn also said it is a challenge getting workers this year because of the virus. She said they discussed locations for parking, entering and exiting in separate doors, and handicap accessible. With the schools, this would reduce the number of workers tremendously. Randy said he is still concerned about the voters in Clark Township with the time difference. Tom said we need to notify as many voters as possible. Mary Kay said that in the past, each voter was mailed a card of a change in precincts. They want to get this waived this time. She said they are waiting on Indiana Election Board for an answer. This would be another huge expense.

Rachel said they would publish the notice on Facebook, newspaper, radio and by word of mouth. They would put signs on all the precinct doors where the new place is to vote. She said she needs the Commissioners approval to group the precincts together at the schools. Tom said he doesn't want to skip getting the cards out if we still have time. He wants to notify the voters in a normal manner. Rachel said this will put extra work in the Clerk's office. Randy said this is your job to notify the county. Mary Kay said there is a short time to do it and they are overwhelmed with absentee applications and other things. Rachel said she will check into it and let the Commissioners know. Lynn said the change in polling places has to be done 29 days before election by law. Randy asked about Cannelton High School, if can't use it, maybe use the Community Building in Cannelton.

Randy made the motion to notify all voters in every way in usual manner (mail out cards first or in any other way) for Tell City and Perry Central Schools and Cannelton Community Building. Bill made the second to the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

NATIONAL CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS WEEK PROCLAMATION

Sheriff Alan Malone asked the Commissioners to declare May 3 – 9th, 2020 Correctional Officers' Week in Perry County. Alan stated that this is a way to thank all correctional officers for keeping Perry County safe. The proclamation encourages members of the public to acknowledge the important role that Correctional Officers both at the Perry County Jail and Community Corrections facilities, along with Branchville Correctional Facility and Probation, play in the protection and services to all Perry County communities. Randy made a motion to approve the Proclamation and Bill seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

AFFIDAVIT FOR PAYMENT

Alvin Evans with the Perry County Development Corporation presented the Commissioners with an affidavit to authorize Old National Bank to make certain payments from a Construction Fund established by the Trust Indenture dated December 1, 2014 between the County and the Trustee. It was explained that these invoices will be paid from bond proceeds and that the projects were already approved by the Redevelopment Commission. The invoices for payment are: Exhibit A - \$156,290.00 to the Perry County Development Corporation for Project B, Riverview Industrial Park – Ditch Fill. Randy made the motion to approve the affidavit, seconded by Bill. Motion carried 3-0.

Alvin informed the Commissioners that the weather has been helping to get this project done. He said when the pad is the same height as Waupaca, it will be complete.

PLAN FOR RE-OPENING COUNTY OFFICES

Tom said the County Buildings closed on March 18, 2020 to public traffic by Governor Order 20-26. As of now, the Governor has lifted some restrictions. He has a plan on how and when to reopen. Tom said he has had discussions with Steve Hauser, Sheriff Malone, Sara Gehlhausen and Judge Lucy Goffinet on when to reopen. Judge Goffinet is guided by the Supreme Court as to when the Courts will reopen. Tom said he wants to stay along the same lines as the Circuit Court. Lucy said she has attended several webinars on COVID-19. She said when they do return, the office will be half staffed. She said there will be a tent set up outside, COVID-19 questionnaire, and take temperature of individuals before entering the building. Public will go in on limited basis. There will only be 10 people in Courtroom at one time. She said they can't have 25 with social distancing. If the person wants to go to another office, that office will be contacted. Also anyone who enters the building is required to wear a face covering.

Tom said that pexiglass is going up in the offices. He said there will be limited public in all of the offices in the Courthouse. Lucy said she had to prepare a Continuity of Operations for the Courts. She encourages all offices to have a back up plan. She will also be closing the Courts for one hour for lunch to eat and disinfect the work place. She is requesting the entire Courthouse close down for one hour also when we reopen for less confusion. Tom said as of now, the date to reopen is Monday, May 18, 2020 unless more cases are reported. Randy said this is great idea to follow. The date is always subject to change.

To summarize things up, the public will go to the tent first and follow Judge Goffinet's operations plan. We will rotate employees to work the tent. The Sheriff will have deputies on busy Court days to help. From this point on, offices are to have employees in everyday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Randy said he is hearing a lot of hard feelings from other employees and the public. Randy made a motion to follow this plan, seconded by Bill. Motion carried 3-0. This will be revisited at the June meeting.

Before the meeting ended, Clerk Rachel East said she heard from the Election Board in Indianapolis that the notice cards are not required. All she has to do is publish in the paper 10 days for the polling places.

Randy wanted to thank the Health Department, Sheriff Alan Malone, and EMA Director Steve Hauser for being on the front line the last six weeks on COVID-19 and getting the information to the public. Tom also wanted to thank Perry County Memorial Hospital for being prepared.

Teresa announced the next meeting of the Perry County Board of Commissioners is scheduled for 8:00 a.m. Tuesday, May 19, 2020, VIA WebEx.

The meeting ended in open session at 7:06 p.m.

Minutes approved this 1st day of June, 2020.

Thomas J Hauser
President

Randy Kleaving

Bill Amos

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