

**PERRY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES – NOVEMBER 1, 2021**

The Perry County Board of Commissioners convened at 6:00 p.m. as was duly advertised. Commissioners in attendance were President Thomas J Hauser, Gregg Jarboe and Randy Kleaving. County Administrator, Teresa Kanneberg and County Attorney, Chris Goffinet were present for the meeting. Sheriff Alan Malone was also present.

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA

The agenda was amended to add Treasurer Amanda Lasher – request to hire professional services. Randy made the motion to approve with the addition, seconded by Gregg. Motion carried 3-0.

PAYROLL AND CLAIMS

Gregg made the motion to approve the payroll distributed to county employees on October 25, 2021 in the amount of \$146,368.38, seconded by Randy. Motion carried 3-0. Gregg made the motion to approve the County General claims of \$303,363.59, Highway claims of \$466,000.42, and Advance claims of \$347,500.02, \$528.00, \$261.46, \$1530.86, \$39,149.30, \$728.63, \$103.88, \$144.00, \$8,292.21 and \$2,988.54 for a total of claims to be \$1,170,590.91 dated November 1, 2021. Randy made the second to the motion. Motion carried 3-0. Auditor Pam Goffinet explained that there are so many more advances because of the change on how we have to process the payroll benefit checks. With the recent State Board of Accounts audit, all these checks have to have a claim and allowance docket and approved by the County Commissioners.

AGREEMENT – AMERICAN FINANCIAL CREDIT SERVICES

Liz Williams, Manager of Public Relations with American Financial Credit Services, along with Treasurer Amanda Lasher came before the Commissioners to introduce a Vendor Service Agreement to collect on delinquent personal property tax accounts by utilizing acceptable methods and procedures in a professional and ethical manner, in accordance with all the federal and state laws. Liz informed the Commissioners have \$100,000 in personal property judgements due to the county. There is no cost to the county for this service. She said they are based out of Indianapolis, a family-owned business. As of now, they have 78 counties in Indiana that use their service. She said they have collected over \$100 million dollars in the last 25 years without ceasing any taxpayer assets. Liz commented that you want to educate the taxpayers when they receive the first notice. She said they are no typical collection agency. They try to get a resolution reached. The cost is back to the taxpayer with a 27% fee added that goes to American Financial Credit Services. They will mail out the demand notices and not the Treasurer. She said they can go back 10 years to be legal to collect. They even use the web to search for individuals. Tom asked what if someone doesn't pay. Liz said they give the county the information to hand over to the county attorney. The property to be counted has to be 18 months delinquent. Randy said this is only on personal property. Real estate goes up for tax sales. Liz said they collect all the money and give the county back their portion. By state statute, they can apply the fee. Randy asked about a current penalty on personal property. Amanda said there is \$8.00 penalty plus demand fee. With the demand notices, the taxpayer has 60 days to pay before further action is taken.

Liz informed the Commissioners that the agreement automatically renews unless given a 30-day notice to cancel. Gregg commented that he wants to read the agreement. He has no problems with it. Gregg made the motion to table to the next meeting, seconded by Randy. Motion carried 3-0.

SPECIFICATIONS – GASOLINE FOR SHERIFF AND COUNTY VEHICLES – 2022

Auditor Pam Goffinet presented the Commissioners with the bid specifications for gasoline for the Sheriff vehicles of 30,000 gallons per year. Randy made the motion to approve the bid specification, seconded by Gregg. Motion carried 3-0. The County vehicles specifications was for 15,000 gallons per year. Randy made the motion to approve the specifications, seconded by Gregg. Motion carried 3-0. These specifications were the same as last year. Attorney Chris Goffinet reviewed the specifications and found them to be in order. Tom asked why the number of gallons. Randy said so the company knows how exactly how to bid on it. Gregg commented that he would like to see the recycling site added on this as Perry County Memorial Hospital gets the same price also. Tom said once the bids are in, we can ask them to add that.

SPECIFICATIONS – HIGHWAY SUPPLIES

Highway Superintendent, Steve Howell, presented the Commissioners with the bid specifications for diesel fuel, crushed stone, culvert supplies and bituminous. He said everything is the same as last year. The AE oil has to be delivered to the Highway Garage instead of being available in Perry County. Steve commented that the culverts are up 219% versus the annual bid. The current bidder said they cannot honor the current bid price. Steve also said he did get fuel prices as of today and they were \$3.262 firm price which is \$1.70 more than the current firm price. Attorney Chris Goffinet reviewed the specifications and found them to be in order. Gregg made the motion to approve the Highway bid specifications, seconded by Randy. Motion carried 3-0.

ORDINANCE - PETITION TO VACATE PART OF DEDICATED 22ND STREET

Chris presented the Commissioners with a petition to vacate part of dedicated 22nd street that is owned by Steve and Joyce Dauby. They own property back and behind Greenwood cemetery. Chris said they filed the petition which is 192' of street along lot 4 in block 304 that is located in Troy Township that is vacant. This property is not in city limits. It is disannexed so the Commissioners have jurisdiction over this. They are asking to vacate this part to build a garage because it is encroaching on that part of the vacated street. The cemetery is on one side of the street and theirs is the other side. Chris said by Indiana law, half of the street goes to each land owner for purpose of taxes. He said currently this land is used as a yard. Chris also said everything was done required by law. He said the city has no objection or comments to this. He said their responsibility now is to ask if anyone has any objections to this. Gregg asked if the utility piece is in the petition. Chris said yes. There are no utilities along the dedicated street now except for AT & T phone line. The law is that the use for AT & T will continue after the vacation. It doesn't affect it. Everything they do will be to stay away from AT & T and PSC easements. Randy made the motion to approve the petition, seconded by Gregg. Motion carried 3-0.

BOARD APPOINTMENT – HOSPITAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Tom said he was abstaining from this appointment. He turned the gavel over to Randy, Vice President of the Commissioners. This appointment was tabled from the last meeting. There were three letters of interest which were: Eric Faulkenberg, Chris Hollinden and Jon Hartz. Randy nominated Eric F. Gregg nominated Chris H. They have contacted both of them to talk with them. It was said there probably will still be a stand still on the vote. Gregg said instead of a coin toss, they do what is basically called a "Rubric ". You will take a card with the three initials on it, put a three next to the one that we think is best for the position and one that we think is the least for the position and two for the middle guy. We then give them to Chris to tally up and the biggest number wins. If there is a tie, then you look at the numbers and the person with the lowest individual score. Gregg said we will give this a go and may still toss a coin. Randy said all three were really good candidates. This is a good problem to have in any organization. Gregg said if you don't get on this board, come back. The Commissioners did the count. The one with the highest number count was Jon Hartz. Gregg made the motion to appoint Jon to the board, seconded by Randy. Motion carried 2-0 with Tom abstaining.

ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE

Tom said this is the contract we are entering in with Harrison County. Gregg explained that the Commissioners had the contract at the last meeting. He said in the process of getting both counties to sign the contract, Harrison County signed the contract without the letter "J" and we approved to sign the contract with the letter "J". This item basically is that they (Harrison County) would only be called by dispatch for our accounting purposes. So, to handle this so we can get this contract signed, Gregg made a motion to sign without the letter "J" and to include the protocol he gave, which is dispatch will be the one calling Harrison County animal control so it's outlined here and it's written in words. Tom said nothing is changing just the wording. Chris asked Gregg if he made the change to the policy. Gregg said the definition is that animal control officers in this policy refers to the individuals signed by Harrison County to respond to Perry County request for service. Chris said basically dispatch is called by someone and they contact, if it is in Tell City they contact Tell City Police department and if it is in the County, they will contact the Sheriff Office, and if it is a dog bite, they will also contact the health department. If not resolved this way, then they will contact the control officer who is designated to be the Harrison County person. Then that person will come and deal with the issue. Gregg also said if it is a new incident, and they

can't answer over the phone, they resolve by sending them to dispatch, they don't come and respond. Gregg said they wanted this also. Randy seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. Chris said another part to this, is rather than have them come down here, it gives the officer a chance to look at the dog and see if it has tags and if they can catch it easily without calling Harrison County to come down here. Gregg said there are a lot of things they can solve on their own.

ANIMAL SHELTER RUN MODIFICATION & APPROVAL OF QUOTE

Tom said there are alterations to the existing animal shelter building so we accommodate short term holdings of animals. Gregg said this goes along with what Chris said to give our officers a better chance of handling the situation. They need an actual place to put the animal for a while. These runs have been open at the shelter to do this. Tom said we are making the building better and safer for the animals. Gregg said he and several others went and looked at the area at the shelter and there are things needed. Nick Goffinet came and looked at it also. Herbie talked about what type of cages to put at the shelter for the animals especially in the weather. Gregg said Nick put together a quote for the modifications. Gregg asked Herbie to put together a list if there was other stuff needed. He said with both put together, it would be around \$7,395.92 total needed. He said some of the items on Herbie's list we may get out of the animal shelter itself. We are just wanting to cover our bases to make sure everything is included. Chris said this can come out of the animal shelter fund. Chris said this needs a motion of approval from this board and then to be appropriated by the County Council. Gregg said he also wants to include in the motion the electronic door with lock, need to include in the motion to have that door open for the officers, so they can get in there and get food for the animals. It is another way of securing the food. Charlie Baumeister asked if this appropriation is coming out of the fund that the money was returned or the animal shelter department. Gregg said it should be out of the budgeted \$35,000 because on December 31st, this amount disappears and goes back into the fund. Gregg made the motion to appropriated \$7,500.00 from the budgeted \$35,000, seconded by Randy. Motion carried 3-0.

Gregg also made a motion to allow access to law enforcement agencies on the door keypad, giving them the number. Randy seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. Agencies include the Sheriff Office, Troy Police, Cannelton and Tell City Police and April from Harrison County.

MISCELLANEOUS/PUBLIC COMMENTS

Celia Ferrand came before the board again to talk about the sober living house wanting to build in Tell City. She read off a speech that she had prepared. She said perseverance is what is needed to go ahead with this project. Celia spoke about the additional and transfers from the last meeting on the Detention Center. She said we need to help those released from jail get back into society. We need action now. Tom said he agreed with her and supported what she was saying. It is mental health. He said he hopes to support this with the American Rescue Plan money. Celia said the biggest thing with a sober house is the staff. We need to start looking and talking practical and then need action. She said there is a Mental Health Coalition meeting on November 29th at 5:00 p.m. at the County Courthouse. It is ideal to put a house in this town with the transportation available. Gregg also commented with the ARP money. He said they will need a dollar amount and a 501(3) C entity.

Highway Superintendent, Steve Howell, updated the Commissioners that the bridge on Urban Road is back open. He also reported that Tobinsport Road and Aster Road are done too.

Teresa announced that the next meeting of the Board of Commissioners will be held on Tuesday, November 16, 2021 at 8:00 a.m.

Minutes approved this 18th day of January, 2022.

Thomas J Hauser
President

Randy Kleaving

Gregory Jarboe

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

