

**PERRY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
MINUTES – MAY 3, 2021**

The Perry County Board of Commissioners met at 6:00 p.m. as was duly advertised. Commissioners Thomas J Hauser, Gregg Jarboe, and Randy Kleaving were in attendance. Chief Deputy Auditor Susan Harpenau was in attendance for the absence of Auditor Pam Goffinet. 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**

Gregg made a motion to approve all claims. Randy seconded the motion, and motion carried 3-0. The commissioners signed claims dockets in the amounts of \$419,115.57 for county claims and \$117,574.50 for highway claims, and advance payment claims of \$8,151.23, \$64,391.96, and \$1,598.50 for a grand total of \$610,831.76. The payroll docket was approved in the amount of \$151,297.19 for payroll distributed on April 26, 2021. Randy made the motion to approve the payroll, seconded by Gregg. Motion carried 3-0.

Gregg questioned claim #59 in County General and claim #5 in Highway funds. He said these are both Eck Mundy claims for computer software maintenance and repair. We have a contract with Anjan of An Island and just wondering why are we still using Eck Mundy at other locations. Chief Deputy Auditor, Susan Harpenau, commented that the Highway Department has always used Eck Mundy, so Anjan with his contract isn't for all of the County. Previously when we had INTECH, they also never did anything with the Highway. Randy said when we approved the contract, it was a big discussion, yes, An Island is for the County but it didn't include the Annex South, but he is going to help out there. It did not include the Highway. He said he thinks it should. Maybe next year we can look at that. Tom asked if the contract excludes the Highway Department and the ones in the Armory. Randy said it is usually for the Courthouse but he would include the South Annex. The contract is based on hours worked and use where needed if there is a surplus. Administrator Teresa Kanneberg asked to speak. She said just here in the Courthouse we were way behind on getting a lot of computers up to date and new computers that needed to be installed. She said we were concerned with using up the hours that were allotted and timing for each quarter. Teresa stated we pay An Island per quarter and they keep track of the hours. She informed them that we did purchase some equipment this year for iCloud backup and antivirus protection. This is a one-time cost but it did cost some up front. These appliances came out of this year's funds. We also received some invoices for back payments that were due from a previous vendor. We still are not caught up and we are dipping into the next quarter on hours. She said it was her understanding that the number one thing was to get caught up with what needed to be done with all the offices. Then the idea was to expand out. If we use Anjan in the other buildings, it will involve an additional appropriation anyway down the road. Gregg said his concern was that if we had hours in the bank, we one should use Anjan because we have paid for the hours. The other is that he has nothing against Eck Mundy, but we get charged for them traveling here because they are not going to do it for free and their hourly rate is higher, so if we have the opportunity to use Anjan that is a way of saving money. Gregg said budgets is not far away and for Council to keep this in mind if we can transfer over to a cheaper vendor and a local vendor. Teresa said Anjan keeps us informed of the hours used and where we are at. The other claim Gregg asked about is Harris Computer Systems, County General Claim #136. He said it is for a considerable amount and no idea what it's for. Susan replied that Harris is our Open Windows Financial that is for payroll, account payable. It is our software. Gregg said the last one is Claim #147 for sharps disposal and he wants to make sure this is earmarked with the Council that we can get this back right. This is with the Health Department. Tom asked if this was tied in with the immunization clinics or something different. Randy commented that Dr. Marcum said the grant couldn't cover needles already used up to that date. He said you can buy the storage boxes for the needles. The clinics started on January 13<sup>th</sup>. Randy lastly said he would like to leave it up to the Highway on deciding who they have for IT.

**NATIONAL CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS WEEK PROCLAMATION**

Sheriff Alan Malone asked the Commissioners to declare May 2 – 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021 Correctional Officers’ Week in Perry County. He said he appreciates everything the officers do especially this last year with the extra duties we put together for them with the pandemic. Alan asked Attorney Chris Goffinet to read the proclamation. 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. Gregg made a motion to approve the Proclamation and Randy seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

**BRIDGE INSPECTION DRAFT**

Steve said the draft was brought out for the bridge inspection report and went over it with himself and Jared Hedinger. There are a few changes in it but changes for the better. He gave a copy to the Commissioners for review. He said it looked okay for them. The Commissioners will review and bring up at the next meeting.

**UNOFFICIAL DETOURS – SR 62 BY POSSUM JUNCTION**

Highway Superintendent, Steve Howell, informed the Commissioners about an unofficial detour that is going to take place. The detour is at State Road 62 by Possum Junction. This is for a small structure right before the intersection with State Road 145. He said he put Cottonwood Road as a detour. He showed the Commissioners the map. Steve said it could be later this fall before they get started on it and then it will be maybe a month shut down. Randy made the motion to approve the detour, seconded by Gregg. Motion carried 3-0.

**AFFIDAVIT FOR PAYMENT**

Alvin Evans with the Perry County Development Corporation presented the Commissioners with the first affidavit from TIF #3 2021 bonds to authorize Old National Bank to make certain payments from a Construction Fund established by the Trust Indenture dated as of April 1, 2021, 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 - \$660,478.80 to the Perry County Development Corporation for Project 2, Riverview Industrial Park Stream and Wetland Mitigation, Exhibit B - \$348,643.21 to the Perry County Development Corporation for Project 4, Riverview Industrial Park: HE power line relocation, Final partial payment. This new bond was sold April 28<sup>th</sup> and should be in the account soon. Gregg made the motion to approve the affidavit, seconded by Randy. 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.

**SUPPORT LETTER – ROUTE O (FRENCH LICK PARKWAY) MID-STATES CORRIDOR**

Alvin informed the Commissioners about the Mid-States Corridor which is still going through the engineering process and they are narrowing down the routes for which one will be selected. He said the main corridor is from 231 to I64 up to Huntingburg and Jasper and then to the east or west side, probably the east side, then goes north of Jasper and the decisions of which way to go. He said the eastern route goes through French Lick and ties into existing State Road 37. This is the route being promoted and the only one that benefits Perry County. Alvin is on the committee for this and is asking our government and businesses to support this route. For tourism wise it will tie all of us together by using the existing SR 145 and SR 37. It will help industry also. Preliminary reports say it will be freeway style or a super 2 and not an interstate. It could be 10 to 15 years before it starts. Randy made the motion to support the Route O Mid States Corridor, seconded by Gregg. Motion carried 3-0.

**INDUSTRIAL PARK SOUTH ENTRANCE ROAD IMPROVEMENTS**

Alvin asked the Commissioners if they have made a decision on whether to proceed with the improvements to the Industrial Park South Entrance Road. He said it was around \$80,000.00. Tom mentioned that Auditor Pam Goffinet informed them that there was a balance of \$303,807.00 in the EDIT fund. Chris said he drafted an ordinance for the Commissioners to consider taking the money from CEDIT fund #7312 with an amount up to the eighty thousand. Then the appropriation will go to the Council. Tom said he thinks this project is a good way to spend this money. Randy made the motion to approve the funding from the EDIT fund. Gregg wanted to make sure we are okay with our EDIT money. This is coming from the extra funding we receive from the state. Alvin state that 4 quote packages have been sent out. Gregg made the second to the motion. Motion carried 3-0. Chris said that Pam prepared a request for an additional appropriation for their approval because of timing with advertisement. Chris said could wait until the bids come in. Tom said if this causes a month delay by waiting until the quotes come in, then that probably won't hurt the project. Chris also said he thought to do the additional once the project has been awarded and do the additional when the money is due. It was decided to wait on the additional and then we will have the exact amount.

**ORDINANCE - AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN**

Tom stated this ordinance is required and asked Chris to explain. Chris said that the plan does require that the County Commissioners in the case of the county pass an ordinance and develop a plan. Chris went on to say that a committee will be formed of representatives of the Council and Commissioners and the public. This ordinance sets up a fund which we are required to set up which is a non-reverting distinct fund identified as the ARP Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Grant fund. Chris said the Perry County Treasurer is the custodian, the Auditor is the auditing agent, and all money that comes in from the grant goes into that fund and is spent by appropriation from the Council in furtherance of the plan which will be developed and the ordinance lays out within it the use of the fund which was taken directly from the law that was passed. The cost that can be covered by the plan must be used by December 31, 2024 or currently. The use of the funds:

- A. To respond to the public health emergency with respect to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 or its negative economic impacts, including assistance to households, small businesses, and nonprofits, or aid to impacted industries such as tourism, travel, and hospitality;
- B. To respond to workers performing essential work during COVID-19 public health emergency by providing premium pay to eligible workers of the metropolitan city, non-entitlement unit of local government, or county that are performing such essential work, or by providing grants to eligible employers that have eligible workers who perform essential work;
- C. For the provision of government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue of such metropolitan city, non-entitlement unit of local government, or county due to the COVID-19 public health emergency relative to revenues collected in the most recent full fiscal year of the metropolitan city, non-entitlement unit of local government, or county prior to the emergency; or
- D. To make necessary investments in water, sewer, or broadband infrastructure.

He said the ordinance also states the Board of Commissioners will develop a plan that will detail specific uses. The reason it says Board of Commissioners is because that is what they task us with doing. He said we need to use the committee for assistance on that. Also, the plan and the ordinance can be amended as any other are as long as the amendment complies with the requirements of the ARP and any specific appropriations by the County Council shall be deemed part of the plan or an amendment to the plan as appropriate when the appropriations are made. This fund takes effect immediately. Gregg questioned that we don't have to name the plan or have a specific name for it. Chris responded saying from what he has read, no we do not. He said the laws are bouncing all over the place right now on this, so we need to be really flexible on this if we need to make changes. Gregg motioned to approve the ordinance; Randy seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Gregg said he had something he wanted to add to the discussion. He said at the last Council and Commissioner meeting, he talked about what the RACI chart was. It is a

way of making sure you understand the roles and responsibilities inside of a project society. For the committee, at the last Council meeting, we talked about having two Commissioners, two Council and four from the public for a total of eight. He said if the Commissioners have to approve the plan, it doesn't make sense not to have all three of us on the committee and we want to keep it to where we are even. So, he said do we want to do three Commissioners, three Council and one Council appointment in the public and one Commissioner appointment in the public and also one appointment done by both boards. This would give us nine total for an uneven number. It allows for a good mix. Gregg said he talked with the Council appointments, Charles Baumeister and Luke Thomas, about this and they were okay with it. Gregg said he had a starting list with consultants, PCDC, Perry County Community Foundation, Region 15, the two Mayors, and a representative from Troy. The other one is informed which is to keep Pam and Teresa informed because they have to take care of minutes and other stuff they do for us, the Perry County News, and the public with open meetings and minutes. Gregg said it is just a way of organizing so we have it down on paper so anyone can see the document if wonder how this works.

Councilman Charlie asked Chris with the prospective board, are we in any violation with the open-door law. Chris said it needs to be a public meeting. We just need to give 48-hour notice posted as usual. Tom said this was the plan in the beginning. Tom talked about going ahead to motion the Commissioners for the committee and the Council will amend their number at their next meeting. Gregg made the motion for all three Commissioners on the committee. Randy seconded it. He said honestly, he wasn't wanting to be on it with all the criticism we got with the last money. Motion carried 3-0.

#### **CANARX DRUG PROGRAM**

Attorney Chris Goffinet spoke up about the CanaRX Drug Program that the Council participates in with their employees. We were notified by APEX, County's broker, that some of our employees are receiving medications from Canada from CanaRX which is a Canadian prescription drug service. A few years ago, this company received a letter from the United States Food and Drug Administration warning that some of the drugs they were supplying may be tainted or counterfeit or otherwise not in accordance with U.S. law. So, APEX brought this to our attention that they are concerned about continuing the program at lease as a Perry County sponsor program. Notification was sent to the Auditor's office asking for us to consider terminating the relationship of CanaRX. Chris said he looked it over and their recommendation seems to make sense. Tom said generally the trustees of the health insurance make recommendations to the Commissioners for any changes in the plan. He asked Luke Thomas if he saw any issues with this. Gregg said we do have TrueRx with our plan now. They are not Canadian based but they do allow you to find cheaper drug discounts. Gregg made the motion to discontinue the CanaRx drug program, seconded by Randy. Motion carried 3-0.

#### **APPOINTMENT – AIRPORT AUTHORITY**

Administrator Teresa Kanneberg informed the Commissioners that there is an upcoming appointment to the Airport Authority board. It is a four-member board and no more than two from the same political party. This is a republican position and is currently being held by Ken Roland and his term ends on June 30<sup>th</sup>. This is a four-year term. She said to give the proper six-week notification, you would appoint on June 15<sup>th</sup>.

#### **MISCELLANEOUS**

Herbie Landers gave an update on the animal shelter to the Commissioners. He said the last we spoke ITV had three issues:

1. Their doubt from the support of the community – Herb said he has talked to them about this and also with the Commissioners and try to get this moving forward.
2. Afraid they will be bombarded by cats and be so overran that the shelter would be full – Herbie said they have set up a spay and neuter clinic with Dr. Peavy from California on June 14, 2021. They can take up to 100 cats at reduced cost

3. The main concern is we only have two vets in our county and one said they want nothing to do with the animal shelter. ITV is calling around to vets to try to find a supporter.

Tom said he wanted to remind people that if anyone is interested other than ITV, we are not in contract with them. He said hopefully we can get someone to operate it. Gregg said the concern on community support shocks him the most that they have that outlook that we don't have any support because I see totally the opposite. Herbie said you always have differences. There was a lot of discussion on vets and the number of cats. Herbie said the county needs a shelter in the worst kind of way. Tom brought up cages and traps for Herbie to use. Herbie said the shelter has 24 large traps and 18 small traps and he also has some of his own. He said they will chart the traps everywhere they take them. He wants to give a seminar for the public on how to use the traps for cats. Gregg made the motion to allow Herbie to use the traps of the animal shelter at his discretion, seconded by Randy. Motion carried 3-0.

Tom mentioned the Community Crossings Grant the Highway Department received for 2021. The county did receive one million dollars for specific road projects through the Highway Department. The Community Crossings Grant is a way for INDOT to disperse out additional money for improvements in infrastructure roads. It is a matching grant and our portion is 25%.

Randy asked Chris if the resolution will be ready at the next meeting for the vacation of road in Bristow, IN. Chris said yes it will be ready for the June 7<sup>th</sup> meeting. Randy also wanted to talk about the ARP committee. He said going into this he wasn't going to be on the board and he said he is going to hold to that. He is going to step back from the committee.

Teresa announced the next meeting of the Perry County Board of Commissioners is scheduled for 8:00 a.m. Tuesday, May 18, 2021. There also will be a public meeting at Perry Central High School Library at 7:00 p.m. on the sewer expansion discussion in the Leopold area.

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

Minutes approved this 6<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2021.

---

Thomas J Hauser  
President

---

Randy Kleaving

---

Gregg Jarboe

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