

**PERRY COUNTY COUNCIL
MINUTES – JANUARY 24, 2019**

The Perry County Council met on the above date at 5:00 p.m. as was duly advertised. Council members in attendance were: President David Etienne, Luke Thomas, Steve Goodson, Earla Williams, Lynn Fulkerson, and Charlie Baumeister. Danny Bolin was absent. A media representative from the *Perry County News* and Council Attorney S. Rod Acchiardo were also present. Sheriff Alan Malone was also present.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ADDITION TO THE AGENDA

Earla made a motion to add the Personnel Policy Handbook changes for January 1, 2019 to the current agenda for discussion at the meeting, seconded by Luke. Motion carried 6-0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from the meeting on December 20, 2018 had been mailed to Council members for their review. Luke made the motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Steve. Motion carried 6-0. The minutes from the meeting of January 2, 2019 had been mailed to the Council for review. Charlie made the motion to approve the minutes as presented, second made by Earla. Motion carried 6-0.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS

Coroner Nic Etienne appeared before the Council requesting an additional appropriation of \$3,000.00 for Autopsy Fees within the County General fund. He commented that he was budgeted \$5,000.00 for 2019 and he has \$6,500.00 total in bills at this time. If allowed, he would have enough for one more autopsy. Charlie spoke up and said with the fatal fire at the end of 2018, that Nic is now seeing those bills. Charlie made the motion to approve the request, seconded by Earla. Motion carried 6-0.

Greg Hendershot, Director of Parks and Recreation, requested \$22,000.00 from County General and from the Riverboat-County Share fund for a new tractor. He informed the Council that he did request a tractor last year and it was denied and he was told to come back this year. The parks department has a 1964 tractor with no roll bar, loader or seat belt. It is also too big to haul on the trailer. Greg said he needs a tractor especially for the Rome and Magnet boat ramps. It will be used for mud and debris. As of now all they have is a pump you have to put in the water to wash off the ramps. Greg informed the Council that the lowest quote he received is for \$15,194.00 with trade in from Massey Ferguson. David asked how soon he needs this. Greg said as soon as possible. David said he was concerned with the money being tight from budgets last year and possible other additional needed for this year. Steve would like to look at a 3 year lease. Greg said that with the extra duties of maintenance, the tractor will cut down time in the summer. Charlie made a motion to table until next month to get lease options, seconded by Lynn. Motion carried 5-1 with Luke voting against.

Alvin Evans with the Perry County Development Corporation (PCDC) appeared before the Council regarding the financing of the PCDC contract payment for 2019 in the amount of \$221,016.00. The contract is in the interlocal agreement between the cities and the County. It is 20% of the EDIT money we receive. Luke spoke up and said he had several questions regarding the duties, the projects we currently have and how does the PCDC see the County growing in the future. Alvin answered all of Luke's questions accurately saying that the primary objective of the PCDC is maintaining jobs in the county. He said that Waupaca and ATTC are successful and sees them continuing to grow. He also mentioned that the rail is very good for the county. Without it we would not have Waupaca Foundry. Steve made the motion to allow the request, no second to the motion was made. Alvin then asked the Council why no one seconded the motion. He went on to say that PCDC did not create the 20%. It was done before they were formed. PCDC is here for the effort to do good for the County. He said Perry County was a dying county and now we have Waupaca and ATTC. Alvin informed the Council that in 2008, Perry County almost lost these two businesses. To get and keep these companies doesn't just happen overnight. He said it takes a lot of hard work. Alvin said then he wanted to make Waupaca the most profitable foundry in the country and they are.

PCDC first looks for the facility then workforce development. The money comes in the County's coffers from the people who live and work here. He finished by saying that he hopes someone would second the motion. Steve spoke up saying the County needs PCDC. Steve made the motion again, seconded by Charlie. Motion carried 6-0.

Highway Superintendent Steve Howell requested an additional appropriation in the amount of \$152,736.00 for Bridge Inspection. Steve informed the Council that this is mandated by law to have inspections every 4 years. Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) pays back 80%. Luke made the motion to approve the request, seconded by Charlie. Motion carried 6-0.

Judge Lucy Goffinet requested \$20,000.00 for Chemical Test Supplies within the Supplemental Adult Probation fund. This is needed to help pay a big bill that came to the department at the end of the year for supplies. Luke made the motion to approve the additional, seconded by Earla. Motion carried 6-0.

Jason Hoch, County Prosecutor, came before the Council requesting a total of \$4,407.00 for Office Manager Position and benefits from the Pretrial Diversion fund. Jason explained that there is a bad check program that has been in effect for 20 years. He said they collect a small fee and it is receipted into the Check Collection fund. At this time, part of the Office Manager's pay comes from this fund. Lately there are fewer people writing checks. He would like to supplement her salary from the Pretrial Diversion fund to help build up the Check Collection fund. David asked if they have the work for this and if he received the letter from the Council last year after budget session that was dated October 25, 2018. David said the letter stated that if the work wasn't there, the employee doesn't get paid. Jason said he wants to keep the program though. David recommended not funding unless the Check Collection fund makes the revenue. Charlie made the motion to table until next month with Jason having more information on the figures, seconded by Lynn. Motion carried 6-0.

Sheriff Alan Malone requested an additional appropriation in the amount of \$18,000.00 for Overtime pay for Deputies and Jailers with benefits from the Inmate Housing Fund. He stated this revenue comes from housing inmates from other counties in our jail. He gets paid \$35.00 per day per inmate. Alan said this overtime will help when he can't find someone to fill an opening or trying to fill when deputies are on vacation time. This funding is at no cost to the County. Luke made the motion to approve the request, seconded by Earla. Motion carried 6-0.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE NO. 19-CC-02

WHEREAS, IT HAS BEEN DETERMINED THAT IT IS NOW NECESSARY TO APPROPRIATE MORE MONEY THAN WAS APPROPRIATED IN THE ANNUAL BUDGET; NOW, THEREFORE:

SEC. 1. BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF PERRY COUNTY, PERRY COUNTY, INDIANA, THAT FOR THE EXPENSES OF THE TAXING UNIT THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL SUMS OF MONEY ARE HEREBY APPROPRIATED OUT OF THE FUNDS NAMED AND FOR THE PURPOSES SPECIFIED, SUBJECT TO LAWS GOVERNING THE SAME:

COUNTY GENERAL FUND	AMOUNT REQUESTED	AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	AYE	NAY
<u>PERRY COUNTY CORONER</u>				
#1000-007-3000.17 AUTOPSY FEES	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	6	0
<u>PERRY COUNTY PARK AND REC</u>				
#1000-803-4000.43 TRACTOR	\$ 22,000.00	\$ tabled	5	1
COUNTY GENERAL FUND TOTAL:	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 3,000.00		

LIT-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND

PERRY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

#1112-068-3000.10 \$221,016.00 \$ 221,016.00 6 0
CONTRACT PAYMENT-PCDC

LIT-ECONOMIC DEV.

FUND TOTAL: \$221,016.00 \$ 221,016.00

CUMULATIVE BRIDGE FUND

PERRY COUNTY HIGHWAY

#1135-531-3000.12 \$152,736.00 \$ 152,736.00 6 0
BRIDGE INSPECTION

CUMULATIVE BRIDGE

FUND TOTAL: \$152,736.00 \$ 152,736.00

RIVERBOAT FUND

PARK & RECREATION

#1191-803-4000.43 \$ 22,000.00 \$ tabled 5 1
TRACTOR

RIVERBOAT FUND TOTAL: \$ 22,000.00 \$ 0

**SUPPLEMENTAL ADULT
PROBATION FUND**

PERRY COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT

#2100-232-2000.13 \$ 20,000.00 \$ 20,000.00 6 0
CHEMICAL TEST SUPPLIES

SUPPLEMENT ADULT

PROBATION FUND TOTAL: \$ 20,000.00 \$ 20,000.00

PRETRIAL DIVERSION FUND

PERRY COUNTY PROSECUTOR

#2502-009-1000.18 \$ 3,708.00 \$ tabled 6 0
OFFICE MANAGER
#2502-009-1000.21 \$ 284.00 \$ tabled 6 0
SOCIAL SECURITY
#2502-009-1000.22 \$ 415.00 \$ tabled 6 0
RETIREMENT

PRETRIAL DIVERSION

FUND TOTAL: \$ 4,407.00 \$ 0

INMATE HOUSING FUND

PERRY COUNTY SHERIFF

#4929-005-1000.19 \$ 15,000.00 \$ 15,000.00 6 0
OVERTIME – DEPUTIES & JAILERS
#4929-005-1000.21 \$ 1,325.00 \$ 1,325.00 6 0
SOCIAL SECURITY
#4929-005-1000.22 \$ 1,675.00 \$ 1,675.00 6 0
RETIREMENT

INMATE HOUSING

FUND TOTAL: \$ 18,000.00 \$ 18,000.00

NAY

AYE

DAVID A ETIENNE	/S/
LUKE THOMAS	/S/
STEVE GOODSON	/S/
EARLA WILLIAMS	/S/
CHARLIE BAUMEISTER	/S/
LYNN FULKERSON	/S/

ATTEST:

PAMELA L GOFFINET /S/
PERRY COUNTY AUDITOR

TAX ABATEMENT – INDIANA MUNICIPAL POWER AGENCY (IMPA)

Emily Williams, Project Manager with Indiana Municipal Power Agency, came before the Council requesting a ten year tax abatement from the County along with making the area an Economic Revitalization Area (ERA). IMPA would like to develop a second solar park that would interconnect with Tell City’s electric distribution center. This facility would sit just west of the Perry County Memorial Hospital on Stalk Road. She said IMPA anticipates starting construction on this site in the second quarter of 2019 with the solar park beginning generation in the first quarter of 2020. This new site will be three times the size of the other in the County and also this one will move with the sun’s movement while at the other they are stationary. Emily said they are under contract with the current land owners to purchase the land which is land locked and they are aware of the project. She informed the Council that they started building the current facility in 2014 and they have reduced the rates over the last three years by 7%. David mentioned that he would like to see a financial analysis done on different percentages each year other than the standard ten year 10% decrease. Luke asked if they could do the project without the abatement and Emily commented yes they could but don’t know if they would because of the economics of the project. Attorney Rod Acchiardo spoke up and said the Council could pass the Declaratory Resolution tonight if they wanted. Steve made the motion to table until next month, seconded by Charlie. Motion carried 6-0. By next month, Auditor Goffinet and Emily will work together to get another analysis.

HIRING FREEZE – WAIVER FOR HIRING SANITARIAN

Dr. William Marcrum appeared before the Council to ask them to waive the hiring freeze for the Sanitarian position in the Health Department. He informed them that the current employee will be retiring on February 28, 2019 with over 30 years of service. He also said that he may possibly change the job description later. Currently the job description says you have to have a bachelor’s degree, but he spoke with County Attorney Chris Goffinet and this stipulation is not statutory, it is a County requirement. Dr. Marcrum said the salary may change depending on who he hires and if the person has a degree or not. Charlie made the motion to waive the hiring freeze, seconded by Lynn. Motion carried 6-0.

VIRTUAL SCHOOL – SHERIFF OFFICE

Sheriff Malone informed the Council of a Virtual School Program that is teamed up with the Sheriff’s Association. As of today, Perry County has 24 students enrolled in the school with 3 of them being non-compliant. He said they are asked to check on these non-compliant students and find out why they are not logging on and doing their studies. The Sheriff’s Office then records the findings in the computer for the State. Sheriff said our County is guaranteed to receive \$500.00 per month no matter if we have any non-compliant students or not for the month. This is a win-win program for the County, bringing in a total of \$6,000.00 per year. Sheriff commented that he plans to put this money into the current Sheriff Pension fund. The plan is to reduce the deputy’s percentage of 4% to 3% they input into the fund from their salaries. No action needed from the Council.

LETTER OF SUPPORT – COMMUNITY CROSSINGS GRANT

Steve Howell, Highway Superintendent, presented the Council with a letter of support for the financing of the Community Crossings Grant. Steve said the County was awarded \$515,457.22 with the County’s share being over \$128,000.00, this being 25%. He also said the Commissioners signed a similar letter at their last meeting to send in with the current application by the end of the month. Lynn made the motion to approve the letter, seconded by Charlie. Motion carried 6-0. All Council members present signed the letter.

APPOINTMENT – EMERG. MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

Lynn made the motion to appoint President David Etienne to the Emergency Management Advisory Council with term ending on December 31, 2020, seconded by Earla. Motion carried 6-0.

PERSONNEL POLICY HANDBOOK CHANGES FOR 1-1-19

David started off saying that the Council does agree that the Commissioners and Council need to work together. They also understand that the changes to the Personnel Policy Handbook for January 1, 2019 involving benefits is the power of the Commissioners and the Council oversees the salaries and job descriptions. He also commented that even though the Commissioners passed the changes, the Council does have some recommendations. One of the items is the one-year waiting period before an employee receives any vacation time or personal time. There was a lot of discussion among members and comments from the crowd regarding this issue. Another concern is the introductory period of 6 months or one year and also having the Personnel Committee meet more regularly. Luke suggested that the committee meet annually even if there are no changes to be made to the policy. Attorney Acchiardo said that the Commissioners are the legislative body and the Council is the fiscal body as to what powers each have. If a change involves an employee financially with the benefits, then he thinks the Council should have a say in it. Charlie made the motion to accept the new changes to the policy for January 1, 2019 as presented, seconded by Steve. Motion carried 6-0.

ELECTION OF PERSONNEL POLICY COMMITTEE COUNCIL MEMBERS

The Council decided to vote for two members to be on the Personnel Handbook Committee for 2019. Luke made the motion to appoint David and Lynn, seconded by Charlie. Motion carried 6-0.

MISCELLANEOUS

Cathy Boerste, Extension Agent, presented the Council with information regarding the extension programs. She also invited the Council to their annual Local Government (for elected officials) meeting on February 20, 2019 on state budget and legislative session.

There being no further business to come before the council, Charlie made the motion to adjourn the meeting, and Lynn seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0, with adjournment at 6:40 p.m.

Minutes approved this 28th day of February, 2019.

President, Perry County Council

Minutes prepared by:
Pamela L Goffinet, Perry County Auditor