



**Minutes of the Perry County Board of Commissioners  
Regular Meeting  
2:00 p.m. - Thursday, February 18, 2016  
County Board Room – Perry County Government Building**

A regular meeting of the Perry County Board of Commissioners was convened at 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 18th, 2016 in the County Board Room at the Perry County Government Building in the City of Pinckneyville.

**OPENING**

County Chairman Bobby Kelly called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was recited by those in attendance.

County Clerk Josh Gross called the roll. The following members answered the call of the roll: Chairman Bobby Kelly, Commissioner Sam Robb, and Commissioner James Epplin. The following department heads were also present: County Clerk Josh Gross, Sheriff Steve Bareis, Supervisor of Assessments John Batteau, Health Department Administrator Barb Taylor, County Engineer Brian Otten, and State's Attorney David Stanton.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Chairman Kelly asked for the minutes of the February 4, 2016 regular Board of Commissioners meeting, and February 4, 2016 Executive Session, be approved. Chairman Kelly called for corrections. There were none.

Commissioner Robb moved the minutes of the February 4, 2016 regular Board of Commissioners meeting, and February 4, 2016 Executive Session meeting, be approved. Commissioner Epplin seconded the motion. On voice vote, the motion was approved.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Chairman Kelly called for additions or deletions to the meeting agenda. Three people were added under the discussion topics Sam Robb, Jeff Egbert, and David Boling. The agenda was approved as amended.

Commissioner Epplin moved the agenda for the meeting be approved. Commissioner Robb seconded the motion. On voice vote, the motion was approved.

**RESOLUTION – RECOGNIZING ILLINOIS SOUTH TOURISM BUREAU**

County Clerk Gross stated that he had prepared a letter of support for the Tourism Bureau, indicating that the County's endorsement carried no financial obligation. Board members agreed to join the Bureau as outlined in this letter of support.

Commissioner Robb moved that Resolution 2016-21, a resolution approving Illinois South Tourism Bureau as the County's recognized tourism entity, be approved. Commissioner Epplin seconded the motion. Chairman Kelly requested a roll call vote. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted aye: Commissioner Robb, Commissioner Epplin and Chairman Kelly. The motion was approved on a vote of 3-0 and the resolution adopted.

**RESOLUTION – RAFFLE LICENSE APPLICATION**

A raffle license application was presented for approval. Application and fees are in order and approval is recommended for applications, as follows:

- Pinckneyville Band Parents Association (2016-RL-04)

Commissioner Epplin moved that Resolution 2016-22, resolution approving raffle license application and issuing the license as indicated above, be approved. Commissioner Robb seconded the motion. Chairman Kelly requested a roll call vote. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted aye: Chairman Kelly, Commissioner Epplin, and Commissioner Robb. The motion passed on a vote of 3-0 and the resolution adopted.

**RESOLUTION – APPROVE MAKING DR. CRAIG FURRY AN HONORARY LIFETIME MEMBER TO THE PERRY COUNTY BOARD OF PUBLIC HEALTH**

Clerk Gross addressed the board about the desire of the Public Health Board to make Dr. Furry an honorary lifetime Board member. Dr. Furry has been involved with the board since its inception and as his current term is set to expire they have chosen to honor him with this lifetime membership. While this is an honorary title and carries with it no voting privileges it is intended to thank Dr. Furry for his years of service. Public Health Director Barb Taylor spoke up stating that this is just one way they can say thank you to Dr. Furry for all the hard work he has done over the years. And that the Public Health Department might not be in existence if it was not for him and a few others who worked so hard during its creation.

Commissioner Robb moved that Resolution 2016-23, resolution approving Dr. Craig Furry to be an honorary member to the Perry County Board of public Health be approved. Commissioner Epplin seconded the motion. Chairman Kelly requested a roll call vote. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted aye: Chairman Kelly, Commissioner Robb, and Commissioner Epplin. The motion was approved on a vote of 3-0 and the resolution adopted.

**RESOLUTIONS – APPROVING MOTOR FUEL TAX MATERIALS BIDS**

County Engineer Brian Otten presented a resolution awarding Motor Fuel Tax materials. It was noted there was very little change in cost of materials from the previous year.

Commissioner Epplin moved that Resolution 2016-24, resolution awarding County and Unit Road District Motor Fuel Tax materials for 2016, be adopted. Commissioner Robb seconded the motion. Chairman Kelly requested a roll call vote. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted aye: Commissioner Robb, Commissioner Epplin and Chairman Kelly. The motion passed on a vote of 3-0 and the resolutions adopted.

**RESOLUTION – APPROVE RELEASING EXECUTIVE SESSION TRANSCRIPT FROM NOVEMBER 5<sup>TH</sup> 2015 EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Chairman Kelly and States Attorney Stanton addressed those in attendance in regards to the opinion received from the Attorney General's Office last month. There has been a transcript of the tape created and it is nearly ready for release. This transcript contains a few portions that the board and States Attorney Stanton believe are still related to collective bargaining. Chairman Kelly asked Commissioner Robb if he would be the board delegate to agree to release the transcript/tape once this last question is answered. That way if it is resolved prior to the next board meeting there would be no delay in releasing this information to the press. Commissioner Robb agreed to this work with States Attorney Stanton in the board's capacity to resolve this situation.

Commissioner Epplin moved that Resolution 2016-25, resolution appointing Commissioner Robb to act on behalf of the Perry County Board when it comes to releasing the Executive Session tape, be approved. Chairman Kelly seconded the motion. Chairman Kelly requested a roll call vote. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted aye: Chairman Kelly, Commissioner Robb, and Commissioner Epplin. The motion was approved on a vote of 3-0 and the resolution adopted.

**DISCUSSION**

1. **Kevin Kern** – Mr. Kern and Alex Snedeker with Snedeker risk management presented the board with the Annual findings from the 2015 calendar year. The County had spent just under \$800,000 on medical costs during that year which represents the best year in recent memory. This was a great success for Perry County in what had been a tough fiscal year. Mr. Kern advised the board that this was an exceptional number for a county of our size and make up.
2. **Brian Otten** – Engineer Otten addressed the board with a short update on the upcoming projects that the highway department is working on and some of the challenges they are working through. This year they will be completing Shamrock road and Kimmel road. They have also purchased \$19,000 worth of gravel and \$81,000 on Bam. On bridges they received their bridge money last year and choose not to use it. Instead they let it add up to be used on the Pecan Bridge Project. Engineer Otten explained that revenues are flat currently and will remain flat for the foreseeable future. However, expenses continue to increase. He explained that in the past, county roads were on a 2 year oil and chip rotation. Now with the current costs and management that has been extended out to a 6 year rotation. With that in mind they are changing the approach to a preservation approach. This means that seal projects like the one completed on Kimmel road

will be one of our best options moving forward. This process will lead to considerable savings, possibly in the millions. With the current funding levels staying flat and expenses increasing options like this will need to be utilized.

3. **Sam Robb** – Commissioner Robb is asking the local papers to look into the possible worker’s compensation abuses in Perry County. Commissioner Robb feels that our situation has gotten completely out of control. He references the success Williamson County has had in comparison to Perry County. He states that over a year period Williamson County had 3 Workers Compensation claims while we had 18 claims. While he states that it is possibly related to bad luck but it is his belief that there is more than likely some abuses happening. He is asking the papers to look into this and possibly shine a light on this so that if someone is abusing the system they might think twice about it next time. Mr. Snedeker went on to explain how workers compensation is calculated and exactly what goes into our ratings. While ICRMT has conducted a number of trainings with the intent of helping reduce those claims. While these training have been a recent development the effects are not being seen as of yet. After some questions from the local media outlets, it was determined that Treasurer Craft, along with assistance from the team at Snedeker Risk Management, will be creating a list of the Workers Compensation claims and distributing them out to the media.
4. **Kathy Livingston** – Mrs. Livingston addressed the board about the recent developments in the neighborhood around Cherry Lake. A number of neighbors have made complaints in reference to one neighbor Mr. Boling. Mrs. Livingston was there to speak on behalf of the community with their concerns for the state of Mr. Bolings property. She referenced a number of derelict vehicles and garbage on his property. She explained that there appears to be sewage coming from his property directly into the lake. She also explained that there have been a number of disputes between her and Mr. Boling.
5. **David Boling** – Mr. Boling addressed the board in reference to the claims from Mrs. Livingston. He explained that he has been working with Director Tracy about the state of the items on his property including the vacant cars, horse trailer, and trailer loaded with logs. He explained that the vacant cars were being used for parts and they would be disposed of shortly. And that he has received permission to place the trailer with logs on the adjacent property. He stated that he has been in contact with the Sheriff about what he considers harassing behavior by Mrs. Livingston and some of his other neighbors. He also stressed that the EPA and Director Tracy have been working with him and have set a plan in place to get his property back up to acceptable standards. Director Tracy mentioned that she has given Mr. Boling up until June 1<sup>st</sup> to complete the cleanup. Sheriff Bareis informed the Board that he will be running extra patrols to make sure no one is acting improper.

### **COMMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chairman Kelly called for comments from the public or announcements from department heads. There were none.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Commissioner Epplin moved the Board recess to executive session,

- To discuss “collective negotiating matters” per 5 ILCS 120 2(c)(2)

Commissioner Robb seconded the motion. Chairman Kelly requested a roll call vote. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted aye: Chairman Kelly, Commissioner Robb, and Commissioner Epplin. The motion passed on a vote of 3-0 and the board entered executive session at 3:20 p.m.

Commissioner Epplin moved the Board close the executive session meeting and re-enter regular session. Chairman Pro-Temp Robb seconded the motion. On voice vote, the motion was approved and the Board re-entered regular session at 3:29 p.m.

### **PAYMENT OF CLAIMS**

Board members examined claims presented for payment. Board agreed to pay all bills as presented.

Commissioner Epplin moved that all claims against the General Corporate Fund and all claims against special purpose funds, be approved (see attached), with General Corporate Fund expenses to be prioritized according to policy. Commissioner Robb seconded the motion. Chairman Kelly requested a roll call vote. Upon call of the roll, the

following members voted aye: Chairman Kelly, Commissioner Epplin, and Commissioner Robb. The motion was approved on a vote of 3-0 and payment warrants granted.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board, the Chairman Kelly said he would entertain a motion to adjourn the Winter Quarter Meeting and re-convene the Winter Quarter meeting at 6 p.m. on Thursday, March 3, 2016.

Commissioner Epplin moved the Board adjourn the Winter Quarter Meeting and re-convene the Winter Quarter meeting at 6 p.m. on Thursday, March 3, 2016. Chairman Kelly seconded the motion. On voice vote, the motion was approved and the Board stood adjourned at 3:34 p.m.

Submitted:

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**JOSH GROSS, County Clerk**  
Clerk of the Board of Commissioners  
County of Perry, State of Illinois

Approved: March 3<sup>rd</sup> 2016