



**Minutes of the Perry County Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting
2:00 p.m. – Thursday, July 6, 2017
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, July 6, 2017 in the County Board Room at the Perry County Government Building in the City of Pinckneyville.

OPENING

Chairman Epplin 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 Epplin, Commissioner Kelly and Commissioner Bigham. The following department heads were also present: Assistant State's Attorney Marty Beltz, Assessor Becky Winter, Sheriff Steve Bareis, Circuit Clerk Kim Kellerman, Auditor Harold Emling, and Treasurer Mary Jane Craft.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Epplin asked for the minutes of the June 15, 2017 regular Board of Commissioners meeting, be approved. Chairman Epplin called for corrections. There were none.

Commissioner Bigham moved the minutes of the June 15, 2017 regular Board of Commissioners meeting, be approved. Commissioner Kelly seconded the motion. On voice vote, the motion was approved.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chairman Epplin called for additions or deletions to the meeting agenda. None were needed.

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

RESOLUTION – ACCEPT ANNUAL AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING NOV. 30, 2016 FROM EMLING & HOFFMAN

Harold Emling of Emling & Hoffman, P.C. presented the County's annual audit of accounts for the year ending November 30, 2016. Mr. Emling stated that the County's records were well maintained, and County staff is helpful and cooperative in the course of the audit. The audit presents a clean opinion with minimal internal control issues noted.

As to County's finances, the overall standing of the County has changed little from the previous year. Perry County's total assets were \$10,341,143.00. Total liabilities were \$6,142,633.00. This results in net assets of \$4,813,333. It was noted that the County had two outstanding tax anticipation warrants valued at \$600,000 at the close of the fiscal year. It was noted that the County has a substantial liability of accrued sick and personal time that liability amount is over \$1,000,000. Mr. Emling stressed the importance of getting control of the liability. It represents a large concern for Perry County Government moving forward.

Mr. Emling did stress that the findings are still primarily due to the lack of internal controls. However, he did stress that the improved staff in the Treasurer's office are showing improvements.

Commissioner Bigham moved that Resolution 2017-77, a resolution accepting the annual audit of accounts for the fiscal year ending Nov. 30, 2016 from Emling & Hoffman, P.C., be approved. Commissioner Kelly seconded the motion. Chairman Epplin requested a roll call vote. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted aye: Commissioner

Bigham, Commissioner Kelly, and Chairman Epplin. The motion passed on a vote of 3-0 and the resolution adopted

RESOLUTION – APPROVE CROCUS BRIDGE DESIGN PROJECT

Engineer Otten addressed the board in response to the need for a new bridge repair to be completed on Crocus Road. Two pipes that previously ran under Crocus Road have been washed out and while the plan to use two temporary pipes was originally discussed Engineer Otten believes it is time to go ahead and replace and repair the Bridge. This cost will be nearly \$14,000. He is asking that we use Round Table Design and that we have had good work with them in the past.

Commissioner Kelly moved that Resolution 2017-78, a resolution approving the Bridge design Project for Crocus Road, be approved. Commissioner Bigham seconded the motion. Chairman Epplin requested a roll call vote. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted aye: Commissioner Kelly, and Chairman Epplin. Commissioner Bigham voted Nay. The motion passed on a vote of 2-1 and the resolution adopted

RESOLUTION – APPROVE PYATT BLACKTOP BRIDGE DESIGN PROJECT

Engineer Otten addressed the board to discuss the need for a bridge repair design to be completed for Pyatt Blacktop Bridge. The bridge currently has lower than needed load carrying structure. The bridge could potentially get federal funding based on how the bridge design will show the support failures. Engineer Otten is again asking to use Round Table Design and this design will cost roughly \$21,000 due to this being a larger bridge.

Commissioner Bigham moved that Resolution 2017-79, resolution approving the design project for Pyatt Blacktop Bridge, be approved. Commissioner Kelly seconded the motion. Chairman Kelly requested a roll call vote. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted aye: Chairman Epplin, Commissioner Kelly and Commissioner Bigham. The motion passed on a vote of 3-0 and the resolution adopted.

RESOLUTION – APPROVE PYATT BLACKTOP SPEED LIMIT MODIFICATION

Engineer Otten addressed the board to let them know the logic behind lowering the speed limit on Pyatt Blacktop Bridge. After speaking to IDOT we were able to decide that until the bridge is completely repaired, by lowering the speed limit the impact on the bridge will be reduced, thus allowing for us to remove the load limit signs allowing for better travel to occur over Pyatt Blacktop. Commissioner Epplin stressed that it is important to protect the flow of traffic along Pyatt's Blacktop.

Commissioner Bigham moved that Resolution 2017-80, resolution approving the speed reduction of Pyatt's Blacktop Bridge, be approved. Commissioner Kelly seconded the motion. Chairman Kelly requested a roll call vote. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted aye: Chairman Epplin, Commissioner Kelly and Commissioner Bigham. The motion passed on a vote of 3-0 and the resolution adopted.

RESOLUTION – REPEAL RESOLUTION 174 (MOTOR VEHICLE CODE AMBER LIGHTS)

Assistant States Attorney Marty Beltz addressed the board with the reasons for removing the Amber Light Ordinance. Due to a request from the Illinois State Police and other local law enforcement offices and in conjunction with the City of Pinckneyville it is the findings of Perry County that the Amber Light Ordinance must be revoked. A number of potential abuses have occurred in the short time this Ordinance has been in place and those Abuses are undermining the intent of the Ordinance. It is the recommendation of the State's Attorney's Office that we rescind the Ordinance approving Amber Light usage on delivery vehicles

Commissioner Bigham moved that Resolution 2017-81, resolution repealing Resolution 174 (Amber Lights), be approved. Commissioner Kelly seconded the motion. Chairman Kelly requested a roll call vote. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted aye: Chairman Epplin, Commissioner Kelly and Commissioner Bigham. The motion passed on a vote of 3-0 and the resolution adopted.

RESOLUTION – APPROVE EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES TO REMAIN CLOSED

Clerk Gross addressed those in attendance to speak about the process of keeping Executive Minutes closed. Clerk Gross stated that per 5 ILCS 120 (Open Meeting Act) it is the requirement of each county to semi-annually review the executive session minutes

and decide whether or not they need to remain closed. At this time Clerk Gross is advising the board to keep them closed due to the nature of the discussions and the fact that they still are covering current employees. Also there are current issues still being addressed by the county.

Commissioner Bigham moved that Resolution 2017-82, resolution approving that executive session minutes remain closed for six months, be approved. Commissioner Kelly seconded the motion. Chairman Kelly requested a roll call vote. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted aye: Chairman Epplin, Commissioner Kelly and Commissioner Bigham. The motion passed on a vote of 3-0 and the resolution adopted.

RESOLUTION – RAFFLE LICENSE APPLICATION (2)

The raffle license applications were presented for approval. Applications and fees are in order and approval was recommended for application, as follows:

- Swanwick Cemetery/Picnic Association (2017-RL-14)
- American Thresherman Association (2017-RL-15)

Commissioner Kelly moved that Resolutions 2017-83-84, resolutions approving raffle license applications and issuing the license as indicated above, be approved. Commissioner Bigham seconded the motion. Chairman Epplin requested a roll call vote. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted aye: Chairman Epplin, Commissioner Bigham, and Commissioner Kelly. The motion was passed on a vote of 3-0 and the resolutions were adopted.

RESOLUTION – RECONVEYING TRUSTEE-OWNED PROPERTY

County Clerk Gross presented the Board with a resolution authorizing the re-conveyance of a trustee-owned property. The previous owner for this parcel was Tri Star Petroleum, LLC Michael Hunter who purchased this through the 2013 sealed bid auction. The previous property owner has tendered back taxes and fees on the following:

- Parcel# 2-64-0350-300 to Perry County Agent

Commissioner Kelly moved that Resolution 2017-85, a resolution authorizing a deed of re-conveyance on trustee-owned surplus properties, as listed above, be approved. Commissioner Bigham seconded the motion. Chairman Epplin requested a roll call vote. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted aye: Commissioner Bigham, Commissioner Epplin and Chairman Kelly. The motion carried on a vote of 3-0 and the resolution adopted.

DISCUSSION

1. **David Houston** – Mr. Houston addressed the board again today in reference to his ongoing concerns with the Perry County Assessment process and the Board of Review Process. He believes the square footage being used is still incorrect. He continues to claim that no one is able to provide him the information he is requesting to prove his calculations are wrong. He believes he is still not getting provided access to the information that he is requesting. He would like for someone from the county to admit there is a state law that is currently not being completed. He has asked that this information be placed in the minutes of the board. He also asked if anyone knows the amount it would cost to complete such a reassessment. Chairman Epplin spoke to the past quote the county received that is just shy of \$600,000. Mr. Houston stated that the assessor or employees of the assessor's office must visually inspect and measure each property on the tax rolls. Assessor Winter stated that her staff is working diligently but that 100% of properties have not been inspected.
2. **Charles Presswood, John Howell, Ben Stork** – Mr. Presswood addressed the board with his concerns over the amount of traffic and speed of traffic on Mountain Lion Road. They are concerned about the safety of the residents out there due to the increase in traffic and that they are driving wild and fast. They are hoping that the board and sheriff are able to address the situation and see if they can improve the conditions for the safety of the children in that area. Sheriff Bareis stated that he had just met with them and will be taking some of their concerns to his team in an effort to improve the situation. The Board also stated that Sheriff Bareis and Engineer Otten should work together on this and see if they can come up with some solutions that may help reduce the problems. Mr. Presswood, Howell, and Stork thanked the board for anything they can do to help the problem.

COMMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None was needed

PAYMENT OF CLAIMS

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

Commissioner Kelly 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 Bigham seconded the motion. Chairman Epplin requested a roll call vote. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted aye: Chairman Epplin, Commissioner Bigham and Commissioner Kelly. The motion was approved on a vote of 3-0 and payment warrants were granted.

ADJOURNMENT OF SUMMER QUARTER MEETING

There being no further business to come before the Board, the Chairman said he would entertain a motion to adjourn and re-convene the Summer Quarter meeting at 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 20th 2017.

Commissioner Kelly moved the Board adjourn and re-convene the Spring Quarter meeting at 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 20th 2017. Commissioner Bigham seconded the motion. On voice vote, the motion was approved and the Board stood adjourned at 2:38 p.m.

Submitted:

JOSH GROSS, County Clerk
Clerk of the Board of Commissioners
County of Perry, State of Illinois
Approved: July 20, 2017