



**Minutes of the Perry County Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting
2:00 p.m. – Thursday, July 20, 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 20, 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: State's Attorney David Searby, Assessor Becky Winter, Sheriff Steve Bareis, Circuit Clerk Kim Kellerman, Solid Waste Director Becky Tracy, and Treasurer Mary Jane Craft.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Epplin asked for the minutes of the July 6, 2017 regular Board of Commissioners meeting, be approved. Chairman Epplin called for corrections. There were none.

Commissioner Bigham moved the minutes of the July 6, 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 – APPROVE FUND TRANSFER TO PERRY COUNTY GENERAL ASSISTANCE

Clerk Gross addressed the board in reference to this fund transfer request and what prompted it. In 2012 the Property Tax levy was reduced in an attempt to lower the property tax rate and utilize the existing surplus of funds in the General Assistance accounts. At this time we have depleted the remaining surplus and the General Assistance fund is currently unfunded until the new Property Tax Levy amounts are collected for Fiscal year 2016. The property tax levies have already been raised for General Assistance for Fiscal year 2016 and are expected to increase again for Fiscal year 2017. This transfer of funds is expected to be repaid once the General Assistance account is back on firmer ground.

Commissioner Bigham moved that Resolution 2017-86, a resolution approving the fund transfer from Perry County General Fund to Perry County General Assistance., 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 SPECIAL USE PERMIT (1)

Becky Tracy, the Zoning Director, presented the board with an application for a Special Use Permit and recommendation to approve. This SUP is to place a new mobile home.

- Kenneth Nehring – (SUP-17-06)

Commissioner Bigham moved that Resolution 2017-86, a resolution approving a Special Use Permit, be approved. Commissioner Kelly seconded the motion. Chairman Epplin requested a roll call vote. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted aye: Chairman Epplin, Commissioner Kelly, and Commissioner Bigham. The motion was approved on a vote of 3-0 and the resolution adopted.

RESOLUTIONS – BOARD OF REVIEW APPOINTMENTS, 2017 ASSESSMENT YEAR

County Clerk Gross distributed a memorandum to the Board requesting re-appointments of Board of Review members for the 2017 assessment year. As the 2016 assessments are complete, Supervisor of Assessments Becky Winter would like a new Board of Review constituted to conduct business, including approval of certificates of error and other business. Chairman Epplin re-appointed Jeffrey Robinson, and John “Andy” Clark. He also nominated John Batteau as a new member to the Board of Review for the 2017 assessment year.

Commissioner Bigham moved that Resolutions 2017-88 through 90, resolutions ratifying the Chairman’s appointments of Jeffrey Robinson, John “Andy” Clarke and John Batteau as members of the Perry County Board of Review for the 2017 assessment year, be adopted. Commissioner Kelly 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 the resolutions adopted.

RESOLUTION – RAFFLE LICENSE APPLICATION

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

- Perry County Sportsman’s Club (2017-RL-16)

Commissioner Kelly moved that Resolution 2017-91, resolution approving raffle license application 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.

DISCUSSION

1. **David Houston** – Mr. Houston read a prepared statement in regards to Tax Assessments and square footage. Per Mr. Houston, square footage is the most important item in regards to property tax assessments. He explained the square footage was the only item taken into account for his board of review hearing. He stressed that the files kept in the Assessor’s office were used during his Board of Review hearing and when reviewing those files his interpretation was that the square footage was being used incorrectly. In closing Mr. Houston addressed that after the last County Board meeting he overheard a number of county officials talking poorly about him and his situation. He stated that he believed that was unethical and possibly illegal. He also stated that if any member of the county board or other elected official has a specific question for him about either himself or his family that they direct their question to him directly rather than to each other. He stated that he has a FOIA request pending for these matters.

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, August 3rd 2017.

Commissioner Kelly moved the Board adjourn and re-convene the Spring Quarter meeting at 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 3rd 2017. Commissioner Bigham seconded the motion. On voice vote, the motion was approved and the Board stood adjourned at 2:13 p.m.

Submitted:

JOSH GROSS, County Clerk
Clerk of the Board of Commissioners
County of Perry, State of Illinois
Approved: August 3, 2017