Minutes of the Perry County Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting
2:00 p.m. – Thursday, March 5, 2020
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, March 5, 2020 in the County Board Room at the Perry County Government Building in the City of Pinckneyville.

OPENING

Chairman Dallas Bigham 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 Beth Lipe called the roll. The following members answered the call of the roll: Commissioner Susan Hepp and Chairman Dallas Bigham were present. Commissioner Kelly was absent.

The following department heads were also present: Assistant State's Attorney Marty Beltz, Treasurer Mary Jane Craft, County Engineer Brian Otten, Solid Waste & Zoning Officer Becky Tracy and Superintendent of Schools Cheryl Graff.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chairman Bigham - Before we approve the agenda, does anyone want to be added to Public Comments? Please add Coach Al Martin and Pete Spitler. Chairman Bigham then called for approval of the meeting agenda.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Bigham asked for the approval of the Board of Commissioners meeting minutes of the February 20, 2020 regular meeting. Chairman Bigham called for corrections. There were none.

Commissioner Hepp moved the minutes of the February 20, 2020 regular meeting be approved. Chairman Bigham seconded the motion. On voice vote, the motion was approved.

RESOLUTION – TO APPROVE RAFFLE LICENSE

County Clerk Lipe stated that the raffle license for the Pinckneyville Knights of Columbus #2921 has been completed and license fee paid.

Commissioner Hepp moved to approve the Raffle License for the Pinckneyville Knights of Columbus #2921. Chairman Bigham seconded the motion. Chairman Bigham requested a roll call vote. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted aye: Commissioner Hepp and Chairman Bigham. The motion was passed on a vote of 2-0-1 and the resolution was adopted.

DISCUSSION:

Chairman Bigham – That moves us down to discussion. Superintendent Cheryl Graff with the Regional Office of Education with a quarterly update.

Mrs. Graff – She reported that they have been working on a large grant, they are in the stages of implementing it. This is a one-million-dollar grant that I sit on the leadership committee. We are also working on a truancy plan. Districts were allowed to apply for a $50,000.00 match maintenance grant. All the districts in our region submitted that grant and supposedly they will all receive that grant. All buildings in the whole region have

been inspected now. We are starting compliance visits to make sure they are following State statute.

Chairman Bigham – Thank you, Cheryl. That moves us down to Snedeker Risk Management, Kevin Kern.

Mr. Kern – We wanted to provide an update. We had our quarterly Risk Management Meeting before this meeting. A few things that were discussed, new legislation that came into effect on January 1st requires annual sexual harassment training. This is going to be for every employer in the State of Illinois. We are going to be hosting a training here on Tuesday, April 14th. We are going to try to enlist as many as we can. The other topic he mentioned was an Employee Handbook. The County Board had done an awful lot of work on one in 2015 but it was never formally adopted. There are several bargaining units, this will just enhance and help with them. Snedeker's have had their attorney's go through the handbook, review, change and update where needed. Also, they presented the County with a plaque to recognize their commitment to SRMT for the past 25 years. They also presented the County with a check for $2,500.00 as a thank you.

Chairman Bigham – Thank you very much, Kevin.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chairman Bigham – That brings us to Public Comments…Coach Al Martin…

Mr. Martin - He is concerned with speeding and unlawful passing on East Park Street Road, east of Du Quoin. Where he lives, the road is S curved and is a dangerous place to pass. He has been in contact with the Sheriff's Department, County Highway Engineer and neighbors. He would like to construct a temporary sign to notify drivers to watch their speed, the no passing zone and watch for animals. He said the Sheriff's Department has been patrolling the area the past couple of weeks & it has helped slow drivers down. State Police have been out there also. A lot of people use that road to get to work in Jackson County and Franklin County & He understands that but he still feels they just need to slow down before someone gets hurt. They've had some serious accidents in the area & he just feels that very few abide by the 30-mph speed limit sign. Lots of farmers use that road, bikers use that road & it's really a dangerous area. The County Engineer, along with the County Board, agreed with the sign as long as it's on private property and not the right of way.

Chairman Bigham – Thank you for your concerns, Coach. That brings us to Pete Spitler.

Mr. Spitler – He just wanted to give an update about the Reenactment that starts on May 1st at the Pyramid State Park. They are up to 438 reenactors with 16 States involved. They were having an issued with fresh water but last I've heard, that issue has been solved. At this point, site work will begin sometime in early April.

Chairman Bigham – I'd like to mention something about the March 17th Primary coming up here and the referendum. If this passes, the money created from it will go to directly assist the Sheriff's Department and Jail. Hopefully we could get a couple more Deputies on the road and get some more help in the jail.

Chairman Bigham – With no further discussion, we will move on. That moves us to Executive Session to discuss litigation, probable or imminent as permitted in 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11). May I have a motion to adjourn the regular session and go into executive session without any action?

Commissioner Hepp moved to adjourn into executive session without any action being taken. Seconded by Chairman Bigham. Regular session adjourned at 2:25 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Executive session began at 2:32 p.m. By motion of Commissioner Hepp and a second by Chairman Bigham, executive session adjourned at 2:37 p.m.

PAYMENT OF CLAIMS

Regular session began again at 2:38 p.m.

Board members examined claims presented for payment.

Commissioner Hepp moved to approve the payment of bills when money becomes available and if their budget lines allow it and they are not over budget. Chairman Bigham seconded the motion. Chairman Bigham requested a roll call vote. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted aye: Commissioner Hepp and Chairman Bigham. The motion was approved on a vote of 2-0-1.

ADJOURNMENT OF COUNTY BOARD MEETING

There being no further business to come before the Board, the Chairman said he would entertain a motion to adjourn.

Commissioner Hepp moved the Board adjourn and convene the next meeting on Thursday, March 19, 2020 at 6:00 p.m., Chairman Bigham seconded the motion. On voice vote, the motion was approved and the Board stood adjourned at 2:39 p.m.

Submitted:

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BETH LIPE, County Clerk
Clerk of the Board of Commissioners
County of Perry, State of Illinois
Approved: March 19, 2020