

## COMMISSIONERS GENERAL SESSION

April 1, 2024

**Present at the meeting were  
Commissioners:**

R. Franklin Campbell – Chairman  
Brenda L. Watson – Vice Chairman  
William G. Lyons - Secretary  
Shannon Hines – Chief Clerk  
William R. Bunt – Solicitor

**Present from the Press:** Paul Wyatt

**Present from the Public:** Ed Albright, Jim Frank, Olivia Frymoyer, Kristie Gantt, Jeff Garman, Sarah Geesaman, Willy Kaufell, Wayne Leshner, Robbyn Metz, Darla McNaughton, Michelle Orris, Rich Pluta, Faith Pundock, Larry Reisinger, Bob Ressler, John Sledzinski, Judy Sledzinski, Marty Smith, Wes Smith, Alyson Thebes, Randy Waggoner, Josh Wilson, and Kay Witmer

Commissioner Campbell opened the meeting at 10:00 a.m. on April 1, 2024 with the Pledge to the Flag and a moment of silence. The meeting was recorded by the County and Paul Wyatt.

**Updates/Announcements:** None

**Public Comments:** Robbyn Metz asked if the County is only allowed to hold a certain percentage of their budget in unrestricted funds. She stated that at last week's meeting it was said by a Commissioner that ARPA funds were rolled into the General Fund. She questioned how much money was rolled and what category on the financial statement did the funds roll into. Ms. Metz asked if the County needs to report, by September 2024, where the remaining ARPA funds were allocated to, and then have it off the books by next year. She said that the financial statement shows that \$3.1 million dollars was allocated to the budget deficit, but noted that the approved budget was balanced. She asked if there is a current \$3.1 million dollar deficit or if that was the projected deficit for the entire year.

Wayne Leshner asked how much ARPA funds are left over and have been put into the bank. He asked if the Commissioners have no idea how much is left. He said the Commissioners should know that dollar amount. Mr. Leshner asked if ZA was paid to do the financial overview that was attached to the agenda. He further questioned if the internal staff member that completed the document is the same person that has not provided a statement of financial position. He said the Commissioners have set a precedence of answering questions, but will not answer his questions because they are tough. Mr. Leshner questioned what the project revenue was for the balance of February 2024.

**Approval of Minutes:** Commissioner Lyons made a motion to approve the minutes of March 25, 2024 meeting. Commissioner Watson seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried unanimously.

**Employee Service Recognition:** Commissioner Campbell recognized Olivia Frymoyer, Case Manager Supervisor at the Area Agency on Aging, for 10 years of service to the County.

**Meeting Business:** Commissioner Campbell stated that a financial overview was attached to the agenda. He said that all questions pertaining to the overview should be emailed to commissioners@perryco.org and then answers will be posted on the County website.

Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve the FY 2023 State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program Local Government Entities Consent Agreement. Commissioner Lyons seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Lyons made a motion to approve the proposal from Fisher's Roofing to replace zone 4 of the Courthouse roof at a cost of \$20,351. Commissioner Watson seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Watson made a motion to conduct a feasibility study using By Design Consultants, Inc. at a cost of \$58,500. Commissioner Lyons seconded the motion. Commissioner Watson said that three firms had provided proposals for the study. She stated that the proposal costs for ATCS was \$39,370 and Buchart Horn was \$57,500. She further commented that By Design was selected because they were very detail oriented and they are also focused on future needs of the County. Commissioner Campbell and Commissioner Lyons affirmed that By Design had provided the most complete and comprehensive proposal. Commissioner Campbell called for the vote. All agreed. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Lyons made a motion to approve the agreement with Perry Strength & Fitness Center LLC for the Tai Chi for Arthritis Program through the Area Agency on Aging. Commissioner Watson seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve the agreement with Lauren Kerlin for the Walk with Ease Program through the Area Agency on Aging. Commissioner Lyons seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried unanimously.

**Employee Status:** Commissioner Lyons made a motion to accept the resignation of Jonathan Nace, Full Time Law Clerk in the Judges' Chambers, effective April 6, 2024. Commissioner Watson seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve the appointment of Angela Schlegel to the position of Deputy Chief Clerk in the Chief Clerk's Department effective April 15, 2024 at an hourly rate of \$17.71. Commissioner Lyons seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Lyons made a motion to accept the resignation of Halie Burton, Part Time Dispatcher Trainee in the 911 Center, effective April 1, 2024. Commissioner Watson seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried unanimously.

**Solicitors Report:** Solicitor Bunt stated that an Election Board meeting would be held at 11:00 a.m. and there would be discussion on not counting undated mail in ballots.

**Public Comments:** Jeff Garman said he was happy to see that \$200,000 was saved on the feasibility study.

Wayne Leshar said he would produce a study showing that over the next 30 years, 15,000 people are projected to move out of Perry County. He asked that the Commissioners' plans were to address budget deficits in the future if all funds are spent. He questioned how you can increase the tax base with no infrastructure. Mr. Leshar again asked if all funds are earmarked for different purposes, how can the Commissioners cover budget deficits next year. He questioned what specifically was going to be done with \$5 million dollars that would increase the tax base. Mr. Leshar said that the County is going through a reassessment and taxes would be raised.

Robbyn Metz said she has the same concerns as Wayne Leshar. She asked how the Commissioners can earmark funds when they have no plans. She stated that she is concerned that there will be a tax increase and asked when the last tax increase was. She asked if there was a tax increase in 2020. Ms. Metz asked if all questions that are emailed to the Commissioners will be posted on the website.

**Comments from Press:** None

Commissioner Watson made a motion to adjourn at 10:24 a.m. Commissioner Lyons seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried unanimously.

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Shannon Hines, Chief Clerk

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William G. Lyons, Secretary