



**Minutes of the Perry County Board of Commissioners  
Regular Meeting  
8:00 a.m. - Thursday, August 11, 2016  
County Board Room – Perry County Government Building**

A regular meeting of the Perry County Board of Commissioners was convened at 8:00 a.m. on Thursday, August 11<sup>th</sup> 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 8:00 a.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: Supervisor of Assessments John Batteau, States Attorney David Stanton, and County Engineer Brian Otten.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Chairman Kelly called for additions or deletions to the meeting agenda. Jeff Egbert wanted to be added to ask follow-up questions.

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

**RESOLUTION – APPROVE HIRING OF NEW COUNTY HIGHWAY FOREMAN**

Engineer Otten addressed the board to discuss the hiring of a new County Highway Foreman. After an extensive interview process that saw nearly fifteen people apply Mr. Otten was able to narrow the search down to five potential candidates. At this time a three person panel consisting of Bobby Kelly, Glenn Bridges, and Brian Otten interviewed the final candidates and selected the person they saw as best fit for the job. Mr. Keith Harris was hired to fill the vacancy left by Ruben Davis late last year. Mr. Otten spoke to the qualities he was looking for with this hire and stated he expects Mr. Harris to do an outstanding job.

Commissioner Robb moved that Resolutions 2016-111 a resolution approving the hiring of Mr. Keith Harris as Highway Foreman, 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 Epplin, and Commissioner Robb. The motion passed on a vote of 3-0 and the resolution adopted.

**DISCUSSION**

1. **Jeff Egbert**– Mr. Egbert asked for more details on how the hiring process was handled specifically who decided who to hire and what steps were taken. Engineer Otten and Chairman Kelly discussed the process again and explained in more detail who was involved in the hiring and the roles they all played. To this Mr. Egbert asked if anyone in the hiring process was related to Mr. Harris. Chairman Kelly stated that Mr. Bridges was the father in law to Mr. Harris and for that reason he recused himself from the vote and the interview process during that interview. Mr. Egbert then asked if anyone else from Perry County is related to Mr. Harris. There was no reply.

**COMMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

There was none.

**PAYMENT OF CLAIMS**

**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 the Summer Quarter meeting, and reconvene the Summer Quarter meeting at 2 p.m. on Thursday, August 18, 2016.

Commissioner Robb moved the Board adjourn the Summer Quarter meeting and reconvene the Summer Quarter meeting at 2 p.m. on Thursday, August 18, 2016. Commissioner Epplin seconded the motion. On voice vote, the motion was approved and the Board stood adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

Submitted:

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

Approved: August 18<sup>th</sup> 2016