

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNTY BOARD**  
AT A MEETING OF THE COUNTY BOARD MEMBERS OF CHRISTIAN COUNTY  
ILLINOIS, BEGUN AND HELD AT THE CHRISTIAN COUNTY COURTHOUSE IN  
TAYLORVILLE, ILLINOIS ON **JANUARY 18, 2022**  
*ATTEST: JACQUE WILLISON, COUNTY CLERK*

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The following proceeding had and entered at large upon the records of said Board, which is done accordingly in the following words and figures to wit;

Chairman Wells called the board to order at 6:30 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

The roll call by County Clerk Jacque Willison showing all members present. A quorum was had to hold the meeting.

Chairman Wells gave a general reminder about masks. Sheriff has stated that masks must be worn in the building to and from offices. Please do not put the deputies in a position that they have to tell somebody they have to wear their masks. The Sheriff is in charge of the building, please where your masks in and out.

**APPROVE COUNTY BOARD MINUTES**

Chairman Wells asked for any corrections or additions and to accept the December 21, 2021 County Board minutes to approve as printed. *Dale Livingston made a motion to approve the minutes seconded by Bev Graham.* After no discussion or improvements, Chairman Wells asked for roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; the motion carried.

Chairman Wells asked for approval of the minutes from the Public Hearing on December 21, 2021. *Venise McWard made a motion to approve the minutes seconded by Dale Livingston.* After no discussion or improvements, Chairman Wells asked for roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; the motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Chairman Wells called for public comments - is there anyone from the public who wishes to address the board? This is not a question and answer session. Any one from the public wish to speak?

There were no public comments.

Chairman Wells stated he has asked some people to come in her today, it's on the agenda backwards but I asked Chad Coady to explain because some board members asked me about taxes and money from the solar farms and solar panels and I don't want to make Chad wait here for an hour and a half so if no one has any objections.

Chad stated that he has 5 solar projects that are up and coming. The state assesses the solar farms. They have a market value of \$218,000 per megawatt and we apply a trending factor and do a lot of math and it comes out to be about \$82,000 per megawatt of taxable value. Depending on what taxing district it's in and the tax rate, those examples that I have there show the first year's taxes what the county will get. It's not new revenue just what will offset the tax dollars for people in that taxing district. The new revenue that the county will get will be just from the first time value of levying above and beyond our CPI. So those dollar amounts are not new money the county will see. It's just the amount of tax dollars those solar farms will be paying. The solar farms depreciate out at a rate of 4% per year but the trending factor is applied to that so right now 2022 the trending factor is 13%. Even though it depreciates 4% it's appreciating for the year 2022 13% because solar farms are popping up everywhere and the value of them is going up. The max depreciation is 70% so the last column shows the maximum depreciation the revenue should go no lower than that other than changes in the tax rate, could be higher or lower just based on the rates. It's a ball park based on today's tax rate.

Bev Graham asked if there was an application for building permits to do these solar farms.

Chad stated there were two different kinds; Commercial and home use. Anything below 1 megawatt.

Bev Graham asked how much they were.

Chad stated he did not know and Chairman Wells stated that was a Zoning question and that she would get an answer later in this meeting.

Gene Price – we talked about new tax revenue but not county's portion. For example the first year, the 3.8 million that includes revenue of the county, schools

Chad responded stating yes, if you take the Black Diamond Solar Farm for example, for the first year it says \$1.8 million and that is all in South Fork Township so they would benefit the most from that. The tax rate will likely go down because of that influx of assessed value. So the county will not get that. It's not additional money the county will get that is just to offset what the taxpayers are already paying.

Dale Livingston asked what additional money will the county receive.

Chad responded – well they get all the permitting fees. The first time value, they can levy above and beyond the CPI which I believe the CPI is around 1.8%. The first time value the county can levy 5%, the first year value and then after that it is gone.

Dale Livingston stated that is what the board is interested in, is what portion the county will receive.

Chad stated it's a very small portion. It would be something like 2-3% of that \$1.8 million. But then once it gets processed and tax rolls - it translates into reduced taxes for everyone else in those districts. Christian County is different than other counties because we are a PTELL county. We don't get to keep that revenue towards the county. It gets rolled into – applied to everyone.

Bryan Sharp asked at the end of the day is there a net gain to the county. I mean new dollars into our treasury from these projects.

Chad Cody said there is but the calculation I can't determine that because it is based on the current CPI. We won't know until it is actually built because the CPI changes every year. Depending on how much those levying bodies increase their levy by, the county gets, like I said all the levying bodies get first time value, the first year they can levy beyond the CPI. We would have to levy for additional dollars.

Dale Livingston asked so out of the \$1.8 million we are going to get like \$30-\$40 thousand dollars for the county and that is it.

Chad stated roughly and Bryan Sharp said that is a onetime deal?

Chad said yes one time but after looking at this and crunching some numbers for South Fork Township, the tax rate could drop up to 30% so that could be a 30% decrease for everyone in the taxing district of the solar farms. You could see a huge drop in the tax rate but with the closure of the power plant it just might offset a little. If the power plant closes and we didn't have the solar farms the tax rate will shoot way up to compensate for the levy being redistributed. The tax burden of the power plant would be redistributed to everyone else.

Mike Specha – I'm sorry Chad I am just going to make you go over the numbers again. I realize it is complicated, but if it's complicated for you, its way complicated for me. So if we are dealing with \$3.8 million and you through out a 2 to 5 percent net gain – just as a rough scientific wild ass guess. So 2% is \$80,000

Chad stated that not all these solar farms are set in stone.

Mike Specha stated he understood and so in the 10<sup>th</sup> year it's not 2% of that number anymore.

Chad stated that is for the first year only.

Mike – what does the \$2,300,000 mean then? The 10<sup>th</sup> year number in total.

Chad – that is the amount that has depreciated over the 10 year period. It gets a 4% depreciation for the amount of taxes of the assessed value from the solar farm. So it gradually slides back down.

Mike – so is the county's only gain in terms of tax dollars is the first year.

Chad – Correct. One thing I did calculate out is all these solar farms come up to I believe about 5000 acres of farm land. It is no longer being taxed as farm land. That's gone but it's only about 1 percent of what the solar farm value is.

Dale Livingston – so the land is still taxable right?

Chad – it's not taxable. The land is built into the assessment. The total assessment of \$218,000 per megawatt, that includes all the land all the panels, everything.

Gene Price –I was just going to say what he was getting at - It's just a one time.

Dale Livingston – so are we losing tax money by putting up the solar farms.

Chad - No. Because it far offsets the valuation of the farmland assessment. Farmland is at the very max assessed at about \$680 per acre. It's at the highest soil type if it was all crop land whereas this 5000 acres of solar farm would be \$4,000,000 worth of farm land. Just a few hundred thousand in taxes.

Ken Franklin – so you are talking about the solar panels that are taxed on their evaluation, so much a percentage where the farm land is an income component.

Chad –yes the state does the farm land on a 5 year average and it's based on the agricultural economic value and they are still trying to bridge the gap. They have a figure set and they are still below that. They are gradually trying to get up to it but without raising the high soil types too much and they are trying to bring the lower soil types up and bridge the gaps between the high and the low because they have been so far apart for decades.

Ken Franklin – so with the solar panels not taking any income into that, it's strictly the value -

Chad – It does take the value, the CPI and the trending factor factors in what the evaluation of the solar farms are. Like I said last year it was 4% increase and this year 2022 it is 13% so the price or evaluation of the solar farms have already increased. They have a number they started with I think in 2018 and every year they are applying a trending factor to bridge the gap to what the true value is and then you also get a 4% depreciation for the solar farms that have been around for a while.

Brian –you hear the scuttle butt is this is a windfall for the schools. Is this a windfall for the schools?

Chad – Well they get the same first time value. They get to levy that increase one time value. That's it.

Chairman Wells – I don't know anything about taxes but the South fork school board president told me when these two projects came there, he and the superintendent believed it would be \$5,000,000 for the school district.

Chad – so yeah, that's \$5,000,000 that the solar farm company will be paying instead of the citizens. So it's an offset. So it would be savings for everyone else.

Ray Koonce - so the bottom line is biggest take away from this is the people living in those tax districts are the ones to benefit the most from it.

Chad – it's no different than if there were \$3,000,000 worth of new homes being built. If the levies don't go up the tax rate plummets but obviously if the levy goes up the same percentage as the



CPI, you increase the levy by 1.8% or whatever our CPI is. Every year that's the max you can increase the levy but for that first time value you can increase the levy to 5%.

Dale – farm ground doubles in two years because of something weird, does that have any effect on the value

Chad – no, they don't have the value of the farm land in there because it is not all farm land that solar farms are being put on. Some of it is just rural bottom ground. I guess it is still considered farm ground it's just not all crop land.

Chairman Wells thanked Chad for all his information

### **911 Board Director – Dan Bland**

I am here on behalf of the 911 board, Shelby and Christian joint operations. We have been monitoring a concern over the last couple of years for those of us who have been on the board. These concerns have gradually increased where it is affecting everyone across the nation including us locally but it is about employee retention. Specifically speaking of our tele communicators, our 911 dispatchers, 911 in the Sheriff's office. Over the last 6 months we seen issues arise where we are just struggling to retain. So we as a board have been discussing at the last few meetings as some employee numbers have changed drastically and there are some options in the future that could change things further. We wanted to approach you as the board because the boards intertwine in a sense as to how things operate, funding, employees, expense, budgets and we understand that process. But we thought it would be good to approach and share with you our concerns. It's a public safety concern not a crisis at this moment. If you look at the time it takes to hire and train and establish a 911 tele communicator dispatcher you are talking 6 months or longer. We are seeing staff trained and rotating out, new opportunities, better wages, and better benefits. And what this is doing internally within is wearing thin as you all know how it affects your stronger, more experienced staff, workers. They are training, rotating out, covering overtime while they are still working. The entire picture has been affected by our ability to retain our dispatchers lately. So as we are seeing as a board and I am sure you as well there is tremendous funding out there pouring in from the government; state and federal and we are not the type to support throwing out temporary funds for a long problem that we are facing. But yet we are also needing to address this issue because it is going to affect both our counties, Christian and Shelby. With the retention the way it's going, it's not going to get better until we can figure out 1) why and 2) how are we going to address it and prevent it from happening.

So, to approach the board we wanted to inform you of our concerns. We would love to meet with some committees. Maybe that would be the best angle to go - to get more detail – we are familiar with our history of funding through the difficult times and the more blessed times and yet those can change based upon legislation and funding through surcharges. So we understand those concepts, but we do sense a serious problem that's approaching down the road if something is not addressed. It's going to affect us all and I know it's all about budget. I consider myself physically responsible, conservative. That's how I operate. I want to operate within my means. I don't know the solutions. We don't know the answers to the problems we are facing. There is funding available but for how long. We understand the cost of employees. We all want to operate within our budgets but yet if this lingers for 6 more months to another year and we keep losing employees, wearing down our strong experienced staff, where are we going to be in another year when that center within the city now operates and controls two counties. Law enforcement including and the software system that we are all connected to, so we as board members, Amy is here, Sheriff and

other board members. We just wanted to inform you where we stand. We would love to be on the committee where we can discuss in more detail what we are looking at. Some of us are not going to be here forever including myself. I am 45 years into my law enforcement career. This is a serious issue. There is comparables nearby, benefits are better. It's pulling people here and there, the economy is unpredictable but we still have to operate. We are public safety. So we as a board are sharing this with you. We hope we can meet soon with some committees and look forward to finding a solution together since it affects us all. We all operate together. That is why we are here.

Chairman Wells stated to the board and to the public, I have not yet signed or seen the contract with their employees. We have been waiting on a copy, I believe it came in today. We will discuss that later. If that contract gets signed, when the contract gets signed, I will be glad to put them on an agenda under the finance committee. But if there is an issue there and it doesn't get signed, this month then I will not put them on the February agenda. If we get the contract signed and everything is fine, then I am more than happy to have you on that agenda. But until the contract is signed, I don't want to talk about it. We are close. I did get a copy of the contract today, and we will discuss it a little later and the board will tell me what they want done. If it gets signed this month I will have you on there, Venice's finance committee agenda in February. If it doesn't get signed until February, I will get you on it in March.

#### **Betty Asmussen – ARPA Funds**

She wanted to let everyone know that the US Treasury made a change on the interim final ruling pertaining to revenue loss. Previously revenue loss, some genius out in Washington, I don't know who, came up with the formula that you had to use to find out if you had revenue loss or not. And revenue loss under the American Rescue Plan Funds stated that if you had revenue loss you can transfer that money over and the restriction or the guidelines on how you had to spend that money was not as stringent on the other categories. So what had happened was the counties got together and complained because the majority of the counties weren't calculating revenue loss and it twerked a lot of the counties off. They got with their representative, they heard it, went back and so they made an adjustment pertained to revenue loss basically saying if your allotment, your total allotment was under \$10,000,000 you can claim that total allotment as revenue loss. Sweep it over, which we already have an account. The restrictions are not as heavily as when they were under certain categories. So the treasurer's association is having a conference call. They invited 102 counties. Bellwether is leading the conference call. I know several board members, I sent that email out. I can't have every board member sit in. But I would like for you to hear the changes that were made and how it is going to affect us as a county. The conference call is at 10:00 am. Again everyone can't come, we can't have a quorum and I would like to know who is coming.

Chairman Wells stated two from each committee would be allowed. Dale Livingston stated that he would not be there.

Betty stated this conference call was throughout the United States, not just Illinois. Cities, Villages that received the money. This is a huge game changer for anybody who had less than \$10,000,000 for total allotment.

#### **APPOINTMENTS**

Chairman Wells stated that you all know Joe Stepping is leaving next month. We interviewed eight or nine people. I have 3 or 4 candidates. I think all of you know, I contacted you. Tough choice. I had 3 good candidates. I had people pushing me every which way, but after speaking with all of you, I have come to the conclusion that Vince Harris is the man to be appointed to the position. So I am going to appoint Vince effective Monday. He will be assisting Joe at Solid Waste for the next month and when Joe retires then he will take over. That also means he will be giving up the day to day operations at Animal Control and Dwanna Kimmel will take that over.

All appointments by the chairman require the approval of the board. So I have made the appointment and I am going to ask for a motion to approve Vince Harris as the new Solid Waste Manager. *David Puccetti made a motion to approve the appointment with Dale Livingston seconded that motion.*

Chairman Wells called for discussion. Bev Graham asked if this could be done in closed session. Chairman Wells stated discussion? Bev Graham stated again if this could be done in closed session, voting and asking questions for you.

Chairman Wells stated that due to the OMA we could not do any voting in closed session because that violates the OMA. Questions, personnel issues if the majority want to go into closed session he believes we could do that. But that takes a motion and a second and the vote of 9 members.

After no further discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard (n), Gene Price, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, (15) aye; (1) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried

### **Drawing by lots for a two year and four year terms for the 2022 election**

Chairman Wells stated he had reached out to both party chairmen, neither of which are here, to make sure this is done as fair and above board as possible. So what I have here is four bundles of envelopes. Venise if you would hand them to Jacque and set them right up here in front of the clerk. Then I would like to ask with the party chairmen not here, we have some elected officials here, could I get the Circuit Clerk and the Sheriff to come forward and help us. I don't want anybody to think there is any funny business, that I know anything at all. Chairman Wells asked Julie and the Sheriff to come forward please.

He asked Julie to grab one of the bundles of envelopes and take the rubber bank off of it, to mix them up and hand them off to the Sheriff. He then asked the Sheriff to put them in one of the containers that was borrowed from the Sheriff's office and to mix them up again. He asked Julie to grab the next bundle and do the same as the first.

Chairman Wells reiterated he wants to make sure everyone has the same chance and that no one knows what's what.

On each container there is an envelope on the bottom stating which district the container belongs to.

Liz took off the first envelope and it was District 1. County Clerk Jacque mixed them all up again. The drawing for each district was done by the most senior person first with results as follows:

District 1: Tim Carlson – 4 year term  
Craig Corzine – 2 year term  
Linda Curtin – 4 year term  
Venise McWard – 2 year term

District 2: Vicki McMahon – 4 year term  
Thomas Snyder, Jr. – 2 year term  
Ken Franklin – 2 year term  
David Puccetti – 4 year term

District 3: Ray Koonce – 4 year term  
Bryan Sharp – 4 year term  
Mike Specha – 2 year term  
Bev Graham – 2 year term

Before anyone drew for District 4, Chairman Wells turned the meeting over to Vice Chairman Craig Corzine. Vice Chairman Corzine called for Matt Wells to draw since he was the most senior person.

District 4: Matt Wells – 2 year term  
Dale Livingston – 2 year term  
Gene Price – 4 year term  
Chuck Smedley – 4 year term

After the drawing the meeting was turned back over the Chairman Wells.

#### **PETITIONS, RESOLUTIONS, ORDINANCES OR PROCLAMATIONS**

Resolutions will be done in committee reports.

#### **READING OF COMMUNICATIONS**

#### **JANUARY 2022 COMMUNICATIONS**

The following communications were presented and placed on file in the Clerk's Office.

1. The January 2022 Prevailing Wage Report
2. The December 2021, Public Defender's Report
3. The Treasurer's Reports for the period ending on December 31, 2021,
4. The Local Solid Waste Fees Fund report for December, 2021
5. IDOT – December 2021 Motor Fuel Tax Allotment for the County and the Road District Township report.
6. IEPA – Notification of Permit Application for Five Oaks Recycling and Disposal Facility for January 2022
7. C.E.F.S – Christian County September PCOM report just receive on December 28, 2021

8. REO – Budget Report for December 2021
9. Grain Belt Express Transmission Project – Notification of Public Hearing meeting on Phase 1 of the project is February 8, 2022 from 10-12 p.m. at the Fraternal Order of Eagles, 186 US Highway 51 Pana, Illinois 62557

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### **HIGHWAY/BUILDING/GROUNDS/ENVIRONMENTAL/ZONING AND WELFARE COMMITTEE**

**January 11, 2022**

Present: Dale Livingston, Chuck Smedley, Bev Graham, Mike Specha  
Absent: Thomas Snyder, Jr. (via phone)  
Others present: Matt Wells, Venise McWard, Bill Kennedy, Vince Harris and Elizabeth Hile  
in attendance.

The meeting of the Highway/Building/Grounds/Environmental/Welfare/Zoning Committee was called to order on Tuesday, January 11, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. in the Christian County Courthouse. The purpose of the meeting was County building issues, highway business and any other matters properly brought before the Committee. Roll call was taken and there was a quorum.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

#### **SURPLUS PROPERTY**

Part of Parcel #12-10-34-100-001-00

There were no bids to open tonight. Because there was some confusion on whether bids would be received and opened tonight or at the January Board meeting, this will also be an agenda item on the January 18, 2022 Board meeting.

Bids will be done in new business.

Chairman Wells explained to the board that they asked for bids to be submitted to committee by deadline is what he thought happened. Betty was gracious enough to go on Face Book, Zoom, and Yelp, whatever you call that part of the computer. No bids were received in time for that committee. There is at least one bid here tonight but the committee did not open it because they didn't have it. We do have one bid.

## SOLID WASTE BUSINESS

Chairman Wells has been conducting interviews for the department head position and hopes to have a recommendation by Tuesday's Board meeting.

## HIGHWAY BUSINESS

Cliff Frye requested to purchase a new tractor to replace a 1999 CX90 utility tractor. Sloan Implement has a new 2021 6130M utility tractor in stock priced through Sourcewell, which Christian County is a member, at \$115,483.52.

Motion by Mike Specha and seconded by Bev Graham to recommend to the full Board to purchase the JD 6130M from Sloan Implement at a cost of \$115,483.52. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Dale Livingston made a motion for the highway department to buy a new tractor with a second by Mike Specha. With no discussion, Chairman Wells called for roll.*

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Venise McWard Gene Price, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried

County Highway had a 2012 pickup truck totaled in December in a rear end collision. The insurance settlement is \$17,396. Looking for a fleet type truck to replace this pickup, Bob Ridings in Pana has a 2021 Ram Tradesman work truck on the lot. It is the last work truck they have left in stock that they were able to secure from Ram at fleet pricing. We can purchase this truck for \$29,993 with a net out of pocket of \$12,597. They will hold it for the County until next week.

Motion by Mike Specha and seconded by Chuck Smedley to recommend to the full Board to purchase the 2021 Ram from Bob Ridings for \$29,993 with a net out of pocket cost, after receipt of the insurance settlement, of \$12,597. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Dale Livingston made a motion to approve the purchase the 2021 Ram Truck with a second by Linda Curtin. After no discussion, Chairman Wells called for roll.*

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Gene Price, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried

A preliminary engineering agreement with Veenstra & Kimm, Inc. was presented for the design of a roadway realignment on 900N Road, East of Owaneco at the Assumption-Locust Township line. The design and construction of this project will be paid for with the Townships allotment of Rebuild Illinois Bond Funds. The agreement amount is up to \$39,863.

Motion by Dale Livingston and seconded by Mike Specha to recommend to the full Board to approve and authorize the County Board Chairman to execute the preliminary engineering agreement. Roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Dale Livingston made a motion to execute the preliminary engineering agreement with a second by Vicki McMahon. After no discussion, Chairman Wells called for roll.*

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, Gene Price, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried

Resolution R2022HY001 appropriating \$20,000.00 from the County Bridge Fund was presented to pay Christian County's share of the estimated costs to construct Pana Bridge #66 (Section 19-11115-00-BR).

Motion by Mike Specha and seconded by Bev Graham to recommend to the full Board adoption of Resolution R2022HY001. Roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Dale Livingston made a motion to R2022HY001 with a second by Bev Graham. After no discussion, Chairman Wells called for roll.*

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, Gene Price, David Puccetti, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried

Resolution R2022HY002 appropriating \$13,000.00 from the County Bridge Fund was presented to pay Christian County's share of the estimated costs to construct Pana Bridge #71 (Section 19-11116-00-BR).

Motion by Bev Graham and seconded by Chuck Smedley to recommend to the full Board adoption of Resolution R2022HY002. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Dale Livingston made a motion to adopt R2022HY002 with a second by Mike Specha. After no discussion, Chairman Wells called for roll.*

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, Gene Price, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried

### Draft County Municipal Agreement for Animal Control

Chairman Wells advised that a couple of Mayors have asked for help with animal control. He took an agreement and modified it. The States Attorney has not yet reviewed this draft plan.

The committee discussed not having authority within the municipality and that police in the community would need to write any tickets.

Mike Specha made a motion to send the draft agreement to the States Attorney for review but withdrew the motion based on the motion from the December Board meeting which read as follows:

*Chairman Wells called for a motion from the floor. Ray Koonce made a motion to send this to the state's attorney's office and then back to highway and animal control committee for review with a second by Thomas Snyder, Jr.*

Chairman Wells stated that Mr. Poggenpohl has reviewed it and has sent a copy to us which should be in your packet. States Attorney seems to think we can use it if municipalities want to enter into an agreement with the county to provide them with animal control. I would think we could have a motion to pass that to send back to committee whatever your pleasure is here this evening.

*Bev Graham made a motion to send the contract back to committee with a second by Mike Specha.*

After no further discussion Chairman Wells called for roll. A roll call vote being called upon polled all ayes. Motion carried. We will put this on next month's agenda.

Vince Harris provided an update on the upcoming ZBA agenda and a variance request for a 72 solar panel. The County's limit is 50 panel.

Chairman Wells advised the committee that Chad Coady would be present at the Board meeting on January 18, 2022 to explain how solar panels are taxed.

Bev Graham inquired about bids for cat house. This issue will be on the full Board agenda next Tuesday.

### COURTHOUSE AND BUILDING

Bill Kennedy noted a minor smoke event in the building on Monday caused by an overheated solenoid valve on the radiator in the board room vault. He also noted historical smoke incidents. Bill discussed some economical options for adding smoke alarms to the building and would like to purchase on his own a couple smoke alarms to see how they work.



He discussed an issue with some of the buildings controls being 24 volt and some 120 volt. He feels the 120 volt values should be replaced with 24 volts with the main reason being to ensure the control power to the WatchDog is 24 volt.

The Kentrol system on the first floor has been completed and is working with the exception of the men's restroom where there is a radiator leak. Bill anticipates that the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor will be operational soon as it is almost completed and work will be done on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor over the holiday weekend.

Charles Samson will continue work on the previously approved floor leveling project this Saturday and on Saturday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>. The Clerk's office has to move things in order for them to be able to work each week.

Chairman Wells stated that Bill Kennedy contacted him regarding the ceiling repairs in the Clerk's office. He found what he calls to be a nest of wires. So we are trying to level the floor up and we are in there working and now there is a big ball of wire. Bill contacted me and I haven't had a chance to get back with him. Looks to me like we are going to have to spend some money to have an electrician come in and straighten that out before or after we get the floor leveled up and before we can put it back. I believe Mr. Samson will be held up from the information I got from Bill due to all the wires that are just hanging. I don't know but that is how Bill described it to me as a nest of wires. I think there is an issue there and I think we are going to have to spend some money there. I don't know how this board wants to proceed. I don't know if you want to make a motion to allow me to approve up to so much money. I guess with two or three bids without that by our rules I can have the authority to spend up to \$2000. After that we have to have 3 bids. Committee would have to approve the bids but if you don't give me permission to move on then I have to bring it back to committee and we will be held up for two weeks getting a floor leveled up that is a two weekend job. I don't know what the board wants to do, if somebody wants to make a motion to allow x amount of dollars to be spent on this. What's your pleasure board members? Chairman Wells stated that all he knows is Bill called it a nest.

The question was asked, "Do we have an estimate"? Chairman Wells stated he got this email this morning. He is working on it. His first question was who we have been using for electrical work.

Mike Specha stated – don't you already have the authority to spend up to \$2000 without board approval.

Chairman Wells stated yes that is correct. I don't know – quite honestly Mike I am not an electrician and I don't know if you can fix a nest of wires for \$2000.

Mike Specha stated his suggestion would be within that \$2000 limit to get an electrician in here. By the time we are done it would be fixed or we will have a mess.

Chairman Wells stated he understands exactly what is being said but wants the board to understand this – if he comes in here and has spent \$2000, I believe I have to stop him and the project is put on hold until I can get approval from the board to spend more money. Now if that is what the majority of you want me to do, I assure you that's not what Jacque wants to do because the mess is in her office because this is all going on in the ceiling above her. I have said from day one, I have one vote on this board, one out of the 16. So, if you don't want to tell me that I can spend 5 or \$10,000 whatever it takes to get this fixed I will stop them at \$2000.

*Venise McWard made a motion to spend no more than \$5000 with a second by Mike Specha. After no discussion, Chairman Wells called for roll.*

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, Gene Price, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried

#### Cost Related to Work to Level the Floor

Bill Kennedy secured some estimates from Two Brothers Tuck Pointing. The first cost estimate for \$2160.00 is to fill voids above the new and existing steel under the ROE office and the south bay of the County Clerk's records room where the floor was reinforced prior to moving the rolling file system in that room. The second cost estimate of \$4819.00 is to point up the approximate top 2' of the brickwork around the perimeter of the building. Bill advised that we need to do both to follow the reinforcing of the floors, etc. and in being consistent with the work reviewed by Hurst and Rosche.

Motion by Dale Livingston and seconded by Mike Specha to refer the cost estimates provided to the Finance Committee. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

#### OTHER MATTERS

None

Motion by Mike Specha and seconded by Chuck Smedley to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Dale Livingston

Buildings/Highway/Environmental/Zoning  
Welfare Chairman

01/11/2022

## EXECUTIVE/PERSONNEL/LIQUOR COMMITTEE

January 10, 2022

Present: Craig Corzine, Chairman, Ray Koonce, David Puccetti, Gene Price,  
Bryan Sharp  
Absent: None  
Others present: Matt Wells, Venise McWard, Vince Harris, Jeff Stoner and Elizabeth Hile  
in attendance.

The Executive, Personnel, and Liquor Committee met on Monday, January 10, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. in County Board meeting room, second floor of the Christian County Courthouse, Taylorville, Illinois. The purpose of the meeting was to address any agenda items, any personnel issues, policies, and any other matters properly brought before the Committee. Roll call was taken and there was a quorum.

### PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

### SIMEC ENERGY

Reg Ankrom, President of Simec Energy advised that Christian County is 1 of 55 counties that he has represented through the Municipal Electric Aggregation Program. Christian County has participated in this program since 2012. He researches electric prices in the market in order to give rural home owners choices for electricity. Ameren currently has the lowest price and he is unable to offer a lower cost option at this time. That could change in June of this year. Options are the County can pause the program for a year or he can continue as the County's broker and watch the markets for lower pricing options. There is no cost to the County if they continue the consulting services offered by Simec Energy.

A motion was made by Craig Corzine and seconded by David Puccetti to recommend to the full Board to allow Chairman Wells to sign the consulting agreement with Simec Energy. Four (4) members were in favor and one (1) member abstained.

*Craig Corzine made a motion to allow Chairman to resign the contract with SIMEC with a second by Gene Price.*

Ray Koonce asked Vice Chairman Corzine if this was the one he sustains on and Corzine stated yes it is. Ray Koonce stated the reason for him sustaining is because that company represents a third party energy company that he is involved in.

After no discussion, Chairman Wells called for roll. A roll call vote being called upon polled all eyes.

## EMA UPDATE

- EMA Director, Jeff Stoner advised that the Fire Departments/Districts and ambulance services that received ARPA fund checks were very pleased. Jeff would like the Committee to reconsider providing funds to Dunn's Ambulance. He understands they are in business to make money but they did have a significant increase in calls from the previous year.
- Highlighted the smoke event in the vault off the board room.
- Updated the committee on status of the new vehicle and outfitting the vehicle with SCBA breathing apparatus in the event of a natural disaster.

## OSHA COVID 19 EMERGENCY TEMPORARY STANDARD (ETS) POLICY

Chairman Wells discussed the draft OSHA ETS policy mandate for employers with 100+ employees. The deadline to have a policy in place is January 10, 2022. This policy requires employees to provide COVID vaccination record documentation or test every seven (7) days for those not willing to provide vaccination record documentation or for unvaccinated employees. There is an approximate \$14,000 fine per incident per day for failure to comply. This draft policy was presented at a department head meeting today with the States Attorney indicating this is law until it's not law and is within compliance of the OSHA standard.

A motion was made by Craig Corzine and seconded by Ray Koonce to pass the matter of OSHA COVID 19 ETS Policy on to the full Board. All members were in favor with Ray Koonce noting he strongly opposes this as it's his opinion it's a violation of civil rights but felt it should move on to the Board.

Chairman Wells stated that since that time basically the Supreme Court has struck down the federal mandate and the state of Illinois has pulled their rules and regulations off of their computer. What was going on it was a 13 6 fine for every day every incident and we did the math, Liz and I did, and if 10 board members didn't comply with this all for a solid year of this it would cost the county \$4,000,000. However, with all this going on, I emailed Mr. Poggenpohl and his opinion is all we can do with this being pulled off is to ask people to volunteer this information. I personally don't feel whether or not someone's been vaccinated for COVID is any of my business and so what I am going to ask of the board to allow me to do is simply to monitor this. I can tell you we had a department head meeting where we discussed this. I contacted the unions today and told them this would be discussed tonight but Mr. Poggenpohl's advice to us right now is if we want to ask for volunteer information we can but until he can as our legal advisor tells us we need to proceed with this I think we need to let sleeping dogs lie.

## SPECIAL USE LIQUOR LICENSE

Chairman Wells advised that States Attorney Poggenpohl has reviewed the draft changes to the Special Use Liquor License and does not believe we can enforce "serve for profit" under "caterer".

Motion by Ray Koonce and seconded by Gene Price to recommend to the full Board to strike “serve for profit” and accept other policy changes. All members were in favor.

*Craig Corzine made a motion amend the Liquor License Resolution with a second by Ray Koonce.* After no discussion, Chairman Wells called for roll.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Timothy Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, Gene Price, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried

#### COUNTY BOARD RULES AS OF MARCH 2021 VERSUS NON-BARGAINING STARTING SALARY POLICY AS OF DECEMBER 2021

Last month the Board approved changes to the Non-Bargaining Starting Salary Policy which included striking the last paragraph which was reference to reducing an elected official salary, which the Board establishes, when a current office holder does not run. Chairman Wells indicated that perhaps that paragraph wasn’t intended for that policy but Chairman Wells wanted the Committee to be aware that reducing of an elected official’s salary, in these situations, to 90% of the current salary had already been made in the County Board Rules and approved in March of 2021.

#### ORDINANCE REGULATING CARBON CAPTURE AND STORAGE

Vince Harris advised there currently isn’t any carbon capture and storage ordinances in the United States. He used the current Wecs Ordinance to make some draft modifications for carbon capture and storage. There is still work to be done to this draft ordinance.

Chairman Wells discussed lessons learned when the wind farm issue came before the Board and the process to submit things to the ZBA and when fees are involved. Multiple ordinances can be presented to the ZBA but in the end, the ZBA will make a recommendation.

#### CARBON SEQUESTRATION FEES PROPOSALS

Two (2) fee schedules that were very similar were presented for discussion.

A motion was made by Bryan Sharp and seconded by Gene Price to recommend to the full Board to send the typed carbon sequestration fee schedule to the ZBA. All members were in favor.

*Craig Corzine made a to send the typed carbon sequestration fee schedule to the ZBA with a second by David Puccetti.* Dale Livingston asked for a copy of the schedule and it was in their packets.

Venise McWard stated this was very good, it was a great start. After listening to what the County gets for the solar situation I’m not so sure it shouldn’t be higher.

Mr. Harris – You had asked me a question at the meeting last Monday, I didn't have the answer because I didn't know. Dale and I took a trip up to Decatur to look at the facility they have working in Decatur. On our way up there we got to talking with Monty and Tenaska and he thought there was some kind of taxes on that so we called the assessor's office and spoke with Chad and Chad said there were no taxes on this what so ever. When I brought that forth to your committee that would be to govern of special use and I think this should be to govern on the fee schedule on page 116 of the fee schedule of the actual code book. That's my recommendation.

Chairman Wells stated so your saying instead of sending this to the ZBA, it should be sent to the ZBA as part of the code book.

Vince Harris stated when you make such recommendations Mr. Chairman you have to have where it's going where you think this fits into the code.

Chairman asked what we voted, the committee vote to send to this board – this fee schedule.

Craig Corzine stated we voted to send our recommendation was to send the fee schedule to the ZBA.

Chairman Wells stated that is the motion that is on the floor now. It needs to be withdrawn to put it into the code book – to ask the ZBA to put it into the code book and a new motion made or we are going forward with this and do that just not going into the code book. Chairman Wells stated to Craig that he made the motion and if you want to withdraw that motion – Craig Corzine stated that he likes the motion. I think like we got into before and we discussed in committee, there is a lot of time wasted on the WEX thing, in this room, in committee. Before it went to ZBA and for us later to find out everything is supposed to go to the ZBA. I am in full favor of staying-sticking with this motion and letting ZBA review it and if the fees want to be discussed then I am all for that.

Chairman Wells – what I am saying to you Craig is, the motion you have made is to send this to the ZBA to approve it but the way you have made the motion it won't go into the code book. So if you want to withdraw that motion and make one to put it into the code book – same fees schedule – put this in the code book.

Craig Corzine – ok so can the ZBA change that fee schedule? Can they amend it?

Chairman Wells – they can make any recommendation they want to.

Craig Corzine – said he was okay with retracting.

Chairman Wells called for a motion from the floor to ask the ZBA to review it and put the fee schedule on page 116 of the code book.

*A motion was made by Vicki McMahon and seconded by Bryan Sharp.* Gene Price asked – what we are saying is they adapt this and then it will be implemented on page 116. They can change how they want. Don't they have to bring it back to this board?

Chairman Wells stated that all they do is make recommendations. They have the hearings and make recommendations to you to this board.

Gene Price asked if we don't approve their recommendations can we send it back to them.

Chairman Wells stated we can do anything we want to. We just can't – Gene Price stated then at that time we can put it on page 116.

Vince Harris – stated the proper procedure is you need to tell him in writing what it needs to do and I will take it back to the ZBA and we would work around. So yea, I think that is the right course of action.

Chairman Wells stated he thinks there is more teeth to what we want to do if it is in the code book.

After no further discussion, Chairman Wells called for roll.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston (n), Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, Gene Price, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson, (15) aye; (1) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried

#### ILLINOIS TRUST PROXY VOTE

Chairman Wells presented information on a request to sign a proxy vote for Illinois Trust.

A motion was made by Ray Koonce and seconded by Gene Price to recommend to the full Board to allow Chairman Wells to sign the Illinois Trust Proxy Vote. All members were in favor.

*Craig Corzine made a motion to allow Chairman Wells to sign the Illinois Trust Proxy Vote with a second by Ray Koonce.*

Chairman Wells explained Illinois Trust few years back we were in a group of 9 counties then it dropped down to 6 counties where we were self-insuring. They have people who run this organization and we get to vote on who gets to run the organization. Now they have recommendations but you guys need to be aware I am going to sign the proxy vote and let them elect who they want. They have been handling it for years. But I want this board to be aware of that. It doesn't cost us any money. After no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll.

A roll call vote being called upon polled all ayes.

#### OTHER MATTERS

Chairman Wells advised that Chad Coady would be at Tuesday night's Board meeting to provide information on how solar panels are taxed.

Bryan Sharp would like to receive information sooner when projects are looking at the County. He also inquired as to the status of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment Proposal that was moved on to the States Attorney. Chairman Wells advised that since States Attorney Poggenpohl was recently appointed that he may not be aware that was awaiting review.

Motion by Ray Koonce and seconded by David Puccetti to adjourn. Motion carried

Respectfully submitted,

Craig Corzine, Chairman  
Executive/Personnel Committee  
01/10/2022

Chairman Wells stated to Mr. Poggenpohl before he brought Venise up for the Audit Finance Committee report, he meant to ask or text Mr. Poggenpohl today, by next month's meeting can you have a recommendation to us whether or not you can handle it or the name of some company. Mr. Havera gave us a company that had Mr. Jacoby who dealt with the zoning legal issues. He left that company. As long as he was at that company, Vince had a contact to get legal advice on this zoning which we think it's going to continuously come at us and so if you could by next month I would like your opinion on – should we go here or there. Do you feel you want to handle it? You are the attorney were not.

Mr. Poggenpohl – so you want advice about zoning issues – Chairman Wells stated where we should go for that. Whether it's with you or you know of someone we could contact. We would like your recommendation on that please.

Dale Livingston stated that if he remembers right didn't Mike go to the state to get them name?

Chairman Wells stated he didn't know where Mr. Havera went but I know this, he is the lawyer so we will let him deal with that. We will get the advice from them. I will let the Sheriff arrest people, I will run the board meetings.



## AUDIT/FINANCE/PURCHASING/BUDGET COMMITTEE

January 12, 2022

Present: Venise McWard, Chairman, Ken Franklin, Linda Curtin,  
Vicki McMahon  
Absent: Tim Carlson  
Others present: Matt Wells, Betty Asmussen, Bryan Sharp and Elizabeth Hile.

The Audit/Finance/Purchasing/Budget Committee met on Wednesday, January 12, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. at the Christian County Courthouse, Taylorville, Illinois. The purpose of the meeting was to address agenda items and any other matters properly brought before the committee. Roll call was taken and there was a quorum.

### CLAIMS

A motion was made by Vicki McMahon and seconded by Linda Curtin to approve the claims presented for January. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Venise made a motion to approve the January claims with a second by Tim Carlson. After no discussion, Chairman Wells called for roll.*

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, Gene Price, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried

### PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

### ARPA FUNDING/ORDINANCE(S)

#### Coroner Request

Chairman Wells advised that Coroner Winans has a request in for \$15,000 in ARPA funds. He would like to see that our Coroner has ARPA funds available to get PPE and equipment for COVID mitigation.

A motion was made by Ken Franklin and seconded by Vicki McMahon to recommend to the full Board to approve the ordinance for \$15,000 of ARPA funds for the County Coroner. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Venise made a motion to approve O2022CB001 ARPA for Coroner second by Dale Livingston. After no discussion, Chairman Wells called for roll.*

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, Gene Price, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried

Chairman Wells advised that a request for the Circuit Clerk will be presented on the January 18, 2022 Board agenda.

Treasurer Asmussen advised the committee of US Treasury changes to calculating revenue loss for ARPA funds less than \$10M. Included in the changes are loosening of restrictions for fund use. As a result of these changes, Bellwether will be holding a conference call with all County Treasurer's in Betty's association next Wednesday, January 19, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. Betty sent out an email to all Board members advising them of this call and hopes a few Board members can attend. We will need to be aware of quorum rules.

Chairman Wells asked the time period that ARPA funds would need to be spent and if that time period started when the County received the funds. Betty advised that she believed it was four years from receipt of the last trench but she would look into this and provide an update on Tuesday.

As Treasurer, Betty provided her opinion on spending the 1<sup>st</sup> ARPA fund trench as the Board had already approved. Commented that she would like to see employees receive a onetime flat amount compensation/bonus.

Ken Franklin noted he felt the original process to make spending decisions regarding ARPA funds was done with some haste and now with more leeway would like to look at this again. He also discussed issues raised at a recent 911 Board meeting as well as provided a summary of hourly rates, sign on bonuses, etc. that is making it difficult to bring on and/or retain staff.

#### Salary Reimbursement(s)

Because of the new US Treasury changes, Betty advised that she has halted work on salary reimbursements so no action will be needed or table these agenda items.

#### SURVEY RECORDS

Chairman Wells has made efforts to reach the Delay family and has no new information. The family still has the records as far as we know.

Chairman Wells stated that since the meeting he has been in touch with Mr. Delay and he told me he thinks they are getting very close and perhaps his brother will be ready to discuss turning loose of all those records the next month or two. My concern is somehow if we end up with them are they Foible. They definitely need to stay in this county if we can make that happen.

Dale Livingston asked if that was a question that need to be asked and Chairman Wells stated no not on record.

#### REFERRALS FROM OTHER COMMITTEES

Highway/Building/Grounds referred the matter of costs related to floor work in the basement on to the committee. Bill Kennedy secured some estimates from Two Brothers Tuck Pointing. The first cost estimate for \$2160.00 is to fill voids above the new and existing steel under the ROE office and the south bay of the County Clerk's records room where the floor was reinforced prior to moving the rolling file system in that room. The second cost estimate of \$4819.00 is to point up the approximate top 2' of the brickwork around the perimeter of the building.

Motion by Venise McWard and seconded by Vicki McMahon to recommend to the full Board to approve the cost estimate provided by Two Brothers Tuck Pointing for \$2160.00 to fill voids above the new and existing steel under the ROE office and the south bay of the Clerk's records room and \$4819.00 to point up approximately 2' of the brickwork around the perimeter of the courthouse with the funds coming from capital improvements. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Venise made a motion to approve \$6,979 from capital improvements with a second by Dale Livingston. After no discussion, Chairman Wells called for roll.*

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, Gene Price, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried

#### OTHER MATTERS

Bryan Sharp presented information regarding carbon sequestration project fees that was discussed at the Executive/Personnel Committee on Monday evening. Referring this matter on to the ZBA will be presented to the Board on Tuesday night.

Ken Franklin asked if we had any information on Build Back America.

Treasurer Asmussen advised that work she did to assist with the IEMA/FEMA grant(s) from last year have been completed and Jeff Stoner, EMA Director will be doing these grants from this point forward.

Treasurer Asmussen would like the matter of elected official salaries on the February agenda.

Motion by Ken Franklin and seconded by Vicki McMahon to adjourn. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Venise McWard  
Finance/Audit/Purchasing/Budget Committee Chairwoman  
01/12/2022

## NEW BUSINESS/OLD BUSINESS/OTHER

- Bid Opening – Parcel #12-10-34-100-001-00 4.96 acres in Moweaqua  
Chairman Wells stated this is a parcel in Moweaqua that we had no bids on last month.  
First bid: Jim Cleveland of Decatur - \$1,115  
Second bid: Bryan Maakes of Edmen- \$5,101  
We have two bids, I think we should take the higher one. Chairman Wells called for a motion from the floor. *Dale Livingston made a motion to accept the \$5101 with a second by Thomas Snyder, Jr.* With no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahan, Venise McWard, Gene Price, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried

- Tax Rates on solar farms – Chad Coady: he spoke earlier in the meeting
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment Proposal – Mr. Poggenpohl. You have a copy of it. Chairman Wells called for a motion from the floor to approve the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment Resolution. *Bryan Sharp made a motion with a second by Ray Koonce to approve the proposal.* Chairman Wells asked Mr. Poggenpohl to speak regarding the proposal. He stated basically everyone knows these are pretty common around here. Basically loss of rears. My position on it is that they are a symbolic gesture to legislature, state legislature and federal government that it is our position, the county board's position, on how we take laws in the future should go not having further restrictions. That being said whenever I say symbolic in nature – just symbolic. Not enforceable. The example I sent to Chairman Wells, the gun shop in town, the state puts in new requirement on background checks. That might be considered further restrictions according to this ordinance or additional tax. If they don't follow the law and what is required of them they can't say well this says I don't have to. They are probably going to lose their license to sell guns from the federal government or whomever they get their license from. It doesn't prevent that from being forced but it does state on the position on how we think things should go in the future. After no discussion, Chairman Wells called for roll. A roll call vote being called upon polled all ayes. Motion carried.
- ARPA Request – Circuit Clerk – this is different. Here is why this came to the full board. Last year and I know Ken says it may have been a little hasty, but last year we had an outline to send to Bellwether because at that time we knew nothing about this money. Betty was telling us we need to send them how we want to spend the money – for them to give us guidance. That is what we are paying Bellwether for. What Julie asked for was not included in that first trench. While Betty is telling us she thinks it's more wide open and I believe Julie will tell you how this is COVID related. I think it will qualify but it was never discussed with this board and that is why it is here with the full board tonight. If you have a copy of the request in your packet, you will see that part of it is crossed off. And what happened there was, Julie, I believe had talked with former State's Attorney Havera or she put the plan in and State's Attorney Poggenpohl feels he does not want that equipment. That is why that got crossed off. Her request is reduced. But I believe what she is asking for and I think Julie can explain it better than I can they are giving the public the ability to pay tickets without having to come into the courthouse. Chairman Wells asked if this is

what this is about and Julie stated no that we already have the ability for the public to pay online.

Julie stated this is an E citation program. So this is how law enforcement gets their tickets to us. It's a paperless aspect of doing that. So the state police has this program now and the law enforcement. A vendor approached me and I sent information to all law enforcement offices in the county. All the municipalities. The three main ones that responded were Pana, Sheriff's Office, and the Taylorville Department. So this bid is only for them. What this does is a one-time purchase of all the equipment to electronically start writing tickets for law enforcement and then forwarding them to my office. There are lots of reasons why this is beneficial mostly to law enforcement officers. It cuts down personnel time that they are on the road, the side of the road to write the tickets. Less contact the people. They are all computerized. Its a little hand held gadget they put all the information in. The good thing for us is we don't have to read their handwriting on the tickets anymore. Other than that it is a really good program. Like I said the purchase price of it, this cost was only good until the end of the year. At the time that was the best we could get. I have emailed him and he said he would honor this discount until February 28, 2022. If we could get approval and get a contract signed we would go with that pricing. After that, beginning March 1 he might be able to give us a discount at 5% which the discount right now is 15%. So this would equip Pana Police Department, Taylorville Police Department and the Sheriff's office their squad cars with all this equipment to do this.

Chairman Wells stated that he doesn't know what the board wants to do if someone wants to make a motion to send this to the finance committee me. Let me explain to you after Wes got appointed, Julie had this. I contacted Wes's office or had Liz contact your offices because I wanted to know that Wes wanted this also and that is why I brought it to the board that's why it was not on the finance committee's agenda. By the time we got a response from them their agenda was already set.

So my question is, do we want to approve this tonight or does someone want to make a motion to send this to the finance committee. *Ray Koonce made a motion to forward it to the finance committee with a second by Craig Corzine.*

Betty stated for reporting purposes it is probably the best practice and protocol that we make sure we have ordinances that are passed so when that portal is up and running in April I can send the ordinances up to report to the US Treasury. I would prefer these be in the form of an ordinance. Just thought I would let you guys know. That's my preference on reporting.

Chairman Wells stated he wanted the full board to hear this. That this board is going to do what they want to do. Yes, I do understand that if they wanted to deal with it tonight I would be looking for some type of ordinance somehow but that's not an issue I don't believe.

Bryan Sharp – reading through this there is ongoing cost associated with this. Do we have any estimates as to what the ongoing annual costs will be?

Julie – Yes the annual maintenance would be around \$14,000. However, we would have to deal with that between ourselves. We all have E-citation money that we have been collecting for a while for a fund for E-citation to purchase it. As you can see, it is a very

large purchase price and none of us have that much money. We talked about this several months ago and I just talked to the Sheriff and Jim again tonight real quick to make sure they did still want this and everything. We have other money that will – I understand this will be a one-time purchase. The yearly maintenance after that will have to come out of either my E-citation fund in addition to their E-citation fund or an automation fund but that would be totally separate and taken care off.

Gene Price – Why didn't the state's attorney want it?

Julie – this is totally different program. It doesn't have anything to do with E-citation. It was a program that would interface with our case management system with him. Right now, he is just opting to not do it right now. It was totally different from E-citation. It was two separate things.

Craig Corzine – it sounds wonderful. I guess I am wondering why all the rest of the agencies in the county are not jumping on board also #1, #2 is that maintenance of \$14,000 regardless is that \$14,000 if Edinburg, Stonington and all the rest of them decide to jump on board later, does that fee go up?

Julie – it's per license. Each car would get a license so it's per license. So it would go up. We would have to figure out how to join them up later. Some of them just didn't respond.

Craig Corzine – Is that availability there to join up later?

Julie – oh yes. Money would be an issue.

Chairman Wells stated the best example he could give why the rest of them didn't join up when all this ARPA money started coming around, Betty and I invited all the Mayors of every community in this county to a meeting so that Betty who has been to all these meetings, could explain to them what they had to do to get their money - half of them didn't show up. All we can do is invite. I asked the same questions, but that happens a lot. You know, you put this out there, you ask all the communities to be involved and several never do.

Julie – obviously the three agencies that responded are the largest ones. The rest of them, it's per squad car so it wouldn't be anything near like this is.

Craig – could you ask him before the finance committee meets on this to see what it would cost if another community would join if they had one squad car or two cars. So with that information, if they wanted to join before we pass all this they can. It seems like to me they would all want to join in.

Julie – I approached all of them by email correspondence and then I sent out another one to all of them telling them this vendor would be contacting them so they wouldn't think it was just some salesman and they didn't want to talk to them. We were all copied including this Cory Box, the vendor on it. Please, he is going to be calling you and this is why he is calling you. Just talk to him he just needs information about how much equipment you are going to need and stuff and those are the only three that responded. But I can personally contact the others too and see.

Gene Price – is that per car or per department?

Julie – there is 40 licenses. There is a license per car and this bid is for 40 licenses. I don't even know what it per licenses because it is partially for hardware, partially for software.

Gene Price -

Chief Baker – I didn't know when she through that out there, the difference in the benefit. It would be tied to the computer so the time spent with your head down filling out the paper work

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Venise McWard, Gene Price, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried.

- Engineer – HVAC System – I have asked Bill because it was included in the first trench. The air in the courthouse with the heppa filters. That was something this board approved to send to the consultants so whether or not it qualified and it does. Since that has happened it's been almost a year. I asked Bill to bring some engineers in and walked around the building the other day. There is an estimate here of \$500,000 plus 12% for the engineers to install central air in the courthouse with heppa filters. It is a lot of money. It's the type of thing this board has approved once but now we are talking about spending the money. To me, this looks like the type of thing I should get a motion to send to the finance committee. It wasn't on their agenda because I got this email I believe today. We are at a point now where I think the board needs to make a decision if we want to proceed this way putting central air in the building.

Chairman Wells called for a motion from the floor to send this to the finance committee. *Dale Livingston made a motion with a second from Bryan Sharp.* Please read through this. It does say the \$500,000 for the air conditioning plus the 12% fee for the engineers.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Gene Price, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried.

- Cat Room Bids – we tabled this last month because we didn't think they were apples to apples and asked that the bid from BRADCO be broke down and I believe you should all have the broken down bid from BRADCO in your packets. Still less than the other bid. Last motion we had was to table this and bring it back to the board with a broke down bid. Walls, ceilings, bottom plates, siding, fascia. I believe you can see the bid. Chairman Wells called for a motion from the floor to approve this bid. Several members stated there were no changes.

Chairman Wells stated he thought we got a new bid. You guys don't have the new bid. It is talking about poured 2' x 8' foundation with 5 bag mix. Chairman Wells asked Vince if he had a different bid then what we have here and Vince stated that he thought he emailed

that to Liz. It is on page 2. Liz handed out the proper bid from BRADCO. Chairman Wells once again called for a motion from the floor. Ray Koonce made a motion to send this back to the Highway Building and Grounds committee with a second by Chuck Smedley. Bev Graham stated everything on the bid was confusing. She asked if the gutters were on there. Other members stated it was. With no further discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll. A roll call vote being called upon polled (14) ayes and (2) nays to send this back to committee. Motion passed.

- Tradition Energy – Email from Tradition Energy. At the Personnel committee meeting, if you would look back at their agenda, SIMEC and Tradition Energy were on there. SIMEC showed up and explained to us they buy power in bulk. They explain how they do it and sell it to our residents cheaper. I believe from the email that we all got, Tradition Energy does the same thing. You have the email in your packets. I don't know why we aren't spending any money with them if they are coming in here and they are another company who is buying power and selling it at a reduced rate. I personally don't know why we wouldn't want the public to purchase it from them. They have to have our permission to come in to the county and do it.

Chairman Wells called for a motion from the floor to approve this one also. *Venise McWard made a motion to sign contract and approve Tradition Energy to sell power in the county to the public and Ken Franklin seconded that motion.*

Craig Corzine asked if this was in conflict with our other.

Chairman Wells stated it was his understanding

Craig Corzine – I asked him the other night – I don't think – he kind of sidestepped. That makes SIMEC exclusive. Does that keep anybody else from coming in to the county?

Chairman Wells stated that he didn't think so. In 2021 both companies were selling power to residents in the county. However, the state's attorney is sitting here. We can send this to his office to get his opinion before we sign any contracts if that is what the majority of the board wants to do. Last thing I want to do is sign a contract and violate it by signing the other. But I also don't want to tell the people from Kincaid to Harvel you can buy the power cheaper and tell the people from Assumption to Pana you are paying because we are not helping them. That is my fault. So if the board will approve it a motion to do this before it gets signed, I will send it to Mr. Poggenpohl. Ray sustained from voting due to the same reasons as before. A roll call vote polled (15) ayes and (1) sustaining. Motion carried.

- Bond Release – RLE Pawnee Properties, LLC – I have an email from Joe Stepping and you have a copy of it in your packets. I have been asked by board members in the past what are they putting over around the lake and on the ground in Kincaid. Joe sent me an email basically explaining and I am not an engineer either. I am not an engineer, not the sheriff and not an attorney. But basically the acidity or the alkalinity is way too high on the ground by the coal mining and some of the water over there and so EPA was paying a company, like you I thought they were just bringing their trash down here to Christian County and just dumping it. The IEPA was actually paying them to come in here and dump material on that ground to reduce the levels of I believe alkalinity or acidity one or the



other. They are done with the project. It is my understanding in order to get the bid with the EPA, they had to put up a bond. What they are doing now is applying to get their bond back and EPA states that they have to send a letter to the county notifying us they are done and they are applying for their bond money. That is what this is about. I don't think we need to take any action, but I wanted this board to understand what was going on because I have been asked the question, what are they dumping over there. Actually EPA has them cleaning up the ground.

- Five Oaks Recycling and Disposal Facility - There is a permit here to be signed. I can't say they are expanding because they have that big complex out there. I believe they are moving to another place to put trash in that requires some paper work. They have been in business here for years. I don't know why we would oppose it. Nothing to be signed.
- FOP Contract Unit 2 - We finally received the contract today. This is for the jailers and the dispatchers. Finally got the contract today. Liz has found some – Liz spoke and stated it was very minor, minor changes that we asked to be removed. Things we asked to be removed they agreed to. Chairman Wells then stated they left them in the contract they sent us. So I was advised to ask for the board's permission to sign the contract contingent on the changes being removed. Chairman Wells he was not signing a contract until this board tells him to do so. He called for a motion from the floor to sign the contract on contingent the corrections are made. *Ray Koonce made a motion to approve the contract with a second by Venise McWard.* With no discussion, Chairman Wells called for roll.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahan, Venise McWard, Gene Price, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried.

- BLH – Situation I went over to drop off a TV the other day and I had to show my driver's license. I understand I serve as the chairman of this board at your discretion. But my wallet was in my vehicle and I showed them our face book page with my picture on it and the kid told me it was \$40 or my driver's license. Now our contract says it's for residents of Christian County. This is how I personally feel about this folks. I know that in all the years that Judge Paisley has been upstairs, he has had to tell some people he is taking their driver's license. Maybe a hundred. I don't believe he ever told them they couldn't take TV's to BLH. I am not happy with this situation. Yes, I could go out to my vehicle and get my driver's license and I could show it to him. We have people who couldn't get a driver's license if they had to. We have people in our county who their families have gone into court and asked the court to take dad's driver's license from them. I don't think any of them said this means you can't take a TV to BLH. I am not happy. I have asked Cliff to haul all of this equipment out of here, no one asked those people hauling that equipment over there whether or not they had a driver's license to prove they live in Christian County but they asked me. My intention is to go to BLH and their supervisor and tell them they need to get something changed. People without a driver's license have to be able to drop off a TV or computer and if they don't then I will come back to the board and not have a contract. I am not happy at all.

- Hickory Point Project – Invenergy – it is the southern solar farm in the Kincaid area. They have discovered they may have some problems. Some of the people who work for them when this project first started and they were taking off land and didn't realize there was a coal mine there. Largest underground mine in the world and they have missed it. So what they are doing is exploring options with moving further south in our county. And the reason they explained to me was some of the land owners in that area also have ground south of there. Not saying they are going to do it but they asked to meet to explain what they are going through. That they are checking. They are going to do more test. Is the ground where they were originally going to set up will it hold up? Or will solar panels be destroyed with the ground shifting due to the coal mine. I will keep you informed. They are not making any decisions but I have done all I can to keep this board informed of everything I know that is going on.

Bryan Sharp asked if he could share a recent statement that was put out by the Christian county health department with the board. Its information that we may be able to discuss it further in committee.

Chairman Wells stated you can discuss it but I can't send it anywhere because it was not on the agenda.

Bryan Sharp stated he can't hand it out then and Chairman Wells stated I am not saying you can't had it out. I can't accept a motion to send it to committee because it is not on the agenda.

Bryan handed out a document.

**MILEAGE AND PER DIEM REPORT – JANUARY 18, 2022**

<b><u>Board Member</u></b>	<b><u>Salary</u></b>	<b><u>Rate</u></b>	<b><u># of Meetings This Month</u></b>
Timothy Carlson	\$100.00	\$25.00	1
Craig Corzine	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Linda Curtin	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Ken Franklin	\$100.00	\$25.00	3
Bev Graham	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Ray Koonce	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Dale Livingston	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Vicki McMahan	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Venise McWard	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Gene Price	\$100.00	\$25.00	3
David Puccetti	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Bryan Sharp	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Chuck Smedley	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Thomas Snyder, Jr.	\$100.00	\$25.00	1
Mike Specha	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Matt Wells	\$615.38		

Chairman Wells called for a motion from the floor to approve the Mileage and Per Diem Report *A motion was made by Vickie McMahon and seconded by Tim Carlson to approve the mileage and per diem report.* With no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Thomas Snyder Jr., Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Venise McWard, Gene Price, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried.

With the statement Bryan handed out from the health board regarding COVID and the schools, Venise McWard stated she thinks the director of the health department should attend our monthly meetings to give us updates.

Chairman Wells stated that may be. Our department heads are required to attend our meetings but that department head works for the health board. While I do have the authority to appoint people to the health board with your approval, and while I am a non-voting member of the health board, I do not believe I have – this board has the authority to tell that board to make that person available to us month after month. Like we have the authority for example to tell Tim and Cliff we want them at meetings unless they are excused because they work directly for us. Now I am not saying if something came up, we couldn't send a request and ask the board to send him but Mr. Poggenpohl would have to answer that because he does not report to us directly.

Bryan asked if that director has been here since COVID started to address any of the issues going on health wise in the county. Chairman Wells stated he comes to department head meetings when requested.

Ray Koonce stated to elaborate he has gone over the state statute of health boards and this board here, the only authority we have over that board is we appoint, we can remove a board member and set their budget.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Chairman Wells called for a motion from the floor to adjourn until February 15, 2022. *A motion was made by Dale Livingston and seconded by Gene Price to adjourn until the next meeting on February 15, 2022.*

With no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; the motion carried.



**PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNTY BOARD**  
AT A MEETING OF THE COUNTY BOARD MEMBERS OF CHRISTIAN COUNTY  
ILLINOIS, BEGUN AND HELD AT THE CHRISTIAN COUNTY COURTHOUSE IN  
TAYLORVILLE, ILLINOIS ON **FEBRUARY 15, 2022**  
*ATTEST: JACQUE WILLISON, COUNTY CLERK*

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The following proceeding had and entered at large upon the records of said Board, which is done accordingly in the following words and figures to wit;

Chairman Wells called the board to order at 6:30 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

The roll call by County Clerk Jacque Willison showing 13 members present with Timothy Carlson, Craig Corzine and Mike Specha absent. A quorum was had to hold the meeting.

**APPROVE COUNTY BOARD MINUTES**

Chairman Wells asked for any corrections or additions and to accept the January 15, 2022 County Board minutes to approve as printed. *Vicki McMahon made a motion to approve the minutes seconded by Dale Livingston.* After no discussion or improvements, Chairman Wells asked for roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: (13) aye; (0) nay; (3) absent; the motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Chairman Wells called for public comments - is there anyone from the public who wishes to address the board? This is not a question and answer session. Any one from the public wish to speak?

Maureen Maple spoke on the addition to the cat room of animal control. She stated it was very much needed. We have a committee that has been working on fund raising with a goal of building things in phases so there wouldn't be expense coming from the county or anyone else. Right now it is the quietest point we have had with cats out there but we are getting ready to hit basically the beginning of kitten season and we will be busting at the seams. There will be no place to put them all and we go through this all the time. The other issue is, we not only have a limited amount of space for cats, we get cats in that we don't know where they come from. You will have a litter, a mom, sometimes just kittens and sometimes all of them. Because you have no background, they come in and they infect because they will have illnesses all the cats in that room. Then we start having vet bills and cats dying and we need better facilities so we can set up space to quarantine new arrivals where we would make it more cost effective and be a better flow.

Chairman Wells called for anyone else from the public that would like to speak. He did a last call and there was no one else from the public that wished to speak.

Chairman Wells stated even though it was not on the agenda, in the past when Charles DeClerck resigned we had a plaque for him, same with the States Attorney when he left. Solid Waste

manager has left us. Joe has asked specifically no fanfare. Chairman Wells wanted to take a minute to thank him and Debbie both. That's just what Joe wanted so I want to thank them both. I'm going to honor his wishes.

### APPOINTMENTS

- Housing Authority – I was informed about two months ago an individual on the housing authoring board was leaving. I never got any paperwork turned into me. I left it on the agenda. I understand now the individual is not moving so there is no action to be taken and that will come off the agenda for next month.
- Taylorville Fire Protection – I am very pleased to announce that I am appointing David Puccetti to the Taylorville Fire Board.

Of course, I make the appointments and the board has a right to approve those appointments. Chairman Wells called for a motion from the floor to approve David Puccetti to the Taylorville Fire Board. *Vicki McMahon made a motion to approve the appointment and it was seconded by Dale Livingston.* After no discussion Chairman Wells called for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard Gene Price, David Puccetti (abstained), Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Matt Wells, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, (12) aye; (0) nay; (3) absent; (1) abstained. The motion carried

### PETITIONS, RESOLUTIONS, ORDINANCES OR PROCLAMATIONS

- Carbon Ordinance – We have asked Vince to come up with that Ordinance. He has come up with it. I asked him to have it for tonight. I believe all of you have a copy. Seems to me the thing to do is send this back to committee for review. *Gene Price made a motion to send this back to committee with Venise McWard seconded that motion.* With no discussion Chairman Wells called for roll. A roll call vote was taken with all ayes. Motion carried.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment – Last month we passed the Second Amendment and I have not gotten a copy of it yet to be given an ordinance number and that will be done next month's meeting.
- Intergovernmental Agreement between Fayette, Clay, Moultrie, Montgomery and Christian County for the provision of public transportation – Chairman Wells called for a motion to sign the transportation agreement with the other counties. *Bryan Sharp made a motion to sign the agreement with Venise McWard seconded the motion.* A gentleman spoke on behalf of the agreement thanking the board for their support for the last 5 or 6 years in the county. We operate through CEFS so we are a non-profit community action agency. We get our funding through state and federal grants so nothing comes out of the county's pocket. We currently have two drivers in the county. We are looking to hire another one full time. So we are looking to help to continue to grow. Our numbers have finally improved through COVID. Just this past year, we have been able to do some transportation to MAPS, (Mid America Preparatory School) which is a private Christian school. So we have

been able to reach out to this county and some of the surrounding counties for those that would like transport to that school. Basically that is what we have. We are a major response bus service. We go door to door. People give us a call we will go to their home and essentially get them to where they need to go. Whether it's medical or the grocery store or visit someone down the road. We are open to everybody of every age. It's just not one particular age group. We are open to everyone. After no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, Gene Price, David Puccetti (abstained), Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Matt Wells, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston (12) aye; (1) abstained; (0) nay; (3) absent. The motion carried

- O2022CB002 – Public Transportation in Christian County - Chairman Wells called for a motion to pass this ordinance. *Dale Livingston made a motion to pass the ordinance and Vicki McMahon seconded the motion.* With no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll. A roll call being called upon pulled all ayes. The motion carried.

## READING OF COMMUNICATIONS

### FEBRUARY 2022 COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were presented and placed on file in the Clerk's Office.

1. The February 2022 Prevailing Wage Report
2. The January 2022 Public Defender's Report
3. The Treasurer's Reports for the period ending on January 31, 2022,
4. The Local Solid Waste Fees Fund report for January, 2022
5. IDOT – January 2022 Motor Fuel Tax Allotment for the County and the Road District Township report.
6. C.E.F.S – Christian County November PCOM report just receive on January 28, 2022
7. REO – Budget Report for January 2022
8. Coroner – 2021 Yearly Statistics Report

Chairman Wells stated before he gets into the committee reports, as board members know, time and time I have asked department heads to come in and give a report to kind of let us know what is going on in their department. Give us an opportunity to ask some questions. Greg Seiders is here and I don't want to keep him here all night. Chairman Wells asked Greg to give the board an update as to what is going on within the health department.

Greg Seiders stated he can't really tell you any more than what you have heard too many times and don't want to hear anymore. We have slowed down drastically. Our testing and giving the booster shots is kind of the same pace as it is everywhere else. We are really looking at kind of restricting to a couple days a week of giving the vaccinations just simply at this point we are opening up every day we are really wasting a lot. The demand urgency as certainly slowed so we are looking at taking that down to Tuesdays and Thursdays starting next week. Doing the testing,

we are still doing that everyday 8-10 and 1-3. That will continue but again that's gone from 70-80-90 people coming in a day to 15 now. A lot of it being centralized through IDPA, through the state, has taken a big burden off us. We don't really get involved in the contact tracing and other than collaborating with the schools. We still do the congregate care settings. We get a lot of calls wanting return to work letters and all we can do is tell employers they need to come up to speed. We don't do that, we legitimately can't do that because we were not part of the energy process. If we were to give letters out we would be spit balling, writing letters that really don't make since. The state sends out notifications. We have a system now with rapid testing, people come in and we send them on their way and they get a generated text with their results. We are doing that pretty immediately because of the few people coming through. That is kind of where we are at with that. Still operating normally but definitely ready to scale back.

A question was asked with budgeting concerns for next year going forward. Like with contact tracing and things like that do you see that tailoring off in the future?

Greg – Well I would certainly expect it to. There wouldn't be any indications of that seeing as I am literally executing a grant that's due Friday for \$200,000. It's not specifically, now they are intertwined and say this is for department resiliency, staff retention, take care of people who have stayed with you for the next one so to speak, heaven forbid. The last couple have not been directly just COVID. They still kind of call them COVID awareness preparation. They have started comingling it with other things so you don't have to be specific covid activities. Contact tracing more specifically, tracing testing. Mass vacs specifically. Mass vaccinations. Now they have opened up to where you can utilize it a little more freely.

Question was asked if it is administered through the state.

Greg – it is kind of odd, some are local, some are state, some are federal given to the state and then the state gives them to us. There is a little bit of everything right now.

Bryan Sharp – do you see that ending? What were your numbers, employee numbers before COVID, what are your current staffing numbers today?

Greg – so 2 or 3 contact tracers ultimately we don't utilize. Some of the other ones we have pulled back in to do some more internal things. Whether that be computer work or helping test. Because again, the tracing we don't do a whole lot as far as calling every case or do any kind of contact tracing. So yeah, ultimately those will phase out as well. A couple are gone but again we still utilize them for testing because it falls under the grant.

Brian asked what those numbers look like.

Greg – we still utilize about 7 contact tracers. I call them contact tracers simply they are under that grant. Some people didn't actually contact trace. They did data entry, something along those lines, rapid test.

Bryan – your staff numbers before COVID

Greg – 13 fulltime/part time

Bryan – stated so you are 20 right now?



Greg - roughly

Venise McWard – how many contract tracers currently do you have right now?

Greg – that actual contact trace or under that grant?

Venise – that actually contact trace.

Greg – 4

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **HIGHWAY/BUILDING/GROUNDS/ENVIRONMENTAL/ZONING AND WELFARE COMMITTEE February 8, 2022**

Present: Dale Livingston, Chuck Smedley, Bev Graham, Mike Specha, Thomas Snyder, Jr.  
Absent: None  
Others present: Matt Wells, Venise McWard, Linda Curtin, Bryan Sharp, Cliff Frye, Vince Harris, Tom Latonis, Maureen Maple, Mardel Pizzoferrato and Elizabeth Hile in attendance

The meeting of the Highway/Building/Grounds/Environmental/Welfare/Zoning Committee was called to order on Tuesday, February 8, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. in the Christian County Courthouse. The purpose of the meeting was County building issues, highway business and any other matters properly brought before the Committee. Roll call was taken and there was a quorum.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

#### **HIGHWAY BUSINESS**

Cliff Frye indicated that we have two (2) bridge projects with lettings tentative for April. These are federally funded projects requiring standard joint agreements with IDOT. Pana Bridge #66 (Section 19-11115-00-BR) and Pana Bridge #71 (Section 19-11116-00-BR). County costs for these projects were approved at the January 2022 meeting. Pana Township will be required to pay 20% of the project.

Motion by Mike Specha and seconded by Thomas Snyder, Jr. to recommend to the full Board to allow Chairman Wells to sign the Local Public Agency Agreement for Federal Participation for Pana Bridge #66 Section Number 19-11115-00-BR. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried. *Dale Livingston made a motion to approve Pana Bridge 66 with a seconded by Bev Graham.* After no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Venise McWard Gene Price, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Matt Wells, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahon, (13) aye; (0) nay; (3) absent. The motion carried

Motion by Thomas Snyder, Jr. and seconded by Chuck Smedley to recommend to the full Board to allow Chairman Wells to sign the Local Public Agency Agreement for Federal Participation for Pana Bridge #71 Section number 19-11116-00-BR. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried. *Dale Livingston made a motion to approve Pana Bridge 71 with a seconded by Gene Price.*

Gene Price asked when it was going to take place.

Cliff Frye stated April for both of them.

After no other discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Gene Price, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Matt Wells, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard (13) aye; (0) nay; (3) absent. The motion carried

Cliff reported that the old animal control truck brought \$5550.00 on GovDeals and was purchased from an individual from Tennessee. He also reported that through GovDeals (6) old typewriters as well as various printer cartridges brought a total of \$500.02 with some other miscellaneous items bringing \$1.00. There are some miscellaneous items, chairs, metal desks, bookcases, etc. that haven't received bids. They will be posted one more time but wanted to know if the items could be disposed of after the expiration of the bid should there be no bidders. Chairman Wells advised he will put that on the Board agenda for the Board to decide.

Cliff also mentioned that putting the sale of the old Case CX90 tractor on GovDeals was missed last month and he would like to post that equipment. Chairman Wells advised his office will check the minutes and if needed will add it to the Board agenda.

#### BATTERY STORAGE

Chairman Wells wanted the Committee to be aware that he received information about possible storage of batteries at Commonwealth. This could be another project coming to the County and wanted everyone to think about this and prepare.

Chairman Wells stated that he has no new information that he has been told its being looked at with the possibility of Commonwealth facilities as a battery storage.

#### SOLID WASTE

Vince Harris noted that he was surprised at how much went on at the Solid Waste Department. He has been working with Joe Stepping and they have been to the landfill. He advised the Education Officer will be leaving on February 22<sup>nd</sup>. A meeting was held with IEPA regarding a scheduled household hazardous waste drop off scheduled for June 25, 2022 from 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. at the Christian County Fairgrounds. It is hopeful that this will become an annual event.

## ANIMAL CONTROL/ZONING BUSINESS

Vince has been in contact with Mr. Brokaw, who represents the owner of the elevator at Willies Station that is leaning towards the road. The owner is getting bids to tear this down. Vince will keep the Committee updated.

Vince advised that Mr. Brokaw can assist the County with the underground power issue but cannot provide assistance with carbon storage because of a conflict of interest but is willing to help in locating a legal source for the County.

### Cat Room Bids

Committee Chairman Livingston asked the Committee what they would like to do with the matter of the cat room and bids received as it has been referred back to this Committee.

Motion by Thomas Snyder, Jr. and seconded by Mike Specha to refer the matter of cat room bid back to the full Board. A roll call vote polled 4 ayes and 1 nay, Motion carried. *Dale Livingston made a motion to accept the bid from BRADCO with Thomas Snyder Jr, seconded the motion.*

Vicki McMahon asked if we received 3 bids – she thought that was the hold up.

Chairman Wells stated as for bids – we received two. He stated he thought the holdup was how this bid was printed out and the people wanting more information. This is what we have and it is my understanding at this time to say nay or yay. That was the impression I got from the board.

Venise – asked how many cats do we currently have and how many the cat room will hold now.

Vince – our current cat population is 12 not including 3 cats that are held on court case. Our 2020 cats we actually adopted out 192. 4 were reclaimed. We sent 27 to farms and 3 of them were put down for medical reasons.

Chairman Wells stated – I think the question is how many cats at animal control today.

Vince stated we have 12 cages in the back and we are full. We have 3 cats up front because they are separated because of court cases and we want to keep them cats around.

Chairman Wells stated – I know the sheriff had to keep cars but I didn't know animal control had to keep cats.

Bev Graham – I thought you said at one time your room could hold 24 cats and now you are saying you can only hold 12?

Vince – we have 12 cats on hand. All the cages in the back are full. I have two cat cages that are stacked on top of one another that we put litters in occasionally when we have that issue. Right now it's not kitten season so we don't have quite the need for that yet but its coming. Everybody just dumps those cats off on us as they go.

Dale Livingston stated that most of the money is raised by friends off am I correct on that?

Maureen Maple stated that the fund raising committee of Friends Of has raised all most all of the money.

Ken Franklin –is questioning a little bit more of the funding of this project since it doesn't go through the county board budget through that process, where are all the funds going to come from.

Dale Livingston stated that he doesn't have the figures in front of him but \$50,000 is coming from what has been raised, is that correct?

Vince stated they have \$24,000 in an account over in Stonington. I sent that information to Venise. There is some CD money left over from the truck and a benevolent benefactor would be willing to help us with that. And the rest would come from the Willis fund.

Dale Livingston – which is who originally built the building.

Vince – Yes, they originally built that building and every year in March we get an interest payment from that money.

Chairman Wells stated he doesn't think there is any tax payer money being spent on this building. I mean its County money but I don't think it comes from taxes. Donations and fund raising, I believe.

Ken stated it is his understanding that this is coming from a trust that was for the care of the animals, correct?

Dale Livingston – yes, it built the biggest part of that building out there. There is a big plaque on the wall. That was before my time.

Ken asked how much is in the trust now.

Dale Livingston stated that he doesn't know if anybody actually knows.

Bev Graham state that Betty Asmussen sent a letter to all of us.

Dale Livingston stated but is that what is actually in the trust? I know she sent a letter to all of us.

Bev Graham stated then you got one.

Ken – I certainly appreciate the need has been addressed to a certain degree. We can only make our decision on whether we think we need a cat room or not. To the funding side of that I think we need to see that in black and white as far as the numbers exactly as where this comes from. I'm not precluding anyone from spending that money but I think when you get a trust it also involves a trustee who shares a lot of responsibility as I understand. I think the states attorney can expound on that. But we need to make sure that we are voting on spending money that we can spend money. That is my biggest concern at this point.

Bev Graham – when she said this, it says for the care of the animals. I understand that would be taking care of the dogs, the cats, the food, the medical bills and everything. What if this fund runs out and

there is no more money if we are not doing it through the county to take care of the animal – to care for the animals. Where is it coming from? Where does the other money come from to take care of the sick animals or buy the food if prices keep going up and they can't donate all the food and things that they need. How many cats is this new cat house supposed to hold?

Vince – I haven't really sat down with the doc about that yet. I am hoping to put at least 50 in that room. So that would put us up to 75.

Bev Graham – so you would have 75.

Vince – yes. And to answer your question, the trust fund sends us a check once a year. I don't know what that cost is. I am not on that account and the lady wouldn't tell me, but they do send us a check every year for that. And Betty's office has all that information.

Bryan Sharp stated he would like to echo what Ken just mentioned about laying this out. Exactly where those funds are coming from before we vote on this.

Dale Livingston – what's your question about where are they coming from if I may Mr. Chairman?

Bryan – I would just like to see it on paper. I think I have discussed that with a few folks and I would like to see that -

Dale Livingston – they are coming from the Willis Fund - \$25,000 and the other \$25,000 from the Friends Of and \$25,000 from the benefactor - basically was \$50,000 CD and bought a \$25,000 truck is what the benefactor said to get the truck up and running. I mean what more black and white can I say.

Bryan – Black and White.

Bev Graham – we have just what Betty gave us and I think it should be explained better to the point of there is \$50,000 that says it comes from the trust fund. And it doesn't say anything about the \$25,000 which that is what you raised in your benefit; \$25,000 is that correct?

Vince state 24 something yes.

Bev Graham - And the \$50,000 from the Willis trust fund. Who is the other trust person that sends you \$25,000?

Vince – that is a person who remains nameless because that is how he has to be.

Bev – does that come every year? Or once. Did they just die?

Vince – I believe that was given to us in '16 established '15 or '16. I think it was '16 and that gentleman wanted to remain in control of the money and wanted to remain anonymous.

Bev – do you get that every year from him?

Vince – no, just the one time. And that has been in that CD since '15 or '16. I think it was '16.

Dale Livingston – and he is behind this cat house?

Vince – Yes.

Vicki McMahon asked if we had a motion on the floor.

Chairman Wells stated there is a motion on the floor. Yes, and it has been seconded I believe by Mr. Snyder to proceed with spending the money to build a cat house.

Ray Koonce– I have no problem with the project itself. I think it might be a necessary project. But as my colleagues have said, they have some serious questions and I think those questions need to be answered no matter where everybody lies. With that being said I would like to make a motion to table until next month until those questions can be satisfactorily answered for the people who have been asking those questions. They want stuff in black and white - let the board members get that information so they can make a sound yes or no vote.

Vicki McMahon – seconded that

Chairman Wells stated he has a motion to table. Keep in mind there is no discussion on a motion to table. If you vote to table it, the discussion is gone and it won't be voted on. The motion to table to get the information did not include who will get that information. But that is what's on the floor, so I am going to say, there is a motion on the floor to table this so let's call roll.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr. (n), Matt Wells (n), Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin (n), Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston (n), Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard; Gene Price, David Puccetti (9) aye; (4) nay; (3) absent. The motion carried.

#### Draft County Municipal Agreement for Animal Control

Chairman Wells advised that a couple of Mayors have asked for help with animal control. The States Attorney has made recommendations and it has come back to this Committee to decide if they agree with fees, etc. and want to make a recommendation to the full Board.

Numerous questions about whether or not we can meet the demands should other municipalities contacted us and we entered into agreements were discussed. It was felt that if too many contacted the County for assistance that it would have to be reviewed again. Increasing the hourly rate was felt to be needed for sure based on for safety reasons having 2 individuals on a call. This agreement isn't to "patrol" an area it is to assist on a call.

Motion by Dale Livingston and seconded by Mike Specha to recommend to the full Board to increase the hourly rate on the Draft County Municipal Agreement for Animal Control from \$25 per hour to \$50 per hour. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried. *Dale Livingston made a motion to raise the hourly fees in the agreement to do animal control for municipalities from \$25 to \$50 an hour. Bryan Sharp seconded the motion. After no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call.*

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Matt Wells (n), Linda Curtin (n), Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard (n), Gene Price, David Puccetti Bryan Sharp, (10) aye; (3) nay; (3) absent. The motion carried.

Before a contract is recommended to the Board, Vince would like to discuss and review staffing and ability to handle additional calls with his office assistant, Dwanna.

Motion by Dale Livingston and seconded by Mike Specha to refer this item back to the Highway/Building/Grounds/Environmental/Zoning and Welfare Committee after Vince and Dwanna have reviewed the status. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried. *Dale Livingston made a motion to let Vince review this and send back to committee for next month. It was seconded by Venise McWard.*

After no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call. A roll call pulled all ayes. Motion carried

#### COURT HOUSE AND BUILDING BUSINESS

Chairman Wells advised that he has been approached about the idea of replacing the windows in the court house with ARPA funds. ARPA is a onetime deal and if we can use this money for improvements that also could save the County money, the Chairman feels it would be a good idea.

Motion by Chuck Smedley and second by Dale Livingston to recommend to the full Board to look into replacing the windows in the court house using ARPA funds. Roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried. Dale Livingston made a motion to replace the windows. Chairman Wells stated there is a motion on the floor. He asked if that motion was to replace the windows or to have our buddy our engineer to look what needs to be done with the windows. That's what I need to know. Is it to just flat out replace the windows, look at the cost to replace them or what needs to be done with them? Dale Livingston stated to look into replacing the windows in the courthouse using ARPA funds. Chairman Wells stated he has a motion and called for a second. Chuck Smedley seconded the motion. Chairman Wells stated the reason he asked that question, he is not smart enough to engineer anything and it seems to me like it's a good idea to get this courthouse in good shape. This man is an engineer and I like his opinion if they need replaced before we go spending money to replace them. With no further discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Thomas Snyder, Jr., Matt Wells, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Gene Price, David Puccetti Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley (13) aye; (0) nay; (3) absent. The motion carried.

#### OTHER MATTERS

Bev Graham asked about the status of working on the wiring in the County Clerk's office. Chairman Wells advised everything is exposed and work is being done but wire nest is still present.

She also inquired about whether or not the Environmental Educator for Solid Waste will be replaced. The Chairman hasn't seen a resignation in his office yet and understands the individual provided notice last Friday which did not allow time for the issue to be placed on a Committee agenda. Bev asked if this could be placed on the full Board agenda.

Bev asked if the Mayors could be notified about the number to call after hours for animal control. She also asked for an update on BLH.

Motion by Thomas Snyder, Jr. and seconded by Dale Livingston to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Dale Livingston  
Buildings/Highway/Environmental/Zoning  
Welfare Chairman  
02/08/2022



## **EXECUTIVE/PERSONNEL/LIQUOR COMMITTEE**

**February 7, 2022**

Present: Craig Corzine, Chairman, Ray Koonce, Gene Price, Bryan Sharp  
Absent: David Puccetti via phone  
Others present: Matt Wells, Venise McWard, Linda Curtin, Bev Graham, Julie Mayer, Jacque Willison, Amy Calvert, Jeff Stoner, Dan Bland, Ramiro Estrada, Tom Latonis and Elizabeth Hile

The Executive, Personnel, and Liquor Committee met on Monday, February 7, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. in County Board meeting room, second floor of the Christian County Courthouse, Taylorville, Illinois. The purpose of the meeting was to address any agenda items, any personnel issues, policies, and any other matters properly brought before the Committee. Roll call was taken and there was a quorum.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

### **EMA UPDATE**

- EMA Director, Jeff Stoner noted the recent 9 – 12” snow storm system that went through our area February 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>. With severe weather and services being open it encourages people to travel. Suggested the County develop an emergency policy.
- Noted the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter IEMA grant has been submitted. IEMA is going through software transition that is delaying payments but the County will receive their payment.
- Noted that he would like to transition from Verizon phone service to AT&T because they offer a first responder network.
- Noted that IDNR and State Fire Marshal’s office handles the storage of fireworks and the related inspections. The State provides information out so agencies know what’s stored in a location.

### **911 BOARD CONCERNS**

Dan Bland and Ramiro Estrada, representing the 911 Board, expressed concerns about staffing retention at the 911 dispatch center. They noted that since 2016 19 dispatchers have been hired as to date 6 have been retained. Certification cost for each individual is \$10,000. Salary comparison information from various agencies was presented for review noting that comparable wages were some reasons for loss but also noted that work environments matters. They would like to work together to come up with some ideas for better retention of staff.

### **WEST CENTRAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL**

Chairman Wells advised that an email was received from a representative of West Central Development

Council in Carlinville advising that Jersey County was withdrawing from the agency and noted west

Central is not doing Community Development Block Grants through DCEO and are no longer an Economic and Community Development agency. As a result, they were inquiring if Christian County wanted to withdraw from the agency and provided a resolution.

Motion by Ray Koonce and seconded by Brian Sharp to recommend to the full Board to opt out of the agreement with West Central Development by resolution. All members were in favor.

*Ray Koonce made a motion to opt out of the agreement with West Central Development with a seconded by Gene Price. With no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call. A roll call vote was taken with all ayes. Motion carried.*

#### LIQUOR LICENSE ORDINANCE/RENEWALS

Chairman Wells advised that the County's current liquor ordinance notes that applications for license shall be to the County Clerk. The application also notes the County Clerk or designee. However, for the last twenty (20) years or so, the applications and renewals have ran through the County Board Office. The question is if the Committee wants to keep the ordinance language as is or change the language to indicate the practice. A question was asked as to whether or not state statute requires the applications be made in the County Clerk's office.

Motion by Craig Corzine and seconded by Gene Price to recommend to the full Board that the Chairman have the States Attorney review if there are any laws/regulations requiring application be made in the County Clerk's office and to bring this matter back to the Committee in March. All members were in favor.

A copy of liquor license renewals for 2022-2023 were presented. Chief Deputy Baker has indicated by email there were no issues with any of the establishments. Chairman Wells advised that this Committee did not need to take any action on renewals.

#### FIREWORKS INSPECTION

EMA Director, Jeff Stoner, had reported earlier tonight on who does inspections of entities that have fireworks on their premises. Chairman Wells wanted to make sure the Committee was aware that we do have an ordinance on file.

#### ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICE MANAGER

As mentioned with the appointment Vince Harris to Solid Waste Department Head, Dwanna Kelmel would be taking over the day to day operations at Animal Control. Chairman Wells advised that as a result the Committee would need to determine if they felt the duties qualified for the position to be an "exempt" position with a minimum salary as set forth by Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) which is not eligible for overtime or a non-exempt position paid hourly and eligible for overtime after working 40 hours per week.

Motion by Craig Corzine and seconded by Ray Koonce to recommend the position be a non-exempt position paid hourly and to refer the matter to the Finance Committee. All members were in favor.

#### SALARY RULES FOR ELECTED OFFICIALS

Chairman Wells reviewed the County Board Rules passed in March of 2021 related to salaries of elected office holders. He asked if the Committee felt that the rules should be updated to indicate what positions this rule applies to.

Motion by Bryan Sharp and seconded by Gene Price to recommend to the full Board to amend the County Board Rules related to setting salaries of elected office holders as passed at the March 16, 2021 County Board meeting adding the positions of Sheriff, County Clerk, Circuit Clerk, Treasurer, Supervisor of Assessments and Coroner. All members in were favor.

*Ray Koonce made a motion to amend the County Board Rules relating to elected office holders salaries with a second by Gene Price. After no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call.*

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahan, Venise McWard, Gene Price, David Puccetti Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Matt Wells (13) aye; (0) nay; (3) absent. The motion carried.

#### STIPENDS ELECTED OFFICIALS

A new law is in effect requiring the County to establish an ordinance or resolution for compensation of elected officials and to also separately list each stipend an elected officer is expected to receive.

Chairman Wells wanted everyone to be aware of this requirement. Establishing salaries of elected officials will be on the March finance agenda.

#### PERSONNEL HANDBOOK

UCCI has reviewed the County's employee handbook which hasn't been updated since 2015. Committee members received a copy of the recommended revisions.

Motion by Craig Corzine and seconded by Gene Price to table review of the handbook until the March meeting to give members a chance to review.

#### OTHER MATTERS

None

Motion by Gene Price and seconded by Ray Koonce to adjourn. Motion carried

Respectfully submitted,

Craig Corzine, Chairman

**AUDIT/FINANCE/PURCHASING/BUDGET COMMITTEE**  
**February 9, 2022**

Present: Venise McWard, Chairman, Ken Franklin, Linda Curtin,  
Vicki McMahon  
Absent: Tim Carlson  
Others Present: Matt Wells, Betty Asmussen, Bryan Sharp, Julie Mayer,  
Jacque Willison, Chad Coady, Wes Poggenpohl, Jim Baker, Kim Jones and  
Elizabeth Hile

The Audit/Finance/Purchasing/Budget Committee met on Wednesday, February 9, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. at the Christian County Courthouse, Taylorville, Illinois. The purpose of the meeting was to address agenda items and any other matters properly brought before the committee. Roll call was taken and there was a quorum.

**CLAIMS**

A motion was made by Vicki McMahon and seconded by Ken Franklin to approve the claims presented for February. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Venise McWard made a motion to approve February Claims with a seconded by Linda Curtin. After no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call.*

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Gene Price, David Puccetti Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Matt Wells, Linda Curtin (13) aye; (0) nay; (3) absent. The motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

**ASSISTANT STATES ATTORNEY SALARY(S)**

States Attorney Poggenpohl would like discretion to modify the salary paid to his Assistant 1 (currently vacant) and Assistant 2 States Attorney positions. He is not asking for additional money as he will stay within the total amount budgeted. He is asking for this discretion as he is trying to hire another assistant. Should a qualified candidate be interested, he would like to have some discretion in regard to the salary offered. The budgeted current salary for Assistant 1 is \$76,000 and \$55,000 for Assistant 2.

Treasurer Asmussen advised that the salary for these and non-bargaining positions are specific in the approved budget. Members of the Committee felt to remain in compliance a specific number for each position would be needed. States Attorney Poggenpohl advised if specific numbers are needed he would recommend \$60,000 for an entry Assistant and

\$71,000 for his 1<sup>st</sup> Assistant. There would not be a salary increase next year unless he is wanting to give 1 or both individuals in these positions a raise.

Motion by Venise McWard and seconded by Vicki McMahon to recommend to the full Board to modify the salary for States Attorney 1<sup>st</sup> Assistant to \$71,000 and States Attorney 2<sup>nd</sup> Assistant to \$60,000. Roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Venise McWard made a motion to modify the salary for States Attorney 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> assistants. After no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call.*

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Gene Price, David Puccetti Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Matt Wells, Linda Curtain, Ken Franklin, (13) aye; (0) nay; (3) absent. The motion carried.

### **LEVYING FOR SOLAR FARMS – 5% OR GREATER TRUTH IN TAXATION**

Supervisor of Assessments, Chad Coady had presented an email to all Board members and was present to answer questions related to solar farm levies. This matter is complicated because the County is a PTELL (Property Tax Extension Limitation Law) county. In regards to the new first time value on the solar farms, all levying bodies can levy beyond the limits set by the CPI on new property assessed, but they can only do it the first year the property is assessed. That is the case with all property. A truth in taxation hearing is required if the levy is greater than 5% of the prior year levy, which would likely be the case for the solar farms. If it's not done in the first year, that opportunity for increased levy is missed. Another matter that differs in solar versus other property taxation is that solar properties depreciate. This could cause the tax rate to gradually increase over the life of the solar farm. Levying bodies in other PTELL counties that have projects like these usually levy for the maximum amount that 1<sup>st</sup> year.

Venise thanked Chad Coady for coming to the meeting to explain the solar farm levies. Chairman Wells wants to make sure everyone understands like what he thinks he understands. As far as we decide we want to levy something we don't have to do anything until the solar farms are built.

Chad Coady stated until they are assessed for the first time. They may not get assessed until a year after they have been built.

### **ARPA FUNDING/ORDINANCE(S)**

#### Updates

Treasurer Asmussen highlighted the recent guideline changes made by the U.S. Treasury which allows for entities who received less than \$10 million dollars to elect a standard allowance versus using the initial profit loss formula. The standard allowance option allows for the whole amount (\$6.2 for the County) be spent on county services. Bellwether advised in a recent conference call not to make any more disbursements until that ordinance election has been made. The County Board would need to approve their election in form of an ordinance by April 1<sup>st</sup>. Betty also advised that if the Board does approve a standard

allowance ordinance, new ordinances for previously expended funds will be needed also. Additionally, future expenditures will also still need ordinances approved by the Board.

Motion by Ken Franklin and seconded by Venise McWard to recommend to the full Board to adopt a standard allowance ordinance for County ARPA funds. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Venise McWard made a motion to adopt a standard allowance ordinance for County ARPA Funds with a second by Vicki McMahon.* Chairman Wells stated basically what we are doing is taking the standard deduction like you do with your taxes we don't have to itemize. But I do believe we will have to go back with the money we have already spent and do new ordinances for that which I believe Betty has sent them. I believe those have been forwarded to Bellwether for them to redo the language. All the money we have spent as COVID we are now shifting everything to a standard deduction.

Bryan Sharp – that money that has already been disbursed does it have to follow pretense of which it was disbursed under or can they spend that money as they see fit. How does that work?

Chairman Wells stated I think they took that money and where told by us how it had to be spent. What we have to do is just change how we spent the money by way of ordinances. Betty couldn't be here tonight she had a meeting. I am sure she would have a better explanation of that. For example we gave the fire department some money to have them spend it on safety equipment. That's what we told them and I think we are still there. We're not putting a down payment on a fire truck. It's a matter of how the language we have to turn in all the ordinances for the \$6,000,000. The consultant I believe wants it to read the same. All standard deductions now. We are going back to change the few that we have already done to our language - not changing how it got spent and we will move forward with standard deductions from now on.

Vicki – asked about the ordinance number

Chairman Wells - the ordinance number for this lost revenue standard allowance is

Venise stated just to go on what Bryan was asking. It is my understanding that we still need checks and balances – each one will have an ordinance.

Chairman Wells stated yes there will be an ordinance for everyone. But the rules going forward we will spend it how this board wants to spend it.

*Venise made a motion that we adopt ordinance O2022CB003 with a second by Vicki McMahon*  
After no further discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Gene Price, David Puccetti Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Matt Wells, Linda Curtain, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, (13) aye; (0) nay; (3) absent. The motion carried.

### Circuit Clerk Ordinance

Circuit Clerk Julie Mayer and Chief Deputy Sheriff Jim Baker presented updated information on the digiTICKET proposal costs. As requested from the last meeting, Julie contacted the departments in the County that had not responded when initially asked about participation. After discussion, the remaining Counties would like to now participate. The new proposal, based on more participation, is based on 50 licenses.

Julie highlighted the e-citation fees that have been collected since 2016 for each department noting we would never be in a position to purchase digiTICKET based on our rate of funding. Funding is based on traffic tickets. She feels with the availability of the ARPA funds it's the County's chance to make this purchase.

The software license fees, professional service fees and equipment quote with a 15% discount, which will be honored if a contract is signed by the end of February 2022, is \$120,097. The Circuit Clerk will pay for training and lodging to get the system installed and running. At the end of the year, each department would pay their own per car licensing fee. The Circuit Clerk will pay for the hosting fee.

Chief Deputy Sheriff Jim Baker explained the records management systems used at the Sheriff's department and how everything interfaces. He recommends one more option through Motorola to ensure CJIS compliance. The cost for this feature for all departments in Christian County is an additional \$8571.23. At the end of the year, each department would pay their own return sharing maintenance fee.

Jim noted how easily the digiTICKET equipment could be moved from vehicle to vehicle and noted at some point there will be a mandate to have this system in place and echoed the benefit of using onetime ARPA funding. In regard to what happens if after the first year a department does not want to pay the costs, Jim advised that department just drops out of the system without any effect on the remaining participants.

Motion by Vicki McMahon and seconded by Ken Franklin to recommend to the full Board to approve the cost of \$128,668.23 for digiTICKET software license fees, professional service fees, equipment and software with Motorola solutions as presented using ARPA funds with each department paying their per car licensing fee and Motorola fee after the first year. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Venise made a motion to approve the cost of digiTICKET software license fees of \$128,668.23 from ARPA funds with a second by Ken Franklin. Chairman Wells stated that he has been reminded that this does need to be done by ordinance. If you want to withdraw your motion and make the motion again to pass the ordinance.*

Liz Hile spoke up and stated one comment if the motion could contain to correct it was e-citation and I think we should probably put digiTICKET and Motorola software in the ordinance. Venise withdrew her motion. *Venise made a motion to approve ordinance O2022CB005 for the amount of \$128,668.23 for the use of digiTICKET and Motorola software solution with a second by Ken*

*Franklin.* Chairman Wells stated that Julie and a lot of the board members have heard all of this before. Julie, Sheriff and Chief Deputy are in the back of the room if anybody has questions for them. After no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Gene Price, David Puccetti Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Matt Wells, Linda Curtain, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, (13) aye; (0) nay; (3) absent. The motion carried.

#### HVAC System Costs/Engineering

Bill Kennedy has provided costs related to the installation of HVAC in the court house. The cost for a system on all floors that have HEPA filtration and independent zones is \$525,000 plus an additional 12% engineering cost.

Motion by Venise McWard and seconded by Vicki McMahon to recommend to the full Board to replace the HVAC system in the court house at the estimated cost of \$588,000 (\$525,000 plus \$63,000 for the 12% engineering fee) using ARPA funds. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Venise made a motion to approve ordinance O2022CB004 to replace the HVAC system in the court house at the estimated cost of \$588,000 with a second by Linda Curtin.* After no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Gene Price, David Puccetti Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Matt Wells, Linda Curtain, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, (13) aye; (0) nay; (3) absent. The motion carried.

#### **SURVEY RECORDS**

Chairman Wells has no new information on the records.

#### **REFERRALS FROM OTHER COMMITTEES**

Committee Chairman McWard advised that there was a matter referred from the Executive/Personnel meeting on Monday night. With the appointment of Vince Harris to Solid Waste, Dwanna Kelmel will be doing the day to day operation of animal control. The Executive/Personnel Committee felt her duties were equivalent to a non-exempt employee and made a motion to pay her hourly with Finance determining the hourly rate for the added duties.

The Committee discussed the duties of the position and reviewed exempt and non-exempt status. Committee Chairman McWard noted that because of the duties, she felt the position should be paid the minimum salary of an exempt employee (\$35,568 annually). Dwanna currently is paid \$15.88 per hour. An hourly rate increase of \$1.00 to \$16.88 an hour with Dwanna working 40 hours a week (2080 a year) would be \$35,110 annually before overtime. This is only a \$458.00 difference before any additional overtime. Chairman Wells advised that the Executive/Personnel



Committee made the decision that the employee was to be paid hourly and that the matter before Finance was to establish the new hourly rate.

Motion by Venise McWard and seconded by Linda Curtin to recommend to the full Board to increase Dwanna Kelmel's hourly rate from \$15.88 per hour to \$16.88 per hour for the additional duties of overseeing the day to day operation of animal control. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion Carried.

*Venise made a motion to pay Dwanna Kelmel an hourly rate of \$16.88 per hour with a second by Chuck Smedley.*

Venise stated that she knows Dwanna works nights, weekends and holidays and I would prefer her to be a salary non-exempt employee. I feel the \$458 will be gone in no time by the amount of overtime she puts in. That is just my opinion.

Gene Price stated that if he is paid salary I don't want to work overtime. That's why we said that. If you are going to get called out, anybody here in that position, if you get called out on a Saturday night, Sunday and it's a holiday you don't feel like going out you might say you are busy. Nothing gets done. If you get paid you are going to do it. Now a days, you want to get paid for what you are doing. If you are salary and it's a weekend I'm going to find something else not to do unless it's something I have to do.

Ken Franklin said just to clarify the process of what the finance committee made the decision. We made the decision based on that it was an hourly that we were not able to decide whether it was an hourly or salary position. That decision had already been made. Our only option was to decide what that hourly rate was going to be.

Chairman Wells stated that is correct. From my perspective as the chairman, this is on the agenda. It's before the board. If you vote to pay her, if the majority of the board wants to pay her an hourly wage that is what's going to happen. If you vote that down we could be paying her a salary. Up to this board today. It's in front of you.

Ken, just to verify, back to Gene's point - that was the discussion the personnel committee had hourly versus salary.

Chairman Wells stated that he was at both meetings. Personnel felt hourly and Finance felt salary. Felt like it should be salary.

Gene Price – but we are voting on hourly?

Chairman Wells – Yes.

Vince Harris – Animal Control is open 44 hrs. a week. I don't know if anybody knows that. I have been called out on Easter. I have been called out on a Sunday night. You name it it's happened. But Animal Control is open 44 hrs. a week just so everyone knows that.

Bev Graham – if she is doing the day to day operations of the facility, is Vince required to go out at night or is she going to be required to go out at night. If she is doing the day to day would that be for the hours the facility is open?

Chairman Wells stated I don't believe so. She is in charge of the day to day operations whether they are from 8-4 or – I don't speak for the Sheriff's department, but I know deputies in the past tell me about contacting Animal Control 7,8,9,10:00 midnight at night over there going to see if there is animals that need to be dealt with. To me she is in charge. Vince is there to help raise funds and to give advice.

Ray Koonce – Mr. Chairman be it right or wrong, or whatever your position is, when I was just up there, you all voted in favor of making this an hourly position already. I mean just a little while ago, you all passed that provision. If the majority did not want that to be hourly they should have voted it down when I was up at the podium.

Vicki McMahon stated no we were -

Chairman Wells – said no, no I believe, I believe we had that debate and I was proven wrong. I thought we should take a vote but you showed me the minutes that said we voted to send it on to the finance committee and Jacque has the minutes. I do not believe we voted when you were up here whether or not this was an hourly or salary position. I think I brought that out and was convinced I was wrong and we did not take that vote. Is that correct?

Ray Koonce apologized.

Chairman Wells stated that was okay. It gets a little confusing – it's clear as mud to me and I have been to all of the meetings.

Bev Graham – so are you asking Venise if we vote on her salary to be hourly?

Venise McWard – that is what the motion is on the floor. So if you vote yes, she will be hourly she will be an hourly employee. If you vote no, we will need another motion to make her salary. So the motion on the floor currently is to make her hourly.

Chairman Wells – and that's because that's what came out of that committee.

Bev Graham – asked what her salary would be if it wasn't hourly.

Venise – her salary would be \$35,568 – that's annually. If we just took her hourly rate it would be \$35,110 but that's without overtime. So there is only \$458 difference without overtime. It would not take long to make up the \$458.

Bev Graham – so if she's salary then that's it. If she goes out Easter, Christmas, midnight whatever. That's it. There's no exception.

Venise – stated right.

Ken Franklin – as a new position is this a onetime designation or is this going to be changed in the future even though job description changes or as the committee sees fit.

Chairman Wells stated is this a onetime position – If I tell you that, the last chairman of the board didn't win in the primary. The next chairman of the board, the next board, we are all up for election – in a year from now they could change all of it. So I can't give you an honest answer.

Ken Franklin – that is what I wanted to know. Thank you.

Dale Livingston – so the personnel committee thought it should be hourly, is that correct Gene?

Gene – yes, so she could get paid overtime.

After no further discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Venise McWard (n), Gene Price, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Matt Wells (n), Linda Curtain (n), Ken Franklin (n), Bev Graham (n), Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahon (n), (7) aye; (6) nay; (3) absent. The motion carried. She will be paid hourly.

#### **OTHER MATTERS**

Treasurer Asmussen wanted to know why her request to put elected official salaries on Finance this month wasn't honored and why the request to put CDAP on Finance was put on the Board meeting instead. Betty advised in the past matters related to Finance started at committee and then went to the Board.

Chairman Wells advised regarding the elected officials salary, the Executive/Personnel needed to review the policy before the matter went to Finance. The matter of elected official's salaries is scheduled for the March Finance meeting. In regard to the CDAP request, Chairman Wells wanted the full Board to hear what information was provided.

Motion by Ken Franklin and seconded by Vicki McMahon to adjourn. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Venise McWard  
Finance/Audit/Purchasing/Budget Committee  
Chairwoman  
02/09/2022

## NEW BUSINESS/OLD BUSINESS/OTHER

- CDAP – This is something maybe we disagreed on a little bit the other night. As I understand the CDAP funds is money that we receive, I believe there is \$10,000 there and we have a couple more payments to make and after that CDAP is going away. What are we going to do with the money when it's gone? That is what Betty is wanting to know. Where do we want her to move the CDAP funds too? I believe her thought was building and maintenance or the general.

Bev Graham said Capital Improvements

So basically what we have is, we have some money that if we don't make a decision tonight or whenever, it's just going to sit there as dead money and not going to be able to use it. This is on the agenda. I believe we have recommendations from the Treasurer as to where the money should go. Chairman Wells called for a motion from the floor as to what we are going to do with this money after Betty gets done with it.

*Ray Koonce made a motion to accept the treasurer's recommendation and move the money to the Capitol Improvement Fund with Dave Puccetti seconded the motion. With no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call.*

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Gene Price, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Matt Wells, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, (13) aye; (0) nay; (3) absent; The motion carried

Chairman Wells – Before I forget it, it's not on the agenda. I received information from Tradition Energy are brokers talking about power rates are going up as you can imagine. I didn't get it in time to get it on the agenda. They are wanting to know basically, I think you have copies of the letter. Can't take any action on it. So that will probably go to Highway Building and Grounds committee because it is talking about energy grants and talking about a large raise coming. Whether we want to lock in 10 year rates or not is kind of the question.

- Text Amendment 1-3-17: We have a text amendment. I believe I passed out the advice of the States Attorney. The best advice he can give us before the meeting tonight. It is on the agenda but it seems to me like now we have a legal opinion. Basically there is some recommendations for some changes from a legal point of view the best way to use it. Mr. Poggenpohl is the attorney, I'm not. But on the recommendation, there are three or four changes and it seems to me like we would be prudent to send this back to Vince to have him make those changes and get it back to us. *Dale Livingston made a motion to send Text Amendment 1-3-17 back to Vince for him to make the changes and get it back to the full board. Dale Livingston withdrew his first motion and made another motion to send back to Vince make the changes to the text amendment and send it to the Highway, Buildings and Grounds Committee in March. Ken Franklin seconded the motion.*

Bryan Sharp - asked if he was making recommendations or just suggestions. I gave it a quick read beforehand. I don't know what made me think that. I will need to reread it.

With no further discussion, Chairman Wells called for roll call. A roll call was pulled with all ayes being had. Motion passed.

- Permission to advertise and interview Environmental Educator - I was asked to put this on the agenda. It's on the agenda for its pleasure.

Dale Livingston – are we going to start hiring every position for the county? If we do this for the county board. It's under Solid Waste right. That's hired by the Solid Waste personnel?

Chairman Wells – That's what's happened in the past, yes.

Dale Livingston – are we changing our policy altogether?

Chairman Wells – stated that is up to this board. I was asked by a member of this board to put it on the agenda and that is what I did. That's a legitimate question, I mean. Quite honestly, in my opinion, I put it on here. Vince has been over there a month.

Vicki McMahon – can we have more discussion before we have a motion. I'm not sure. I know he knows there is a lot more going on over there than what we thought. That it would be a good idea to get more of a handle on what's going on before we make a decision like this.

Chairman Wells – let me say this we should have a motion before we discuss anything.

Vicki McMahon – right, that's -

Chairman Wells – Procedure. I don't know if someone wants to make a motion to table this until Vince can make a recommendation in March or April. *Dale Livingston made a motion to table this until the April meeting with Vicki McMahon seconding the motion.*

Bev Graham – why is Vince making the recommendation on the qualifications or what the person does.

Chairman Wells – I think he is in charge of that area. I think basically we are in kind of a situation in my opinion where things could be changed. He is over there looking to see what he feels the needs are and I am not in there daily. No one on this board is in there daily. Come April as the motion was he should have a much better idea than any of us what is needed in that department.

Bev Graham – so it will set vacant until he makes the recommendation in April and then – so he will be by himself with a receptionist.

Chairman Wells – that's what the motion is on the floor, yes.

Liz – asked if it was to the April board meeting?

Dale Livingston – said yes bring back to the April board meeting.

After no further discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call. A roll call was pulled with 12 ayes with 1 nay. Motion carried. That will come back to the board in April.

- Miscellaneous items not selling on GovDeals – Cliff was asking about this at the committee meeting. It was not on that agenda so we couldn't tell him what to do. *Dale Livingston made a motion to haul it away, dispose of it or take it to the junk yard or put it in the dumpster. Is that what you are wanting, Cliff*

Cliff stated yes. If it doesn't all sell. There is some metal desk, it could go in the recycle bin. There is some wood cabinetry that isn't worth anything. Just go to the landfill. *Venise McWard seconded the motion to let Cliff dispose of anything that doesn't sell on GovDeals.com*

With no further discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call. A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder Jr., Matt Wells, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahan, Venise McWard, Gene Price (13) aye; (0) nay; (3) absent; The motion carried.

- Old Case CX90 Tractor – GovDeals – Chairman Wells called for a motion from the floor. *Dale Livingston made a motion to sell CX90 Tractor on GovDeals with a second by Thomas Snyder, Jr.* After no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder Jr., Matt Wells, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahan, Venise McWard, Gene Price, David Puccetti, (13) aye; (0) nay; (3) absent; The motion carried.

- Taylorville Square Renovations – I have had this for a couple of months sitting on my desk. Had lots of things going on. The city of Taylorville is wanting to renovate the square. They have lots of plans. The big ones they have for us, they would like to for us to participate financially. We don't need to take any action on this tonight, but I want the board to be aware of it and we send it to committee. One of the things they talked about, they would like to put a public restroom on the south side of the courthouse lawn. They would like to put up some benches as I understood the map on the courthouse lawn but they want them right off the sidewalk around there. And to me, that is a big step up to get on the bench. It took me a little bit to get that out to you. If you want to look it over, if someone wants to make a motion to table this to committee. What is the board's pleasure? We take no action, we aren't doing anything.

*Venise McWard made a motion to table and send to Highway Buildings and Grounds committee with a seconded by Gene Price.*

After no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call. A roll call vote being called upon polled all ayes. Motion carried

- Monthly Meetings – It was brought to my attention and I have seen it. We are having more and more members show up to committee meetings. And that is fine. It's great we have the participation. Sometimes I believe we may skirt the open meetings act. I was very fortunate to have a member who was very willing to go along with it. Late last month I met – asked Vince to contact the drainage commissioners bring them in here. I met with all of them and I had three members off the same committee show up. If we had met and they all stayed we would have been violating the law. What I am getting at is with all this attendance at the meetings and I am not trying to discourage you. I think we need to consider do we want to continue with one monthly meeting and committee meetings each month or do we want to entertain and think about the idea of breaking the committee items up and having two full board meetings a month. I don't know if you want to do that but the State's Attorney can tell you there are times and ways that you can have a majority of the board at a meeting and some of them not be participating and you're not violating the law. And if you do participate in the meeting then it is a full board meeting and it was not advertised that way and notice was not given to the public then its violating the open meetings act. I'm not asking for a decision on this tonight but I do think it's something as all of us as members of this board, and again, I am not trying to discourage people from attending other committee meetings. But if we are going to have 9 and 10 I think last week at times we had 7 people at all the meetings – 7 board members. So we are getting real close. As a chairman I don't want to ask somebody to leave, I don't have that authority. On the other hand, if you are chairing a committee, do you want to be violating the open meetings act? So it seemed like something I should point out to you. I don't know if someone wants to send this to committee for discussion. If you want to bring it back next month. Have you thought about it, what's your pleasure?

Bev Graham – asked if you're not from – Linda Venise and I came. Only they serve on finance. I am

Chairman Wells – interrupted and said I understand but what I am saying is as far as the meeting that you attended – if two more board members showed up somebody has got to go or the meeting has to not take place.

Bev Graham – I am sure they would leave.

Chairman Wells – well, I don't want to be in a position to ask them that. So that is why I am asking the board do you even want to consider this. If not, that is fine with me. But as we get more people – you all are attending two meetings a month anyway. By the time you go to a committee meeting and to a board meeting. I am simply asking you to think about it. If you don't want to do it that is fine. Someone want to make a motion to bring this back next month bring it back in April.

Dale Livingston – made a statement to basically do away with the committee meetings – not completely.

Chairman Wells – No, we would have them when we couldn't get something worked out we would send to committee. We would still have them. And you may be attending more meetings. But several of us are already attending more meetings. And I know that is part of my job and I am not complaining from my point. But those people who are interested

in some of the other things going on are already at these meetings. So I don't know what you want to do. This is a board decision.

Gene Price – asked a question to the state's attorney. If we have a committee meeting and the board members that attend don't participate we aren't in violation of the open meetings act right.

Wes Poggenpohl – I don't think so. You are talking about the committee meetings right. So –

Gene Price – because just like Bev said – they will leave. What if they want you to leave are you going to get up and leave. I'm just asking. You asked me to leave because I came. (speaking to Bev Graham) Are you going to leave? So is she willing to get up and leave if someone asked her? We come to these meetings to hear information because we are interested.

Chairman Wells – I'm not condemning that.

Gene Price – My question to the state's attorney was if we have the number amount. If we sit here as a board right now know if you go to a committee meeting you cannot participate you keep your mouth shut and listen and you will hear what they are talking about. But if there is too many coming you can't talk, you can't participate, the whole meeting has got to quit.

Chairman Wells – what I am not sure of Gene as chairman of the board, the state's attorney can probably answer this question. Is that all there is to participating in a meeting is talking. Can you be sitting in the back - is there some other way to participating in a meeting.

Wes Poggenpohl – I can look into it and give you my opinion. But the whole purpose of the open meetings act is to give the public notice that there is a meeting going on. And a subcommittee meeting of the county board, I think is notice that the county board is going to meet. Not the whole board. I don't know if everybody shows up to a subcommittee meeting if that is a violation. I will look into it. I'm not necessarily thinking it is a violation if you have everybody at the committee meeting.

Dale Livingston – I have one question. You said not participation. If we are at my meeting, zoning. Vicki come, Bev comes, Ken comes and Bryan comes and they say something they are participating. Say they have strong feelings about a zoning deal. That would be considered participation right? And we already have Matt there.

Wes Poggenpohl – I think that would be a different situation.

Dale Livingston – well that is what we are running into though.

Chairman Wells – well I don't know if we got to a quorum yet, but I have noticed we are getting very close and I am simply offering an option. It is up to this group what this group wants to do.



Bev Graham – so you are saying we can come we can't talk.

Chairman Wells – no. That's not what I am saying at all. I'm not sure. Bev, what I am saying is if we get two more members showing up at committee meetings this month from what we had last month then the board is there, the majority of the board is there. And I don't think we can do that. Again, Mr. Poggenpohl is the attorney. I haven't been to law school.

Ray Koonce – Thank you Mr. Chairman. I kind of agree with Wes what he was talking about there. When I was on the city council, as we talked, we always had other aldermen show up to those meetings. They weren't allowed to vote. They could speak when the committee was done speaking. Just like a member of the public. They could state their opinion but they couldn't vote. That is something to look into. But I know that happens in other municipalities and I agree with what Wes saying. The meeting is stated as a meeting. It is a meeting of a subcommittee with the understanding it is business of the county. So I believe he would have to check legally, but I personally believe it is not a violation just from past experience.

Gene Price – I am going along with Ray because I was on the city council in Pana. Open meetings act is illegal when you go to McDonald's and there is 10 of us talking. That's a violation. You come to a meeting it's not. Now if the State's Attorney wants to check it out, that's what we were told. Like I say I was on the city council of Pana.

*Dale Livingston made a motion to ask the States Attorney for his opinion so we don't get in trouble. To look into the open meetings act to see what constitutes a violation. Ken Franklin seconded the motion. After no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call. A roll call vote pulled all ayes.*

- GoRail Letter – someone wants me to sign a letter promoting railroad traffic. I believe you all have a copy. What's your pleasure? You want this letter signed or not. I think it is a letter from global municipalities and counties supporting the rail service. This is one of those things I don't feel like I have to sign unless this board wants me to. Chairman Wells called for a motion from the floor to have the letter signed.

Gene Price – asked what are they wanting us to do.

Chairman Wells – they are asking us to sign this letter to show support for the rail service is my understanding, but sometimes I understand things a little differently.

*Bryan Sharp – asked if this could be tabled until next month to give them an opportunity to read the letter.*

Chairman Wells stated he has a motion on the floor to table the GoRail Letter until the March meeting with a second by Dave Puccetti. After no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call. A roll call vote pulled all ayes. Motion carried.

- FOIA – I believe you guys were sent several FOIA requests that were sent to my office and saw the responses. And the reason I bring this up to you tonight, County board, almost 10 years ago decided the County Clerk would be the FOIA officer for all the non-judicial

offices. If it doesn't involve the courts, the clerk's office is the FOIA officer. Because of the request and the language I have seen, I want everyone to see it. Anyone want to change how we handle the FOIA information.

Bev Graham – when those come in and we are cc'd on them are we not allowed to know what they are requesting. Are the county board members not allowed to know?

Chairman Wells – stated he didn't know. When you say you're not allowed to know what they are requesting. When I got those and I read them, I asked Liz to white stuff out, I am not trying to embarrass anybody, or put anyone requesting FOIA on the spot, that's not my point. I thought that, I have been here for 8 years and there are people who have been here a lot less than that. My big point was to show you the information, explain to you what actually happened and what the process is boarded out to 10 years ago was to make sure everyone here was aware of that and to decide whether or not there are any changes. The very first FOIA request I got as the chairman was from one of the inmates at the jail. My first thought was, I am not the FOIA officer and throw it away. Then State's Attorney Havera informed me that our best legal position would be to inform him I am not the FOIA officer that stuff goes to the clerk that you will walk his request down to the clerk's office. And some of these FOIA requests where it got to a question and answer session, and State's Attorney Poggenpohl sitting in the back of the room, I believe his advice to me was, Matt, FOIA request are not question and answer sessions. They are fact gathering tool. You don't have to answer requests. Tell them you have taken it to the clerk's office and be done with it. That is what I have done. Again, the point of bringing this to the board is, I know in 10 years I won't be sitting here. Some of these board members may be. I want everybody to know as much about what is going on as I can make them aware of. And I want the board to decide whether or not we want to make a change how FOIA requests are being handled in the chairman's office. I don't recommend it. But I am one vote. There are 15 other votes here. So if there is no motion we aren't going to do anything with it. I have simply informed you of what is going on.

- BLH – I was questioned about BLH and I wanted to explain to the board what happened regarding the situation I told you about last month. I reached out to the Secretary of State. Basically what happened, when I personally took a TV over there, I had to show my driver's license. It wasn't an ID. I was told repeatedly driver's license, driver's license, and driver's license. I thought there might be some people in this county that didn't have driver's license. I sent a request to the Secretary of State's office and was told we have some 24,000 license driver's in this county. The census information says we have 34,000 people. That's 10,000 people who don't have driver's license. I didn't think it was fair there was 10,000 people that they could not take electronics to the company we have a contract with. So, after I got this information I took the contract over there and asked if the owner was in. I was told he was not. I told him who I was, that I was chairman of the board that I needed to speak with him. That I needed some answers, that I was going to come back to this board tonight and recommend that we void the contract. He called me. Asked me what was going on? I explained to him that I don't carry a wallet due to an old injury. My wallet is in my truck but I showed the county's web page with my picture on it and I still had to pay \$40.00 or show my driver's license to drop off my TV. The owner told me he thought that was kind of ridiculous and he told me that it should be any form of photo ID. He explained to me and I agree with it, they have to make sure the people live in this county because we are paying for the service. But he would tell his employees

that any form of photo ID, you can drop your electronics off at BLH. So as far as I am concerned the situation has been resolved. There employees should know that anything with a picture on it they should accept. There is 10,000 people without driver's license. I now know it is their policy people can drop off their electronics. So there is nothing for us to do.

One more thing, I was asked today about cybersecurity. I do have an update. We have ordered, right now CTI has 130 computers on order with 260 monitors. They hope to have them in and start the week of 2/21/2022. They are saying in Chad's office. In the next month they are hoping to have these computers installed in Chad's office, Betty's office and Jacque's office as I understand it. And they did tell me that they will have someone here at the March meeting to give an update. Those of you who know more about electronics than I do will understand. Question I got today, we spent a lot of money on cybersecurity and some of the board members wanted to know what was going on. And that was the best I could get on short notice. They will have a representative here at the board meeting next month to maybe answer any questions from those of you who understand electronics a lot better than I do.

**MILEAGE AND PER DIEM REPORT – FEBRUARY 15, 2022**

<b><u>Board Member</u></b>	<b><u>Salary</u></b>	<b><u>Rate</u></b>	<b><u># of Meetings This Month</u></b>
Timothy Carlson	\$100.00	\$25.00	0
Craig Corzine	\$100.00	\$25.00	1
Linda Curtin	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Ken Franklin	\$100.00	\$25.00	3
Bev Graham	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Ray Koonce	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Dale Livingston	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Vicki McMahan	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Venise McWard	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Gene Price	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
David Puccetti	\$100.00	\$25.00	1
Bryan Sharp	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Chuck Smedley	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Thomas Snyder, Jr.	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Mike Specha	\$100.00	\$25.00	1
Matt Wells	\$615.38		

Chairman Wells called for a motion from the floor to approve the Mileage and Per Diem Report *A motion was made by Dale Livingston and seconded by Venise McWard to approve the mileage and per diem report.* With no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder Jr., Matt Wells, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Venise McWard, Gene Price, Bryan Sharp, (13) aye; (0) nay; (3) absent; The motion carried.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Chairman Wells called for a motion from the floor to adjourn until March 15, 2022. *A motion was made by Dale Livingston and seconded by Gene Price to adjourn until the next meeting on March 15, 2022.*

With no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled (13) aye; (0) nay; (3) absent; the motion carried.

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNTY BOARD**  
AT A MEETING OF THE COUNTY BOARD MEMBERS OF CHRISTIAN COUNTY  
ILLINOIS, BEGUN AND HELD AT THE CHRISTIAN COUNTY COURTHOUSE IN  
TAYLORVILLE, ILLINOIS ON **MARCH 15, 2022**  
*ATTEST: JACQUE WILLISON, COUNTY CLERK*

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The following proceeding had and entered at large upon the records of said Board, which is done accordingly in the following words and figures to wit;

Chairman Wells moved the board meeting to Court Room A on third floor of the Court House. Chairman Wells called the board meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

The roll call by County Clerk Jacque Willison showing 16 members present. A quorum was had to hold the meeting. Chairman Wells stated we have a quorum and we can conduct business.

**APPROVE COUNTY BOARD MINUTES**

Chairman Wells asked for any corrections or additions and to accept the February 15, 2022 County Board minutes to approve as printed. *Timothy Carlson made a motion to approve the minutes seconded by Vicki McMahon.* David Puccetti stated he was down for two extra abstains on the roll call and wanted that corrected. After no further discussion or improvements, Chairman Wells asked for roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; the motion carried and the minutes are approved.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Chairman Wells called for public comments –Folks we have a lot of people from the public tonight and we are going to have a lot of comments. You are limited in time to 3 minutes. Public comments is a time for you to tell the county board what you think. It is not and will not be a question and answer session. I will ask anyone who wants to speak to please stand and come up to the podium so that you can make sure that we hear and address me. If there are people here with opposing points of view, I do not want an argument or debate. The county board wants to hear what individuals have to say. So, if this is the time to speak, if anyone came here to tell us, (States Attorney has moved the podium up front for people to speak from). Anyone have anything for us?

**Patty Rykhus:** I want to say good evening to everybody. I am the current president of the board of directors of Friends of Christian County Animal Control. Friends is a standalone non-profit animal welfare organization and our mission is to improve the lives of companion animals in Christian County. As an example, in 2021, we provided over \$9,500 worth of veterinary care for animals in need in our county. While helping the animals, we also supported our local and area veterinarians. This is just one example of what we do.

Today, I have two items I want to discuss with you:

1. **The cat room** – our organization helped to raise over \$24,000 designated to improve the lives of the cats out at CCAC. This fund originated with our volunteers seeing the

condition signs of the current cat room and wanted to change things. To improve the cats' lives while out at animal control. The current cat kennels in use are small and the cats spend the majority of their time sitting in their own litter boxes and even sleeping in them. The litter contents often falls into their food and water and we want to improve this unhygienic situation. With the cat room on tonight's agenda, I wanted to voice our position. Our interest is actually providing the cats with a better environment. Actually improving their lives.

At this time, we have not received any documentation from CCAC about their proposed project; the size of the room, the addition, cost, financial sustainability and any of their proposed improvements will actually improve the cats' lives. Before we can support this addition and release any funds, we will require project documentation, as well as CCAC bringing their financial records with us up to date. Specifically, the financial records of the fundraiser held in October.

2. **In regards to enforcement of state laws regarding animal neglect and abuse** – We receive wonderful support from our community. In my hand right now, I have a petition with 597 signatures from our supporters who want vigorously laws of Illinois to be vigorously enforced in Christian County. Recently, Friends of CCAC sponsored two of its members to – (Chairman Wells interrupted her apologizing that her 3 minutes are up and I have 40 people waiting to speak.) Ms. Rykhus thanked the board and stated she looks forward to working with them in the future.

**Mardel Pizzoferrato** - I am a volunteer at the animal shelter and work mainly with the cats when I am volunteering. I would like to read the following so you don't cut me off:

Guidelines for standards of care in animal shelters is an in depth, comprehensive study done by the Association of Shelter Veterinarians in 2010. It has been used by shelters and animal groups to help them set up protocols of care for animals, especially cats and dogs. Today, I am covering only 3 topics that would pertain to the necessity of an additional new cat room. I suggest the entire study be read if you are interested in learning what optimum care entails.

1. The present cat room is set up to house 12 cats. The plan would be to use this room for admissions, observation and vetting, for short time and then move the cats to adoption room (new addition). Every week the shelter turns away someone who wants to surrender a cat or found a cat due to lack of space. The enclosures in present room are basically inadequate for any time of extended stay (longer than a week). Each enclosure measures less than 2' x 2' w/room for small litter box, blanket and food – for kittens, they have movement; for adult cats, movement severely restricted. The only cats that should be put together in enclosures/separate rooms are cats that would come in together and have already been living together. Individual cats/kittens need to be kept separated for health reasons. The objective for new room would be to have compartmentalized enclosures to meet basic standards of care and housing needs:
  - a) Separate area where cat eats/sleeps and away from litter box
  - b) Ensures adequate space so cat can move around
  - c) Minimizes need for handling – less handling minimizes animal stress, disease transmission and helps insure staff safety since enclosure can be cleaned without removing cat.

2. The study recommends that ventilation be maintained at high enough rate to provide clean air in all areas of shelter. Until recently, the only window to the cat room had to be closed because there was an air conditioner in the window. There is no exhaust fan in this room. It is basically a self-contained room with no fresh air and no air flow. Of course, the window could be opened but not much of the year because of our weather. Adding of an adoption room could correct this issue. Door to cat room cannot be left open for both safety and noise considerations.
3. Sound control is very important in shelters. The excessive noise from barking dogs is adversely affecting the cat's adjustment to admission to present cat room. Again, I emphasize that the present room would be for a short duration – then cats would be moved to adoption room which will be further from dog runs.

**Jan Schmedeke** – I am one of the investigators that has been approved by the Department of Agriculture and I am here tonight representing the other girls on our task force. Patty Rykhus who you heard first and Sally Rustene and they are both sponsored by Friends of Animal Control. Claire Duran, Dusty Odom and Margo Wagoner and I are sponsored by Forever Foster. So basically what a humane investigator does is investigates and follows up on any complaints of animal abuse or neglect. Another thing we can do is educate the owners and even the complainants about what is considered adequate care of animals. This is all based on the Humane Care of Animals Act. So the way we were trained to become investigators, we took an online training class that lasted a day and it was a zoom type meeting. After that we were required to take a test and pass that test which we all did. So that gave us as being approved investigators as of the first of this year.

The reason humane investigators are important is because we need objective investigators to go out and assess these situations. We need to be advocates for the animals. Another thing is people need to have a place they can voice their concerns about issues dealing with animals. Those of us who have just recently trained to become investigators, we just feel it is very important. It is a great addition to our community and this is a volunteer type situation that we are in. We don't get paid for this but we want to help the animals that is what it is all about.

We do have an issue though with the amendment to the animal control ordinance that was approved in December. The problem with it is it is in direct conflict with our training that we received through the Department of Agriculture. It really does tie our hands for many of the things that we are required to do. So we do have a problem with that. If you wanted more information about the Humane Care for Animals Act, there is that information on the website. It's the agriculture department's website. It also has a listing of all the approved investigators. There is like 167 in the state. We are able to go anywhere in the state. (Chairman Wells stopped her because her 3 minutes were up).

**Lexi House** – I am a volunteer with the Christian County Animal Control. I would like to speak on behalf of those who can't speak – the cats. Right now with the available room that we have for the cats at Christian County Animal Control is put into a position to make a decision to turn these cats away. If these animals are turned away, a lot of the times these animals are dumped and they have to fend for themselves. If they are not spayed or neutered the cats will reproduce. Down the line this puts more of a nuisance on the neighborhoods in Christian County. Thank you so much for your time and the opportunity.

**Visitor (male)** - I have a little bit of a two partor – First, I want to touch on the bathroom on the court house lawn. As a parent I would be concerned with the safety if you put a bathroom on the courthouse property and what kind of liability insurance you would probably carry if a child got injured, worst case scenario murdered, or raped in that bathroom. The main reason I am here tonight is to talk about the CO2 pipeline. You know there is a lot of farmers against it, but I know for sure the first well is bank owned ground and the board, we are going to need your help with the zoning that you will be addressing tonight. This project has never been done before. We are on a preface. And that preface is on uncharted territory. So, we need to slow down, take our time and do this right. We are talking billions of dollars sitting underneath our feet. If we are going to talk about core space we need to talk about core space not acres. Just do our due diligence making sure we do what is best for Christian County. Not just next year, but 30 years from now. What the length of this project is going to go. Are people going to want to move to Christian County with a CO2 field about two miles north of town and is that CO2 field going to leak underneath the town and how are they going to contain it. There is a lot of unanswered questions because this technology is brand new. It has never been done before. Yeah, they say ADM does it but that is on a small scale. We are talking 500 million metric tons beneath our feet. It takes pressure to put it down there and they say it is not going to be pressurized. I mean once it gets there – I don't know. Nobody knows. Like I said, it is brand new. Those are my two things.

**Bruce Brockelsby** – I guess I am asking the board to take their time on this because we got people out there in the country that don't even know it is happening. And they are sitting underneath the storage area. They have never been contacted and some people in the crowd has contracts to sign and they want this person to sign it by March 31. I don't know what this company's gig is, but they are working on both ends as much as they can. I haven't found any farmer or resident living in that area that is for it. And setbacks, I don't know as far as setbacks from a house, I don't think I would want to set on top of CO2 storage area. I mean, CO2, if you have enough you are out of oxygen. All I ask is the board let their conscience guide them.

**Debbie Weber** – I want to talk too about the CO2. If anybody would like I can take an email and I can forward them some information from a zoom meeting that I was present on that showed some of the hazards from this CO2 pipeline that is going through. It is a 24 inch pipeline is my understanding. ADM is either a 6 or 8 inch less than a mile. Ruptures have happened before. I know in Mississippi I was told it was in the basement. They set off in this video a demonstration of smaller pipeline and you can see the dispersal of the CO2 gas as it reacts and just other things that I am concerned about. I have a family, a grandchild that is going to be about a quarter of a mile from this pipeline where it is going in. You hear about mama bear, well this is grandma bear. I want to make sure it is safe and I think you all do to. I think this is unfounded. It has not been tested. I think a lot of it has been based on oil. Not the same as a pressurized or liquefied gas. I don't think we have the technology yet to do this. I think there is other ways of combatting CO2 in the atmosphere. You know there are other ways of doing it other than injecting it into the ground and the possibility of a rupture. What it can do to the land, family and the residence. I understand our first responders have to be trained. If there is a rupture, I don't know if the pipeline company is going to stand behind this and going to train our people. There is a lot of very iffy things. Thank you very much.

**Steve Hunsley** – I am a land owner out on the edge of the Christian Sangamon County line. These people sent me a packet and good lord, I got to looking at it and the line as they have it drawn goes underneath my house. Why do I know that? Everybody know where the Christian County Camelsburg schoolhouse is – just down the road by a creek which is only a few hundred feet, there is a Daughters of American Revolution put a statue there for Abraham Lincoln. It comes down the



middle of our road, it goes straight up and then the rest of it is the river. And also, they say at one of the things I went to, how this will be capped down far enough and have all this cap rock that is going to keep it from ever coming up. They have to sit there and look at it but they are sure that is going to cap it off. My last thing that I did if there is any other coal miners in the room here. Okay we got the shell they are talking about. As soon as the wholes are cut there it is. They have what they call – there is a clay that will go through there – slick stuff. It is not going to hold it. It's going right on through there. It will come up. I almost guarantee it. I am not a geologist but that is what I think.

**Dan Rathmeyer** – I am here to talk about CO2 for just a minute - pipeline. I live out less than a quarter of a mile from where the pipeline is going to run across and up until about two hours ago, technically it wasn't going to be on my ground. I was going to be less than 1/8 of a mile from the pipeline which has concerns for reasons these guys are talking about. About two hours ago, I had somebody from the pipeline company pull into my drive way and they wanted to go survey back there on my ground. I said what are you doing here and they said that he wanted to go survey for the pipeline. Apparently it has changed and it's coming across my ground but I didn't know anything about it. So I didn't let him go back there. I bring that up just to raise the concern. These guys aren't looking out for our best interest so we are going to have to do that and so, we would ask for any help you guys can bring.

**Cindy Frisina** – I am a four generation land owner here in Christian County although I don't live here anymore but I also have done a lot of investigation into this and have some serious concerns about it. I have attended the meetings they have had and I looked into this. I think the safety concerns have not been well researched. I think many of you might know not far from the New Madrid Fault Line – the earthquake fault line – and when I asked a lot of questions about this of the company, it is really unclear what would happen. And we all know if this leaked or ruptured, the damage would not just be to the crops but to human life, ground water, etc. Not well discussed at least in these meetings that I have been to. The other thing is Heartland Greenway Partners is owned by Black Rock, a hedge fund, that is China owned, and a Venezuela company as well as a Texas company. They are not looking out for our best interest right now as far as I can tell. I think there is a lot of concerns with this. I just wanted to share my concerns with everyone.

Chairman Wells asked for anyone else. This is last call folks. You are welcome to speak if you want to. Anyone at all? If there is no one else, we will move on.

### **LIQUOR LICENSE REQUEST**

Chairman Wells stated many of you may not be aware of this but Joe Burton is selling. Is Steve here? Steve Kline has purchased Burton's or in the process of purchasing Burtons. Steve has a dilemma and I told Steve if was not a decision I could make that it would have to come before the board. Closing date is the 28th, that's a Monday and the bar is traditionally closed on Mondays. That leaves the 29, 30 and 31 in this month. Steve does not wish to pay and I don't think it would be fair to require him to pay for a full year's liquor license for three days. I do not have the authority by myself to say you don't have to pay. So what I am asking the board with this request, if we require Steve to pay a prorated rate for three days plus the following years at the same time. Another words I am not going to let him open a business for \$6 but I hate to have a business man close down for 3 or 4 days because the closing date is on the 28<sup>th</sup>. He cannot purchase a liquor license from the state without one from the county. Steve you are willing to speak if you want to but I believe the request he is going to make tonight is, can he purchase a liquor license, will the board give him permission to purchase one prorated liquor license and one liquor license at this time. Steve do you have anything to add to this? Steve stated that Chairman Wells stole his whole

speech. I appreciate you all listening to this. I know it is probably unusual. This has been going on for a while. I was trying to get everything, get our ducks in a row and we recently found out the 28<sup>th</sup> was the closing date. We have been trying to get this done for quite a while and that was the first date that came available so if we could do something I would really appreciate it for those 3 days.

*Bev Graham made a motion to approve the 3 days and then the yearly with a second by Vicki McMahon. After no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll.*

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, Gene Price, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried

### **EMA ARPA FUND REQUEST**

Chairman Wells stated that Jeff asked about speaking to the committee but couldn't make it. We were at the committee meeting the other night and sirens were going off left and right. He has to do his work.

Jeff passed out a handout to all board members. A lot of numbers but I will go through them all as we go forward. I just wanted to give everybody a quick update before we get into this. As of last week, you all approved an order for a new EMA vehicle which is good because I tried to get in the car this morning and it wouldn't start. But it is here and thanks to the approval of the board. We do have it and we are waiting to get it equipped and get it in service so it will probably be in service by the middle of April.

The other thing is the pipeline we are doing what we can at this time to prepare ourselves for either outcome. We are looking into training for our first responders in the county to be aware of the potential hazards of CO2 of the pipeline. If it were to rupture, I am not saying that it is or that it would – I am obviously neither for nor against it, I am just in the mitigation aspect of it. I just want to assure the public that we will be doing everything we can to mitigate to the public.

Biggest thing is communications right. So you saw me up here before asking for ARPA funds-these federal funds. We all are grateful – I have heard nothing but great things from everyone who received those funds from you and it has really been a blessing for them because a lot of departments don't have the tax base that the bigger ones do and they don't have the funds to do the things they need to do – we really appreciate it.

If we look at major disaster even naturally disasters and large fires communications is usually a major break down. Right now Taylorville Fire Department is on a digital frequency. The sheriff office is digital. We also have a backup analog signal which everybody else in the county is on. My goal with this tonight is kind of show you – talk you through why that's an issue on fire runs, and emergency situations. He went on to explain how the communication works between different departments and with first responders. The biggest difference between a digital signal and analogue signal is that the digital signal is always there. Analogue signal if it gets too far from the tower or too far from anything you lose communication. If you are in a building or wherever you can lose that communication.

Chairman Wells – asked what he was asking for tonight.

Jeff – what I am asking for tonight is that the board entertain the fact giving the EMA \$250,000 for the initial cost of the radios and the 4 year plan of covering these radios. Obviously for the next 4 years. And then I would ask for an extra \$10,000 just for EMA expenses, training and equipment as we get into new systems coming into the county. New potential hazards and stuff so we can get our first responders trained so we need that money to help train them. Especially for other departments that can't afford it. So it is \$260,000.

Chairman Wells – so it is \$260,000 that you are asking for out of the ARPA funds. Chairman Wells called for a motion from the floor.

*Ray Koonce stated he was not for or against this but with it just be presented to us tonight and it's a large sum of money I make a motion to send this to the Finance Committee for further review with a second by Bev Graham.*

Betty – just remember you guys with these ARPA funds that they kind of go through a procedure of going through the finance committee first because if the full board approves then we would have an ordinance that would be approved. Instead of just approving everything on the fly, because there is a procedure for when I have to report and everything else, so. Ray I appreciate you bouncing that back to the finance committee because that then would be the proper procedure. And then we would have an ordinance ready and then if the board approves it we could release the funds.

Chairman Wells – I might want to add to that, while I may not agree to sending everything to finance first, I do think before we get to spending much more money, because later on tonight on the agenda is the windows for the courthouse and this is my fault this question has not been asked – Betty may know off the top of her head – but we had what was it we had 3.1 – the first trench was...

Betty – yes and they claim in May you are getting the other trench of \$3.1

Chairman Wells – right now, I don't know sitting here as the chairman and maybe Betty does – where are we at with that money. I know we have obligated money for cyber security, we have obligated money for air conditioning, we have obligated money for I believe the fire districts, for Julie, yes we started obligating a lot of money. It would probably be a good idea to have it in black and white where we are at with this money. Sooner or later the money is going to be gone and we are going to have to make some choices.

Bev – has he applied any place else for this to get a grant for this. The firemen just got a grant with Rodney Davis helping them.

Chairman Wells – stated I don't know.

Jeff – stated you can't use grant funds on top of grant funds.

After no further discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahan, Venise McWard, Gene Price, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried

### CTI CYBERSECURITY UPDATE

Aaron Bialis is the Chief Information Officer at CTI – I would like to apologize first of all that I don't have a paper to handout. I am a bit of a last minute stand in tonight. As far as the update, I would like you to know we have ordered and received 130 of the 155 work stations. We have ordered and received 260 monitors that go with those work stations. We do have the work stations themselves imaged and ready to be installed in the departments. We have completed the work station installs for the Supervisor of Assessments, we have completed the work station installs for the Treasurer. We do have the Circuit Clerk tentatively scheduled for the 28<sup>th</sup> of this month through the first of next month. We had the County Clerk scheduled for this month but that has been moved to accommodate the various preparation work for the election and we do not have that rescheduled at this time. For the antivirus and antimalware, they call it an endpoint protection suite, we do have that license for all of the work stations and servers that are in county and we are installing that on each work station as we replace them per department. We do not have any of the servers or replacement ordered as that will be the next phase of the project. We want to get the work stations all done first. We have all of the switches and wireless access points ordered and should arrive within the next 10 days. We have received the floor plans or blue prints last week for the Christian County Courthouse. So we are working on scheduling the voltage rewire of the court house right now with an electrician, Ryan Electric I believe is the electrician we plan to use for that. And we do have the centralized fire wall ordered but we have not received it.

Chairman Wells asked for any questions. Stated it seemed like the project was progressing. He asked if any of the office holders have questions. There were none.

### APPOINTMENTS

Couple of things that aren't on the agenda. I want to make sure the board is aware of this. Firstly, I unexpectedly received a resignation. I got a text message there was a resignation waiting on me. On Monday morning the maintenance supervisor Tim Dean is resigning effective immediately. In the past, the board gave me permission to go out and hire somebody. That is not on the agenda, we cannot act on that tonight. But I have had permission in the past, so I guess the board members need to let me know in the next couple of weeks what they want me to do. If they want me to wait for a month to go through the whole process. If I don't hear from the board members objecting, we will start the process. Ultimately, that is your decision.

The next thing I want to announce to you is I received a resignation letter from Gene Price tonight. It is effective at the end of the month. Gene is moving out of the county. Chairman Wells thanked him for all of his hard work and everything you have helped us with. I know it is not always fun and it is not always easy and we will get someone appointed by next month's meeting.

Then, what is on the agenda is the Nokomis Area Fire Protection District Trustee. I got an email from their attorney asking me to appoint a gentleman and everyone that I have talked to says he lived in Nokomis. I couldn't figure out how I as county board chairman in Christian County could appoint someone from Montgomery County so I asked our state's attorney for a little help and he called down there and they figured out the appointment should come from Montgomery County Chairman. So there is no appointment there tonight. Montgomery County Chairman has informed

me that Christian County already has a representative and as I understand it when a fire district is in two different counties, the board members of that district must represent the citizens by which one lives where. Montgomery County has many more citizens in that fire district so they have two people on the board. We have some so we have one person but we already have someone sitting on the board. Am I explaining that correctly, Wes?

Wes stated they went and reviewed the records and the person they needed to reappoint needed to go through Montgomery County.

**EXTENDED HOURS FOR MUSIC ON THE TAYLORVILLE SQUARE IN CONJUNCTION WITH FRIDAY NIGHT CAR SHOWS BEGINNING APRIL 1<sup>ST</sup> THROUGH SEPTEMBER 2022**

Lee Skinner – I am here on behalf of Small Town Taylorville. We are an organization trying to build businesses up for Taylorville and try to bring new life back to the Square up here in Taylorville. A lot of you when you come up on the square on a Saturday, you see the activity, a lot of it is due to Small Town Taylorville trying to bring people to the square. We have a lot of towns like Effingham and Litchfield are competing for residential business. We are competing against them. We are trying to bring customers to Taylorville and give them the best experience they can have. You have a beautiful square here. The courthouse is even more beautiful. Why not show it off. Everybody is loving this. What we are asking for – we already play music until, I think it is 4:30 when the music goes off. We have 12 events scheduled for late night Friday night shopping and we are just asking to extend the music until 8:00 at night. With that we also have a car cruise show coming to the square from 4:30-8:00 so people will be able to see the cars, go out and dine and shop until 8:00. Everything shuts down and that is pretty much it. Like I said, that is the first Friday of every month throughout the year.

Chairman Wells – First, let me say this, we have contacted the city of Taylorville. It is my understanding they have no objection. Mayor's office has no objection to it. The next thing I would want to do before someone makes a motion is this possible to do Bill. Bill stated, yes sir it is no problem. Chairman Wells stated Mr. Kennedy knows what goes on upstairs I don't.

Chairman Wells called for a motion to approve the extended hours of music being played up on the square. *Dale Livingston made a motion to approve with a second by Linda Curtin.* After no discussion a roll call vote was taken showing all ayes. Motion carried

**PETITIONS, RESOLUTIONS, ORDINANCES OR PROCLAMATIONS**

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment Resolution – O2022CB006 - Chairman Wells called a motion from the floor to approve this amendment. *Bryan Sharp made a motion with a second by Dale Livingston.* After no discussion a roll call vote was taken with all ayes. Motion passed

Chairman Wells stated before we get into Highway Buildings and ground I had a couple discussions with Mr. Poggenpohl. I need to clarify something. I called him last week, we were at a committee meeting and we had 9 board members there. I know we got a nastygram last year when Mr. Havera was here about violating the open meetings act and that is why we are here tonight so we could let everyone in. Wes informed me that that was fine. He informed me he was told about board members being told they could not attend a meeting. Here is what I know about that. We have now 5 different solar companies talking about coming into town. When they had

contacted us, I have asked for meetings with the drainage commissioners because they are going to be affected by where these solar farms are going. I have held several of those meetings. A few weeks back I had a meeting scheduled with drainage commissioners and 3 members from one committee showed up. This meeting was not a board meeting. It was not advertised. There was no agenda set. It was me talking with drainage commissioners. Because the 3 members were from the committee that deals with the zoning, I felt like letting 3 people attend the meeting about what goes on in the county and in that department would violate the open meetings act and I informed those 3 gentlemen that if they all wanted to stay I wasn't having a meeting, I was cancelling it. One of the gentlemen left. That is all I know about anyone being told they could not attend the meeting and I just wanted to clear that up. I don't know Wes if that was your, I couldn't get you on the phone. I felt like it did become a meeting of that committee and it was not advertised so I didn't think we could have it. That's what happened there.

## **READING OF COMMUNICATIONS**

### **MARCH 2022 COMMUNICATIONS**

The following communications were presented and placed on file in the Clerk's Office.

1. The March 2022 Prevailing Wage Report
2. The February 2022 Public Defender's Report
3. The Treasurer's Reports for the period ending on February 28, 2022,
4. The Local Solid Waste Fees Fund report for February, 2022
5. IDOT – February 2022 Motor Fuel Tax Allotment for the County and the Road District Township report.
6. IDOT – County Engineer's Salary Resolution
7. C.E.F.S – Christian County January PCOM report just received on March 10, 2022
8. REO – Budget Report for December 1, 2021 – November 30, 2022 and their expenditure report for February 2022
9. AMEREN – Upcoming Vegetation Activities Notification – they will be performing vegetation management in the area in the near future

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **HIGHWAY/BUILDING/GROUNDS/ENVIRONMENTAL/ZONING AND WELFARE COMMITTEE**

**March 8, 2022**

Present: Dale Livingston, Chuck Smedley, Bev Graham, Mike Specha, Thomas Snyder, Jr.  
Absent: None  
Others present: Matt Wells, Venise McWard, Linda Curtin, Bryan Sharp, Jacque Willison, Bruce Kettelkamp, Cliff Frye, Vince Harris, Tom Latonis, Don Hayes, Jay Germann, Larry Saxe, Skip Miller, Bruce Brockelsby, Steve Brockelsby, Phil Bliler, Mike Bliler, Gary Fulk, and Elizabeth Hile in attendance.

Special Note – due to the number of County Board members present, Chairman Wells contacted States Attorney Wes Poggenpohl to ensure the County was not in violation of the OMA. The States Attorney advised we were not out of compliance and could proceed with the meeting.

The meeting of the Highway/Building/Grounds/Environmental/Welfare/Zoning Committee was called to order on Tuesday, March 8, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. in the Christian County Courthouse. The purpose of the meeting was County building issues, highway business and any other matters properly brought before the Committee. Roll call was taken and there was a quorum.

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were several individuals from the public who spoke on the carbon capture and storage project.

- Concerns were raised that too many things are given up and there are too many unknowns about this project that may impact a life time and future generations to come.
- Comments were made about “what if” in the future the group wanting to start this project sells out and the possibility it’s sold to a foreign owned company where agreements may not be upheld.
- Concerns were raised about first responders, do they have equipment needed and would they have the proper education and training in the event of an emergency.
- Question was asked benefit(s) the County would receive from this project.
- Question was asked about the time frame for making decisions regarding this project.
- Concerns about what this project may do to our county and will people want to come to our community with carbon fields in the area.
- Comment about fees being too low for everything today and importance in taking a long hard look going forward.

Committee Chairman Livingston noted this is all new and uncharted territory. Chairman Wells advised the audience that he felt there are two (2) issues (a) pipelines and (b) storage field. He advised the County cannot pass an ordinance to stop someone from doing something only how and what needs to be done. He feels some type of ordinance will be needed if this project does come about. Chairman Wells noted that he didn’t feel anyone on the County Board likes or feels eminent domain is fair.

Bryan Sharp commented that he was in hopes that there would be some discussion as to why the proposed fee structure was tabled by the ZBA.

The audience was advised where they could find meeting notices, which includes the ZBA meetings, on the County's website as well as offered contact information for individuals interested in getting opinions on this matter and other groups and meetings were information is being provided.

#### ANDERSON CEMETERY ANNUAL REPORT

Mr. Larry Saxe provided the required annual Anderson Cemetery report which included financial information regarding operation costs, grave purchases and burials for 2021 with notation of grave and cremation opening increase of \$100 for holidays and weekends.

#### REGULATING CARBON CAPTURE AND STORAGE ORDINANCE

This is a draft ordinance should the carbon capture and storage the project happen. It's a starting point as there is no ordinance out there addressing the issue.

Motion by Thomas Snyder, Jr. and by Mike Specha to table to the April meeting. Roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

#### TEXT AMENDMENT 1-3-17

Motion by Thomas Snyder, Jr. and seconded by Chuck Smedley to table. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

#### TRADITION ENERGY

Tradition Energy researches costs for electricity providers on behalf of the County. The consultant provided a spreadsheet with options.

Motion by Mike Specha and seconded by Thomas Snyder, Jr. to recommend to the full Board the 60 month contract option. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Dale Livingston made a motion with a second by Mike Specha.* Chairman Wells asked for discussion. Ray Koonce stated that since he works with an energy company that deals in similar matters, I will abstain from that vote. After no further discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: , Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce (abstain), Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, Gene Price, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson (15) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; (1) abstain. The motion carried



## TAYLORVILLE SQUARE RENOVATIONS

The Committee reviewed the downtown renovation map provided by the City of Taylorville. Initial concerns noted were bathroom facilities on the court house lawn and reduction of parking spaces.

Motion by Bev Graham and seconded by Dale Livingston to reject bathroom facilities on the court house lawn. Bev withdrew her motion.

Mike Specha advised that he has an upcoming meeting with Mayor Barry and will see if he can get more information and will report back to the Committee.

Motion by Mike Specha and seconded by Bev Graham to table. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

## SOLID WASTE

Vince Harris advised that he is working on a report for the full Board. He advised the secretary has accepted a new position and her last working day is March 25, 2022.

Bev Graham asked if the State has been coming for inspection training. Vince advised that the State has provided notice that they will be training him but has yet to provide training dates.

## HIGHWAY BUSINESS

Cliff Frye advised that he met with Don Hayes from the Anderson Cemetery Board last fall and they agreed to wait until weather broke to begin work. The original plans for the roads have changed and they will be meeting again in the next couple of weeks.

## ANIMAL CONTROL

Vince provided an update on the current animal counts/status at animal control. He also provided financial information for animal control/zoning.

2021 70 dogs       -\$1,112.07 for the year

123 cats

2020 121 dogs       +\$1,479.71 for the year

192 cats

2019 144 dogs \$34,567.40 (2019/2020 money received for solar farms)

179 cats

2018 70 dogs -\$71,004.58

138 cats

2017 No info avail -\$185,332.00

2016 No info avail -\$191,138.00

2015 No info avail -\$187,303.00

Zoning department – Ten (10) building permits were issued. Two (2) of which were for residential solar and one was for a grain bin.

Indicated money for the cat room is \$24,212.79 with Friends of, \$26,000.00 from an anonymous donor and \$25,000.00 will come from another trust which is given \$13,000.00 a year from this trust.

ZBA report – highlighted the proposed text amendment for meteorological towers going before the ZBA this month.

#### Draft County Municipal Agreement for Animal Control

Last month the Board approved a rate change from \$25.00 per hour to \$50.00 per hour. No further recommendations were made until Vince Harris could consult with Dwanna Kelmel about being about to meet the needs of the contract should a municipality in the County should sign a contract.

Motion by Dale Livingston and seconded by Mike Specha to table. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

#### COURT HOUSE AND BUILDING BUSINESS

None

#### OTHER MATTERS

Bev Graham mentioned we lost a tree on the court house lawn. Chairman Wells advised yes we did from the storm this weekend. More than half of the tree top was lost and the tree was removed with the assistance of the City of Taylorville.

Motion by Thomas Snyder, Jr. and seconded by Mike Specha to adjourn. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dale Livingston  
Buildings/Highway/Environmental/Zoning  
Welfare Chairman  
03/08/2022

## EXECUTIVE/PERSONNEL/LIQUOR COMMITTEE

March 7, 2022

Present: Craig Corzine, Chairman, Ray Koonce, Gene Price, Bryan Sharp  
Absent: David Puccetti  
Others present: Matt Wells, Venise McWard, Linda Curtin, Bev Graham, Tom Latonis  
and Elizabeth Hile in attendance

The Executive, Personnel, and Liquor Committee met on Monday, March 7, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. in County Board meeting room, second floor of the Christian County Courthouse, Taylorville, Illinois. The purpose of the meeting was to address any agenda items, any personnel issues, policies, and any other matters properly brought before the Committee. Roll call was taken and there was a quorum.

### PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

### EMA UPDATE

Nothing to present tonight.

### PERSONNEL HANDBOOK

Chairman Corzine indicated that the first 1/3 of the handbook was ready for review by the Administrative Assistant/HR. The change recommendations from UCCI as well as additional notes in areas where further review was appropriate, recommendations and comments was presented.

During review of the presented sections, Chairman Wells advised that when this draft Employee Handbook is completed that he will seek input of the elected officials/department heads for comments before final recommendation to the Board. Liz also commented that the County will have an obligation to present the draft to the Union for comments as well. She highlighted that the CBA prevails when a topic is covered in the CBA and when the CBA is silent, the Employee Handbook rules prevail.

The Committee would like to have a copy of the Ethics Committee related to the discussion for the need of an Ethics Officer. The Committee was asked to further review the draft recommendations presented tonight before the next meeting and present any additional thoughts/changes at the April meeting before reviewing the next section of the Employee Handbook.

### OTHER MATTERS

None

Motion by Gene Price and seconded by Ray Koonce to adjourn. All were in favor. Motion carried

Respectfully submitted,

Craig Corzine, Chairman  
Executive/Personnel Committee  
03/07/2022

## AUDIT/FINANCE/PURCHASING/BUDGET COMMITTEE

March 9, 2022

Present: Venise McWard, Chairman, Ken Franklin, Linda Curtin, Vicki McMahon, Tim Carlson  
Absent: None  
Others present: Matt Wells; Betty Asmussen, Julie Mayer, Jacque Willison, Chad Coady, Mary Rhodes, Jim Baker, Cecil Polley, Bruce Kettelkamp, D.J. Mathon, Kim Jones and Elizabeth Hile

The Audit/Finance/Purchasing/Budget Committee met on Wednesday, March 9, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. at the Christian County Courthouse, Taylorville, Illinois. The purpose of the meeting was to address agenda items and any other matters properly brought before the committee. Roll call was taken and there was a quorum.

### CLAIMS

A motion was made by Ken Franklin and seconded by Vicki McMahon to approve the claims presented for March. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Venise McWard made a motion to approve March Claims with a second by Timothy Carlson. After no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll.*

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, Gene Price, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson, Craig Corzine, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried

### PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

### E-CITATION FUNDS

Treasurer Asmussen advised that when e-citation first came about in 2016 the funds were set up in the general fund for the Circuit Clerk's office as well as for the Sheriff but these funds need to be in their own separate fund. The annual fees for DigiTICKET can be taken out of the e-citation fund.

The Treasurer has discussed this matter with our auditor. The recommendation is the e-citation funds for the Circuit Clerk's office totaling \$24397.10 (001) and the Sheriff (005) totaling \$2602.80 received from the period of 2016 through November 30, 2021 be transferred to a separate account. Because these funds have been in the general fund, the recommendation is move the total of \$26,999.90 from contingency to a separate e-citation fund which will be 025.

Motion by Vicki McMahon and seconded by Linda Curtin to recommend to the full Board to move \$26,999.90 from contingency to a separate e-citation fund (025). Roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Venise McWard made a motion \$26,999.90 to move from contingency to a separate e-citation fund with a second by Ken Franklin. After no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll.*

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: , Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, Gene Price, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried

#### JAIL BUDGET

Jail Administrator Cecil Polley advised the Committee that he would like to discuss two (2) matters.

When he presented his budget for the jail, he requested 2 new full time correction officers but felt he could get by this current fiscal year with one (1) new full time hire and would reevaluate for next year's budget. With almost 4 months into this fiscal year, he feels he needs the additional new hire for night shift this fiscal year instead of waiting. The additional staff that have been hired on that shift are new and need additional training. He would like the additional new full time position re-considered this year.

He feels there are discrepancies in the jail budget for the jailers' overtime and part time jailer's salary. At the rate we are going with this just being into March of the fiscal year, he will be short. He is wondering why the numbers are that far off.

Treasurer Asmussen advised that the only changes she made from presented budgets were those related to the union contract negotiations as directed by the Finance Committee. She advised she will need to review what was submitted in the original budget.

Chairman McWard advised that she felt the Committee needed to look at the budget closer before making any further decisions.

#### COUNTY BOARD MEMBERS SALARIES

The salary(s) for positions up for election in November of 2022 must be set at least 180 days prior to the election. The current salary for County Board members is \$100 per month with \$25 per diem for meetings.

Motion by Vicki McMahon and seconded by Tim Carlson to recommend to the full Board to keep the elected County Board salary and per diem rate for meetings the same at \$100 per month and \$25 per meeting each year for the next 4 years beginning 12.01.2022 through 11.30.2026. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Venise McWard made a motion to keep the elected County Board salary and per diem rate for meetings the same with a second by Ken Franklin. After no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll.*

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, Gene Price, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried

#### CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNTY BOARD SALARY

Motion by Ken Franklin and seconded by Vicki McMahon to recommend to the full Board to set the salary for the position of Chairman of the County Board at \$20,000 per year for the next 4 years beginning 12.01.2022 through 11.30.2026. A roll call vote polled 4 ayes and 1 nay. Motion carried.

*Venise McWard made a motion to set the salary for the Chairman of the County Board at \$20,000 with a second by Chuck Smedley. After no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll.*

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, Gene Price, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson (n), Craig Corzine (n), Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, (14) aye; (2) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried

#### COUNTY CLERK'S SALARY AND STIPEND AS REQUIRED BY PUBLIC ACT

Motion was made by Vicki McMahon and seconded by Linda Curtin to recommend to the full Board to increase the salary for the elected position of County Clerk by 3.5% each year for the next 4 year term beginning 12.1.2022 through 11.30.2026 and to note the anticipated stipend. A roll call vote polled 4 ayes and 1 nay. Motion carried.

*Venise McWard made a motion to increase the salary for the elected position of the County Clerk. Chairman Wells stated that he would have to rule that that motion is out of order at this time. County Board rules clearly indicate that when the last elected official decides not to run for office that salary will be cut 10 percent. Just last month this board voted to amend that and clean up that language which the vote was 13-0. Parliamentary procedure requires that the chairman of any body of government rule if that motion violates board's rules is out of order. The only motion that I can take on that subject it has to follow the rules of the county board.*

Bev Graham stated that you are saying she can't have a raise because Mike Gianasi – Chairman Wells interrupted and said, I am saying this board has rules that this board has adopted and you are saying she, there's an election, I don't know who the next clerk will or will not be but this board has rules that say anytime the last elected official does not run, the salaries for the clerk, circuit clerk, treasurer, sheriff, they are all going to be cut. That was brought up, came out of the personnel policy/procedure committee and the vote last month was 13-0 to clean up the language that was there.

Ray stated under Robert's Rules of Order moving forward someone can make an amendment to this motion. My recommendation if somebody wanted to would be to strike out 2022 that first year with 2023 and then it would still follow that first year could still be 10 percent less. The actual increases wouldn't take place until year 2, 3 and 4. It would still follow under cutting that first year 10 percent if they wanted to amend it.

Chairman Wells stated are you saying if you think there is a motion made to cut the salary by 10 percent for the first year and then give same increases for the each year following? I can't argue that. There is nothing in the language. What the language says is the salary will be cut 10 percent.

Ray Koonce – that is just my recommendation.

Chairman Wells – but as far as I know, the rules of this board say any elected official that does not run again those salaries are being cut. This board's adopted these rules.

Venise McWard made a motion that we cut the salary 10 percent the first year and give the 3.5 percent raise for the 2, 3 and 4 years. There is a second to that motion

Chairman Wells called for discussion.



Betty Asmussen – yes, I have a couple of things to say about that. I'm not running for county clerk. I am the Christian County Treasurer. You all know me. Some love me, some don't. With that being said, I think there is a lot of confusion with this because again, you guys know my standpoint on this. The minute they walk into office, it's no different, they got to take the brunt of, they have to know it all. If not, they have to learn it real quick. But my theory was we all walk in the same. I know a lot of people don't feel that way, but if that is the case, if you are going to do that salary that way - you know what she is making or what that individual is making now you reduce it by 10 percent and then give. I think there is just not enough clarity on this but you know and if that is the case was that cleared up that it was all elected officials or just specified to us. I want to know that.

Chairman Wells – it was specified last month, there was a recommendation that came from personnel policy and procedures that was adopted 13-0.

Betty Asmussen – I understand that but was it all elected officials or did it -

Chairman Wells – we don't control the salaries of all elected officials, firstly. Secondly there was specific elected officials.

Betty – because we are voting on board members which are elected official's salaries, so -

Chairman Wells – let's see what happened last month. Recommend to the full board sending the salaries of elected officer holders passed this last March 2021 meeting, the positions of Sheriff, County Clerk, Circuit Clerk, Treasurer, Supervisor of Assessments and Coroner.

County Clerk Jacque Willison – asked if she could say something. I have been doing the position for 9 months, not quite a year yet and be time the election comes around it will be what 18 months, 17 months, making the salary that I am making now so if I would happen to win the election doing the same work I am going to be cut 10 percent?

Chairman Wells – yes ma'am. That's what the rules of the board say. That is what the board adopted.

Ken – there really was no discussion of the finance committee as a member of the finance committee. I assumed this would work the way the amended motion was made. There was no intention of going around the board rules I think it was understood that is the way it would work or it just wasn't worded correctly.

Chairman Wells – I have no debate with that.

Bev – asked if it could go back to personnel and review the whole thing and represent it.

Chairman Wells – stated well it could. However if it gets tabled in personnel next month –

Bev – it's not enough time before the 180 days?

Coroner Amy Calvert – asked if she could say something. I have been thinking about this for a while – she is our current County Clerk right now, she's not new. She chose to run. Yes, the current county clerk, or the old county clerk - she got appointed to that position and she is the

county clerk. So you would take a chance if she doesn't get elected that new person coming in is going to get a starting salary just as she did when she got appointed. I am saying this, because there is so many people in this room on this board and I have been in this office, the coroner's office, the lowest paid elected official for 18 years. I got a raise last year of 2%. The county finance committee needs to take time, the county board personnel committee needs to take time like we did years ago for people that are - who have so many years of service. If you show loyalty and you are elected by the people multiple times over and over and over where are they coming up with these numbers – 2%, 1%, no percent, 10 percent cut. There needs to be some kind of clarity because I can tell you I have been here longer but if you look at the reasons that have happened, there is way people who have been here less getting significant raises plus they make more money. Back to this point, there is nothing you can do for the Christian County Coroner salary. Her salary is set. It's a done deal. I am just saying, you need to take a look and look back and do some research of what has happened around here and try to come up with a formulation plan because we are not looking at apples to apples. We are looking at oranges, bananas, and it is not right you guys. It is not right. I love this job, I am good at this job, I definitely didn't go into it for the money, but the last 3 years have been the hardest of my life and I feel like if I was in the private sector, people would say girl we are getting you a raise for the stuff you have done. You have no full time assistant. You are the only person full time now does this every day. There is something, there is no control. You guys have no control. This is a 4-year commitment and you are looking at a crystal ball going what's our budget going to look like in 4 years. I get that, but what I am saying is you really need to dissect the language on these positions, because she is the current county clerk she is choosing to run. Just as if Julie was choosing to run and someone else was coming in. If that someone else beats Julie, we're not giving her 10 percent because Julie chose to run. So I think there is a language barrier that we really need to dive deep in and really look at what you are doing to people that are a 4 year commitment.

Chairman Wells stated there is a motion on the floor and it has been seconded, if there is no further discussion, please call roll.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, Gene Price (n), David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley (n), Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson, Craig Corzine (n), Linda Curtin (n), Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, (12) aye; (4) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried

#### COUNTY TREASURER'S SALARY AND SUPERVISOR OF ASSESSMENT AND STIPEND(S) AS REQUIRED BY PUBLIC ACT

Motion by Linda Curtin and seconded by Vicki McMahon to recommend to the full Board to increase the salary for the elected positions of County Treasurer and Supervisor of Assessment by 3.5% each year for the next 4 year term beginning 12.1.2022 through 11.30.2026 and to note the anticipated stipend for each elected position. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion Carried.

*Venise McWard made a motion to increase the salary of the County Treasurer and Supervisor of Assessment by 3.5 % each year for the next 4 years and it was seconded by Thomas Snyder Jr.*

Chairman Wells asked for any discussion.

Dale Livingston asked what the salaries were of the clerk, treasurer -

Chairman Wells stated it was almost \$68,000 I believe \$67,800.

Dale Livingston asked if he could make a motion to amend it.

Chairman Wells – you can make an amendment to a motion definitely.

Dale Livingston – can I make a motion to amend it to \$70,000 a year straight up salary.

Chairman Wells – you are making a motion to amend this motion to set the salary at \$70,000

Dale Livingston – for the next 4 years.

Chairman Wells – for the next 4 years. I have a motion to amend the motion. Is there a second to the amendment? Mr. Corzine second the motion to set the salary at \$70,000 a year for the next 4 years. Any discussion on the amendment.

Betty Asmussen – I Do. To be honest with you, that is a slap in the face. I appreciate that. The work that we do, I am going to repeat this once again for nobody that was there at the finance meeting Wednesday night. We are the only elected officials for 4 years that went without a salary increase. The only ones. So again, we went 4 years without a salary. The union contracts that you guys have approved for the sheriff, correction officers, 911 if you look at those, those percentages plus longevity and rank is not 3% or even 3.5%. I am going to pass out a little spread sheet I put together. So if you guys want to know what our salaries are currently. So you know because again, you are wanting to punish us elected officials that campaign, run, spend weekends, spend money for the party. So, I know you guys had voted for 3.5%. I put 5.9 because that was recently what you gave someone else and 4 and 3 and 3. I just hope you guys really take this in and not play games and not play – pick somebody you want to make a statement to. I am asking you, I get to come and present this one time for the next 4 years. I feel that we have to beg. I am not sure why. I am up here pleading. If you look at the numbers even what I requested – I said over 4 years. You guys spent more money on a wind turbine attorney than what you would for our salaries at 5.9, 4, 3 and 3. So I have watched this county board throw money out in a way versus when it comes to your employees especially your elected officials that take the brunt. There is not anybody on this county board that hasn't reached out to me, that's needed numbers, that's needed facts, needed opinion. Again, I would really hope you guys digest that. Especially, what Dale just presented and again, that is just throwing numbers out there with not even any thought behind it and really look over what we have presented versus what you guys came back with.

Dale Livingston – Betty I am not arguing – Chairman Wells interrupted and said to speak to him. Dale stated he wasn't arguing with the treasurer, I just didn't know what she made for sure until tonight. As a township official, our salaries are set by board, I am road commissioner, and they are set every 4 years just like they are here. We get so much. As this board, I think can do is set it so much for one year and so much for the next year. I asked what she made and I increased it. I do not have any history when the last raise was made

Chairman Wells - 4 years ago I believe they were making approximately \$61,500.

Betty – and it was 2% over

Chairman Wells – its close isn't it.

Betty – right. It's 2 % over 4 years. Which again, if you look at what other people in the room have made, their salaries – what you have gave union contracts, longevity, different aspects. I

have always said I don't know how it is us elected officials come in -- we are the face of the county along with this board, and yet we still get slapped around as if -- I mean it makes no sense to me. I am baffled and dumbfounded.

Venise -- I just want the committee to know everyone to know Betty help secure a \$420,000 grant not lapse when we didn't know what we were going to do. Betty and Bruce Engeling helped to secure a \$420,000 grant. Chad helped to secure a \$119,000 grant (Chad stated it was \$685,000 grant). I want to say they do a lot. I feel like they are being unappreciated.

Dale Livingston -- I don't feel anybody is unappreciated. All of us in here run for \$100 a meeting and I can tell you that my phone rings off the wall at all times for different things for and against and we are elected officials, we choose to run. We know what it is. Its government. That's what I mean -- we all don't have to run if we don't want to. And we can all get beat in an instant.

Wes Poggenpohl -- so what we have been talking about is setting it for 4 years. That's what we have to do today or at this meeting. We can't come back next year. The whole point is you are not setting or giving a raise to yourself. You guys are giving your salary for the next 4 years. It's got to be done today. We can't set a salary for one year then come back next year and set it for next year because we are setting it for 4 years. I know I haven't been in Christian County here at the state's attorney office for very long, but I have been in county government basically my entire career. One thing that has been consistent with me throughout my entire time with county government is how hard it is to keep good employees everywhere. Not just employees that are working an hourly wage but good elected officials too. I have dealt with many people who are great and leave the job because there are better opportunities elsewhere. More money and a lot less headaches dealing with this. So, it doesn't make a lot of sense to me, echoing what Betty says, why we are doing this, trying to pinch the pennies here when there is a lot of other opportunities elsewhere when we are trying to keep the best person in the position and you know not try to drive something out.

Mike Specha -- I just hopefully for everyone's sake and I apologize if everyone understands Betty's chart and I didn't. But being kind of a numbers guy, it took me a minute so I just want to explain what I think this chart is telling us. If our current salary for the offices we discussed is at the top for \$67,974 and there was a 5.9% raise proposed for the first year, additional 4% raise for the second, 3% for the third year and 3% for the fourth year. At the end of that 4 year period that salary would be \$79,423.05. I just wanted to make sure everyone understood what this illustration is.

Betty Asmussen -- and it shows actually non-bargaining salaries at the bottom. In year 3 we wouldn't even be making what they are making. Non-bargaining versus your elected officials.

Chairman Wells -- that is a proposal of Betty's explanation that she passed out. And then the committee made a recommendation not the 5.9 (make sure I have this right Venise) but the 3.5, 3.5, 3.5, 3.5 committee recommended not the 5.9.

Mike Specha -- no you are absolutely right. I was just trying to make sure everyone was clear on what this proposal extended to.

Chairman Wells -- right now the motion is the motion to amend --

Gene Price -- Didn't we have a motion and a second here on the first motion

Chairman Wells – we had a motion and a second then there has been an amendment added to that motion. I believe should be dealt with first.

Ray – asked if someone seconded the amendment.

Chairman Wells – stated yes, it was seconded by Craig Corzine.

Betty – asked if someone could make another recommendation to take it back to 3.5?

Chairman Wells – stated he believed this amendment must be dealt with first.

Chuck –asked for clarification on this because we have been throwing a lot of figures. What exactly are we voting on?

Chairman Wells – Well the first thing is the amendment. There was a motion brought forward to give the clerk, treasurer and supervisor of assessment 3.5% raises for each of the next 4 years. There was an amendment to that motion to pay them \$70,000 each year for the next 4 years. That amendment will be voted on first.

Betty – so \$70,000 for the next 4 years with no increase.

Chairman Wells – that's the motion Yes.

Gene – I guess I am lost because we had a motion and a second, then we had an amendment. Why can't we have another amendment an override that like we did the first one. I can make a motion to amend it back to the 3.5. He amended her motion and now I want to come back amend his motion.

Chairman Wells – ok. We can have 400 of these.

Gene Price – Yes we can

Chairman Wells – and if yours passes then we go back to his and if his passes then we go back to hers.

Gene Price – That's the way it is.

Ray – just for clarification. If Dale's amendment fails then we go back to the 3.5 and vote on that automatically.

Chairman Wells – That is correct. Unless there is another amendment made.

Betty – why don't we vote on the 3.5 first? It had a second.

Dale Livingston – 3.5% times 4 compounded, have to ask the accountant, does that equal like to 17% at the end of 4 years.

Wes and Betty stated like 12

Mike Specha – it would extend to \$78,000

Chairman Wells – it would take the salaries after 4 years to \$78,000.

Mike Specha – its 3.5% compounded. It gets a little tricky.

Gene Price – that would be about \$78,500.

Betty – You guys have compounded union contracts and didn't bat an eye Dale.

Craig – I seconded the amendment and I am still lost. Where is the 5.9 at

Chairman Wells – that 5.9 is something that Betty brought to the committee that she just handed to you. Committee looked at that and then the committee voted to recommend to the full board the 3.5.

Betty – that was my recommendation.

Chairman Wells – that was her recommendation only

Craig – I am in favor of this amendment because I felt like 5.9 was pretty steep.

Chairman Wells – there is no motion on the floor for 5.9. There is a motion for 3.5 and an amendment for a flat \$70,000. That is what we are looking at right now. Gene if you want to make a motion to go back to it if your motion passes then we have to see if his motion passes.

If there is no further discussion, please call for a roll call on the amendment to the motion to set the salary at \$70,000.

Gene Price – so I don't get to send mine, do mine?

Chairman Wells – sure you can but I looked at you and you didn't so –

Betty – vote no

Chairman Wells - hold on Betty, there is no campaigning in here

Betty – well I am

Chairman Wells – No you are not. If there is no further discussion, please call roll.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Vickie McMahon (n), Venise McWard (n) Gene Price (n), David Puccetti (n), Bryan Sharp (n), Chuck Smedley (n), Thomas Snyder, Jr.,(n), Mike Specha (n) Matt Wells (n), Timothy Carlson (n), Craig Corzine (n), Linda Curtin,(n) Ken Franklin (n), Bev Graham (n), Ray Koonce (n), Dale Livingston, (1) aye; (15) nay; (0) absent; The motion failed.

Chairman Wells –ok. The amendment failed. Are there any other amendments? Any other discussion?

Dale Livingston – is this all in our budget? I wasn't at the finance meeting.

Chairman Wells – it would have to be in the budget for this fiscal year then the salaries – if we set these salaries Dale quite honestly, at \$10. That \$10 is not in the budget for next year. The budget in the future will handle that. Regardless of what the salary is set. Any other discussion?

Betty – The Supervisor of Assessment – his salary gets reimbursed by half through the state. So when you are looking at his salary, it is reimbursed by half. Mine, being the administrator on the ARPA Funds can be reimbursed with benefits up to a certain percentage as well over the next 4 years. So I just want to make sure that is clarified.

Dale Livingston – do you know what the percentage is at all?

Betty – It depends on how much work I do as the administrator on the ARPA Funds.

Chairman Wells – let me say this. No one here knows better than I how much work Betty has done. While I would prefer a flat salary for these positions for the next 4 years. I am not sitting here saying that Betty and Chad don't deserve the money that they earn. I am not saying that at all. Betty was instrumental in the grants Mr. Nemo left. She took them over. She will tell you her name isn't FEMA, EMA or IEMA and don't call her that but she dealt with all that. I'm not saying that she doesn't deserve a raise. I am trying to run the meeting procedural proper. So, any other discussion on this motion?

Ken – I just want to say, you look at the available material on the website see the revenues we passed two years, tax revenues increase at a rate of about 2.5 percent. So 3.5%, 3% of labor management seems to be somewhat of a compromise. We can only do so much.

Chairman Wells asked for any other discussion. There is a motion on the floor to increase the Treasurer and Supervisor of Assessments salary by 3.5% each year for the next 4 years. He asked for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Venise McWard, Gene Price, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells (n), Timothy Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce (n), Dale Livingston (n), Vickie McMahan, (13) aye; (3) nay; (0) absent; The motion passed.

Treasurer Asmussen stepped out of the meeting and came back in as the Committee was starting the Sheriff salary agenda item. She wanted to present a spreadsheet she made for each of the elected office holders up for re-election in November and also included the Circuit Clerk. The spread sheet provided information on various percentage increases ranging from 5.90%, which had been received by some non-bargaining department heads, to 3%. She indicated that ½ of the Supervisor of Assessment's salary is reimbursed by the State and incorporated that reimbursement rate into the total cost for increases. She highlighted that some non-bargaining department heads that are compensated more than elected officials.

Chairman McWard mentioned the extra work Treasurer Asmussen took on with a grant that the former Christian-Montgomery County ESDA Director did not submit and a grant from the Health Department that wasn't going to be claimed. She felt the Treasurer should receive recognition for her hard work that without it, would have resulted in funding losses for the County. Chairman McWard considered making a motion but it wasn't an agenda item and the salary for the elected position had already been voted on.

Supervisor of Assessment Chad Coady advised the Committee that he had assisted the Sheriff's department on a 911 grant which secured funding for aerial photo costs which will save approximately \$100,000.00. He just received the approval information last week. The Committee thanked Chad for his work on this grant.

Chad stated that the total amount we applied for was \$685,000. When he mentioned the \$100,000 that would alleviate off of the GIS Fund in his office. He didn't know the exact amount of the funds that was approved. It was for \$685,000 for Shelby and Christian.

#### SHERIFF SALARY

Motion by Vicki McMahan and seconded by Ken Franklin to recommend to the full Board to increase the salary for the elected position of Sheriff by 3.5% each year for the next 4 year term beginning 12.1.2022 through 11.30.2026 and to note the anticipated stipend. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Venise McWard made a motion to increase the salary of the Sheriff by 3.5 % each year for the next 4 years and it was seconded by Mike Specha.*

Chairman Wells called for discussion.

Bev Graham – According to what Betty just passed out, he is going to be making \$12,000 more a year approximately than all the other elected officials.

Chairman Wells – stated that is probably correct because he currently makes more than they do.

Ray – hypothetically, there is a challenger and they win, does this still follow under what we just did for the clerk?

Chairman Wells – absolutely not. Our rules state, anytime an elected official, last elected official does not run, you cannot set, legally, you cannot say if we like Betty, we don't like her opponent, if she wins she gets this amount or her opponent – I'm using Betty I apologize because as far as I know you don't have opposition. Betty or Julie either one. We can't say if they get beat because we like them we are paying the other person less money.

After no further discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Gene Price, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp (n) Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., (n), Mike Specha, Matt Wells (n), Timothy Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham (n), Ray Koonce (n), Dale Livingston Vickie McMahan, Venise McWard, (11) aye; (5) nay; (0) absent; The motion passed.

#### SURVEY RECORDS

Chairman Wells advised that the DeLay family did schedule a meeting to see the survey records of their father. The County is not first on the list to purchase these records but the DeLay brothers advised that the County would get a change to buy records before leaving the County. There are 1400 survey books and 18 file cabinets of maps. He advised the States Attorney said that the records would be subject to FOIA if purchased. Ken Franklin advised that Chairman



Wells invited him to attend the meeting and it is a very impressive collection that goes beyond just survey records because of their historical value. It was noted that approximately 25% of the records were recorded leaving 75% not recorded.

#### REFERRALS FROM OTHER COMMITTEES

None

#### OTHER MATTERS

None

Motion by Tim Carlson and seconded by Vicki McMahon to adjourn. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,  
Venise McWard  
Finance/Audit/Purchasing/Budget Committee  
Chairwoman  
03/09/2022

Chairman Wells – let me just add one thing about those survey records. The Delay brothers have told me there are people in line ahead of the county but they told me they would give the county an opportunity to buy them before they would let them get out of the county. But there are 1400 books so if we purchase them as a county, I believe Mr. Poggenpohl thinks they can be FOIAED

Wes – Possibly, I think the best way to get around that would be you don't have to have people have free access to the records if there is statutorily set price for them. Without getting into it too much further, the Clerk's office would have to take over those. If somebody wanted to get copies they would pay for them the same price per page as they would any other land records that a clerk's office currently has. So if you wanted to come in and get a copy of your deed it is X amount of dollars. It would be the same thing to get a copy of the survey records. That would be something we would have to look into.

Chairman Wells – the last thing I want to add about that is I am not the clerk, don't know anything about that office but I can only imagine it could take 3 people a year to organize this stuff. And then when people would start coming in asking for requests. While I believe the records should stay in the county, I believe somehow it could be a big obstacle. I don't know that she has room in her office. There are 18 file cabinets full – 18 of them.

Chad – my office takes the surveys that are scanned or recorded and then we attach them to the pin number that they belong to. We have all the old Boyd Dapperts surveys. We have thousands of those and I have never had a FOIA request for any of those. Not saying that couldn't happen. But it does take a lot of time in my office as well to take all the scans, anything that is scanned in, attach it to the parcel, we like to keep them together. We attach it that way for in the future when people do come in, other surveyors, they are able to locate a survey they can start off from. It's a big help. The surveyors we get compliments all the time on our county and how well and organized our filing system is and how they are able to locate surveys and property information so quickly. It's a good thing for the county but it is a lot of work.

Wes - asked if there was a fee assessed or set?

Chad – state we do not charge the surveyors anything for them but there are PDF's so we can email them but the only fee we do charge is if someone comes in and it's not their property survey, we do charge a normal copy fee. During COVID situation we weren't charging. In my office we weren't exchanging money.

## **NEW BUSINESS/OLD BUSINESS/OTHER**

- **Circuit Clerk's Salary and Stipend as required by Public Act** – the reason that was not on committee, the rules say 180 days prior to an election. Julie told me in the past, and I remember that she has been grouped here. What I read says her salary should be set 180 days before the next election. We asked Mr. Poggenpohl and he said that her salary can be set because she works for the courts and its different and there are different rules there than for the clerk, treasurer, sheriff and supervisor of assessment. So that is on the agenda tonight. It seems to me like this salary should be a two-year salary, that is just my opinion. Two years there is going to be an election. But that is up to the board. It's on the agenda tonight. Is there a motion about setting the Circuit Clerk's salary? She has been set for the past 8, 12, 16 years whatever it is, before I was here. Her salary has always been set with the treasurer's, the supervisor of assessor's, and the county clerk's. But I was not aware we could do that and that's why that did not go to the finance committee. And that is why it's on this agenda. I would think I believe that she has been making the same amount of money. If we are giving pay raises to elected office holders tonight, it just seems fair to me that hers would be the same. But I am not going to make a motion from here I am asking for a motion from the floor.

*Ray Koonce made a motion to set the Circuit Clerk's salary at what we just said for the Treasurer and Supervisor of Assessments for the next two years with a 3.5% pay raise for the next two years with a second by Dave Puccetti.*

With no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call. Chairman Wells asked Julie if she had anything to say.

Julie – my first 4 years I was in office; salary was set by my predecessor 180 days before the election as she retired. Then after that for the last 9 years I was lumped in with the rest of them.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells (n), Timothy Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston Vickie McMahan, Venise McWard, Gene Price, (15) aye; (1) nay; (0) absent; The motion passed.

- **Solid Waste Staff Recommendation** – Vince wasn't feeling good today, later in the day. Basically, he gave me some paperwork, he has been there long enough now, he believes he should hire an educator and an inspector. He believes if he has an inspector they both can take the training. And there should not be any issues in the future. If we allow this to happen, the spending for his share of the salary coming out of solid waste, an educator and an inspector, it will be, I believe it will be \$3 or \$4,000 less than what we spent last year. I believe the money is in the budget. He was asked to have a recommendation her tonight. He thinks he has been there long enough learning what the state expects how we are going

to be reimbursed. If one salary is paid out of fees and the other is paid out of I can't think of the name but they are both reimbursed salaries. But if we don't hire two, we are not going to be reimbursed this month. So, he was asked to make a recommendation to the board. I would say how many people he hires would be up to us who he hires would be up to him. We don't go out to the highway department and tell Cliff this guy is a better truck driver so on and so forth. So, I guess first I am looking for a motion from the floor

*Craig Corzine made a motion to forward to Personnel Policy and Procedures with a second by Bryan Sharp. After no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call.*

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston (n), Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, Gene Price, David Puccetti, (15) aye; (1) nay; (0) absent; The motion passed.

- **County Clerk email domain change request** - County Clerk Jacque Willison spoke and stated due to all the fraud with the elections, they have made it law, especially my office, we have to go to the domain of .gov for more security and I am just needing the Chairman of the Board to sign the form that you guys have in your packet. We will need to fill that out. And it is free of charge.

Chairman Wells stated as you know I try not to sign anything without this board's approval. Jacque stated there was no cost whatsoever. Chairman Wells stated if the law says she needs to change and the recommendation is that all of our offices do that.

*Ray Koonce made a motion to sign the document to let the Clerk's office obtain the .gov domain with a second by Bev Graham.*

After no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call. A roll call polled all ayes, the motion carried.

- **Liquor License New Applications and Renewals** – it's time for the liquor license of all of our customers. Just wanted to make the board aware that. That is traditionally a thing that the Chairman signs as the liquor commissioner. We sign for everyone. I have had no complaints, and of course, I think the Sheriff is still here. I have had no complaints about any of the establishments that we have and so unless there are some objections I am going to go ahead and sign these forms to renew the liquor licenses. There was an issue about our rules and in the packet I believe where – somewhere in the rules these are to be taken to the clerk's office. That hasn't been done since I have been on the board. We asked Wes, and it isn't a problem with them staying in the chairman's office. Wes stated the act is silent as to who needs to collect them and so I think it is fine either way.
- **Windows – Bill Kennedy** – as the a/c is affected by the windows and since I sort of wanted the expertise, architectural expertise on this particular project. I contacted the engineer we got for the air conditioner and asked them to look at this. They brought their architect, two mechanical engineers and a civil engineer and we spent the better part of the morning looking over the building and the windows. The affect the windows have had on the air conditioning system and so forth. This is certainly the time to address it. I am not positive of this but I have been helping the county for about 50 years and I think those windows

were put in right before that. They are extremely good windows and the fact that they have lasted this long. However, after talking with those guys and thinking about it a little bit, I think there is no doubt that we want to replace the windows. We have some numbers here. There are 3 items. They estimate the probable cost about \$445,500 for the windows. Not including the engineering and architectural services or any asbestos removal that we might run into. The engineers agreed to do this for 8%. That is \$35,640 and that is a pretty nicely discounted rate particularly because they are going to do site visits. They believe that probably not to exceed amount of \$1500 might be encountered for examination of the caulking and sealant that has been used in the past to see if there has been asbestos. None of these numbers are inclusive of removing the asbestos if we have to do that. If my timing is right, if about 1970 or the late 60's and a lot of work was done in 69, may have been when the windows got replaced, we are right on the cusp of when the asbestos went away. I don't think we will find it but I don't know that. They were certain because of the kinds of liability they have seen in the past, if we want to spend the \$1500 to be able to say in the future it wasn't here or if it is here then we need to deal with that. Anyway, that is what I know right now. As I said earlier, at this point I think we should do the project. We have the money to do it and it's the time to do it.

Chairman Wells – asked if he had a total for this.

Bill – I didn't add them up but \$445,500 plus \$35,640 plus \$1500 assuming we don't hit asbestos. Now that's not near as bad as it used to be if we do find it. There has been some considerable competition in the market place. Those are the numbers we are talking about.

Chairman Wells – you think \$500,000 will replace the windows?

Bill – Yeah.

Chairman Wells asked for a motion – what's the board's pleasure?

Dale – asked where the money was coming from.

Chairman Wells – stated it would be ARPA Fund money

*Ken Franklin made a motion to send it to finance with a second by Craig Corzine. After no discussion Chairman Wells called for a roll call.*

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahan, Venise McWard, Gene Price, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion passed.

- **HRA Reimbursements** – The healthcare plans for our employees. Our healthcare plan carries a \$1000 deductible for which the employee is responsible for the first \$250. Okay. They can receive the reimbursement for an additional \$750 plus approved expenses up to \$1750. The responsibility to file these claims with a third party is with the employee. After a claim is filed, the third party administrator determines the county's qualifying portion. Effective 7/1/2021 the third party administrator changes the result of insurance broker changes. There was a 90-day grace period for the employees until 9/30/21 to submit claims

to the former third party administrator. Claim dates with service of 6/30/21 and earlier went to American Central. The prior third party administrator claims with a date of 7/1/21 went to Ameriflex the new third party administrator. The employees were advised of this change during the annual open enrollment meeting and were reminded of the importance of filing all claims with a service date of 6/30/21 no later than 90 days to American Central.

Three issues happened here. We switched insurance broker, we switched third party administrators and we got a new HR assistant. We have a couple of situations. Here is the first situation; we have an employee with a claim with a date of service in June of 2021. Her explanation of benefit was not processed until October 2021. The delay was from the hospital billing not the employee or the former administrator. The former administrator denied the claim because it was submitted after the 90-day grace period. Ameriflex the new administrator denied the claim based on the date of service which was prior to 7/1/2021. We have this employee who is stuck in the middle. The employee did what the employee was told to do. They submitted the claim as soon as they got it. They didn't get it timely. County's obligation here would be \$805.47. After speaking with Liz, in this situation, the employee did everything the employee was supposed to do. But because there has been a change made, there is an \$805.47 bill. I think we should pay it for the employee. I am looking for a motion to do so.

*David Puccetti made a motion to pay the \$805.47 bill with a second by Linda Curtin.*  
After no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, Gene Price, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion passed.

Next situation, this employee had claims from March 2021 through May 2021. The employee came and went to the entire enrollment meeting. The employee missed submitting the claims within the 90-day window with the third party administrator. The county's HRA reimbursement based on the claims would be \$223.00. This employee did everything right except turn the claims in on time. I don't know what the board wants to do about this \$223.00. They came they went to the meeting. Looking for a motion or not from the board. They did everything right except submit the claims on time. No motion was made.

Lastly, an employee has 21 claims from the period of January 21 through June 2, 2021. The employee came to the open enrollment meeting but only filled out the forms and left. They did not stay for the presentation. The employee missed submitting the claims in the 90-day window with the former third party administrator. The county's HRA reimbursement on this claim is \$1387.00. Is there a motion from the board to approve any of these two claims? If not, we will move on.

- **Money for Legal Council (Carbon Capture and Storage)** – I received a letter from the carbon company, from the project managers stating they basically want to be good neighbors. They are willing to make a donation to the county board of \$25,000 for us to hire legal counsel, to sign any ordinance that may be drafted.

Venise McWard made a motion to decline this offer.

Chairman Wells stated that was a negative motion we can't make. We can't make a motion not to do something.

*Venise made a motion that we reject the offer. Vicki McMahon seconded the motion.*  
Chairman Wells called for any discussion.

Bryan Sharp – we had a lot of land owners and affected parties in here tonight discussing this and I am just really concerned how this would be perceived by them if we start taking money from the people who are trying to secure these leases, this core space and so forth. You know when I read this the first thing that popped into my mind was a payoff, bribe and play to pay and I don't think we want to go there. So for that reason I think we need to definitely reject this offer.

Dale Livingston – well do we want – everybody has been saying about all these things that we need legal counsel, legal counsel and if they are making an offer to pay for legal counsel. We are going to take our ARPA money, we are going to take money from us to pay for legal counsel to make sure we do this stuff right.

Bryan – this is one of those situation that we haven't been prepared for this. We have known things like this were coming. We have been caught blindsided by this and we should have been a head of the game and we're not. We are behind it. To that point we are going to have to live and learn. We are going to have to ante up like big boys and use the funds in the county to crap this for the residence of Christian County.

Venise – I just want to say I think this is very unethical. To start taking money from a company that we are trying to write an ordinance regarding this issue. I just feel it is very unethical.

Dale –I don't know how it was presented but I mean they are wanting us to just draft the ordinances. Are there any strings tied to this?

Chairman Wells –I received a letter and they simply offered to send us a check for \$25,000 for legal fees. Set it in an account. Mr. Poggenpohl I believe you looked at this and your opinion of it was there is nothing unethical about this, legally.

Wes – I am not going to make judgement on what you guys want to do. To me, there weren't anything tying us to anything. It appeared to me you guys could hire – use the money to hire a local attorney. They would assist you in drafting as strict of an ordinance as you want. It doesn't put any obligation on us to even pass an ordinance or not to pass one. I understand your concerns. That was really my own opinion, it didn't put any obligation at all on the county in accepting the money other than at the end of the twelve months whatever we don't use it goes back. I agree that we should have somebody look at it. I am not an environmental lawyer. To be honest, the only ordinance that I have seen since I have been here or been asked an opinion on was about the high voltage transmission. The draft proposal that was at the meeting last week. I saw it when I got the board packet on Friday. I hadn't even seen it. Not even laid eyes on it. You guys are considering it before I was even asked to put an opinion on it. Someone needs to look at it.

Bev – don't you think realistically it should go to an attorney that knows about the environmental problems and what could occur that that's their specialty. Like he said he can't do it he is criminal. They should have an attorney that specializes in this.

Chairman Wells – my biggest thought of it is and on another attorney. I believe legally the county is obligated to take Mr. Poggenpohl's advice. Legally. Mr. Havera sat there and even Mr. Poggenpohl has sat there in the past three months. Sometimes they tell me things I don't want to hear. But, he represents the county, legally. If we want to pony up money, if we want to hire an outside attorney, we should probably get that to Mr. Poggenpohl for a recommendation. I mean he would know where to go. I am looking up does this guy no anything about it. He has been to law school I believe he can tell us the name of firms that deal with this type of stuff. I can tell you what company build houses and what companies sale carpet but I believe he is the guy who can tell us what types of attorneys we need for this. I do agree with that.

Dale – I know in northern Illinois they are trying to keep - they tried to zone windmills out. They ended up passing zoning ordinances and they didn't stand up. Whatever ordinance we pass, it needs to pass with the current laws.

Bryan – I have no dispute that we need legal counsel on this and we need a lot of it. This is totally new. I think this is almost unprecedented what we are trying to develop here. There is not a lot of examples. So we have to use counsel and best resources as possible. I just don't think we need to be taking money from the people who are trying to run this project – out there actively trying to engage land owners, actively trying to sign leases, actively trying to acquire core space, soon to be actively filing with – I just don't think it passes the smell test. I don't like how it appears.

Ken – just clarification so the motion is not to accept the money. The idea of us getting counsel is a separate issue for us to address -

Chairman Wells – the only thing on the floor right now is whether or not we are going to accept \$25,000 in money from the developer/owner. I get them confused. I am dealing with 5 different companies with solar that has 5 different names for the projects and you know, a lot of different names. Yes, all we are talking about now is whether or not we want this \$25,000.

Gene – I am not going to be here but I agree with you. He is our counsel and we get his opinion first. If he is not happy with it he can guide us to where he thinks we need to go.

Chairman Wells – while I am glad you agree with me I don't think it matters. Legally I don't think it matters what any of us think. He represents the county.

Gene – we get his opinion. And if he is not satisfied with his own opinion he's not fluent with it, then he can recommend us to go somewhere else.

Mike – I think the question in front of us right now is strictly over do we take \$25,000 or we don't take \$25,000.

Chairman Wells – that is correct.

Mike – getting an attorney is a separate discussion. But having said that, very minimum appearances are bad. We already know we have a contingency issue. We are going to have folks that feel strongly probably both ways. I don't know. It certainly makes it look like we have already decided what side we fall on by starting out by having them pay. I mean it wouldn't be the right opinion but I could someone say yeah they gave you the opinion you want. That isn't likely what would happen, but that is beside the point.

After no further discussion, Chairman Wells called for roll.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin (abstained) Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, Gene Price, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, (15) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; (1) abstain The motion passed (Linda Curtin abstained because she has several family members that are land owners that have foot prints in this project and I will be abstaining on every vote with this project)

- **Carbon Fee Schedules** – last month the carbon fees schedule was presented to this board and this board sent it to Highway Buildings and Grounds and Zoning committee and they tabled that motion. Couple of board members were in my office earlier this week and gave me new different carbon fees schedules. The one that we sent to the ZBA was tabled at the ZBA. I apologize. Because they tabled that fee schedule, they didn't know what to do. I asked Vince to draw up a couple other fee schedules to bring to the board to see if the board wants to send them to the ZBA so that they have some options. When the ZBA dealt with wind, they were able to take parts of different text amendment proposals and put them together. The chairman of the ZBA tells me they are not allowed to let's say there was a fee of \$20 and \$10 they can't just whip up \$15. For this reason, I asked Vince to send me so that I can send them on to you some additional carbon fee schedules and then I believe there was a couple of others that Bryan brought in today. My question is does the board want to look at any one of them and send any one of them to the ZBA. My concern, just like when we send stuff to a committee, its tabled and its locked in the safe and we have no idea when its coming back. I am trying to get them something that they feel like they can move forward on if the board agrees, because if they don't move forward we have nothing.

*Dale made a motion to send all 6 carbon fee schedules to legal to find out what we can legally do with a second by Craig Corzine.*

One is tied up with the ZBA table but the ones you have today I believe there are 6 of them. Are you saying send all 6. I think the ZBA big hold up was they didn't think what was in front of them was legal.

After no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Timothy Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin (abstained), Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce (n), Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon (n), Venise McWard, Gene Price, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp (n), Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, (12) aye; (3) nay; (0) absent; (1) abstained. The motion passed (Linda Curtin abstained because she has several



family members that are land owners that have foot prints in this project and I will be abstaining on every vote with this project)

- **Carbon Capture and Storage Ordinance** – this was tabled in the zoning committee meeting. A couple of board members came into my office. They thought what they had would have been tabled. There were some things that needed to be changed. They presented that to me. I believe there was some significant differences and what I was handed because those amendments had a different set back. Those text amendments had a different fee schedule. Because of that I told those board members I would bring that to the board tonight and let the board decide if they wanted to do anything with them or wait until the ordinance comes back from the committee where it was tabled. So you have these ordinances in front of you and it is up to the board. Is there a recommendation

*Dale made a motion to send to legal to see what we can legally do with a second by Ken Franklin.*

Bev – some of the terminology in the one you sent back that has the yellow in it – the difference – there is still terminology there regarding the solar the lighting. It should have been changed to carbon capture storage and they are leaving tower fencing in there and everything.

Chairman Wells – I understand that but when the board members came into my office they gave me a new ordinance that changed setbacks and fees only. That's what I got. I felt changing the setback – if your telling someone this ordinance you are going to have to be 25 feet away and this ordinance you are going to have to be 250 feet away and you are telling someone here the fee is \$5 and here the fee is \$50 to me that is a totally different ordinance. That is what I was asked to bring to the board tonight.

Bryan – do we have a time with regard to find legal opinion on this. What kind of time frame - This may be a little out of your realm and you may be recommending that we forward this? What lead time, lag time. Any thoughts.

Wes – realistically what I what I think would be the best approach is to have this sent to the same committee that tabled the other version. Looks like I need to reach out and see what it would cost to retain an attorney that would be qualified to handle something like this and so I could try to have some names by next month's committee. That's about as good as I could do.

Chairman Wells – I think Bryan, the motion for the fees, we are already sending that to legal and that's him. And this motion is to send it to legal. That's states attorney Poggenpohl, so if it goes to him, now we are going to be at his pace. We can send it back to committee but then he has to go to committee meeting, if this is sent for legal, he is going to look it over, read part of it then decide, come back and tell us this is who I believe you should contact. If he does not feel he has the time or expertise in the legal field to deal with it. So by sending it to legal, it is going to him and he will come back and tell us something hopefully next month.

Bev – you were at the zoning meeting; they are absolutely saying we are not doing anything else until we have legal counsel. They rejected everything and sent it back to us the county when they were in the zoning.

Chairman Wells – I thought they tabled

Dale – tabled

Bev – they tabled it but they don't want to do anything. In the minutes, if you read it they are not going to do anything because they don't have legal counsel.

Chairman Wells – Bev, that is why I came up with a different amendment so that we can start trying to move it. I don't know how the majority of the board feels. I don't know how this vote will go. But I think we owe it to the public to move this forward. One step was to send it to them and they table it. I brought this back and there are significant changes I believe and the board is making motion on them and you must agree with that also, different amendments and different fees. I agree with you and I don't blame them they aren't lawyers either. To me the motion to send it to Mr. Poggenpohl let him work and he will get back to us when he can figure it out. And he will make a recommendation as to who he feels what company we need to approach with it.

Dale – I didn't make the motion but it is tabled for now for us to look at it again next month in the zoning committee right.

Chairman Wells – that is correct. You take it off the table in your committee. I would think it would come off the table, vote to send back to here so the board can send it with the rest of them to Mr. Poggenpohl.

Bryan – just wanted to make a comment to Wes, when reviewing this what is being said to you, I just want to make the statement it is very confusing. It doesn't follow. There is a lot of contradictory items I see in there with regard to wex and carbon capture storage. So it is not a very clean proposal.

Chairman Wells – However let me say this. It is the only one like it in the country. Bryan stated he hopes so. Chairman Wells stated now Bryan you can be derogatory if you want to. We have looked high and low and you haven't been able to find one either. Nobody has been able to find this anywhere in the country.

Bryan – I would just to that point though, we were directed to prepare something for us to observe, look at and to consider but when we take it from wex and we apply it to carbon capture and storage, getting that cleaned up and making it something presentable would be nice.

After no further discussion, a roll call vote polled all ayes with Linda Curtin abstaining.

- **Cat Room Bids** – I have to inform you I received an email from Betty, the US bank is the trustee of the Anna Willie fund and Betty sent me an email from the bank, from a Mary Jo Jansen vice president of Wells Management and Trust. The US Bank is trustee of the Willis trust animal shelter does not believe the funds from this trust should be used for construction. Anna Willie at the time of her death left 20% to the animal shelter

construction fund and 20% to the trust and care of stray animals. We did not believe she wanted any of this money used for construction. So with that being said, Vince is not here. That was part of the 70 sum thousand dollars that he wanted to use to build this but the trustee of the money is telling us that money goes to care for of the animals. She already spent money on construction. That might be something I don't like to hear. I am in favor of letting them build this building, but without this money we are going to have to go a different way.

Chairman Wells called for a motion from the floor to do anything for the cat room. Dale stated to give them ARPA Funds. Chairman Wells stated he would have to rule that motion out of order for tonight it is not on the agenda. Maybe could be placed there next month but not tonight.

*Ray Koonce stated with the new information regarding the cat room he would make a motion to forward this back to the finance committee to see what they can do with a second by David Puccetti.*

Chairman Wells called for discussion.

Bev – can they also check the other two funds to see if they can use that money.

Chairman Wells – I guess we can but I believe those funds are locally raised money, I could be wrong – Betty, is that money in accounts that Vince has?

Betty - not that Vince has. There is the private donation of \$26,000 that is left and then the other \$24,000 was coming from Friends Of. They also stated tonight that they were not going to release any funds until they got more information from Vince off the cat house. They said they have received very vague information – they weren't happy and until – they have requested information from Vince and still have not received it. So she said tonight she wasn't going to release funds until they got all the information.

After no further discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, Gene Price, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson, Craig Corzine, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion passed

- **GoRail Letter** – Martin Oberman Chairman of the Surface Transportation Board works in D.C. Illinois is the center of US freight rail. I think everyone has a copy of the letter in their packet. I don't think I need to read it all. They are asking that this be signed by me as the chairman. As you all know, I don't like signing anything without you guys knowing what is going on.

Bryan – asked if the Chairman could explain –intermodal and switching fees...

Chairman Wells – I understand that. It is talking about signing something in support of the railroad - surface transportation board. I am not a railroader. I have a hard time with it.

Bryan– I feel like we need to visit with somebody

Venise – I just want to make the comment the railroad is very difficult to deal with – at least that was my experience in the past.

Chairman Wells called for a motion to have this signed. There was no motion.

- **Monthly Meetings** – We talked about this last month – I brought up about monthly meetings because everyone was showing up at meetings. I don't know if anybody wants to do that or not. Last month we noticed everyone coming to all the meetings anyhow and I thought instead of having all the committee meetings we would have 2 monthly meetings. Is there any interest in this?

#### **MILEAGE AND PER DIEM REPORT – MARCH 15, 2022**

<b><u>Board Member</u></b>	<b><u>Salary</u></b>	<b><u>Rate</u></b>	<b><u># of Meetings This Month</u></b>
Timothy Carlson	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Craig Corzine	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Linda Curtin	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Ken Franklin	\$100.00	\$25.00	3
Bev Graham	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Ray Koonce	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Dale Livingston	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Vicki McMahan	\$100.00	\$25.00	3
Venise McWard	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Gene Price	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
David Puccetti	\$100.00	\$25.00	1
Bryan Sharp	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Chuck Smedley	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Thomas Snyder, Jr.	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Mike Specha	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Matt Wells	\$615.38		

Chairman Wells called for a motion from the floor to approve the Mileage and Per Diem Report *A motion was made by Mike Specha and seconded by Timothy Carlson to approve the mileage and per diem report.* With no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahan, Venise McWard, Gene Price, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Chairman Wells called for a motion from the floor to adjourn until April 18, 2022. *A motion was made by Tim Carlson and seconded by Gene Price to adjourn until the next meeting on March 15, 2022.*

With no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; the motion carried.

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNTY BOARD**  
AT A MEETING OF THE COUNTY BOARD MEMBERS OF CHRISTIAN COUNTY  
ILLINOIS, BEGUN AND HELD AT THE CHRISTIAN COUNTY COURTHOUSE IN  
TAYLORVILLE, ILLINOIS ON **APRIL 18, 2022**  
*ATTEST: JACQUE WILLISON, COUNTY CLERK*

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The following proceeding had and entered at large upon the records of said Board, which is done accordingly in the following words and figures to wit;

Vice Chairman Corzine moved the board meeting to Court Room A on third floor of the Court House. Vice Chairman Corzine called the board meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Corzine asked everyone to remain standing for the loss of long time county board member on Saturday and if we could all acknowledge a moment of silence for Charles DeClerck.

**ROLL CALL**

The roll call by County Clerk Jacque Willison showing 13 members present. Ken Franklin came in late and Matt Wells was absent.

Gene Price resigned. A quorum was had to hold the meeting.

**APPROVE COUNTY BOARD MINUTES**

Vice Chairman Corzine asked for any corrections or additions and to accept the March 15, 2022 County Board minutes to approve as printed. *Timothy Carlson made a motion to approve the minutes seconded by David Puccetti.* After no discussion, Vice Chairman Corzine asked for roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon, polled the following: (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent; the motion carried and the minutes are approved.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Vice Chairman Corzine called for public comments – I will remind the public you have 3 minutes to talk. It is not a debate session. It is a time where you can come up front and let your voice be heard by the Chair and the rest of the board and we will open up the floor for any public comments. Please if you do come forward, we ask you to state your name for the record. We would appreciate it.

**Elizabeth Rose Thompson** – I am here this evening on behalf of Navigator. Should be a familiar face to some of you. I was here before the board back in November of last year and I appreciate the opportunity to come back in here and address the board as well. For a refresher I share many of the same values and interest as many of you here. I too am a product of the Midwest. I was raised on my family’s farm on the eastern side of Iowa. I have spent my entire career in agriculture. So we are talking about the value of not only the carbon pipeline project but the Heartland Greenway proposal as a whole. As a whole can mean – we are recognizing that from the value especially in the agriculture community. I do have some prepared remarks to hopefully address a couple of some of the questions or concerns. But I will say since we have been here since November, we have done quite a bit. Having landowner meetings, gone out and surveyed, working with landowners and community leaders helping to continue to work on a proposal – an approach.

With that, what hasn't changed is our dedication to listen and learn and continue to refine that approach based on that feedback. I know there are a lot of unanswered questions about the project as a whole and more than enough misinformation, that is being spread around. I also know that actions speak louder than words. And I am here to tell you that we are committed. We are committed to being good partners, working with you all as local decision makers to put forward a project, not only we can be proud of, but you all can be proud of as well. What does that mean in action? To us that means to continue to listen to landowners, to provide flexibility in our compensation model and our project footprint proposal as well to make sure we are meeting those needs. It means large-scale investments in the community and in the county as a whole through potentially a community benefit agreement something to the size of scale that matches the compensation that we anticipate for landowners across the county. To put dollars and cents to that, that is looking at potentially a million to a million and a half per year of an annual investment. It means in tailoring our approach to more directly answer the questions about the process, the environmental impacts and the economic potential that this has. This is a big project and has the potential to be transformative for many of those critical industries that are important to us as well as too many of you in this room. Especially those processors than many of us depend on for markets on the products that we produce. Additionally I want to notate there is a number of checks and balances in place through federal permitting, state level citing, that we will be navigating over the coming year. Additionally the special use permit, it will be required through the county as well. The misconception out there that there are shovels going in the ground anytime soon, I am here to say it is not true.

**Steve Brockelsby** – with the group of Christian County Citizens to protect the aquifer. Which is against the CO2 and me and my brother and several others have been out in the farm community where they want to put the dumpsite. The farmers who have the land they got a hold of the landowners to find out there opinion of it, yes or no on it and we marked down everybody that was a no to the proposed dumpsite – we have a map that represents what we found which is over 80 percent of the land owners are opposed to it. The proposed pipeline cite that goes through I think there is approximately 90 percent opposed to it from the Christian county line to the dumpsite. Just wanted you to be aware how the landowners feel that we talked to in the community, the citizens of the community. I personally have not talked to anybody that is for it. In fact, everybody that I have been to, landowner, farmers was welcomed to support anything they could do against it. It is not welcomed in the area. There is no support out there that I found for it. Then I think everybody is in agreement the company is money oriented it is not for the citizens of the county. It is all for – the money benefit for the Heartland Greenland Group.

**Courtney Puccetti** – a court reporter in the Christian County Courthouse addressed the board regarding issues with the sagging floors in the courthouse. She has worked in this building for 16 years and works on the 3rd floor. It was reported in January 2020 that there was an issue in the ROE Office of crumbling concrete and sagging in that office. Christ Schafer, a structural engineer, came to look at that office and the crumbling concrete and it was determined it was not suitable to have people in that office. He advised a plan to alleviate it and suggested that all floors be assessed. Bill Kennedy advised, at this time, that he could do the analysis to save the county money. There was some concerns of Christ Schafer about who signs off on the work once completed and evaluation of the data collected. Chris Schafer, structural engineer, said he collects the data writes a report and accepts the responsibility of the content. It was reported to the County Board in February 2020 that the work was complete under the ROE Office and in March one month later a structural engineer would submit approval of the work. In March of 2021, one year after the work was completed under the ROE office; Hurst-Rosche Engineers, Inc. was contacted to examine the first floor. In January of 2022, ten months after Hurst-Rosche examined the ROE office, tuck

pointing and more work needs to be done to be consistent with work reviewed by Hurst-Rosche. I have asked if a structural engineer has ever been signed off after the work on the ROE office was complete and I have not gotten an answer to that question. Two years after the work was reported to be complete under the ROE office work is still being done. Since January of 2022, I have noticed changes on the third floor. There is a ridge on the courtroom floors that appear to have gotten worse over the two years. There is a ridge in the jury bathroom where it cracked the tile. There is a ridge in the conference room next to Courtroom A, in the hallway floors. There is a severe slope in Judge's chambers next to Courtrooms B & C. In the court reporter's office, the floor was not level. We could not sit or stand without having back or hip problems. We noticed this after the work was done in the ROE Office in 2020. We were told it was a subfloor issue and a project was started in May of 2020 to fix that. After the first project, the office floor still was not level. After many complaints and further investigation, we were told it was a header that needed to be put under the floor on the County Clerk's office by Jacque's desk. After that project was complete, we were told the floor was dead flat. The floor still today is not level and the slope in the office, just east of that happens to be worse. You can walk and feel the slope. Two weeks ago, my heel went through the floor. Vice Chairman cut her off due to her 3 minutes being up.

**Bruce Brockelsby** – I done some digging on some of this CO2 and who owns it. It is my understanding it is Black Rock. Black Rock owns Tenaska and says it is the world's largest investment group and it is becoming and influential Wall Street player. Former Black rock investors hold a predominant role in President Joe Biden's cabinet. Biden also tapped another former chief of staff to Black Rock's chief executive, who serve at top officials at the Treasury Department. To me, it looks like they are trying to take our tax dollars and funnel it overseas. It is a lot of foreign investments (Black Rock) and it has been going on for quite a while. If you google aquifer in Christian County you will come up with a permit that when they was out north of town in 2011 there is a 245 page report that they were doing this carbon sequestration dump site, doing research on that then. They want the board to hurry up and get on their schedule. They have had over 8 years as far as I know to get something done. They have been waiting on the financial backing from the government to do this.

**Steve Sipes** – Chairman of the Zoning Board of Appeals announced he had received a resignation letter ZBA member, Mark Dozier. Sipes read the resignation letter to the County Board and in it; Dozier stated I have enjoyed my timeserving the ZBA. I am not a political person. However, in the past few months it appears that there are factions in the County Board that are not pleased with the progress and direction that I and the ZBA have taken. I have never been afraid to ask the hard questions, but it appears that it is not enough in some people's eyes. Being on the ZBA takes time from my farming operation and only pays mileage. I feel it is time for me to move on. I have reached a time in my life where I feel I should be relaxing and enjoying a few things. Instead, I am hearing complaints about ZBA not being fast enough, what is being accomplished and that we are on the wrong track. By my leaving, this should give those dissatisfied factions of the County Board an opportunity to hand pick someone more in line with their agenda. I hereby relinquish my position effective April 15, 2022. Sipes commented that Mark Dozier has worked very hard on this board to make sure that what is done is done right for everybody involved. And there has been somethings come down the pike through the ZBA that has not been right. When you guys send us an ordinance, or something, that you want us to look at make sure most of the work is done before you send it to us. Because the feeling is that, you are looking for scapegoats. There has been some ordinances that come down the pike that make no sense whatsoever.

**Sally Brusveen** - a longtime advocate for animals and a certified state of Illinois Humane Investigator, addressed the board and urged them to divide the Zoning office from the Animal

Control Office. A few years ago when the two departments were put together, a lot of us were concerned because we really feel that Animal Control, if done properly, is a fulltime job. Now four years later we even feel stronger about that than we did in the past. Why is that? Because the county has a lot of people that are advocates for animals and we care what happens to the animals in our county. They expect that the current animal welfare laws are enforced and even improved upon. These are things that we want to work on. They expect that complaints be handled in a timely manner, during hours or after hours. They expect that the health and safety of the animals is the priority when investigations take place. They expect the breeders in our county are to be inspected and licensed by the county or the state, depending on the number of animals that they have. These are all things that are included in ordinances and laws. These are things that people expect to happen. That is a big job. It takes a lot of time and it takes a lot of cooperation from a lot of different groups. So, again, I would urge you to separate the two, Zoning and Animal Control. And I would hope in the future, if you were to hire in a new director or an assistant that would be a person who is capable and willing to work with all of us to accomplish these goals.

**Seth McMillan** – Ethics Commission – speaking for Himself, Laura Wilkinson and Mark Smith of Kincaid. Lucky for us we have never had to address anything, but there are a couple problems with that. There has been a recent complaint made against several members of the County Board. The problem is that the Ethics Commission has never been given a direction. We do not have rules to follow we have no idea what policy or procedures are. This did not occur under the current board, but it is something that is going to have to be addressed here, very shortly. And so I think that the board needs to be made aware of that. You have an Ethics Commission, there should be some policies and procedures that were supposed to follow, and Second thing is I believe that because of current complaints that a motion on making changes at Animal Control should be tabled for a month. That is my opinion and recommendation to the board so that it does not create a liability for the county.

**Jane Griffith** – Christian County Health Department – spoke about the agenda she had seen in the newspaper regarding the official salary and or stipends the County Board, Chairman of the Board the County Clerk, Circuit Clerk, Sheriff and Treasurer and Supervisor of Assessments. I just wonder where the other County people were, like the Christian County Coroner and The Christian County Public Health Manager, because those people have felt the brunt of COVID, probably as much, if not more than any of the other people. If this is in relation to that Covid bonus that the City got. I am not sure because I can only go by this agenda. I just wanted to bring up my concerns and taking with other people, their concerns too.

Nicole Lanham – Christian County farmer, mother and landowner – urges the board to stop the CO2 pipeline and sequestration sites. Also, she wants the board to vote for a six-month moratorium to get your bearings and to truly understand the weight of these measures. Besides obvious safety concerns that others have already addressed, this ultimately comes down to rights and precedence. Allowing a private company to come into our county, take, and tamper with ground, even if the owner opposes is un-American. Allowing a private company to use eminent domain for profit is unethical. This is more than chipping away at landowner rights. This is hacking away at them with a machete. We have something a private company deems as useful. Why are we allowing them to take it without every owner's consent? Just because they want it so badly? Or because a few other neighbors saw dollar signs and said yes without understanding what it means? If we allow this, mark my words, there will be an avalanche of other pipelines. There are others already in the works. This is setting precedence. If we allow this, our whole county will be an overlapping highway of carbon dioxide pipelines. This proposed route may not affect you or your family directly, but what about future projects Even if this company decides to



follow the rules, the next one may not. You cannot put the cat back in the bag, so to speak. This comes down to money and greed. This project is green washed to appease political forces. But the real root is lots and lots of money. This is a 3.2 billion dollar project across five states. Once it is operational, the pipeline would move \$650 million dollars' worth of CO2 per year for decades. This company is going to tell you whatever you want to hear to get this pushed thorough so that they can get rich. We are ground zero right now and you have the power to say no. There are other avenues for carbon capture that do not require ripping up 1300 miles of the most fertile ground in the whole world. You cannot take this back. Low risk is not the same as no risk. This decision will affect the citizens of this county for hundreds of years. So do not go down without a fight.

**Jeff Nolan** – It is within the county's rights, under health, safety and welfare, to put a setback they deem necessary, after studying the aquifer, wells or whatever. They have set backs and you can add to it. I would like the board to consider a few things; setting fees and permits for the carbon capture. The county will need inspectors to be at the excavation to make sure utilities are properly repaired. Possibilities are digging through personal forgotten surface drains, footing tile drains, field tiles whether they be old clay or polyethylene, oil field piping, and natural gas lines. Make contractors accountable whenever something like this comes, there is no code or law permitting for repairing field tiles. So they have to be registered, hold a certificate of insurance, etc. We have to when we do things for the city or county whether it be plumbing or sewage, or whatever. The county should adopt standards for the repair of field tiles. If you go deep with that and you have a tile here, there are standards for repairing of tile. The repairs should be independently inspected. You may need to hire inspectors or engineers who are knowledgeable to make sure that happens. The consequences can be astronomical. A good example is the geo-thermal industry. Up to just a few years ago, geo-thermal wells were not licensed. Anybody with a drilling rig, that is how they made money when they were not doing thing, they contaminated water and did all kinds of things. Finally, counties had to step in and it was so erratic. The state had to step in finally. They were reactive instead of proactive. That was a big issue. Government agencies are encouraged to promote an industry such as this because it is political. There is big money involved. A lot of long-term effects can come into play. A huge concern should be the ground water aquifers. Christian County has a vast water network. If you get on the geographical survey, it is huge, huge.

### APPOINTMENTS

Vice Chairman Corzine – We have a recent resignation from the county board and I would entertain a motion to appoint Clint Epley. *Bryan Sharp made a motion to appoint Mr. Epley with a second by Venise McWard.* After no discussion, a roll call vote was taken.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahan, Venise McWard, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, , Timothy Carlson; Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, (14) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried

**Clint Epley** - County Clerk Jacque Willison swore Clint Epley in as the new County Board member in District 4.

**Denny Stiner** – Owaneco Fire Protection District for a 3-year term. *A motion was made by Venise McWard and second by David Puccetti.* After no discussion, Vice Chairman Corzine called for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled all ayes.

**Ron Brown** – Dale Livingston made a motion to appoint Ron Brown as the Maintenance Supervisor with a second by Linda Curtin. With no discussion, Vice Chairman Corzine called for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called up polled all ayes.

**Open Meeting Act Officer** – Vice Chairman Corzine stated the Chairman wanted everybody to know there needs to be an open meeting act's officer.

### **PETITIONS, RESOLUTIONS, ORDINANCES OR PROCLAMATIONS**

- **O2022CB008** – County Board Salary – *Vickie McMahon made a motion to accept the ordinance for the County Board Salary with a second by Bev Graham.* With no discussion, Vice Chairman Corzine called for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Clint Epley, Timothy Carlson; Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried

- **O2022CB009** – Chairman of the Board Salary – *Bryan Sharp made a motion to accept the ordinance for the Chairman of the Board Salary with a second by Venise McWard* With no discussion, Vice Chairman Corzine called for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Venise McWard, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Clint Epley, Timothy Carlson; Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried

- **O2022CB010** – Sheriff Salary – *Dale Livingston made a motion to accept the ordinance for the Sheriff Salary with a second by David Puccetti.* With no discussion, Vice Chairman Corzine called for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Clint Epley, Timothy Carlson; Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried

- **O2022CB011** – Treasurer Salary – *Dale Livingston made a motion to accept the ordinance for the Sheriff Salary with a second by Linda Curtin...* With no discussion, Vice Chairman Corzine called for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Clint Epley, Timothy Carlson; Craig Corzine, Linda

Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, David Puccetti, (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried

- **O2022CB012** – Supervisor of Assessment Salary – *Bev Graham made a motion to accept the ordinance for the Sheriff Salary with a second by Chuck Smedley.* With no discussion, Vice Chairman Corzine called for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Clint Epley, Timothy Carlson; Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried

- **O2022CB013** – County Clerk Salary – *Linda Curtin made a motion to accept the ordinance for the Sheriff Salary with a second by Bev Graham.* With no discussion, Vice Chairman Corzine called for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Clint Epley, Timothy Carlson; Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried

- **O2022CB014** – Circuit Clerk Salary – *Bev Graham made a motion to accept the ordinance for the Sheriff Salary with a second by Dale Livingston.* With no discussion, Vice Chairman Corzine called for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Mike Specha, Clint Epley, Timothy Carlson; Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried

## **READING OF COMMUNICATIONS**

### **APRIL 2022 COMMUNICATIONS**

The following communications were presented and placed on file in the Clerk's Office.

1. The March 2022 Prevailing Wage Report
2. The March 2022 Public Defender's Report
3. The Treasurer's Reports for the period ending on March 31, 2022,
4. The Local Solid Waste Fees Fund report for March, 2022
5. IDOT – March 2022 Motor Fuel Tax Allotment for the County and the Road District Township report.
6. AMEREN – Notification of Future Tree Trimming – they will be trimming trees in and around the area of Langleyville to Kincaid along Rt. 104.
7. IEPA – Notice of Application for Permit to Manage Waste – (LPC-PA16)

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### HIGHWAY/BUILDING/GROUNDS/ENVIRONMENTAL/ZONING AND WELFARE COMMITTEE

March 8, 2022

Present: Dale Livingston, Chuck Smedley, Bev Graham, Mike Specha, Thomas Snyder, Jr.  
Absent: None  
Others present: Matt Wells, Linda Curtin, Bill Kennedy, Cliff Frye, Vince Harris, Jim Prescott, Hadi Shasban, Rachel LeBeane, and Elizabeth Hile in attendance.

The meeting of the Highway/Building/Grounds/Environmental/Welfare/Zoning Committee was called to order on Tuesday, April 12, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. in the Christian County Courthouse. The purpose of the meeting was County building issues, highway business and any other matters properly brought before the Committee. Roll call was taken and there was a quorum.

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

#### REGULATING CARBON CAPTURE AND STORAGE ORDINANCE

Bev Graham noted that ordinances go to the Executive/Personnel Committee.

Motion by Thomas Snyder, Jr. and seconded by Chuck Smedley to recommend to the full Board to send this ordinance to the Executive/Personnel Committee.

During discussion, Mike Specha asked for clarification, as it was his understanding that the recommendation that came out of the Executive/Personnel Committee was to recommend a 6-month moratorium. Chairman Wells advised that this draft ordinance has bounced back and forth between the Board and committee. Since then the company (Tenaska) has developed an ordinance for the ZBA. Chairman Wells' concern is what if the company gets everything in line to get a permit while this issue goes back and forth with the possibility in the end of the County having nothing in place. Mike Specha agreed that having an imperfect document is better than no document. Chairman Wells again noted at this time the only ordinance going to the ZBA right now is the one Tenaska has presented.

Chuck Smedley rescinded his second on the motion. Bev Graham seconded the original motion. Thomas Snyder, Jr. and Chuck Smedley voted in favor with Dale Livingston, Mike Specha and Bev Graham voting no. Motion failed.

Motion by Mike Specha and seconded by Dale Livingston to recommended referring the previously tabled ordinance to the full Board for discussion. Dale Livingston, Mike Specha and Chuck Smedley voted in favor with Thomas Snyder, Jr. and Bev Graham voting no. Motion carried.

Dale Livingston wanted to put that in the form of a motion and asked the Vice Chairman if that was right. Vice Chairman Corzine asked what the motion was that he was actually making. Dale Livingston responded by saying it was for a discussion from the full board is what I would say.

Mike Specha – My understanding is that there is an ordinance that was presented to the ZBA that came from Tenaska. In addition to that we had an ordinance tabled in our committee, the building and grounds committee that had some what we will call varying information some different information with that. In addition to that, there is an ordinance the board voted last time to send to our legal counsel. In my opinion, we are inviting confusion to agree with all these ordinances running around. Rather than to have this run back through committee, it's my hope that we can get this down to at least one ordinance as one working document or whatever we are going to do with it. And I just did not feel we were going to get that done by leaving it in committee as opposed to having it before the full board.

Vice Chairman Corzine stated the full board can make a motion to send this to the ZBA. The ZBA had to receive anything that was going on their agenda had to be received last week for the meeting they have coming up. It is my understanding the board can send it to the ZBA and then they have to report back to us. Now, in looking at the rules of the board, as we have all been talking about as of recent, all the ordinances are supposed to come through the Executive, Personnel, Legislative committee. However if you read the ZBA rules are or the rules our board as implemented of the ZBA they are to report back to the full board. So we are a little of both ways are right as I see it. We can certainly ask Mr. Poggenpohl his thoughts on that. Here again, we have some other matters on this to talk about in a little bit also because we certainly want to do the right thing here to get this right. I will tell you, the Chairman, is exactly what you all talked about in your committee meeting, and has a major concern that we need something in place. And as of right now, it is my understanding; the only thing on their agenda will be the ordinance as presented by the company.

Mike Specha – I share that concern so my understanding is the ZBA will be required to act on the ordinance they have, which frankly, is not our ordinance. It is an ordinance produced somewhere else. Whatever that is worth, that is where we are. It seems to me if we keep playing ping pong with our ordinances here and don't get our heads together and get one in, I don't know where that leaves us is my concern.

Vice Chairman Corzine – and keep in mind by the time we send something to them, that is already now on next month's ZBA, which makes it another month before it gets back to either our Personnel committee or the full board.

Bryan Sharp – this ordinance that they are referring to here, it was tabled in that committee, then with some review or some revision we came up with the ordinance that was introduced to the full board which was sent to legal. That would definitely be the preferred copy or the preferred ordinance and would especially like an opinion on what we could do with that or what we need to do with that. Somebody who actually understands Zoning law. This ordinance is – what do we do with it.

Vice Chairman Corzine – correct

Dale Livingston – from my understanding the ZBA, they are presented with more than one at a time can take pieces and put one together. That is important too because it gives them more of a choice. That is how they came up with the wind ordinance – was they took three and built one. So, I do not know how that works on a time frame. You would have to ask Mr. Poggenpohl or

Vince how that works on a timeframe. But I would think with more than one out there, even if there is two from the county board, they could pick and choose.

Vice Chairman Corzine – yes. Mr. Poggenpohl feel free to jump in anytime, but it is my understanding, and you can correct me if I am wrong, but when the ZBA is presented an ordinance like that, they have so long to act and us as a county board also, is that correct?

Wes Poggenpohl – I remember from reading it that when it comes back to the board at the next meeting, it says that the county board is to act on it. But “act on it” is an open interpretation meaning that sending it to committee, tabling it, doing whatever. I am not for sure without looking at it if there is a specific timeframe for the ZBA. I assume they can table it as well to do their own research. I do not think they can make a decision right off the bat without taking time.

Mike Specha – state he is just about to make this worse. The ordinance we are now discussing, the one that was tabled in the building committee and now back before the full board has prices in it of a fee of like \$20 a vertical foot. The ordinance Mr. Poggenpohl has is a price of \$200 a vertical foot. Significantly different numbers. So the accountant in me is about to extend these for you. \$20 a vertical foot if they sink these injection wells 6,000 feet down. There is five injection wells, and there is ten monitoring wells, I am assuming they are all covered, is about a \$1.3 million fee with the lower numbers. With the \$200 fee in there, that number is about \$7 million. Now, I am not here to express an opinion about which number is right, but we never, as a board, even discussed that, which is back to my concern that we are pushing to legal without even looking at the numbers that we are even thinking about here because that is a huge variation in the number.

Wes Poggenpohl – the one that is here tonight is \$20 bucks

Mike Specha - \$20 per vertical foot. So that would extend on 15 wells at \$1.3 million

Vice Chairman Corzine – the motion is Mr. Livingston’s out of committee and -

Dale Livingston – the motion was to bring it before the board for discussion and that is what we are having a discussion. Do I need to make a motion that we brought it before the board?

Vice Chairman Corzine – but honestly we are kind of out of order here. We are discussing having a motion on discussing. So, I need a motion from you if there is such, if not we are going to move on.

Dale Livingston – the motion was made to bring the ordinance before the full board for discussion so we have completed that task.

Vice Chairman Corzine stated we are moving on.

TEXT AMENDMENT 1-3-17

Waiting on further information from legal.

TAYLORVILLE SQUARE RENOVATIONS

Mike Specha reported that the City of Taylorville put in for a \$3 million dollar grant filed in January of 2022 that contained everything possible as a wish list. The total cost of the project is \$4.5 million. They are hoping to hear something on this grant in August 2022. If the City receives the grant, they are hoping the County will provide some financial assistance. In regard to the initial restroom proposal and concern expressed by this Committee, the City has determined the restroom idea should be removed from a final plan.

Mike Specha – apologized that he misspoke. The \$1.3 million grant the city has applied for is a \$3 million grant the city has applied for. A significantly different number. And the total project they estimate is going to be \$4.5 million. But at this point, they were looking for no action from us. It was strictly informational.

#### SOLID WASTE

Vince Harris advised that he received an email regarding a new modification permit from the landfill to add a 2<sup>nd</sup> layer new cell.

Staffing - he is in the process of hiring a secretary and recommends hiring a full time educator and inspector/investigator. The salary for the Educator comes from tipping fees and the inspector/investigator salary is part of the delegation agreement. The delegation agreement also provides some reimbursement for his salary, building and vehicle expenses. Non-solid waste expenses come from the general fund.

During discussion, Bev Graham provided some information from 1991 about the inspector and noted that hiring goes to Personnel. Dale Livingston noted that Zoning Committee is in charge of overseeing the budget.

Motion was made by Dale Livingston and seconded by Mike Specha to recommend to the full Board to allow Solid Waste Department Head, Vince Harris to hire a full time educator and inspector/investigator. Dale Livingston, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha and Chuck Smedley voted in favor with Bev Graham voted no. Motion carried.

*Dale Livingston made a motion to let Vince Harris hire his fulltime educator and inspector/investigator with a second by Mike Specha.* Vicki McMahan discussed that it was her understanding that whoever took over the Solid Waste position was going to function as the investigator/inspector. So that was part of the reason we consolidated it; it was a cost savings. I am wondering why that is being brought up now.

Dale Livingston – I would say it is being brought up now because we knew a little bit about what was going on over there. We did not know a lot, until Vince Harris got over there and could read the delegation agreement and all of it. He has got zoning on his plate. He is probably more of a figurehead to make sure everything is done in that department I would say. And when I talk to people for Vince to go to the job the biggest thing was to find out what was going on over there and then make recommendations. He will take the education too, so there is more than one inspector in the county. The delegation agreement is 16-20 pages and there are all kinds of stipulations and stuff. The money we get back comes from the tipping fees.

Bryan Sharp – Should this go back to personnel in the Executive committee and then to finance to review the salaries.

Vice Chairman Corzine – Well again, in a little bit of an area here that has new light as we shed on our rules, yes it should go back to committee. However, Solid Waste manager has his budget so I would say if somebody - I would entertain a motion if that is the boards feeling to send it back to personnel so be it.

Mike Specha – asked the Vice Chairman if we needed to clear the motion that is on the floor before we take another motion.

Ray Koonce – anything you want to table or forward, its tabled and forwarded. So anything amended supercedes the main motion.

Dale Livingston – In our rules it states in our committee, the Highway Building and Grounds, is to supervise the expenditures for Solid Waste Management Office and to supervise all contracts regarding the operation of solid waste office.

Vice Chairman Corzine – stated I am not a lawyer. It all comes down to interpretation. So, I have a motion and a second and we are discussing. *Ray Koonce made a motion to table this and forward to the Personnel and Executive committee at this time. Vicki McMahon seconded that motion.* With no further discussion, Vice Chairman Corzine called for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Timothy Carlson; Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston (n), Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Clint Epley, (14) aye; (1) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried

## HIGHWAY BUSINESS

### Joint Agreement for federal participation, Locust Bridge #3 (19-07116-00-BR)

Cliff Frye is recommending the County authorize the Chairman to execute the Local Public Agency Agreement for Federal Participation for the Locust Bridge #3 (Section 19-07116-00-BR). This bridge is scheduled for June letting. The project is funded with Federal Funds paying 80%, State Township Bridge Funds paying 16% and the local match is 4% of the project.

Motion by Dale Livingston and seconded by Chuck Smedley to recommend to the full Board to allow Chairman Wells to execute the Local Public Agency Agreement for Federal Participation for Locust Bridge #3, Section Number 19-07116-00-BR.

*Dale Livingston made a motion to fund the Locust Bridge 19-0711600-BR with a second by Chuck Smedley.* With no discussion Vice Chairman Corzine called for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Clint Epley, Timothy Carlson; (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried

### Resolution Appropriating County Bridge Funds for Locust Bridge #3 (Section 19-07116-00-BR)

Cliff presented Resolution #R2022HY004 appropriating \$30,000 from the County Bridge fund to pay the local share of the estimated cost to construct Locust Bridge #3 (Section 19-07116-00-BR).



Motion by Mike Specha and seconded by Thomas Snyder, Jr. to recommend to the full Board to approve Resolution R2022HY004 appropriating funds for Locust Bridge #3 Section 19-07116-00-BR. *Dale Livingston made a motion to approve R2022HY004 with a second by Ken Franklin. With no discussion, Vice Chairman Corzine called for roll.*

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Clint Epley, Timothy Carlson; Craig Corzine, (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried

Cliff informed the committee that two sets of culverts need to be replaced on the Christian/Montgomery County line, North of Harvel. He has discussed the matter with Montgomery County Engineer. Quotes will be requested for the various options to replace these pipes and a cost estimate put together. Once that is determined, each County will be presented with a Joint Agreement that fixes the percentage of the estimated costs to be paid by each County based on the most current equalized assessed valuation.

The old Case CX90 was sold on GovDeals to a dealer in Alabama for \$12,800.00.

#### ANIMAL CONTROL/ZONING BUSINESS

Vince Harris provided an update on the current animal counts/status at animal control. The fencing project at animal control is going well. He will be asking permission later in the meeting to use the courthouse lawn for Dog Days, which is in September.

Vince recommended that the meeting pay for the ZBA be increased from \$40 to \$100 per meeting. There was discussion about this increase related to this year's fiscal budget and if the increase could wait until next year's budget. It was suggested that due to the increase in meetings that the per meeting pay increase now.

Dale Livingston made a motion to increase the ZBA meeting pay to \$100 per meeting and later withdrew the motion as it was brought to the Committee's attention that this item is not on the agenda. The committee inquired if this could be brought up at the County Board meeting under new business.

Vince highlighted the agenda for the April 26 ZBA meeting. He also discussed that the solar project outside of Pana that we have been dealing with for a while is not quite ready but in the meantime is inquiring about another company related project. He advised a company there is no interest in discussion until the other project has received a permit.

He also mentioned again possible battery storage at the power plant and that we have no ordinance in place currently for battery storage.

Draft County Municipal Agreement for Animal Control No discussion or action.

#### REQUEST TO USE COURTHOUSE LAWN – DOG DAYS

Vince Harris advised that he would like permission to use the courthouse lawn on Saturday, September 10, 2022 for the annual Dog Days.

Motion by Thomas Snyder, Jr. and seconded by Dale Livingston to recommend to the full Board to allow the use of the courthouse lawn on Saturday, September 10, 2022 for the annual Dog Days. *Dale Livingston made a motion to allow the use of the courthouse lawn on Saturday September 10, 2022 for Dog Days with a second Mike Specha. With no discussion, Vice Chairman Corzine called for a roll call.*

A roll call vote being called upon polled all ayes.

#### COURT HOUSE AND BUILDING BUSINESS

Bill Kennedy advised that most of the heating system has been converted but are waiting for a couple more valves to complete the work.

The work to address the complaint regarding the floor slope on the third floor has been completed. We are just about ready to do the next stage of the floor reinforcement support work. Not included in this next phase is the south entrance, which will be left for last. Charles Samson will complete the labor for approximately \$25,000.00 with Mr. Kennedy supplying the metal.

Motion by Dale Livingston and seconded by Mike Specha to recommend to the full Board to pay an amount not to exceed \$30,000.00 to Charles Samson for the labor to complete the next phase of the floor reinforcement support project as recommended by the engineer. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried. *Dale Livingston made a motion to pay Charles Samson for labor to complete the next phase of the project with a second by Venise McWard.*

Treasurer Betty Asmussen asked Dale where the funds were being paid. That would need to be included with the motion. Dale Livingston responded yes it would be and he cannot say.

Vice Chairman Corzine stated he thought it would be covered in new business and asked Dale Livingston if he wanted to retract his motion and he did.

Bev Graham asked for updates on several matters involving the courthouse that Courtney Pucetti has been inquiring about and referenced some information noted in a Breeze Courier article from 2020. Mr. Kennedy went into detail of the work done to address concerns and noted the many communications with Courtney about these concerns. He noted that a meeting had been scheduled and for various reasons was canceled.

Thomas Snyder, Jr. inquired about the wire nests previously reported. Bill reported the wire nests previously reported have been corrected.

#### OTHER MATTERS

None

Motion by Chuck Smedley and seconded by Mike Specha to adjourn. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dale Livingston  
Buildings/Highway/Environmental/Zoning  
Welfare Chairman  
04/12/2022

## EXECUTIVE/PERSONNEL/LIQUOR COMMITTEE

April 11, 2022

Present: Craig Corzine, Chairman, Ray Koonce, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp  
Absent: None  
Others present: Matt Wells, Linda Curtin, Bev Graham, Mike Specha, Dale Livingston, Wes Poggenpohl, Betty Asmussen, Jacque Willison, Greg Seiders, Caitlin Sands, Vince Harris, Mike Lanham, Matt Lanham, Lucas Domonowsky and Elizabeth Hile in attendance.

Vice Chairman Corzine asked Ray Koonce to read the minutes because of his other duties for this evening.

The Executive, Personnel, and Liquor Committee met on Monday, April 11, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. in County Board meeting room, second floor of the Christian County Courthouse, Taylorville, Illinois. The purpose of the meeting was to address any agenda items, any personnel issues, policies, and any other matters properly brought before the Committee. Roll call was taken and there was a quorum.

Committee Chairman Corzine thanked former Board member Gene Price for his service to the Board and Committee.

### PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

### LOW INCOME HOUSING ORDINANCE

Supervisor of Assessment provided State Statute information on low income housing ordinance. Chairman Wells wanted to provide this information for the Board to discuss whether to pass an ordinance to opt out of low-income housing or not.

### CARBON CAPTURE AND STORAGE ORDINANCE

Chairman Wells commented that something needs to be in place as something could happen tomorrow. A comment was made about placing a moratorium on this project and whether or not it was something that could be done in by the committee or not.

Chairman Wells noted that any company could pay for a text amendment recommendation and that has to go to the ZBA. Bryan Sharp cited that according to the County Board Rules the committee's responsibility is "to act as liaison between the County Board and the various county officers where county or state rules and regulations are involved". States Attorney Poggenpohl noted that when a recommendation comes from the ZBA, the Board must act. He has been in contact with attorneys and there may not be much of anything that can be done because of the heavy regulation by State, Federal and EPA. Wes recommends that the County consider someone who specializes in these dealings and could have some names and costs in a few days.

Committee Chairman Corzine inquired if this committee could do a 6 to 8 month moratorium or if this should go to the ZBA. States Attorney Poggenpohl could not provide an answer at this time. Chairman Corzine feels something needs to be in place to protect the residents of Christian County.

Motion by Craig Corzine and seconded by Ray Koonce to recommend to the full Board, if the Board can do so, set a 6 month moratorium on this issue and if the full Board cannot pass a 6 month moratorium then to recommend and refer the 6 month moratorium on to the ZBA. Roll call polled all ayes. Motion carried.

Ray Koonce asked the State's Attorney if the board self-impose a moratorium or does it have to go before the ZBA first and then back or can we do it at all.

Wes Poggenpohl – I do not think you people can do it on your own. I have not had time in the last week to fully research the topic so I will have to get back with you.

Vice Chairman Corzine stated he certainly did not think we wanted to act without legal confidence behind us.

Wes Poggenpohl stated it would be a good question to ask to the attorneys he will be speaking about in new business. That maybe a question better positioned for them.

Ray Koonce asked if he would like to refer this back to committee then to give the state's attorney some time to review it.

Dale Livingston – should we make a motion to have our zoning officer contact if we decide to have a new attorney to have him draft a 6 month moratorium. I mean that is what you are asking for is not it.

Ray Koonce – we are asking legal permission if it is legal for the full board to do so.

Dale Livingston – but if the full board directs our zoning officer to do it then it can be directed to the ZBA and we do not have to go through another county meeting. If we hired the legal counsel – do you understand what I am trying to say? Am I saying it right?

Vince Harris – when we had the wind farm moratorium, it was sent to the wrong place. I believe we need to have one drafted and then you people have me draft that or have legal counsel draft it and we would send it on to the ZBA. I believe that is how that should be done.

Dale Livingston – that is what I am saying.

*Ray Koonce made a motion to table and send this to our Personnel committee with a second by Bryan Sharp. Since this is tabled, there was no discussion. Vice Chairman Corzine called for a roll call.*

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston (n), Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Clint Epley, Timothy Carlson; Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, (14) aye; (1) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried

Vince Harris noted that today was the last day to get items on the ZBA agenda.

ELECTED OFFICIALS SALARY ORDINANCE(S)/RESOLUTION(S) TO INCLUDE STIPEND, IF APPLICABLE. (ARPA FUNDS)

Treasurer Asmussen indicated the motions have already been set and ordinances are needed for IMRF.

Ray Koonce made a motion to recommend ordinances based on motions already approved but withdrew his motion as these motions have already passed.

Motion was made by Craig Corzine and seconded by Ray Koonce to go into Closed Session pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (1) ) to discuss appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees and all subject matters relating thereto and to include the following persons to be present during all or part of such executive session namely, all Executive/Personnel committee members in attendance, all County Board members in attendance, Wes Poggenpohl, and Liz Hile.

The Committee went into Closed Session at 7:01 p.m.

The Committee returned to Open Session at 8 p.m. Roll call – Craig Corzine, Ray Koonce, David Puccetti and Bryan Sharp were present.

The Committee took a 5-minute recess.

PERSONNEL AND HIRING

Motion by Bryan Sharp and seconded by David Puccetti to recommend to the full Board to break out the work load on Vince Harris and separate Animal Control on its own, for Chairman Wells to meet with current Animal Control staff to advise on staffing needs and to bring Solid Waste/Zoning back to the court house with the Sheriff's permission. Roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Ray Koonce made a motion to table this back to personnel committee with a seconded by David Puccetti. With no discussion, Vice Chairman Corzine called for a roll call.*

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Clint Epley, Timothy Carlson; Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried

Motion by Ray Koonce and seconded by Bryan Sharp to recommend to the full Board to allow Vince Harris to hire, Educator, and secretary at Solid Waste and to forward the salary range for the Educator to the Finance Committee. Roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

Ray Koonce asked if we should wait for Finance and Vice Chairman Corzine stated yes.

Motion by Ray Koonce and seconded by Craig Corzine to recommend to the full Board for Chairman Wells to discuss with staff additional staffing needed and to bring those recommendations back to the Personnel Committee. Roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

Ray Koonce stated that this would go back to us so he did not think we needed to take action.

## PREMIUM PAY

Treasurer Asmussen noted that premium pay, bonus pay, etc., had been brought up several times and she was bringing it back again. She advised that ARPA funds could allow premium pay for employees and read the U.S. Treasury's definition. She noted many other counties have changed their mind and are now paying premium pay to their employees. She tailored a cost spreadsheet off the criteria recently passed by the City of Taylorville and used a premium pay figure of \$2250 for each full time employee who met the qualifying criteria.

Motion by Ray Koonce and seconded by Bryan Sharp to approve Treasurer Asmussen's recommendation and to refer to the Finance Committee for review. Roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

The committee asked the Treasurer to also work numbers up for part time employees.

## PERSONNEL HANDBOOK

Chairman Corzine indicated that the continuation of the Employee Handbook will be delayed until next month.

## TIME CARD REPORT

The Committee asked that a report be provided of the departments that are not providing attendance records for payroll.

Liz Hile advised that for some departments the process that is being done has been done this way for many years. The coroner for example, which is one department that a payroll report only is received, is aware of when the deputy coroners go out and keeps track of those times. No individual attendance records for verification is provided as a result and she has never been advised that to do anything otherwise. At the Sheriff's department, the attendance records for the deputies and jailers are kept in house and not provided with payroll. Attendance records for the Sheriff's office and part time staff is received part of the time. Highway is hit and miss for being turned in with payroll and probation has made adjustments to get there sheets turned in for verification. The committee questioned why sheets are not turned in timely and what needs to be done for departments to be in compliance.

## ETHICS COMMISSION

As discussed in the review of the Personnel Handbook, a policy recommendation indicated the need for an Ethics Officer. The committee asked for the names of the Ethics Commission be reviewed. The current Ethics Commission appointed in 2021 is Mark Smith, Laura Wilkerson and Seth McMillan.

Motion was made by Ray Koonce and seconded by Craig Corzine to recommend to the full Board to allow Chairman Wells to make an Ethic Officer appointment. Roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Ray Koonce made a motion to allow Chairman Wells to make an appointment for an Ethic Officer with a seconded by Linda Curtin. With no discussion, Vice Chairman Corzine called for a roll call.*

Liz Hile - Chairman Wells talked to Seth McMillan and Seth believes the Ethics commission is in charge of hearing any of those claims and per say specifics an ethics officer would not be needed. We are going to look into that more.

Vice Chairman Corzine stated we are going to continue to vote this way and if Chairman WELls needs permission to do so, he has it. A roll call vote being called upon polled all ayes.

#### UCCI CONFERENCE

Committee Chairman Corzine provided notice of the UCCI Conference in Washington, D.C. May 9, 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>. UCCI will reimburse up to \$3000 for one Board member to attend and up to \$3500 for two or more members to attend.

#### OTHER MATTERS

Bryan Sharp noted that in 2018 the full Board approved ZBA appointments for 3-year terms but those terms somehow became 5-year terms. He cannot find when the terms went to 5 years and was told that two previous chairs just did it. It was suggested that the County Clerk research this matter.

Ray Koonce noted that there was no quorum for the 708 Mental Health Board tonight. He would like to present an ARPA fund request next month for funding for Safe Passages and Drug Court/Mental Health next month.

Motion by Ray Koonce and seconded by David Puccetti to adjourn. All were in favor. Motion carried

Respectfully submitted,

Craig Corzine, Chairman  
Executive/Personnel Committee  
04/11/2022

David Puccetti made a motion to adjourn for a 5-minute recess with a second by Vicki McMahon. With no discussion, Vice Chairman Corzine called for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled all ayes. Meeting adjourned for 5 minutes at 7:30 pm

Vice Chairman Corzine called the meeting back to order

## **AUDIT/FINANCE/PURCHASING/BUDGET COMMITTEE**

**April 13, 2022**

Present: Venise McWard, Chairman, Ken Franklin, Linda Curtin, Vicki McMahon, Tim Carlson  
Absent: None  
Others present: Matt Wells, Dale Livingston, Betty Asmussen, Jacque Willison, Bruce Kettelkamp, Vince Harris, Jeff Stoner, Courtney Sharp, Mary Rhodes, Michelle Brown, Kim Jones and Elizabeth Hile.

The Audit/Finance/Purchasing/Budget Committee met on Wednesday, April 13, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. at the Christian County Courthouse, Taylorville, Illinois. The purpose of the meeting was to address agenda items and any other matters properly brought before the committee. Roll call was taken and there was a quorum.

### **EMA ARPA FUND REQUEST**

EMA Director, Jeff Stoner, reviewed costs for communication improvements that he is asking authorization for use of ARPA Funds. He indicated the problem with the current communication situation is that the majority of the departments in the County are not digital. The estimated \$276,572.00 costs are for equipment and related fees for the next 4 years. After 4 years, the departments in the County would have the responsibility of maintaining the related fees or they could opt out at that time.

### **CLAIMS**

A motion was made by Vicki McMahon and seconded by Linda Curtin to recommend to the full Board to approve the claims presented for April. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Venise McWard made a motion to approve the claims as presented for April with a seconded by Mr. Livingston. With no discussion Vice Chairman Corzine called for a roll call.*

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Clint Epley, Timothy Carlson; Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.



#### ADDITIONAL JAILER

Sheriff Kettelkamp noted during the FY2022 budget hearings, Jail Administrator Cecil Polley had originally asked for two additional jailers but thought he could get by with one for this fiscal year and ask for the second additional jailer next year. However, after looking at staffing and how he wants the staff supervised, he would like approval to hire the second additional jailer now. Sheriff Kettelkamp advised they had received \$62,000 from IDOC. He also noted the starting salary for a correctional officer is \$39,640.00 with the salary increase to \$54,439.00 at the end of 4 years. Chairman Wells also reminded the Committee that a consultant recently advised hiring additional correctional staff was the best way to reduce liability at the jail.

#### IMRF ACCELERATED RATE

County Clerk Chief Deputy, Courtney Sharp, provided information regarding IMRF accelerated rates because of increases of 6% or more which occur in the retirement calculation period. When this happens, the Employer has not provided enough pension funding. Even when the increases are a result of a qualifying exemption, the employer still pays but pays in the form of increased employer rates for a few years. In situations where there is not a qualifying exemption, the employer must pay those costs plus any interest.

The County has two prior accelerated rate denials that were completed by the prior Chief Deputy Clerk whereby they were not carefully reviewed. In one of those denials, we have Requested a hearing because there should have been a partial qualifying exemption that would reduce the amount owed. That particular claim is approximately \$16,500.00. If we are successful in the hearing, the amount owed will be reduced. There were no qualifying exemptions for the other previously denied claim totaling approximately \$6,400.00.

The County recently received another accelerated rate notice of which part of that claim totaling \$9,400.00 should be approved for a qualifying exemption, which would reduce the total cost owed.

Courtney noted that the Treasurer Asmussen advised there is plenty of IMRF reserve funds available and she would recommend paying the full cost to avoid additional interest expenses. IMRF confirmed that if the full amounts are paid and hearing results in a decrease in funds owed, that portion would be refunded.

Motion by Vickie McMahon and seconded by Linda Curtin to recommend to the full Board to pay, from the IMRF reserve fund, up to \$32,300 plus interest for IMRF accelerated rate claims with any reimbursements going back into the IMRF reserve fund. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Venise McWard made a motion to approve to pay the accelerated rate claims from the IMRF reserve fund with a seconded by Bryan Sharp. With no discussion, Vice Chairman Corzine called for a roll call.*

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Clint Epley, Timothy Carlson; Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried

## WINDOWS COURT HOUSE

Chairman Wells advised that Bill Kennedy is working on this.

## CAT ROOM BIDS

Vince Harris advised that the project is \$34,000.00 short on funds to build this room and would like to request the use of ARPA funds to complete this project.

## SURVEY RECORDS

Chairman Wells advised that the DeLay family would give the County an opportunity to buy their father's survey records before they left the County. A member of the DeLay family reached out by letter advising the family wanted to donate Dappert's original surveying instruments used to survey the county and also advised \$120,000.00 would purchase all the survey records. While the family also included information on whether or not these records could be subject to FOIA, that still remains a big concern.

Motion by Ken Franklin and seconded by Vicki McMahon to provide the quote for the survey records to the full Board for review. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

Venise McWard stated she would like to move this to new business.

## REFERRALS FROM OTHER COMMITTEES

Treasurer Asmussen reviewed the language in the U.S. Treasury's final rule as well as a spreadsheet she developed that was tailored from the specifications recently passed by the City of Taylorville. The criteria used to determine eligibility was employees who worked during the period of March 2020 through December 31, 2020, who were full time employees and who are currently employed. The Executive/Personnel Committee also asked her to do another spreadsheet to include part time staff.

Treasurer Asmussen advised that the majority of counties have changed their position on premium pay and are now paying it. She asked the Committee to keep an open mind on providing premium pay to the County employees.

Motion by Ken Franklin and seconded by Vicki McMahon to review ARPA as a whole and bring back a list of projects to the Committee in June. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

## SALARY RANGE FOR EDUCATOR – SOLID WASTE

Vince Harris advised that his recommendation for the salary range for a full time educator would be \$36,000 to \$38,000. This position is vacant because of a retirement. The Committee discussed the need for a job description.

Motion by Ken Franklin and seconded by Vicki McMahon to recommend to the full Board to refer the matter of developing a job description to the Personnel Committee. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

## OTHER MATTERS

None

Motion by Tim Carlson and seconded by Vicki McMahon to adjourn. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Venise McWard  
Finance/Audit/Purchasing/Budget  
Committee Chairwoman  
04/13/2022

## NEW BUSINESS/OLD BUSINESS/OTHER

Vice Chairman Corzine - Chairman Wells wanted you to be advised under new business that the Supreme Court has ruled effective April 12 that the probation officer and two supervisors are to be increased in pay by 11 percent. The problem is we already passed a budget for that. So the Supreme Court passed a law for us to break a law. Now, he talked to the probation officer and she thinks since she only has one supervisor that there is enough money in her budget to do that but he is going to look into that first. Just purely to let you all know what was going on there.

- Pattern Energy – no one here to speak
- Health, Vision, Dental Insurance Renewal Bid- July 1 benefit year– Chairman Wells was approached by someone who would like to bid that. That, as he stated to me, did not really see any need to do that on that portion, as we are past the period for that so it would not take into effect essentially by the time it made it through committee and we took bids.
- Liability, Property and Auto Renewal Bid – December 1 plan year – those are December 1 start. January 1 he advised we might want to look into – the right thing to do would be to accept bids on that from anyone obviously prefer within the county. We should open up for bidding when that time comes.
- Carbon Pipeline Concerns - Pam Richart and Lan Richart and Richard Stucky by telephone –members of the Coalition to Stop CO2 Pipelines. They addressed the board with a power point presentation that can be viewed in the County Clerk’s office if a person would like to obtain a copy.

Good Evening  
Mr. Chairman  
Members of the Board

Thank you for giving us an opportunity to speak before you this evening.

My name is Lan Richart

I am an ecologist and Co-Director of the Eco-Justice Collaborative in Champaign, IL. ECJ is a non-profit environmental advocacy group working to educate and amplify the voice of the public in environmental policy and decision-making.

I am joined this evening by Pam Richart, a land use and environmental planner a Co-Director of EJC, and by Mr. Richard Stuckey, member of SOIL, save our Illinois Land, a non-profit coalition of community members and landowners across the state that is concerned about the impact of pipeline infrastructure in Illinois. Mr. Stuckey will be joining us via telephone.

In full transparency, we are part of a growing coalition to stop CO2 pipelines. We believe that these pipelines are part of a costly and inefficient approach to address climate change. They take away property rights, damage farmland, and have long-term safety and liability issues that have been understated by their proponents.

Navigator CO2 Ventures, a Limited Liability Corporation from Houston TX, who along with Tenaska Energy and their financial partners is proposing to construct a 1300-mile pipeline that each year would transport up to 15 million tons of high pressure CO2 from ethanol and fertilizer plants in a five state area. The plan is to inject all of this underground in Christian County.

Relatively few CO<sub>2</sub> pipelines have been constructed in the U.S. The record of accomplishment for assessing their long-term impacts and operational safety is very short. While we have been told that the geology under east-central Illinois is ideal for permanently storing massive amounts of CO<sub>2</sub> underground, the record of accomplishment for that also is very short. What we do know is that there are many impacts to consider and many uncertainties.

Short-term, there is a lot of federal money available if construction can be completed quickly. Much money to be made. But long-term, it is the people of central Illinois who will bear most of the cost and liability. Land taken through eminent domain, soils and drainage damaged by construction, the cost of being prepared for emergency services in the event of a pipeline leak? What happens after years of injecting millions of tons of high pressure CO<sub>2</sub> into Christian County? Will it stay in the ground? Who will bear the liability if something goes wrong?

Carbon capture and sequestration is an expensive, impactful and highly technical process, one carrying long-term responsibilities. Our message tonight is simple. Whether you ultimately accept or oppose this project, take time to be fully informed. Take time to be fully prepared. And do not just take our word or the word of those who have financial incentives to proceed. The decisions you make and the actions you take will live long after Navigator, Tenaska and all of their investors are gone.

I am now going to turn this over to Mr. Stucky. He is going to talk about the nature of CO<sub>2</sub> pipelines and how they differ from oil and gas lines. But before he begins, I want to take you all to the Website of DNV Corporation. DNV is an independent and internationally recognized industrial testing and risk management company headquartered in Norway.

#### Christian County Board

Good evening. I am Rick Stuckey and I am here to go over some of the technical considerations that affect safety of CO<sub>2</sub> pipelines.

In order to transport CO<sub>2</sub> efficiently in pipelines it is compressed to a pressure of at least 1072 psi when it becomes a supercritical fluid.

Supercritical fluids have characteristics of both a liquid and a gas. Supercritical CO<sub>2</sub> has a higher diffusivity, lower viscosity and lower surface tension.

It is about as dense as water and is a great solvent, particularly for hydrocarbons which makes it good for enhanced Oil recovery. It also dissolves commonly used components of valves.

In the presence of water it turns into carbonic acid which rapidly corrodes steel pipes

If the pressure is reduced it turns back into a gas at a much larger volume

#### **SLIDE #6**

Now we'll look at why Navigator is not like other CO<sub>2</sub> pipelines

CO<sub>2</sub> pipelines get most of their CO<sub>2</sub> from a single source, either an underground volcanic dome or an industrial plant.

They transport it to a single point, usually a depleted oil well  
Navigator is larger in diameter than all but one existing pipeline

Navigator is three times as long as any existing pipeline

Navigator will have 20 intermittent sources of CO<sub>2</sub>. Any of which can go offline without warning.

This makes managing the operations difficult. Keeping the pressure high can be a problem

All pipelines leak eventually, but CO<sub>2</sub> pipeline leaks are much more dangerous than oil or gas pipelines leaks. They happen suddenly with no warning and are very violent.

#### **SLIDE 7**

Because of the phase change from liquid to gas that occurs when pressure is released the pipelines are subject to running ductile fractures. Basically, they unzip and the ruptures become very large very quickly and leak out all the liquid between the adjacent valves or beyond if the valves are not closed immediately.

In the demonstration we showed you an 8 inch pipe with the equivalent of 3 miles between valves burst.

Navigator's mainline pipeline is a 24 inch pipeline and the distance between valves is 30 miles in some cases. The volume of a Navigator pipeline burst could be 90 times larger than what you saw in the demo. The plume could easily spread for over a mile

#### **SLIDE #8**

With so much at risk you'd think that there would be lots of regulations in place, but CO<sub>2</sub> pipelines of this scale are so new there are no regulations developed specifically for them.

The Pipeline Hazardous Materials Safety Administration has exclusive responsibility for design, construction and operations standards for all pipelines. But they have not developed any standards for them yet. They said to use the natural gas standards, but they are not adequate.

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission has national responsibility for natural gas pipelines but they have decided that their mandate does not cover CO<sub>2</sub> pipelines.

The State of Illinois has one CO<sub>2</sub> law on its books. It fails to address many important issues such as core ownership and trading, amalgamation of pores, ownership of sequestered CO<sub>2</sub> and liabilities for damages caused by CO<sub>2</sub> during and after sequestration and removal of pipes and equipment at end of life.

And closer to home, most counties, townships, etc. do not have ordinances on their books to deal with CO<sub>2</sub> pipelines as a special use, establish regulations for setbacks or deal with safety responsibilities.

Although PHMSA has sole responsibility for safety of the pipeline it does not deal with the safety issues in preparation for an accident or dealing with the aftermath. The bottom line is that the legal and technical foundations for a large-scale carbon capture transportation and sequestration are not in place.

## **SLIDE #9**

The Pipeline Safety Trust recently issued a major report on CO<sub>2</sub> pipeline safety.

My friend Richard Kuprewics wrote the report and we will send copies for all board members.

His conclusion after addressing the many issues involved with CO<sub>2</sub> pipelines only a few of which we have covered this evening is that "The country is ill prepared for the increase of CO<sub>2</sub> pipeline mileage being driven by federal Carbon Capture and Sequestration policy.

There are major gaps in technical knowledge and standards as well as fundamental legal issues. Until they are addressed, it is premature and dangerous to proceed with installation of CO<sub>2</sub> pipelines.

You can go to this website yourself. Google DNV CO<sub>2</sub> Leak or use the abbreviated link [bit.ly/CO2Leak](http://bit.ly/CO2Leak)

One of the messages frequently conveyed about CO<sub>2</sub> pipelines is that CO<sub>2</sub> is nothing more than the air we breath out. It's the air plants use to grow. In fact the Navigator fact sheet says "it is the same thing that puts the fizz in your soda."

This video shows an independent test of the rupture of an eight inch, buried, dense phase carbon dioxide pipeline. A smaller version of the pipeline that will pass within a mile of over 50 residences in Christian County.

## **SLIDE 10 - SATARTIA**

On the evening of February 22, 2020, a CO<sub>2</sub> pipeline ruptured near the small town of Satartia, MS. The first call came into the County's Emergency management Agency at about 7:15 pm, as people reported a dense fog surrounding the area, dizziness, difficulty breathing. Some people passed out in their homes. Cars and trucks failed to run, because the motors stopped. Emergency responders had no training for such an event.

## **SLIDE 11**

It was later reported that heavy rains had caused soil movement that stressed the 24-inch CO<sub>2</sub> pipeline, causing it to rupture and release high pressure gas into the rural area. The CO<sub>2</sub> gas spread over a mile. By the time the night was over, nearly 300 people had been evacuated, with 49 hospitalized.

## **SLIDE 12**

Carbon dioxide makes up just 0.04 % of the ambient air we breathe. When released in high concentrations from a blowout such as this, carbon dioxide spreads to low lying areas, displaces ambient oxygen, and becomes an asphyxiant. CO<sub>2</sub> pipelines have no alarms, so damage can be done before anyone is alerted.

Dr. Ted Schettler of the Science and Environmental Health Network has noted that:

- At concentrations of 2% CO<sub>2</sub> - breathing becomes rapid
- At concentrations of 5% breathing becomes distressed
- At concentrations from 7 to 10% humans can lose consciousness
- At greater than 10% convulsions, coma and death can occur within minutes.

Clearly this is no longer the fizz in your soda.

**SLIDE 13**

How Close is the Pipeline to Homes in Christian County?

**SLIDE 14**

This is a slide showing Christian County.  
The red line is the centerline of the pipeline corridor  
The yellow pins are residences.  
Over 50 lie within one mile of the pipeline.

**SLIDE 15**

Approximately 12 residences lie within 250 yards of the alignment

**SLIDE 16**

Under its current alignment, the pipeline is approximately:  
1.35 miles from Edinburg  
4.0 miles from Taylorville

**SLIDE 17**

What is needed to Protect Christian County Residents?

**SLIDE 18**

Emergency Response Plan.

1. Dispersion modeling of the CO<sub>2</sub> plume in order to understand safe setbacks from sensitive sites
2. A coordinated Interagency Action Plan, so the sheriff, EMS and hospitals are working together
3. An alarm system to alert residents in the event of a rupture.
4. Training for emergency medical professionals and emergency room employees
5. Electric vehicles. Internal combustion engines do not run in a high CO<sub>2</sub> environment
6. Respirators, oxygen tanks and self contained breathing apparatus.

Pam Richart, "text"  
April 19 2022 County Board Meeting  
Hazards of CO<sub>2</sub> Pipelines and CCS

**SLIDE 19**

**Concerns related to carbon sequestration**

Now let's move into sequestration. Once the CO<sub>2</sub> is captured compressed, and transported, it will be injected into wells a mile or more underground.

The expectation is that the CO<sub>2</sub> will remain trapped beneath the caprock and begin to dissolve and mineralize.

**SLIDE 20**



BUT... supercritical CO<sub>2</sub> can be more buoyant than other liquids present in the the pore space - and by that, I mean - the underground storage area.  
This means the CO<sub>2</sub> will migrate upwards until it reaches - and is trapped by - an impermeable layer of cap-rock.

However, if that cap is fractured, the gas can:

- Contaminate aquifers
- Stunt crop growth because of elevated CO<sub>2</sub> in the soil.
- Release CO<sub>2</sub> back into the atmosphere
- 

Also, as this slide shows, both active and abandoned wells can be pathways of CO<sub>2</sub> leakage.

### **SLIDE 21**

This aquifer is the primary source of water for six communities in Christian County, including Taylorville.

Concerns over CO<sub>2</sub> migrating into aquifers are real, and have been studied for decades.

When CO<sub>2</sub> reacts with water it forms carbonic acid. This can cause heavy metals to leach out of sand and rock, potentially releasing them in concentrations that would pose a health risk.

### **SLIDE 22**

This slide shows the relationship between the five injection wells and the aquifer. It appears that at least one well, and POSSIBLY two, would be located over it.

Do I know whether any of these wells will be defective, or that a fracture in the cap will go undetected? No. But perhaps, because of the risk, siting two over an aquifer that supplies drinking water to so many in the County is not the most suitable location for injection wells

### **SLIDE 23**

Here are two examples where methane has leaked into wells or aquifers and contaminated groundwater.

The first took place in Livingston and LaSalle Counties. Methane stored by NICOR migrated above the cap-rock 25 years ago. It has affected 350 wells. The methane continues to be released to this day, damaging farm fields and contaminating drinking water.

Similarly, methane stored by People's Gas under the Mahomet aquifer, near where I live, moved above the cap rock and contaminated drinking water. Now, the state is working to find a way to connect residences in the impacted gas field to a new water supply.

The point of these two examples is that gas WAS able to move through undetected fractures of cap-rock, contaminating water.

### **SLIDE 24**

Wastewater injection associated with fracking has been linked to earthquakes. This slide shows that the number of earthquakes with a magnitude of 3 or greater in central and eastern U.S. has increased by nearly 40%. The data shows that this increase is attributable to wastewater injection in Oklahoma and Kansas.

The National Academy of Sciences claims CCS has an even larger potential to induce earthquakes. This is because the volume of injected fluids will be larger; take place over longer periods of time; and occur under higher pressure.

Researches from Stanford have expressed concern that induced earthquakes COULD be large enough to break-the-seal-Q-areseryojr, and release C02 in volumes large enough to cause harm.

While it is true that ADM is sequestering C02 without incident in Decatur, the scale of their project is just 3% of what is being planned by Navigator.

## **SLIDE 25**

### **Adopt a Moratorium on C02 pipelines and CCS**

## **SLIDE 26**

The mad-dash to build out these pipelines and sequestration of C02 is being carried out while many questions exist, and funding for research and demonstration activities is ongoing. But maybe it's time to slow things down.

- Christian County does not have any codes or ordinances that regulate the transport, monitoring, or public safety associated with either C02 pipelines or sequestration
- The state has the responsibility to regulate ownership of pore space, decommissioning of the pipelines, and address liabilities for damages - but has not yet done it
- The County Board needs time to work with local units of government and emergency responders to determine how the proposed pipeline and sequestration area will affect residents, farmers, local businesses, farms, etc., , and then develop codes and ordinances and emergency response plans

### **In addition to a moratorium:**

- Consider going to court and asking the Illinois Commerce Commission for a stay
- Consider intervening with the ICC

## **QUESTIONS ?**

Pamela J. Richart, Co-Director

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# Accufacts Inc.

"Clear Knowledge in the Over Information Age"

## Accufacts' Perspectives on the State of Federal Carbon Dioxide Transmission Pipeline Safety Regulations as it Relates to Carbon Capture, Utilization, and Sequestration within the U.S.

prepared for the

### Pipeline Safety Credible.

 Independent.

TRUST In the public interest. <http://www.pstrust.org/>

by

Richard B. Kuprewicz President, Accufacts  
Inc. [kuprewicz@comcast.net](mailto:kuprewicz@comcast.net)

March 23, 2022

This report is developed from information clearly in the public domain. The views expressed in this document represent the opinion of the author.

Vince asked for a copy of slides to be emailed to him as well.

Vice Chairman Corzine – thank you very much and I want to remind everybody that we did ask Vince to prepare or address moratorium to the ZBA and I am sure they will have public hearings accordingly that everybody will have their time to ask plenty of questions at that time.

- Low income housing ordinance – Mr. Chad Coady stated the state passed an amendment to an ordinance they have that would allow low-income housing to be built with a preferential assessment. Christian County already has the pilot programming which is a payment in lieu of taxes. We have 45 new homes going up. We have 126 properties that are in this pilot program. The bill that was passed by the state – it is intensive. It last for up to 30 years and it has a graduated scale and it has a lot of – a lot of details that are not worked out. Basically, the properties would need to be inspected to show they are up to code. Then the applicants would have to be – show they qualify for the low-income housing. Like I said we already have Section 8 housing, the pilot program and this would be another one thrown into the mix. It does not really allow us to determine to approve or deny. If they meet the standards, they are able to build these low-income housing units. Which would be a third tier on top of the other ones we already have. It would reduce the amount of – it would increase tax burden on taxpayers in the county because it would be decreasing the assessed values of these properties. Then new properties would need to be – as I said guaranteed that they are following the building codes and we do not have a county building code inspector. We would need documentation from anyone who qualifies for the program, show rental income including income base rental subsidies they get. So it is a lot of – basically it would be a beauracracy nightmare. If we didn't already have these programs in place that were set up by the county, I can see where it wouldn't be as big of an issue, but we already have our own low income housing payment in lieu of taxes set up. The bill states that the county just has to adopt an ordinance to opt out of the program and they can revisit it at any time to get back into it. Like I said we already have - the page I passed out shows the low-income housing site – it is already under construction and adjoins the ones already built. Several of the buildings already in the pilot program are large high-rise apartments that have high occupancy. We also have low-income housing for seniors. My opinion we already have enough of these and the way this one is written. There is 16 additional pages that I do not have time to go over the approval process. It is just a lot for the county to take on in addition to the ones we already have.

Vice Chairman Corzine – If I understand you correctly, we have to pass an ordinance to opt out.

Chad – Correct.

Vice Chairman Corzine – *made a motion to send this back to our personnel committee with Dale Livingston seconded that motion.* With no discussion, Vice Chairman Corzine called for a roll call. A roll call vote being called upon polled all ayes. Motion carried

- EMA Car – just an update. I think everybody knows we had to move forward with getting a vehicle out of the area for a time factor. And since we went out of state to get that vehicle they would not accept our old one nor on trade. So Chairman Wells was just going to advise everyone later that he is going to talk to Cliff about selling that on the government surplus gov.deals. Dale Livingston made a motion to instruct Chairman Wells to sell the

old EMA car on gov.deal with a second by Clint Epley. After no discussion, Vice Chairman Corzine called for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Timothy Carlson; Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahan, Venise McWard, (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried

- Stump Removal – Southeast corner Court House Lawn – Chairman Wells wanted everyone to know that he is going to be accepting bids to do so. He will be bringing that to the Building and Grounds committee next month.
- ZBA Recommendation Meteorological Tower Text Amendment – Vince do you have anything to add.

Vince – After we talked about this, we were driving down to look at a dog and found a MET tower out in the middle of the field. Nobody called me. Nobody said anything about it to me and worst of all we did not get any money for that MET Tower. So I think this ordinance needs to be passed. I know that there is some issues with the fee on this. I think we need to pass this tonight and then we can change the fee as you so see fit. But I do believe there is a call for this ordinance and we can address it after the vote tonight because of that situation.

Dale Livingston – right now, as I understand it nobody has to call if they want to put up a tower. Nobody has to notify anybody because it is considered temporary is that correct.

Vince – It is a temporary tower and that is in the zoning code from the state. I think it is 55 ILCS something like that but I have it in my office if anybody would like to look at that.

Dale Livingston – so if we pass this one and we are not happy with the fee we can

Vince – we can put a text amendment in to change the fee – that is not an issue.

Dale Livingston – then if somebody puts one in in the meantime at least

Vince – at least we are getting the \$200 bucks.

Vice Chairman Corzine – stated we do not need to get into too much discussion, we do not have a motion on the table but I will tell you Chairman Wells wanted to pass along it is a definite concern with a recent inquiry about another company coming into the area. It could possibly be very soon some more towers put up for information purposes obviously. So to Vince's point, we need something in place because right now they could come and put one right beside my house. We have nothing to regulate that. We put this in place; we have an ordinance for this temporary tower. Again, I agree, the fees need to be looked at and we could make a text amendment to do so.

*Brian Sharp made a motion to send it back through to Personnel/Executive before the board approves with Ray Koonce seconded that motion. Dale Livingston stated he thinks we would be better off if we were protected a little bit at least know where they are.*

Venise McWard – does the ordinance include the current tower you witnessed?

Vince – no, because it is already up.

Clint Epley – asked exactly where this was?

Vince – stated it was over by Rosamond.

Clint – stated those have been up for a long time.

Vince – not that long. We have been driving by Rosamond check on some dogs.

Clint – They have been up for a couple of years now.

Vince – I am going to have to respectfully disagree with you.

Clint – stated okay that is fine. They have been by Pana and Rosamond for two or three years now.

Vice Chairman Corzine – there has been some up in the Assumption area and some taken back down.

Vince – This one was new one as far as I was concerned. I did not ever see it. We drove up and down that road several times and then we went back, to check on some dogs and it was there.

Vicki McMahon – asked if Vince knew who owned them.

Vince – stated no he did not look. He just saw it and we have not been back to check on who owns that.

Bryan Sharp – this is a new proposal? Has this been anywhere else?

Vince – this document we are discussing now.

Bryan – Yes

Vince – it was read in my committee, and it was read at the full board and then the full board recommended it be sent to the ZBA. ZBA seen it and now we have brought it back to the full board for review.

Bryan – I do not know if I have seen this.

Vicki McMahon – I apologize for this - how long ago was this? Because I do not remember seeing this.

Vince – last month. It went to the ZBA this month, so potentially it would have been two months ago. I am sorry. It went through committee. It would have been back in February.

I would say personally, I am only one vote, I always have the utmost respect for the ZBA puts in a lot of time in, they have the hearings, I respect what they do and I kind of use that, that's what I go with. They recommend something to us, it has been through the process, and I am okay with it. Here again, I do not think the fees are enough but we can address that. I do think there is a need to get something done but we have a motion on the floor and a second to send it back to committee. After no further discussion, Vice Chairman Corzine called for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Timothy Carlson; Craig Corzine (n), Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin (n), Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston (n), Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, (12) aye; (3) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

- ZBA Meeting Pay – Obviously, we need to go through committee to take action. I think it needs to be looked at because ZBA does put in a lot of time. *Ray Koonce made a motion to send it to Finance with Bryan Sharp seconded the motion.* After no discussion, Vice Chairman Corzine called for a roll call. A roll call vote being called upon polled all ayes. Motion carried.
- 911 ARPA Fund request – Amy asked for \$1205. Obviously, this has to be in the form of an Ordinance so Vice Chairman Corzine made a motion to send this to Personnel committee and we will go through the process. Ray Koonce seconded that motion. After no discussion, Vice Chairman Corzine called for a roll call. A roll call vote was called upon and polled all ayes. Motion carried.
- Floor Support Project – the \$30,000 and where that money was going to come from. Vice Chairman Corzine stated for the laborers to complete the next phase of the floor support in the Courthouse, we could use ARPA Funds for that. Of course, that again is an Ordinance and needs to go through our Personnel committee to visit that. *Vice Chairman Corzine made a motion to go through the process and back to Personnel with a second by Thomas Snyder Jr.* After no discussion, Vice Chairman Corzine called for a roll call. A roll call vote being called upon polled all ayes. Motion carried.
- County Board Rules - Mike Specha stated - in our last meeting, or one of our meetings, there was certainly some confusion about our 10 percent rule, and we passed rules of order for the Christian County Board members at our March 2021 meeting and I would like to make a motion to amend in the personnel section, Item I under elected officers which the county board sets the salaries. Mike Specha asked Liz to pass out a document stating the change he is proposing. *He asked to make a motion to consider adopting this change into those rules.* Vice Chairman Corzine asked Mike Specha if he thought everyone understood the the motion he was making. . Mike Specha stated he was not certain but he would read what he is proposing:

The minutes from our, not minutes, our actual rules of order for Christian County Board Members has sections. In the Personnel section of Item I, currently says and I am reading it right out of the minutes. I. Elected officer holders of which the county board sets Salaries: If an elected office holder chooses not to run for their position, the board shall reduce the starting salary of that position by 10%. The elected position are as follows: defined as Sheriff, Circuit Clerk, County Clerk, Treasurer, Supervisor of Assessment and

Coroner. My amendment to this would include words I have in parenthesis, which would say an elected office holder parenthetically; this would also include any appointed office holder appointed to fill the remaining term of an elected office holder if appointment was for a minimum of 365 days. So I am amending the definition of an elected office holder by this amendment.

*Ray Koonce seconded that motion.* If the board does decide to pass this, I believe we will have to look at revisiting the ordinances that we just passed to make sure they coincide with each other. That is all I have.

Ken Franklin – So this did not really change the intent of the rule it is just clarifying the appointed and being elected and put it in the same category

Dale Livingston – if they are appointed for more than a year, is that correct? They would not get 10 percent – if they were appointed for more than a year, the 10 percent rule would not be in effect.

Mike Specha – if they are appointed for less than a year the 10 percent would go into effect. It was my understanding that our original intent was to provide for experience and the intent being if two brand new folks ran for an elected office that salary would be reduced 10 percent. If experience was our motivation, I think we left a loophole and that loophole is we have an appointed person inadvertently made an experience step to find us for 4 years. It would seem to me that if a person is appointed and serves a sufficient of time then the experience factor, which was our motivation, should be covered by recognizing that experience. The reason for 365 days was to avoid possibility of an elected official the week before the end of the term deciding to resign and then we have to deal with a 10 percent issue for a one week appointed official. 365 is not arbitrary but I felt that was sufficient time to get behind the experience factor. That is the motivation behind it.

Vice Chairman Corzine commented to the board is my concern being is we have had those incidents and nothing has been done out of turn. But people running because they know they can be reelected knowing they are not going to stay in that position. I do not think that is ethically right but that is the game and how it is played. I agree with the whole thing the 10 percent. I believe experience is worth something and I think that was the intent. After no further discussion, Vice Chairman Corzine called for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Timothy Carlson; Craig Corzine Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

- The Landing – she was unable to speak to us this evening.
- Survey records – Vice Chairman Corzine asked Venise if she had anything to add to that. He stated I just know in talking to the Chairman, there is a definite concern. Would we love to have those records, absolutely? That is a lot of money and in the view of several, that is a big liability. It is 18 file cabinets worth of records. And then the factor on the liability side of that information can be foiaed as we understand. That is going to take a lot of time obviously, if there is a request for some information. So I do not know if we need to do anything with that.



Venise – I just want to say it is a wealth of information. They have all that information of the county. It would be ashame. I understand it can be foiaed. I do not know if we would have to have an extra person in Jacque's office just to handle foia requests. Ken might speak a little more to it since him -

Ken Franklin – I think the intent of the motion was to bring it before the full board. The finance committee certainly shared some of the concerns Craig posed here with the foia requests. Great information – loved to have it in the county. From my perspective it is probably best suited for a library, historical society. I don't know if the county courthouse is the place for it.

Venise noted that Kent Delay is here as well.

Kent Delay – my dad's records go back to the original land surveyor that laid out Christian County, Boyd Dappert. And then Boyd Dappert Jr was a surveyor. They also set the prime meridian in another state. My parents sent that information there. Not only are there filing cabinets but also about 1300 field books. They go back to the late 1800's. There is also drainage records telling you where the tiles are so if you get flooded or you are having problems with your fields those records are there. This is the only set of records at some point in time you have the option of paying a fee to have your records recorded at the courthouse. A lot of people elected not to pay that fee and therefore they were not filed at the courthouse. So, these records are very historical but they are also the sedge way to laying out a subdivision or surveying fields or – it shows where the markers are. Some of them are stones 3 feet deep. Yes, we would love to have – they need to stay in the county because they were all so – Dad bought Marty Barnes records when he passed away. Bill Dehart's records when he passed away and then there is 45 years of my Dad's records. And it all pertains to Christian County.

Vice Chairman Corzine agreed the information is invaluable.

Venise – The city of Taylorville had first choice is that correct?

Kent Delay – yes, there was a conversation but they said they would store them at the county. Because this is where they really belong with you know the other records. There was also talk about taking the room down on the first floor that had some issues and maintaining the records there because there was a discussion about where would they be located. We do have the original instrument that was used to lay out Christian County, which we would like in honor of our parents put outside the recorder's office. My parents spent so much time in there. So we would like to go forward with that. That is kind of an interdiscussion about where would be the best place to put them. They are all indexed. My mom indexed every single record. So that system is existing but how you would forfeit over into their system, I don't know.

Dale Livingston – asked how they came up with a price.

Kent Delay – I know what my dad paid for the records 45 years ago. Then he has added to those records.

Chad Coady – My office over the years has taken all of the Boyd Dappert surveys that we currently have – went through over several years and attached them to whatever parcel

number is located within those and attached to the surrounding ones. If you go into my office and pull the parcel, hit the survey button, it will show all the surveys that we have. And I have not had one single FOIA request ever for any of those surveys because they are right there publically available. The issue in my office is if we get all 18 file cabinets that we get a FOIA request before we had them indexed or linked to any of the others. It would just become a mess. I think there is a possibility over a certain timeframe we could get them all indexed how they are in my office attached to the parcels already. So if someone had a FOIA request anything we have regarding his or her parcel if we do not have it scanned in on the computer system we just say we do not have it available. Specifically I do not know how FOIA works but if we do not know where something is, we cannot provide it. The way Mr. Delay said his mother indexed it; it might be easiest for us if we did acquire to go through township at a time or section at a time. Just scan them in as we did all the others. When someone does request them all we do is type in those pin numbers that are associated with that and email it to them. But as I said, we do not know what kind of problem it would give us before it is all scanned in. We would also need to get a good scanner.

Dale Livingston asked Chad Coady how long he thought it would take. Chad stated he was not entirely sure. It would be something we would have to do over time. I know Mr. Delay said it was 1300 field books so I do not know. With the field books, I do not know if we would scan those in. Surveys really do not take that long to scan in. It just really depends on how good the indexing is. As long as we can translate it.

Dale Livingston asked Mr. Poggenpohl if it would be FOIABLE. Wes stated I mean you can always make stuff available for copies. If they wanted to look for it, they could. But like you said, if it is already publically available on a website or something like that we do not have to disclose it they can search on the website themselves. The other option is if there is a cost provided by statue, they would go through the mechanism to request a document and not through FOIA.

Chad stated the cost in his office for a printed copy colored copy is a \$1.00 – we have a graduated scale. If it is email, it does not cost anything.

Kent Delay – there are some guidelines to FOIA requests. You just cannot turn down a foia.

Vice Chairman Corzine – stated he hates to kick the can down the road but this does involve money and if we are going to do this, we have to figure out where the money is going to come from. I personally think the information is very invaluable. *He made a motion to send back to the finance committee. Mike Specha seconded that motion.* After no further discussion, Vice Chairman Corzine called for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled all ayes.

*Vice Chairman Corzine entertained a motion to go into closed session pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(11) Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding must be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting by all county board members, the state's*

attorney Wes Poggenpohl and Liz Hile and county clerk Jacque Willison. Ray Koonce seconded the motion.

Vice Chairman Corzine opened the closed session Tuesday April 18, 2022 at 9:26 pm in this courtroom on the third floor of the county courthouse for the purpose of discussing litigation pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (11). Vice Chairman Corzine called for a roll call. All members were present except Matt Wells.

Vice Chairman Corzine entertained a motion to come out of closed session. *Ken Franklin made a motion to come out of closed session with a second by Dale Livingston.*

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Timothy Carlson; Craig Corzine (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

Came out of closed session at 9:49pm. Vice Chairman Corzine called for a roll call. A roll call was taken with all members present.

#### **MILEAGE AND PER DIEM REPORT – MARCH 15, 2022**

<b><u>Board Member</u></b>	<b><u>Salary</u></b>	<b><u>Rate</u></b>	<b><u># of Meetings This Month</u></b>
Timothy Carlson	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Craig Corzine	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Linda Curtin	\$100.00	\$25.00	3
Clint Epley	\$ 50.00	\$25.00	1
Ken Franklin	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Bev Graham	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Ray Koonce	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Dale Livingston	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Vicki McMahon	\$100.00	\$25.00	3
Venise McWard	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
David Puccetti	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Bryan Sharp	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Chuck Smedley	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Thomas Snyder, Jr.	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Mike Specha	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Matt Wells	\$615.38		

Vice Chairman Corzine called for a motion from the floor to approve the Mileage and Per Diem Report

*A motion was made by Craig Corzine and seconded by Vicki McMahon to approve the mileage and per diem report. With no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call.*

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck

Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Timothy Carlson; Craig Corzine Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

Wes Poggenpohl – What the board asked me to do last month which was talk to attorneys about possibly representing the county in regards to drafting an ordinances. In the last several weeks, I have made contact with two separate attorneys, one of them being Mr. Shay, which I believe Venise, recommended to me. I did review his CV on line h is site and I did think he was appropriate so I did reach out to him. Had a couple of phone conversations with him. I have also reached out and spoke to an attorney out of the Springfield-Jacksonville area. Her name is Andi Jackson. Both of them specialize in environmental law issues. Both of them have experience with local government stuff as well. Both of them had the same kind of issue. They want more information. So what both of them have kind of agreed to, if you guys are interested in, would be for some sort of presentation put on one of the committee meetings next month to where each of them would have that little bit amount of time, speak to you, give a presentation about what they think can be done. Because that is one of the real issues is what can be included, what can't be included, what they think are the real issues to address. Where you people would be able to ask them questions about things and they can give you a better idea of how long they think the process would take. I did tell them I thought this was something you guys wanted to move pretty quick on. I did not speak specifically - I know Ms. Jackson is going to reach back out to me but I know Mr. Shay did indicate he would be willing to come and speak but it would cost money. It would not be a free consultation type of deal. It would cost money because he is going to be preparing for the meeting. He mentioned \$500 for a preparation in coming to speak. I do not know about the other individual, but I think that would be the best way to proceed. Both of them we tell one of them to show up at a certain time and we tell the other one to show up a half hour later or do it on zoom or however. Mr. Shay is out of Peoria. I am sure he would come down but that might affect the price. That would be my recommendation to set up times the committee thinks is appropriate next month, come down give a presentation, open to questions then you guys would be able to get back with them to what your decision would be.

Vice Chairman Corzine asked if that \$500 comes out of his budget.

Wes stated no that maybe ARPA funds would cover it.

Vice Chairman Corzine - I will say in all seriousness, there is urgency but not. We want to get it right so there is no urgency on that but we need to get some counsel, looking at this that is the urgency in my opinion. So the problem with the \$500 is where it is going to come from. Because we have not approved any funds for that. Do you, in seriousness, do you have funds for, would it be considered an assistant? Temporary assistant kind of thing.

Wes Poggenpohl – no, it would be like a contract.

Vice Chairman Corzine – separate counsel kind of thing

Dale Livingston – asked where the funds came from for the windmill.

Vice Chairman Corzine – well we went through the process of approving the funds to do so

Vicki McMahan – stated that was \$50,000 and this is only \$500 so I think we can take it from wherever we need to.

Vice Chairman Corzine – I believe the Chairman has the authority to spend up to \$5,000

Venise – The Chairman can easily cover this.

Wes Poggenpohl – at least get it off the ground.

Vicki McMahon – stated this is definitely something we need to talk about in committee

Bev Graham – I just want to add on there for ` committee to get an assistant for 90 days, a trial of 90 days for Liz so she can get her files and everything in order. She has not been able to do that with everything that is going on. I had spoken with her about it and she said just like a 90-day trial and review it again. She has a person who she has worked with closely in the past whom she trust immensely that will do what she needs her to do. She said the lady was very reasonable. \$15 an hour and maybe not more than 20 hrs a week.

Vice Chairman Corzine said he can put that on their committee and if they see fit they can forward it on to Finance to approve the money.

Wes Poggenpohl – one of the things that Mr. Shay was going to address, he is very knowledgeable about this topic and he is ready. He did indicate he is representing some landowners in Mclean County up by Bloomington. And he is representing them on the part of negotiating with a carbon sequestration company. He did indicate he would be very interested in doing this but with the caveat that if the concern or the goal is to make sure everything is safe then that is where he is at. But if the goal is to make the ordinance is so burdensome that no company would ever put in a facility here then he wouldn't be able to because that would be adverse to his clients in Mclean County where he is trying to negotiate a good offer with this whole thing. His fear is if we draft the ordinance, we are first, than every other county may have an issue like this coming on copies it, changes the name, rubber stamps it it discourages these types of things is where he is at. That is his concern.

Ray Koonce – back to the concern with the third floor and the issues we are having there, these are legitimate concerns. Some unevenness there are some big issues. I would suggest whenever board members have time to go up and view the third floor. I know everyone has been busy but to get with Courtney or someone and they can show you these things that way it is not just hearing it because I have physically seen the holes. There are some issues. If you guys would have time sometime in the next month to really come up and ask some questions to physically, see for yourself. It will not take all day just a few moments. There really are some issues.

Liz stated just to let you know in the minutes there was note that there was a meeting with several individuals; Judge Paisley, Sheriff, Bill Kennedy, Courtney, another court reporter that had to be cancelled for various reasons. It has been rescheduled for next week.

Bev asked Wes if his office was having problem. Wes stated he did not know anything about the slopes in his office. The complaint he hears the most is the heating and cooling.

Liz – I think Mr. Kennedy has talked at a lot of meeting about problems they ran into – getting the watchdog back operational. Then there was an issue with some valves that were not working properly. Some valves were not opening and sending messages correctly and so they are getting ready to replace five or six more valves.

Wes Poggenpohl – the immediate issue from a couple of days ago that the boiler was shut off because apparently summer is here. Then we have a cold snap and the heat is just not on. Eventually it got on.

Vice Chairman Corzine state with the new maintenance supervisor some of these things will be buttoned up real quick.

Liz stated his start date is May 2 in case you are wondering.

Bev – asked is there a real high charge to hire a structural engineer that they keep requesting. Has that ever been done here?

Vice Chairman Corzine – it was discussed. That would fall on Dale.

Dale Livingston – Hurst-Rosche

Bryan Sharp – How do we proceed forward with counsel on the ordinance. Meeting with counsel. Do we want to bring that to Executive Committee?

Vice Chairman Corzine – stated we could not take any action on that because it is not on the agenda. But of course if Mr. Poggenpohl talks with Matt we will make sure that gets put on the Personnel committee agenda for next month if need be. Here again, \$500 I would assume it would be okay. It is going to be between the Chairman and Mr. Poggenpohl. It could be \$8500 each before it is all done.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Vice Chairman Corzine called for a motion from the floor to adjourn until May 17, 2022. *A motion was made by Ray Koonce and seconded by Thomas Snyder Jr to adjourn until the next meeting on May 18, 2022.*

With no discussion, Vice Chairman Corzine called for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent; the motion carried.

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNTY BOARD**  
AT A MEETING OF THE COUNTY BOARD MEMBERS OF CHRISTIAN COUNTY  
ILLINOIS, BEGUN AND HELD AT THE CHRISTIAN COUNTY COURTHOUSE IN  
TAYLORVILLE, ILLINOIS ON **MAY 17, 2022**  
*ATTEST: JACQUE WILLISON, COUNTY CLERK*

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The following proceeding had and entered at large upon the records of said Board, which is done accordingly in the following words and figures to wit;

Chairman Wells moved the board meeting to Court Room A on third floor of the Court House. Chairman Wells called the board meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

The roll call by County Clerk Jacque Willison showing all members present with David Puccetti being absent. A quorum was had to hold the meeting.

**APPROVE COUNTY BOARD MINUTES**

Chairman Wells asked for any corrections or additions and to accept the April 19, 2022 County Board minutes to approve as printed. Chairman Wells called for a motion to approve the minutes. *Timothy Carlson made a motion to approve the minutes seconded by Dale Livingston.* After no discussion, Chairman Wells asked for roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon, polled the following: (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent; the motion carried and the minutes were approved.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Chairman Wells called for public comments – Let me say this, you may or may not be able to see me. Public comments is an opportunity for the citizens of the county to advise the county board their thoughts, their opinions, and fact it is not a question and answer session. With some of the situations in the county, I do want to say it is definitely a time to discuss ideas. It is not about he's this or she is that or any of that type of stuff. Whoever is first, and would like to go, you have three minutes.

**Mr. Bloom** – I just want to address the board tonight. I am Clayton Bloom, I am a local farmer, and I am an environmental consultant. I have worked for the EPA for 18 years then went in to do my own consulting business. Through the years, I have worked with Vince whether it is a grain 'bin, whether it's the solar project, or whatever. I just wanted to let the board know he has always been willing to listen to me and consider my thoughts. We did not always think the same way but we always left with a handshake. That is all I can ask from an employee of the county. I would like to thank him for his service to our country and I would like to thank all the employees for the outstanding job they do for this county. Thank you

**Megan Steely** – I am a volunteer at Christian County Animal Control and I have worked with Vince Harris for the last 3 years. I just want to let you know that – all of us, our group, has met probably once a week, every Wednesday. We work towards different fundraisers and coming up with money to help better the animals at Christian County Animal Control. But, I will make this quick, what I wanted to let you know is working with Vince; he has developed a committee that scans all decades. We have a 20 year old all the way up to an 80 year old and we all have different opinions, but we all come together once a week and we are able to do what we need to do to help

the animals at the Christian County Animal Control. I just want to let you guys know that Vince is an extraordinary leader and he has made that happen. So thank you.

**Joe Riley** – member of the Laborer’s International Union of North America and I just wanted to speak real briefly to you guys about the Heartland Greenway project. I think sometimes when these projects come about; whether its wind farm or solar farm or high climber kind of energy project, we focus on all the supposed negative effects of it and we lose sight of some of the positive effects of it; mainly for the local men and women in construction. These projects usually they equal big hours, which equal big checks for these men and women. They are able to have insurance because of it, and pay into their pension and their annuity funds. I worked on the Rocky Express Pipeline myself when it came through in 2008. It was a godsend for me and a lot of people I know. It helped pay off my vehicle early, paid more on my mortgage, saved a substantial sum of money because of it. And this project, it is the same thing. Because they have entered into a memorandum of understanding with the locals, they are going to hire from the local work force – the locals here. You do not always have that on projects. I know we have all driven by big box store, maybe a chain restaurant or whatever their building a new facility, or a remodel- there is no one from the area. They are from way up north or way down south. That is not the case here. They made an agreement, they are going to hire from here. And it is a good opportunity for the locals when we have a project like this to take in new members. I know everyone in here is probably related to someone getting ready to enter the workforce. It is a good job; it is a good thing for our friendship program. So instead of always focusing on the negative, I just ask when you think about these kinds of things, think about what it means for local men and women. They will be put to work on this project. Thank you.

**Alec Messina** – Good evening. I appreciate the opportunity to address the board today. My name is Alec Messina. I work with Navigator CO2 Ventures as they seek to develop the Heartland Greenway Project here in Illinois. I have just a few minutes so I will be very brief and focus on a few key thoughts. First, I sincerely appreciate the opportunity to speak to many of you on the board over the last several weeks since I have been involved in this project, as well as a number of residents in the county. I know there is a need for more dialogue and there is a number of you questions that you on the board have as well as your residents. In the future, you can expect to see more of me and the Heartland Greenway team. My priority is to insure that you have the information you need to make an informed decision about how this project can contribute to the future of this community. Second, as I briefly noted, I know there are a lot of questions that you and your residents have about the project. All of these questions are important. But I also want to note there is a lot of information out there as well. The Heartland Greenway Team is committed to answering all of these questions and I commit to you that we will be actively engaged to address your concerns. We are sending a letter to all county residents later this week addressing many of these questions that we have gotten with regards to pipeline safety, land restoration and a short-term timeline. And we will be hosting smaller meetings throughout the county. Third, having been to the last county board meeting and several county committee meetings since then, I know there are a few different ordinances that have been proposed and paused in central development and may even be discussed tonight. I just want to first note that in the event the board decides to refer such an ordinance containing such a proposal on sequestration on to the Zoning Board of Appeals, as the rules require, the Greenway team looks forward to the opportunity to present testimony at that public hearing and to address your questions, as well as some of that misinformation as well. I know you have had other folks present at a previous County Board meeting and I would like to offer up our technical staff, as well, to sit in and provide some of that information and answer some of your questions too. I would like to spend a moment tonight however in addressing the potential economic benefit to Christian County. First, Heartland



Greenway is offering to pay the county \$1.25 million dollars per year for each year the project is operational, so that is nearly \$38 million dollars over 30 years. This can be used by the board and select local charities to fund a variety of needs in the community. Second, Heartland Greenway has begun to negotiate with landowners in the storage space for access rights and will eventually engage with landowners along the pipeline route. Further, just like wages paid to employees of new business, landowners will likely spend the additional income they receive from Heartland Greenway in the community. Third, the ethanol industry sees carbon capture as a key technology in one of the largest and most effective actions producers can take to meet the industry's net zero target. Its wide ethanol plants throughout the Midwest and here in Illinois have chosen to partner with this project, which will insure a vibrant market for corn moving forward. Certainly, this does not only affect the farmers. We are working with facilities now in Henry County... (Time was up)

**Mark Roth** – I am a resident of Christian County. I want to thank the board for representation of the past months in this issue and I would like to say where I stand and many of my neighbors, this is going to be a hazard and burden to farmland values, county values and to farmland drainage systems that are intact in this county. The policy of Illinois Department of Agriculture is nothing more than a policy. It does not bind any pipeline to adhere to that policy. I know neighbors who have been involved with the other recent pipeline that has been mentioned and it has been 3-4 years that they have sat with wet spots in their fields waiting for some kind of remedy. So, I hate to say it, but many of these words fall on empty ears is what it comes down to. I am asking the board to keep considering this project before making a decision and hopefully make the right decision and we thank you for your services.

**Karen Brockelsby** – it is obvious the Heartland Greenway project is being proposed because there is a lot of money to be made. I do not take issue with that. I am a capitalist, too. I think we all want to make money, but we would be really naïve if we thought it was their top priority to look out for the best interest of Christian County. And, so that has to be our priority. State and Federal regulations are not all in place that map out what this project should look like. So, I think your board deserves to reserve yourself the time to do the homework and make a good plan going forward. I think a moratorium allows you to take the time to work out how we should move forward.

**Sally Brusveen** – I am from Friends of Christian County Animals. First, kudos to Taylorville Law Enforcement and Taylorville Animal Control for the great job they did this week on getting 65 cats rescued. They heard a complaint, they went and they investigated. They saw that the cats were not safe and they removed them immediately. The partnership with them is great and something, I think, for all us to be proud of. However, there is still a concern about the animals that are in rural Pana. That is a county issue. The first ticket was written in February of 2021 for animals running at large. They are still running at large. This has been a year and four months later. One has died and been eaten. One has been stolen. One has an injury; a broken leg that did not get fixed and now will be disabled for the rest of its life. Now there is puppies. I have been told that they are not going to do anything about it; that they feel sorry for the owner. Now I have been told we are working on it. We have been told, "We are working on it" since January. These dogs are not safe. There were three cats; now there is one. It is just not right, I am still very concerned, and I wanted you to know.

**Jan Schmedeke** – I am one of the humane investigators for the State of Illinois and I am a volunteer at animal control. We met with animal control in March and the States Attorney was there also, because we have concerns about the amendment to the ordinance for animal control. I was hoping we might get some kind of an answer, either yes or no. We have not heard anything

yet. I think Wes is probably still working on it. Also, I know it is not question and answer time but I am interested to know how something gets on the agenda. There has been some concerns that if it does not want to be addressed it does not get on. So, I do not know. I do not know what the situation is with that. So, that is all.

**Steve Brockelsby** – I have talked to you before. I have maps. We have approximately 90% of the landowners that we have talked to, in what we call the proposed site, are against it. Approximately 95% of the landowners that the pipeline comes through in the Christian County line into the dumpsite. That is where the landowners stand on what they feel about the project. They were talking about the Rockies Pipeline coming through. We were one of the landowners that the Rockies went through and were promised a lot of things and about half of them were fulfilled. The half was - they went through. The damage done and there is still damage on the property which several other farmers have regarding drainage. You cannot buy some of that stuff. I guess, I have not figured out the donations and everything that have been starting to come through for small organizations and offering to buy lawyers and stuff like that. I do not think Christian County really needs it. I think we are a county of our own. We do not need that help. We do not need somebody else to buy us. Their main concern is money. Our main concern against it is the safety for our grandchildren and future generations. I hope you take that into consideration and do what is right.

Chairman Wells asked if there was anybody else from the public, he called a second time, third and last call is there anyone else from the public who wishes to speak. Seeing no one, we will move on.

### **APPOINTMENTS**

Zoning Board of Appeals – Chairman Wells stated approximately 3 weeks ago he received a letter of resignation from Mark Dozier saying he was through and felt like he had done his service. I am here tonight to appoint Gary Merker to the Zoning Board of Appeals. This appointment does require the board's approval. *Ray Koonce made a motion to approve the appointment with Dale Livingston seconded that motion.* Chairman Wells called for discussion. After no discussion, a roll call vote being called upon polled all ayes. The appointment of Gary Merker passed.

### **PETITIONS, RESOLUTIONS, ORDINANCES OR PROCLAMATIONS**

There were non

### **READING OF COMMUNICATIONS**

#### **MAY 2022 COMMUNICATIONS**

The following communications were presented and placed on file in the Clerk's Office.

1. The May 2022 Prevailing Wage Report
2. The April 2022 Public Defender's Report
3. The Treasurer's Reports for the period ending on April 30, 2022,
4. The Local Solid Waste Fees Fund report for April, 2022
5. ROE – Expenditure Report for April 2022

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### HIGHWAY/BUILDING/GROUNDS/ENVIRONMENTAL/ZONING AND WELFARE COMMITTEE

March 8, 2022

Present: Dale Livingston, Chuck Smedley, Bev Graham, Mike Specha, Thomas Snyder, Jr.  
Absent: None  
Others present: Matt Wells, Linda Curtin, Cliff Frye, Ron Brown, Vince Harris, Jim Prescott, Tom Belker, Sally Bursveen, Tom Latonis, and Elizabeth Hile in attendance.

The meeting of the Highway/Building/Grounds/Environmental/Welfare/Zoning Committee was called to order on Tuesday, May 10, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. in the Christian County Courthouse. The purpose of the meeting was County building issues, highway business and any other matters properly brought before the Committee. Roll call was taken and there was a quorum.

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Tom Belker advised the Committee that for the last 4.5 years he has had a lot of trouble with individuals trespassing on the County lot near his home doing “doughnuts” at all hours of the night. He has called the Sheriff’s office and they have responded and at times have sent Stonington to respond. He wants to know what the County can do to mitigate the problem. Committee Chairman Livingston advised that the matter will be on the June meeting. Cliff Frye was asked to come up with ideas to discuss at that meeting.

#### REGULATING CARBON CAPTURE AND STORAGE ORDINANCE

Mike Specha asked about the status of attorney presentation(s) that was mentioned at the last Board meeting. Bev Graham noted this was discussed at last night’s Executive/Personnel Committee where it was suggested that each attorney could present at separate times at a special Board meeting. Fees and related costs will be discussed at this week’s Finance Committee.

#### TEXT AMENDMENT 1-3-17

Committee Chairman Livingston read an email from States Attorney Poggenpohl who recommended the Committee hold off on taking any action on this matter as the Board may hire an attorney for the carbon capture issue. That attorney would be very experienced with the ICC and will be better able to advise as to what we, as a county, have the authority to regulate by ordinance.

#### SOLID WASTE

Vince Harris noted he was invited to watch an investigation last week. He also took a class for solid waste in Champaign as well. The training is going well. He will have 6 hours of classroom instruction followed by in the field training(s) before he can be “signed” off.

Vince noted that June 25 is the Household Hazardous Waste drop off. Sign up for the program is going well and there are approximately 500 time slots available.

## HIGHWAY BUSINESS

Bids were opened and read on Tuesday, May 3, 2022 for MFT and non-MFT maintenance materials to be used by the County and Townships during FY22. Cliff Frye presented tabulation of bids for all items. Cliff noted an overall increase in price for bituminous materials.

Motion by Dale Livingston and seconded by Thomas Snyder, Jr. to recommend to the full Board to accept the low bids for MFT and non-MFT materials for the County as presented. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Dale Livingston made a motion to accept the low bids for MFT and non-MFT material with a seconded by Mike Specha.* Chairman Wells called for discussion. With no discussion, Chairman Wells asked for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahan, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson; Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

Motion by Dale Livingston and seconded by Chuck Smedley to recommend to the full Board to accept the low bids for MFT materials for the Townships as presented and refer them to the individual Township Highway Commissioners for approval. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Dale Livingston made a motion to accept the low bids for MFT and non-MFT material for Township with a seconded by Chuck Smedley.* Chairman Wells called for discussion. Chairman Wells asked if everyone had copies. With no discussion, Chairman Wells asked for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahan, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson; Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

## ANIMAL CONTROL/ZONING BUSINESS

Vince Harris provided an update on the current animal counts/status, which included 79 cats. To assist with feeding and care of the 65 cats recently taken in, a lot of donations have been received including monetary donations to be used for the health of the cats.

Vince noted that he received an estimate of \$2200.00 from Charles Samson for repairing the kennel roof. The walls of the kennel will be repaired/replaced with the maintenance staff doing that work. There is money in the building maintenance budget to cover these costs.

Draft County Municipal Agreement for Animal Control No discussion or action.

COURT HOUSE AND BUILDING BUSINESS

Ron Brown, Maintenance Supervisor, advised that he had received an estimate of \$50.00 or less from Mr. Mark Howard to remove the stump on the southeast corner of the courthouse lawn. This estimate is just to remove the stump. Maintenance will clean up the debris.

Motion by Dale Livingston and seconded by Chuck Smedley to recommend to the full Board to approve up to \$100.00 for stump removal on the southeast corner of the courthouse lawn with the expense coming from lawn maintenance. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Dale Livingston made a motion for the removal of a stump with a seconded by Bev Graham.* Chairman Wells called for discussion. Chairman Wells stated he had received a message from Ron, who is here, earlier today, he contacted JULIE, and they told him the person doing the work has to contact them. We talked about this in committee. We discussed it for a month and none of us thought about it. So I think maybe we have the right guy on the job because he is worried about keeping us out of wires and everything else. We appreciate that very much Ron, thank you very much. Ron stated he did contact Mark again today and he was going to take care of that. With no discussion, Chairman Wells asked for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson; Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried

OTHER MATTERS

None

Motion by Thomas Snyder, Jr. and seconded by Dale Livingston to adjourn. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dale Livingston  
Buildings/Highway/Environmental/Zoning  
Welfare Chairman  
05/10/2022

## EXECUTIVE/PERSONNEL/LIQUOR COMMITTEE

May 9, 2022

Present: Craig Corzine, Chairman, Ray Koonce, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp

Absent: None

Others Present: Matt Wells, Judge Paisley, Betty Asmussen, Julie Mayer, Linda Curtin, Bev Graham, Wes Poggenpohl, Steve Sipes, Vince Harris, Jeff Stoner, John Good, Alex Messina, Jeff Nolan, Dwanne Wheeler, Lucas Domonowsky and Elizabeth Hile in attendance.

The Executive, Personnel, and Liquor Committee met on Monday, May 9, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. in County Board meeting room, second floor of the Christian County Courthouse, Taylorville, Illinois. The purpose of the meeting was to address any agenda items, any personnel issues, policies, and any other matters properly brought before the Committee. Roll call was taken and there was a quorum.

### PUBLIC COMMENTS

Steve Sipes with the ZBA advised that he is present to speak on the METS Tower but can speak later in the agenda if acceptable. Committee Chairman Corzine acknowledged that Mr. Sipes will speak at that time.

### EMA UPDATES

EMA Director Jeff Stoner highlighted the recent storm that went through the northern part of Christian County. The tornado was not tracked by the weather service or weather spotters. It was on the ground for about 60 seconds. He plans to look into mobile weather monitoring systems.

The Tailgate N Tallboys event at the South Fork Dirt Riders Club is scheduled for July 28 – 30, 2022. The county does not have any ordinance requiring the presence of EMS at this time. Right now, there is a good faith effort to have EMS at the event but based on costs, they could say we do not want any present. Jeff recommends that the county look into putting an ordinance in place. Still waiting on equipment for the truck.

Plans to bring the ARPA communication proposal back for consideration in June. □ Noted that Palmer and Mt. Auburn do not have tornado sirens but are working on grant funding. He is looking at helping communities so they can receive a siren.

### LOW INCOME HOUSING ORDINANCE

Committee discussed the current low-income housing in the county and new construction that is coming.

Motion by Bryan Sharp and seconded by Ray Koonce to recommend to the full Board to approve an ordinance to “opt out” of low-income housing. All members were in favor. Motion carried

*Craig Corzine made a motion to opt out of the Low Income Housing with a seconded by Venise McWard.* Chairman Wells called for discussion. Bev Graham stated that Chad is here, Betty is here, they can explain about this low-income housing so that the community can understand it because they feel like we are picking on people who are living in low-income housing, and they consider them paying property taxes.

**Chad** – so this is specific to a new law that was passed not any of the existing low-income housing that we have. Basically, the new law seems to me like it was catered more to Cook County and that it is a 30 year tier plan. Has a lot of administrative duties to be put in place. There would be

a lot of inspection, a lot of - I would need another staff member in my office. As I said, it is a 30-year tier program. You would have to maintain each person's financials to make sure they qualify. You would have to maintain that the property is up to code for the entire term with pictures, zoning, notarize affidavits. It is just a huge mess that nobody has dipped their feet into – no other county has started it yet because it is so new. The board can opt in or opt out at any time. We could opt out that way you do not get something started and be grandfathered in and have a program that nobody knows what it entails. We wanted to see how it goes in other counties before we commit to it. The very first paragraph mentions Cook county and then it breaks it down. Counties below three million. It seems like a lot of administrative work and fieldwork that we just do not have the staff to do.

Betty – on that note, we put in the packets, we do have the low income, or housing authority in Christian County. We have that program. It is in lieu of taxes so I gave you each an example in your packets. We collect a percentage which that percentage, I think Matt shared this with you a while ago, had not been negotiated for years. It was at 13.5% for years. We get a percentage off the rent of those. I gave you a list of all those properties throughout the county. We just recently renegotiated that last year I think, Matt, and it is now at 15 percent. It had not been increased in years. So we do not want people to think we do not have low-income housing in Christian county because we do. However, there was another program that was offered and you could opt in or opt out.

Chad – and it does not affect the existing programs. They cannot be part of both. And the biggest thing that I noticed was the current ones in the pilot program levying bodies could not levy taxes against the values of those properties until they sell. But in this program recently passed, the levying bodies could levy taxes on those properties for the value of the properties but they will not be paying taxes they would be redistributed. The taxes would be picked up by other residences other businesses. It is a complicated one. I put the summary of the ordinance up on my web page so you can read through it and see if you can make anything out of it because it is pretty complicated.

Chairman Wells – first let me say this – the renegotiation, never would have happened if it weren't for Betty pointing this out to me. Of course, that was brought to the board I believe before we did that. Well, I will not go into last night's paper. Never mind. Any other questions on this motion?

Vicki McMahon – thank you for explaining that because I had been contacted about that and the belief is that we are not being supportive. So thank you.

Betty – we are very supportive and you can see by the list I shared with you.

Chairman Wells asked for any other comments. After no further discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call. A roll call vote being called upon polled all ayes.

## CARBON CAPTURE AND STORAGE ORDINANCE

States Attorney Wes Poggenpohl advised that it is his opinion the Board can put a moratorium on the carbon capture and storage project. It was felt that the moratorium is needed based on a number of issues to include but not limited to size and scope of the Christian County project and safety.

Motion by Craig Corzine and seconded by Ray Koonce to recommend to the full Board to have States Attorney Wes Poggenpohl prepare a six (6) month moratorium ordinance for the carbon, capture and storage project in Christian County and present it to the Board. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Craig Corzine made a motion to approve a 6 month moratorium (I believe you should all have a copy) with a second by Mike Specha. Chairman Wells called for a discussion.*

Ray Koonce – It is my belief a moratorium would good for both parties on both ends and this is why. We have a lot of concerned citizens of safety. Right now, I think a moratorium would ease a lot of citizens nerves to at least be willing to listen to the other side if they have evidence to present. Because right now it is not going to happen. Safety is the number one issue for I think pretty much everybody on this board that I have talked to. You can offer us a billion dollars but if it is going to hurt somebody's family or something – a billion dollars is not going to cover that. Safety is number one. The benefit for the people for the project – I talked to people with companies, they pretty much, I am paraphrasing, they pretty much said the PR campaign rolling this out could have been a lot better. This moratorium will give them time to get the facts out there but they need to get out there to the people on the other side and to prove that this project is safe. My opinion I believe is beneficial for both sides.

Mike Specha – Mr. Chairman, I fully agree that we need to exercise due diligence as a county board in reviewing this. When you look at both what the wording is in our moratorium document and the information that was supplied to us recently in a letter, there is an 18-24 month lead time on just permits and all that, it seems – I concur with what Ray just said this is in both sides' best interest at this point. I don't think anything is going to happen in 2 months anyway.

Chairman Wells – the moratorium is a 6-month moratorium correct. Chairman Wells called for any other discussion from the board. He stated; firstly, I received a letter from an attorney, I am not going to mention his name due to election season. This attorney told me he does represent a community in northern Christian county. He specifically asked that we pass a moratorium or some stringent rules. Again, I am not mentioning any names and I am not trying to get involved with the election in here tonight. With that being said, I have questions about the moratorium and maybe Mr. Poggenpohl can answer them. Firstly, can this moratorium, can the county board pass this without it going to the ZBA. Everything else we have done has gone to the ZBA; they have had hearings and brought them back to us. I do not know if this is different. You are the guy who has been to law school.

Wes Poggenpohl – I think whenever I was at the committee meeting, they discussed doing something similar to what was done with the windmill system so I would suggest doing exactly what you did on that system. I was not hear whenever that happened.

Chairman Wells – what happened on that system, we had an idea it went to the ZBA and they conducted the hearings. I do not know what the thought and the motion are – I cannot read minds. I can tell you this, I have some real issue with the carbon project as its been proposed. My biggest problem with the carbon project as it has been proposed is the well. It goes right through our aquifer. That is our water we have been drinking it for 200 hundred years and hopefully we will be drinking it for another 1000 years. And I have a problem with the possibility of someone owns real estate and that foot print and they don't want the carbon and it gets pumped under someone else's ground and leaks under theirs. I can tell you I took the time to reach out to a realtor in Taylorville and a realtor in Pana and both of them told me their opinion was when it comes to this



real estate and unless you have sold the mineral rights you own your real estate to the center of the earth. So I do not believe that any one has the right to pump something in the ground on their place to run it underneath yours. It just does not make since to me. I can assure you that if I owned 80 acres and spilled a 1000 gallons of diesel fuel on it and it ran off on the neighbor's property, the state would be down here tomorrow. I do not know about this. I have a problem with the moratorium because maybe we are just kicking the can down the road. My personal opinion is we need a huge setback from our aquifer and we need assurance if somebody wants it on their ground and the neighbor does not, it cannot get on the neighbors ground. That is really all I have to say about this matter. Is there any other comments?

Vicki McMahon – Yes, I would like to speak to that. I believe we discussed in finance about obtaining an attorney to look at this from a perspective to give us the 6 months to get more prepared. You brought up that last fact of kicking it down the (I don't remember how you said it, I apologize) I think the 6 moratorium is going to give us that time to at least be able to look at this and get more prepared.

Dale Livingston – back in the windmills, if I remember right, we already had a windmill ordinance in place and the moratorium stopped that. We do not have carbon capture in place. I am not against a moratorium I just want to make sure our legal basis are covered. So when a moratorium went in effect for the windmills you could not do anything period. But we have nothing in place for carbon capture right now. So can we – do we do it. We are back to the original question – do we do it and its legal or does the ZBA need to do it and then send it to us to make it legal. Wes? Sorry Chairman.

Wes Poggenpohl – again, I know probably saying this again. Specific questions that are detailed and need a lot of research I would love to have those ahead of time. Nothing I love more than to be put on the spot in front of a lot of people, I love that but. I think personally, whenever basically what we are saying right now with the moratorium is that we are not going to do an ordinance yet until we have a chance to research it. So I think, personally my hunch is my opinion right now is the board can enact that today but if you want us to look into that further I can do that but I was kind of expecting to have attorneys here today to give presentations but it seems like it is going to be a long process. Longer than – I think the 6 months is going to be pushing it by the time we get to it.

Ken Franklin – these are decisions that are going to affect not only our lifetime but the life time of our kids and probably their kids. So I think the 6 months is a reasonable time to look at things and to make good decisions.

Ray Koonce – if we send this to the ZBA and to the board next month preferably that is going to be instead of a 6-month moratorium it is going to be a 7-month moratorium. I think it is the best interest for everybody to keep it at a 6-month level and pass it tonight.

Bev Graham – were you able to talk to any attorneys or call a special board meeting like you were going to for them to come in.

Chairman Wells – Bev, I believe what I said was I would contact Mr. Poggenpohl and I believe my office has done that. He, I don't know the attorneys, I believe he just made the statement it is harder to get them here than he thought because he – I mean I look at an attorney's shingle or an attorney's creed I have no idea what it actually means whether or not there is a specialty into it. I believe our state's attorney would know. Basically, what I told him is, when you can get them

here you let me know and I will call the meeting. No, I did not reach out to any attorneys trying to get them to come in here and interview for a job with the board. I did ask Mr. Poggenpohl to do that.

Wes Poggenpohl – I am waiting for a date. I need a date to talk to them. That is where we are right now.

Chairman Wells – you want us to pick a date?

Wes Poggenpohl – I need a date for the special setting.

Chairman Wells – Ok. I am going to propose. My concern was if I scheduled something and Wes was going to be gone or busy it wouldn't do us any good to interview people without him there. In June, the committee meetings are the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> I believe. Am I right on that Liz? So I am going to say June 7. If no one has an objection to that. Wes can contact them – June 7 at 6:30 in the county boardroom. That is what is going on there. Now, back to the – any other

Bryan Sharp – There is a motion on the table to impose a moratorium. Sounds like maybe Wes believes at this point we can impose that moratorium from the county board sitting here today. If that needs to go through ZBA – can we impose this this evening? And we find out it has to go through ZBA can we rectify that issue?

Wes Poggenpohl – I will be honest, my research into the subject was on strictly whether the county board has the authority to impose a moratorium and I believe the answer is yes. I did not look into what the proper procedure is. I feel like you guys are a lot more familiar with the procedure on who goes where and what than I am. As to the legal basis of the board imposing a moratorium I believe the statute that I sent out to everybody gives the board that authority but as to what you guys think is proper in regards to the order, I did not do extensive research in that.

Chairman Wells – quite honestly, I believe that our procedure on all zoning ordinances is to have the ZBA have the hearing and then make a recommendation to the board. That is what has been going on for the past at least 3 years – well since windmills.

Bryan Sharp – is this a zoning ordinance or is this a policy of the board to impose a moratorium. I do not know if this is necessarily a zoning ordinance.

Chairman Wells – in my opinion and I am not the lawyer, it is an ordinance dealing with zoning. A moratorium dealing with zoning.

Several members stating not necessarily.

Craig Corzine – it is my motion and as we discussed in committee as long as we have full legal authority to do so and not getting us in any bad way, I believe we should do what is in the best interest of the people who put us in these seats and those people are asking for a moratorium so they can sleep better at night for both sides like somebody said a little bit ago both side so I think that is what we should do.

Clint Epley called for a question and Mike Specha second that call. Chairman Wells called for all those in favor for calling the question signal by raising your hand (12) all those oppose same signal  
-(3)

Chairman Wells – it is 12-3, the question has been called, please call roll on the moratorium.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells (n), Timothy Carlson; Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston (n), Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

Wes Poggenpohl raised a question about the attorneys that he mentioned at the last Board meeting making presentations. He also noted that in addition to the attorneys he mentioned, a third individual has expressed interest. Wes suggested having a special Board meeting with the attorneys having different presentation times allowing the Board to have somewhat of an interview type process. At least one of the attorneys is requesting a presentation fee.

#### RESCIND ORDINANCE O2022CB010

Chairman Wells advised that since establishing the salaries for the elected officials last month, a law now establish that the Sheriff position shall be paid at least 80% of the States Attorney's salary. The ordinance that was passed must now be rescinded. A new ordinance will need to be passed to comply with the law. This ordinance must be passed within the 180 days prior to the individual taking office.

Motion by Craig Corzine and seconded by Clint Epley to recommend to the full Board to rescind Ordinance O2022CB010. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Craig Corzine made a motion to rescind ordinance O2022CB010 Sheriff's salary with a second by Mike Specha. With no discussion, Chairman Wells asked for a roll call*

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson; Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

#### ORDINANCE/RESOLUTION AS A RESULT OF THE CHANGE ON HOW PAY FOR THE SHERIFF POSITION IS CALCULATED

Motion by Ray Koonce and seconded by David Puccetti to recommend to the full Board to approve Resolution R2022CB007 which reflects the change by law to how the position of Sheriff is paid. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Craig Corzine made a motion to approve Resolution R2022CB007 reflecting the change of how Sheriff is paid. Chairman Wells stated before he asked for a second if I am correct the motion from your committee was to approve the latest ordinance because we kept getting updates. We got an update from UCCI. We have sent that to Mr. Poggenpohl and he did respond – Wes I am not sure – are you saying the one from Tuesday night or the one from UCCI? You said the word document and I don't know -*

Wes Poggenpohl – in the email – the one you guys have drafted. There was one that was a PDF and one that was a word – that one was the one that I liked.

Chairman Wells – and that is - I hope everyone understands what is going on. The motion, as I understood it, was to approve the latest ordinances and one came in after the meeting. We sent

copies to everyone. Whatever the board wants to do is fine with me. But I just wanted to make you aware we had, UCCI had an opinion after you guys met.

Betty Asmussen – The sheriff’s association sent one out as well.

Chairman Wells – The sheriff’s association sent one out and we sent them both to Wes and I think committee can do whatever, the board can do whatever they want to. But I think we ought to here his – the original from Tuesday night. Okay. Do we have a second to adopt this motion? *Vicki McMahon seconded the motion.* We have a motion to adopt Resolution R2022CB007 concerning the Sheriff’s salary. Any discussion.

Mike Specha –Mr. Chairman, I have a problem with the wording in the thing because we didn’t really set a salary. All we said was it’s not less than 80%. Well 85% is not less than 80%. 90% is not less than 80%. We didn’t set a salary.

Betty Asmussen – it has to be at least 80%

Mike Specha – it just says salary shall not be less than 80%. We didn’t set the salary. We just said that’s the bottom.

Chairman Wells – Well you are correct there but we have a motion on the floor and an ordinance on the floor. The only thing I can do is ask for an amendment to this ordinance that will satisfy this board. If you think it needs to say we will pay him 80% instead of at least 80%.

Mike Specha – Mr. Chairman, I would like to amend the ordinance 2022CB007 section B what the words currently say shall not be less than 80% to say the salary shall be 80%.

Chairman Wells – I have a motion on the floor to amend section B to say in a non home rule county shall be 80%

Mike Specha – Mr. Chairman further in this second section, Number 1 Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved, it likewise needs to say that the annual salary shall be set at 80% and the words deleted “at no less than 80%”.

Chairman Wells – so we are going to delete the words “no less than shall be at 80% and back in B it shall be 80%.

Mike Specha – Yes

Chairman Wells – Bryan did you second that motion. Bryan said he would. Chairman Wells stated he has a motion and a second to amend the ordinance that we are going to pay 80% and eliminate not less than 80%. Any discussion. Ray help me out here I think we have to vote on the amendment before the ordinance.

Ray Koonce – Correct

Chairman Wells – called for a roll call on the amendment.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson; Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahan, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

Chairman Wells – Okay we are now back to the original motion on the ordinance which has now been amended. I have a motion and I have a second. Any discussion on the ordinance. Please call roll on the ordinance 2022CB007

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson; Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahan, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

#### ARPA FUND REQUEST/ORDINANCES

**Craig stated that several AARPA fund ordinances and save from doubling up I won't cover those because Venise will cover that in the Audit and Finance because all these were approved by our committee per the finance committee approval so I am going to let her – she has the ordinance numbers for those and let her cover that.**

#### Court House Windows

The estimated cost to replace windows at the court house is \$482,640.00.

Motion by Ray Koonce and seconded by Bryan Sharp to recommend a draft ordinance for an amount not to exceed \$482,640.00 from ARPA funds be sent to the Finance Committee for financial approval and Board recommendation. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

#### Request

A copy of the 911 Director's estimate of \$1,205.00 to purchase 1 wireless adaptor and 10 headsets was presented.

Motion by Craig Corzine and seconded by David Puccetti to recommend a draft ordinance for an amount not to exceed \$1,205.00 from ARPA funds be sent to the Finance Committee for financial approval and Board recommendation. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

Labor costs up to \$30,000.00 to complete the next phase of the floor support project

Motion by Craig Corzine and seconded by Ray Koonce to recommend a draft ordinance for an amount not to exceed \$30,000.00 from ARPA funds be sent to the Finance Committee for financial approval and Board recommendation. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

#### County Treasurer's Request – Currency Cash Counting Machine and Printer

Christian County Treasurer Betty Asmussen presented information and estimated costs to purchase a currency cash counting machine and printer.

Motion by Ray Koonce and seconded by Clint Epley to recommend a draft ordinance for an amount not to exceed \$5,000.00 from ARPA funds for a cash counting machine and printer for the Treasurer's Office be sent to the Finance Committee for financial approval and Board recommendation. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

#### Safe Passages

Ray Koonce advised the Committee that he has met with various representatives from Safe Passages, Judge Paisley and the States Attorney about costs to maintain these programs.

Regarding Safe Passages, Ray Koonce noted that the City hasn't pickup any ARPA funding and was hoping that if the County took the lead that other communities might follow. He asked Taylorville Police Chief Dwanne Wheeler to highlight the Safe Passages Program. Wheeler noted the purpose of Safe Passages is to help individuals with drug addiction before they get into the legal system. He advised that Safe Passages is a county wide program and the City of Taylorville doesn't fund it. Funding is through grants of which he has received a grant for \$105,000.00 and reapplied and was approved for two (2) more years totaling \$210,000.00. When asked if grants have been received what use would the ARPA funds have. Chief Wheeler noted that it would go into a program "reserve".

Motion by Ray Koonce and seconded by Bryan Sharp to recommend a draft ordinance for an amount not to exceed \$100,000.00 from ARPA funds for Safe Passages be sent to the Finance Committee for financial approval and Board recommendation. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

#### Drug/Mental Health Court

Judge Paisley highlighted the drug/mental health – problem solving court works. The individuals in these programs are nonviolent criminals who can manage safely in the community. They are not drug dealers. The idea is rather than to incarcerate them, get them the help needed to fix the problem. The program costs are approximately \$36,000.00. John Good a supervisor from the Probation Department was also present for questions.

Motion by Ray Koonce and seconded by Bryan Sharp to recommend a draft ordinance for an amount not to exceed \$50,000.00 from ARPA funds for Drug/Mental Health/Problem Solving Court be sent to the Finance Committee for financial approval and Board recommendation. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

#### Mental Health

Ray Koonce noted that there was an increasing amount of individuals facing mental health issues. He advised there are no services in the county for mental health and a group of individuals are trying to develop ways for people to receive help. This group of individuals will be attending an upcoming meeting looking for ideas to develop a program. The Committee felt it was reasonable to wait for additional information as there is still time to spend ARPA funds.

#### RESOLUTION – Delinquent Taxes

Motion by Craig Corzine and seconded by Ray Koonce to recommend to the Board to approve Resolutions R2022TR005 for the sale of delinquent property. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion Carried.

*Craig Corzine made a motion to approve R2022TR005 for the sale of delinquent property with a second by Vicki McMahon. After no discussion, Chairman Wells call for a roll call.*

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Timothy Carlson; Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

Motion by Craig Corzine and seconded by Ray Koonce to recommend to the Board to approve Resolutions R2022TR006 for the sale of delinquent property. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion Carried.

*Craig Corzine made a motion to approve R2022TR006 for the sale of delinquent property with a second by Venise McWard. After no discussion, Chairman Wells call for a roll call.*

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahan, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson; (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

#### ZBA RECOMMENDATION(S) METEOROLOGICAL TOWER TEXT AMENDMENT

Steve Sipes, Chairman of the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) noted the ZBA made a recommendation to approve a text amendment for the meteorological towers. He feels the Board must approve or deny or send back to the ZBA not to refer back to Executive/Personnel.

Chairman Wells advised that the County's States Attorney, Wes Poggenpohl's opinion is that the Board is "obligated to act" and tabling/referring can be done as it would be considered an "act".

Mr. Sipes acknowledged that he isn't an attorney but felt tabling back to Exec/Personnel isn't in accordance to statute and he has never seen issues tabled. He feels the County needs to be careful with these green projects as health and safety is where the focus should be and not fees that may be considered unreasonable.

Committee Chairman Craig Corzine noted that there was a feeling the fees were low and the reason it was table. Mr. Sipes agrees something needs to be done and if fee is the issue, send it back to the ZBA. Noting that while he can't speak for the entire ZBA Board, unreasonable fees probably won't make it. Without something in place as is the case at this point in time, "wind" could come in and without fees.

Additional discussion continued around time limit(s) towers can be up; annual fees/penalties; and related topics.

Motion by Ray Koonce and seconded by David Puccetti to recommend to the full Board to send back Text Amendment TX22-2 to the ZBA. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Craig Corzine made a motion to send text TX22-2 dealing with Meteorological Towers back to the Zoning Board with a second by Ray Koonce. After no discussion, Chairman Wells call for a roll call.*

A roll call vote being called upon polled all ayes; (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried to send back.

Motion was made by Craig Corzine and seconded by Ray Koonce to go into Closed Session pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (1) ) to discuss appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees and all subject matters relating thereto and to include the following persons to be present during all or part of such executive session namely, all

Executive/Personnel committee members in attendance, all County Board members in attendance, Wes Poggenpohl, and Liz Hile.

The Committee went into Closed Session at 8:33 p.m.

The Committee returned to Open Session at 9:17 p.m. Roll call – Craig Corzine, Ray Koonce, David Puccetti, Clint Epley, and Bryan Sharp were present.

#### ANIMAL CONTROL, ZONING AND SOLID WASTE DEPARTMENTS

Motion by Ray Koonce and seconded by David Puccetti to recommend to the full Board to separate Animal Control from Zoning and Solid Waste and to allow Chairman Wells to start the hiring process as needed and to move Solid Waste and Zoning to the court house with the Sheriff's approval. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

Craig Corzine – I will put in a form of a motion – first off, breaking this into two. First off, a motion to separate, the full board, to separate Animal Control from Zoning and Solid Waste and to allow Chairman Wells to start the hiring process as needed.

Chairman Wells – I have a motion on the floor to separate Animal Control from Zoning and Solid Waste. Is there a second – a second by Mr. Koonce. Any discussion?

Dale Livingston – Mr. Chairman what is it going to cost us? I mean do the budgets have to be broke out and everything else. Animal Control and Zoning are combined budgets. I mean we need to have those figures in front of us before we do it and stuff. We need a plan because they are combined.

Chairman Wells – Budgets are combined.

Dale Livingston – Yes

Chairman Wells – Betty

Betty Asmussen – so if you look on the budget, just for clarity, Animal Control has their revenue and expenses and then Zoning, down at the bottom, has their different revenue and expenses. We do not comingle the two.

Dale Livingston – Your budget right here says County Animal Control and Zoning.

Betty – uh-huh

Dale Livingston – all in one

Betty – uh-huh

Dale Livingston – there is no

Chairman Wells – please speak to me

Dale Livingston – there is no – there is just one salary department head for both of them. Where is the other one in the budget?



Betty – On the system, what I am telling you, is budgetary wise, we set those up as, this is Animal Control's revenue and expenses and Vince knows this, when he brings zoning fees or any expenses he has to use different line items for those as well.

Dale Livingston – the budget we passed

Chairman Wells – please speak to me

Dale Livingston – the budget we passed Chairman says County Animal Control and Zoning so there has to be a split of two budgets. It might be in the bookkeeping but it is not in the budget that we passed.

Mike Specha – Mr. Chairman, I mean, I understand some of the reasoning behind it but I guess I find it a little frustrating – as a board we just made this move in February to combine all three. And if I am not mistaken, I think that the third job Vince took over on February 22 February 23 at solid waste

Chairman Wells – Solid Waste

Mike Specha – Solid Waste. The same day he took over at Solid Waste the educator quit. Within a few days after that the Administrative Assistant, I do not know if a few days but relatively short period of time the Administrative Assistant quite. So there has been some deficiencies that I have heard frustrations about but just speaking from me if I was running what was a 3 person office by myself in a job I was just learning I would find it difficult especially if I had somebody not to even answer the phones. And it seems like we are making judgements about making an additional move with that being circumstances that Vince had to deal with. I just feel like we are jumping the gun. I am uninterested in doing this.

Clint Epley – Mr. Chairman I call the question please

Chairman Wells – the question has been called is there a second

Craig Corzine – second

Chairman Wells – there is a second. All of those in favor please signify by raising your right hand. Can we get a count?

Jacque Willison – 13 yours up nope

Chairman Wells – we have 13 to end the debate. All those opposed to ending the debate.

Jacque Willison – 4. That is not right.

Chairman Wells – somethings wrong here. I believe it was 12-4. That cannot be right it had to be 11-4 because Dave's not here and there is only 15 of us. But it is 11-4 and that is two-thirds. I have no choice but to end the debate on the matter. Now we go to, I mean it does not matter whether I like it or not those are the rules. Now we go to the motion to separate animal control from solid waste and zoning. There cannot be any more discussion. All those in favor please signify – well now wait a second we better do roll call because there is going to have to be someone else hired because of this so in theory it could be money. So please call roll.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston (n), Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley (n), Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha (n), Matt Wells (n), Timothy Carlson, Craig Corzine. 11-4, 1 absent. Motion passed

Chairman Wells – looks like to me it is 11-4 yes, so they will be split off. Maybe I should have asked this question before is that today or the next pay period. I do not know, I did not make the motion, I voted against the motion. Certainly because I voted against it, I certainly cannot amend it. What I want to know is, is this today or is this at the end of this pay period. That is something that just popped into my head. Because somehow we are going to have to do payroll. So I do not know what you guys want to do. When is the end of the pay period Liz? Is it this Friday or next.

Liz – it would be the 28 of May

Chairman Wells – the 28. So I have to ask now, and I think the board needs to decide this. We made the motion to do this. Is it right now, is that your intent.

Vicki – I make the motion, can I make the motion on this. I would like to make a motion that we make that separation at the end of the pay period May 28

Chairman Wells – is there a second to that motion? Second by Venise McWard. Any discussion?

Ray – If I may Mr. Chairman, I just want to make sure what's best for the HR and Treasurer's office what their opinion would be as to how that works.

Chairman Wells – not a problem.

Betty – Listen I am going to be – I am like Wes Poggenpohl; do not put me on the spot with questions. This is a decision whatever you guys choose to do. You are the county board members.

Chairman Wells – Thank you

Mike Specha – Mr. Chairman we have made a motion to split a job both of which Vince held. So what job does he hold now? Its rhetorical, I am not looking for an answer now – I do not know if we know the answer.

Chairman Wells – I believe the motion was to split the two jobs and have the Chairman start looking for a replacement at Animal Control. I believe that was the motion. Correct  
Craig Corzine – Correct

Chairman Wells – so that tells me that the jobs have been split. And we are now hiring someone at animal control. Seems to me like he is keeping Solid Waste and Zoning. Maybe I am assuming something that's

Bryan – Just a point to make that we do have a person operating animal control right now that we have moved to a different job title and position a few months ago and so we do have somebody there functioning in that capacity on a day to day on a daily basis. So we may be fine.

Chairman Wells – I have a motion – any other thoughts on doing this the 28<sup>th</sup>? Okay, we have a motion on the floor to make this separation the 28<sup>th</sup>. Please call roll.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston (n), Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, 11-4, 1 absent. Motion passed

Craig Corzine – next part we need to put in a motion to move Solid Waste and Zoning Office to the courthouse in a vacant spot per the sheriff's approval. I put that in a form of a motion.

Chairman Wells – and I have to rule that motion is out of order. It violates the county board rule, which specifically state that the buildings and grounds committee is in charge of assigning space. If you look at – I believe it is building and grounds section c - that is the reason I cannot let that motion come to the floor.

Bryan – Mr. Chairman it is the executive committee's prerogative to – it appears like under Executive (d) – The Executive Committee shall make long-term recommendations for capital improvements, expenditures and future planning for all departments. While it is their departments to allocate space I think we can make a recommendation where we want the space utilized and they can allocate in that space.

Chairman Wells – Bryan, rules clearly states that committee deals with that. It does not say the board, it says that committee.

Bryan – it says allocate that space. This is long term planning for the county and the people of Christian county and where the people of Christian County do business. So future planning for all departments I think we have, we can give directions in that as well.

Chairman Wells – I do not agree

Ray Koonce – Mr. Chairman may we ask the State's Attorney? My thought is the Executive committee makes the policy; the policy we made for the motion was to make the move. And the rules say allocate the space. So it is up to the building committee to find the space per the new policy. And I would like the opinion of the State's Attorney.

Wes Poggenpohl – I mean if that is the argument, I feel like legislative would be referring its buildings and grounds for approval.

Chairman Wells asked for any other questions or comments

It was noted that the separation of offices is in effort to help Vince Harris so he can dedicate time to zoning.

JOB DESCRIPTION – Educator Solid Waste Management

Vince Harris wasn't available to present a job description. The Committee requests that Vince provide a copy next month. Chairman Wells was asked to have this item on next month's agenda.

#### SOLID WASTE STAFFING – Educator and Inspector/Investigator

The Committee discussed a possibility of an educator also fulfilling duties of an inspector. Vince would continue as an inspector as well. Chairman Wells feels there needs to be two (2) inspectors in case of absence or illness. Bryan Sharp felt there was no reason to expand the department. No action taken.

#### TEMPORARY STAFF TO ASSIST COUNTY BOARD'S ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Motion by Craig Corzine and seconded by Clint Epley to recommend a draft ordinance for an amount not to exceed \$3,600.00 from ARPA funds for temporary staff to assist the County Board's Administrative Assistant for up to 20 hours per week at \$15.00 per hour for a period of 90 days be sent to the Finance Committee for financial approval and Board recommendation. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

#### PERSONNEL HANDBOOK

Chairman Corzine indicated that the continuation of the Employee Handbook will be delayed until next month.

#### OTHER MATTERS

Julie Mayer commented that she has always kept Executive/Personnel updated on her staffing. She had an employee who accepted a secretarial position at Solid Waste Management. With e-ticket coming she won't be replacing this employee. This employee was a traffic clerk.

Motion by David Puccetti and seconded by Clint Epley to adjourn. All were in favor. Motion carried

Respectfully submitted,

Craig Corzine, Chairman  
Executive/Personnel Committee  
05/09/2022

AUDIT/FINANCE/PURCHASING/BUDGET COMMITTEE  
May 11, 2022

Present: Venise McWard, Chairman, Linda Curtin, Vicki McMahon, Tim Carlson

Absent: Ken Franklin

Others present: Matt Wells, Bruce Kettelkamp, Jim Baker, Wes Poggenpohl, Julie Mayer, Nichole Brown, Jared Blaudow, Rich Hooper, Courtney Sharp, Kent DeLay, Chris Madkins, David Brownback, Kim Curl, Mykal Fisher, Lucy Weddle, Jeanette Sheley, Andrew Voorhees, Bill Hogan, Chad Myers, Luke Millan, Tony Telford, Kayla Schneider, Kim Jones and Elizabeth Hile.

The Audit/Finance/Purchasing/Budget Committee met on Wednesday, May 11, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. at the Christian County Courthouse, Taylorville, Illinois. The purpose of the meeting was to address agenda items and any other matters properly brought before the committee. Roll call was taken and there was a quorum.

#### CLAIMS

A motion was made by Vicki McMahon and seconded by Tim Carlson to recommend to the full Board to approve the claims presented for May. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Venise McWard made a motion to approve the claims for May with a second by Linda Curtin.*  
With no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson; Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS

Circuit Clerk Julie Mayer noted that she likes to keep the Board updated on her staffing. Through the years with increase of technology, she has reduced the number of staff in her office. There was an opportunity for a member of her department to accept a position at Solid Waste Management. Due to upcoming installation of e-ticket, Julie will not be filling that position as the employee was a traffic clerk.

Kent DeLay asked why public comments are at the beginning of a meeting and not at the end.

Robert Goebel, Christian County Deputy highlighted that various department's around the area are receiving COVID compensation. He highlighted what Deputy's or Police officers have received. Taylorville Police \$3000.00; Shelby County Deputy's \$6.00 per hour plus their negotiated annual percentage increase and a 1 time \$6000.00 COVID bonus for employees from March of 2020 until 2 months ago; and Montgomery Deputy's \$5.50 per hour for each hour worked during COVID and a \$2000.00 one-time payment.

Phil Deal, Christian County Deputy commented that that is why everyone is here from the Sheriff's office. He asked everyone to introduce themselves so they could be on record. The names of those in attendance are noted in others present.

Kent DeLay asked the Committee not to forget the Health Department. When COVID started there was just Greg Seiders and Marcie May there to deal with the issue. Shortly thereafter there were 3 additional people brought on because of the demands of testing and/or vaccinations.

#### ANNUAL AUDIT PRESENTATION

Rich Hooper presented the County's FY2021 audit. He stated there were no material weaknesses or findings to report and it was a good audit. There were some areas that increased in revenue that the County will likely not see from year to year.

Regarding ARPA funds, Rich reiterated his comments from last year regarding use of the funds. He stated the County should use the funding wisely as this money will not likely occur again and to look for uses that will have a long value over time.

Auditor Rich Hooper spoke – Thank you for your time. I will be much briefer than I was in finance. Just a quick little overall about what we talked about. My name is Rich Hooper. I am the engagement partner for LMHN for the county audit. I did speak very highly of not only the Treasurer and her office but also the County Clerk and Circuit Clerk's office in their assistance while we were up here working earlier this year. So, I just want to be real brief so in the bound audit report that you will have on pages 1 and 2 is our audit opinion. Our opinion on the county's financial statements was unmodified which is considered a clean opinion. That the financial statements are presented fairly in all material respects. The county's financial statements in the detailed report are presented on the modified cash basis of accounting, which is the same as the county uses internally for the monthly financial reports from the Treasurer and that is also the method in which your budget is based upon. So, everything was good there. Page 2 continues the opinions. It says opinions because we are reporting on different areas of the report so it refers to opinions there. Mentioned the basis of accounting. There is also supplementary information in the report behind the notes that breakdown further, gives the breakdown of the general fund, actual and budget and the other major funds, which are MFT, ARPA and one more. That is it. MFT and ARPA were the other major funds. Then all the other non-major funds they are broken down and combined in the back of the report.

Pages 3 and 4 are our report on internal control over financial reporting and on compliance. This is a required report under governmental auditing standards. Our consideration of the internal control is not to express an opinion on the internal control itself, but rather items that would come to our attention. Regarding the internal control over financial reporting like Venise said, there were no material weaknesses noted and regarding compliance with laws, regulations, contracts, grant agreements, that affect the financial statements, that we reviewed and tested. There were no instances of non-compliance noted with those items.

Now in the report on page 7 is the balance sheets for the 3 major funds listed there; so General, Motor Fuel Tax, ARPA and then the combined other funds that were non-major. So in total, total assets, this excludes the fiduciary funds, private trusts and agency funds; 22. almost 22.7 million in total assets. Over all, the investments didn't change. Those are all in certificate of deposits. Futurities less than three years. Most of the assets are in cash and or liquid money markets, checking etc., and then the fund balances broken down by areas, most of the restrictions are just

because they are special purpose funds such as the Motor Fuel Tax and other items. So over-all basically the fund balance is 22.7 for the funds.

Then on page 9 is the revenue and expenditures for those said funds; so the three major funds and then the other non-major funds. Total revenues for the main operating funds for the county; \$19 million. Total expenditures disbursed for the fiscal year; \$13 million. Over-all revenues over expenditures is \$6.4 million for the year.

Then specifically, I will just briefly kind of just touch on the general fund itself. With the report there is, I refer to it as the cheat sheet. It kind of just breaks out a little bit more of the general fund because that is the main operating fund for the county and covers a lot of services the county provides its constituents. In there, on the revenue side, Venice touched on that I mentioned in finance, over-all revenues in the general fund increased \$1.8 million. And most of that increase is really in just a hand full of areas. Sales and use tax, state income tax, personal property replacement taxes. That accounted for really about \$1.5 million of that 1.8 million increase. I did mention one of the things that I probably didn't think of a year ago or during the whole COVID era as we say is the fact that sales and use tax went up. They went up about \$625,000 from fiscal year to fiscal year. As I looked at that and thought of that it isn't the first time I have seen it. I seen it in a couple other municipalities last year as well. One of the things has been mentioned and seen is while people couldn't go out and do certain shopping in person, or spend money in certain areas on entertaining or whatever, we are very good if we have internet access shopping on line and having things show up the next 24-48 hours. On top of that, there were a lot of federal stimulus money given to taxpayers across the country which I think many people used as disposable spending for items that maybe they wouldn't have during that time. So that kind of made some since. State income tax as well. Receipts were up a little bit. The one big one that did go up, percentagewise, was personal property replacement taxes. That went up about \$280,000. FY20 the whole thing in the general fund was about \$382. So its, you know, jumped up 80% to \$663,000 and that is kind of an anomaly when I pointed that out to finance. The Illinois Department of Revenue has published a paper on the website that says, basically laying out some points that this is going to be an anomaly, one time transfer, one fund into property, the personal property replacement tax fund that got distributed and some other things. They will probably drop down to more normal. It was a little abnormal there. So over-all like I said total revenue for the general fund \$8.9 million, total expenditures \$6.7 million. That was well under the budgeted expenditures. If I think about it, the \$7.2, almost \$7.3 million. So the general fund itself ended up with revenues over expenditures of \$2.2 million for the year. Also included in there was reimbursement. Right at the beginning of December of 20, the first couple of days of like \$425,000 of expenses for the previous fiscal year that were part of the initial like CARES money from the federal government. Like I said, it was already expenses that you guys had incurred and they were normal expenses and basically it was just in essence pre government money under the original CARES program. Other than that, the audit went very well. Does take some time. We were up here for about 6 weeks the four of us. But again, the various departments in the county, had everything ready for us and we were able to get in and get out really as quick as possible. It's a nice audit to work on. It is very enjoyable. The people are very good to work with throughout the county. Wanted to be brief so any questions;

Chairman Wells asked for questions. He asked Betty if there was anything that she wanted to add.

Betty Asmussen – the only thing I want to add to this is – so this isn't trying to open up a can of worms but I went to conference. I sit on a legislative committee. We met with 6 different state senator reps both republican and democrats. The main question was the salary for the sheriffs

throughout the state of Illinois. So it was questioned, where are they going to be getting paid from. Well in the statute it says general fund – well let me rephrase that, the personal property replacement tax or general fund. Well then revenue came out because there was so much confusion, and they said no it is coming from personal property replacement tax. So when I was at the committee meeting on Friday, they asked the 6 reps because the Department of Revenue cannot give us a legal opinion of is that state personal property replacement tax or is that county what they distribute down to us. They could not answer that. So I have requested a legal opinion of where that money is being paid. Because in essence, we thought the counties were going to save money, and now it actually could be – we might be receiving less personal property replacement tax because we are paying the Sheriff a bigger salary.

Chairman Wells asked for any questions or comments. He thanked Rich for his presentation.

Venise McWard – thanked Betty and Rich for their help with the audit.

#### HEALTH/VISION/DENTAL INSURANCE 2022/2023 RENEWAL RATES

Jared Blaudow and Nichole Brown from Dimond Brothers Insurance provided Health/Vision/Dental Insurance renewal rates and options for the plan year effective July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023.

There was a lot of discussion about the renewal options presented, overall cost of family insurance and whether or not more than 1 insurance option can be provided for employee election as well as CBA implications.

Motion by Vicki McMahan and seconded by Tim Carlson to recommend to the full Board to approve Option 3 of the renewal proposal for continuing BCBS Health insurance with increasing the deductible from \$1000.00 to \$3500.00 and maintaining the same HRA arrangement for employees. There is no rate changes for MetLife and EyeMed. Roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Venise McWard made a motion to approve Option 3 continuing BCBS Health insurance with a second by Thomas Snyder Jr.* Chairman Wells asked for discussion. He stated, first let me start the conversation with a discussion of this. Liz and I met with representative from AFSCME and FOP today and explained this to them. What I think their issue is going to be is when they get a bill it is going to show a bigger deductible and they are going to be thinking wait a minute. But we know we have agreements with them and they only pay \$250. Both AFSCME and FOP understand this and even with the situation with BCBS and the Springfield Clinic, they made comments today, we have talked and we want to stay so this is what AFSCME and FOP want. They understand it is not going to cost them anymore. There is a I think a slight increase for a family plan of a couple of dollars. Dan is here if the board, any of the board members have a questions about what's going on here. Dan McNeely is here does anybody have any questions that they want answered. I'm sure he understands insurance better than Venise and I.

Dale Livingston – it is just going to cost the county more money right on the deductibles.

Chairman Wells – it will cost the county more money but it was explained to us that the extra money – either we are going to pay for the deductibles should be less than the extra money we would pay to stay with the \$1000 deductible. That is going up here. Dan, can you answer this?



Dan McNeely – Yes, obviously we are taking on a little more exposure in house to pay BCBS less cost less premium. So we are increasing the out of pocket on the HRA which is a health reimbursement arrangement. The increase in payout would be \$45K at the current utilization that we are tracking right now, but the premium will go down \$112K. So that is a net savings of \$67K on just switching the structure. Hopefully that makes sense. Even with a worst case scenario, 20% utilization we still save \$25,000 by changing the structure of the layout.

Chairman Wells – the people I met with today have no problem with it because it was explained to them yesterday you are going to get a bill with a bigger deductible but you are still writing the same check.

Mike Specha – just a quick question. Dan, you said last year the pay outs were \$45,000. We talked about the savings. Is that consistent with prior years. I mean I am just curious what the trending has been.

Dan McNeely – the trending has been 12%, 20 percent utilization. So when I said the increase pay out, the increase would be \$45K. The increase in pay out by changing the deductible with Blue Cross and the premium would go down by \$112K.

Mike Specha – right. I didn't ask my question right. I apologize. My question is, that would be what last years numbers would show. Did you do any more like history - like the last two or three years to see if

Dan McNeely – yeah, it is right in the ranges that I talked about. 12% 16 percent utilization. So right in there. The worst one we ever had is 30% utilization but they covered every dollar. Every single dollar from zero to the carrier deductible. The employer covered every dollar. That is not happening here. The 250 buffer in there that the employee is responsible for.

Chairman Wells – the other thing that you should be aware of, in the past few months, I can't exactly which months, we talked about people who forgot to turn forms in because they didn't get them on time and also we are talking - the bills are automatically going to be sent to who – help me out here

Dan McNeely – yeah we are working on a fee – so we are actually looking at options to move away from Ameraflex. That is the latest update which is the provider now – third party. We are looking at another company that provides that automatically. So when you go to the doctor Blue Cross will actually send the fee to a third party overnight and then all that will happen automatically instead of the employee coming in or having to go to the website to do it themselves. You won't have those situations where you missed the timelines.

Chairman Wells – that is going to stop us from having to take the votes we did a month or so ago where we had to decide yes this person did everything they should have and maybe this one didn't that sort of thing.

Wes Poggenpohl – asked what the name of the company is.

Dan McNeely – BBC

Wes Poggenpohl – I have been involved with them before. Its very slick. You don't have to do anything. It just comes.

Dan McNeely – yeah we have the city with them. We are reaching out to them. I know there has been problems with Ameriflex and we want to take pressure off of Liz and Nicole in our office so hopefully this automatic will help a lot with that.

Chairman Wells called for any other discussion. If not, we have a motion and a second to go with the third option. After no further discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

There was an additional comment after the motion for the County to look into issues around affordability for dependent coverage before the next open enrollment period.

Venise McWard made a motion and seconded by Vicki McMahon to go into Closed Session pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (11) Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding must be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting and to include in such Closed Session all County Board members in attendance, States Attorney Wes Poggenpohl, Sheriff Bruce Kettelkamp, Chief Deputy Jim Baker and Liz Hile. Roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

The Committee went into Closed Session at 7:45 p.m.

The Committee returned to Open Session at 7:58 p.m. Roll Call vote indicated that Venise McWard, Linda Curtin, Tim Carlson and Vicki McMahon were present.

#### LIABILITY, PROPERTY AND AUTO RENEWAL/BID

The liability, property and auto insurance expires on November 30, 2022. No action.

#### WORKER'S COMPENSATION RENEWAL/BID

The worker's compensation insurance expires on December 31, 2022. No action.

#### FUTURE GRANT – SHERIFF

Chief Deputy Jim Baker presented information on a COPS grant that he would like to apply for but because of the extensive application process, wants to make sure there is support.

The grant, if received, provides 75% reimbursement for salary and fringe benefits to hire an entry level Deputy for a period up to three (3) years. There are stipulations that you must maintain staffing and retention of the employee for 1 additional year after the three (3) year grant period.

While Chief Deputy Baker doesn't know if the County would receive the grant, it's his intention to move forward on the application process. If the grant is received, the department would have a five (5) year window to hire the entry level personnel.

Motion by Vicki McMahon and seconded by Linda Curtin to recommend to the full Board to include in the next budget \$38,603.32 to match the COPS grant, should it be received, which covers the estimated match for a three (3) period. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Venise McWard made a motion to include in the next budget \$38,603.32 to match the COPS Grant with a second by Vicki McMahon. With no discussion, Chairman Wells asked for a roll call.*

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following:, Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston (stepped out), (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

Chief Deputy Baker also presented an information sheet regarding an additional correctional officer from Jail Administrator Cecil Polley as requested from a committee member.

#### ENVIRONMENTAL ATTORNEY

The Committee reviewed what they felt were costs to hire an outside attorney when the County dealt with the wind turbine issues. States Attorney Wes Poggenpohl advised in addition to the two (2) names he provided that were experienced in environmental issues, there was a third (3) individual who asked to be considered for providing a presentation to the Board.

Motion by Vicki McMahon and seconded by Linda Curtin to recommend to the full Board to allow Chairman Wells to make decisions related to the appropriate fee for environmental experienced attorney(s) to make a presentation to the Board. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

*Venise McWard made a motion to allow Chairman Wells to hire an attorney to make a presentation to the board with a second by Ken Franklin.*

After no discussion, Chairman Wells asked for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following:, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston (still out), Vickie McMahon,, (15) aye; (0) nay; (2) absent. The motion carried.

#### ZBA MEETING PAY

The ZBA current is paid \$40.00 per meeting plus mileage. An increase to \$100.00 was suggested in a committee meeting last month. No action taken.

#### SURVEY RECORDS

The Committee questioned the recent increase in cost from the family of Mr. Leroy DeLay to purchase their late father's survey records. FOIA continues to be a concern expressed as well as the work to get the records into our system.

Motion by Vicki McMahon and seconded by Tim Carlson to table and invite Mr. Kent DeLay to the next meeting to provide answers to some questions. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

#### REFERRALS

The Committee received several referrals from Executive/Personnel for approval of monetary amounts for ARPA funds requests.

Motion by Linda Curtin and seconded by Vicki McMahon to recommend to the full Board to approve Ordinance O2022CB015 in the amount not to exceed \$482,640.00 from ARPA funds for the purchase of materials and services necessary for the repairs, enhancement and/or upgrade for the removal and replacement of the existing windows at the Christian County court house. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Venise McWard made a motion to approve O2022CB015 with a second by Dale Livingston for ARPA Funds for new windows.*

With no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Clint Epley, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

Motion by Vicki McMahon and seconded by Tim Carlson to recommend to the full Board to approve Ordinance O2022CB016 in the amount not to exceed \$5,000.00 from ARPA funds for the purpose of payroll and employer related expenses due to hiring a temporary employee to aid the Christian County Administrative Assistant to the County Board/HR. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Venise McWard made a motion to approve O2022CB016 with a second by Linda Curtin for ARPA Funds for hiring temporary help for the AA to the County Board/HR.*

With no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

It was noted that the original amount referred from Executive/Personnel Committee did not contain related employer expenses such as FICA/FICA Medicare and unemployment insurance. The additional cost was recommended to be included by the County Treasurer.

Motion by Vicki McMahon and seconded by Tim Carlson to recommend to the full Board to approve Ordinance O2022CB017 in the amount not to exceed \$1,205.00 from ARPA funds for the purpose of purchasing materials and services necessary for the enhancement and/or upgrade of 1 wireless adaptor and 10 headsets at Christian County 911. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Venise McWard made a motion to approve O2022CB017 with a second by Craig Corzine for ARPA Funds for enhancing 911 upgrade.*

With no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham

Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, Bryan Sharp, (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

Motion by Linda Curtin and seconded by Vicki McMahon to recommend to the full Board to approve Ordinance O2022CB018 in the amount not to exceed \$5,000.00 from ARPA funds for the purpose of purchasing materials and services necessary for the enhancements and/or upgrade for a cash counter machine and printer in the County Treasurer's Office. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Venise McWard made a motion to approve O2022CB018 with a second by Bev Graham for ARPA Funds for cash counter for the Treasurer's office.*

With no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson, Craig Corzine (n), Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston (n), Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, (13) aye; (2) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

Ordinance O2022CB019 – not to exceed \$100,000.00 for Safe Passages from ARPA funds. No action taken with a comment that it can be revisited.

Motion by Linda Curtin and seconded by Vicki McMahon to recommend to the full Board to approve Ordinance O2022CB020 in the amount not to exceed \$50,000.00 from the ARPA funds for the purpose of enhance behavioral and mental health services needs exacerbated by the pandemic as well as related public health and/or substance misuse treatment for Christian County Problem Solving Court. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Venise McWard made a motion to approve O2022CB020 with a second by Ray Koonce for ARPA Funds for Christian County Problem Solving Court.* Chairman Wells called for discussion.

Ray Koonce – a lot of these – some of these kind of go hand-n-hand and as we talked in executive committee, the Sheriff's department I think a few months back discussed over-crowdiness in the jails and what we can do to miedigate things like that and be more proactive. You know dealing with mental health and drug issues and things like that. We need to start somewhere because we have some serious issues in this county. We pick up the cost for people that go through the county jail, the sheriff's deputies have to deal with them. The State's Attorney has to deal with them. Probation has to deal with them. So if we can medigate anything we can, in the long run I believe its going to save the county in the long run.

With no further discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, (15) aye; () nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

Motion by Venise McWard and seconded by Vicki McMahon to recommend to the full Board to approve Ordinance O2022CB021 in the amount not to exceed \$30,000.00 payable to Hired Help Handyman for the purpose of materials and services necessary for the repairs to the flooring at the Christian County court house. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Venise McWard made a motion to approve O2022CB021 with a second by Bev Graham for ARPA Funds for repairing floors in the courthouse. Chairman Wells called for discussion.*

With further discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

#### OTHER MATTERS

County Clerk Chief Deputy Courtney Sharp updated the Committee on the status of the previously denied IMRF accelerated rate claims. The claim that a hearing was requested and a new claim both have been determined to be acceptable qualifying events thereby not requiring County payment. The County will receive adjustments on our employer rate instead. The claim we knew we would owe totals \$6,270.81 and that has been paid out of the IMRF reserve fund.

Motion by Tim Carlson and seconded by Vicki McMahon to adjourn. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Venise McWard  
Finance/Audit/Purchasing/Budget Committee  
Chairwoman  
05/11/2022

Chairman Wells – Before I move on to new business, I have something I want to say but of course the Judge has left. I have received an invitation for all the board members. Christian County Problem Solving Court Commencement is Friday on June 3, 2022 at 1:00 pm at Davis Memorial Christian Church and all of us have been invited. We are spending money on it, you may want to see it. Anybody who is really interested, I can have Liz get you a copy.

## **NEW BUSINESS/OLD BUSINESS/OTHER**

Chairman Wells – I was asked to provide a little time for Mr. Sipes – Steve are you still here? Did you want to address the board?

- Steve Sipes – After the committee meeting the other night, no. I appreciate it the offer, but I am good. Thank you.
- Office Staff – Supervisor of Assessment – Chad stated that what he is looking to do is back in 2013 when I started there were 5 people in my office and I was Chief Deputy. The Chief Deputy's duties were – the largest of the duties were the division of property, mapping, and any new splits. When I took over as Supervisor of Assessments in 2015, I brought one employee up to Chief Deputy making my staff from 5 to 4 and that position didn't work out. So I let her go and I resumed the duties of mapping and went without a Chief Deputy this entire time and saved the County approximately now \$180 \$200,000. Since that time, I had a senior employee, she was here for 32 years retire and I got an employee who has been here 5 years, Brittany, she has really done excellent and taken on extra duties and I would like to entertain moving her up to the Chief Deputy position or create a GIS position. And just going off what I have currently budgeted, it would be \$5,000 under what was previously budgeted because Susie had been here so long. She had a higher pay. So I wanted to see about referring that to committee and discussing it further.

*Ken Franklin made a motion to send this to the personnel committee with a second by Craig Corzine.*

Dale Livingston – asked if it had to go to committee if it is in his budget with his office staff.

Chairman Wells – I am not certain.

Ken Franklin – according to board rules under personnel #E, to meet with department heads and to discuss the needs of any additional personnel.

Betty Asmussen – he is technically bouncing around maybe creating a new position.

Ken Franklin – makes since.

Chairman Wells – after no further discussion called for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled all ayes. Motion passed to send to personnel committee.

Chairman Wells - At the finance committee the other night, Chief Deputy Baker presented to that committee about an additional jailer. It was not on their agenda, they could not take action on it. But I was asked by one of the finance committee members about moving this forward. So I put it on this agenda thinking that if the board wanted to they could at least send it to committee for discussion. There is information paperwork here about the cost. This was brought up in the past and I believe at that time, the finance committee, if I remember this correctly, Ken, I am not trying to put words in your mouth. I think you stated you would like to see some numbers and there were some numbers handed to you the other night. We couldn't do anything with it so that is why I put it here to see if you guys wanted to send this to committee, I guess if it is a personnel issue it would go to personnel committee for referral to finance committee. But that is up to the board.

*Ray Koonce made a motion to move to the personnel committee with a second by Craig Corzine. With no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call.*

A roll call vote being called upon pulled all ayes. The motion carried to send to personnel committee.

- **Broadband Shelby Electire** – Chairman Wells stated he was asked by a board member to put time here for them to come and speak to us basically about broadband. We have reached out to them twice. Got no answer. I put it on the agenda anyway because I was asked to. They called in today after I called them yesterday or the day before and asked to be put on our July agenda. I can tell you from this being on the agenda in the past and another company from Moweaqua, I can't think of the name, they called in and wanted to know if this was on the agenda and if it was going to be decided tonight and I told them no, they are going to be on the agenda to talk to the board next month about broadband because it was requested by one of the members. So there is no action to take there.
- **The Landing** – I don't know if she is here. She contacted me about some issues with the liquor license and was asked to be put on the agenda I think in April. I put her on the agenda and I don't believe she showed up, so I put her back on here today and have heard nothing from her. She wanted to address the board about some things going on.
- **County Board Rules** - I noticed we are referring to these rules a lot and so I put them on the agenda tonight. I know we all don't agree on all of them. I have a real problem with legislation rules I, J and K. (I) says that were are suppose to in cooperation with me to get a list of election judges – I don't think that has ever been done by the board. (J) says we are going to determine the polling places – I don't think that has ever been done by the county board and (K) says we are going to do the redistricting – which I am certain the law says that the chairman of the board because we went through this or the committee if the chairman of the board does not do it. These three rules here to me look like they are just setting the committee and the board up for failure. I don't know why we would have them. Seems like to me they should be eliminated. We have the ability to send this to committee to talk about it, we have the ability to eliminate these three rules right now because they are not ordinances, they are county board rules. So I am asking for a motion to do so.

*Mike Specha made a motion to eliminate those three rules with a second by Dale Livingston. Chairman Wells called for discussion. No discussion from anyone? Craig, I am not trying to put you on the spot but you chair that committee and to me these rules are*



setting the committee to fail. I don't agree with all the rules, but to me these are kind of the ones that are way out there.

Bryan Sharp – should those go to committee for consideration and further discussion rather than bringing them here tonight and trying to decide that tonight.

Chairman Wells – that is an object but there is a motion on the floor to eliminate them at this time.

Vicki McMahon – I would like to second that. I am just now looking at these not realizing what the ones we were questioning.

Chairman Wells – that motion can't come to the floor right now because there is a motion on the floor to eliminate them.

Vicki McMahon – okay. Can we amend it?

Chairman Wells – You can amend the motion to eliminate more rules but the motion that is on the floor I don't think can be amended to send to committee.

Ray Koonce – I believe you can table it to a committee. You can table the motion to a committee.

Chairman Wells – we could vote to table the motion and send it to committee. Right now there is a motion on the floor that has been seconded.

*Ray Koonce made a motion to table it and send it to personnel committee and Vicki McMahon seconded that motion.*

After no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following; Timothy Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston (n), Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells (n) (13) aye; (2) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

- **Board Training** – The web page is up and running for the Open Meetings Act training we are required to take. I have taken mine. Got my certificate downstairs. If you have problems with it. Contact Liz she walked me through it. Once you get to the right web page it is fairly easy. It is a – this training is 112 pages long so you are not going to do it in 5 minutes. But if you miss a question, you get to answer again so. There is no action taken but I suggest we all take the harassment training. Keeps us out of trouble.
- **UCCI Update** – Liz state it was about some leadership training program that UCCI has available to all board members. It is free. Normally the cost is about \$2500 so they are providing it free. It should be in your packet. There is a list of the courses. I have gone to the fall UCCI program and awards dinner and they always recognize those people that have taken the program. There was a lot that was recognized last year so I think it's a program that is well received. I don't know if anybody has been to it before but that is what this is about.

MILEAGE AND PER DIEM REPORT – MARCH 15, 2022

<u>Board Member</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u># of Meetings This Month</u>
Timothy Carlson	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Craig Corzine	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Linda Curtin	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Clint Epley	\$ 50.00	\$25.00	2
Ken Franklin	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Bev Graham	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Ray Koonce	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Dale Livingston	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Vicki McMahan	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Venise McWard	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
David Puccetti	\$100.00	\$25.00	1
Bryan Sharp	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Chuck Smedley	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Thomas Snyder, Jr.	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Mike Specha	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Matt Wells	\$615.38		

Chairman Wells called for a motion from the floor to approve the Mileage and Per Diem Report *A motion was made by Bev Graham and seconded by Dale Livingston to approve the mileage and per diem report.* With no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Craig Corzine Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahan, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Timothy Carlson; (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

**Chairman Wells** – one last item before I ask for a motion to adjourn. I know we don't all agree on everything but we all know that carbon is a big issue. I have found and been communicating with a lady who I believe is a registered geologist with the state. She is willing to come and meet with us. Because of the great interest I have to do it as a county board meeting. The items on the agenda that night are going to be her speaking, hear from the public and the board asking questions. We will take no action. What I want to make clear to you as board members, she gave me three dates of the 5, 6 and 7 of June, that Monday Tuesday or Wednesday. We are already going to meet with an attorney on a Tuesday night. If I put this off a week, we are into committee meetings and two weeks is the board meeting. Is there an objection to having back to back meetings that week.

Craig Corzine – can it be in conjunction with the attorney meeting?

Chairman Wells – it could be but I think the attorney meeting if the public shows up we are going to be talking about hiring someone when we are going to be in closed session. And I cannot imagine how many people in the county maybe interested in hearing what she has to say. Someone with no interest in the project has to say about putting this carbon in the ground. I am guessing we are going to have to go to the high school or something for that. From some of the meetings we have had in the past and I don't know how we do that Craig and go into closed session. If we hear

from two attorneys and we decide we want to hire one of them we are going to have to go into closed session to discuss which one we like better or two or three attorneys. I don't know how we do it on the same night. It would make for a long long night and we may have to ask a lot of people to leave a meeting which I really – you know when we go into closed session – no disrespect to any one but asking 4 or 5 people to leave is one thing but asking 60 or 70 – who knows how many people are going to be interested in someone who doesn't have a dime in it but knows about putting stuff in the ground and what's in the ground. May be a lot of people there. I don't know what else to do but have it early that week.

Ray Koonce – My recommendation would be to do it the Monday before.

Chairman Wells – if I can get her here that day. Do it Monday and Tuesday. Yes I would like to do that but she gave me three dates. My original response was any one of them is fine. I will send her a text here shortly and tell her we would like her here on that Monday and then we will make arrangements to probably use the room at the school like we used for the windmills and get a crowd in there.

Mike Specha – Monday the 6<sup>th</sup>.

Chairman Wells – I can't promise you anything but I do think its important that hear what she has to say.

Linda Curtin – 6:30

Chairman Wells – I am guessing.

Bev Graham – where is she coming from.

Chairman Wells – she works in Springfield. Linda as far as the time I will leave that up to her. She may want to meet at 6 thinking its going to be 3 hours and she wants to get home earlier.

Bev Graham – who does she work for in Springfield.

Chairman Wells – I don't know. I could have told you Bev if you hadn't asked. State Agency.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Chairman Wells called for a motion from the floor to adjourn until June 21, 2022. *A motion was made by Dale Livingston and seconded by Timothy Carlson to adjourn until the next meeting on May 18, 2022.*

With no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent; the motion carried.



**PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNTY BOARD**

AT A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COUNTY BOARD MEMBERS OF CHRISTIAN COUNTY ILLINOIS, BEGUN AND HELD AT THE CHRISTIAN COUNTY COURTHOUSE IN TAYLORVILLE, ILLINOIS, ON **JUNE 7, 2022**

*ATTEST: JACQUE S. WILLISON, COUNTY CLERK*

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The following proceeding had and entered at large upon the records of said Board, which is done accordingly in the following words and figures to wit;

Chairman Matt Wells called the board to order at 6:30 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLGEINCE**

**ROLL CALL**

The roll call by Chief Deputy County Clerk Courtney Sharp showing all members present except Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Ray Koonce, Vicki McMahon. There is a quorum.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Chairman Wells called for public comments. There were no public comments.

**BUSINESS**

**Attorney Amy L Jackson** – Thank you all first of all for inviting Rammelkamp Bradney, my firm and myself here to give you a presentation tonight. My firm is located in Jacksonville, Illinois and we have 10 attorneys right now. Myself and Allen Yow, you have his biography in front of you, we are two of the shareholders of the firm. Five of our attorneys are shareholders; the others consist of associate attorneys and staff attorneys. Our firm just celebrated its 125th anniversary of practice in the Jacksonville community. We have not always been known by the name Rammelkamp Bradney but it is the same firm and it has just gone through different iterations of names over the years. So with regard to the issues that you are currently dealing with that involve the proposed carbon sequestration pipeline and storage facility. Wes asked me to come and give a brief presentation and then to make myself available for some questions. It is my understanding that you are in the process of trying to determine whether and if you need to hire outside counsel to help draft an ordinance that would help protect the county in the event this proposed facility does come to fruition. And if so, is Rammelkamp Bradney the firm that you would like to engage for this business. So those are my understanding of why I am here. It is my understanding that Wes probably found me because of my history with environmental law. I have a practice that consist of environmental practice currently. I started out years ago with the Illinois Attorney General’s office when Jim Ryan was the Attorney General, so I am dating myself because that was some time ago. Then I also did work for the Pollution Control Board. That environmental work involved environmental litigation, it involved rule making, and environmentally focused hearings, public hearings on matters that were of importance to different groups.

After leaving the State of Illinois, I transitioned into private practice and I have been with Rammelkamp Bradney ever since. My practice is primarily one of litigation. But within litigation you will see what is kind of a strange diversity in topics that I cover and they seem a bit diverse but I have come to that specialties here, there is different specialties rather organically in the course of my practice. Of course, I started with environmental law and when I moved to into private practice, I continued with environmental law in different variations. Litigations, assisting clients that may be purchased property or considering purchasing property that may have environmental issues and advising them of that. I currently represent individuals that are dealing with environmental matters whether it is with a neighbor or in litigation with the State of Illinois. So I think that is probably that background with environmental laws why Wes sought me out and asked me to come and give a presentation tonight. What I want to tell you is the thing about Rammelkamp Bradney and our attorneys; we are not what you consider a general practice firm. We do have cover general practice areas but among our attorneys, we each have our own specialties and one of mine is environmental law. I have given you the biography of Allen Yow and the reason I have done that is because one of Allen's specialties I think is very well suited to what you are looking to accomplish here. Allen has represented a number of municipalities and different governmental entities for many many years. He has been involved in drafting and the passage of numerous ordinances in terms of the policies and procedures that need to be considered in that regard. Allen has that level of expertise. When we think about representing a client, we want to provide the best representation for that client as possible and sometimes, that involves bringing in two or more attorneys who combined have the expertise that that client needs. Now we also want to be very good stewards of our clients funds whether our client is an individual entity, and insurance company or a governmental entity, we realize that really nobody wants to pay their attorneys a huge amount of money. So, when we do staff matters with more than one attorney, for example, if you do decide to go with Rammelkamp Bradney with myself and with Allen Yow, there would not be a situation where we would both, if you would require both of us to come here, we would both come, but you are not going to be double billed for two attorneys coming to talk to the board. Okay. So, this is not our way of trying to get more in attorney's fees. Really, it is our way to best serve the needs of the client. In this case, Christian County. We think Allen and I together could help you sort through the issues that you are dealing with related to the carbon sequestration.

Any questions at this point?

Bryan Sharp – did you have any dealings with the windmills or FutureGen project at the Jacksonville area?

Amy Jackson – so yes and no. I was not directly involved in the FutureGen project and I do not believe anyone in my firm was. I do, as you will see in my biography, have a portion of my practice that involves representing electric cooperatives. And, so in the course of my utility work I have had dealings with the wind turbine that are over there toward Sangamon Morgan County. Okay. So only in that regard, not in regard to writing ordinances, but relating to other agreements. Let us say between the electric coop and the entity. Good question. What I will add, and that makes me think of something else. Some of you may be familiar with Allen Yow or remember that name. In 2020 and early part of 2021, Allen was involved here in Christian County with helping draft or revise ordinances related with wind energy and solar energy. As well as, I believe,

proposing some changes to special use permits that perhaps Christian County already had in place that would be directly tailored towards the needs for the wind energy facilities. So Allen had some involvement here in Christian County and he was brought into that because of his expertise in that area. So, I have spoken with him about the situation going on here and we are both on board and we think together we can provide you with the ordinance writing skills, the environmental skills that together could give you a result that is ultimately the most protective and would address the needs of this board and of the communities that you serve.

Dale Livingston – can you tell us who you represented in Christian County.

I can tell you we represented the drainage districts. Writing ordinances for drain tile

Amy – couple of things real briefly that I would add to it, Mr. Chairman. Wes said a couple questions that you might have would involve what types of topics can be addressed in an ordinance. So, I thought I would speak to that very briefly. In my experience, in situation like this it would be reasonable for an ordinance to include such topics as set back provisions from residences, from perhaps bodies of water. Would also be reasonable for an ordinance to address monitoring and security provisions for the particular facility. Financial assurance, that if the entity that is developing this and installing this building it goes bankrupt or is unable to fulfill its financial obligations there is something in place. Whether it is insurance, bond of some sort, something to allow the county to step in and have the finances to do what is needed to protect your citizens. Also then potentially termination or abandonment procedures. I do not know all of the details about the term of this project or how long they will actually be injecting the carbon dioxide into the ground that we would want to be sure all of those different variables are addressed.

Now, whether and to what extent an ordinance can include the provisions that are more restrictive than federal or state regulations. I cannot tell you specifically because it really is dependent on the actual verbiage of those regulations. An example that comes to mind that we dealt with at Rammelkamp Bradney involved the livestock management facilities act. I do not know if you have had issues with that in Christian County confined animal feeding operations. The statute is very specific in terms of the citing provisions. We represented a municipality that wanted an ordinance with more restrictive citing provisions and that was not successful because the statute was so clearly written; we were not able to write an ordinance that was different from the statute. So to what extent something like that could be done in this case, we would have to get into the leads of it with the language of the applicable regulations and to determine what could be done within those parameters.

Thomas Snyder Jr. – the water department they pull about 1.2 to 1.4 million gallons of water a day. I just wanted to throw that number out there.

Mike Specha – Amy, we just had some light discussion a couple meetings about possible concerns by the attorney of conflicts and I am not sure exactly, I am going to make one up. Representing a farmer. Let us say has an easement problem and let us say it was in Morgan County. Are those conflicts of potential problems? I am just concerned about conflicts of interest

Amy – so conflicts of interest are a concern and we have an internal process in our firm when a new matter comes in we do a very detailed extensive conflict check to make sure we are not running afoul of any current client. Whether the situation you described would create a conflict or not. It would really depend on the individual circumstances of each matter so it would be fact. If Rammelkamp Bradney, for example, could represent the landowner who is getting an easement in Morgan County and nothing about the representation would impact Rammelkamp Bradney's ability to serve Christian County then there would not be a conflict. So it would really just depend on what the specifics are of each individual situation. We would look into that before we would actually enter into a written engagement agreement with Christian County.

Mike Specha – Christian County is going to have a unique situation. That sequestration field is located in the county. But this pipeline runs 1300 miles, which there is a gazillion county across the five states. So I am guessing some of those issues could be uniquely different. So if we decide, and you agree to do it are you going to do some sort of initial conflict before you would agree to take the engagement is that what I understood you to say.

Amy – Absolutely. That is correct. But I can tell you I did a preliminary check myself. The attorneys in our office do not do the conflict check but we have access to the electronic software database where we can do that. I did not see anything that set off any red flags. But it would be for our business manager to actually perform that check officially. Nothing that made me uncomfortable about coming here tonight certainly to provide this presentation.

Bryan – currently representing Morgan County and Sangamon County and counties to the west of you that are affected by this project, are you guys dealing with anyone outside of Christian County?

Amy – so, let me answer that carefully. As attorneys, we are bound by confidentiality rules so we are technically allowed to disclose yes or no. Do we represent someone or not. What I can tell you is that I did a preliminary check in our database and I did not find any information or current representations that made me uncomfortable about coming here and speaking with you tonight. That is probably all I can say at this point. We would confirm it before moving further.

Chairman Wells – let me ask one of the big questions here. I think that even though we all do not agree on what the exact wording should be, we all agree we need an ordinance for carbon sequestration. I guess one of the big questions is can you give us a ballpark on what the fee would be to write this ordinance.

Amy – I also thought about that. And what I did actually was look at the work Allen did related to the wind and solar ordinance work. He was involved in that for roughly ten months. Some of the work would have been very similar. May have even been more since he was dealing with two different ordinances and a special use permit. His total fees for that roughly ten-month period were just under \$7500. I cannot tell you more or less but in terms of a comparable example that was the best thing I could come up with.

Bryan – did I hear you correct \$7500

Chairman Wells – that is a ballpark guess at this point.



Amy – ballpark yes. It is based on the similar work he did in Christian County within the last couple of years.

Dale Livingston – does that have to do with drainage districts?

Amy – so it was work related to ordinances that I think were ultimately adopted by this board. I cannot really say for whom Allen was directly working at that time. Again similar type work.

Wes – A period generally - how long do you think a preliminary draft do you think that would take a month, two or three.

Amy – we try to be responsive to the needs of our clients. I did some research on what you guys are doing right now and what you are considering. Am I correct there is currently a moratorium in place?

Chairman Wells – Well most of us think so.

Amy – okay. So I guess to answer that question, if you provide us with a period in which you need an initial draft then that is the period within which we will work. It will not be tomorrow right. It probably will not be next week. But I think we can certainly work within the period that you would need.

Chairman Wells – let me put this out there. I think all of us would agree that we need an ordinance for this. Where the board may differ would be feet, dollars, setback footage and stuff like that. Does it possible to get an ordinance with kind of fill in the blank numbers so that after you present something to us we can come in here and do the arguing then the majority will rule without somebody have to be here every month? Bryan and I might not agree on how deep something could be; Venise and I might not agree on a fee, but are we going to have to pay to change \$5 to \$50 or 1000 feet to 1500 feet or can we just get something that is kind of a fill in the blank and once we get it all worked out, Mr. Poggenpohl can get it all back to you.

Amy – I think that is definitely doable in terms of we would provide you with a draft ordinance with different suggestions or proposals with the different terms. Ultimately, it would up to this board to determine what the final provisions of that ordinance will be. We will be able to coordinate with Wes. As I said earlier, we want to be good stewards of the county's funds. We are not going to want to make unnecessary trips here to change a word or two in the ordinance when you got Wes here who can handle that.

Wes – follow up to that. If they have a disagreement. I get it they are the ones making the decision. Ultimately we want somebody with experience to have input to give us advice to say I think that change is fine; I think that change exposes us to liability. If they want change, we can get input from you.

Amy – Absolutely. Absolutely. You know I mentioned earlier that we would provide a written engagement agreement and I think these are terms we can include in that written engagement

agreement. So you all understand the parameters and we understand the parameters of what we are being asked to do. We can fulfill it according to the terms of that agreement.

Dale Livingston – so how many ordinances has your guys' firm been a part of for zoning.

Amy – oh my goodness. Hundreds. I cannot really tell you. Yeah, so, myself, personally not too many because I am not an ordinance writer. My specialty and what I bring to the table is the environmental background okay and what may be necessary in terms of being most protective of the environment and the people of Christian County. What Allen brings is the ordinance writing experience. I could not even tell you, 100 is probably a low number. He has been doing this for the better part of his practice and he has been practicing for I want to say 28 to 30 years.

Bryan – With regard to this number. I am not qualified to suggest a range or anything, you guys are or have the resources to do so—if there is a number to put into this it is probably backed up by an unbiased opinion. Fact based unbiased opinion. Personally, I am concerned about us putting a number on it with regards to a range. We do not have the expertise to do that is why you are here. The number to be proposed would be based on -

Amy – our research and yes, our review of the regulations in terms of, for example, setbacks, what you would need for financial, adequate financial assurance, that sort of thing. Yes, absolutely, we would provide recommendations on those things.

Dale Livingston – what is the cost

Chairman Wells – well she said best estimate \$7500. I guess I will ask. You said you were familiar with this. Here is where we are at. When we were first approached with this I could not make it but I was asked to go look at a carbon well in Macon County. I did not go. The Zoning officer and another board member went. I asked the Zoning Officer to get us a copy of Macon County's ordinance. He informed me Macon County does not have an ordinance. I asked him to get me a copy of Decatur's ordinance. He informed me Decatur does not have an ordinance. We went through the process of what I thought was the process we have been using in the past. Sent information to the Zoning Board. They tabled it. So, what has happened now is Mr. Poggenpohl told us he thought we could pass a moratorium, which the board voted to do. That moratorium has not been to the Zoning Board and we do not have today; we have a moratorium but we do not have an ordinance for carbon sequestration. My question to you is this; if someone in Macon County can go to the state and the federal government and get a permit and put a carbon well into the ground, even though we passed a moratorium, we have no ordinance regulating a carbon well. Does a moratorium do us any good as far as the state or federal government issuing permits and a landowner and a carbon company being able to start putting carbon in the ground in Christian County?

Amy – so what I can tell you, I cannot speak to the effectiveness of the moratorium. I think that would probably be an opinion for Wes to provide you with. What I can tell you is that in Illinois the licensing of a carbon dioxide pipeline and or sequestration facility must be approved by the Illinois Commerce Commission. The laws, the carbon dioxide transportation and sequestration act it governs the procedures by which an entity must apply for a license. The licensure hearing is

that, it is a public hearing where public entities are allowed input good and bad, being put is sought and to my understanding from the commerce commission and there are specific set of findings that the commerce commission must make before they grant that certificate or licensure for the pipeline. So there is a process. The entity cannot just come in to Christian County tomorrow and plop down a pipeline or drop a sequestration well or it's certain spot. And the county would have to be given notice when that application is filed with the commerce commission. So you would be on notice from day one when that entity goes into the commerce commission seeking the approval to do this.

Dale Livingston – for both the well and the pipeline? What if they truck it in?

Amy – Well, that is an excellent question and I cannot tell you the answer tonight. My best guess would be both because you are not going to get a sequestration facility without a pipeline coming to it.

Bev Graham – I cannot understand what he is saying. He is mumbling. You are saying they cannot do one without the other.

Amy – Well, if they are going to be using the pipeline to get to the sequestration facility, which is my understanding of what the project, entails here. They would have to get that licensure from the commerce commission. Could not have one without the other. The question was what if they truck it in. And I do not know. I honestly do not know.

Bev – so as far as we know right now, unless you know differently, they have not received a permit.

Amy – I looked on line and I was not able to find any application filed by this particular entity with the commerce commission. And the rules in that transportation sequestration act require entity to give notice, not just public notice, but specific notice to any property owners that maybe impacted and to the location where this is going to take place.

Chuck – I believe ADM is already in the process of doing that in Macon County. How did they get that through?

Chairman Wells – there is no ordinance. They had no resistance. There is no ordinance from the county or city of Decatur. So they went and got a permit. Be my guess.

Bryan – I would just suggest ADM could probably do whatever they want to do.

Chairman Wells – that could be an issue for us. We do not know how far this stuff goes.

Bev – yeah, you just said they did not have any resistance. Here in Christian County they have plenty of resistance.

Chairman Wells – I did not say they did not have any resistance here.

Bev – No, you said in Macon County they did not have resistance.

Chairman Wells – nobody in Macon County was arguing with ADM

Bev – we do not have ADM

Chairman Wells – Thank you very much.

Amy – Thank you. I appreciate it.

Chairman Wells – closed session. Under 5 ILCS 120/2 c (1) the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity.

Chairman Wells asked for a motion to go into closed session. *Mike Specha made a motion to go into closed session with a second by Dale Livingston.* With no discussion to go into closed session, Chairman Wells called for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Timothy Carlson, Bev Graham, Dale Livingston, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp (n), Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells (10) aye; (1) nay; (5) absent. The motion carried.

Let me apologize I should have listed board members at the meeting tonight, States Attorney, Administrative Assistant and Chief Deputy Clerk will be the ones going into closed session.

Dale Livingston made a motion to come out of closed session with a second by Chuck Smedley. With no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Bev Graham, Dale Livingston, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp (n), Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson, (10) aye; (1) nay; (5) absent. The motion carried.

Chairman Wells – returning to open meeting. Christian County Board Meeting as of June 7, 2022 is reopened at 7:20 pm, please call roll.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Dale Livingston, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson, Bev Graham, (10) aye; (1) nay; (5) absent.

Chairman Wells – we are back in open session are there any motions.

*Bev Graham made a motion to allow the board members who were not here tonight to have time to review the information the lady spoke about and so they can go over this then bring that back to the full county board meeting. Clint Epley second the motion.* Chairman Wells called for discussion.

Mike Specha – I am unclear Mr. Chairman what kind of time frame that motion puts on us.

Chairman Wells – it did not put one on us. It did not. Let them review it and then bring it back to the board.

Mike Specha – just my concern - my personal feeling is I am fine right now but I understand seeing somebody else but I still think we need a date to get somebody else. This dragging our feet and not moving forward is a concern.

Chairman Wells – me too.

Bryan Sharp – can we amend her motion

Chairman Wells – you can make a motion to amend you do not need her permission to make a motion to amend.

Bev Graham – he's just talking

Bryan Sharp – vote on this at the next board meeting and that could give the other folks time to review

Chairman Wells – so the motion is to amend it, let them review it and vote at the June 21 board meeting.

Bryan Sharp – see to it that everybody receives a copy

Chairman Wells – I have an amendment to the motion on the floor is there a second. I have a second. Is there any discussion.

Mike Specha – Mr. Chairman – I am not disagreeing with the amendment. I just want to be clear on the amendment. So are we saying that we will take the proposal and let the other five board members review it and take a vote yes or no on this attorney in two weeks? Is that what the amendment is for? How does that accomplish getting them to returning it? That is my question.

Bev Graham – that allows Wes to have the time to call the person back again. And if he does not hear then we know there is not another interested. Is that enough time or not.

Wes – I have a lot going on and I know you guys realize this. I am not going to sit and play phone tag. If they want to do it, they should respond to the call. That is one thing I get frustrated with is calling people and not getting a response. As much as, if anybody else wants to talk to this person they are more than welcome to. I have already called him twice without a response; I am not going to beg this person for a response.

Chairman Wells – to clarify that - the motion was to let them review it and then vote on it later. Then the amendment to the motion is to let them review it to have it voted on at the June meeting.

I said the 17<sup>th</sup> but it is really 21. I believe that is the amendment to the motion. Is there any other discussion on the amendment? Then let us vote on the amendment.

All those in favor of the amendment signify by saying Aye. Those opposed same sign. Dale Livingston replied no. Motion carried 10-1-5.

So, now we are voting on a motion to let the other board members review what was presented to us tonight and then to vote at the June meeting to have Mr. Poggenpohl tell them we want them to send us an engagement letter so that we can decide at the July meeting whether or not we want to hire them

Bryan – would there be any way to have the engagement letter here to review before the next meeting.

Chairman Wells – not unless we take action and tell her we want to hire her for the \$7500 to send the engagement letter. You vote this motion down then we can do that. Then the full board can decide whether they want to hire them or not for the \$7500 – hire them with the engagement letter the way it reads and to me the big issue is after Mr. Poggenpohl reads the engagement letter advises yes, you want to hire these people. Because we are in legal territory and I sure – put it this way, if we decide to do that whether it's June, July or August and that engagement letter comes her and Wes is not here that night, I am not going to be here that night because I do not want any part of trying to figure that out. That is the biggest issue right there is him looking at an engagement letter and deciding whether or not it's – he feels as an attorney and it's in our best interest to hire that company. We will not ask her to send an engagement letter with the motion that is on the floor now.

Mike Specha – Mr. Chairman so if we were to vote down this motion – what I heard Bryan say right now he could put a motion out there requesting an engagement letter and vote on it in two weeks based on the terms in that engagement letter whether we approve it or not because we don't know the terms of the letter.

Chairman Wells – that is correct

Mike Specha – we keep saying \$7500

Chairman Wells – it may come in at \$40,000

Mike Specha – it may come in at \$2500

There was discussion amongst all of the members present.

Bryan – asked how do we get that letter

Mike Specha – first we have to vote down this motion

Chairman Wells – no, Bryan is procedurally right here. That motion at this time belongs to Bev. Bev can withdraw that motion any time she wants to. She does not then it would have to be voted on. The maker of the motion can withdraw it any time they want to withdraw it until the board votes on it it belongs to her.

Bev Graham – Wes, do you think she could have that letter in two weeks.

Wes – I think so.

Much discussion going on with all the board members at once.

Bev Graham – I think we have it in our head that it is going to be \$7500.

Chairman Wells – I agree with that

Bev Graham – she was giving an example of what he charged somebody many years ago.

Chairman Wells – quite honestly, we should have a lot better idea what it is going to cost us once we get an engagement letter.

Bev Graham – I am sure their attorney fees have gone up since he did that.

Chairman Wells – quite a bit. I assure you her ride over here from Jacksonville more because of the price of gas. This service is going to cost us.

Bev Graham – the retainer fees have gone up

Chairman Wells called for any other discussion.

There was talking amongst the board members regarding what happens if Bev does not drop her motion.

Chairman Wells – then we have to vote on it.

Bev – stated she would change her motion

Chairman Wells – stated that she could not change her motion but she could withdraw her motion.

Bev – withdrew her motion.

Chairman Wells – Motion has been withdrawn and we are back to basics. Is there any other motions

*Mike Specha made a motion that we request an engagement letter from this attorney to be reviewed in two weeks at our board meeting which time we will make based on terms and conditions of the engagement letter an approval or denial of the services. Dale Livingston seconded the motion.*

Chairman Wells state we have a motion and a second – any discussion.

Bev Graham – the people who were not here tonight need time to review what was presented here tonight. That needs to be put in there also. That they have the information to them before the 21<sup>st</sup>. So they can review it and then they will have the letter that night.

Chairman Wells – he does not have to put that in his motion that he made. You can make a motion to amend his motion to include that if you choose.

Bev Graham – I do not think they should be excluded.

Chairman Wells – Bev, let me just tell you this. First thing I will ask Liz to do tomorrow is get copies of all the information that you have tonight and get it emailed to the members who are not here. So now, we have a motion on the floor. Is there any discussion. Chairman Wells called for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Dale Livingston, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson, Bev Graham, (10) aye; (1) nay; (5) absent. Motion carried

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

With no other unfinished business to come before the Board, a *motion was made by Thomas Snyder, Jr. and seconded by Dale Livingston to adjourn.* A roll call vote being called upon polled all ayes. (11) Aye; (0) nay; (5) absent; the motion carried.



**PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNTY BOARD**  
AT A MEETING OF THE COUNTY BOARD MEMBERS OF CHRISTIAN COUNTY  
ILLINOIS, BEGUN AND HELD AT THE CHRISTIAN COUNTY COURTHOUSE IN  
TAYLORVILLE, ILLINOIS ON **JUNE 21, 2022**  
*ATTEST: JACQUE WILLISON, COUNTY CLERK*

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The following proceeding had and entered at large upon the records of said Board, which is done accordingly in the following words and figures to wit;

Chairman Wells called the board meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

The roll call by County Clerk Jacque Willison showing all members present with Mike Specha being absent. A quorum was had to hold the meeting.

**APPROVE COUNTY BOARD MINUTES**

Chairman Wells asked for any corrections or additions and to accept the May 17, 2022 County Board minutes to approve as printed. Chairman Wells called for a motion to approve the minutes. *Timothy Carlson made a motion to approve the minutes seconded by Venise McWard.* After no discussion, Chairman Wells asked for roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon, polled the following: (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent; the motion carried and the minutes were approved.

Chairman Wells asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the special County Board meeting of June 7, 2022 as printed with any corrections or amendments to them. *David Puccetti made a motion to approve the minutes with a second by Dale Livingston.* After no discussion, Chairman Wells asked for roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent; the motion carried and the minutes were approved.

Chairman Wells – with that, there is a letter of engagement from Rammelkamp Bradney, P.C. Mr. Poggenpohl, I believe, am I correct it was sent to you. If I am remembering right, you were going to look it over and advise us as to your thoughts on the agreement.

Wes Poggenpohl – I thought everything looked good. They sent it over to me earlier this week. I had a chance to look it over. I think it looks good. If we do not like how things are going, we can get out of it. Based on what I heard at the meeting, I think they will serve us well.

Chairman Wells – called for a motion to enter into this agreement with Rammelkamp Bradney, P.C. *Venise McWard made a motion to enter into the agreement with a second by Ken Franklin.* With no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahan, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson; Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

## PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chairman Wells called for public comments –Let me remind anyone who wants to speak you are limited to three minutes time. This is not a question and answer session. It is a time for you to direct your thoughts and words to the county board. Any one wish to speak? Please stand up and identify yourself.

**Rebecca Hile** – My name is Rebecca Hile. I am here to speak about the recent removal of Vince Harris from CCAC. I volunteered at Animal Control from May 2011 until August 2019 under Joelynda Conrad, then Vince. I was on the founding board of “Friends of Christian County Animal Control”, where I served as trustee from July 2018 until my resignation in February 2020. Vince started at Animal Control in May 2018. He was given part time employees. The community rallied with many volunteers. Eventually one of the part time positions became full time. Animal Control highlights under Vince’s time include:

- Facility cleaned top to bottom – every inch
- We went from using Pet Finder to Face Book for higher visibility.
- Animals started getting rabbi shots, spayed/neutered, and microchipped.
- Injured or sick animals were vetted.
- More people and animals came through the doors.
- Pana animal control was pulled back to Christian County.
- Dog adoptions increased. Cat adoptions skyrocketed.
- Flex hours were added; 1 night per week plus Saturdays
- Additional fencing was installed; security cameras were installed
- Vince oversaw tornado relief including food donations and the housing of displaced animals for the families who had lost everything.
- Animal Control started checking references prior to adoption and assisted with creating and fundraising for the feral cat program.
- He removed the broken crematorium, crafted a breeder ordinance, and amended the Animal Control ordinance to add language for Animal Humane investigators.

And all of that took place in four years, one I remind you was a pandemic year. Most of that is in the meeting minutes on the Christian County Board’s website. You do not make changes without ruffling feathers or telling people no. Everyone has strengths, weaknesses and mistakes and Vince is no exception. But in case you do not know we, animal advocates are a pushy group with big hearts and big personalities. We can get ample and we do not like to be told no. During my years, I saw mistakes and overstepping by both parties advocates including. If one does not like a county ordinance or the way state laws are being written or how they are being prosecuted or sentenced then the avenue to push, then find an avenue to push for change. If the ordinance or law is not change, then plugging a different person into that seat is not going to change the issue. As you move forward in seeking a replacement for Vince, this is what I would like to say. I would like to say they can look back in their body of work and say they have accomplished as much for Christian County’s animals as Vince did. Thank you for your time.

**Patty Rykhus** – Hi, I am Patty Rykhus and I am the president of Friends of Christian County Animal Control. I recently had the opportunity to review the May 14 2019 committee meeting minutes where the Friends of Christian County Animal Control was mentioned. I usually just say Friends because it is easier that way. To clarify under the animal control section they stated Friends are doing fundraisers, which is correct. However, I had a problem with one section and I am going to quote “a separate checking account will be established with the Animal Control Administrator as the second signature. I believe that was an incorrect statement or it was implemented

incorrectly. I am aware of the TNR account at the First National Bank. However, it is not under Friends. I do not know who has signature on the account, but I wanted to make sure Friends is not responsible for record keeping or audit on that account. Same thing goes with the Pet Fund Account. From what I observed, Vince had control over the TNR Account and the Pet Fund Account. I was disheartened at our meeting with Animal Control and during the fund raiser meetings and the TNR meetings, we could not talk about financials. We did not get answers of what the current balances were and I just wanted to let you guys know Friends did not have control over those accounts. There are a couple of accounts that CCAC did have signature, second signature capabilities on. One was a capitol account that I created February 7, 2020 and our animal care account 6/29/2020 and we will make sure those funds go toward their intended use. I know what the financial institutions that I dealt with during that time for any organization to open up an account they had to have the minutes from their board meeting with a motion and a positive vote from the organization to open that account. So my question is on the TNR Account and the Pet Fund Account who were the signatures on it. What documentation was in place so they could be opened? Whose employee identification number, Fein or social security number are those accounts tied to? Anyway, I want to thank you for your time and your due diligence.

Chairman Wells asked if there was anyone else from the public who wishes to speak. This is a second call from the public – this is the third and final call, any want at all.

**Recognitions** - Jacque pointed out to me, I may pronounce Dani's last name wrong, I believe is Knecht recently completed 20 years of service with the county in her office and also, Jackie Mann, I believe tomorrow is, she celebrates 30 years of service with the county in the treasurer's office. I know we missed people. I know there are people who have dates of 30-35 years and I apologize to you but we just felt this was a little extra way to let you know – sometimes I know we seem hardheaded in here but we do appreciate your work that the employees are doing for the county. Thank you all very much.

#### **PETITIONS, RESOLUTIONS, ORDINANCES OR PROCLAMATIONS**

- **O2022ZB023** – Chairman Wells called for a motion on the floor to approve this zoning ordinance. *Linda Curtin made a motion to approve Ordinance O2022ZB023 with a second by Dale Livingston.* With no discussion, Chairman Wells asked for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahan, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson; Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

- **O2022ZB024** – Chairman Wells called for a motion on the floor to approve this zoning ordinance. *Venise McWard made a motion to approve Ordinance O2022ZB024 with a second by Bev Graham.* With no discussion, Chairman Wells asked for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahan, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson; Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

- **O2022ZB025** - Chairman Wells called for a motion on the floor to approve this zoning ordinance. *Dale Livingston made a motion to approve Ordinance O2022ZB025 with a second by Thomas Snyder, Jr.* With no discussion, Chairman Wells asked for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp (n), Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson; Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, (14) aye; (1) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

## READING OF COMMUNICATIONS

### **JUNE 2022 COMMUNICATIONS**

The following communications were presented and placed on file in the Clerk's Office.

1. June 2022 Prevailing Wage Report
2. The May 2022 Public Defender's Report
3. The Treasurer's Reports for period ending May 31, 2022
4. The Local Solid Waste Fees Fund report for May 2022
5. ROE – Expenditure Report for May 2022
6. C.E.F.S – April 2022 PCOM report
7. IEPA – Notice of Application for Permit to Manage Waste
8. IDOR – Notification to Maintain: 08-07115-00- BR & 08-04118-00-BR; both projects have been completed; Bridge near Owaneco/Locust Creek and Bridge east of Morrisonville over South Fork of the Sangamon River.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### **HIGHWAY/BUILDING/GROUNDS/ENVIRONMENTAL/ZONING AND WELFARE COMMITTEE**

**June 14, 2022**

Present: Dale Livingston, Chuck Smedley, Bev Graham, Mike Specha, Thomas Snyder, Jr.

Absent: None

Others present: Matt Wells, Linda Curtin, Vicki McMahon, Bryan Sharp, Bill Kennedy, Cliff Frye, Ron Brown, Vince Harris, Jim Prescott, Sally Brusveen, Pat Vogel, Rhonda Wilson, Patty Rykhus, Jan Schmedeke, Lucas Domonowsky, and Elizabeth Hile in attendance.

The meeting of the Highway/Building/Grounds/Environmental/Welfare/Zoning Committee was called to order on Tuesday, June 14, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. in the Christian County Courthouse. The

purpose of the meeting was County building issues, highway business and any other matters properly brought before the Committee. Roll call was taken and there was a quorum.

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ms. Patty Rykhus, President of Friends Of which is a not for profit group spoke about the Pana dog case which dates back to January of 2022. They have been told continuously to be patient. This case involved a pack of dogs in which one animal had a broken and infected leg. After pressure, four adult dogs received rabies shots, which were out of compliance. One dog has since died and was partially consumed. One dog was stolen and one dog now has 10 pups. The owner does not live at the residence and for the last two (2) weeks, the owner of the property has not been seen. Patty is asking out of concern if someone from Animal Control or the Sheriff's office can do a check on these animals.

Ms. Jan Schmedeke spoke inquiring about the status of an ordinance that ties the hands of Humane Investigators. They still have not heard anything as to whether or not the ordinance is staying or will be revised. Committee Chairman Livingston said that ordinance is still in effect.

#### COUNTY LOT MOWEAQUA PROPERTY

County Highway Engineer, Cliff Frye, presented some options as solutions for the complaints received at this stockpile lot. The complaints were related to vehicles doing doughnuts at all hours of the night.

The most expensive option is to put up a chain link fence with gates at a cost of approximately \$9,200.00 to \$10,000.00. Another option would be a solar security camera. Cliff spoke with Wareham's security and the cost of a security camera would be approximately \$2,250.00 and a pole would need to be installed. The problem with this option is that depending on location the camera might not pick up enough to be valuable. A third option would be purchase 35 concrete barrier wall blocks with gates for an estimated cost of \$2,450.00. These barrier blocks are 2' tall by 2' wide and 6' long and weigh 3500 pounds. They are made from recycled scrap concrete. Problem with this option is that currently there are not enough blocks for the project. Completing the project will depend on availability of scrap concrete to make more barrier blocks.

Motion by Mike Specha and seconded by Bev Graham to recommend to the full Board to approve installation of concrete barrier wall blocks and gates with a cost not to exceed \$2,500.00 coming out of the County Highway Fund. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Dale Livingston made a motion to approve the installation of concrete barrier wall blocks and gates with a second by Thomas Snyder, Jr. After no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call.*

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Matt Wells (n), Timothy Carlson; Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahan, (14) aye; (1) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

## COURT HOUSE LAWN REQUEST – JULY 4<sup>TH</sup>

Chairman Wells advised that Taylorville Mayor Barry had contacted him requesting permission to use the courthouse lawn during the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade.

Motion by Dale Livingston and seconded by Chuck Smedley to recommend to the full Board to allow City of Taylorville to use the courthouse lawn during the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Dale Livingston made a motion to allow City of Taylorville to use the courthouse lawn during the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade with a second by Vicki McMahon. After no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call.*

A roll call vote being called upon polled all ayes. Motion carried.

## ANIMAL CONTROL SPLIT FROM SOLID WASTE AND ZONING – BUDGETS

Committee Chairman Livingston noted that someone needs to look at the budget and separate Animal Control and Zoning.

Bev Graham asked to read a memo from Treasurer Betty Asmussen. Dale advised that this will be tabled until Betty can be here to provide the information.

## ZONING BUSINESS

### Christian County Zoning Code 1-10-1 Zoning Administrator

Committee Chairman Livingston noted that in the Zoning Code 1-10-1 it indicates that the Zoning Administrator has a two (2) year term. He asked Chairman Wells if that was changed when the position was combined. The Chairman Wells advised that he did not have the minutes in front of him and it depended on how that motion was made at the time. He believes that a prior chairman combined those positions in 2018 so depending on the motion in the minutes the appointment could be out of compliance.

Motion by Bev Graham and seconded by Mike Specha to recommend this go to the full Board.

During discussion, Mike Specha asked if the States Attorney should provide clarification. The appointment need is noted for Zoning but not the other jobs. When did appointment reference appear in the Zoning code? A revision date of December 15, 2020 was noted on the copy provided.

A question was raised by Vince Harris if Brett Rahar was reappointed and if a precedence had been set.

Bev Graham amended the motion and Mike Specha seconded to recommend to the full Board that the States Attorney give an opinion on the minutes and after speaking to the States Attorney to provide information to the Board as to when the term began and expired. Thomas Snyder, Jr.,

Mike Specha and Bev Graham all voted in favor. Dale Livingston and Chuck Smedley were opposed. Motion carried.

Chairman Wells noted that when Liz came on, it was discovered that there was not an active list of appointments and we are working on that. So in the future, everyone will know when appointments are expiring. Until such time, appointments are made as Boards notify of expirations or resignations.

#### Office Location

Committee Chairman Livingston advised that when Animal Control and Zoning were combined that Zoning was moved to Animal Control.

Motion was made by Dale Livingston and seconded by Mike Specha to move Zoning from Animal Control to Solid Waste.

During discussion, questions were raised about expenses, do we lease or own the solid waste building. It was felt this decision is not something that needs to happen in a hurry.

Motion was withdrawn.

Motion was made by Thomas Snyder, Jr. and seconded by Dale Livingston to table to next month. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

#### SOLID WASTE BUSINESS

##### Delegation with IEPA

Members asked to see the Delegation agreement in order to have a discussion. Because of the length of the document a few copies were available this evening. Liz will scan and email the document to all members.

#### HIGHWAY BUSINESS

Cliff provided an update on two (2) bridge projects.

Pana Township Bridge #66 – This project was on IDOT's April 29<sup>th</sup> bid letting. The successful bidder was from Depew & Owen Builders of Centralia at a cost of \$399,988.00.

Locust Township Bridge #3, located on Velma Road, is on IDOT's June 17<sup>th</sup> letting. Both bridge projects are federal projects.

#### ANIMAL CONTROL

##### State Statute Animal Control Act – 510 ILCS 5

Committee Chairman Livingston advised that he received an inquiry as to why monies are not placed in the Animal Control Fund as noted in 510 ILCS 5/7 Chapter 8 page 357.

Motion by Bev Graham and seconded by Mike Specha to refer this matter to Finance to give Betty time to review the statute and provide a short synopsis in regard to the question asked. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

#### Draft County Municipal Agreement for Animal Control

Dale advised that he found out that an agreement is not needed for Animal Control to go if they get a call.

Chairman Wells advised that he again has received a phone call from a city in the county inquiring about the status to provide assistance. The Committee reviewed the last change to the proposed agreement which was increasing the hourly rate to \$50.00. It was also noted better language for item #2 would be changing the working from “to at least eight (8) hours” to “not to exceed eight (8) hours”.

Motion by Thomas Snyder, Jr. and seconded by Mike Specha to send this back to the full Board for discussion with wording changes to #2 to read, “Not to exceed” eight (8) hours. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Dale Livingston made a motion to bring forward the Animal Control Agreement with the Cities and to change the wording from “to at least eight (8) hours to “not to exceed eight (8) hours with a second by Chuck Smedley.*

**Chairman Wells** – ladies and gentlemen, I know this, at the present time we may be a little short. Still waiting to get someone hired to go out there and run that daily and that individual should probably be the one who decides whether or not we have 8, 10 or 12 extra hours a week or month to go help these cities. This board, in my opinion, we should be doing what we can to help the municipalities. I do not think it is fair for us to say this town gets us for 12 hours at no cost and the other towns do not get them. But I do think, having this in place, if the Animal Control Director or Supervisor that gets hired feels they have time and a municipality ask for help, it would allow them to go help them and it would allow us to be reimbursed. I get asked about it every other month. To me, it is time for us to make a decision. If the director of animal control thinks they have time, do we want to have an agreement for them to hand to somebody and say this is what it is going to cost you and you are going to pay us on these dates. Chairman Wells called for other discussion.

**Brian Sharp** – This was not necessarily to block out; they are going to be present in the communities for 8 hours. This was I think the original intent was if they were going to respond to a call for animal control that they could respond.

**Chairman Wells** – Brian, they can respond by law at any time, but what we have been asked by, in writing by one mayor, and other mayors have approached me about it. Because they do not have animal control, they would like, if we have the time, to have someone in the municipality for a certain amount of hours to look for dogs running at large and things like that. But, I think the agreement says something about we are going to pick them up, we are going to tell you what



happened but you are going to deal with the tickets, and you are going to deal with court, that's you. We are just here to deal with the animals and get them off the street for you. So yes, I believe this agreement is, and that is why, I will let Thomas say why he changed this. Saying you have to be there 8 hours is too much and he felt it was better, I believe, to say we are not going to be there any more than 8 hours if we come. Because we could set up something to go to Morrisonville and be there for 4 hours and get called out and have problems someplace else and have to leave automatically.

**Venise McWard** – I want to put on record I am not in favor of charging the \$50. I know you are trying to make an agreement with some of these cities and villages like Mt. Auburn, Morrisonville, Palmer, Stonington that do not have animal control. I just feel like we are Christian County Animal Control and we should not charge the \$50.

**Chairman Wells** – well I agree with that. What mechanism do we use to decide which municipality gets how many hours? We were in this town for 2 hours. So now we are going to rotate and somebody has an issue and one town does not. That is my problem.

**Bev Graham** – I just have a question. If they go out and they are there the 8 hours, that town on itself is going to owe us \$400.00. What if we are there, they sign the agreement, they go back to their board they do not have the \$400.00 so then what happens. Your people are there and then we cannot be paid because they do not have the money.

**Chairman Wells** – I am guessing in that circumstances, the best we can do is say hey you didn't live up to your part of the agreement, we can't provide that service any more. That would be my thought. Again, that would be the decision this board wants.

**Bev Graham** – Dale, would you consider going back to the \$25. You were at \$25 and then you raised it to \$50.

**Dale Livingston** – You guys decide. I brought it up because you have expenses going to there and back.

**Chairman Wells** – Bev, if you think that is what is fair. If you want to make a motion to amend this that is within your rights, and someone seconds it and the majority of the board agrees it should be \$25 instead of \$50 that is what the agreement we would vote on in a little while would be. It is the board's property now not the committee. Mr. Poggenpohl do you have a comment?

**Wes Poggenpohl** – was there an original portion of this to have a mileage rate that was taken out as well.

**Chairman Wells** – yeah we were charging mileage and \$25

**Wes Poggenpohl** – there was a state rate for mileage and you got rid of that. It makes a little easier for bookkeeping to have a higher hourly rate

**Chairman Wells** – from my perspective as chairman, I do not care if the board decides \$25 or \$50. I do not care if the board really decides no we are not doing it. I would just finally like to

be able to give the mayors and answer this is how we see it and this is what we are going to do it or we are not willing to do anything.

**Dale Livingston** – right now as I understand it Mr. Chairman, if animal control is called to Stonington, Morrisonville, Palmer or wherever, they can by the Sheriff's department, they can bill for time and stuff.

**Chairman Wells** – I think that is correct. This is a matter where we were asked can we have somebody come up here and patrol for so many hours a month. What would that cost us? Again, if the board does not want to enter in to do that, that is the decision of the most, that is fine with me. But it is here and it has been back and forth and it just seems to me like we ought to be able to tell these mayors something.

**Bev Graham** – can I ask a question? Matt, how much do they charge when they bill them? If they go out and they bill them like Dale said.

**Chairman Wells** – I do not know. To be honest with you, I do not know. I am going to guess, it would be state statute, mileage. Whatever the state statute says we can bill them. Which they would have no idea where that comes from. This for the 8 hours would be much cleaner. I think they would understand it. You know, this is why we were charged some one's area \$400 and \$200 this is where the amount comes from right here in this agreement. And, I think if someone had to get called out to a town like that and they were there less than an hour that would kind of be the standard charge. Again, that is not just is not my decision it is all of ours.

**Bev Graham** – do they sign this before we give them service?

**Matt Wells** – oh yeah, they would have to agree to it, certainly.

**Linda Curtin** – If they do not agree to it they are just on their own.

**Matt Wells** – yeah. Every municipality is entitled by law to hire their own animal control. Some of them have not. Taylorville, for example, has their own animal control guy. I do not know if Assumption does. Morrisonville use to.

**Linda Curtin** – Assumption does and Stonington does.

**Bev Graham** – Pana?

**Matt Wells** – I think Pana does, but I do not know. Any other discussion? Right now, we have a motion on the floor – an agreement where we are charging – go ahead

**Linda Curtin** – *I make a motion we lower it to \$25.*

**Chairman Wells** – you are going to amend this motion to \$25, is there a second to that motion? *Bev Graham seconded the motion.* After no further discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call on the amendment.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley (n), Thomas Snyder, Jr., Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson; Craig Corzine, Linda

Curtin, Ken Franklin (n), Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston (n), Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, (12) aye; (3) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

**Chairman Wells** – so the amendment carries to the motion that now says up to 8 hours a day at \$25 an hour. Is there any discussion now on the motion as it is amended? After no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call on the amended motion

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson; Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin (n), Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston (n), Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard (n), Clint Epley, (12) aye; (3) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

#### COURT HOUSE AND BUILDING BUSINESS

Bill Kennedy addressed the Committee regarding the need for space for records from various offices. He feels the basement at the old CIPS (Solid Waste) building has the space and is a good option. He would like to continue to move on this project by talking to the applicable office holders to find out how many feet of shelving they feel will be needed. Right now, there are piles of records in various locations to include the basement of the courthouse. There are a couple of caveats to this plan. 1. The records have to be secure for the States Attorney's records and Public Defenders records. 2. Has to have 24-hour access.

Motion by Dale Livingston and seconded by Thomas Snyder, Jr. to recommend to the full Board to allow Bill Kennedy to continue looking into the records storage solution. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Dale Livingston made a motion to have Bill Kennedy continue looking for storage space with a second by Bev Graham. Chairman Wells called for Discussion.*

Ray Koonce – Mr. Chairman, I did speak to Bill about this and I do appreciate his time to look into this and there has been a lot of discussion with different office holders of potential right buildings concerning the records that we are keeping. This is something that really needs to be looked in to and taken care of. Thank you.

Chairman Wells called for other discussion. After no further discussion, he called for a roll call. A roll call vote being called upon polled (15) ayes, (1) absent. Motion carried

Bill also updated the Committee on the Window and Air ARPA fund project. They are in the "design" stage and it is coming together nicely. A combination of replacing the windows before the air conditioning may result in the units going on the existing slab instead of the need to build another slab. Bill notes this is a huge benefit.

Yet this week the boiler could be inspected along with repairing a leak. The boiler has been mistreated the last few years and while there is a new bottom on it, corrosion at the joints inside the box has reoccurred. This repair has been done the last couple of years. This time Bill has asked for an assessment to be done as to whether or not this will be a reoccurring problem and if

there should be consideration to replace the boiler versus the risk of an outage during the winter. More information will be provided.

Fountain will have water in it tomorrow.

There was a recent roof leak at the lower end of the copper valley. There was an actual gash where something went through it and it was repaired with a foam material that held up until now. Charles Samson came in right away and made the repair at a cost of \$250.00.

Bev Graham asked if the file cabinet and other issues were resolved in the States Attorney's office. Bill advised they had been.

#### Tree Removal

Ron Brown, Maintenance Supervisor, advised the Committee that two (2) trees on the courthouse lawn need removed. A tree on the south side lost a large branch during a storm on May 25th and a tree on the east side that is half-dead? He received four estimates. One estimate was not valid, as they did not carry insurance. All qualifying bids include removal of two (2) trees down to the stumps with cleanup of debris. A bid from Noblet's came in at \$2500.00. Long Tree Service was \$2,400.00 and Capital Tree was \$3,300.00.

Motion by Dale Livingston and seconded by Mike Specha to refer to Finance tree removal bid from Long Tree Service for \$2,400.00. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

#### OTHER MATTERS

Ron Brown, Maintenance Supervisor who has only been with the County for just over one (1) month was complimented for his quick attention when contacted for help. Additionally the large branch that fell covering most of the south entrance on May 25<sup>th</sup>, Ron came in after the 8:00 p.m. storm for cleanup and when employees arrived at 8:00 a.m. you would have never know anything even happened. The debris was totally cleaned up and not even a leaf was seen in the yard. He was also completed for all the painting that has been done.

Bev Graham asked if the Treasure could now address the budget agenda item from earlier tonight.

Betty presented and reviewed a document regarding the history of the Animal Control/Zoning budget. She was directed by a previous chairperson to combine the Animal Control and Zoning budget because only three (3) expense line items that were used by Zoning. Even then, those three (3) expense line items were maintained separately. While it appears the budgets are combined, Zoning has always maintained those three (3) separate expense line items.

Going forward with this next fiscal cycle because this has become a technicality and for transparency, Zoning will now be 001-021.

Committee Chairman Livingston asked Betty about the question he was asked regarding state statute 510 ILCS 5/7 Chapter 8 page 357 regarding to deposits in the Animal Control Fund. Betty advised that the Animal Control Fund is in the General Fund.

Motion by Thomas Snyder, Jr. and seconded by Dale Livingston to adjourn. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Dale Livingston  
Buildings/Highway/Environmental/Zoning  
Welfare Chairman  
06/14/2022

### **EXECUTIVE/PERSONNEL/LIQUOR COMMITTEE**

**June 13, 2022**

Present: Craig Corzine, Chairman, Ray Koonce, David Puccetti, Clint Epley, Bryan Sharp  
Absent: None  
Others present: Matt Wells, Linda Curtin, Bev Graham, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Vicki McMahon, Chad Coady, Betty Asmussen, Lucas Domonowsky and Elizabeth Hile in attendance.

The Executive, Personnel, and Liquor Committee met on Monday, June 13, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. in County Board meeting room, second floor of the Christian County Courthouse, Taylorville, Illinois. The purpose of the meeting was to address any agenda items, any personnel issues, policies, and any other matters properly brought before the Committee. Roll call was taken and there was a quorum.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

No public comments.

#### **EMA UPDATES**

None

#### **LOW INCOME HOUSING ORDINANCE**

As previously presented, the new low-income housing program is not good for small counties. Supervisor of Assessment Chad Coady obtained a sample template for opting out of the program which can be reversed should the County decide later to participate. The sample ordinance has been reviewed by the States Attorney.

Motion by Craig Corzine and seconded by Ray Koonce to recommend to the full Board to adopt Ordinance O2022 CB 026. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Craig Corzine made a motion to adopt Ordinance O2022 CB 026 with a second by Dale Livingston. After no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call.*

A roll call vote being called upon polled (15) ayes with (1) absent. Motion carried

#### COUNTY BOARD RULES – LEGISLATIVE I, J AND K

Chairman Wells highlighted Legislative I, J and K in the County Board Rules.

Legislative rule I indicates that in cooperation with the County General Committee Chairperson and the County Board members to prepare a list of judges of election and a list of polling places to be presented to the Board at the May meeting every two (2) years. In review of the Board minutes, it is noted election judge lists have been approved but not a list of polling places.

Legislative rule J relates to determining each and all polling places comply with the statute. Again, in review of the minutes, nothing is found to indicate this has been done.

Legislative rule K relates to redistricting which is govern by state statute whereby the Chairman is to propose a plan and if not a Commission decides.

Motion by Ray Koonce and seconded by Bryan Sharp to recommend to the full Board to remove Legislative rules I, J and K from the County Board Rules. Craig Corzine, Clint Epley, Ray Koonce and David Puccetti were in favor with Bryan Sharp opposing. Motion carried.

*Craig Corzine made a motion to remove legislative rules I, J, K from the county board rules with a second by Ray Koonce. With no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call vote.*

A roll call vote being called upon polled (14) ayes, (1) nay, (1) absent. Motion carried.

Discussion regarding this matter, Bryan Sharp felt it is good to keep Legislative rule I and J. Rule K should be followed in accordance with state statute. Committee Chairman Corzine felt rule I and J was the responsibility of the County Clerk and the Board does not need to manage this. Legislative rule L was not on the agenda (rule relates to setting the pay for the judges of election) but felt this should be addressed by Finance.

#### ARPA REQUESTS

##### Annual Cybersecurity Maintenance Costs

Before ARPA funds were known to be available, the County had already begun working on upgrading cybersecurity. Some of the programs approved had annual renewal fees. The County recently received the renewal fee for ManageEngine at a cost of \$5,476.35.

Motion by Craig Corzine and seconded by Ray Koonce to recommend a draft ordinance for an amount not to exceed \$5,476.35 from ARPA funds for ManageEngine renewal fee be sent to the Finance Committee for financial approval and Board recommendation. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

Sheriff's Office

This item will be on next month's agenda.

EMA Request

This item will be on next month's agenda.

ZBA RECOMMENDATION(S) METEOROLOGICAL TOWER TEXT AMENDMENT – FEES  
The meteorological tower text amendment was recently approved by the ZBA but not approved by the Board. Areas of concern were fees, time limits, renewals and setbacks. At the last meeting, ZBA Chairman Steve Sipes last month recommended not setting fees too high as he felt it would not pass the ZBA. Ray Koonce noted that Vince and/or Chairman Sipes were asked to research what other entities are charging in the area and asked if anyone had received any information back on this request.

Motion by Clint Epley and seconded by Bryan Sharp to recommend to the full Board to send to the ZBA a suggested annual fee of \$5,000.00 with a five (5) year limit. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

*Craig Corzine made a motion with a second by Clint Epley to recommend to send to ZBA a suggested annual fee of \$5,000.00 with a five (5) year limit. Chairman Wells called for discussion.*

**Dale Livingston** – where did we come up with the \$5,000?

**Craig Corzine** – we talked in our committee and that was the number we came up with.

**Dale Livingston** – so if a college, radio, or weather people want to put one up it is going to cost them \$5,000 a year?

**Craig Corzine** – well if it falls under that ordinance then I would say that is right. Unless the ZBA advises us of something different. And this is just a motion to send to the ZBA. So there will be a hearing and if they see that fee is wrong they will change it accordingly.

**Ray Koonce** – I have a follow up question from last month to Mr. Harris about that. Did you or Steve

**Vince Harris** – no I have not talked to Steve about this particular item. No, I have not followed up on it.

**Ray Koonce** – Okay, thank you.

Chairman Wells called for other discussion. With no discussion, there is a motion on the floor to send a recommendation to the ZBA. Chairman Wells called for a roll call vote.

A roll call vote being called upon polled (14) ayes, (1) nay, (1) absent. Motion carried.

#### OFFICE STAFF – SUPERVISOR OF ASSESSMENT

Chad Coady advised that an employee recently retired after over 30 years of service. He would like to move Brittiany Sarginson up to a GIS (geographic information system) position. He noted that his office does not have a Chief Deputy and with moving her to the GIS position, she could still do her township assessor work where that may not be possible in the Chief Deputy position. Chad was looking to start this position at the pay rate of the Chief Deputy.

Motion was made by Ray Koonce and seconded by Craig Corzine to recommend to the full Board to approve the position requested in the Supervisor of Assessment office and refer to Finance. Motion was withdrawn after discussion and the noted need for a job description for committee review, as this position does not currently exists and to review the Non-Bargaining Ordinance for compliance. The job description and Non-Bargaining Ordinance will be reviewed next month.

#### ADDITIONAL JAILER

Revenue for federal inmates has been noted on documentation provided but not related expenses. Members of the committee felt in order to make an informed decision that knowing expenses is important. This item will be on the agenda next month.

#### ANIMAL CONTROL DEPARTMENT HEAD – CB RULES

Chairman Wells noted that last month the Board approved separating Animal Control from Solid Waste and Zoning and for the Chairman to hire for Animal Control but no salary range was provided. Review of past salary and current salary was discussed.

Motion by Craig Corzine and seconded by Ray Koonce to establish the salary range for the position of Animal Control Department Head at \$39,478.00 to \$41,715.00. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

During discussion, Bryan Sharp noted that he would like to see someone from Personnel involved in the hiring process. Bryan Sharp amended the motion to include someone from Personnel being involved in the hiring process. Committee Chairman Corzine advised that the motion was out of order as this matter is related to CB rules Personnel D (salary) as well as the Board has already approved the Chairman to hire.

#### ANIMAL CONTROL STAFF

Chairman Wells noted that the office staff at Animal Control feels they are shorthanded but without a department head, he feels he has no authority to hire. Committee Chairman Corzine felt this decision should wait until a department head is hired and let that person get a good feel for what is needed and then make that decision.

#### JOB DESCRIPTION – EDUCATOR SOLID WASTE



The presented job description was reviewed. The committee discussed the need for possible changes to include items such as visiting so many schools, etc. and education requirements. The department head was not available tonight.

Motion by Ray Koonce and seconded by Clint Epley to table further discussion until the department head can be available. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Craig Corzine and seconded by Clint Epley to go into Closed Session pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (1) to discuss appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity and all subject matters relating thereto and to include the following persons to be present during all or part of such executive session namely, Craig Corzine, Clint Epley, Ray Koonce, Bryan Sharp, David Puccetti, Vicki McMahon, Matt Wells, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Linda Curtin, Betty Asmussen and Liz Hile and such other person or persons as the Chairperson or Committee may decide during this meeting and/or during such closed session.

The Committee went into Closed Session at 7:41 p.m.

The Committee returned to Open Session at 9:16 p.m.

Roll Call – Craig Corzine, Clint Epley, Ray Koonce, Bryan Sharp and David Puccetti were all present.

#### PERSONNEL HANDBOOK

Due to a lengthy agenda. This item will be placed on next month's agenda.

#### UCCI JULY CONFERENCE

Committee Chairman Corzine referenced the UCCI July conference information that had been provided to all members in the packets.

#### OTHER MATTERS

None

Motion by David Puccetti and seconded by Clint Epley to adjourn. All were in favor. Motion carried

Respectfully submitted,

Craig Corzine, Chairman  
Executive/Personnel Committee  
6/13/2022

## AUDIT/FINANCE/PURCHASING/BUDGET COMMITTEE

June 15, 2022

Present: Venise McWard, Chairman, Linda Curtin, Vicki McMahon, Tim Carlson, Ken Franklin  
Absent: None  
Others present: Matt Wells, Betty Asmussen, Kent DeLay, Abigail Murphy, Dani Knecht, Rhonda Walters, Michelle Brown, Cindy Drea, Kelly Zanotti, Mary Rhodes and Elizabeth Hile.

The Audit/Finance/Purchasing/Budget Committee met on Wednesday, June 15, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. at the Christian County Courthouse, Taylorville, Illinois. The purpose of the meeting was to address agenda items and any other matters properly brought before the committee. Roll call was taken and there was a quorum.

### CLAIMS

A motion was made by Vicki McMahon and seconded by Tim Carlson to recommend to the full Board to approve the claims presented for June. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Venise McWard made a motion to pay the June claims with a second by Ken Franklin. After no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call vote.*

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson; Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

### PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments.

### SURVEY RECORDS

The committee asked Kent DeLay why the asking price of his father's survey records increased from \$50,000.00 to \$120,000.00. Mr. DeLay advised that it was based on an appraisal of the records that occurred 40 years ago. Mr. DeLay and his brother want the County to have Boyd Dapperts original surveyor instruments used to survey Christian County. They would also like to donate other survey tools as their parents spent a lot of time at the courthouse.

Ken Franklin noted the historical value of the records but was concerned about implementation and manpower to convert. Where the records would be stored was also a concern. The family advised the price of the records is somewhat negotiable. No action was taken.

### FLEXIBLE SPENDING – DEPENDENT CARE

Committee Chairperson McWard asked Liz Hile to provide information on this issue. Liz advised that since the County moved over to Ameriflex as their new third party administrator for flexible spending and HRA, we have experienced a number of issues. This is one reason Ameriflex is not being retained this upcoming year. We have one particular employee who has a flexible spending dependent care account that is being denied reimbursement. We are not sure if information was

not accurately provided or provided at all to the employee but Ameriflex has denied the employee's use of their money because the daycare provider does not have a tax ID number. A compliance consult was contact who advised that the County could override the decision and direct Ameriflex to pay the claims. While the consult has never seen an audit of a dependent care account, it could be pulled for audit. The County would need to determine if they want to take that risk should this account ever be audited. If the decision is to not sign documents to allow Ameriflex to authorize reimbursement, the employee will lose \$598.00 they contributed.

Motion by Vicki McMahon and seconded by Tim Carlson to recommend to the full Board to allow Chairman Wells to sign the appropriate documents to allow the employee's DCA claim to be reimbursed by Ameriflex. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Venise McWard made a motion and seconded by Bryan Sharp to allow Chairman Wells to sign the appropriate documents to allow the employee's DCA claim to be reimbursed by Ameriflex. After no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call vote.*

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson; Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

#### BUDGET HEARINGS

Treasurer Asmussen highlighted the budget process with elected officials and department heads to receive budget worksheets and information by the end of June 1 of July. She would like no later than the July meetings to schedule five dates for budget hearings starting by the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of August.

#### ARPA FUNDS

Treasurer Asmussen reviewed the ARPA balance sheet that was provided to all members. She advised the second ARPA trench was deposited last week.

There was a question about the infrastructure bill that was signed by the President and how that might impact the ARPA spending. Betty noted that at a recent treasurer's conference that the Build, Back and Better, which is the infrastructure grant, could be a way to get some reimbursements to the ARPA funds for projects such as our HVAC and windows. Cliff would be in charge of this grant. She has talked to Cliff about it and he is going to get back with her. Chairman Wells asked if a consulting company like the one we used for ARPA funds might be able to assist with this grant.

Betty brought up consideration of the COVID appreciation/bonus pay that the committee wanted to delay until project spending could be reviewed. This item was referred originally from the Personnel/Executive Committee. She would like to see something to show appreciation. The committee discussed options in length.

Motion by Vicki McMahon and seconded by Ken Franklin to recommend to the full Board to approve the use of ARPA funds for appreciation pay to employees using the following criteria. A. employee would have had to have worked any time during the period of March 2020 to June 15, 2022 and is currently employed or worked and retired from the County and is drawing a pension. B. Department Heads are not eligible for appreciation pay. C. Appreciate pay will be \$3,000.00

for a full time employee and \$1,500.00 for a part time employee. A part time employee is defined as an employee who works less than 30 hours per week on a regular basis. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Venise McWard made a motion and seconded by Linda Curtin to approve appreciation pay by using ARPA Funds. Chairman Wells called for discussion.*

*Chairman Wells – there is a motion on the floor to use ARPA funds for employee appreciation pay, is there a second. I have a second by Linda. Discussion.*

**Vicki McMahan** – after reviewing the list of potential – it looks like we have forgotten some individuals or people that should have been – like we discussed the other night. It was to stimulate the economy and also to show our appreciation to our employees. So with that said, we probably need to amend and is eligible to draw a pension.

**Chairman Wells** – so in the motion where it says retired from the county and is drawing a pension you want it to say is eligible.

**Vicki McMahan** – is eligible to draw a pension

**Chairman Wells** – is eligible to draw a pension. Is everybody following that? In the minutes, you see the motion. What she is saying - the motion now, you have to be drawing a pension. And we discovered we had some people who worked, have retired and are eligible to draw the pension, but have chosen not to at this time. And we did not think it was fair to say, well you do not need the pension right now, you are not taking it, and so we are not giving you any money. Am I correct in saying that?

**Vicki McMahan** – Yes, yes.

**Chairman Wells** – so the wording on the motion that is on the floor now, the amendment is to change it from is drawing a pension to is eligible to draw a pension.

**Vicki McMahan** – I am sorry, that is A not B, so yes you are correct. And then another category of employees was contract tracers that were classified as temporary employees

**Chairman Wells** – Yes

**Vicki McMahan** – and they were in the forefront so I really think they need to be included in this also. So, I do not know how you want to word that though to include them.

**Chairman Wells** – The contract tracers that you are speaking about are the contact – I have a list here they are contact tracers – because COVID went away and I believe as Greg told us the state took over some of those duties.

**Vicki McMahan** - correct

**Chairman Wells** - People were laid off. People who worked right out in the covid doing the tracing – these are part-time people. And Liz, help me out here, those contact tracers

Liz – the ones Matt is referring to on the list they have one asterisks – there are six of them

**Chairman Wells** – what did I do with my list? Okay, so the people we are talking about, if you go to the department, Kent Delay’s name is at the top. We see one, two, three, four, five, six people who have one asterisks by their name. These are the contact tracers that were part-time but had been laid off and the way the motion reads right now, even though they worked through this COVID they would not get a part-time share. And I believe Vicki is wanting to change that so I would say you would want to amend the motion to include part-time contact tracers that were laid off.

**Vicki McMahon** – Yes.

**Chairman Wells** – to include part-time. Anything else Vicki? Wait a second, wait a second. We are getting ahead of ourselves. Let us back up a minute. We have a motion – an amendment – to change the language to who is eligible to draw the pension. We have a second on that, I believe, by Linda and we need to vote on the amendment. Correct Ray.

**Ray Koonce**– yes

**Chairman Wells** – we should vote on that amendment before we go to the next one.

**Ray Koonce**– discussion on the amendment itself then vote

**Chairman Wells** – right. So on the first one that says who are eligible. Is there any discussion on that amendment?

**Wes Poggenpohl** – how do you determine not worked regularly? Did you have like a criteria that you were using?

**Chairman Wells** – Wes, I couldn’t hear what you were saying

**Wes Poggenpohl** – whenever you decided they have not worked regularly is there like a threshold that you guys used because I feel like you probably ought to incorporate that in the language.

**Chairman Wells** – What’s the threshold?

**Liz Hile**– this was reviewed by three people; Betty, myself and payroll clerk independently. So we looked to see if someone worked on a regular basis. Someone that we did not consider working on a regular basis would be somebody that worked maybe a couple times and then did not work for a month. Might have worked one time and did not work for another month. Might have worked one time only and never worked again. But if they regularly were paid there was no question, they were considered part-time. Because of the standard to work regular hours.

**Chairman Wells** – any other discussion on this amendment? Chairman Wells called for a roll call on the amendment to change the memo we are talking about now as to eligible to draw a pension from drawing a pension.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Thomas Snyder, Jr., Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson; Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston,

Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

**Chairman Wells** – so now, the motion reads to those eligible. Next up, the amendment to the motion was to include the laid off contact tracers. Language at the bottom of the motion to include the six laid off contact tracers

**Vicki McMahon**– yes

**Chairman Wells** – *is there a second to that motion? I have a second on the motion to amend by Ken Franklin.* To say directly at the bottom of this motion to include the six contact tracers as paid part-time. Any discussion? After no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson; Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

**Chairman Wells** – so now the motion pays the six laid-off contact tracers and then you asked me to remind you about the date.

**Vicki** – yes

**Chairman Wells** – seem to me like the motion, the language said if you work during the period of March 2020 to right now it says to June 15, 2022. After some consideration, I believe you want to change that date.

Vicki – I believe we had talked about January 1, 2022. When did the Governor change it? When was that made?

**Chairman Wells** – I think that was before January. Actually, I think that was last July Vicki. But what we are talking about here is

**Vicki McMahon**– that is right, you are right.

**Chairman Wells** – are we paying someone – meaning no disrespect to anyone

**Vicki McMahon** – January

**Chairman Wells** – Okay. So there is a motion on the floor to change those people who were working and/or retired and eligible to draw a pension who worked from March of 2020 until January 1, 2022.

**Vicki McMahon** – Correct

**Chairman Wells** – *I have that motion do I have a second by Mr. Epley.* Any discussion.

**Betty Asmussen** – I have a question, so we are clear as mud. So we just changed that, so you are talking any active individually individual person, is that who we are talking about?

**Chairman Wells** – we are talking about the people who we feel deserve the bonus and those people who retired and are eligible for the pension and those people who worked during those days. If they worked during those days and have retired or are still here.

**Betty Asmussen**– so you have to be actively working as of January 1, 2022 correct. I want to make sure I understand the motion.

**Chairman Wells** – Yes. Other discussion.

**Ken Franklin** – what is the reason behind the change

**Chairman Wells** – Quite honestly it was brought up – we did not feel, Vicki, I or whoever, we did not feel it was fair, that if we hired someone last week, or a department head hired someone last week, that they be treated the way the people who went through the have to work at home, come in one day, people come in with COVID. The stuff the employees went through – quite honestly, we just didn't feel like if you weren't here before January 1 after talking it over, that you deserve the same money as the people who were here before. I am all for the employees, I am not wanting to cut someone down, but I just don't think it is fair that somebody is here from day one of COVID and is still here or was eligible to retire and did gets X amount of dollars and someone who hired in quite honestly last month, gets the same money. Mr. Polley, did you want to make a comment?

**Cecil Polley** – there was some people at the Sheriff's office this applied to and there were some that left on June 1 that would not have been eligible due to that time frame as well. I know the Sheriff, he asked me to come and represent that for him.

**Chairman Wells** – Okay. I think the intent, I do not know how the motion says, the board will have to tell me this, Vickie made the motion to start with. What the intent was to give the bonus to give the pay to the people who were here during that time and are still here or retired.

**Vicki McMahon** – and who are currently employed or worked, and retired from the county and our amendment was and is eligible to draw a pension.

**Chairman Wells** – that is why the movement of the dates. Any other discussion.

**Bev Graham** – I just have a question under the Sheriff's Department why does Cecil Polley have a question mark by his name

**Chairman Wells** – yes, we will get to that. There is x's and I think I can explain all the x's as soon as Vicki gets done. What our thinking is. So, the motion the second any other discussion. After no further discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call to change the date to January 1.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Timothy Carlson; Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, Venise

McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Matt Wells, (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

**Chairman Wells** – Okay. I think we have everything I believe that you were concerned with Vicki.

**Vicki McMahon** – Yes

**Chairman Wells** – after I spoke with Courtney and Liz today there was some concerns about this list that I wanted to make sure it was brought before this board so the board could make those decisions. All of those concerns are denoted like you say by the marks. Okay. The first one I think we discussed denoted the contact tracers. And we have agreed they deserve the money. Then we have two stars by people and these denote once full time employees who have since retired. If you find two asterisks, there are two of them. Who are they?

**Liz Hile** – Catherine Beattie and Jeanette Sheley

**Chairman Wells** – Cathy and Jeanette have retired are eligible for pensions and have come back to work part-time. Our interpretation, my interpretation of it is they deserve the full \$3,000.00 share, but I do not believe they deserve the additional \$1,500.00. I want to make sure, that is what is happening here, that is the rule if you come out of here. If you retired, you get this and if you are part-time, you get that. But this is how I interpreted it and I want to make sure no one on this board had a question. So all we are giving those two is the full-retired share. I do not believe we should give them the extra part-time. Everyone agree with that.

Okay. Those people with three dots that answer the question. Are the individuals are retiree department heads. I believe you see three dots by Mr. Cecil's name. Is that correct? This came up after words. My interpretation. Department heads are hired by this board. Mr. Polley runs the jail for the sheriff. He is an employee. Mr. Baker is the Chief Deputy Sheriff but he is an employee. They are not elected officials. They are not appointed department heads. Yes, he is in charge of the jail but in my opinion, he is entitled to the money. I don't want somebody coming back next month – we are going to miss something somewhere I know that and I am just trying to clean up as much of it as I can while we are all in here. So if nobody is in disagreement with that. Liz is in that position. Liz is in charge of personnel that she is an administrative assistant. I do not believe she is a department head. Anybody have an argument with that. And the third person in the group is a retiree is Jan Bland. Jan retired. She is eligible for the pension. She worked during part of this. She left last March. She was not a department head. That is what three denotes.

Okay. Four stars. No supervisory staff whose salary is determined by the chief judge. Last year, we were told, by the chief judge that probation works for the courts. And we were told what the pay raise had to be. This year we were told that the department head and two supervisors had to have pay raises because they work for the courts. I do not know what this board wants to do about it. And if they work for the courts, the question is the people who they supervise who do they work for.



**Ray Koonce** – Mr. Chairman, I recommend we check into that because we might be getting into some state statute or something that would reflect – are we even allowed to give that to them if they are under some statute and since they are paid by the courts not by

**Chairman Wells** – you could be right about that. All I know is, and Venise knows it as well, we were ordered to give pay raises last year after we budgeted one thing, we had to redo the budgets because we were told by the chief judge of the circuit that supreme court had ruled that supervisors as a court employee, state employee and this year we were to give all three supervisors a pay raises.

I question whether or not these people get, if they are state employees, do they get county money.

**Ray Koonce** – I have no disagreement I just want to make sure by statute that we are allowed – we are not going to get prosecuted.

**Betty Asmussen**- I can tell you this American Rescue Funds are for county services so Ray whatever decision you guys determine right now, that is totally up to you guys. I personally the one who did this spreadsheet, I put all department heads in there. I did not know when we discussed that, I did every and all. I put every department head in there. A motion was made to exclude the department heads but when I had somebody double check it, I might have missed a few. What is defined as a department head? Are they just hired by the board? But, again, that is at your discretion. The board's discretion.

**Chairman Wells** – my whole reason for bringing all these issues out here is so that you guys know what is going on. And you can tell me how you think this should go. We all have one vote. Ray seems unsure. Let me say this, in speaking with Courtney today, these check she cannot work on these checks while she is working on payroll. The system will not let her do it. So, she has told us, if we pass this tonight, she is sure she can have the money to the employees by the 22<sup>nd</sup> of July. Because the week she works on payroll, she cannot do anything with this. Something about turning this on, taking somebody off. I do not understand the computer part of it but that is what Courtney has told me. Liz is going to be on vacation. Courtney did say if this gets passed, she asked Liz to call her tonight or tomorrow so she can get as many of these paid this week if possible. Because if she has time she can work on them until Friday. With the election coming up may take up some of her time also. But next week is a payroll week, and she cannot do any of this ARPA stuff next week. So she did tell me, she told me she felt she could have them all done by the 22<sup>nd</sup> of July. All the employees and retirees who qualify should have their money by July 22<sup>nd</sup>. With that being said, I brought that up because maybe there is some time. I do not know. All I know about it is Chief Judge said the boss last year the employee of the court. This year we were told to give the next two people in line a pay raises. We weren't asked we were told by the courts to give them pay raises. I believe the contract says, the contract is with the courts for union employees. I do not know what you guys want to do. Ray seems to want to check into it.

**Ray Koonce** – if the treasurer seems to be fine with it then I am too.

**Chairman Wells** – Everybody fine with it?

**Bryan Sharp** – could you repeat whom that impacts?

**Chairman Wells** – Well what we have been told who that would impact what department. Probation. There are two supervisors. John Good and Alex Rodgers. Are the two supervisors but the motion tonight is not to give any of the department heads the bonus money anyway. That is not in the motion at this time. Ray says he is good with it. Are the rest of you good with giving everyone over there except the department heads this money?

**Liz Hile** - just to clarify, the department head would be Laura, John and Alex Rodgers are supervisors, just to clarify.

**Chairman Wells** – I believe those are the other two we were ordered to give pay raises to a couple months ago.

**Betty Asmussen** – are you excluding one person or three

**Chairman Wells** – That is what I am asking this board what they feel they want to do.

**Bev Graham** – who are the people again?

**Liz Hile** – the supervisors that answer to the department head is John Good and Alex Rodgers

**Matt Wells** – those are the people. John Good and Alex Rodgers and Laura are the three people the courts ordered us to give pay raises to earlier this year.

**Betty Asmussen** – the department head is clear-cut and that is Laura Cooper. We cut Laura Cooper only.

**Chairman Wells** – that is what the motion is so far. I am pointing out that I want this board to be aware of they have to tell me what their thoughts are.

**Ken Franklin** – since the discussion we had in the finance committee we realize this is not going to be a perfect program. There are going to be some people who like it and some people who do not. It is what it is. Trying to do something to show our appreciation to the employees. It is well received. You try to measure out this and that. It is their money we are giving back to them. So I would try and give it to as many people as we can.

**Chairman Wells** – so everybody is in agreement with it. Nobody has any arguments with it. Okay. So that is what we have. You understand why the asterisks were there. Here is a list of the people we believe will be getting the money.

**Liz Hile** – that will need to be amended based on your motion that passed on June 21, 2022 to date. So that will need to be amended with the list you have right now.

**Betty Asmussen** – there will be people coming off there now because they were employed - hired after that date Matt.

**Chairman Wells** – I see. That is correct.

**Betty Asmussen** – just so you know that is minimal money.

**Craig Corzine** – what does that do with all the changes that we have made. Where does that put us at, the final number? You probably do not know.

**Betty Asmussen** – Matt if you look, I don't have that in front of me right now, but that is probably going to be minimal money taken off. You are probably less than

**Matt Wells** – we probably hired – I do not know Cecil might be able to tell us how many people he has hired since the first of the year.

**Cecil Polley** – two deputies. One was a jailor before so he would still apply. And then probably three at the Jail. No four

**Liz Hile** – and there could be someone that was hired within the dates that was part-time that moved to full time so it would change from full time to part-time so it could be a combination of a couple different things.

**Betty Asmussen** – right

**Chairman Wells** – do you have a figure of the cost off this list

**Liz Hile** – as it stood in the motion but not with the amendment.

**Chairman Wells** – Okay. As it stood in the motion what was the figure?

**Liz Hile** - \$349,500.00

**Matt Wells** – before we included contact tracers, part-time those 6

**Liz Hile** – that was with them.

**Chairman Wells** – it was with them. Okay. With them, it was \$349,000.00 is what we are talking about spending of this money. That is about a fifth of the bonus money. So, everybody knows where we are. Basically what we have now, let me see if I can figure out this motion. Using the following criteria. An employee would have had to work anytime during the period of March of 2020 to January 1, 2022 and is currently employed or who have worked and is retired from the county and is eligible to draw a pension. Department heads are not eligible for appreciation pay. Appreciation pay will be \$3,000.00 for full time employees and \$1,500.00 for part-time employees. Part-time employee is defined as an employee who works less than 30 hours a week on a regular basis and we will include the six laid off contact tracers. I believe that is the motion in front of us now.

**Ken Franklin** – You said that was about a fifth of the bonus money. What were you talking about there?

**Chairman Wells** – no, I said it was about 5 percent of all the money the county received. I may have said a fifth but I meant 5 percent. So, I believe that is the motion. Any other discussion on the motion. We have a motion, we have a second, and we have the amendments, if there is no other discussion.

Jacque Willison – who was the person who second the motion.

**Chairman Wells** – I believe it was Clint Epley after Venise made it

**Betty Asmussen** – Vickie, do you know how many that would exactly take off of there. I did not know if you were looking that up.

**Vicki McMahon** – no, I was looking up something else.

**Chairman Wells** – called for a roll call vote.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Timothy Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Matt Wells, (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

Chairman Wells – hopefully you will have your checks by the 22<sup>nd</sup> of July.

#### REFERRALS

Highway, Building and Grounds referred the cost of \$2,400.00 to cut down two (2) trees on the courthouse lawn. Chairman Wells advised doing the job was approved. What line item it should come from is what being brought before this committee.

Motion by Venise McWard and seconded by Vicki McMahon to recommend to the full Board to take the cost of \$2,400.00 to cut down two (2) trees on the courthouse lawn from the capital improvement line item. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Venise made a motion to spend the \$2400.00 out of capital improvement fund with a second by Dale Livingston.* I do want to say this, it seems like 3 months ago whenever we had problems on the lawn or along the buildings I had to call and ask people to get bids, now when there is a problem, I am being handed bids to bring to the board and I am liking that. It is working out pretty well. After no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson, Craig Corzine, (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

Financial review for use of ARPA funds for renewal of ManageEngine cybersecurity maintenance at a cost of \$5,476.35 to CTI was referred from the Personnel/Executive committee.

Motion by Linda Curtin and seconded by Vicki McMahon to recommend to the full Board to approve Ordinance O2022 CB 027 for the use of ARPA funds for renewal of ManageEngine cybersecurity maintenance at a cost of \$5,476.35 payable to CTI. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Venise made a motion to approve the use of ARPA Funds for Ordinance O2022 CB 027 with a seconded by Dale Livingston.* Let me say this, I know you are all aware we spend a lot of money with CTI for cybersecurity earlier in the year. Last year when we realized there could be some cybersecurity problems we could not afford for CTI to do what we have asked them to do this year.

So, they proposed certain things for us and told us that this program is a yearly update to keep our cybersecurity in good place. That is what is going on with this. Because we have the ARPA money we opted to use that to pay for this. After no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call vote.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

#### OTHER MATTERS

None

Motion by Tim Carlson and seconded by Vicki McMahon to adjourn. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Venise McWard  
Finance/Audit/Purchasing/Budget Committee Chairwoman  
06/15/2022

## **NEW BUSINESS/OLD BUSINESS/OTHER**

- 911 Director Agreement – Chief Bland is here and we will ask him to speak. I wanted to update the board on why this was on this agenda. Liz called me last week. Her and Courtney had prepared the payroll. The pay sheet for our 911 director came in with a big pay raise on it. Liz informed me that she by herself has no authority to change any payroll sheet. She told me that we have an agreement with the Director that is good until the 25<sup>th</sup> of June for a certain wage. The paystub was above that amount. I did not feel like I could authorize changing the amount she is paid so I contacted Venise and I contacted Betty to let them know what was going on. They told me that they agree with me that we have a contract until the 25<sup>th</sup> that she has to be paid the same amount. I tried to call Ken to thank him - time gets away from me. But I did contact the sheriff and tell him this is what we got because he is on the board and he informed me that they signed a new contract the night before and the new contract signed on I believe the 13<sup>th</sup> or 14<sup>th</sup> of June was retroactive to June 1. We did not have a copy. Liz told me they had to move on the payroll to get it all done and make sure she got her check by noon. I did not have that information so at 11:00 I called Liz and told her to alter the pay stub to pay her old wage to ensure she got a check. Now we are in a situation where Chief Bland is here to explain his side of it. I believe, and I could be wrong, I believe I sent the old contract, new contract, county board rules for department head salaries and the agreement with Shelby County sent to you, is that correct Wes?

Wes Poggenpohl – yes

Chairman Wells – Okay so Wes will tell us what his thoughts are and we will have that. In your packets, I believe you have a copy of the rules for the county board. The way our rules are right now, I can tell you this, come budget time the finance committee is obligated to cut that line item. But we have an agreement with Shelby County that has certain language in it also. That is what I know. Mr. Bland, Chief, thank you for being so patient with us and showing up to try and explain this to the board.

Chief Bland – Before I go into summarizing the director position contract, I later to learned with delay in payment, I actually talked to them and there were no documents forward to the office, I have no problem with that. To summarize that position if you are not familiar with it, there is a change over with retirement not too long ago and a new director was appointed. Initially, it was kind of streamlined to a certain individual and that got pushed back as board members and others going through the process of who was interested and ultimately a director was selected. I just want to say this, I became chairman shortly before the change in directors, so I have experienced firsthand the transition so I can give a professional opinion and it has been extremely difficult. Transition from one director to the next. I think it has been – the timing was horrendous on just the complicated upgrades of the systems, data systems, and import systems of data and operations and the consolidations. Shelby County transition went along smoothly and then all of a sudden the consolidation of all law enforcement, first responders, operating systems, operating out of one unit and then everybody tying in together and so the transition based upon which leads to the current director brings up contract discussions. I have observed it; board members have observed it and it was brought to the board's attention to review the compensation for that position. I along with other board members reached out and did some investigating contacting others, other responsibilities, other size of agency, supervision of employees, calls for service, square mileage of service of other 911 centers comparable to our center that our director manages. With that, based upon, also a major factor is the consolidation

of the new Motorola system. This position, this system is very complex but very thorough, very professional, very involved but it is a great system but it is complicated. The majority of agencies who have this system has another person, an assistant with the director who fulfills numerous responsibilities that goes with that system to keep in compliance. Before there was an employee outside of the director who helped with that responsibility so that was brought to our attention along with just the numerous things we have seen. We as a 911 board thought it was necessary to, for one, we want to provide stability with that department based upon just the uncertainties of staffing that we have seen which we have discussed in the past and it hasn't changed much unfortunately. Based upon the numerous responsibilities this director is fulfilling that the previous director did not. We felt it was necessary. We thought we did due diligence to make it a fair compensation to award the director with a raise and so those numbers were voted on and that's when the new contract was presented and that is why we are here.

**Bev Graham** – how much was the increase?

**Chief Bland** – her 2021-2022 salary was \$63,552.00. The increase starting June 1 went to \$70,000 and then \$72,000 the next year and \$74,000 for the contract to 2024.

**Chairman Wells** – The contract they have signed with her has three pay raises in it going from 63 to 74 between now and December 2024 I believe.

**Bryan Sharp** – What is Christian County's commitment to that and what is Shelby County's commitment to that?

**Chief Bland** – The funding that pays that comes in through supplement of Shelby and Christian County 911 surcharges. Funding comes into a separate account. Taxes on your cell phone bills, home bills, those fundings go into that account. If you are not familiar with the 911 system prior to the consolidation of Shelby County, I was on the board a few years prior to the consolidation and finances were very poor, barely making payroll. So the consolidation was a benefactor to both counties. The increase revenue and a tremendous responsibility. Coverage – very large county – Shelby County, very large county is bringing in the responsibilities and duties as well.

**Chairman Wells** – I have sent to the states attorney, the old contract, the new contract, board rules which I believe state when somebody new takes that position as any new department head comes in, they get 112 percent of the highest paid person plus longevity. Another words, the highest paid person seniority person there is making and there are rules. They are supposed to get that salary plus their longevity pay times 112 percent. This is going to be a long way off of that now.

**Wes Poggenpohl** – so first, the contracts, the 911 board has the authority to create contracts. The contracts are between the 911 board and the director. So they created a new contract and that one went into place and the old one was terminated early. That is what they wanted to do so they did it. There is an ordinance, state statue has a list of things they need to do and are required to do. The main thing the statue is they collect the money from the surcharges, they authorize all the distribution of payments from the surcharges and they are the ones that hire people, or implementing the program, and they are the ones that make the decision. The only concern I would see is if her pay is not coming from that fund. But if it is coming from that fund, then it is their decision to make. That is authorized by statue.

And our county board rules I do not believe have any effect on their decision with their employees. That is the whole point of the board for them to have control, not this board, the 911 board. I do not see any problems with what they have done. That was their decision to make it and as long as that money is, being spent on those purposes is coming from their fund then that is their decision.

**Chief Bland** – we as a board myself included when this discussion came up with our board, I reached out to Wes shortly after for an opinion. I knew there was adjoining responsibility, ordinances and things like that through this board. So that is why I reached out to him as well. I did not know the exact answer either.

**Wes Poggenpohl** – he reached out to me with the information. I did not talk to him about it until – I needed to find the time to look into it. I did not really have a good grasp on it until this weekend.

**Bev Graham** – does her salary come from the surcharges and everything that goes on everybody's bill? Does that go back to the treasurer before Liz and then write the check?

**Betty Asmussen** – the 911 comes from all the surcharges and it gets disbursed through the state, the state sends them down and it gets them to each county.

**Wes Poggenpohl** – the statute reads that the treasurer is the custodian of the 911 account. She makes the payments as directed.

**Ray Koonce** – Mr. Chairman, I could be wrong, and Wes can correct me. This kind of reminds me when I was on the City Council. The Library Board - Library District interacted with the City but they were basically on their own at the same time. It seems like a similar circumstance to me and that the treasurer oversees the fund. Does certain things like you just said. To me, certain things, they are on their own. Almost like a separate entity by themselves like the Library Board is.

**Venise McWard** – I just have a question. When did we join with Shelby County?

**Matt Wells** – 2016. We joined them in 16

**Betty Asmussen** – Once again, we have a department head, another department head that is making more than an elected official. I just want to throw that out there. If I had known this years ago, I think I would have gotten in to being a department head versus an elected official. I know that is out of your guys control. They get to be reviewed year after year and you guys just set ours for the next 4 years. Some of these are so inflated. But it is what it is.

**Bev Graham** – I think if Vicki figured it right she is getting about 10 percent a year. For one year. That is a lot of money. How did you guys come up with giving her \$15,000?

**Chief Bland** – by comparables of other 911 operating systems and their director. The number of employees they supervise. The calls of service. Their square mileage coverage.

**Bev Graham** – What is the size of the counties you are comparing us too?



**Chief Bland** – well all surrounding counties. We tried to grab similar, adjacent to. Anything we can compare too.

**Bev Graham** – you compare to Sangamon?

**Chief Bland** – we did not use Sangamon.

**Bev Graham** – the population is huge.

**Chief Bland** – we did not pull massive population. We tried to be comparable to population size. That one thing was considered. Sangamon came up and it wasn't utilized.

**Chairman Wells** – anything else. Here is how I see this sitting here as a chairman. We have some issues here. We have a 911 board that says she gets this pay raise and we have a state's attorney that says they have the authority to do so legally. We have a county board rule that says that is how that budget item is cut. You look at department heads it talks about am I correct on this Venise? And we have an agreement with Shelby County. I think there is a couple of options. We can ignore it and just forget it. We can change - we can take the 911 director out of the list of people on the department head rules. We can decide, and you all have a copy of our agreement with Shelby County in your packets. The board can decide we can no longer want to be a part of it. Those decisions are up to you and quite honestly, we all come here, we all just got this. To me, this is a type of thing that should be referred to the personnel policy and procedure committee for them to come back with a recommendation next month.

*Dale Livingston made a motion to send back to the Personnel Policy and Procedure committee for review with a second by Vicki McMahon. After no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call vote.*

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

- Broadband Shelby Electric – no one from Shelby Electric showed up
- ACT internet – Chairman Wells stated that Venise asked about 6 months ago to explore broadband throughout the county using ARPA money. We have been trying to get someone from Shelby Electric to come for two or three months. They have told us they will be here next month. I was contacted by ACT internet and he is here tonight.

My name is Brandon Rarick I am from ACT Internet and I live in Moweaqua. I do not know if anybody knows me or not. As you may or may not know some counties are using the ARPA funding to speed up the development of rural broadband internet. Currently the standard for rural internet is depending on who you go by. USDA is 10 mg down 1 mg up. The FCC is 25 mg down 3 mg up. The ARPA funds were set aside to phase that in the country to the same standard as in town. Depending on who you ask is 100 mg down 100 mg up or 100 mg down 20 mg up. Once again, it all depends on what federal government branch you ask. They have done two options so far for Christian County. It was federal grant approval. Singular Company 1 is out of Texas and they are doing most of their

spending of money up by Chicago. The ARPA Fund moneys was kind of given to the counties to spend on more local businesses for county infrastructure. That is something I do. I am a farmer in Shelby County and I also farm in Christian County as well as in the Stonington area. I started the company I have now. I started it a while ago kind of just on a whim. I did not really think it would amount to anything. It was a project in 2013. However it grew way faster than I expected. I have a brief handout that my wife made. We are a family company. Wife, my sister-n-law, friends, as well as stuff and me that do a lot of the work. This is a short synopsis and a map of our current coverage area.

Currently we have over 500 customers in Christian County. Unfortunately, I cannot tell you if it is country or city. Depending on the amount the county wants to use up their funding to help build rural broadband we are multi facet. We do fiber, we do wireless. We do a few other things. Currently, as far as I am aware of, we are the fastest in the country due to the technology that we have. I do have some technology and it is faster than fiber that uses – it is kind of a hybrid to fiber. If you look at the prices on here, I actually did get approval from the state about a month ago. Technically the stuff we will be pulling is faster than anything CTI has and other fiber companies in the area. The technologies we are pushing is faster than that. Its fiber mixed so there is fiber as well. Just so, you are aware of the prices and speeds are.

Venise McWard – I think I called about a year ago to getting internet for a home in Stonington. We could not get it because of the trees around the home. Have you improved since then?

Brandon Rarick – yes, so we have expanded a lot since then. In the past year or so, we have almost doubled in size in the amount of locations that we have. That is where they hybrid stuff now that we are using comes from. We have done about 30 miles in the country and two rural homes. I actually do the work myself as well. We have already started it. It is slow because it is expensive. Obviously, the funds help speed that up. We have developed machinery and equipment to do it. Something no one around here does. As far as how we set it and install it.

**Venise McWard** – I believe I called around March of 2021

**Brandon Rarick** – we have done a lot since then.

**Ken Franklin** – so you are using fiber to your towers then or

**Brandon Rarick** – it is a mix so it is fiber to towers and homes. Like I said it is a hybrid so depends on if we have funding, we can do fiber to every single home but technically, it is actually slower than some of the other equipment we have. The people do not want that they want the hybrid speed. I do not know if you are familiar with the 2.5 gig standard. But that is what our hybrid speed is set with now. It is a mix so it depends on what the person wants.

**Chair Wells** – you are the ones who asked to bring this in. If there is an interest, I would entertain a motion to bring this to the finance committee for them to proceed with this and report back to the full board. *Vickie McMahon made a motion to forward to Finance committee with a second by Venise McWard.* After no further discussion Chairman Wells called for a roll call vote.

A roll call vote pulled all ayes (15) with (1) absent. Motion carried.

- COLA Increase – we have been told by the state the State’s Attorney and the public defender will get cola raises effective 7/1/2022. Board members you should have that in your packets. I also wanted you to know that under the new law, the new Sheriff after July 1, I think it is 80 percent of what the State’s Attorney makes and that is kind of a unique law. Should the sheriff resign and someone gets appointed in August, I believe they get the pay raise then. Even though the other positions you have to wait until the next term. If I quit today and someone else took over they can’t get a pay raise for doing that. But in this case the state has said anyone who takes the office after July 1 gets the pay raise. In our case if the sheriff stays and serves his term, the sheriff will get a big pay raise in December after the election. There is nothing we need to do about that. We were forced into this position.
- Hiring Procedure – I wanted to point out to the board members and I believe you all have this in your packet. On December 18, 2012 personnel committee come out and the county board voted the proposed policy allowing non-elected and appointed department heads to make a request to the County Board Chairman and the Finance Chairman to fill their vacancy. If any further review is needed, permission to fill the vacancy will be forwarded to the Finance Committee. That is the rules the county board adopted. Unless, there is action taken here tonight, that is why hiring procedure is on here. Those are the rules we currently operate under.

**Bryan Sharp** – that obviously does not follow what is in the rules. Why weren’t the current rules updated or amended to reflect this?

**Chair Wells** – this was from 2012

**Bryan Sharp** – so did we have – is there anything between 2012 and the current date that reflects this.

Chairman Wells – not that I am aware of. Any other discussion.

Ken Franklin – so the board rules and this are in conflict with each other?

**Chairman Wells** – I don’t know that the board rules are necessarily in conflict but personnel policy and procedures committee, it says they have the right to come up with job descriptions and make those recommendations. I believe that is what the rules say for personnel policy and procedures. If that committee decides to recommend to the board to adopt all the employees you know wear black shoes. You know if that is legal in the law, they can do that. As far as the hiring goes, this is what I have in front of me.

**Bev Graham** – can an addition be made to this, where it says it goes to the county board chairman and the finance chairman, when you do the interviews from the applications or whatever can the chairman from the personnel committee set in on the interviews whether it be one or two.

**Chairman Wells** – if this is amended. I mean this board makes these decisions.

**Bev Graham** – can a make an amended to add that. The chairman or someone from the committee set in on the interviews with the Chairman and the HR person and the finance chairman if necessary to do the interviews.

**Chairman Wells** – I guess we can Bev, but what I am telling you is when we talk about me doing the interviews, I am doing interviews for the department heads. What this is talking about is people like Cliff Frye, this says if Cliff Frye needs to hire somebody, he comes to me and I have no problem and Venise has no problem, Cliff can go hire them. That is what this is talking about for the department heads. This isn't talking about me interviewing anybody. This is talking about speeding up the process for department heads to hire people. Now when I am interviewing someone, I understand that you have requested, that someone from personnel sat in and I believe we don't have anything yet because we just passed the amount of money tonight. There has been times when I called Craig and said do you want to come in and talk to this person. Sometimes he comes in, asks questions, sometimes he doesn't. Depends on his schedule. That is how I see this but you as a sitting member on this board you are entitled to make any motion you want to make.

**Bev Graham** – just as an example, Chad came in, Chad Coady came forward and asked.

**Chairman Wells** – Chad is an elected official. This is talking about here the department head. Chad came and asked because he is wanting to rearrange stuff. As an Elected Official, take Jacque, Wes, they have money in their budget to hire someone unless it is some technicality. Wes doesn't come to us when he wants to hire a new secretary. Or if the assistant state's attorney quits, and he wants to go get somebody, he knows the salary range. He makes that decision. That is different. Any other discussion?

**Bryan Sharp** – does this fall back into personnel committee. Can we get a grasp on what this means and how it falls into place with our rules. Review that more thoroughly rather than here this evening.

Chairman Wells – well you might be right but nothing happens until a motion is made.

*Bryan Sharp made a motion to forward this to the Personnel Policy committee with a second by Ray Koonce. After no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call vote.*

A roll call vote pulled all ayes (15) with (1) absent. Motion carried.

- **Noise Ordinance** – Chief Deputy couldn't be here tonight but he asked me about the possibility of coming up with a noise ordinance. He told me he got a complaint about a party over by Kincaid and the people on the east side of Taylorville and claimed they could hear it. I had a buddy of mine call and say he could hear noise and he lives two miles north of Palmer or a mile and a half north of Palmer and claimed he could hear the noise. The police have told me right now there is no noise ordinance in this county and I asked Wes if we pass a noise ordinance can we prosecute. I believe he thinks that it can. We can ask him his opinion on it. I don't know if this is something the board wants to do. The big concern I have with it is if we do a noise ordinance is it where the noise is generated or where it can be heard. Because I assure you I live in Morrisonville on the far west edge of town, I can hear every bit of the music playing at the Morrisonville picnic which is a mile across town. And that is being generated around a municipality that makes their own rules.

But I don't know if there is any interest in this or not. But we have some events coming up and the police are getting some complaints. They can't do anything without an ordinance. Any thoughts, motions

*Ray Koonce made a motion to forward to personnel for review with a second by Bryan Sharp. With no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call.*

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston (n), Vickie McMahon (n), Venise McWard (n), Clint Epley (n), David Puccetti (n), Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley (n), Thomas Snyder, Jr., Matt Wells (n), Timothy Carlson (n), Craig Corzine (n), Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin (n), Bev Graham (n), (14) aye; (11) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

Bev Graham asked where the noise was coming from. Chairman Wells stated it was where the dirt bike riders club is.

Bev Graham – so that is the big one coming up

Chairman Wells – I think they have 3 or 4 events.

- Closed Session – Pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 © (1) to discuss appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity and all subject matters relating thereto. To include the following persons to be present at all or parts of the executive session namely all of the county board members, County Clerk Jacque Willison, Administrative Assistant Elizabeth Hile, County Treasurer Betty Asmussen, States Attorney Wes Poggenpohl.

*A motion by Craig Corzine to go into closed session with a seconded by Ray Koonce. Any discussion.*

Ray Koonce – Mr. Chairman if I can ask a question.

Chairman Wells – any discussion?

Ray Koonce - Procedure 6 that is in your email does that apply to closed session as well as far as you are concerned.

Chairman Wells – Yes. First Place you can't make motions in closed session.

*Ray Koonce – That being said Mr. Chairman I would like to make a motion to suspend Procedural Rule 6 in closed session. Vicki Mahon second that motion.*

Chairman Wells – we have a motion and a second to suspend procedural rule 6

Dale Livingston – asked what procedural 6 was

Chairman Wells – that is where everybody gets to talk twice if there is an objection. What everyone needs to understand is before we go into closed session, people are only limited to speak twice if there is an objection. But we have a motion on the floor to suspend for closed session tonight only. Any other discussion.

Chairman Wells called for roll call vote pulling all ayes (15) with (1) absent. Motion carried.

Chairman Wells asked for a motion to come out of closed session. *Ray Koonce made a motion to come out of closed session with a second by Craig Corzine.*

The roll call by County Clerk Jacque Willison showing all members present with Mike Specha being absent. A quorum was had to come back out of closed session.

Chairman Wells - we have a quorum to come back into open session. The Christian County Board has returned to open meeting on June 21, 2022 at 10:25 pm.

The roll call by County Clerk Jacque Willison showing all members present with Mike Specha being absent. A quorum was had.

- **Personnel Review** – *Ray Koonce – based on what we talked about I make a motion to terminate Vince Harris from all county appointments and responsibilities at this time with a second by Clint Epley.* After no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call vote.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Matt Wells (n), Timothy Carlson (n), Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston (n), Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, (12) aye; (3) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

Chairman Wells asked Mr. Harris to return his keys as soon as he could.

Ray Koonce – Subsequent motion Mr. Chairman

Chairman Wells – yes

Ray Koonce – *At this time I make a motion to direct the Chairman to contact the Illinois State Police, Attorney General's office, FBI, appropriate law enforcement agency to look into the accounts in question with a second Bryan Sharp.*

Dale Livingston – Ray, don't you want to list the accounts?

Chairman Wells – is that an amendment to the motion?

Dale Livingston – *yes. We should name the accounts.*

Chairman Wells – I have a motion on the floor to amend the motion to have the accounts listed. Betty, help me out with these accounts.

Betty Asmussen – Pet Fund, TRN and Spade and Neutered

Chairman Wells - Pet Fund, TRN and Spade and Neutered. That's the motion to amend the motion. Is there a second? Ken Franklin seconded the motion. Chairman Wells called for discussion.

Vicki McMahon – Do we want to add Animal Control Fund also. Just because of the historical picture that we have seen.

Betty Asmussen – You guys have the revenue come in and you have expenditures come out. You guys approve those.

Vicki McMahon – there has been a definite change.

Betty Asmussen – that is up to you

Chairman Wells – okay lets get this amendment passed and then we will move on. Any other discussion on the amendment to the motion. After no further discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call vote polling all ayes (15) (1) absent. Motion carried

Chairman Wells – so now Vicki you are wanting to amend the motion again to include Animal Control Funds.

*Vicki McMahon – yes, due to historical change that Betty has brought to my attention with a second by Bryan Sharp.*

Chairman Wells called for discussion.

Bev Graham – does that include you going out there and talking to them.

Chairman Wells – no. Any other questions on the amendment to include all of Animal Control Funds. If not, all those in favor say aye, all opposed same sign. Motion carried.

Now we are going to have a motion where all the Animal Control Funds looked at by an investigating agency and that is the motion that is on the floor. If there is no other discussion all those in favor say aye, (15) all opposed (0) same sign. Motion carried.

- **Appointments** – Term period for recent appointment of Gary Merker is 5 years. Here is the reason for that. ZBA rules state that when someone is appointed to the ZBA they serve a 5 year term or stay on the board until they are replaced. So everybody who gets appointed gets a 5 year term. Unlike other boards, someone gets a two year term and they quit you serve until the end of their term. But with the ZBA people serve until they are replaced. So their appointments are appointed for 5 years.

Venise McWard – does it state it has to be for 5 years. I think we would find more people willing to serve if it was for three years.

Chairman Wells – in the past they have all been for five years. I do have a **ZBA appointment to make and that is Joe Dorr**. Joe's term is up and he wants to stay on the board and I am appointing him to the board and that requires county board's approval. Dale Livingston made a motion to approve Joe Dorr to the ZBA Board with a second by

Timothy Carlson. After no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call - all those in favor say aye, (15) all opposed (0) same sign. Motion carried.

**Health Board Appointment** – Lisa Sinkorn resigned. She was put on the health board to replace Dr. Trost and that term is until July 23. I am appointing Dan Held to the health board. Dan has a master’s degree from SIU in public administration. He currently works for Wooter and Kerin and runs public works for the village of Carlinville for them. I think someone on the health board who understands how government and how they are suppose to work is just what we need. I have a motion to approve by Dale Livingston with a second by Vicki McMahon. Any discussion? If there is no discussion all those in favor say aye, (15)all opposed (0) same sign. Motion carried. Mr. Held is on the health board.

**MILEAGE AND PER DIEM REPORT – MARCH 15, 2022**

<b><u>Board Member</u></b>	<b><u>Salary</u></b>	<b><u>Rate</u></b>	<b><u># of Meetings This Month</u></b>
Timothy Carlson	\$100.00	\$25.00	3
Craig Corzine	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Linda Curtin	\$100.00	\$25.00	3
Clint Epley	\$ 50.00	\$25.00	3
Ken Franklin	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Bev Graham	\$100.00	\$25.00	3
Ray Koonce	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Dale Livingston	\$100.00	\$25.00	3
Vicki McMahon	\$100.00	\$25.00	3
Venise McWard	\$100.00	\$25.00	3
David Puccetti	\$100.00	\$25.00	3
Bryan Sharp	\$100.00	\$25.00	3
Chuck Smedley	\$100.00	\$25.00	3
Thomas Snyder, Jr.	\$100.00	\$25.00	3
Mike Specha	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Matt Wells	\$615.38		

Chairman Wells called for a motion from the floor to approve the Mileage and Per Diem Report *A motion was made by Bev Graham and seconded by Thomas Snyder Jr. to approve the mileage and per diem report.* With no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson; (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.



## **ADJOURNMENT**

Chairman Wells called for a motion from the floor to adjourn until July 19, 2022. *A motion was made by Dave Puccetti and seconded by Thomas Snyder Jr., to adjourn until the next meeting on July 19, 2022.*

With no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent; the motion carried.



**PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNTY BOARD**  
AT A MEETING OF THE COUNTY BOARD MEMBERS OF CHRISTIAN COUNTY  
ILLINOIS, BEGUN AND HELD AT THE CHRISTIAN COUNTY COURTHOUSE IN  
TAYLORVILLE, ILLINOIS ON **JULY 21, 2022**  
*ATTEST: JACQUE WILLISON, COUNTY CLERK*

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The following proceeding had and entered at large upon the records of said Board, which is done accordingly in the following words and figures to wit;

Chairman Wells called the board meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

The roll call by County Clerk Jacque Willison showing all members present with Craig Corzine being absent. A quorum was had to hold the meeting.

**APPROVE COUNTY BOARD MINUTES**

Chairman Wells asked for any corrections or additions and to accept the June 21, 2022 County Board minutes to approve as printed. Chairman Wells called for a motion to approve the minutes. *Timothy Carlson made a motion to approve the minutes seconded by Venise McWard.* After no discussion, Chairman Wells asked for roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon, polled the following: (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent; the motion carried and the minutes were approved.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Chairman Wells called for public comments – Before we get started tonight, we have several here from the public. Let me reiterate once again, public comments are a time for members of the public to tell the county board what they think. It is not a question and answer session and you are limited to three minutes. So is there anyone from the public who wishes to speak.

**Audra Harris** – I live at 1 North Michaels Street in Pana. I am here regarding the rezoning in Pana Township from residential to commercial some parcels right behind my house. I was not able to be at the zoning meeting for I work at Central Commodity FS in Rosamond. It was wheat harvest so I was working instead. There is a lot of questions and concerns as having our property next to this. I did not go to the Zoning Meeting so I would like to ask and see if we can get some clarification before this gets voted upon. I know this Mr. Harold is not here. I am wanting to know what type of scrap junk is he planning to have out back. What the business hours would be. Does he have any type of fire plan? We are heavily timbered where this is at, plus fire hydrant is over three or four blocks away. So you are looking at pumper trucks to come back and put a fire out. We are all connected by timber. You know, that is a big issue. What type of scrap junk is he getting? Is it going to be hazmat? If so, does he have a plan for that? I know the parcel that is right behind my house beside the railroad tracks and it has the railroad ditch. It is standing water year round. So you know my concern is with the runoff of water he is getting what is it going to do to everything around us.

Secondly, I know that Vince would only address this 6 foot. You look at the Pana City requirements it is at least 8 foot if not ten. You think of 6 ft. that is not very high to stack stuff before you will be able to see over it and see everything. Another thing is he is talking about expanding his business. That he has been running in a residential areas since '93. Why now are

we doing this commercial and does it really fall under commercial or does it fall under industrial. Has he talked to the governing bodies regarding the roads he is going to be using a lot more of and carrying heavier loads on? Are they agreeable to maintain these roads so they are still in good shape? That is really about all I have. See I am just concerned with the mound back there. If anybody is familiar with this area, we have a lot of junk, a lot of problems back there. This is going to add to it and it is not being addressed. So before we agree to this, I would really like some of these questions be answered and is he going to be held accountable. Right now if you go back there, his property looks great. He has got everything hauled off. Go back on your records; EPA has been called several times on him. There is fighting back there constantly between him and his neighbors. You know, what is this going to do to that. So really my concern is with me living right there.

If you have any questions for me, I would be happy to answer them. Thank you.

**Kiera Gavin** – I am a product developer with Cypress Creek Renewables the solar company that is proposing the skyline solar project just right outside of Taylorville on 48. I just wanted to say I appreciate Christian County’s time and our submission of our application through the ZBA hearing process. I am here tonight if you have any questions later and to request your support for approval of the product.

**Mardell Pizzoferrato** – I am a volunteer and supporter of CCAC. I am here to discuss the TNR program we have with U of I. I have been an active member of the TNR team since it began at the end of 2020. Yes, the original contact was set up by Sally Brusveen who participated when her schedule permitted.

I understand that the Board has been told that Vince Harris suspended the program. Vince Harris did not suspend the program nor was program terminated when Tina Russo could no longer chair the program. It was the U of I who put the program on hold following our last trip on September 25, 2021. Basically, U of I put the program on hold due to staff shortages, staff turn over and over scheduling conflicts. Both Vince and Dwanna have kept contact with U of I. Dwanna’s last contact with U of I was on July 8, 2022. She was told that U of I is hoping to start up again in August but there is no guarantee that will happen.

It appears the person reporting on the TNR program to the Board was not aware of what we have been doing. At no time did the program lapse. It was apparent from beginning that someone needed to coordinate this program in order for it to be successful. Dwanna was the logical person to coordinate the program ex: to receive calls from persons wanting to participate, to set up traps for pick up, to get necessary paperwork prepared, to received trapped cats in on the Friday before Saturday departure, to make sure a staff member was at CCAC by 5:30 am to prepare cats for trip to U of I and to make sure someone was at CCAC on Saturday evening when we returned and early on Sunday am for pick-up of cats being returned to original communities. Early on in the program the vet said that the cats could not be released on the same day that they were spay/neutered because the females were not fully awake and conscious.

Transport was an issue from the beginning. It took at least two large SUV’s to take up to 15 traps plus matching carriers. It was sometimes difficult to find drivers and vehicles. It was actually CCAC staff with a volunteer who made the last several trips. We used a County van and it had to be driven by a county employee. The CCAC staff were very involved when trip to U of I planned.

On September 25, 2021, Vince and I made the last trip to U of I with 15 cats. We arrived before 8 am and were the first group on site. By 8:30 the parking lot was full of cars, trucks and vans loaded with trapped cats. Our cats were the first group taken and supposedly we would be called shortly after noon to come back to pick them up. No one called so we went back to U of I. We learned that someone somehow had overbooked the scheduling for the day so the staff was running far behind. Mid-afternoon we were told that our 15 cats had been separated rather than being kept together so some were finished and some were not started. Long story short, we were the first ones there in am and last ones to leave around 6 pm.. When we loaded the last cats, the females were all still sound asleep. The vet apologized and told us that they were going to have to reevaluate this whole program because that just couldn't happen again. It is not safe for the animals and the staff obviously could not keep up with that kind of schedule. They are hoping as I said to start back up in August but there is no guarantee that will start again.

Thank you.

**Megan Steely** – I am a volunteer for CCAC and have been volunteering for CCAC over the last three years. I have worked closely with the former Director of Animal Control Vince Harris and the current day-to-day operations manager Dwanna Kemmel. As most of you know on May 6, 2022 over 60 cats were rescued and brought to CCAC facility. We have a current holding capacity for approximately 20 cats. In May, we had to accommodate and purchase additional cages and kennels to accommodate the cats. I wanted to commit first on the exemplary efforts of the community helping us with supplies, food and monetary donations. I also wanted to comment on the extraordinary help that was provided by our volunteers. Two in particular were there on a daily basis throughout the day change liter boxes, feeding and taking care of these cats. Without Dwanna Kemmel's supervision and direction and without the help of those particular volunteers, I do not think it would have been possible to take care of the cats that were brought to our facility. With a skeleton staff, Dwanna was able to resume her normal duties and daily activities in overseeing the cats. IN my experience while at CCAC runs very efficiently under Dwanna's care and direction I think that CCAC is under staffed and needs more full time employees. As you know, there are three half time employees and one full time employee. That in my opinion is a very skeleton crew. A crew that is supposed to be meeting the basic needs of animals daily along with multiple duties they are assigned. In December, a female dog gave birth to nine puppies. Those puppies required extra attention and had extra needs. Those same two volunteers who came in on a daily basis to give the extra care that the mother dog and puppies needed. In my opinion, that was a full time job in and of itself. Because of those volunteers, the director of Animal Control at that time Vince Harris and Dwanna Kemmel were able to focus on other duties that were just as pressing.

My point in bringing this to your attention is that CCAC cannot function without her volunteers, without the extraordinary organizational skills and direction Dwanna possess and it cannot operate with a skeleton staff. I would like to see CCAC ride with more staff in order to take care of the needs of the animals in Christian County. The animals have no choice but to be there and they deserve the utmost care. In my opinion, I believe that Dwanna Kemmel has demonstrated superb ability to take care of the animals at CCAC. I believe she deserves to have a full time staff that she needs. Thank you for your time.

**Maureen Maple** - I am a also volunteer and supporter of CCAC. I am also here to advocate for the permanent placement of Dwanna Kimmel as Department Head of Christian County Animal Control (CCAC). In the three years that Dwanna has worked at CCAC, she has demonstrated strong leadership, excellent teamwork and a desire to make a difference for animals within the CACC facility. Dwanna possesses the skill set, mannerism and desire to be an outstanding

Department Head for CCAC. In addition to being a technically strong leader, Dwanna's outstanding customer service skills serve the county well.

When the recent role change at CCAC took place in, Dwanna was appointed Day-to-Day Operations manager. Since this appointment, Dwanna has excelled in her expanded role. Recently when CCAC needed to step in and provide for 65 cats, Dwanna's strong, organizational and problem-solving skills led to the efficient movement of these animals to the shelter. Her positive attitude and strong work ethic helped the CCAC staff absorb this extra work and become a stronger team. While this extra workload may have provided challenges for other managers, Dwanna's ability to energize the CCAC staff and volunteers has helped CCAC focus on animal care and placement. Dwanna realizes that this role provides an important service to the county, so she completes all requests for information related to CCAC in a timely fashion.

Not only has she continued to keep the day to day operations running smoothly, Dwanna has demonstrated a commitment to improving operations at CCAC. To effectively do this, she has been learning additional animal control topics and ways to manage things more efficiently and effectively. This long-term thinking will benefit the CACC employees, volunteers, shelter animals and the county.

As we wait for official news on filling this and other empty positions, we wanted to share our belief that Dwanna is the glue holding that holds CACC together. She has already created a legacy of positive change and we would love to see her given the opportunity to build upon that. We hope she is given consideration for the job, as she would be an asset in that role.

**Glen Goodrich** – Member of the ZBA and a veteran's advocate. I am here basically to speak about Vince Harris. Last month in the breeze courier, I was surprised to see that he was dismissed by this board. I just want to bring a few things – I worked with him three or four years on the ZBA. Ever since I worked with him, he done an outstanding job. He is a very dedicated worker. Organized, professional works well with others on both sides. I was just really surprised. I got the call to come and speak about this to talk a little bit about the veteran's side. I speak for a lot of veterans all over the county and the state of Illinois. And what they got on Vince's thing I do not really know him as well as some of you may know him. But he is more of a citizen/veteran. He started out and decided to serve his country as a citizen. He served in the army for thirty some years as I did and retired as a professional retiree. In that time is probably how he got the job of ZBA director. He learned that through being in the military. He got there because of the quality of his service that he learned following orders is the main thing that you have to learn on the ZBA just like you have to learn working in the military; you have to learn to follow orders as you are told. Make it work under difficult conditions. Making sure you meet the goals as it says what you are doing. Vince took this position and had to learn a lot of things very quickly when he took over. He was able to do that because of his experience in the military working under pressure and the deadlines he had to work. He committed himself to the county, and to the citizens of the county. Basically two things, one to make the county a better place to live and to keep the citizens of this county safe. He would cost him his life for his job.

**Dick Engdale** – I am with Engdale Farms. We are on about 3200 S Cherokee. We have two farms; one in Johnson – it is a small farm – and one in Taylorville. There is a road that separates the two that we maintain. It is a third of a mile long. We maintain that. It provides access to the tower back there for the cable people for the fiber. Then there is a neighbor and two other neighbors that are actually adjacent to it. But really don't have rights to it because they don't give their half of the road on the south side to let us put a road in. As a result, we have some land that

is land locked. We got some land that is to the east of me and to the south of me that is landlocked too that if we granted full use of the easement like we use to have it when we bought it in '92 it would probably be the best solution and most economical. Now, there are some other solutions out there; one is a strip of land 30 ft. wide that is in Johnson and Taylorville and it is seven tenths of a mile long. That is absurd. It is just out of the question to do that. \$150,000 in a road just to get back to a piece of land. I would like to resolve this issue probably through the zoning. I would like to probably break our farm up into parcel of probably seven with the existing land that we have right now. With the idea of succession planning, so we can manage it and continue it in the future. That is what we have to say right now. Thank you.

**Steve Sipes – Zoning Board of Appeals** – I am here to speak on behalf of Vince Harris. I believe he was wrongly accused. Of course, it is a personnel issue so I do not have privy maybe to all that information, but it is my understanding there is currently no investigation or any wrongdoing going on because there is none to be seen. I would ask that if he would be willing to do it he be brought back. The Zoning Board needs an administrator. We cannot keep functioning without one. So there is going to be a lot of things on the agenda coming up that are not going to be able to be resolved without someone. I have always known Vince to be punctual. How he kept track of the amount of paperwork that was going before him is beyond me. Granted, was there a slip here and there? Maybe. But the amount of paperwork that guy was going through is understandable. So I would just ask you guys to look at this carefully as to what has been done and make sure there was just cause and if not, bring him back. Thank you.

**Patty Rykhus – Friends of Christian County Animal Control** – Later on in the meeting there will be a topic about a humane investigator ordinance. I wanted to thank Wes Poggenpohl for doing the revisions on it. We stand behind his changes. We ask for an affirmative vote on the rewritten ordinance. And as always, we look forward to working with you all and improving the lives of the many animals in our county. Thank you.

**Carl Spangler** – I am here on behalf of Vince. I have known Vince as long as anybody. I am probably the one who half way talked him into taking that job. You give Vince three jobs. What is wrong with you people? There is not one of you who could handle two of them. But you expected Vince to handle three jobs. Vince would go to these meetings and I guarantee you people would not be at those meetings because I have been at those meeting at night and Vince would be there and he knew exactly what was going on – on the wind farm, on the pipeline, the solar farm. He had a map of everything that was going on. I guarantee you; the next person you put in there is not going to do half of what he done. And I am not going to feel sorry for you because I have no sympathy for the board. Now maybe I am outspoken because I have been around for a long time. My opinion is, I have been on boards – my job on the boards is to protect - I am on the drainage district board – my job is to protect the drainage districts, and not for my own personal benefits. That is what I see what is going on here. You are going on this board and you are picking on somebody for your own personal benefit. Thank you.

**Chairman Wells** – anybody else from the public. This is the second call – anybody else from the public. Third and final call. No other comments from the public, we will move on.

**Report on Police Investigations** – at last month's meeting the board instructed me to contact the Illinois state police or the attorney general's office in regards to three accounts what we did or did not know about those three accounts. I want to explain to the board exactly what happened after this meeting until the following morning. As most of you read in the newspaper, which did not thrill me, I tried to privately ask Mr. Harris for his keys, because I felt like getting his keys as

fast as I could was the best thing for not only for him, but for the county. He did give me those keys and I met him at 9:00 the next morning in his office to allow him to get his personal items, pictures, coffee pot and things like that out of there. And as soon as that meeting ended, I met with Dwanna Campbell in the county board room. I asked Betty Asmussen to come set in. There was some problems over there and I heard comments from the board, and I believe the board's feeling was that if anybody donated \$5, \$50, or \$500 at Animal Control, there should be a receipt given to that person and a copy of that receipt taken to our Treasurer. I gave Dwanna those instructions and told her that I would instruct the new animal control director in the same manner. No one that works at animal control is to deposit any money in the bank that is the treasurer's job. That money would be taken directly to the treasurer's office at least weekly. And if there was no money, I asked her to contact Betty and let her know that.

After that meeting, I called the Illinois State Police and spoke with a Sargent Barber. I explained what I thought we heard as a board in detail. Actually, I spoke with a lady named Lisa and she had Sargent Barber call me back. I explained in detail to Sargent Barber exactly what I felt like I knew. Sargent Barber after about 5 minutes on the phone told me he did not think there was anything avarious and he did not believe the state police would spend any time at all investigating. My very next thought was of the way we voted the previous night, I voted against removing Vince. How am I going to convince this board that I explained the things happened at this meeting the way they should have been explained to the State Police? I asked Sargent Barber if he would please call the county treasurer. So that she could verify that we had been in touch with the State Police and that to the best of my knowledge, I had explained what our concerns were. He agreed to contact her. I immediately called the three-committee chairmen, Craig, Venise and Dale, and I believe Venise and Dale who are here will vouch for that. And explained to them the entire conversation and everything that I had done that morning. And asked them if they felt I had done everything this board had asked me to do. The response I got from them was yes they thought I had handled it the way the board wanted it handled. Before I got off the phone with Craig, I had a message from Sargent Barber telling me there was going to be no action taken by the state police. If we found money missing, we could notify him at later date. And so, that is where we are at with contacting the State Police. I brought this out in public because of the concerns we had with some other organizations hiding things. State Police have been contacted; they made a decision on what they are going to do about the bank accounts that were at Animal Control. If the board members have, any questions for me about that I will do my best to answer them at this time.

**Dale Livingston** – I would like to make a motion sir, that we rehire Vince Harris.

**Chairman Wells** – I have a motion on the floor, is there a second to that.

**Chuck Smedley** – I will second that.

**Chairman Wells** – I have a second. My question is to you, we heard from the public and we do not answer their questions. Mr. Harris was removed from Animal Control the month before. When he was removed from county employment, it was for Zoning and Solid Waste. I am not sure what your motion is.

**Dale Livingston** – my motion is, to me, I think we gave him jobs to do

**Chairman Wells** – What I am saying is I have to have a motion; this board has to have something to act upon. What is your motion to rehire him as?



**Dale Livingston** – Zoning and Solid Waste.

**Chairman Wells** – now I have a motion is there a second to that motion. Ok. Now there is a second. Any other discussion.

**Mike Specha** – Mr. Chairman, just a question, maybe a ruling from the chair, but we are discussing personnel, should we be doing this in open session? Because aren't we about to do that?

**Chairman Wells** – this motion was made and it was put on the floor and I have got to deal with it. Your point is well taken. If we are going to debate the merits of this, maybe it should be in closed session. As far as the report from the State Police, I felt like that had to come to the board and the public has the right to know what we are doing and how this played out. That is why that was brought up.

**Mike Specha** - just last month's meeting, the stuff that made it into the paper, was potentially very unfairly portraying Vince Harris. I am not sure, but speaking personally, I know what the answer is. And I do not want to be saying anymore in a public quorum that can further be attacking a person.

**Chairman Wells** – I understand. Your point is very well taken.

**Dale Livingston** – this board talks a lot about transparency. And transparency with this thing with Vince. Why wasn't the account that was started ten years ago, investigated before Vince? He had county board approval to start one and approval from a former county board chairman to start the other accounts. And then they were audited. So if there is an investigation, maybe it should not stop at Vince. I mean he was doing what he was told to do and what was done before he was there.

**Chairman Wells** – let me state this, there is a motion on the floor and it has been seconded. Under new business later in the meeting, an item talks about hiring Zoning and Solid Waste. We have several people in the audience that may want to hear other things. Would someone make a motion to table this until later in the meeting?

*Mike Specha – I make that motion.*

**Chairman Wells** - A motion to table hiring Vince until we start talking about hiring a Zoning and Solid Waste Officer, is there a second to that motion.

*David Puccetti – I seconded it.*

**Chairman Wells** – I have a second. All those in – oh any discussion, is there any discussion.

**Ray Koonce** – there is no discussion on tabling.

**Chairman Wells** – Oh that is correct. I apologize. All of those in favor of tabling this until later in the meeting please signify by saying aye, all oppose same sign. All ayes (15) and one nay (1). We will table this until later in the meeting.

## APPOINTMENTS

- **Health Department - Dr. Leslie DeVore** – I am reappointing tonight, of course my appointments require the board's approval. I am reappointing Dr. Leslie DeVore to a 3 year term. Dr. DeVore was appointed to the board originally to fill out a term for someone and that term has ended in July. That appointment requires a motion and a second and a vote from the board. Chairman Wells called for a motion to approve the appointment by Dr. DeVore. *Vicki McMahon made a motion to reappoint Dr. DeVore with a second by Thomas Snyder, Jr.* After no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call vote, all those in favor signify by saying aye (15) all opposed same sign (0). She is there for a three year term. Motion carried. I believe the name of the doctor whose term is up is Dr. Cunningham. I have been advised he did not want to be reappointed so we will look for someone else.
- **Animal Control Director – Sherri Craggs** – last month this board told me, Personnel Policy and Procedure committee set the salary. Asked me to appoint a new director of animal control. I made that decision. She is here tonight. I am here to tell you tonight I am appointing Sherri Anderson Craggs. Will you please stand up back there Sherri Craggs so they know who we are talking about. She will be taking over Animal Control on the first day of August with a salary of \$40,500. And that does again require a motion and a second and the board has to approve all the appointments. I need a motion from the board to approve that appointment. Chairman Wells called for a motion. *Dale Livingston made a motion to appoint Sherri Cragg as the new director of Animal Control with a seconded by Venise McWard.* Any discussion?

**Bryan Sharp** – we have had a lot of discussion about the interview process and the number of interviews for the sake of transparency and getting personnel involved in the interview processes. Was there anybody from personnel involved with the hiring process with this. I think this has been brought up at several committee meetings that personnel should be involved.

**Chairman Wells** – I understand that is yours and maybe others opinions, but I believe the appointments are the Chairman's to make. I will tell you I did contact Craig he was unavailable the day we were doing the interviews.

**Bryan Sharp** – there are several others on the committee.

**Chairman Wells** - I understand.

**Ray Koonce** – just in case anybody asks, do you know roughly how many people were

**Chairman Wells** – I am going to guess as many as 10. 10 people were interviewed

**Vicki McMahon** – do our rules say the Finance Chair is to be at the interviews?

**Chairman Wells** – I don't believe so. It could be, but I don't think that is the case.

**Clint Epley** – Mr. Chairman it says the proposed board chairman, the finance committee chairman – Venise were you aware of that?

**Venise McWard** - no

**Chairman Wells** – What does it say and can you tell me what page please?

**Clint Epley** – I believe we talked about this in the Executive Personnel meeting. Requests the County Board Chairman and the Finance Committee Chairman to fill a vacancy in bold letters.

**Chairman Wells** – yeah, I am thinking if I am remembering right, I am not reading this because I don't know where it is exactly. But I believe that was for appointed department heads. I could be wrong.

**Clint Epley** – it says right here those departments to which this applies are Animal Control, Solid Waste, Zoning, Public Defender, Highway

**Chairman Wells** – Can you tell me what page you are on?

**Clint Epley** – second page Matt middle paragraph.

**Chairman Wells** – which number is it. Yes it says right up here if a vacancy occurs within a department, the non-elected department head may contact board chairman and the finance chairman. That is not for the department head themselves. That is for their employees. The way I read this.

**Bryan Sharp** – should we get clarification on that?

**Bev Graham** – they discussed that at the last Personnel meeting last week. Clint brought that up and it is to be voted on by the board tonight.

**Chairman Wells** – what is that?

**Bev Graham** – about the hiring procedure

**Chairman Wells** – yes, that is true. I do agree with you it was discussed but I believe I explained at that meeting, the board told me to interview. The board told me, the full board told me to interview someone and get someone to bring to the board to hire as the Animal Control Director. Now what does or doesn't happen with Solid Waste and Zoning tonight could be a totally different story. I am telling you as I remember last month, this board told me and then we had to delay it and take it to the Personnel, Policy and Procedure committee for salary.

**Bryan Sharp** – I believe in committee we asked you repeatedly that somebody from Personnel be involved in that hiring process.

**Chairman Wells** – you may have asked me that Bryan but the full board told me to get somebody.

**Mike Specha** – Mr. Chairman, in our current board rules, I knew some of this was going to come up so I have the board rules in front of me. In Personnel, Item F says currently, these are the rules we are operating under, for board appointed/hired department heads shall discuss probationary employees before said employee is hired on a permanent basis. That is our current rule. So it would seem to me we are operating that Personnel's role

here is that when a department head or before they can come off temporary status then Personnel gets their shot. The reason I would like to discuss this now and my intention to discuss this now is I don't think we intend as a board where we operate under we hire everyone in the world. I think we hire and appoint department heads and they hire their personnel as long as it is in our budget. I thought that was how we operate. If we decide to change our rules that is fine. But the way I understand the rules right now, personnel's role is they are still going to have the discussion, but it would only be at the probationary level. So, I realize there is a December 12 but it is not in our current board rules. I mean a December 2012 directive but it is not in our current board rules.

**Bryan Sharp** – In May of 2018, when the previous administrator was interviewed there was the chairman, assistant to the board (HR person) and a person from personnel. We looked back – I don't like going back and looking back at some of those but it has been done to us that we do go back and bring things up. That process had someone from Personnel involved in it.

**Chairman Wells** – and we have been debating for three months that person was hired when they should have been appointed to a two year term. Its an appointment. I believe that, maybe I am wrong, but the appointments are the County Board Chairman's to make and the board's to approve.

**Ray Koonce** – with your permission can we have that back on committee as far as reviewing procedures.

**Chairman Wells** – I don't have an issue with that. Not at all. Any other discussion.

**Dale Livingston** – so this is a two year appointment, sir?

**Chairman Wells** – pardon me

**Dale Livingston** – this is a two year appointment you are trying to make? Is that correct?

**Chairman Wells** – I was not told that Animal Control was a two year appointment. I believe it was Zoning. So, any other discussion. We have a motion and a seconded. Because it involves money and there is a salary tied to this, please call roll.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Clint Epley, David Puccetti (n), Bryan Sharp (n), Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson; Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, (13) aye; (2) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

**Bev Graham** – I have a question? Can we see what her qualifications are, if she put her resume in to get the job.

**Chairman Wells** – well I don't have them sitting here in front of me. But I will be glad to show them to you if you can meet me sometime in the office.

**Bev Graham** – has she had previous experience.

**Chairman Wells** – the lady is a retired Illinois State Police Officer with years of experience dealing with the public, dealing with situations that I believe were far worse than anything that has or will be encountered at Animal Control. What really impressed me the most about her was positivity she tries to bring to even the worst situation you can imagine a police officer finding. She couldn't stress enough how much she felt like if she can just bring the volunteer groups back together how much better animal control would be for the animals and the county. And that is the reason she was the one I selected. There were some very good candidates. I think what we have been through she is the best person for the job. But I will be glad to show you that resume if I can. Any other questions from the board? If the board would allow it, Sherri did you have something you would like to say?

**Sherri Craggs** – I was just going to say some of the big responsibilities; one is the budget. Before I retired, the last 10 years I ran a \$16,000,000.00 budget. She talked in length about her qualifications.

I wrote the curriculum, I taught the curriculum at the Illinois State Policy Academy for investigations, interviewing and interrogations. I frequently updated the CIDLIS and that was my area of expertise. I worked for the Sangamon County Animal Control.

#### **PETITIONS, RESOLUTIONS, ORDINANCES OR PROCLAMATIONS**

- **O2022CB033 – ARPA Appreciation Pay** – I know we have a process where this goes through personnel, policy and procedure. This ordinance did that. It was approved by Personnel, Policy and Procedure. It was sent to the Finance Committee, the Finance Committee recommended the money, we sent it to the board and we agreed to do it but we didn't do it as an ordinance as we are required to do it for the ARPA money. Is there a motion to pass this ordinance. *A motion by Ray Koonce with a seconded by Vicki McMahon.* Any discussion. With no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call vote.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson; Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

- **O2022ZB023– Amending TX22-9** – I hope you have a copy in your packets but here is what happened. That ordinance was presented to us last month and we passed it. I received a phone call from a gentleman representing Invenergy who told me basically the ordinance we passed, which by the way, coincides with the paper work I signed that was sent, everything we voted on coincided with what I had in front of me. But he told me there were mistakes made according to the court reporter transcript that he had a copy of. So I put this on here. Do all of you have a copy of that transcript or the pages of that transcript. I wanted to explain to you what was going on and what the conversation I had with Wes was and where we are at with that.

Firstly, this transcript was voted on got the yes votes by the ZBA it was signed by their chairman. I talked to Steve, we don't know exactly how this happened. But here is what happened. We have a memo that states that they met about TX22-9 and it changes standard set backs. And the paperwork we got said that the first change was from 100 to 300 feet.

That is not what is in the transcript. The transcript say it went from 100 to 200 feet. The second problem is it says it went from 50 feet to 150 feet. Not in the transcript. That did not pass. ZBA left the 50 foot set back at 50 feet. And then it says they did change the permits from 10-15,000 for the first two megawatts but then it says it changed all the megawatts after that from 1000 to 2500 and that is not correct. ZBA voted to change it from 1000 to 1750. So basically, we passed an ordinance that we thought was sent to us from the ZBA when in fact it was not. I talked with Wes and Wes told me I believe the way I understood Wes is, the first thing we should probably do is to vote to eliminate Text amendment 2022ZB023 as we passed it. And then, decide what we are going to do with what the ZBA recommends. I found this out last week folks when I got a phone call from one of the solar contractors and he took me through it line by line. I talked with Mr. Sipes and he agreed with him. Court Transcript is pretty accurate. These were the mistakes that were made and what went from the court transcript to the piece of paper that I got and that I read to all of you. I am hoping you were all given a copy of this just last month. It just does not match the court transcript. That is where we are at with that. Seems like to me we should rescind the ordinance we made last month and then decide what we are going to do about the ordinance the ZBA passes and sends to us, the accurate one.

**Ray Koonce** – maybe you guys have talked about this already. Would it be faster just to amend it as you presented it.

**Chairman Wells** – if that is what the board wants to do.

**Ray Koonce** – would the states attorney have any problem with that.

**Wes Poggenpohl** – I think the simplest way to do it would be to pass a new resolution and include in that language from the prior version you are repealing. That would be the simplest way to clarify it.

**Ray Koonce** – *then that would be my motion Mr. Chairman.*

**Chairman Wells** – *so I have a motion on the floor to pass a new resolution with the numbers of the set backs and fees are actually in the court transcript and to note that we are repealing the other part of this. I have a motion is there a second. Clint Epley seconded the motion.*

**Bryan Sharp** – how did we end up with this signed and voted on.

**Vicki McMahon** – where did the mistakes come from?

**Chairman Wells** – I can't tell you

**Vicki McMahon** – that makes me concerned about others.

**Chairman Wells** – that was my first thought. That is why I went through each item. Instead of saying there is a couple of mistakes here. Yeah, it makes me wonder about everything.

**Bev Graham** – Steve Sipes is here. Can he speak on this?

**Chairman Wells** – if the board wants him to. That is up to the board. Any objections? Mr. Snipes do you care to talk.

**Steve Sipes** – I believe what happened is we looked at the ordinance and changed the setbacks and I believe the fees for that and I think what has happened the copy you guys got was the original text we worked off of for the proposed changes. I am not sure which. But you guys got sent the wrong thing. Usually when I sign off on the paper that night, it is for what we voted on then the changes got made. Now I don't know if the wrong one got sent to you after that. It is all I can figure what happened. Can I see that? Matt and I talked about this last week and we would have made changes on that paper and my guess is it didn't get copied over.

**Chairman Wells** - Bev I can tell you this, these are the changes that Liz and I made going through the transcript to try to make sure all of you had the accurate information as to what the ZBA had actually passed. That should be Elizabeth's writing all over this page.

**Steve Sipes** – no I signed off on that. The changes hadn't been made yet to it. We discussed that. I signed of on it so I don't have to make a second trip back to Taylorville.

**Chairman Wells** – let me understand this. We received this copy. All the hand writing up her and all the hand writing and scratch outs are what Liz and I did going through the text amendments to make sure we could explain to all of you what was wrong with what we had passed. The marks are by Liz.

**Venise McWard** – yes, I believe it needs to go back to Personnel just to give us a chance to review it

**Chairman Wells** – I don't have a problem with whatever the majority wants to do is fine. But I don't have a problem with sending the new proposal back to personnel but it would seem to me like we would want to get rid of what is wrong as fast as we could.

**Ray Koonce** – *I withdraw my motion and make a different motion to rescind O2022ZB023 with Clint Epley seconded that motion.*

**Dale Livingsgton** – will this have to go back to the ZBA?

**Chairman Wells** – no, I believe our policy states ordinances are reviewed by Personnel, Policy and Procedure and what we are repealing is a mistake and the new information should be sent to that committee. But, again, that is up to someone to make that motion.

**Clint Epley** – do we need to dismiss the old ordinance then.

**Chairman Wells** – that is what the motion is on the floor. Any other discussion?

**Linda Curtin** – so this sets us back more time trying to get this done?

**Chairman Wells** – well yes, this takes away an ordinance we probably shouldn't have passed. What we passed, some of the setbacks, always been my understanding, and I haven't been to law school, the biggest issue is not having public hearings to give the public

a chance to go in and talk about this. We have had no hearings on some of these setbacks and some of these dollar fees.

**Bev Graham** – Matt, did they just meet on the 22 or did they meet on the 26<sup>th</sup>?

**Liz Hile** – it was in April right Mr. Sipes?

**Steve Sipes** – It would have been our regular meeting.

**Bev Graham** – because he signed down here on the 22<sup>nd</sup> and up here it has the 26<sup>th</sup>.

**Chairman Wells** – I can't explain that Bev. Any other discussion? So we have a motion and a second to rescind O2022ZB023. After no further discussion a roll call vote was called upon. A roll call vote polled by signifying all those in favor say aye (15) all opposed same sign (0). Motion carried. It will be rescinded.

**Vicki McMahon** – *made a motion to send the correction back to Personnel with a seconded by Venise McWard.*

**Chairman Wells** – I guess you are talking about the new O2022ZB023 with the correct motion.

**Vicki McMahon** – with the corrected changes.

**Mike Specha** – Mr. Chairman, Linda started to make this point and it is one that I am concerned with too. It's a practical matter. Are we concerned now the numbers aren't right. And if they are not, who in Zoning is going to look at it.

**Chairman Wells** – the concern is what we passed last month, what was presented to this board was not correct with the transcript.

**Mike Specha** – correct and we just rescinded that. My concern now with the motion on the floor to send it back to committee puts us at least another month out is inconveniencing certainly to the people wanting to move forward and to what end? What are we gaining in this next month is my concern. If these numbers are the correct numbers why can't we move forward. I am just speaking in opposition to send it back.

**Bryan Sharp** – Ordinances move through the executive committee for review. We didn't know what we were voting on apparently and I think we do need an opportunity to review the corrected version.

**Chairman Wells** – okay we have a motion on the floor to send this back to Personnel Policy and Procedure. All those in favor signify by saying aye (13) all opposed same sign (2). Motion carried.

- **O2022ZB031 – Special Use Cypress Creek Renewables** – solar field sitting just outside of Taylorville, just south of the bean mill. The board passed that - there were no objections and it is here in front of us tonight.

**Bev Graham** – asked if the ZBA had passed it



**Chairman Wells** – ZBA passed this yes. No objections at the meeting. So here it is sent to the county board tonight.

**Linda Curtin** – do residence around this project get notified and that is there chance to come to a meeting.

**Chairman Wells** – I believe there is a requirement to put it in the newspaper.

**Bev Graham** – some of the people that live in that area out there they live behind where the water treatment plant is now, I believe some of them will be facing where they want to put this solar thing there were people I spoke to, they were not contacted directly by any of these people. And I think that is what happened when we had to do this before with Doc Sloan's across from a residential thing and that went back to 2018 and the people had not been contacted earlier and they voted that through and the solar thing is going across on the langleyville road and people hadn't been contacted. This could be the situation with them having time to come speak with us or someone about it.

*Ray Koonce – I have had people ask me several questions over this. Right now I would like to make a motion to table this to Personnel and Executive committee with a seconded by Bryan Sharp.* Chairman Wells called for a discussion

**Dale Livingston** asked why a lot more members were not present. I was there, Chuck was there. Why weren't there more members at the ZBA meeting. And can we have Mr. Sipes speak again on this.

**Chairman Wells** – there is a motion to table. All those in favor of tabling this and sending it to the Personnel Policy and Procedure signify by saying aye (14) those opposed same sign (1). Motion carried. It will be sent to the Personnel Policy and Procedure committee.

- **O2022ZB032 – Rezoning 10 residential lots from R-1 to C-1 in Pana, Illinois**

**Chairman Wells** – in this motion it comes to us from the ZBA. I understand there was an objection here tonight a lady voicing some concern but no one went to the ZBA to voice concern over it.

**Bev Graham** – I think the night they had the ZBA meeting was election night if I am correct. So there were several people on this board that worked election night I don't believe we were all notified that we all should have been there that night.

**Chairman Wells** – I don't know if there is a requirement that any of us go to those meetings. I tend to stay out of their way.

**Bev Graham** – some of us have been trying to go every month. But it was also election night.

**Chairman Wells** – we have this text amendment. *Venise McWard made a motion to table this and send it back to Personnel with a seconded by Bryan Sharp.* All those in favor signify by saying aye (13) all opposed same sign (2). Motion carried.

## READING OF COMMUNICATIONS

### **JULY 2022 COMMUNICATIONS**

The following communications were presented and placed on file in the Clerk's Office.

1. July 2022 Prevailing Wage Report
2. The June 2022 Public Defender's Report
3. The Treasurer's Reports for period ending June 30, 2022
4. The Local Solid Waste Fees Fund report for June 2022
5. ROE – Expenditure Report for June 2022
6. C.E.F.S – May 2022 PCOM report
7. IDOT – Motor Fuel Tax Allotment and Transactions for May 2022

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### **HIGHWAY/BUILDING/GROUNDS/ENVIRONMENTAL/ZONING AND WELFARE COMMITTEE June 14, 2022**

Present: Dale Livingston, Chuck Smedley, Bev Graham, Mike Specha, Thomas Snyder, Jr.

Absent: None

Others present: Matt Wells, Linda Curtin, Wes Poggenpohl, Bill Kennedy, Cliff Frye, Ron Brown, Dwanna Kelmel, Rebecca Hile, Ron Brown, Pat Vogel, Patty Rykhus, Jan Schmedeke, Derek Page, Seth Thomas, Lucas Domonowsky, and Elizabeth Hile in attendance.

The meeting of the Highway/Building/Grounds/Environmental/Welfare/Zoning Committee was called to order on Tuesday, July 12, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. in the Christian County Courthouse. The purpose of the meeting was County building issues, highway business and any other matters properly brought before the Committee. Roll call was taken and there was a quorum.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Derek Page, Mayor of Assumption spoke about the devastating accident involving local high school students where County Highway 6 intersects with US Route 51. There have been many serious accidents at that intersection with previous contact with IDOT. He is asking the County to work with IDOT. The County has full cooperation of himself, the Village of Assumption and Board as well as the community.

Rebecca Hile, a long time former volunteer at Animal Control who was on the founding Board of "Friends Of" addressed the committee. She noted that she addressed the Board last month about the improvements at Animal Control that Vince Harris made during his time there. Improvements noted were improved veterinary services, reduced euthanasia rates, improvements to the facility and outreach to the community which still continues.

She noted that Animal Control numbers are rarely reference in meeting minutes and seem to focus on the number of animals housed. She indicated she feels all the numbers, intake, adoptions and euthanasia for Animal Control should be reported monthly as a matter of public record. She noted there are 8900 members on the Animal Control Facebook page and these things matter. Rebecca cited some of the animal control ordinances related to impoundment and when an animal is not claimed by an owner. She also indicated there are no ordinances for animals held for court cases and the reimbursement for their care. She would like to see checks and balances in place for the new Animal Control Director.

Patty Ryhkus of Friends Of inquired if the ordinance related to AHI had been rescinded or reworded. The goal is cooperation between all parties committed to the care of animals in our county.

## ZONING BUSINESS

### Office Location

Committee Chairman Dale Livingston noted there have been 24 calls, walk-ins at the Solid Waste Office and that he has taken numerous zoning calls himself. Animal Control has also received zoning calls. He stated the need for getting something going on this matter.

Regarding the office location, it was noted that this was tabled from last month.

SOLID WASTE BUSINESS Committee Chairman Dale Livingston advised everything balanced out and balancing was completed by the secretary.

HIGHWAY BUSINESS Cliff provided supplemental resolutions required by IDOT's legal council for both the Pana Bridge #66 project Section 19-11115-00-BR and Locust Bridge #3 project Section 19-07116-00-BR. The County previously passed resolutions for these projects appropriating the 4% local share. The Joint Agreements were worded to show the Township Bridge Program funds, 16%, as local funds as has been past practice. IDOT's legal council indicated since these are shown as local funds, we need to pass the supplemental resolutions appropriating the additional 16%. The Township Bridge Funds are sent to the County directly and are used to pay 16% of the actual construction costs. Since the Pana project has been awarded, we have already received the approximately \$64,000 in Township Bridge Funds for that project.

Motion by Dale Livingston and seconded by Mike Specha to recommend review of R2022HY08, appropriating an additional \$60,000 from the County Bridge Fund for Section 19-11115-00-BR, by the States Attorney prior to the next Board meeting and if acceptable to recommend approval of R2022HY08 by the full Board. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Dale Livingston made a motion approve R2022HY08 with a seconded by Mike Specha. With no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call vote.*

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following:, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson; Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

Motion by Dale Livingston and seconded by Chuck Smedley to recommend review of R2022HY09, appropriating an additional \$125,000 from the County Bridge Fund for Section 19-07116-00-BR, by the States Attorney prior to the next Board meeting and if acceptable to

recommend approval of R2022HY09 by the full Board. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Dale Livingston made a motion to approve R2022HY09 if that is okay with Wes (he said it was good) with a seconded by Chuck Smedley. With no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call vote.*

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following:; Timothy Carlson, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

### Project Updates

Pana Bridge #66 is scheduled to start August 8th . Locust Bridge #3 was on the June 17th IDOT letting with the bid going to Yamnitz & Associates at a cost of \$763,500. The bid was approximately 14% under estimate. A start date will be determined after IDOT completes award of the project. Start dates have been delayed this year due to problems obtaining some materials.

Cliff was asked if there was any updates on the County lot near Moweaqua. Cliff advised that Poggenpohl is reserving blocks as they are made.

### ANIMAL CONTROL

#### O2021AC035

States Attorney Wes Poggenpohl referenced a meeting that occurred earlier this year in regards to the AHI ordinance. He noted he wasn't at the meeting to ask to rescind the ordinance but did provide some change suggestions. The suggestions were to section 15.02, 15.03, slight modification to 15.04 and added a new recommendation of 15.05. A copy was provided to all committee members.

Thomas Snyder, Jr. inquired if it wouldn't be better to use the language provided in the Illinois Department of Agriculture email reference 15.03 dealing with trespassing.

Patty Rykhus reference some situations where AHIs that don't reside in Christian County cross into the County.

Motion by Bev Graham and seconded by Mike Specha to recommend the suggestions be forwarded to the full Board. A roll call vote polled 4 ayes and 1 nay with Thomas Snyder, Jr. casting the nay. Motion carried. Bev Graham asked if when passed if this ordinance can be posted at Animal Control. States Attorney Poggenpohl advised that it will be provided when they check in.

*Dale Livingston made a motion with a seconded by Mike Specha to make suggestions to the Animal Control Ordinance. Discussion*

*Ray Koonce – after conferring with the States Attorney I make a motion to table and send to the Executive Personnel committee with a second by Vicki McMahon.*

**Mike Specha** – Mr. Chairman don't we already have a motion on the floor.

**Chairman Wells** – yes there is but he is entitled to amend that motion. It is an amendment to the original. Procedurally he is correct. Personnel, Policy and Procedure, according to our rules advise on all ordinances.

**Ray Koonce** – Mr. Chairman, just for clarification tabling is not for amending it is just a layer on top of the original motion. It supersedes the original motion.

Chairman Wells called for a roll call vote by all those in favor signify with aye (14) all opposed same sign (1). Motion carried. It is going to Personnel Policy and Procedures.

## COURT HOUSE AND BUILDING BUSINESS

### Tree Removal

Ron Brown noted there is a small tree by the dumpster right by the sidewalk that is dying. Maintenance staff will be able to take the tree down themselves. Regarding the trees already approved for removal, Ron has again contacted Long Tree Service about removal. Removal will likely be on a weekend. Ron also mentioned that the committee may want to look at the smaller trees around the courthouse behind the sidewalk to see what the thoughts are about trying to possibly move them to other locations on the lawn.

Motion by Dale Livingston and seconded by Chuck Smedley to recommend to the full Board to allow the maintenance staff to remove the small tree by the dumpster that is dying. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Dale Livingston made a motion to remove the small tree with a seconded by Chuck Smedley. With no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call vote. All those in favor signify by saying aye (15) all opposed same sign (0). Motion carried.*

**Chairman Wells** – before Dale moves on, one of the things he has talked about and we talked about it a year or so ago, when you as members get a chance, please take a walk around the courthouse because we have several small trees that may still be small enough to transplant. We have moved some trees off the lawn because they have died. We have several trees that I am going to call inside sidewalks next to the building, and that discussion may happen at a later date. If you would, and you have a chance, please have a look. Some of us think they should be moved away from the building to keep from doing damage while they are still small enough.

Bill Kennedy addressed the committee regarding various issues. He is still working on figuring out what to do with old records. The Supervisor of Assessment and Circuit Clerk think they are okay. The County Clerk has asked for assistance. Eventually decisions may need to be made about the piles of records in the basement, which offices they belong to and what can be done with them.

Bill mentioned the Board may want to consider replacing the other 3 courthouse doors to look like the original doors like the one done on the east side. They are modern doors made to look like originals.

The boiler is open now and ready for the repair company to make the repair needed on the leak we know we have as well as take a look at the condition of the boiler and hopefully be able to measure the thickness of the walls. Bill does not want the County to be in a situation where the boiler goes down during winter months. Based on what is found, decisions may need to be made.

Bill mentioned the upcoming HVAC project and the amount of equipment in the attic. He believes it may be appropriate to consider fire protection equipment in the attic and possibly the building.

The fountain lights are currently not working. A low voltage LED light would be ideal and they are working on getting something of this type for the fountain.

The roof leaked again with the last rain. Charles Samson will be looking at it again. The leak is felt to be in the northwest corner at the bottom of a valley.

The continuation of the first floor reinforcement project was halted as we are waiting on the electrician to do some work.

Motion by Dale Livingston and seconded by Mike Specha to recommend to the full Board to allow Bill Kennedy to look into the costs for the doors, boiler and fire detection. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Dale Livingston made a motion to allow Bill Kennedy to look into the costs for doors with a seconded by Mike Specha.*

Chairman Wells stated as you remember someone tried to drive through the east side door and that was all replaced and Bill believes if we are going to do windows we should get the cost of new door fronts so we get something that is modern and insulated to help keep the cold air out as well as the boiler and fire detector. All we are asking today is for him to go get prices and bring them back to us.

With no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call vote.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson, (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

Committee Chairman Livingston under Animal Control failed to mention providing a card processing service available for payments, donations, etc. The cost to individuals using this service is 3%. There is no cost to the County. A handout was provided to all members. Individuals can still pay in cash as well.

Motion by Bev Graham and seconded by Dale Livingston to forward this to the full Board. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Dale Livingston made a motion and seconded by Chuck Smedley to provide a card processing service. A modern way for people to deal with money.*

Chairman Wells – my personal thought of that is, although it may be a great idea, we have a new person taking over the first of August to me, I would like to see that individual have a chance to look at it. We have gone a hundred years without it. That is my only thought. If the new director out there doesn't think this is a good idea why do we want to go ahead and do it tonight.

*Vicki McMahon – made a motion to table with a second by Ken Franklin.* Chairman Wells called for a roll call vote to table this until the August board meeting. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

#### OTHER MATTERS

Bev Graham inquired as to when advertising would be in the paper for zoning and solid waste. At this time there have been no motions for this matter.

Motion by Chuck Smedley and seconded by Mike Specha to adjourn. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

Dale Livingston  
Buildings/Highway/Environmental/Zoning  
Welfare Chairman  
07/12/2022

### **EXECUTIVE/PERSONNEL/LIQUOR COMMITTEE**

**July 11, 2022**

Present: Craig Corzine, Chairman, Ray Koonce, David Puccetti, Clint Epley  
Absent: Bryan Sharp  
Others present: Matt Wells, Linda Curtin, Bev Graham, Chuck Smedley, Jim Baker, Cecil Polley, Chad Coady, Bruce Kettelkamp, Rebecca Hile, Jeff Stoner, Lucas Domonowsky and Elizabeth Hile in attendance.

The Executive, Personnel, and Liquor Committee met on Monday, July 11, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. in County Board meeting room, second floor of the Christian County Courthouse, Taylorville, Illinois. The purpose of the meeting was to address any agenda items, any personnel issues, policies, and any other matters properly brought before the Committee. Roll call was taken and there was a quorum.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS** Rebecca Hile addressed the committee noting a requirement in the job description for the Animal Control Director as posted in the advertising for the position was keeping accurate financial and daily record keeping. She noted that the actual number of animals taken in, adopted and euthanatized are rarely reported (only numbers of animals housed) and expressed her request to require the new Animal Control Director to provide these numbers monthly for public record.

**EMA UPDATES** • Jeff Stoner highlighted the recent fires in the area. • Noted that July 4th went smoothly without too many issues. • Highlighted recent weather in the county and upcoming events at Morrisonville and South Fork Dirt Riders. • First Net for priority communication during times of emergencies situations. • Staffing – 1 staff has resigned. • Purchased a mobile weather station • Updated on grant status – should be receiving payments for last 3 quarters delay is due to new software and related delays.

## ADDITIONAL JAILER

Jail Administrator Cecil Polley highlighted current staffing numbers, reasons for requesting an additional full time correction officer and revenue from federal money. Committee Chairman Corzine asked about the related expenses with federal inmates. Cecil noted that the only additional cost is for food. The use of ARPA money for the expenses for the remainder of this fiscal year was discussed as there is not money currently in the budget for this position.

Motion by Craig Corzine and seconded by Ray Koonce to recommend a draft ordinance for an amount not to exceed \$19,000.00 from ARPA funds for the purpose of payroll and employer related expenses to hire an additional jailer for the remainder of the 2022 fiscal year be sent to the Finance Committee for financial approval and Board recommendation. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

## ARPA REQUESTS

### EMA Request

Jeff Stoner presented a new cost estimate for radios, updates for Emergency Operation Center (EOC) and training of \$191,712.58 with the highest priority being 34 radios. Motion by Craig Corzine and seconded by Clint Epley to recommend a draft ordinance for an amount not to exceed \$65,500.00 from ARPA funds for the purchase of 10 radios and updates to the communication and video capabilities at the Emergency Operation Center (EOC) be sent to the Finance Committee for financial approval and Board recommendation. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

### Sheriff's Office

Chief Deputy Jim Baker presented a request for ARPA funds for updating camera equipment in the courthouse and Sheriff's Office as well as equipment needs over the road.

Radar Units – most of the radar units go back to the 80s and need updates with every certification which are ongoing costs. Parts are also becoming an issue. He would like to update 12 units with front/rear radar. Additionally, he is requesting 1 new handheld radar unit that allows for better enforcement in high traffic areas. Cost estimate for vehicle radar units is \$23,010.00 and \$1,978.50 for 1 new handheld unit.

Updating and replacing camera equipment at the courthouse and Sheriff's Office - Chief Deputy Baker provided information related to the existing camera systems at both the courthouse and Sheriff's Office and what the issues are. Cost estimate for updating the camera system at the courthouse is \$8,805.00 and \$27,699.00 for the Sheriff's Office.

Motion by Craig Corzine and seconded by Dave Puccetti to recommend a draft ordinance for an amount not to exceed \$64,500.00 from ARPA funds for the purpose of updating the camera recording systems at the courthouse and Sheriff's Department. Replacement of 12 car radar units and 1 new hand held unit be sent to the Finance Committee for financial approval and Board recommendation. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

## JOB DESCRIPTION

### Supervisor of Assessment Staff

Chad Coady presented a job description for the new position of GIS Coordinator to the committee. The position meets the requirements of an exempt position per the States Attorney and HR agrees. Chad included in the job description a salary schedule which is based on the minimum FLSA salary of \$35,568.00 plus an additional \$1,000.00 for plat officer (\$36,568 total) starting salary; after the 2nd year the salary increases to \$38,500; after the 4th year \$41,000.



Motion by Craig Corzine and seconded by Ray Koonce to recommend to the full Board to adopt the job description for the GIS Coordinator position in the Supervisor of Assessment Office. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

#### Educator Solid Waste

Chairman Wells advised that he left this item on the agenda but at this time there is no department head to make a recommendation.

#### REVIEW OF NON-BARGAINING STARTING SALARY POLICY – SUPERVISOR OF ASSESSMENT STAFF

It was noted that the current Non-Bargaining Starting Salary Policy does not provide for the new position of GIS Coordinator in the Supervisor of Assessment Office.

Motion by Clint Epley and seconded by Craig Corzine to forward the matter of review of the NonBargaining Starting Salary Policy for the new GIS Coordinator position in the Supervisor of Assessment Office to the Finance Committee. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

911 AGREEMENT AND NON-BARGAINING STARTING SALARY POLICY Chairman Wells reviewed the States Attorney's opinion from last month's Board meeting on who determines the salary of the 911 Administrator/Director. He feels the choices to address this issue are a. do nothing; b. change the policy taking the 911 Administrator off the policy; or c. provide notice to leave the intergovernmental agreement between the counties.

Motion by Ray Koonce and seconded by Clint Epley to recommend to the full Board to remove the position of 911 Administrator from the Non-Bargaining Starting Salary Policy. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Ray Koonce made a motion to remove the position of 911 Administrator from the Non-Bargaining Starting Salary Policy with a second Ken Franklin. After no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call vote.*

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

COUNTY BOARD RULES – LEGISLATIVE L This rule was reviewed last month but no action could be taken at that time as it was not included on the agenda. The rule related to setting the rate of pay for the election judges with Board approval.

Motion by Craig Corzine and seconded by Ray Koonce to recommend to the full Board to remove Legislative L from the County Board Rules. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

*Ray Koonce made a motion to remove Legislative L from the County Board Rules with a seconded by Vicki McMahon. After no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call vote.*

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas

Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

#### REVIEW OF HOW DEPARTMENT HEADS FILL VACANCIES

The minutes from December 18, 2012 were reviewed related to “filling employee vacancies”. It was noted there has been no other change to this procedure found in minutes subsequent to December of 2012. The first paragraph of the minutes indicates if a vacancy occurs within a department, the non-elected Department Head may contact the Board Chairman and the Finance Chairman to approve filling the vacancy. The question is whether to leave this procedure as is or not.

The 2nd paragraph of the 2012 minutes were discussed by the committee whereby the committee felt the non-elected and appointed department heads should be coming to the Personnel Committee and with full Board approval for the hiring process versus the Board Chairman.

Motion by Clint Epley and seconded by Craig Corzine to change the 2nd paragraph in the “filling employee vacancies” noted in the December 18, 2012 minutes changing Board Chairman to Personnel Committee with full Board approval. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

*Ray Koonce made a motion with a seconded by Clint Epley. Discussion*

**Mike Specha** – Mr. Chairman I didn’t have the advantage of sitting through the meetings so I have a few concerns and questions. First of all the wording in the December 18, 2012 says a non elected department head may contact the board chairman. That is not shall. So I am not sure if the word may contact means got to do it. The second thing about it is to fill the vacancies. So I would read that to mean we have a budgeted item, somebody leaves, the board chairman can be contacted not about who they are hiring but whether the vacancy should be made available to fill. A different print on hiring. I am not certain we are moving down some path where all the hiring needs to run through here and I am not sure that is the intent. I am just very concerned that the board is about to take on some personnel issue we should be hiring and firing everyone in the building. My personal opinion is no I don’t think that is how the organization is set up and I don’t want to be taking steps to make this happen.

**Ken Franklin** – so this is talking about a leaving department head filling their own vacancy.

**Chairman Wells** – today if there was a vacancy that came about in one of the offices that is held by an appointed individual they could come to the county board chairman or the finance chairman and get permission to fill the vacancy. The motion is to eliminate the county board chairman and finance chairman I believe and have them come to the Personnel Policy and Procedure and the full board. To me I know when this was passed according to the minutes in 12 or 16 whenever it was it was to speed up the hiring process. According to the minutes at that time. I think this could have the opposite effect on things but it is up to what the majority wants.

Ken Franklin – what was the previous procedure prior to December 18.

**Chairman Wells** – I asked – that was before me. I believe they did that because they were having problems with hiring. If this passes what is going to happen is Animal Control, the Highway Department, the appointed people – somebody quits they have to get it on the agenda come to the board and tell us hey can I hire someone. It is going to be the following month anyhow.

**Ken Franklin** – I understood it as the department heads filling their own vacancy not their employees if they left.

**Chairman Wells** – No this is talking about if someone leaves the highway department – if three people quit in Cliff's office tomorrow he has people who are qualified that he feels he wants to hire. Today, he could come to me and Venise and say I got this much money in the budget and these people quit can I go ahead and hire them. And we would say yay or nay then we could send it to the board. What this is saying is if one or two people quit in Cliff's department he has to come to the committee then full board for him to hire.

**Dale Livingston** – so basically it would take a month and half to replace somebody.

**Chairman Wells** – that would depend on if someone quit.

*Ray Koonce made a motion to table this back to committee so they can review a little bit more with a second by Bryan Sharp.*

Chairman Wells called for a roll call vote. All those in favor of tabling this to committee signify by saying aye (15) all those opposed same sign (0). Motion carried.

#### PERSONNEL HANDBOOK

Committee Chairman Corzine advised this will be deferred to next month.

#### OTHER MATTERS

Ray Koonce noted that there was not a quorum for the 708 Mental Health Board meeting tonight but because there was a whole room full of people present, they talked out mental health issues. The Director from Macoupin County was amongst the individuals present. It is the hope to get something started here to address mental health issues.

Bev Graham asked if applications have been received from the advertising for an Animal Control Director. Chairman Wells advised that several applications were received.

Motion by David Puccetti and seconded by Clint Epley to adjourn. All were in favor. Motion carried

Respectfully submitted,

Craig Corzine, Chairman  
Executive/Personnel Committee  
7/11/2022

## AUDIT/FINANCE/PURCHASING/BUDGET COMMITTEE

July 13, 2022

Present: Venise McWard, Chairman, Linda Curtin, Vicki McMahon, Tim Carlson, Ken Franklin  
Absent: None  
Others present: Matt Wells, Jim Baker, Cecil Polley, Jeff Stoner, Chad Coady, Rebecca Hile, Brandon Rarick, Dylan Cook, Lucas Domonowsky and Elizabeth Hile.

The Audit/Finance/Purchasing/Budget Committee met on Wednesday, July 13, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. at the Christian County Courthouse, Taylorville, Illinois. The purpose of the meeting was to address agenda items and any other matters properly brought before the committee. Roll call was taken and there was a quorum.

### CLAIMS

A motion was made by Vicki McMahon and seconded by Tim Carlson to recommend to the full Board to approve the claims presented for July. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Venise McWard made a motion to approve the July claims with a second by Ken Franklin. With no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call vote.*

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS Rebecca Hile, a long time former volunteer at Animal Control spoke about being approached by a Board member who made comments about the content of her public comments at Monday and Tuesday night's committee meetings. Rebecca noted that her only motive in speaking is on behalf of the animals, her previous public comments were similar but contained different information and she has not sought the assistance of anyone nor is she here on anyone's behalf.

She further provided information on how the current Pet Fund originated as she was a volunteer at Animal Control at that time. In 2009, an animal named "Pal" needed surgery and the County didn't

want to spend money on the pet. Joelynda Conrad, the former Animal Control Warden went to the Breeze Courier about this particular pets situation, they ran an article which stimulated donations for the care of this animal. Pal had surgery and was adopted out to a family. The excess funds from the donations were made available for pet use under the new name of Pet Fund. The Pet Fund has been used for food, treats and supplies, veterinarian services and for other needs of the animals. It was started because the County didn't want to spend money for some animal services. The Animal Control budget has not contained a "food" line item for several years. This fund has never been in the County's general fund. Meeting minutes verify this fund has been audited by Richard Hooper under both former Animal Control Directors Joelynda Conrad and Vince Harris, the Treasurer has had access to view the account.

Over the years the Pet Fund has grown as a result of donations and memorials given to be used for the animals. She stated this fund needs to remain for the sole use by Animal Control and not for standard operating expenses, to be used at the discretion of the Treasurer, Finance Committee or County Board or placed in the general fund where departments can request it. Require accurate book keeping with detailed reports but leave the spending of those funds to Animal Control as the donors intended.

ACT INTERNET Brandon Rarick, owner of ACT Internet provided maps showing areas for rural fiber access covering most of the County with the exception of about 3% of the County in the South Fork area. The cost to provide coverage for each map was provided. Map #1 is a \$2.4 million dollar project; map #2 a \$2.7 million dollar project; and both projects (map #1 and #2) a total cost of \$3.4 million. Cost share for the project would be up to the County but if not provided 100%, ACT will apply for grants for cost share. A question was asked about who owns the fiber once installed. ACT replied that it depends on the agreed contract but most counties own with ACT maintaining the line. An inquiry about cost to the homeowner was also made. ACT offers several different plans depending on speed. Monthly costs start as low as \$20 per month up to \$150 per month for 2G. ACT has been in business for 3 years and currently provide services to rural homes in Shelby County, Moweaqua and east side of 51 in Christian County.

BUDGET HEARING SCHEDULE The Committee will meet on their regular meeting night of Wednesday, August 10th starting at 6:00 p.m., Thursday, August 11th at 6:00 p.m. and Wednesday, August 17th at 6:00 p.m. to begin the budget hearing process.

WC AUDIT Administrative Assistant/HR Liz Hile was asked to update the committee on the WC audit. She explained the WC audit process, how this year's audit process went to include the areas of concern. While the County did receive a refund of \$998.00, due to the concerns of how the audit was conducted, on behalf of the County an appeal was requested. Dimond Brothers was contacted, they felt requesting an appeal was a good call and advised the auditor would be contacted. To date we have received no reply from the auditor. Additional information will be provided as it becomes available.

#### REFERRALS

##### Additional Jailer

The Executive/Personnel Committee referred an amount not to exceed \$19,000.00 from ARPA funds for salary and related benefit costs for an additional jailer for the remaining FY2022 budget year.

Motion by Linda Curtin and seconded by Ken Franklin to recommend to the full Board that the salary costs and related benefits up to \$19,000.00 for an additional jailer for the remainder of the

FY2022 budget year be taken from contingency fund instead of ARPA funds. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Venise McWard made a motion to use contingency funds for an additional jailer for the remainder of FY2022 with a second by Dale Livingston.* Chairman Wells stated he asked Liz to check and he doesn't know what the board will decide later on about Zoning and Solid Waste, there is approximately \$60,000 left in contingency, so if we take this out of contingency and I am told to hire someone and we take that out of contingency we may be putting ourselves at \$20,000. I am 100% in favor of getting a new jailer, but I just want to make sure we are all aware of how much money is in contingency and what may or may not happen. Anything else? After no further discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call vote.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

#### EMA ARPA Request

The Executive/Personnel Committee referred an amount not to exceed \$65,500.00 from ARPA funds for purchase of 10 radios and updates to the communication and video capabilities at the Emergency Operation Center (EOC).

Jeff Stoner highlighted that since the Executive/Personnel Committee meeting, as a result of discussion and additional research, he feels he can go to a different radio model and still accomplish the overall goal. This reduces the cost of each radio from \$5000.00 to \$1,000.00 whereby he can purchase all 34 radios and stay within the \$65,000.00 recommended by the committee.

Motion by Vickie McMahon and seconded by Linda Curtin to amend the motion from Executive/Personnel for an amount not to exceed \$65,000.00 of ARPA funds for the purchase of 34 radios and updates to the communication and video capabilities/training at the Emergency Operation Center (EOC). A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Vickie McMahon and seconded by Linda Curtin to recommend to the full Board to approve Ordinance O2022CB028 for an amount not to exceed \$65,000.00 from ARPA funds for the purchase of 34 radios and updates to the communication and video capabilities/training at the Emergency Operation Center (EOC). A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Venise McWard made a motion to approve O2022CB028 with a second by Dale Livingston.* Chairman Wells stated he wanted to explain what Chief Baker explained at the committee meeting. The radios that Jeff originally asked for, Chief Baker told me I think he has one like it and he can talk to Greene County. What Jeff is wanting, if there is an emergency and the fire department shows up he wants to be able to give them a radio where they can talk to each other throughout the county. That is why he went to a different radio. They will work throughout the county according to Jeff. With no further discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call vote.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson, Linda Curtin,

Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

#### Sheriff Department ARPA Request

The Executive/Personnel Committee referred an amount not to exceed \$64,500.00 from ARPA funds for the purpose of updating the camera recording systems at the courthouse and Sheriff's Department, replacement of 12 car radar units and a new hand held unit.

Motion by Ken Franklin and seconded by Linda Curtin to recommend to the full Board to approve Ordinance O2022CB029 for an amount not to exceed \$64,500.00 from ARPA funds for the purpose of updating the camera recording systems at the courthouse and Sheriff's Department, replacement of 12 car radar units and a new hand held unit. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Venise McWard made a motion to approve O2022CB029 with a seconded by Dale Livingston.*

Chairman Wells asked for discussion

Bev Graham – does that replace the motherboard that you were talking about that went down?

Jim Baker – yes, 27 for the sheriff's office and the 7 replaces both the motherboard or the recording

Bev Graham – so you will be all set down there.

Jim Baker – Yes. They are going to use what new high definition cameras that we have. They are just going to bring everything up to high definition in both buildings and basically a new storage unit that maintains it for review and recording.

With no further discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call vote.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

#### Non-Bargaining Starting Salary Policy

The Executive/Personnel Committee referred the matter of Non-Bargaining Starting Salary Policy to this committee for a GIS Coordinator position at the Supervisor of Assessment office. The Executive/Personnel reviewed the job description and because it's an exempt nonbargaining position noted the need for amending the Non-Bargaining Starting Salary Policy.

The committee reviewed the job description provided and noted salary comments. More than 1 committee member expressed concern of this position being paid more than a Chief Deputy position and felt it may be time to review the Chief Deputy salaries. Chad Coody noted that the base salary is the minimum per FLSA for an exempt position and the \$1000.00 additional was something a plat officer in the past had received.

Motion by Venise McWard and seconded by Vicki McMahon to recommend to the full Board to amend the Non-Bargaining Salary Policy adding a GIS Coordinator position with a starting salary of \$35,568.00. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Venise McWard made a motion to amend the Non-Bargaining Salary Policy and add GIS Coordinator position with a starting salary of \$35,568.00 with a seconded by Ken Franklin. With no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call vote.*

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

#### OTHER MATTERS

Chairman Wells wanted the committee to be aware at the Executive/Personnel meeting on Monday, a recommendation will be coming before the Board to remove the 911 Director position from the Non-Bargaining Starting Salary Policy. At the last Board meeting a question about who determines the salary for the 911 Director was addressed by the States Attorney. He advised it is the decision of the 911 Board. The choices discussed at the Executive/Personnel committee were to do nothing, remove the position from the policy or vote to provide notice to terminate the bi-county 911 agreement. Motion by Tim Carlson and seconded by Vicki McMahon to adjourn. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,  
Venise McWard Finance/Audit/Purchasing/Budget  
Committee Chairwoman  
07/13/2022



### **NEW BUSINESS/OLD BUSINESS/OTHER**

First let me state some 18 months ago when I became chairman, I told you all I would make mistakes and I would have to apologize and this is one of those times. I think it was last Tuesday Bev asked me a question and it made me a little short, I snapped a little bit at her. Beverly, I apologize to you and to the entire board for that. It is not my intentions to belittle or irritate any of the board members even though sometimes I know I do. I do want to apologize to you for that.

**Bev Graham** – Thank you

Secondly, I want to thank the board if you haven't seen it, please take a minute and look at the bench we purchased for Bill. While it might not have been the most important thing I ever done as a chairman, it sure as hell was the most fun Bill. You deserve every bit of it.

- **Broadband – Shelby Electric** - The gentleman who was to come and speak with us called us today and has told us he has COVID at home. He didn't feel like he wanted to infect any of us. He asked to be put on the August meeting. So we will do that.
- **Farmland Assessment Meeting Update – Supervisor of Assessment** – Chad stated they met on June 17, 2022. The Farmland Assessment Committee of Donna Wilcox, Alex Norris and John Gardner. We met June 17 at 2:00pm in the county boardroom. We just approved the state increase in farmland assessment. It comes out every year. There was no real discussion over it. It is a 10% increase on the PI 111 soil type which comes out to \$42.61 per acre for farmland.
- **Assessment Districts in Township Counties** – Chad – the maps. Anytime, every census, there is a change in population, if the change is greater or smaller than a certain amount then there is redistricting to be proposed but there wasn't no change greater than the threshold. I created the new maps and passed them on to all the appropriate channels including the board and the state has gotten notification that has been done as well.
- **Architectural Standards Booklet – Bill Kennedy** – in the past, that document, the roots of it is 40 plus years old. The first ones I gave by Charlie Hall and they included that in bid packets for contractors. And, then, later we just started putting that language in the information. There is nothing new in there. And the last time, those exact words, I think was 10 or 12 years ago. Anyway, we got these jobs coming up now with the air conditioner,

windows and stuff, and what I was going to ask you to do was to look at that. It is the same language you have seen before. Actually the document has been around before although I couldn't find no copies of it so I sort of recreated the bid language like in the past. I would like the board to know that or approve it. We don't need an ordinance or anything like that. But I don't want a contractor or someone who doesn't get the bid or something like that to say our terms were wishy washy or not approved by the board. And I would just like to have people in the future that are setting specifications for – just to refer that document – not to depend on them to get all that stuff in the specifications for the bid correctly because I just had an issue with that. It is just better if we do it ourselves, I think.

**Chairman Wells** – seems to me like this is the type of thing one of the committees should look at and make a recommendation to the board to tell the maintenance director this is going to be used. Chairman Wells asked for a motion to send this to Buildings and Grounds committee. *Dale Livingston made a motion with a seconded by Mike Specha.* Have them review it and report back to the board next month.

**Ken Franklin** – also shouldn't the State's Attorney look at it since it deals with bids and contracts. Chairman Wells stated they would get Wes a book. The motion has been amended to send to Mr. Poggenpohl and Buildings and Grounds and report back to the board next month. After no discussion Chairman Wells called for a roll call vote polling all ayes. Motion carried.

**Bill Kennedy** – couple more things that are kind of new that I wanted the board to be aware of. We were doing pretty good on the record storage project. I tore the quadriceps in my leg and I can't get around very well. I want to be able to accurately measure the size of the records and stuff in the attic and basement with Jacque and others. I am just not in good shape to do it. We are moving along with that but I wanted to tell you about the boiler. We had a leak and they came and fixed the leak. However, they discovered that we had some broken stables and it won't pass inspection as it is with the broken stays. So I asked them what it would cost to get it fixed – there are 24 of them that need to be replaced. It is near the firebox and that is about \$6450 extra. This work can be done before the next heating season. But, I want us to consider replacing the boiler now. I want to look into that more closely since we got their opinion and we can talk to the boiler inspector as well. I think we need to make some considerations about replacing the boiler. I think we can probably limp this one through the next winter, but we need to be prepared if we could – it would be nice to get it replaced before then but I don't think that is going to be possible at least because of the equipment availability.

All right, I did at least want to give you an estimate so you at least know what kind of money we are talking about. I am too rusty to do the estimates as well as I thought that Hurst-Rosche could. They have a guy that does it all the time. So I asked him to give us the best number he could in about a week which is what he did. It is looking about \$130,000.00. I just want everybody to be aware of what we are doing and what it is likely to cost in the near future.

**Chairman Wells** –\$130,000 to replace the boiler. He called for a motion on the floor to send this to the Buildings and Grounds committee.

**Bill Kennedy** – Probably what we need to do now is ask for better estimates of what we can do. I don't think we need to do much until -

**Chairman Wells** – will you have something for us in three weeks or a month?

**Bill Kennedy** – yes

**Chairman Wells** – three weeks you will have something

**Bill Kennedy** – yes. We need to move quickly because winter is coming.

**Chairman Wells** – it seems like to me this should go to Buildings and Grounds committee so they can figure something out and get it to the finance committee. Dale Livingston made a motion with a seconded by Ken Franklin. Discussion.

**Venise McWard** – I have one question. Bill, would that cover the cost of the removal of the current boiler.

**Bill Kennedy** – yes. It may have some salvage value. We will look into that – it has some weight. Ron has a piece from where they cut out of the existing boiler to show you and give an idea of the thickness of the edge of the material there. The absolutely worst circumstance we could get into here is to have that thing fail badly in the middle of winter when it is cold. I would just have to rent a boiler or get one dragged in here somehow and connect it because at the very least we would be losing days of court activity or maybe a week or two. I don't think it is very easy to rent a little boiler. The portable boilers I have been involved with in the past are very expensive to rent and it is almost not practical. You would want to do almost anything to avoid doing that. It is something we just don't want to get into. We don't want the courthouse to get shut down. Certainly don't want frost damage although we can prevent that with temporary heaters. To make the building inhabitable would be very difficult. At the very least, that is the kind of thing I want to avoid. So I think we need to spend the \$6500 now to get this thing fixed. Can we do that now, can you vote on it now because he needs to get going.

**Chairman Wells** – to spend \$6500 to get it fixed?

**Bill Kennedy** – yeah. \$6450.

**Chairman Wells** – I don't believe we can, it is not on the agenda.

**Bill Kennedy** – yeah, I was afraid of that

**Bev Graham** – how long would it take to get the new one here?

**Bill Kennedy** – Bev, I don't think it is practical for this heating season. I don't think we could get the equipment let alone take this one out. That is the reason I think we need to get this fixed now.

**Dale Livingston** – Mr. Chairman – there is no contingency in the building fund/budget or anything like that.

**Chairman Wells** – the problem is Dale my limit is a couple thousand dollars and this is six thousand – way over the limit that I have.

**Bev Graham** – asked if it could be taken out of ARPA money. Everybody is using ARPA money can it be taken out of that.

**Chairman Wells** – it could be I am guessing but the problem we have tonight it is not on the agenda. I don't believe we can act on it. It could come out of ARPA but that is an ordinance that will end up going to Personnel Policy and Procedure if we send it to ARPA. I will certainly get this on the agenda for the committee meetings immediately so that next month at the August meeting the board can make a decision.

**Vicki McMahon** – could you do partial payment now and bill next month? At least get the ball rolling.

**Chairman Wells** – I will talk to Bill about that later.

**Vicki McMahon** – okay

**Dale Livingston** – could we call a special meeting because the heat at the courthouse is a pretty serious thing and if it would break and we couldn't get it fixed. Just getting parts right now.

**Chairman Wells** – we can do a special meeting what is it if 6 board members request it but you can't request it in this meeting because it is not on the agenda.

**Bev Graham** – how could you do that?

**Chairman Wells** – Bev, the process to request a special meeting is, again, we are talking about something that is not on the agenda. Which may violate the rules, but it would be for 6 board members to contact the chairman saying they want to have a special meeting. That is the process to have a special meeting.

**Bev Graham** – it can be just on that one thing, right?

**Chairman Wells** – unless the 6 board members want to meet about several things, correct. So we had a motion on the floor to send this to Building and Grounds. Any other questions? Chairman Wells called for a roll call vote.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

- **Review of closed session minutes** – We have to review the closed session minutes. We probably failed and are a little overdue. It is my hope I can get a motion from the board to ask the clerk to look at those minutes and send to the Personnel Policy and Procedure committee anything she feels we need to not release. Jacque has the closed session minutes, correct Jacque

**Jacque Willison** – Yes

**Chairman Wells** – She is the one who would know, be able to talk with Wes and get a recommendation to the Personnel, Policy and Procedure by the August meeting so that they can make a recommendation to the full board as to which ones we can release and which ones we keep. Ray Koonce made a motion with a second by Dale Livingston. Mr. Poggenpohl I hope I am doing this properly giving us time to look through them and let the public know what we will and won't release, is that correct.

**Wes Poggenpohl** – yes that is correct.

**Chairman Wells** – any other discussion? Again, we are going to have her look at all the closed session minutes that have not been released.

**Jacque Willison** – how far do you want me to go back?

**Chairman Wells** – there should be something where they have been released. A year or so ago, I don't know Jacque. I can be selfish and say I am just worried about the last two years since I have been chairman but that is not fair to the public. I don't know if you are going to look back and find 14 closed session minutes in the past 10 years or quite honestly 400. I don't know.

**Jacque Willison** – I don't know how I am going to figure out if they have been released or not.

**Chairman Wells** – I wouldn't know how those records were kept either. Just do the best you can. And get us something for Personnel Policy Procedure, please.

**Jacque Willison** – ok

**Chairman Wells** - I guess we need to vote on that. All in favor signify by saying aye (15) all opposed same sign (0). Motion carried.

- **County Board Rules – Personnel D** – this is the rule stating Personnel sets the salaries. I brought that up I don't think you are going to want to change it. But it may affect what goes on later in the meeting. That is why I put it on here. It could be changed if that is what the majority wants. It says to evaluate non-union personnel and to set salaries for said personnel. I am going to give you a chance to vote to remove that rule but if you don't we will move on. Okay. That being said we have no motion.
- **Additional Appreciation Pay Request** – I told the individual the board had set the list, it wouldn't go to committee it had to come to here. Somebody here that wants to speak

**Cecil Polley** – I am here on behalf of one of the jailers that worked at the jail during the time frame that was set forth by whomever whatever committee set the guidelines for the appreciation pay. The guidelines was set for March of 2021 to January 2022. If you worked in that time frame you were then eligible for the appreciation pay if you met these other criteria. My thing is that the board held on to this money for a while because they wanted to make sure they did it fairly. My opinion that is not fair. If an individual worked from March 2021 through January 2022 they worked during that time. That was the time frame they set forth that they have to work during. The jailer I am talking about, she left our employment June 1<sup>st</sup> to go to DOC. She left in good standings, she was a good employee, she even got COVID working in the jail during that time frame. So, I don't

think that it is fair that she was left off of that list because she left employment in June and she did work that time-frame March to January. Now, when this was brought to the board last time, they made some amendments to cover Scott Woods. Scott Woods left employment in November of 2021. So he did not work from March to January. He worked from March until November. He left employment, was not eligible for retirement at that time because of his age and therefore, originally he was left on the list. It was brought up there was some changes made because he is eligible to receive retirement. He said he could get that money. However, he did not work from March until January. Now I am not saying nothing bad about Scott Woods, I consider him a friend. He was in the middle of all of it with all of us over there in the jail at that time. My concern is that, because of arbitrarily time frame set forth by a committee, and this could have easily been discussed if we had had a meeting with the department heads to get their input into whom they thought was eligible for this money.

The other part is in bringing this objection up, there was some other people who heard about it. And then I was informed of some of the other things I do not feel was fair. We had part-time jailers that worked during that time-frame – only a few days in there but they were available and they worked when we had open shifts but they were part-time employees. They were left off the list. They didn't get paid because they didn't meet the 30 day requirement or something, I don't know what that was about. But then, there was an employee that worked in the courthouse that refused to come in during that time that was a part-time employee, would not come to the courthouse during COVID and was paid that money. So there again, that is not fair. I know that there was some special circumstances and Matt even said when you guys put this forth there was going to be some people that weren't going to be happy and there was going to be some people that may have gotten inadvertently missed. I am asking the board to consider to make amendments for three or four employees that did work during the time that ARPA money was originally intended to help with the COVID stuff. Now, the money is being spent on many other things and the comment was made at one point in time 3 percent of the ARPA money that you guys had was being used for Appreciation pay. So by catching these few other people, there was another individual that worked from March until January that left employment on June 8 and was not eligible because he left employment on June 8 but he did work during that time-frame. In light of some of that I am just asking the board to talk to some of the department heads and see if they feel there was some of their employees past or present that worked during that time-frame of March to January that should be considered for that pay. And that you guys take that in to consideration. And give those people the money they earned, that they deserved, for working during that time-frame. That is all I have, thank you. Oh, also it was made a decision that department heads would not get paid. Myself, Chief Baker we got paid. I don't know how we got mixed into not being department heads, but anyway, one individual for sure I think needs to be taken into consideration who was a department head and that was the department head of the Health Department. He was in the middle of the whole COVID thing. He was there. He was there. He worked the whole time-frame during that time. I think personally, that all department heads that worked during that time frame of March to January deserve that appreciation pay as well because they worked during that time-frame and I think they should be entitled to that appreciation pay. They are county employees they are paid by the county and they should be appreciated as well as everybody else. Now I am done. Thank you.

**Chairman Wells** – I will answer the question about why you and Mr. Baker received pay. The two of you are hired and work for an elected official. The department heads are hired

by the board and work for the board. That is the reason for the two of you getting the ARPA funds. Okay so Mr. Cecil has basically requested we have another look at some of the employees who missed out. I will ask for a motion from the board to send this to the finance committee or Personnel, Policy and Procedure to let the elected officials come in, department heads come in and they have some people who feel they should have gotten it and didn't – make those recommendations. *Ray Koonce made a motion to forward to Finance for review with a seconded by Mike Specha.* Discussion.

**Vicki McMahon** – I do want to clarify something – amendments that were made, Scott Woods was not the only person who was included in that retirement eligible for retirement clause. I don't want people thinking we were cherry picking who got what.

**Cecil Polley** – I am sorry ma'am but I didn't mean to imply it that way. I was just saying he was one of them that got

**Vicki McMahon** – that is okay. I understand. I just want to make sure that is clear

**Chairman Wells** – any other discussion. We will ask the finance committee to look into this. We will ask the elected officials if they have any one who didn't get the money that they think should get it and to please let us know. After no further discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call vote.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson; Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon (n), Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., (14) aye; (1) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

- **Zoning – Continue or not – Zoning – Continue or Not** –After last month's meeting I contacted the Chairman of Montgomery County Board to see about getting us some help to get us through until someone does or does not get hired and he informed me they do not do any zoning. They do not care what anybody builds, and the board passes the ordinances as far as the solar, the carbon and the windmills. I talked with Chad about it and Chad told me right off the top of his head he knows Richland County does not do any zoning. So, while we have this in front of us, you know, do we want to continue with the zoning office and do zoning in the county? I believe you should have a piece of paper that was handed to you. This year's budget included \$5,000 for Zoning. With Zoning set up with Solid Waste, all of the Solid Waste Salaries are reimbursed. And so the zoning officer, if he is spending half, if solid waste is spending half their time doing zoning. I am sorry; I thought all you guys had this. But if the solid waste officer is spending time doing zoning, that is time we will not get reimbursed for. The last couple salaries that I have been asked to hire somebody at has been in the \$40,000.00 range. So if we were to hire somebody for zoning, that is the board's wishes and pay them \$40,000.00, we would have to put \$50,000.00 I believe in the budget to cover ZBA, the Zoning Administrator, and their benefits. That is \$50,000.00 we are spending on 13,000 of the 34,000 people who live in Christian County. You should have a piece of paper inside that shows communities with asterisks by them. We do the zoning for the rule areas. We do it for Morrisonville. We do it for Palmer, Harvel, Jeiseyville and Owaneco. We do not do any zoning or provide any of that service for Taylorville, Assumption, Kincaid, Edinburg, Stonington and Mt. Auburn. I just wanted the board to have these facts. We have to decide what we want to do on how we are going to proceed and I wanted the board to

know as much of this as they possible could before we decide what we are going to do. To me, we are providing a service for 13 of the 34,000 people.

**Bryan Sharp** – *I just would advise based off of the rules of the executive, letter D, under the Executive shall make all long term recommendations, capital improvements, expenditures, future planning for all departments. I guess I would refer this to the Executive Committee. I make a motion.*

**Chairman Wells** – I have a motion to refer this to the Executive Committee, is there a second. *Venise McWard seconded the motion.* Any discussion.

**Ken Franklin** – this is a pretty big deal to do away with the Zoning. Should be looked at pretty closely I think.

**Chairman Wells** – I do not have any arguments. I just wanted all of you to see you know the facts and what is or is not out there. Other counties are not doing it.

**Bryan Sharp** – Montgomery County for financial reasons, have cut their board, have cut other departments. Is because they do not have the money to operate those. So I think we really got to dig into the depth of why these counties and what that means not protecting the citizens of Christian County by not having a zoning.

**Chairman Wells** – Well what he is telling, the comment I got from him is the board is making the decisions as far as the carbon, solar all of that. They are writing ordinances and setting the fees.

**Bev Graham** – what are you going to do with all these people that have been appointed to the zoning board. They just be gone.

**Chairman Wells** – Well that is up to the county board. This committee is going to look into it, make a recommendation. We come in here, Linda we come in here, there is a decision, I thought we would have to make some type of decision tonight and apparently, anyhow the motion, we have not voted on it. It is to send this to personnel, policy and procedure and discuss what we want to do.

**Bev Graham** – by the comment that was just made – does the chairman not want to serve on the zoning board

**Chairman Wells** – I have no idea what Chairman Sides does or does not want to do.

**Mr. Sides** – I will continue to serve

**Chairman Wells** – hold on, hold on. He can discuss that with me, you or anyone else later on. Their time to speak during this meeting, unless the board wants an answer out of him, their time to speak was early on during public comments. So if there is no other discussion, please call roll on the motion to send this to personnel/policy and procedure.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie



McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

- **Zoning Officer and/or Solid Waste Officer hire or appoint** – We sent zoning to personnel, policy and procedure that still leaves the Solid Waste Officer. You just want to wait and see what Personnel/Policy and Procedure tells us?

*Ray Koonce – motion to table to Policy and Procedure committee.*

**Chairman Wells** – Table and send it to Personnel, Policy Procedure committee for solid waste. *Venise McWard seconded the motion.*

**Bev Graham** – would that committee set the requirement for that position for the zoning officer and solid waste officer separately? One for the zoning officer and one for the solid waste officer.

**Chairman Wells** – Bev, I believe one motion, that committee has been asked to look into whether or not we are going to continue doing zoning and if so, how are we going to do it. The second motion that is on the floor at this time is to table it and send to them which we shouldn't be discussing but I want to explain this to you anyway if you allow me. They will have to tell us what they want to do. Do they want to combine them, separate them? They are going to have to come to the board and make a recommendation and this board will decide whether we are going to follow that committee's recommendation and I apologize Ray because we should not be discussing it but I did let her ask the question and I wanted to answer. So, please call roll on a motion to send solid waste officer hire or appointment to Personnel, Police and Procedure committee.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Timothy Carlson, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston (n), Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley (n), Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, (13) aye; (2) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

- **Benefit Payout** – Basically what this is telling us is even when you dismiss someone you have to pay their benefits. These are the benefits and before they got paid I wanted all of you to see it. When I worked for the state they use to argue whether these people got paid or not. It was told to me this way, you put money in someone's bank account you can't take it away from them after they already had vacation days accumulated, they need to be paid for them. That is what we believe the law says, so if no objection from the board we will proceed with that. We have no objection.

#### MILEAGE AND PER DIEM REPORT – June 21, 2022

<u>Board Member</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u># of Meetings This Month</u>
Timothy Carlson	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Craig Corzine	\$100.00	\$25.00	1

Chairman Wells motion from the the Mileage and Report

*A motion was Carlson and Dale approve the diem report. discussion, called for a roll call.*

Linda Curtin	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Clint Epley	\$ 50.00	\$25.00	2
Ken Franklin	\$100.00	\$25.00	3
Bev Graham	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Ray Koonce	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Dale Livingston	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Vicki McMahon	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Venise McWard	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
David Puccetti	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Bryan Sharp	\$100.00	\$25.00	1
Chuck Smedley	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Thomas Snyder, Jr.	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Mike Specha	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Matt Wells	\$615.38		

called for a floor to approve Per Diem

*made by Tim seconded by Livingston. to mileage and per With no Chairman Wells*

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson; (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Chairman Wells called for a motion from the floor to adjourn until August 16, 2022. *A motion was made by Timothy Carlson and seconded by Thomas Snyder Jr., to adjourn until the next meeting on August 16, 2022.*

With no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent; the motion carried.

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNTY BOARD**

AT A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COUNTY BOARD MEMBERS OF CHRISTIAN COUNTY ILLINOIS, BEGUN AND HELD AT THE CHRISTIAN COUNTY COURTHOUSE IN TAYLORVILLE, ILLINOIS, ON **JULY 25, 2022**

*ATTEST: JACQUE S. WILLISON, COUNTY CLERK*

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The following proceeding had and entered at large upon the records of said Board, which is done accordingly in the following words and figures to wit;

Chairman Matt Wells called the board to order at 6:6:30 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLGEINCE**

**ROLL CALL**

The roll call by County Clerk Jacque Willison showing all members present except Timothy Carlson.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Chairman Wells called for public comments.

**Ray Koonce** – Chairman I call for change of order please. After speaking with the State’s Attorney, I need to reference Rule #10 on page two of our County Board Rules. A special Meeting of the County Board shall be held only when requested by at least one-third of the members of the Board, which request shall be in writing, addressed to the Clerk of the Board and specifying the time and place of such meeting upon reception of which the Clerk or Clerk’s designee shall immediately transmit notice, in writing, of such meeting to each of the members of the Board, or at request of the Chairman of the Board. It is my interpretation that the very end – request of the Chairman of the Board – is directed to the clerk not to call the meeting in general.

Chairman Wells – I do not agree with that. I am going to rule that you are wrong there and the procedure

*Ray Koonce – I will make a motion sir to appeal your ruling.*

**Chairman Wells** – there you go. That is very legitimate.

*Bryan Sharp – I will second that.*

**Chairman Wells** – there is a motion and a second to appeal my ruling. My ruling was what is being appealed is this. I believe the rule states that if six members want to call a special meeting, they do that by putting it in writing and sending it into the clerk or the Chairman can call a special meeting. The reason I feel that I am right and they are wrong is this. If it said six members or the chairman or if it said, the chairman or any six members can send a request to the clerk, then I would say they were right. But I believe what it does it spells out the rules for board

members to call a special meeting to keep the chairman from blocking that special meeting. If you were on the board a few years back, we were having meetings to try and remove the chairman, I would have thought any chairman would have removed, kept that from coming forward if they could. But, as I read the rules, of course, Ray has made a motion and Bryan has seconded it, and after discussion, we will vote on that. As I read the rules, if six members want to have a special meeting, they have to send a request to the clerk or the chairman can call a special meeting. We are here tonight because there are three items here that I felt needed to be dealt with. I called a special meeting. Anyone else have anything to say?

**Mike Specha** – I just want to repeat the words because I had not read it before Ray. #10 Special meeting of the County Board shall be held only and then the very last sentence or at the request of the Chairman. I was just trying because a lot of you may not have the rules with you. In my opinion, that interpretation is right, the Chairman has the right to call a special meeting.

**Chairman Wells** – and just let me say this it is entirely up to you. If the majority votes that I do not have that authority then this meeting will be adjourned and we will not conduct any business.

**Craig Corzine** – I would like to hear what the State’s Attorney interpretation on this.

**Wes Poggenpohl** – My interpretation is this - as with a lot of the rules in the county rules of order is subject to interpretation. I think it would say at the top it is only by six members of the board in writing or at the request of the chairman and then go into explaining. I think that is how it should be written but the way it is written now, I think both reads are inaccurate.

**Chairman Wells** – any other discussion

**Ray Koonce** - I apologize Mr. Chairman, I bring this up to you for precedent sake, what we decide not just for this meeting but for future meetings as well.

**Chairman Wells** – sure. No, I have said all along that Mr. Poggenpohl is here for legal advice. As the chairman while I set here I am the parliamentarian. I explained this I believe two months ago if you do not agree with my ruling, you have the absolute right to ask the board to overrule it.

**Ken Franklin** – to clarify, this meeting was called by the chairman

**Chairman Wells** – I called this meeting because:

1. I do not believe the boiler can be fixed until this board votes. There is a \$2,000.00 limit on the elected official and department head - #1
2. At the last meeting, we tabled a motion until later in the meeting and never dealt with it
3. The Vice-Chairman contacted me with concerns over zoning.

**Bryan Sharp** – Mr. Chairman, we received a letter from our treasurer that we have the money available in a line item in our budget so calling a meeting to deal with the boiler which was kind of my impression of a special meeting at the last meeting so we got that item taken care of. We had tabled the other motion back to committee

**Chairman Wells** – No, we did not table that other motion back to committee

**Bryan Sharp** – I believe we did and the zoning permits we wanted to discuss that additionally in committee. So, you know, I think the pretense we were doing this for the boiler to begin with. I do not know I just think we have been misled what the purpose of this meeting was

**Chairman Wells** – you can feel that way if you want.

**Bryan Sharp** – I do

**Chairman Wells** – Good. Yes,

**Bev Graham** – in the minutes that you gave us, that Jacque gave us from that county board meeting, it says it will be tabled to later in the meeting that we were holding and we will table that until later in the meeting. It was never brought up at the county board meeting on Tuesday again.

**Chairman Wells** – you are correct. It should have been. All I can do to rectify that mistake is to put it in front of the board and let them do what they want to at this time. But, there was a motion and a second to table it until later in the meeting and the majority of the board voted to do that. I have stated a hundred times before I am not perfect. I think it should have been brought back up. I should have made sure it was brought back up for this board to deal with that issue at that time.

**Craig Corzine** – just so everybody knows, I did contact the chairman asking him that we needed to do something. I have been contacted and I am sure others on the board have been contacted also. This zoning thing in my opinion, something needs to happen, we need somebody to have authority to sign. And the chairman and I talked and I do not think anybody should just start telling people yea you can build or no you cannot kind of thing. We need somebody, whether that is the assessor's office, whether it is the board chairman, whether that is zoning board of appeals chairman. I do not know but, there is people on hold that want to be – whether it is garages, this was a commercial outfit that contacted me. Somebody, in my opinion, we need to assign somebody to that has the authority, so that way if they are in violation and we do have a zoning officer down the road, then that person, if they break the rules, then it is up to that person. At least it is off any individual individually if that makes sense. So, that being said and then the other issues, I was not here last week, I apologize for that, but we do not need to kick stuff down the road. I have my opinion on one motion in particular, I do believe the boiler, I am in camp with Betty, and that is where the chairman and I do not necessarily agree. It is a courtesy to come to us and ask for that money. So that being said, I just soon we get this stuff done and move on.

**Bev Graham** – when Craig brought up about the supervisor of assessments. Chad Coady cannot sign building permits. I talked with him today. It cannot be done.

**Chairman Wells** – according to the ordinance, according to what we have on the books right now, only the zoning administrator.

**Bev Graham** – Right. But they have been signed by people at Animal Control. Dwanna signed it, we have – Chad has them were she did sign them and he had not trained her and another girl out there, Allison.

**Mike Specha** – Mr. Chairman, we are doing this backwards, trying to get to the items on the business thing here, which seems to me, we are all here, it is silly not to deal with these things. I would be in support of us moving forward.

**Chairman Wells** – any other discussion

**Dale Livingston** – we are all here. We have all been elected by the County people to do what is right for the county. Business cannot be conducted in the county. I have received, I am going to say somewhere between 25-50 phone calls from people.

**Bev Graham** – sir, one has to be hired before they can sign the building permits.

**Ray Koonce** – information for the chair - can we get back to the motion on the table

**Chairman Wells** – very valid point

**Ray Koonce** – my last comment, Mr. Chairman is, setting a precedent again, be with my motion or not, for the records, what you do for one meeting effects further down the road. I just want people to keep that in mind.

**Chairman Wells** – if there is no further discussion, call roll on the motion. The motion was to override

**Chuck Smedley** – yes, I was just going to ask – please clarify what we are voting on.

**Chairman Wells** – that is what I am trying to do. The motion I ruled is that the chairman has the authority to call a meeting. Ray made a motion and it was seconded to override the ruling. A yes vote means that I do not have that authority and we are not going to conduct business. Okay.

**Chuck Smedley** – Thank you

**Chairman Wells** – if there is no further discussion, I do not know if we can do this by aye or nay or not. All those who are in favor of overriding the motion please raise your hand to signify that you are in favor of overriding the motion (5). Those opposed the same sign (7). Motion is defeated and now we can move on to public comments.

## PUBLIC COMMENTS

If you want to speak, you have three minutes. This is not a question and answer- you are here to give us your opinion on your thoughts

**Ray Koonce** – Mr. Chairman, I apologize, Being that the business may affect people’s public comments, *I would like to make a motion to suspend Public Comments until the end, please.*  
*Vicki McMahon second that motion.*

**Chairman Wells** – I have a motion and a second, any discussion.

**Dale Livingston** – why change precedence? That is my thing.

**Chairman Wells** – I do not know. We have a motion on the floor and it has been seconded. Any other discussion? All those in favor of moving public comments to the end of the meeting please signify by raising your hand (10). Those opposed same sign (4). The ayes have it. We will move public comments to right before six to adjourn the meeting.

## BUSINESS

- **Boiler Repairs** – the boilers in this building, the sheriff is the custodian of the courthouse. Bill comes to us for the sheriff saying we need to fix this. I understand what Betty says, but who is going to spend the money. Who has that authority to spend the money more than the \$2,000.00? I do not believe I do. I do not believe Ron does. Ron is a department head in maintenance but that money is not in his budget. If this was at the highway department, that money is in Cliff’s budget. So, if Cliff is going to spend that money he has the authority to do it. The money, I believe the money Betty said the money is in the capital improvement fund. That is not Ron’s budget I do not believe. It’s not Bill’s budget. It’s a budget that this board has always overseen the spending of.

*Venise McWard made a motion that we spend the money out of the capital improvement fund with a second by Bev Graham.* Chairman Wells called for any discussion to spend the money out of the capital improvement fund.

**Mike Specha** – asked what the amount was.

**Chairman Wells** – I believe

**Venise McWard** - \$7,000

**Clint Epley** - \$6,475.00

**Chairman Wells** – any other discussion.

**Ron Brown**– we did get the repair bill for the repairs from last week and it was \$2775.00

**Chairman Wells** – so if there is no other discussion, we have a motion and a second, please call roll.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahan, (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

- **Untabling Motion to Rehire Vince Harris** – a motion was tabled was supposed to be brought back to this board. I am bringing it back to this board. Is there a motion to take this off the table? *Dale Livingston made a motion to take this item off the table with a second by Chuck Smedley.* Any discussion?

**Ray Koonce** – I have a couple of things marked down. I do believe we can untable if that is the full board's decision, but just for clarification on page two of the transcripts that was provided to us at the bottom where it states by Chairman Wells – let me state this, there is a motion on the floor and it has been seconded. Under new business later in the meeting, an item talks about hiring Zoning and Solid Waste. We have several people in the audience that may want to hear other things. Would someone make a motion to table this until later in the meeting under hiring Zoning and Solid Waste? Mike Specha made a motion then Chairman Wells states a motion to table hiring Vince until we start talking about hiring a Zoning and Solid Waste officer, is there a second to that motion. David Puccetti seconded. I have a second Mr. Wells said all those in favor and it passed. So that was tabled to under hiring a Zoning and Solid Waste officer later in the meeting. Then you go down to the very last page under Zoning Officer and/or Solid Waste Officer hire or appoint, you come to my name, motion to table to Policy and Procedure committee and that motion passed. So the original motion was tabled under that category and then that category was tabled to the Policy and Procedure committee. But again, if this board decides you can untable it but I just wanted to clarify where that went.

**Chairman Wells** – Ray, I agree with your point. And I will say this, as much as I did not like the decision the majority liked with Vince's removal, my only point here is there is something that has been tabled that I have got to give this board an opportunity to deal with. Its majority – I felt like it had to come back. I agree with your point, except for the motion to rehire him. It was never brought up by me, makers of the motion or anyone else by the board, and I firmly believe this board needs to have an opportunity to say we are going to untable it or we are not going to untable it. And that is the reason I have that here tonight. I wish, as I have told you several times before you correct me several times, I make mistakes. I should have brought this forward at the last meeting, but it was such a long meeting, I forgot I lost it. Any other discussion?

**Craig Corzine** – so essentially a yes vote untables and we dive into it now and a no vote would mean it would stand tabled just like Ray saying a no vote means it is table to personnel committee correct?



**Chairman Wells** – yes, but that being tabled what do we do with it. To me, leaving it on the table does that or doesn't that just kick it down the road.

**Bryan Sharp** – table it to committee until we have an opportunity to evaluate the job descriptions for these folks and gives us an opportunity to do it right instead of making mistakes to hurry and get into something

**Dale Livingston** – it wasn't made to go – motion wasn't made to go to committee. The whole board did not make the motion to go to committee until later in the evening. As it says, Chairman Wells - quote "we will table this until later in the meeting"

**Vicki McMahon** – where you at Dale?

**Bev Graham** – what page are you on?

**Dale Livingston** – I guess I am on page 2 or 3. Let me find out here. Chairman Wells, that is where I am reading it the last of the statement.

**Chairman Wells** – I believe Venise had her hand up next.

**Venise McWard** – My only comment was - so this is about tabling the motion on Vince Harris because the next item down is on Zoning, is that correct? I am just wanting to clarify.

**Chairman Wells** – Yes, the next item down. Craig wanted to know if we could get something done –

**Venise McWard** – Right.

**Chairman Wells** – something in place temporarily.

**Venise McWard** – Right.

**Chairman Wells** – I do not know if that can or cannot work but we can discuss it. Figure something out, great. Ray, you had your hand up, I am sorry.

**Ray Koonce** – yes, sir. Just to clarify again on that top page, under what you said was, a motion to table hiring Vince until we start talking about hiring a Zoning and Solid Waste officer. That category, that full category the motion that was placed under was tabled to our committee. So again, if it is not passed, we do not talk about it tonight. It should fall back under our committee.

**Chairman Wells** – any other discussion? If not, we have a motion

**Vicki McMahon** – could you clarify again yes means what and no means what.

**Chairman Wells** – we have a motion on the table to untable the motion to rehire Vince Harris. A yes vote means that comes up and we will discuss it. A no vote means it stays on the table.

**Vicki McMahon** – Ok Thank you.

**Chairman Wells** – any other discussion. All those in favor of taking it off the table, please signify by raising your hand (4). Those opposed same sign, (11). Motion fails. It will not come off the table.

- **Zoning Permits** – the only thing I know about them is this – as I read the ordinance, it says, I don't know what has happened in the past, I am reading the rules, the zoning administrator is the one who is supposed to provide the permits. No one is- actually, it says no one is supposed to build or do anything until you have a permit from the zoning administrator. Doesn't say the county, doesn't say the zoning office. If it said those things it might be easier thing to deal with. But it does not. If you get into the questions can we change those rules without it going to the ZBA. I don't know. Mr. Poggenpohl is here to me that is a legitimate question. The rules have been pointed out the Zoning officer is appointed for a two year term. Can we appoint somebody for a month, two months or whatever the committee feels it is going to take them to come up with a plan. When the rules state it's a two year appointment. Can we get somebody from one of the municipalities who does maybe, if they would do it, maybe someone who does Taylorville or Assumption, maybe get them hired temporarily and do we want to. But I know this, I am like Craig, I got in Morrisonville, two people who want to build garages, schools wanting to tear a building down, you need a permit to do this in this county. They call me and all I tell them is I cannot give you legal advice. Ordinance says you need a permit from Zoning Administrator. So, I do not know. If anybody here has any ideas.

*Clint Epley – I want to make a motion that all the building permits are moved to the assessor's office and then you will contact Dwanna and she will train the personnel in the assessor's office. And, then Elizabeth can maybe post in the paper that all building permits and everything will be handled in the assessor's office until further notice.*

**Chairman Wells** – Clint, I think it is a great idea, but I think Bev thinks for some reason the assessor cannot deal with it.

**Bev Graham** – he told me over the phone he does not have, Chad Coady

**Craig Corzine** – we have a motion that has been made, we need a second.

**Chairman Wells** – I apologize, you are right.

*Craig Corzine - I will second that motion*

**Chairman Wells** – I apologize we do have a motion and a second. Go ahead Bev. You have the floor Bev.

**Clint Epley** – I was going to say have the Chairman contact Dwanna and she could train someone in the assessor's office to handle building permits. I mean do you think that is fair Bev?

**Wes Poggenpohl** – Dwanna is not in the assessor's office.

**Clint Epley** – no but she can come train somebody. I mean for the meantime. If not, we are going to have the whole county mad.

**Bev Graham** – Matt, all I know is what he said. He said he cannot sign the building permits. He accepts them from whoever brings them in. Vince or Dwanna whoever brings them in. He can only accept them. He cannot sign them. And he does not have room in his office to put the zoning officer in there and a secretary in there. There is room downstairs in the – where the Region Three Educational office used to be. Now, if you would want to use that, I don't think without Chad being here or without speaking, you could just say Chad you have two more people coming to your office and we are going to start training in there. He doesn't have the room. I spoke with him today on that. I don't know how you can force an elected official to put somebody else in his office when there is vacant room downstairs. If you want her to come here and train them fine. He shouldn't have to do it in his office.

**Clint Epley** – Yes, train until we find an administrator

**Craig Corzine** – I think the intent as it stands today he cannot sign them. But the question, I guess refer back to Mr. Poggenpohl, can we give him the authority to sign them temporarily until we get a full time person hired is the point.

**Mike Specha** – Mr. Chairman, it would seem to me maybe we should come up with the title of Temporary Zoning Administrator and we can okay it month by month and then give them whatever authorities are required. If it is the assessor for now that is fine, but can we okay the temporary zoning administrator and if somebody is better suited we can always switch I suppose.

**Chairman Wells** – my only problem with the motion is I don't know if we have the authority to tell any elected official, that we are giving them extra duties. Mr. Poggenpohl is here he may be able to answer that question for us.

**Wes Poggenpohl** – I think you guys have the authority to change, make some sort of temporary ordinance or something like that to that effect. But whether or not he is required to do it. I don't think you can tell him to do it. I think there is other alternatives that would probably be simpler. You guys can control yourselves. I think the easiest thing, the quickest way to make a change would be to let the zoning committee handle it. Not one person, I think that is kind of the logistics, I don't think one person wants to

make that decision. As a committee if the majority votes yes or no, that goes through. Maybe that could start pretty quick. Obviously, I don't think they will take action on something huge coming through. But like someone mentioned something like a garage or something like that. I don't think we can force the assessor's office to do it.

**Chairman Wells** – I want to make sure I am hearing right, Wes. Are you saying that if the board agree, we could give the zoning committee the authority to do this and have them schedule a meeting on every other Tuesday or appointment in the week or something like that to have them be in that office so people could come in and get permits signed.

**Wes Poggenpohl** – that is kind of what I was picturing - on a temporary basis.

**Bev Graham** – if it is on a temporary basis, correct. Mr. Sipes said last week at the county board meeting that – I spoke with him – that they are totally overworked, they work too hard and they have too much responsibility. So if you want to add this to it, I think you are going to have more problems with the people that are on the zoning board.

**Chairman Wells** – I think Mr. Poggenpohl, one of us has misunderstood him Bev, I thought he said the zoning committee not the zoning board.

**Wes Poggenpohl** – not the ZBA.

**Chairman Wells** – not the ZBA. The committee here that deals with zoning.

**Bev Graham** – I don't think it should go to the zoning board. They are already up to their eyeballs

**Ken Franklin** – is this something the Executive committee, the chairman of the three main committees that we deal with along with the chairman.

**Chairman Wells** – signing the permits? Or having the committee do it?

**Ken Franklin** – having committee approve them. I am spit balling here in trying to get something working with Venise, yourself, Craig, Dale – if committee chairman approves them to move them on through.

**Mike Specha** – how many permits does an average month bring?

**Bev Graham** – its been 4 or 8 or so

**Dale Livingston** – there has been somewhere between 30 and 40 inquires. There is a check for \$6,000 that he had received and hadn't got done for antennas that is sitting there because he didn't get to it. He got the check the day we fired him.

**Mike Specha** – is that 30 or 40 build ups since Vince has been gone.

**Dale Livingston** – yes.

**Mike Specha** – what's involved. Can I ask how much work area we creating here?

**Chairman Wells** – I don't know

**Venise McWard** – I do believe zoning should be in the courthouse. However, this is a county emergency type situation and you have people waiting to build. Could, Chad Coady isn't here tonight so it isn't fair, but could he do this temporarily until we find someone to hire.

**Vicki McMahon** – kind of like an interim position. Interim Zoning

Chairman Wells – I am sure he could if he would but Bev says he says can't do it. But I don't know if

**Vicki McMahon** – he can't do it statutorily or

**Chairman Wells** – now that I don't know.

**Bev Graham** – he just said he didn't have the authority to sign building permits and he doesn't have room in his office to put a zoning officer in there and a secretary. They are already equipped with what they do in his office.

**Chuck Smedley** – as I am sitting here listening to this I am wondering for Dwanna, is she going to be limited to only sign building permits. She will not be able to do any other zoning actions.

**Chairman Wells** – I don't think it was – the motion is to have Dwanna train

**Chuck Smedley** – okay

**Bev Graham** – according to what is here under zoning administrator, even if they are part-time or whatever they are doing, it says - on B, it says to inspect land, structures and uses to determine compliance with this Code, and, where there are violations, to initiate appropriate corrective action. So whoever the person is would have to go out and check and see if everything is correct about where they are going to put a garage, whether it is on their property or someone elses. Because as Chad said today, if it goes up on the wrong property, it will be torn down at their expense and moved. And if somebody goes out and builds a house and doesn't have a building permit it could take 4 years before they could ever find out about collecting taxes on that house that has already been built. So I don't think it is the order of signing the permit finding out if it is located on the property where it belongs.

**Chairman Wells** – well there is a lot to it. And that is what the individual who gets hired for the job will be dealing with. Any other questions? Right now we have a motion on the floor to have Dwanna train and have it done in the assessor's office, which again, I am not sure if we have the authority to do that. If I was sure we didn't I would rule the motion out of order. But I am not sure. But that is the motion we have, so...I guess all those in favor of sending or having Dwanna train and having the assessor's office do it temporarily, please signify by raising your hand (8) those opposed same sign (7), motion carried.

**Bev Graham** – what if he doesn't want to do that Matt

**Chairman Wells** – I understand that Bev, but I am like you. I have one vote here. And Mr. Epley made a motion to which I believe was proper and it was seconded. We debated it. I agree with you accept

**Bev Graham** – who knows that she can even train. He is the one who told her to sign them. Maybe he just said here is this, go ahead and sign it and he is her boss and so she signed it. How can she train if she doesn't even know what she is supposed to be training them on.

**Clint Epley** – hey Bev, if he can't do it or if he doesn't have the authority to do it, we will have to I guess

**Chairman Wells** - we voted on it. To me it would make more sense to have the zoning committee do it may be on meeting nights or whatever, but that is not what the majority wanted so –

**Dale Livingston** – can I make a motion? We rescind the first one and have the zoning committee do it. There is 4 people on that – 5 people on that and that is 5 different sets of eyes.

**Chairman Wells** – No, I am going to have to rule your motion is out of order. Because you voted against that motion and only someone who voted for something procedurally can make a motion to rescind. Unless there is somebody who voted for it and has changed their mind and will make the motion to rescind it, that is how we are going to deal with this.

**Dale Livingston** – so possibly we could go another month without zoning if Chad doesn't want to do this. And Dwanna doesn't know how to train.

**Chairman Wells** – that is a possibility. Very strong possibility. Okay.

**Ray Koonce** – Mr. Chairman, question on updates on applicants currently for zoning.

**Chairman Wells** – No I don't have any applicants for zoning. I haven't been told to hire anyone.

**Ray Koonce** – stated he would make a motion then to authorize the Chairman to start the hiring procedures for zoning officer and to

**Chairman Wells** – Ray, I am going to have to rule the motion is out of order. Zoning permits is the item on the agenda tonight. I may be wrong but I don't believe we can take that action if it is not posted on the agenda. May be I am wrong. Maybe Mr. Poggenpohl thinks because zoning permits on there it gives us a legal claim to do

**Wes Poggenpohl** – we have a position vacant do we need a motion in order to have action by the board to post a job posting?

**Chairman Wells** – That has been our past practice, yes.

**Ray Koonce** – my question is do you need a zoning officer to do zoning permits?

**Chairman Wells** – that is a legitimate question.

**Mike Specha** – Mr. Chairman

**Chairman Wells** – Yes

*Mike Specha* – *I would like to make a motion that if for some reason the assessor either can't or won't do this that the secondary choice will be the zoning committee will fill in as temporary zoning officer until such time as we get a zoning officer. Bev Graham seconded that motion.*

**Chairman Wells** – I have a motion and a second – discussion. If no discussion, all those in favor to use the zoning committee if the assessor's office can't or won't do it please signify by raising your hand (13) those opposed same sign (2) motion passed. We will see if the supervisor of assessments will take care of the permits and if they will not we will send them to the zoning committee.

Okay. Any other business about the zoning?

**Bev Graham** – I just have a question. When can we put it on the agenda to begin the hiring process for a zoning administrator and a solid waste administrator – two separate positions? When can that be put on the agenda?

**Chairman Wells** – Well, those subjects were tabled and sent to Personnel, Policy and Procedure committee.

**Bev Graham** – so it will be discussed

**Chairman Wells** – so if they discuss it and come up with a recommendation whether it is in August or September. Whenever they come up with a recommendation to the board,

then that will naturally roll into the board's minutes based on what the chairman of the committee reads that night.

**Bev Graham** – so that can come up in personnel

**Chairman Wells** – it will be on personnel's August committee meeting

**Bev Graham** – right

**Chairman Wells** – if they reach a decision, it comes to the full board at the August meeting.

**Bev Graham** – Okay. Thank you.

**Chairman Wells** – you are welcome. Anything else? If not, lets go to hearing from the Public.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS** – and as I started to say earlier. Hearing from the public is not a question and answer session. It is a time for a member of the public to inform the board of their opinion, their thoughts, and everyone who wants to speak gets three minutes. I will ask anyone who wants to speak, to please stand up and state your name and stay within your three minutes.

- **Tom Fergin** – good evening, my name is Tom Fergin and I am a resident of Christian County. I come to you tonight with some, what I feel, is very valid concerns about the way the members of this board are treating some of our county employees. I gather my information like a lot of us, we here lots of things over days and months, and weeks. We have to filter some of those things out. And it has come to a point where I have heard it enough, the same types of complaints about what's going on with some of the people in this room and some of the committees that you are on. I just felt like I had to say something. This is the first time I have ever addressed the county board, that's not what I generally do, but when it comes to people not being treated properly, that really, really, fires me up. I am going to ask you to think back to when Dave Trost was here earlier this year, at that time he was President of the Christian County Health Board, and he resigned. He wanted everybody to know on this board why he was resigning and it was for basically what I just said. It falls under the lack of leadership, lack of respect, and dignity of a county employee. He got to the point he could not even sleep. He had to step down. Once again, now, we have this most recent situation with Vince Harris. I guess my ask of all of you here, is when you are dealing with these county employees, are you actually trying to help them, are you trying to be part of the resolution or are you being part of the problem. Are you involving your personal interest to influence your behavior on what you do and what you say. And, if so, I ask you not to do that. When you are dealing with these people who work very hard and they want to do right by everybody here and by the people of Christian County. They deserve, they deserve to be listened to and treated with respect. And, that means, as leaders, you owe them that. You are there to try to help them, you are there to try and make sure they understand what the issues are and give them the opportunity to fix whatever is wrong. Sometimes, creatures of behaviors



happen, and we skip some of these steps and that is understandable. But the ones that, the behaviors that I have heard about, were not and it is unfortunate that we are at a point. You kind of got a little bit of a wake up call I was hoping when Dave Trost addressed you earlier in the year. Apparently it didn't take so now I am asking you again, to please, when you are dealing with these county employees, whether they are employees or department heads, help them be successful, help them be successful and if you have issues with them, discuss it with them, and treat them the way you would want to be treated yourself. I think if we can do that as a county board, we are going to see a lot of great things happen. You guys have a lot of things on your plate, but I really think that is at the core of a lot of these issues even today. You are creating problems for yourself as a result of some of the behaviors. So I ask that you would do that. Thank you.

**Bev Graham** – sir I just have a question, or answer. I know we are not supposed to

**Chairman Wells** – no we are not going to answer the public's questions

**Bev Graham** – then can I speak?

**Chairman Wells** – not at this time, no. Anybody else from the public. If there is no one else, now Bev if you have something to say.

**Bev Graham** –right, what they don't understand and I understand what you are saying about the way people are treated. We had a closed board session on all the things that had gone wrong. None of you folks know what went on in the closed session. It was not supposed to be discussed outside of the closed session. Unfortunately, that happened and we got involved with a former chairman got involved in the issues with Vince Harris, other people got involved with the issue with Vince Harris and it wasn't supposed to have left us. None of you know what went on in the closed session. We get blamed for not doing what the public thinks was right because they only hear the open sessions. They don't hear the closed sessions. The incident that took place, money that was spent and no answers to those questions. So we were not picking on him. There were valid things that were brought forth in that closed session.

**Chairman Wells** – hold on, hold on. This is not question and answer. We are not getting into that.

**Bev Graham** – I am just sorry you don't know all that. Because I respect you as a county resident.

**Chairman Wells** – any other business before the board? If not, I entertain a motion to adjourn.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

With no other unfinished business to come before the Board, a *motion was made by Ray Koonce and seconded by Craig Corzine to adjourn this meeting until the next board meeting on Tuesday*

*August 16, 2022.* A roll call vote being called upon polled all ayes. (15) Aye; (0) nay; (1) absent; the motion carried.

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNTY BOARD**  
AT A MEETING OF THE COUNTY BOARD MEMBERS OF CHRISTIAN COUNTY  
ILLINOIS, BEGUN AND HELD AT THE CHRISTIAN COUNTY COURTHOUSE IN  
TAYLORVILLE, ILLINOIS ON **AUGUST 16, 2022**  
*ATTEST: JACQUE WILLISON, COUNTY CLERK*

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The following proceeding had and entered at large upon the records of said Board, which is done accordingly in the following words and figures to wit;

Chairman Wells called the board meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. This meeting was held on the third floor of the Courthouse in Court Room A.

**ROLL CALL**

The roll call by County Clerk Jacque Willison showing all members present with Chuck Smedley being absent. A quorum was had to hold the meeting.

**APPROVE COUNTY BOARD MINUTES**

Chairman Wells asked for any corrections or additions and to accept the July 19, 2022 County Board minutes to approve as printed. Chairman Wells called for a motion to approve the minutes. *Vickie McMahon made a motion to approve the minutes seconded by Bev Graham.* After no discussion, Chairman Wells asked for roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon, polled the following: (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent; the motion carried and the minutes were approved.

Chairman Wells asked for any corrections or additions and to accept the Special Board Meeting of July 25, 2022 County Board minutes to be approved as printed. Chairman Wells called for a motion to approve the minutes. *Venise McWard made a motion to approve the minutes seconded by David Puccetti.* After no discussion, Chairman Wells asked for roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon, polled the following: (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent; the motion carried and the minutes were approved.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**Ray Koonce** – *Mr. Chairman, I would like to make a motion to move public comments to the end please.*

Chairman Wells – I have a motion to move public comments to the end. Is there a second to that motion? *Bev Graham second the motion.* Chairman Wells called for discussion.

Dale Livingston – why are we changing it to the end. I mean we set a precedents here. I mean, people are here to speak. We should let them speak. We have always let them speak at the beginning.

Chairman Wells – I agree with that Dale. Again, this is a democracy. Everybody on the board has one vote. Any other discussion. All those in favor please signify by raising your right hand so we can get a count. Roll call vote was (9) ayes and (6) nays. We will move public comments until

later in the meeting. Please do not let me get out of here without having public comments. I have made those mistakes before.

**Fundraiser for Lincoln Hall** – Kathy Fergin and Barbara Westrick Appleton asked to speak but Kathy informed me at this time they are not ready and they have asked to have this postponed, I believe, so they can come and speak to us next month. And so we will move past item #7.

### APPOINTMENTS

I don't have any appointments this evening.

### PETITIONS, RESOLUTIONS, ORDINANCES OR PROCLAMATIONS

- **O2022CB011 – Opposing Eminent Domain for CO2 Pipelines:**  
Maybe I better read it before we voted on whether we wanted to send it. Resolution of the Christian County Board, Illinois opposing Eminent Domain for CO2 Pipelines. R2022 CB 011, County of Christian, State of Illinois.

Carbon dioxide pipelines pose health and safety risks to both the citizens and the environment. Many landowners are concerned about the prospect of Navigator CO2 Ventures seeking eminent domain for this project. Christian County is requesting that the Illinois Commerce Commission formally oppose eminent domain for Navigator CO2 Venture's Heartland Greenway CO2 pipeline within Christian County. Although the county cannot prevent this from happening, the Illinois Commerce Commission does take into consideration the information received from counties and townships when making their decisions.

**WHEREAS**, Navigator CO2 Venture's Heartland Greenway poses health and safety risks to both citizens and the environment;

**WHEREAS**, residents of Christian County would be negatively impacted by living under the constant threat of a CO2 Pipeline leak and explosion, as was seen in Sartartia, Mississippi, when a CO2 pipeline ruptured, requiring the evacuation of over 200 people and the hospitalization of nearly 50, and

**WHEREAS**, residents of Christian County would need to pay increased taxes to allow our fire and EMS departments to buy alarm systems, carbon dioxide monitors, air supply respirators, and electric vehicles that would be able to run during a CO2 leak, since CO2 displaces oxygen and disables gas combustion engines,

**WHEREAS**, Christian County residents would likely experience reduced property values if they are forced to have a CO2 pipeline through their property, as any reasonable person would choose to buy property without a CO2 pipeline or near a CO2 Pipeline, all other factors being equal, and

**WHEREAS**, this reduction in property values and the hope of alternative retail, commercial, or other productive, tax-paying development along a CO2 Pipeline route will diminish the fiscal health of our County's tax base, and

**WHEREAS**, many landowners are concerned about the prospect of Navigator CO2 Ventures seeking eminent domain for this project, restricting the use and enjoyment of privately-owned property, and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE RESOLVED**, by the elected officials of Christian County that we hereby oppose the construction and use of eminent domain for Navigator CO2 Ventures' Heartland Greenway through Christian County, and urge the Illinois Commerce Commission to join us in opposing Navigator's CO2 pipeline project in order to protect the health, safety and welfare of our residents, and avoid reduced property values and costs associated with this unwanted project. And that is the resolution.

*Ray Koonce made a motion to approve the resolution R2022CB011 with a second by Bryan Sharp.*

**Mike Specha** – called for a point of order. The agenda item says to Present in writing petitions, resolutions/or ordinances, proclamations to be addressed in committees. It doesn't appear to me that our agenda item says that we are presenting this for a vote at this meeting.

**Chairman Wells** – I believe you are right. The way the agenda is written, I believe you are correct and I will rule that you are correct. However, any board member misunderstand this, any board member can make a motion to override the chair. And in my ruling, probably with what you are saying, this should be sent from the board to a committee because the way the agenda is written and I apologize to the board members. But it probably should be sent to Personnel Policy and Procedure for them to send it back.

**Ray Koonce** –A question for the Chair; is this time sensitive or do we have time to send it back

**Chairman Wells** – I do not know when, I do not think anyone knows when the Illinois Commerce Commission will or will not act.

**Ray Koonce** – *withdraw my motion and make a motion to send to Executive Personnel.*

**Chairman Wells** – motion has been withdrawn. Now, I have a motion to send this resolution to Executive Personnel Policy Committee, do I have a second to that motion? There is no second to the motion. This motion has died.

**Bryan Sharp** – I make a motion to however you stated that to work around ruling this is out of order.

**Chairman Wells** – you are making a motion to override the chair.

**Bryan Sharp** – Correct

**Chairman Wells** – Okay. Is there a second to the motion to override the Chair. I have a motion and a second by Ray Koonce to override the Chair's ruling. Any discussion on that motion?

**Mike Specha** – Yeah, Mr. Chairman, I understand that there is strong opposition to this CO2 Pipeline and in some areas, but I am as a member of the board, I am finding it personally frustrating that we seem to be using a lot of procedures to never discuss it here. This appears to be another one. We have never had a discussion about this. There is a lot in here and to throw it at us at the board meeting for dealing with it without any opportunity, either in committee or whatever, to discuss it. Again, I appreciate the opposition. I understand the opposition, but I with all due respect, I feel like the opposition's doing a lot of work to not allow to hold a full and fair discussion of this issue before we start voting on stuff.

**Chairman Wells** – any other discussion?

**Wes Poggenpohl** – I think voting on this tonight would possibly be a violation of the open meetings act as well.

**Chairman Wells** – so there you have it. Voting on this tonight could be a violation of the open meetings act. We do have a motion on the floor and a second, is there any more discussion from the board.

**Bev Graham** – I just have a question, please. When this was typed, is this how it came in? In proclamation to be addressed in committee or who wrote, who made up that sentence?

**Chairman Wells** – Well, I am guessing that that is a standard sentence and I am not positive, but I am guessing if we went back, look, you might see that somewhere before. It could be a typo, a mistake. That is what it is tonight. Is there any other discussion? Anyone else?

Okay, we have a motion on the floor to override the chair and to send this resolution to the Illinois Commerce Commission. We heard Mr. Poggenpohl's advice.

All those in favor of overriding the chair and sending it to the Illinois Commerce Commission, please signify by raising your right hand – (6) ayes

All those opposed same sign – (6) nays

It appears, we have some people who have not voted. Bev Graham stated she did not vote she was abstaining and Linda Curtain stated she was abstaining.

**Chairman Wells** – we have two abstentions, we have a 6-6 tie. That is the way I count them. So I am going to say that the motion dies and we will not do anything with it.

Now is there a motion now to send this to committee? *Bryan Sharp made a motion to send it to committee with a second by Venise McWard.* Any discussion on the motion to send this resolution to Personnel Policy and Procedure committee.

A roll call vote by signify of hands pulled all ayes (15).

## READING OF COMMUNICATIONS

### **July 2022 COMMUNICATIONS**

The following communications were presented and placed on file in the Clerk's Office.

1. August 2022 Prevailing Wage Report
2. The July 2022 Public Defender's Report
3. The Treasurer's Reports for period ending July 30, 2022
4. The Local Solid Waste Fees Fund report for July 2022
5. ROE – Expenditure Report for July 2022
6. C.E.F.S – June 2022 PCOM report
7. IDOT – Motor Fuel Tax Allotment and Transactions for June 2022

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### **HIGHWAY/BUILDING/GROUNDS/ENVIRONMENTAL/ZONING AND WELFARE COMMITTEE**

**August 4, 2022**

Present: Dale Livingston, Chuck Smedley, Bev Graham, Mike Specha, Thomas Snyder, Jr.  
Absent: None  
Others present: Matt Wells, Linda Curtin, Chad Coady, Lucas Domonowsky, Tavia Leach and Elizabeth Hile in attendance.

The meeting of the Highway/Building/Grounds/Environmental/Welfare/Zoning Committee was called to order on Tuesday, August 4, 2022 at 4:00 p.m. in the Christian County Courthouse. The purpose of the meeting was County building issues, highway business and any other matters properly brought before the Committee. Roll call was taken and there was a quorum.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

#### **ZONING PERMITS**

Committee Chairman Dale Livingston reviewed the permit applications by classification with the committee also reviewing the applications.

Motion by Mike Specha and seconded by Chuck Smedley to individually review each application with the committee chairperson signing the approved permits. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

Permit #14291 – 80' X 60' X 14' machine shed/storage application for John Hebert, 2038 E 1100 North, Owaneco, Illinois. This is a farm permit and there is no charge.

Permit #14288 – garage application for Steve and Sara Rogers, 406 Prairie Street, Morrisonville, Illinois. Fee of \$400.00.

Permit # 14294 – garage application for Joe Curvey, 811 N 300<sup>th</sup> East, Morrisonville, Illinois. Fee of \$96.00.

Permit # 14295 – garage application for Jeff Copelin, 206 Sesame Street, Sharpsburg, Illinois. Fee of \$120.00.

Motion by Dale Livingston and seconded by Mike Specha to approve the applications and issue permits for 1 pole barn and 3 garages. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

Permit # 14286 – anhydrous tank application for Central Commodity FS, Owaneco, Illinois. Fee of \$300.00.

Motion by Mike Specha and seconded by Thomas Snyder, Jr., to approve the anhydrous tank application and issue permit. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

Permit #14284 – application for 6 towers submitted by SBA Communications/T Mobile, 405 E Carrie Street, Morrisonville, Illinois. The fee is \$1,000.00 per towers totaling \$6,000.00.

Permit #14285 – application for 6 towers submitted by AT&T, 110 E Masonic Street, Edinburg, Illinois. Fee of \$6,000.00.

Motion by Mike Specha and seconded by Chuck Smedley to approve 2 tower applications and issue permits. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

Solar permit fees are based on \$7.00 per every \$1,000 project cost.

Permit #14287 – residential solar application for 3 Carol Court, Taylorville, Illinois. Fee of \$108.00.

Permit #14289 – residential solar application for Randy Thompson, 1241 N 1350 East Road, Taylorville, Illinois. Fee of \$92.00.

Permit #14290 – solar roof mount application for Trent and Jennifer Norris, 949 E 950 North Road, Palmer, Illinois. Fee of \$522.00.

Permit #14292 – roof top solar application for Nicholas Logue, 1430 E 500 North Road, Pana, Illinois. Fee of \$267.00.

Permit #14293 – roof top solar application for Laura Curtin, 1430 West Sunset Drive, Taylorville, Illinois. Fee of \$182.00.

Motion by Thomas Snyder, Jr. and seconded by Mike Specha to approve applications and issue permits for 5 residential solar projects. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

#### OTHER MATTERS

Thomas Snyder, Jr. advised he received a call about tall grass and was wondering who would be handling those issues. Chairman Wells advised that the Board has not addressed this yet.



The committee thanked Chad for his assistance with the permit applications.

Chairman Wells advised the Tuesday, August 9<sup>th</sup> Highway, Building, Grounds agenda has been amended to include zoning permits so the committee can address any applications that come in before that evening.

Motion by Thomas Snyder, Jr. and seconded by Mike Specha to adjourn. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dale Livingston  
Buildings/Highway/Environmental/Zoning  
Welfare Chairman  
08/04/2022

**HIGHWAY/BUILDING/GROUNDS/ENVIRONMENTAL/ZONING  
AND WELFARE COMMITTEE  
August 9, 2022**

Present: Dale Livingston, Chuck Smedley, Bev Graham, Thomas Snyder, Jr.  
Absent: Mike Specha  
Others present: Matt Wells, Linda Curtin, Cliff Frye, Ron Brown, Andy Byers, Greg Vasilion, Chad Coad, Sherri Craggs, Lucas Domonowsky, Tavia Leach and Elizabeth Hile in Attendance

The meeting of the Highway/Building/Grounds/Environmental/Welfare/Zoning Committee was called to order on Tuesday, August 9, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. in the Christian County Courthouse. The purpose of the meeting was County building issues, highway business and any other matters properly brought before the Committee. Roll call was taken and there was a quorum.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

**ZONING PERMITS**

The committee received a spreadsheet highlighting permits for review. There were 2 demolition permits and 3 building permits.

Motion by Thomas Snyder, Jr. and seconded by Chuck Smedley to approve demolition permits numbered 14296 and 14298 and issue permits. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Dale Livingston and seconded by Thomas Snyder, Jr. to approve building permits numbered 14297, 14299 and 14300 and issue permits. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

There were 3 zoning complaints that have been submitted as well. In discussion it was noted in the absence of a zoning officer, the Board has not given direction on how to handle these issues.

Bev Graham inquired if the Mayor of the village could address it. Chairman Wells advised that we do the zoning for that community and this would be part of that. Chad Coady indicated that the process previously used by the zoning officer was letter would be issued and after so many attempts, the complaint would go to the States Attorney.

#### INVENERGY

Greg Vasilion, lead developer for Hickory Point Solar Energy Center (located west of Taylorville in South Fork and Bear Creek Townships), highlighted the original project approved permit area and areas they plan to request a permit amendment for. The purple hash marked area indicates the original project permit application which ran into issues with coal mining in the area. The grey area on the maps is parcels signed and ready to participate in the project. The green parcels on the map show what potentially the amended project permit application might look like. The amended project area would move the project south and east of the original plan. The amended land area doesn't make the project larger, it ensures the land used is suitable for the project. They hope to request this permit amendment in the next couple of months.

A question was asked if power has been sold yet. Greg advised that they will not start negotiations to sell power until the permit is in hand and construction has begun.

#### ZONING BUSINESS

Bev mentioned at the Personnel/Executive meeting last night a motion was made to recommend to the full Board to move zoning back to the court house.

Committee Chairman Livingston feels that motion would be out of order. He felt that according to the rules, deciding office space falls on this committee with the Sheriff's approval as court house custodian.

Motion by Bev Graham and seconded by Thomas Snyder, Jr. to recommend to the full Board that when a permanent zoning officer is hired the zoning office location be moved to the former ROE office in the court house.

After some discussion about the Sheriff's need to approve as the court house custodian, Bev amended her motion.

Motion was amended by Bev Graham and seconded by Thomas Snyder, Jr. to recommend to the full Board moving the zoning office after a permanent zoning officer is hired and with permission from the Sheriff to the former ROE office on the first floor of the court house. A roll call vote polled 2 ayes from Bev Graham and Thomas Snyder, Jr. and 2 nays from Dale Livingston and Chuck Smedley. Chairman Wells cast a vote to approve. The motion carried.

*Dale Livingston made a motion to move the zoning office back to the courthouse.*

**Chairman Wells** – Before we get the motion and the second. The sheriff is the custodian of the courthouse. I believe the sheriff is here. Sheriff, do you have any issue with moving zoning back into the courthouse.

**Sheriff Kettlekamp** – I do not.

**Chairman Wells** – Thank you sir. I have a motion to move zoning back into the courthouse, do I have a second. *Vickie McMahon seconded the motion.* Chairman Wells called for a discussion. After no discussion, All in favor of moving the zoning office back into the court house once a permit zoning office is hired, signify by raising your right hand (14) all opposed same sign (1). Motion carried.

#### SOLID WASTE

No business to report.

#### HIGHWAY BUSINESS

No business to report.

#### ANIMAL CONTROL

##### Animal Control Director Report

Sherri Craggs presented a lengthy director's report to all Board members. She highlighted working with AHI volunteers on some complaints and in working on their partnership, the need for protocol and procedures. She is confident with a new and fresh start they will develop a good working relationship.

July statistics were 13 reclaimed dogs, 8 adopted dogs, 1 reclaimed cat and 6 adopted cats. As of August 8<sup>th</sup> 3 reclaimed dogs, 5 adopted cats and as of today took in a rooster.

Committee Chairman Livingston asked that the director's report be provided to all Board members.

#### COURT HOUSE BUSINESS

##### Boiler Replacement Cost Estimates

Maintenance Supervisor Ron Brown advised last he knew the cost to replace the boiler was approximately \$130,000.00 but has not received any additional numbers yet. He also indicated the boiler has been repaired to include repair of leaks.

The 2 trees approved for removed have been removed and he has contacted someone for stump removal estimates. The committee also discussed getting cost estimates for moving 2 trees from the east side of the building and moving them elsewhere on the property. Ron indicated there are approximately 20 trees on the court house lawn property. In discussion regarding where to move the trees to on the court house lawn, the committee discussed allowing Ron to use his judgement for placement. The committee asked if the Chairman could put the tree moving estimate on the upcoming Board agenda.

Dale Livingston asked if that needed to be in the form of a motion and Chairman Wells stated your tree removing estimate is on the agenda later tonight.

##### Architectural Standards Booklet

Bill Kennedy could not be present tonight but has asked for approval of adopting the Architectural Standards Booklet recently presented to all Board members.

Motion by Dale Livingston and seconded by Thomas Snyder, Jr. to recommend to the full Board to adopt the Architectural Standards Booklet as provided by Bill Kennedy. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Dale Livingston made a motion to adopt the Architectural Standards Booklet with a seconded by Bev Graham. After no discussion a roll call vote was called.*

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson; Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

Ron advised that Bill had provided an email addressing other matters. The samples of the caulking compound around the exterior of the existing windows was removed and sampled for asbestos. The sample came back positive. Removing the asbestos will increase the cost of the window replacement slightly but will not impact the utilization of the building.

He also advised that Bill has provided the specifications for the East door to the engineers for possible replacement of the other 3 door locations and inclusion in the window replacement project Bill's recommendation for replacement of the other 3 door locations is not just for architectural reasons but also to be consistent with window and air conditioning projects for energy efficiency purposes.

#### OTHER MATTERS

Dale asked Ron if automatic switches could be put in the restrooms to also help with efficiency.

Motion by Thomas Snyder, Jr. and seconded by Chuck Smedley to adjourn. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dale Livingston  
Buildings/Highway/Environmental/Zoning  
Welfare Chairman  
08/09/2022

### **EXECUTIVE/PERSONNEL/LIQUOR COMMITTEE**

**August 8, 2022**

Present: Craig Corzine, Chairman, Ray Koonce, David Puccetti, Clint Epley, Bryan Sharp  
Absent: None  
Others present: Matt Wells, Linda Curtin, Bev Graham, Sherri Craggs, Audra Harris, Sadie Waddington, McKinze Harris, Joel Malefyt, Steven Sipes, Patty Rykhus, Carol Spracklen, Judy Carrell, Duane Carrell, Andy Byers, Greg Vasilion, Sally Bursveen, Pat Vogel, Tavia Leach and Elizabeth Hile in attendance.

The Executive, Personnel, and Liquor Committee met on Monday, August 8, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. in County Board meeting room, second floor of the Christian County Courthouse, Taylorville, Illinois. The purpose of the meeting was to address any agenda items, any personnel issues, policies, and any other matters properly brought before the Committee. Roll call was taken and there was a quorum.

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS

Audra Harris addressed the committee with concerns regarding the proposed rezoning from residential to commercial property submitted by Mr. Duane Carrell. Concerns raised included fencing height and gate, railroad setbacks and setbacks from residences, flooding, fire hydrants and fire concerns, business license ID, sale tax ID, business hours, road upkeep, need for EPA permits and heavy industrial permit versus commercial permit citing the zoning code.

Carol Spracklen of Carol and Company addressed the committee on behalf of Mr. Duane Carrell. She showed a map of where the property is noting it is 2 blocks away from the Harris property. It is a property bought from Mr. Coleman that is along the highway with railroad property on it. She noted a similar rezoning that she did involving railroad property. Carol highlighted that many businesses in the Pana area use Mr. Carrell's services and that he is an asset to the community. He is in the business of scrapping and hauling debris away not stacking debris. The business is not a junk yard like another business in town.

Patty Rykhus spoke regarding the humane investigator ordinance that is before the committee tonight. She expressed concerns about the different versions that have been presented specifically noting 15.03 contains significant verbiage changes that are unnecessary. She would like the committee to pass a version that promotes cooperative efforts.

#### STEVE SIPES

Steve Sipes, ZBA chairman, provided information about ordinance O2022ZB023 specifically the difference in the ordinance presented to the Board that was passed versus the transcript. Steve advised that what was in the transcript is what should have been presented to the Board for consideration.

The ordinance related to the Cypress Creek project. Only adjacent landowners are provided notice by mail. The notice in the paper is for any other landowner in the area. The attorneys for Cypress Creek noticed that 1 of the adjacent property owners address was inadvertently sent to a wrong address. Cypress Creek has requested this go back to the ZBA with new notices being sent.

The rezoning ordinance from R-1 to C-1 was recommend for County Board approval. The business being conducted at this location isn't changing, the property owner is simply trying to do the right thing on their end by requesting the rezone. There is no hazardous waste issues. The committee asked if there were timelines on the rezoning and if not if the ZBA might look at this again. Steve advised that provided in the interim of no Zoning Officer if someone can do the agenda, yes they can. He also noted that the met tower fee issue sent to the ZBA hasn't been addressed yet.

## INVENERGY

Greg Vasilion and Andy Byers were present representing Invenergy. The Invenergy project is a utility scale solar project located in South Fork Township south of Kincaid. There is a current permit for this project which expires at the end of 2023. Maps with current permit areas, coal mine areas and projected project amendment areas were presented. They hope to apply for an amendment to the original permit application in a few months.

The committee asked if the company was unaware of the mining issues at the time of permit application. They were aware of the presence but actual impact wasn't fully realized until later. A lot of studies have taken place since to ensure the proposed amended land is suitable for the project.

## EMA UPDATES

Committee Chairman Corzine advised that Jeff Stoner couldn't be present but will update the Board Tuesday night.

## CHRISTIAN COUNTY ZONING ORDINANCE AMENDING TX22-9 O2022ZB023

Motion by Bryan Sharp and seconded by Craig Corzine to recommend to the full Board to send ordinance O2022ZB023 back to the ZBA for them to correct to an understandable form. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

## CHRISTIAN COUNTY ZONING ORDINANCE O2022ZB031 SPECIAL USE CYPRESS CREEK RENEWABLES

Motion by Ray Koonce and seconded by Clint Epley to recommend to the full Board to send ordinance O2022ZB031 back to the ZBA. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

A request was made that property owners south east of the project also receive notice. ZBA chairman Steve Sipes advised that notices are only required to be sent to the adjacent property owners and because it is not normal protocol, he would not want to start something that could set a precedence. The representative present for Cypress Creek advised they are willing to in good faith send out notice to other landowners.

## CHRISTIAN COUNTY ZONING ORDINANCE O2022ZB032 REZONING 10 RESIDENTAL LOTS FROM R-1 TO C-1 IN PANA, ILLINOIS

Motion by Craig Corzine and seconded by Dave Puccetti to recommend to the full Board to send ordinance O2022ZB032 back to the ZBA. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

## O2021AC035 CHAPTER 15 OF THE CHRISTIAN COUNTY ANIMAL CONTROL ORDINANCE – RESPONSIBILITIES OF AN APPROVED HUMANE INVESTIGATOR (AHI) WORKING IN CHRISTIAN COUNTY

The committee wanted to hear the opinion of the new Animal Control Director if she has had time to review the issues.

Sherri Craggs indicated she has reviewed all versions and will accept responsibility to ensure everyone is appropriately trained. She recommends approval of the 1<sup>st</sup> version drafted by the States Attorney.

Motion by Ray Koonce and seconded by Craig Corzine to recommend to the full Board to accept the 1<sup>st</sup> suggested change recommendation to ordinance O2021AC035 made by States Attorney Wes Poggenpohl. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

*Craig Corzine made a motion to accept the 1<sup>st</sup> suggested change by States Attorney Poggenpohl with a second by Dale Livingston.* Chairman Wells called for discussion. After no discussion he pulled a vote by all those in favor signify by raising your right hand (15) all opposed same sign (0). Motion carried.

#### ZONING – CONTINUE OR NOT

Consensus of the committee was that zoning should be continued even though it's only for a few cities/villages in the county.

#### ZONING OFFICER AND/OR SOLID WASTE OFFICER HIRE OR APPOINT

Motion by Ray Koonce and seconded by Clint Epley to recommend to the full Board to allow the Chairman to start the hiring process for the Zoning Administrator, who also serves as the noxious weed and flood plan officer, and refer establishing the salary range to the Finance Committee. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

Craig Corzine made a motion to allow the chairman to start the hiring process for the Zoning Administrator.

Chairman Wells – I am going to have to rule that motion is out of order. And before we get into debating that let me tell you the reason why. For two or three months now we have sat down and talked about the former zoning officer was only appointed for two years. It is a two-year appointment and that is in the zoning code. The zoning code is very specific that the Chairman of the board appoints with the advice and consent of the board. And so, if there were a motion on the floor to appoint a zoning officer, I think that would be legal, but the motion I see in front of me is to hire and that was the argument we had for the past two or three months was that person hired or was that person appointed when he should have in fact been appointed.

*Ray Koonce –Yes, sir, Mr. Chairman, I'll make a motion to amend to change hiring process to appointing process.*

**Chairman Wells** – I have a motion to change this to appointment, is there a second to that motion? Bryan Sharp seconded the motion. Chairman Wells called for discussion.

**Mike Specha** – just for clarification, is this strictly for zoning, this change.

**Craig Corzine** – yes.

**Chairman Wells** – this motion is for zoning and the zoning ordinance specifically says, or the zoning code specifically says that it is an appointed position.

**Mike Specha** – Okay

**Chairman Wells** – I don't want to be the one that in three or four years from now, we are talking about this all over again because I did not point this out. I don't want you as board members to be there. I believe Bryan was right. There was an issue maybe with the way it was handled years ago. It is supposed to be an appointment.

**Bev Graham** – I have a question. Are you going to be the only one in there when these people come in? Or are you just going to appoint somebody without them being – without seeing the qualifications?

**Chairman Wells** – I can tell you this Bev, The state board of elections has told me repeatedly, appointments are at the Chairman's discretion for any reason as long as it is not for some reason that is illegal. Example: somebody paid me money. Somebody gave me something for a position. But other than that, the appointments are for the Chairman to make. The boards advice and consent, I can tell you that people who have been appointed lately, I have heard from several or different board members about those people and why they thought this person would or would not be good at that position. And, of course, anyone who is appointed, whether it is me as a chairman or chairman in the future, that appointment has to come through this board.

Bev Graham – And does the salary still go through Finance?

**Chairman Wells** – Oh, definitely. Yeah, it says nothing about me setting any salary. I don't want anything to do with money. Any other questions or comments?

**Vicki McMahon** – There was some discussion at Finance the other night, is there a job description now? Does it include the flood plain officer, noxious weed?

**Chairman Wells** – I don't know that there is a job description that includes all three of them because they are, per se, three different positions; Zoning is one area, noxious weeds is another and what's the third one? The floodplain. Linda has to tell me because I can never remember, but those are three different positions that are tied into this motion. So, whoever gets the position, whether I get someone appoint next month, or whether I bring people here that you want to appoint, it goes on until January. Whomever the chairman is makes that appointment that person must understand they are being appointed to these jobs. These are their jobs. Anything else?

All those is favor please signify by raising your right hand (15) all opposed same sign (0). Motion carried.

**Craig Corzine** – we just voted on the amendment correct? We need to vote on the motion



**Chairman Wells** – You are correct. I apologize. So *we have a motion now to appoint a zoning officer is there a second?* Ray Koonce seconded the motion. Discussion? If there is no discussion, all those in favor please signify by raising your right hand (15) all those opposed same sign (0). We do have a majority.

Motion by Bryan Sharp and seconded by Ray Koonce to recommend to the full Board that a member of the Executive/Personnel Committee be involved in the hiring process for the Zoning Administrator. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

**Craig Corzine** – do we need to amend this as well to say appointment process instead of hiring process?

**Chairman Wells** – I am going to rule that motion is out of order also Craig because the zoning code states right in our zoning code that is the chairman's appointment with the advice and consent of the board. Mr. Poggenpohl may think that advice and consent does or doesn't mean that. He has been to law school and I haven't. So I am putting you on the spot, I never thought about it. It is a matter of the zoning code says the chairman of the board has the authority or the right to appoint the zoning officer with the advice and consent of the board. But the board is asking to be involved with the interview process. I don't believe there has to be an interview process. I don't believe that for an appointment, we have to even advertise. If I had, which I don't, I will tell you that, but if I had someone in mind right now, I could not do anything and come and make that appointment next month if I thought it would be approved by this board. So I don't know. I haven't been to law school.

**Wes Poggenpohl** – my opinion is advice and consent is free standards just you guys. You are able to ask questions and discuss it, but ultimately, it is just voting on it.

**Bev Graham** – if you appoint this person and you bring this person's name to the board and we haven't seen why you recommended this person, their qualifications or whatever to fill all of three of these, how do we vote one way or the other? We don't know anything about this person. I mean isn't there some way that we can be given information about that person?

**Chairman Wells** – I would say yes, you would have to vote your conscience.

Mike Specha – That is not going to fix it by having two people sit in there instead of one. Same issue, right. When it comes to us who ever sat in the process before hand, we are going to make our decision. We have seven people in the room. Still, they are the only seven that would know anything. My concern with adding more people to the processes our bureaucracy already works slow enough. All we are doing is slowing it down even further by trying to find an additional person and find times to do interviews and things, when our current process already allows for an elected official to be sitting in the room and that is our chairman.

Bryan Sharp – You know, to add to this discussion, we have slowed this down purposely so we have an opportunity to talk about these people, to discuss who is in there and not make the mistakes

that we have made in the past by appointing people positions that you know. I think there has been some mistakes in the past and we have seen what has come of that. So, I think slowing the process down or having another set of eyes for the sake of transparency, which seems to be a big theme of this board, transparency. So let us get another person involved through the interview process and through personnel and through the executive committee. That was the purpose of what was recommended there.

**Chairman Wells** – That is the motion and I have ruled that motion is out of order. Is there a motion a motion to override? Bryan Sharp made a motion to override with Venise McWard seconded the motion. Any other discussion? All those in favor of overriding the chair, please signify by raising your right hand (10) all opposed same sign (4). So it is 10 to 4 and we will have somebody there to interview. Next, go ahead Craig.

Craig Corzine – Okay. We had a motion by Bryan Sharp and seconded by Clint Epley to recommend to the full Board that the zoning office go back to the court house. All members were in favor. Motion carried. This was discussed earlier.

Motion by Craig Corzine and seconded by Ray Koonce to recommend to the full Board to allow the Chairman to start the hiring process for a Solid Waste Department Head and refer establishing the salary range to the Finance Committee. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

*Craig Corzine made a motion to allow Chairman Wells to start the hiring process for a Solid Waste Department Head and refer establishing the salary range to the Finance Committee with a second by Ray Koonce.*

Chairman Wells – the reason why I haven't said anything about this motion being out of order, there is nothing in the code that says anything about an appointment. Other discussion? If not, all those in favor please signify by raising your right hand (15) all opposed same sign (0). Motion carried.

Motion by Bryan Sharp and seconded by Dave Puccetti to recommend to the full Board that a member of the Executive/Personnel Committee be involved in the hiring process for the Solid Waste Department Head. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

Craig Corzine made a motion that a member of the Executive/Personnel Committee be involved in the hiring process for Solid Waste Department Head with a second by Vicki McMahon.

Chairman Wells called for discussion. After no discussion, all those in favor please signify by raising your right hand (15) all opposed same sign (0). Motion passed

Motion by Bryan Sharp and seconded by Clint Epley to recommend to the full Board that solid waste and zoning departments are housed in the same office space where they share the same secretary. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

*Craig Corzine made a motion that solid waste and zoning departments are housed in the same office space. Chairman Wells ruled that motion out of order. Did you read the county board rules? Very specifically where people are in their offices falls under the buildings and grounds committee. I take you to I believe it is buildings and grounds, section C Buildings and Grounds to allocate the office space of the Christian County Court, Correctional Center, Probation Annex and the housing of other County Offices and Officials.*

Bryan Sharp – I would also bring it to your attention under Executive, Personnel, Legislative and Liquor Committee under Executive item D that the executive committee shall make long-term recommendations for Capital Improvements, expenditures and future planning for all departments in that place and that committee allocates that space to how we suggest it be.

**Chairman Wells** – no, I have ruled that you are wrong. Reason being, every motion you make as Mr. Poggenpohl pointed out to you earlier, could violate the open meetings act; all motions, all actions must follow the state law, the federal law, county ordinances, county board rules, zoning codes and this motion, even though you have that authority, violates that rule.

**Bryan Sharp** – I don't know how that violates that rule under what we are tasked with planned future for all departments within the rules of the board.

**Chairman Wells** – and the rules of the board says buildings and ground committee makes those decisions.

**Bryan Sharp** – No it does not. It suggests that they allocate space.

**Chairman Wells** – I have ruled that it is out of order. Is there a motion to override?

*Bryan Sharp – I make a motion to override it with a second by Vicki McMahon.*

Chairman Wells called for Discussion.

**Dale Livingston** – in that motion there is space allocated for solid waste. That there is a contract with the state with solid waste .And there is no solid waste officer right now and I don't know if everybody has read that solid waste agreement. It pays for so many square feet and it pays for the secretary. I would think it would be a waste of taxpayers money if the state came in and took all that money.

**Bev Graham** – it doesn't say they are going to take the money if we change the location. It simply going to change how much they pay us.

**Chairman Wells** – the issue right now is whether or not we are going to override the motion that is out of order. Whether or not we should move them is another debate.

**Mike Specha** – Mr. Chairman this gets into so much of what I will call infighting over interpretation of what is in our board rules and of course it does. Where I am struggling here is a couple ways. One is that if we don't want to have some separation within our committees of duties, some of this might make sense because effectively what they are doing is deciding for what should be in the zoning committee that both of those offices need to be placed together. And that as should be, is clearly what we are supposed to be deciding is where that space is available. Any way, so I am suppose to override a motion.

Chairman Wells – asked if anyone else had a discussion. So if there is no other discussion, we have a motion on the floor to override the chair as far as moving the motion that I have ruled out of order was moving solid waste to the courthouse. If there is no other discussion, all those in favor of overriding the chair, please signify by raising your hand (11) those opposed same sign (3). The chair is overridden and solid waste will be moved. I don't know what the union will say about that because that is a union position we are moving over.

Bev Graham asked the sheriff if he cared and he stated if they move into the ROE and he said no.

The Committee discussed moving forward that zoning ordinances and text amendments should start at Executive/Personnel Committee.

Motion by Bryan Sharp to recommend to the full Board to understand County Board Rules by having someone with legal understanding to continue to guide the Board.

Chairman Wells indicated that in order to do so the County Board Rules would need to be changed and that item is not on the agenda this evening. Committee Chairman Corzine noted as our States Attorney has advised, it's all based on interpretation.

#### REVIEW OF HOW DEPARTMENT HEADS FILL VACANCIES

The motion to make modifications to the 2012 noted policy was referred back to committee. It was discussed there was some confusion on who this applies to. No action taken.

#### IPELRA TRAINING

Liz Hile would like to attend the Illinois Public Employer Labor Relations Association (IPELRA) training October 23 – 26<sup>th</sup> again this year. It provides excellent training and networking opportunities. The cost, discounted if registered by August 31<sup>st</sup>, is slightly higher than last year. Liz noted the money for this training has been budgeted and is available. The training dates do not interfere with meeting schedules.

Motion by Ray Koonce and seconded by Dave Puccetti to recommend to the full Board to approve Liz Hile attending the annual IPELRA training October 23 – 26, 2022. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

*Craig Corzine made a motion to allow Liz to attend training with a second by Vicki McMahon. After no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call vote.*

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Bryan Sharp, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson; Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

#### PERSONNEL HANDBOOK

Liz noted that she does have a few additional suggestions for the first section of the County's Personnel Handbook that was reviewed a few months back. She asked for the committee to review that section again prior to the next meeting. She will provide comments prior to next month's meeting by email and hopes to provide another section for review next month.

#### OTHER MATTERS

It was noted that Dwanna Kelmel's hourly rate was recently increased due to increased responsibilities of day to day operations. It was asked if that should be looked at again now that the County has a new Animal Control Director.

The Animal Control Director briefly mentioned the staffing levels and the need for 2 more part time staff to ensure facilities are up to standards should they be inspected.

Motion by Clint Epley and seconded by David Puccetti to adjourn. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Craig Corzine, Chairman  
Executive/Personnel Committee  
08/08/2022

**AUDIT/FINANCE/PURCHASING/BUDGET COMMITTEE**  
**August 10, 2022**

Present: Venise McWard, Chairman, Linda Curtin, Vicki McMahon, Tim Carlson, Ken Franklin  
Absent: None  
Others present: Matt Wells, Jim Baker, Cecil Polley, Jeff Stoner, Chad Coady, Betty Asmussen, Julie Mayer, Bruce Kettelkamp, Amy Toberman, Cliff Frye, Tavia Leach, Lucas Domonowsky and Elizabeth Hile.

The Audit/Finance/Purchasing/Budget Committee met on Wednesday, August 10, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. at the Christian County Courthouse, Taylorville, Illinois. The purpose of the meeting was to address agenda items and any other matters properly brought before the committee. Roll call was taken and there was a quorum.

**CLAIMS**

A motion was made by Tim Carlson and seconded by Linda Curtin to recommend to the full Board to approve the claims presented for August. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Venise McWard made a motion to approve the August claims with a second by Ken Franklin. After no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call vote.*

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson; Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

**BUDGET UPDATES – SHERIFF’S DEPARTMENT**

Chief Deputy Jim Baker presented information regarding several budget line items that will or are projected to exceed the budgeted amount by the end of this fiscal year. Reasons cited were increased expenses for fuel, utilities, training and staffing issues creating overtime. The Committee appreciated the updated information.

**ADDITIONAL APPRECIATION PAY REQUEST**

Jail Administrator Cecil Polley asked the Committee to reconsider whom ARPA appreciation pay is provided to. He felt that employees who worked all through COVID who later left employment with the County shortly before the approval of the appreciation pay should be eligible as well as the inclusion of all department heads.

Members appreciated the comments but noted that a lot of consideration was given to the motion and did not believe it should be revisited.

**SALE OF DELINQUENT PROPERTY**

Motion by Linda Curtin and seconded by Vicki McMahon to recommend to the full Board to approve resolution R2022 TR 010 for the sale of delinquent property to the Village of Kincaid. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion Carried.

*Venise McWard made a motion to approve R2022 TR 010 with a second by Linda Curtain. After no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call vote.*

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson; Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Thomas Snyder, Jr., (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

## BUDGET HEARINGS

### Supervisor of Assessor

Chad Coady presented his FY2023 budget with very minimal increases. The GIS budget was an overall decrease due to an employee retirement. No change to the Board of Review budget.

### ESDA

Jeff Stoner presented his FY2023 budget. The vehicle expense line item decreased as a new vehicle was purchased last year. Increases were recommended in communications and telephone line item for new communication equipment. Many of the line items were left unchanged.

### 911

Amy Toberman presented the 911 budget. She recommended increases in pay for part time staff noting staffing shortage and problems securing employees. Related increases were seen in salaries and overtime.

### Circuit Clerk

Julie Mayer reviewed her budget. Her department budget reflects a decrease mainly due to not filling a vacancy in her office which she felt with ecitation wouldn't be needed. She didn't propose any expenses from the support maintenance fund as she will try to build it back up. The new ecitation fund will see expenditures with the next budget cycle she predicted.

Julie was asked how the bail reform/no bond that goes into effect on January 1, 2023 will impact revenue. Julie advised that it is uncertain what the impact will be at this time.

### Highway

Cliff Frye presented the various Highway Department budgets noting that MFT has held steady. Increases outside of adjusted levies, etc. were mainly salaries.

Treasurer Asmussen asked if Cliff has seen anything on the Build, Back, Better bill that was signed by the President. It's her understanding that engineers are responsible for this grant. Cliff has not seen any information. Betty will provide Cliff with information she has received from the Treasurer's Association.

### Treasurer

Betty reviewed her budget which is an overall decrease due to a more senior employee moving to another County department.

### Zoning

Treasurer Asmussen advised to avoid confusion in the future the zoning line items will no longer be noted with animal control. The zoning department within the general fund is now 02. She

provided information on the last budget when the County had a standalone zoning officer. For FY23 budget proposal, nothing has been filled in for this budget due to the department head vacancy. The Board will need to decide on budget numbers.

#### REFERRALS

Personnel/Executive Committee referred establishing salary range for the positions of Zoning Administrator and Solid Waste Department Head. It was noted that the Zoning Administrator is also the noxious weed and flood plain officer as well.

Betty, as requested by Venise, had reached out to the Treasurer's Association group to see if she could get a quick response for salary ranges and years of service for a zoning administrator position. From the information she received from counties our size, the range was lower to mid \$50,000.

Motion by Ken Franklin and seconded by Vicki McMahon to recommend to the full Board to approve a salary range of \$45,000.00 to \$55,000.00 for the position of Zoning Administrator who will also serve as the County's noxious weed and flood plain officer.

*Venise McWard made a motion to approve a salary range from \$45,000 to \$55,000 for the position of Zoning Administrator who will also serve as the County's noxious weed and flood plain officer with a second by Bryan Sharp. After no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call vote.*

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson; Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Thomas Snyder, Jr., (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

Solid Waste department head salary was discussed noting this position will need to obtain credentials to do inspections. Betty noted some counties do not have Solid Waste directors but they usually don't have landfills either.

Motion by Vicki McMahon and seconded by Ken Franklin to recommend to the full Board to approve a salary range of \$40,000.00 to \$50,000.00 for the position of Solid Waste Department Head.

*Venise McWard made a motion to approve the salary range of \$40,000 to \$50,000 for the position of Solid Waste Department Head with a second by Linda Curtin. After no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call vote.*

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson; Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Thomas Snyder, Jr.(n), Mike Specha, (14) aye; (1) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

#### OTHER MATTERS

There were no other matters raised.

Motion by Tim Carlson and seconded by Vicki McMahon to adjourn. All members were in favor. Motion carried.



Respectfully submitted,  
Venise McWard  
Finance/Audit/Purchasing/Budget Committee Chairwoman  
08/10/2022

**AUDIT/FINANCE/PURCHASING/BUDGET COMMITTEE**  
**August 11, 2022**

Present: Venise McWard, Chairman, Vicki McMahon, Tim Carlson,  
Ken Franklin  
Absent: Linda Curtin  
Others present: Matt Wells, Laura Cooper, Tiffany Senger, Ron Brown, Betty  
Asmussen, Amy Winans, Stephanie Verardi, Judy Gates and  
Elizabeth Hile.

The Audit/Finance/Purchasing/Budget Committee met on Thursday, August 11, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. at the Christian County Courthouse, Taylorville, Illinois. The purpose of the meeting was to address agenda items and any other matters properly brought before the committee. Roll call was taken and there was a quorum.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

**BUDGET HEARINGS**

Coroner

Coroner Amy Winans noted the last few years have been the most challenging years during any of her previous terms. Her budget includes an administrative deputy coroner, having a phone on FirstNet for emergency responders versus using a private phone and working on a plan to archive files that have to be kept. Staffing issues remain a concern as the deputy coroners all have full time jobs.

Building and Grounds

Maintenance Supervisor Ron Brown presented this budget. Outside of salary increases and some added equipment money, the budget didn't change much.

Probation

Laura Cooper reviewed the budget for probation noting with the establishment by the State of a pretrial officer, she didn't fill a position vacated due to retirement. She also noted the State would be taking over the responsibility of the electronic monitoring (GPS) which will result in a cost savings. The exact date of when this transfer will occur has not been officially announced but she believes will be around January 1<sup>st</sup>.

Public Defender

Tiffany Senger presented the budget for the Public Defender's Office. For the most part the budget is status quo outside increases to due and bonds and additional cybersecurity insurance

she felt was needed. She highlighted a proposed salary increase for the assistant public defender position which has remained vacant since June.

U of I Extension - Levy

There was no noted increase in the levy proposal for FY 23.

ROE

Betty advised that ROE will not be presenting as the EAVs for all counties aren't available at this time.

Senior Citizens

Jennifer Verardi highlighted and presented the program budgets for Christian, South Fork Township, and Morrisonville-Palmer. Gas and meal prices have increased as well as insurance costs which she will continue to look into. There is some maintenance on the building that will also be needed.

OTHER MATTERS

Betty noted that next Wednesday's meeting is a heavier presentation schedule and inquired if the meeting time should be moved up. Because the agendas have already gone out, the committee will meet at 6:00 p.m. as planned.

Motion by Tim Carlson and seconded by Vicki McMahon to adjourn. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Venise McWard

Finance/Audit/Purchasing/Budget Committee Chairwoman

08/11/2022

**Ray Koonce** made a motion to take a 5 minute recess with a second by Craig Corzine. With no discussion a roll call vote pulled all ayes (15) and (0) nays. Motion carried.

**Chairman Wells called the meeting back to order after a five minute break at 7:40 pm. Roll call was taken with all members present with Chuck Smedley being absent.**

#### **NEW BUSINESS/OLD BUSINESS/OTHER**

- **Craig Paulek** -I come on behalf of the Christian County Agricultural Fair. I wanted to address the board about the proposed projects the fair has in place that we like to see if the county would be interested in supporting it through ARPA funds. These are both construction projects that are listed on the sheet that I presented. The second page is a map of one of those projects. We are looking at potentially resurfacing the roads to the fair grounds for the exception two that are heavily used for when we clean up. So it wouldn't be repairing those and the others putting the floor in one of the new buildings that were put up recently. The fair grounds was utilized during COVID for testing and vaccination so we saw a lot of increased traffic through that and we welcome stuff like that to help support the community and county through situations like that. I listed a few things that we have done in the past years for use of the grounds throughout the county either high school or other projects.

So that is what is presented. We have part numbers on here. These are actual quotes that we receive for the road; resurfacing was done by Louis Marsh from Morrisonville and concrete was Castle Concrete from Pana. All these projects would use local county contractors to do everything. Poggenpohl is typically who we use for our concrete. So all that, all those dollars would stay within the county. So we are looking at right at \$99,000. Right at \$100,000 for these projects. A couple things I know when I spoke to a few board members before the meeting. Listen here to clear up some misconceptions and just general knowledge about the fair board.

The fairgrounds is within the county not in the city. The fairgrounds have never been annexed into the city. So along those lines, we are not provided any benefits from the City besides police protection and in district water and a few other things. We utilize county deputies. We used to use reserves but after the police reform seems like the reserves went away for whatever reason; insurance liabilities what have not. So this year we hired deputies and the fair paid them out of our own general fund over five hours to support extra security at the fair. We appreciate the sheriff's office working with us on that, but I just wanted to make note that we are kicking in a little extra to try and help out.

So the other thing is the fair is self-funded, we are non-profit. We do receive some state reimbursements on premium funds. That is all we receive at this point. It has changed over the years and has been reduced quite a bit. So we only receive a percentage of premiums and those premiums are the livestock shows, your horticulture, your culinary and it's a tune of about 60,000 that we pay out for different events throughout the fair. I think that number is we are at 30% reimbursement from the state now. Where as 20 years ago that number was 60%. But this money through ARPA funds, this would be project specific. There are shovel-ready projects that we could kick off just about any time everybody's on board with this. But this is not a general funding request. This is specific to these two projects and completely separate from our general fund. Thank you. My number contact information is at the bottom if you might have any other questions I can answer tonight or privately.

**Chairman Wells** – this is something that finance committee should discuss and get back to us with a recommendation to send this to finance committee.

*Ray Koonce – Mr. Chairman, beings this is going to be an ARPA ordinance, I recommend it go to Personnel first.*

**Chairman Wells** – you are correct. Absolutely correct. So that you understand what he is talking about Mr. Pollock our county board rules say that Personnel Policy and Procedures committee must review all ordinances. All the ARPA money must be spent by ordinances. So instead of just going directly to finance, it will go to Personnel Policy and Procedure and then they will either decide not, I guess it could decide not to do it but if they decide to do it exactly how much money we would be willing to give you then it would be forward on to the finance committee. I have a motion, is there a second? *Ken Franklin seconded the motion.* After no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call vote.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Timothy Carlson; Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahan, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Thomas Snyder, Jr.(n), Mike Specha, Matt Wells, (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

**Chairman Wells** – I wanted to tell you the Personnel, Policy and Procedure committee meets on the 12<sup>th</sup> which is Monday evening. And then if they approve this and send it on to the finance committee they will meet on the 14<sup>th</sup> on Wednesday. Thank you for your time and for coming in.

- **Dick Adams** – Good evening. My name is Dick Adams and I am the Economic Development Director for Christian County Development Corporation. Thank you for allowing me to be here tonight. I think this is a result of covid. Primarily the economic activity of Christian County has maybe reached a little bit of a lul and needs to be kicked in the rear end just a little bit. We are trying to kick it in the rear end by developing a new plan. In the plan we are trying to combine the resources of the Taylorville Development Association, the City of Taylorville and the Christian County Development Program, trying to develop a plan we believe will carry out the economic development set tasks that need to be completed. I want you to know this is a plan that I sent to you, by the way, to send it all to you. I will be glad to either go over it in great detail with your or I am assuming that you have read it. So if you have read it I will answer any questions you might have about it. I do want you to know the plan is adaptable. We have talked with Pana and some other cities here represented tonight and they are going to be able to use whatever parts of this will be useful for them as they decide that Taylorville will be using this point. So we wanted you to be aware of that. We wanted you to know all the detail of it. We think a couple of you, many of you will be involved with us. There will be about 75 people involved.

The next time I bring it to you, the committee's are listed, it will have the names of people that are helping out, about 35 of them right now. I will be happy to answer any questions you have about that particular issue.

**Chairman Wells** – any questions? We have this information in front of us. Probably should go to Personnel Policy I believe. *Ray Koonce made a motion to send this to Personnel Policy and Procedures with a second by Thomas Snyder Jr.*

**Dick Adams** – the second issue I wanted to talk to you about is whether or not

Chairman Wells – hold on Dick. Let us vote on whether or not

Dick Adams – Excuse me sir. I apologize

Chairman Wells – any discussion on the motion to send this to Personnel, Policy and Procedures?

Ken Franklin – What are we sending to committee?

Chairman Wells – Well, I believe they would like us to look this over and tell them – this is their plan – yes we are on board, no we are not. Is their money involved from us.

**Dick Adams** – no. No money involved. That comes with my next issue to discuss perhaps.

Chairman Wells – So you know it seems to me like this goes to Personnel Policy and Procedure and then if there is money they would send it on to Finance Committee. No money yet. There is no discussion so all those in favor please signify by raising your right hand (15) ayes, all those opposed same sign (0) nays. Motion carried.

Dick Adams – The second issue is most generally in the economically development world, companies are looking for incentives to move into your city. Most cities have their incentives they are offering printed. As you can tell Taylorville has some very attractive incentives. By the way, the way that we will measure whether or not this plan is effective is on page 2 where it describes the sales tax, the business district pay on how many people have applied for business district activities. The enterprise zone, the TIF district and the number of built building permits are issued through the city of Taylorville. So that should give us an indication of those numbers continue to increase in a positive way. So that is how we can be held accountable.

But in the economic world, the economic development companies are looking for incentives. The city publishes their incentives and we have that to give to an employer to talk to them when they are looking at our community. The same I believe is true for counties. Counties most generally indicate what type of incentives if any they would provide to a company that is moving to your area to provide job creation. So I am wondering if we can have a discussion. The time to do this all is prior to the prospect coming, not after. So I am wonder if we can have, if I can have a discussion perhaps with some committee to talk about potential incentives that might be offered to companies that create jobs. In other words, the company comes here creating jobs - 50,000 a year and we know the economic impact of that. Are we interested in offering them some type of incentive from the county. You know what the cities are it is published most of them there. So an employer can see what incentives the city has. From the county's perspective there is no ordinance right.

So I am wondering if we can sit down and talk about that and try to come up with something that we can print that we can hand to a new employer who is looking at Christian County to have and develop jobs, because that is what we are trying to do. So I mentioned the time to do that is now before a company comes to us. So that is my request. Is it possible that

I could meet with some part of the county to talk about that, to see if it is possible for us to create incentives as we try to recruit industries.

Chairman Wells – let me say this to the board, Dick explained this to me previously but I didn't want to be the one explaining that I wanted him to explain it to you. I kind of stumbled there Ken. I am thinking of sending it to you, to Personnel Policy and Procedure for you guys to say yes, we will do that. And then for that committee to forward it on to the finance committee and for them to say you know this much here and this much here and this much there and that is why I kind of was – you were wondering why I was sending it to that committee I believe. I think the committee with the Personnel Policy and Procedures would decide whether or not we are going to give incentives and financing would be the ones to decide how much and when and where or at least how much. So it would seem to me like the first step here would be to get this on the Personnel Policy and Procedure agenda. And when it is on that agenda to let Dick come in and explain maybe some of the things he sees with the city, some of the things other counties are doing and for the committee to decide whether or not we want to do them and if so forward it on to finance for them to decide. You know, is it 4%? Are we going to give them a discount for 2 years or however long that works out. I think I see this as a multi committee deal also. That is why I asked for that motion. Until Dick explains something that the committee wants to do, I think the committee at that time again just forward it on to the finance committee. So I don't really think we need another motion at this time to get this started. But that is just my interpretation. Any of you have any questions for Mr. Adams. Thank you Dick. Appreciate your time.

**Broadband – Shelby Electric** – so the board understands, Venise asked for a couple of months back to have someone come in from Shelby to discuss so here we are. Josh Shallenberger and Nate Miller representing Shelby Electric Coop requested ARPA funds for their Broadband internet company to expand city-like internet fiber connection to the untouched rural areas of the county. Chairman Wells asked for a motion from the floor. Ray Koonce made a motion to send this to Personnel Policy and Procedure to review with a second by Dave Puccetti. After no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call vote.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: , Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahan, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Thomas Snyder, Jr.(n), Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson; Craig Corzine (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

- **EMA Car (rescind motion to sell car)** – the title has not been delivered to Cliff yet so it has not been sold. Chief Baker called me last month and told me he needs a car. He does not need a car to patrol with. What he needs is something to haul people back and forth to jail with. Apparently, he has looked at this car and he thinks this car he would have to put a little money into it which I believe he thinks he has in his budget. He believes this car would serve the purpose for him. But we have already made a motion to sell the car. So if we want to let Chief Baker take the car, get it fixed, I would need a motion to rescind the motion to sell. And then a motion to have the EMA turn it over. *Vicki McMahan made a motion to rescind the motion to sell the EMA car with a second by Dale Livingston.* Chairman Wells called for discussion.

**Chief Baker** – Mr. Chairman, I just want to find out - I didn't want to mislead after some discussion. I approached you about that and then spoke with the Sheriff. With us being

short a vehicle that was totaled this year and it wasn't enough to purchase one. There may be consideration, not only to use that car but we might stripe it, buy the equipment that is needed, possibly take it for a transport and put that one on because of mileage and maintenance. So I just wanted to clear the evidence.

**Chairman Wells** – I do appreciate that.

**Venise McWard** – have you checked the car over? Have you talked to him

**Chief Baker** – yes, I have talked to him and I had a lower mileage. We talked it over and it was low enough mileage for what is out there. We found the condition -it was needing some tires and general maintenance. The money we had that was short failed from the vehicle being totaled, there would be money there to put a cage, striping, all the necessary equipment needed.

**Chairman Wells** – any other discussion? Not spending any money at this point. All those in favor please signify by raising your right hand. This is the motion to rescind the motion to sell the car. (15) ayes, those opposed same sign (0). Motion passes we are not going to sell the car. I need a motion to let the Sheriff use the EMA car. Dale Livingston made the motion with a second by Ray Koonce. After no discussion, all of those in favor please signify by raising your right hand (15) ayes, all opposed same sign (0). Good luck Chief.

- **Tommy Lift Gate Animal Control** – Lift gate for the back of the animal control truck. I think we have a bid that they would like to put a lift on the back of the animal control truck. They got a bid, it came in at I believe it is \$6,100.00. Is that correct? \$6,180.00.

Liz pointed out to me that we received an Illinois public risk grant for safety and you have to spend it by the end of the year for \$3,468. Sherry tells me that she believes that the other organizations would, not the nonprofits, would help with this to get this done. It may take a little bit of the money she has in her budget for equipment but it seems to me lie it is an improvement that would help animal control. So I would entertain a motion to allow them to spend the \$6,180.00 for the lift of the back of the animal control truck. *Dale Livingston made a motion with a second by Thomas Snyder Jr.*, Let me make sure that we understand we are spending \$6,180 with this grant with the committees that help and with budget nothing else coming out of the finance committee.

**Ken Franklin** – is this \$3400 in the budget?

**Chairman Wells** – is this money in the budget? It is in the budget and it has to be spent on safety equipment and it has to be spent on this year.

**Ken Franklin** – as long as we have a place for it in the budget

**Chairman Wells** – you know more about those budget questions than I do. Any other comments. After no further discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call vote.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahan, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Timothy Carlson; Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Mike Specha, Matt Wells, (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

- **Dollar General – Morrisonville Occupancy Certificate** – Dollar General continues to ask me for an Occupancy Certificate. Apparently they need this to sell it, something built it, 15, whatever. But I believe the Dollar General in Morrisonville has been annexed into the village of Morrisonville. But they are saying they want this occupancy certificate from but I told them I am taking it to the board. The board can tell me whether or not, I don't know what it does or doesn't mean. I don't know if Mr. Poggenpohl has any idea but they are wanting this certificate from us saying that it is okay for them to occupy that building.

I am not the zoning officer. I didn't see anything in the zoning code. I am not saying I could have missed something. They are asking that I, me, someone from the board whoever sign this occupancy permit and I have been in the store a dozen times myself already. It is occupied. I don't know if the board wants to table this until next month to give Mr. Poggenpohl a chance to look at it, get it. What is your pleasure? *Ray Koonce made a motion to issue the occupancy certificate with approval from the State's Attorney. Bryan Sharp seconded the motion.* Chairman Wells called for a discussion.

**Ken Franklin** – somebody in construction would know more about this than I do. Typically, you issue an occupancy certificate after all the final building inspections such as plumbing, electrical and heating and air conditioning - there is a lot more to it than you know just putting up a building.

**Linda Curtin** – if it is in the village – do you think it is in the village and not in the county?

**Chairman Wells** – well they had talked about annexing it. Now how do you know when something has been annexed.

**Linda Curtin** – have you talked to the assessor? But I wonder why if it is in the city limits why the mayor

**Chairman Wells** – I don't know.

**Liz Hile** – they have signed one of these.

**Chairman Wells** – they have signed one of these?

**Liz Hile** – yes and it is my understanding that it was signed by the County Zoning Officer.

**Chairman Wells** – According to Liz the original permit was signed by the County Zoning Officer who is not with is gone. Now, they want this signed. I kind of agree with Ken, I don't know what it means, but Ray's motion is to have it signed with the State's Attorney's permission. So it has been a month and that would give Wes a month or however long he needs to look into whether or not we should sign.

**Mike Specha** – Mr. Chairman, I just want to do some clarification. I mean, in my time on the board, I don't remember us ever being involved in occupancy certificates.

Chairman Wells – I don't remember one being signed when they built the new Dollar General north of Pana. Which Pana then annexed – I believe it was built in the country and then annexed into Pana. I am not sure of that but I think the new one on the north edge of town was. I don't ever remember hearing anything about any of this.



So, we have a motion on the floor and a second to have it signed pending on State's Attorney's approval. All those in favor please signify by raising your right hand (8) all opposed same sign (7). It looks to me like it is 8 to 7 in favor of having it signed if the State's Attorney says it is okay.

- **Tree Moving Estimate** – Ron Brown stated he had an estimate bid of \$800 for the tree removal on the southeast side of the building.

**Chairman Wells** – so basically we would be moving the trees away from the building filling in spots where other trees have been taken down and it is \$800.

**Ron Brown** - \$800. He recommended doing it in the fall when the leaves fall off and that is the best time to do it.

**Chairman Wells** – we have a recommendation to remove two trees. Vicki McMahon made a motion to have the trees removed with a second by Dale Livingston. Discussion.

**Ray Koonce** – what is it coming out of.

**Chairman Wells** – Do we have money in the Capitol Improvements fund? Liz says we do. After no further discussion, Chairman Wells asked for a roll call vote on the tree removing estimates.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson; Craig Corzine (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

- **Building Permits** – to date, the committee has signed 16 permits if you counted them. That is the way I counted them. We have 4 waiting that I believe last month we gave permission for the highway buildings and grounds committee to sign permits on a month-to-month basis. So I put that back here. Last month we didn't want people waiting. I don't know why we would want to make them wait. I mean the process has been started to get someone hired. So I put it back on here looking for a motion to have the highway buildings and grounds committee sign permits for the next month so that people can get their zoning. Is there such a motion? *Mike Specha made a motion with a second by Ken Franklin.* Discussion.

**Bev Graham** – will they be presented the same way this time?

**Chairman Wells** – I would guess. They are all coming to the board. There is four waiting. If you guys want to wait two or three weeks and we have a special meeting, it is up to committee. Any other discussion? If not, all those in favor please signify by raising your right hand (15) ayes, all opposed same sign (0). Motion passed.

- **Code Enforcement Violations** – I have been asked about these Code Enforcement Violations. I put that on here, the board's pleasure. Here is the thing for a committee member to do that, I think first before we can do anything now you are asking someone to go to somebody's house and look. None of us are trained to do it. I don't know. Anybody

have any idea or just wait until we get someone hired. I didn't want it to be my decision. Not going to do anything.

- **Building Permits Survey – US Census Bureau** – we received something about Federal government wanting to know about our building permit. So I called the gentleman just in case, any of you heard this, he said not to worry about it, it is voluntary compliance. He understood the situation about the zoning administrator being removed and so that was not an issue.
- **Closed Session Minutes** – I spoke with Jacque earlier this evening. She is still sifting through stuff. She thinks she can have better information for us at the September meeting. And that way we can get that on probably sent from the board onto Personnel policy and procedures to see which ones they feel we need to release and make that recommendation. So we will deal with that again next month. It is closed session.
- **Annual Contributions – Senior Citizens, Christian County CEO, Christian County Economic Development** – We have historically made contributions of \$2500 to the senior citizens, \$1000 to Christian County CYO and \$5000 to the Christian County Economic Development. I believe that is in the agenda or excuse me the budget.

So before I sign any of those, it is all above my \$2000 limit. I thought I wanted to make the board aware and let the board vote on whether or not we are going to continue to make these donations. *Thomas Snyder made a motion with a second by Dale Livingston to continue to make the donations.* Discussion.

**Mike Specha** – process question. Why did this not come to finance?

**Chairman Wells** – They were on my agenda. Now if we can change the motion and send it back through to Finance, I have no problem with that Mike. But they were on my desk for me to sign and I don't like – I mean I make enough decisions we disagree on which ones at times I should or should not make. But I have never went out and signed to spend this type of money without the board being aware of.

**Mike Specha** – I hate to slow it down. I just asked.

**Chairman Wells** – I understand. Any other discussion?

**Ray Koonce** – Mr. Chairman, just a question does the finance committee want that reviewed. *I make a motion to table to the Finance committee with a second by Mike Specha.*

**Chairman Wells** - After no further discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call vote.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston (n), Vickie McMahan, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson; Craig Corzine (n), Linda Curtin, (13) aye; (2) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

- **IEPA Meeting Request** – EPA is requesting to me about Solid Waste. I know nothing about Solid Waste. I don't know what we do or don't want to do. I mean, I can contact

and say we are in the process of hiring somebody. We get somebody hired if that is what this board wants to do. That is fine with me, but I didn't want to come up here and September and somebody from the EPA come in. Thomas Snyder Jr holds a Class 1 Waste/Water Treatment Operator in Training title and he has agreed to meet with EPA if the board wants him to. Since there is no solid waste officer, members Thomas Snyder and Matt Wells will meet with the IEPA at a date to be determined. After no further discussion, Chairman Wells called for a motion from the floor to allow himself and Thomas Snyder Jr to meet with the EPA. *Mike Specha made a motion with a second by Dale Livingston.* After no further discussion Chairman Wells called for all those in favor to please signify by raising your right hand (15) ayes, those opposed please signify the same sign (0) nays. Motion carried.

- **Zoning Administrator Appointment Term** – after some discussion of the zoning administrator appointment being a two year term Chairman Wells called for a motion from the floor to table this to the Executive/Personnel committee for review. Bryan Sharp made a motion with a second by Timothy Carlson. All those in favor of tabling this to committee signify by raising your right hand (12) ayes all opposed same sign (3) nays. Motion carried to table the appointment term for the Zoning Administrator.
- **Card Service – Animal Control** – Chairman Wells discussed the possibility of a credit card service being installed for Animal Control. With little discussion, Chairman Wells called for a motion. *Dale Livingston made a motion with Thomas Snyder Jr, seconded the motion to table this to committee for recommendation to the full board.* A roll call vote was called upon by signify of hands (15) ayes (0) nays. Motion carried to table.
- **AFSCME Union Negotiations** – Chairman Wells informed the board that AFSCME had been in contact with him regarding negotiations and who should be on the negotiating team. *Ray Koonce made a motion to send to Personnel Policy and Procedure with a second by Thomas Snyder Jr.* With no discussion Chairman Wells called for a roll call vote.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson; Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Public Health Department employees past and present spoke out regarding the issues with the Christian County Health Board. Kent Delay, Kelly Bartlow, Jane Griffith, Beth Markwell and Jason Domonusky each voicing their opinions and concerns with the recent actions taken by the Health Board.

**MILEAGE AND PER DIEM REPORT – June 21, 2022**

<u>Board Member</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u># of Meetings This Month</u>
Timothy Carlson	\$100.00	\$25.00	3
Craig Corzine	\$100.00	\$25.00	3
Linda Curtin	\$100.00	\$25.00	4
Clint Epley	\$ 50.00	\$25.00	3

Ken Franklin	\$100.00	\$25.00	4
Bev Graham	\$100.00	\$25.00	4
Ray Koonce	\$100.00	\$25.00	4
Dale Livingston	\$100.00	\$25.00	4
Vicki McMahan	\$100.00	\$25.00	6
Venise McWard	\$100.00	\$25.00	5
David Puccetti	\$100.00	\$25.00	3
Bryan Sharp	\$100.00	\$25.00	3
Chuck Smedley	\$100.00	\$25.00	3
Thomas Snyder, Jr.	\$100.00	\$25.00	4
Mike Specha	\$100.00	\$25.00	3
Matt Wells	\$615.38		

Chairman Wells called for a motion from the floor to approve the Mileage and Per Diem Report *A motion was made by Thomas Snyder Jr and seconded by Timothy Carlson to approve the mileage and per diem report.* With no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahan, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson; (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Chairman Wells called for a motion from the floor to adjourn until September 20, 2022. *A motion was made by Timothy Carlson and seconded by Ray Koonce to adjourn until the next meeting on September 20, 2022.*

With no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent; the motion carried.

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNTY BOARD**  
AT A MEETING OF THE COUNTY BOARD MEMBERS OF CHRISTIAN COUNTY  
ILLINOIS, BEGUN AND HELD AT THE CHRISTIAN COUNTY COURTHOUSE IN  
TAYLORVILLE, ILLINOIS ON **SEPTEMBER 20, 2022**  
*ATTEST: JACQUE WILLISON, COUNTY CLERK*

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The following proceeding had and entered at large upon the records of said Board, which is done accordingly in the following words and figures to wit;

Chairman Wells called the board meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. This meeting was held on the second floor of the courthouse in the County Board Room

**ROLL CALL**

The roll call by County Clerk Jacque Willison showing all members present with Timothy Carlson, Craig Corzine, Vicki McMahon and Thomas Snyder Jr., being absent. A quorum was had to hold the meeting.

**APPROVE COUNTY BOARD MINUTES**

Chairman Wells asked for any corrections or additions and to accept the August 16, 2022 County Board minutes to approve as printed. Chairman Wells called for a motion to approve the minutes. *Dale Livingston made a motion to approve the minutes seconded by Bev Graham.* After no discussion, Chairman Wells asked for roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon, polled the following: (12) aye; (0) nay; (4) absent; the motion carried and the minutes were approved.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Public comments is time for the public to tell the board what they think – how they feel. It is not a question and answer session. You are limited to three minutes. We ask that when you are recognized to please stand up, state your name and talk for your three minutes. Anyone here from the public who would like to speak at this time?

**Maureen Maple** – My name is Maureen Maple. I am a member of the Capitol Development Committee of Christian County Animal Control. I have a letter I want to read that is from our group Friends of Christian County Animal Control, Pana Ordinance Officer and Andy Goodall.

**To the Director of Christian County Animal Control and Christian County Board Members:**

Recently an article in the newspaper discussed ARPA funds being distributed throughout the county for various projects. Upon seeing this article, the Taylorville Police Department (PD) Animal Control Officer Andy Goodall, the Pana PD, Animal Control Officer Justin Dudra, the Capital Development Committee (CDC) for the Christian County Animal Control (CCAC) and the Friends of CCAC groups saw an amazing opportunity for Christian County Animal shelter to obtain the much needed financial help that has been sought after for so many years.

Both CDC and the Friends group have worked tirelessly attempting to raise funds for the much needed expansion to the CCAC. As you probably are aware of, there was an enormous push approximately two years ago to pursue a cat wing at the shelter. Petitions were circulated and the community strongly supported this effort. Due to COVID and other deterrents, this project was temporarily suspended. Since this time, a cat hoarding situation arose with 64 cats and the CCAC

successfully handled this situation by housing cats in the garage in makeshift cages and working tirelessly to rehome the cats. Just this week, the CCAC received a call regarding a home with 27 cats in Pana, Illinois. Cat hoarders are becoming more and more common.

On-going, the CCAC receives large numbers of cats daily. In addition, the Friends group works with the CCAC to trap, sterilize and release cats. This year alone the Friends group has successfully trapped and serviced almost 50 cats. Friends has wisely acknowledged that they cannot adopt the way out of pet overpopulation and their goal is to sterilize and return the animals to their habitat.

Currently, the CCAC's dog kennels are full with the exception of the kennels held specifically for and rented by the Taylorville and Pana Police Departments. Taylorville PD Animal Control Officer Andy Goodall routinely receives and transports dogs to the CCAC. Strays are routinely brought in from throughout the county; especially after a storm or fireworks. The CCAC staff work tirelessly to locate owners or adopt these animals throughout the community.

As we all remember, the Taylorville community was a direct tornado hit December 1, 2018. Again, the CCAC was inundated with lost animals due to the disaster. Dogs and cats were rescued, housed at CCAC, and the staff was tasked with finding the lawful owners and returning the animals home.

The current CCAC building is outgrown in many ways – cat accommodations, dog accommodations, meet and greet room for prospective adoptions, laundry facility, storage shelves etc. The Taylorville P.D. animal control officer and both CDC and Friends respectfully request \$50,000 of ARPA funds to be awarded to the CCAC for a much needed expansion. It's time for the Christian County Board to work collaboratively with the CCAC and support groups to successfully handle the overcrowding situation in the CCAC and the overpopulated animal situation within this county.

Respectfully submitted: Maureen Maple, CDC-CCAC Capital Development Committee for CCAC, Andy Goodall City of Taylorville Animal Control Officer, Patty Rykhus – Friends of Christian County Animal Control and Justin Dudra – Pana Ordinance Officer.

**Chairman Wells** - Second call for anyone from the public who wishes to speak. Third and final call if anyone from the public wishes to speak.

**6. FUNDRAISER FOR LINCOLN HALL** – neither Kathy Fergin or Barbara Westrick were in attendance.

**7. APPOINTMENTS** – At last month's meeting, the board told me to interview and have someone from Personnel Policy and Procedure committee at those interviews, which I did. Ray was at all of them. And to find someone to fill the position of Solid Waste and someone to fill the position of Zoning. After interviewing these people, I will tell you this, we did not have a tremendous amount of applicants. We had 5. To be quite honestly, one of them I could not read. One of them, a gentleman, I had spoken with prior and I just couldn't go that route. That left me with 3 people. They were all pretty good. Here is what I came up with. I have decided to present to you for your approval Shawn Hammers to manage Solid Waste with a salary starting at \$48,500.00. Shawn is in the back of the room. Shawn can you wave your hand so the board knows who we are talking about. Shawn comes to us with a masters degree. He is just finishing his education. He grew up local and wanting to come home. Wanted a job. So I am appointing him which that requires the board's approval. Chairman Wells called for a motion from the floor to

accept Mr. Hammers as Solid Waste Administrator. *Dale Livingston made a motion to approve Shawn Hammers as the new Solid Waste manager at a salary of \$48,500 with a second by Chuck Smedley.* Called for Discussion

**Ray Koonce** – Mr. Chairman, during all the interviews, your top three picks were all good candidates. I was very impressed with all of them but, unfortunately, you can only pick two people. So, I just want to thank all the people who applied and the ones that we talked to. We were impressed with all three of them. I am happy with the choices. Thank you.

**Chairman Wells** – Thank you very much. Let me say this in speaking with Liz, pay periods and all I think Shawn I believe the discussion was you would be starting October 1, 2022. Just so the board knows what is going on. They call tomorrow and he is not there, I just thought you should know. Any other discussion? After no further discussion roll call was called.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, (12) aye; (0) nay; (4) absent. The motion carried.

**Chairman Wells** – then when it came to the Zoning position, after the interviews it was the same situation. I decided to appoint Blake Tarr. That will take the board's final approval. Chairman Wells called for a motion from the floor. *Linda Curtin made a motion to appoint Blake Tarr as the Zoning Administrator at a salary of \$52,000 with a second by Venise McWard.* Any discussion? He too will be starting October 1, 2022. Blake is in the back. Blake let everyone know who you are. With that being said, please call roll.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Chuck Smedley, Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston (n), Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, (11) aye; (1) nay; (4) absent. The motion carried.

### **PETITIONS, RESOLUTIONS, ORDINANCES OR PROCLAMATIONS**

- R2022 TR 012, R2022 TR 013, R2022 TR 014, R2022 TR 015, R2022 TR 016, R2022 TR 017, R2022 TR 018, R2022 TR 019, R2022 TR 020, R2022 TR 021, R2022 TR 022, R2022 TR 023, R2022 TR 024 – these are all properties to be sold do I understand that to be correct Betty.

**Betty Asmussen** – correct

Chairman Wells stated he would entertain a motion, if the board will allow it, you have them in front of you I believe, to approve the Ordinances R2022TR012 through R2022TR024. *Ray Koonce made a motion to approve the ordinances with a second by Bryan Sharp.* Any discussion?

**Ray Koonce** – Mr. Chairman, normally just for clarification, if anybody asks, these things usually go through committee but I have been told these are time sensitive and just because of the way the process works is why they are on the board tonight. So I am fine with them be standard procedurized

**Chairman Wells** – asked for any other discussion. After no further discussion, please call roll.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, (12) aye; (0) nay; (4) absent. The motion carried.

## **READING OF COMMUNICATIONS**

### **AUGUST 2022 COMMUNICATIONS**

The following communications were presented and placed on file in the Clerk's Office.

1. September 2022 Prevailing Wage Report
2. The August 2022 Public Defender's Report
3. The Treasurer's Reports for period ending August 31, 2022
4. The Local Solid Waste Fees Fund report for August 2022
5. ROE – Expenditure Report for July 2022
6. IDOT – Motor Fuel Tax Allotment and Transactions for August 2022

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **HIGHWAY/BUILDING/GROUNDS/ENVIRONMENTAL/ZONING AND WELFARE COMMITTEE August 31, 2022**

Present: Dale Livingston, Chuck Smedley, Bev Graham, Mike Specha, Thomas Snyder, Jr.  
Absent: None  
Others present: Chad Coady, Curtis Ryen, and Elizabeth Hile in attendance.

The meeting of the Highway/Building/Grounds/Environmental/Welfare/Zoning Committee was called to order on Wednesday, August 31, 2022 at 4:00 p.m. in the Christian County Courthouse. The purpose of the meeting was County building issues, highway business and any other matters properly brought before the Committee. Roll call was taken and there was a quorum.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Curtis Ryen from Energy Solutions noticed old lighting at the Probation Office and wanted to inquire if the County was aware of the incentives available through Ameren to update lighting.

#### **ZONING PERMITS**

Committee Chairman Dale Livingston noted that most of the permits for review today were solar permits with a couple of residential permits as well.

Motion by Mike Specha and seconded by Chuck Smedley to approve and issue permit #14310 for demolition of a house and grain bin at 198 East 50 North Road in Harvel, Illinois for a fee of \$25.00. A roll



call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried. *Dale Livingston made a motion to approve and issue permit #14310 with a second by Bev Graham.* Discussion?

**Mike Specha** - just real quick, it was my understanding that in the absence of a zoning officer our committee was acting as a zoning officer. If I am correct, in the past, the zoning officer doesn't bring every zoning permit to us and I am not certain if we the board needs to approve it, if we are acting as the zoning officer and second our activity.

**Chairman Wells** – all I know is the minutes say that you are to approve them and bring them to the board. That is what the minutes say. You didn't vote to approve them. You voted to approve them and then send them to the board. So for that reason I think the board has to approve them. If the next time you approve them, I think you are correct, if the next time your committee approves them –

**Mike Specha** – I was just trying to save time.

**Chairman Wells** – all of those in favor please signify by raising your right hand (12) ayes, all of those opposed same sign (0) nays. Motion carried.

Motion by Mike Specha and seconded by Chuck Smedley to approve and issue residential solar permits #14301 at the address of 209 North Rosamond Avenue in Rosamond, Illinois at a fee of \$307.00 and #14302 at the address of 2085 East 1675 North Road in Stonington, Illinois at a fee of \$196.00. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried. *Dale Livingston made a motion to approve with a second by Bev Graham.*

**Chairman Wells** – any discussion? All those in favor please signify by saying aye (12), all opposed same sign (0). Motion carried.

Motion by Chuck Smedley and seconded by Mike Specha to approve and issue permit # 14303 for the purpose of building a municipal storage/meeting building for the Langleyville Water Department at 101 N Reimer in Taylorville, Illinois. There is no cost for this permit. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried. Dale Livingston made a motion to approve with a second by Bev Graham.

**Chairman Wells** - any discussion? All those in favor please signify by saying aye (12), all opposed same sign (0). Motion carried.

Motion by Bev Graham and seconded by Chuck Smedley to approve and issue permit #14304 at the address of 621 East 900 North Road, Palmer, Illinois for the purpose of enclosing the breezeway. There is no cost for this permit. All members voted in favor. Motion carried. It was noted that because there was already a roof over the structure and this was simply being enclosed that a permit really wasn't necessary. *Dale Livingston made a motion to approve with a second by Mike Specha.*

**Chairman Wells** - any discussion? All those in favor please signify by saying aye (12), all opposed same sign (0). Motion carried.

Motion by Bev Graham and seconded by Mike Specha to approve and issue permit # 14305 for a pole barn with rock floor at the address of 409 W. North Street in Morrisonville, Illinois at a fee of \$288.00. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried. *Dale Livingston made a motion with a second by Mike Specha*

**Chairman Wells** - any discussion? All those in favor please signify by saying aye (12), all opposed same sign (0). Motion carried.

Motion by Chuck Smeley and seconded by Mike Specha to approve and issue permit # 14306 for a manufactured home at the address of 1456 North 2400 East Road in Assumption, Illinois at a fee of \$437.00. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried. *Dale Livingston made a motion to approve with a second by Mike Specha.*

**Chairman Wells** - any discussion? All those in favor please signify by saying aye (12), all opposed same sign (0). Motion carried.

Motion by Bev Graham and seconded by Thomas Snyder, Jr. to approve and issue permit # 14307 for residential solar at the address of 200 S. Monroe in Morrisonville, Illinois at a fee of \$619.00. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried. *Dale Livingston made a motion to approve with a second by Chuck Smedley.*

**Chairman Wells** - any discussion? All those in favor please signify by saying aye (12), all opposed same sign (0). Motion carried.

Motion by Mike Specha and seconded by Thomas Snyder, Jr. to approve and issue permit # 14308 for a cell tower upgrade at CR 1500 in Taylorville, Illinois at a fee of \$1,000.00. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried. *Dale Livingston made a motion to approve with a second by Bev Graham.*

**Chairman Wells** - any discussion? All those in favor please signify by saying aye (12), all opposed same sign (0). Motion carried.

Motion by Mike Specha and seconded by Bev Graham to approve and issue permit # 14309 for a commercial grain bin at the address of 1916 First Street in Blue Mound, Illinois \$1,024.00. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried. *Dale Livingston made a motion to approve with a second by Mike Specha.*

**Chairman Wells** - any discussion? All those in favor please signify by saying aye (12), all opposed same sign (0). Motion carried.

Motion by Thomas Snyder, Jr. and seconded by Mike Specha to approve and issue permit # 14311 for residential solar at the address of 944 East 1500 North Road in Taylorville, Illinois at a fee of \$430.00. All members were in favor. Motion carried. *Dale Livingston make a motion to approve with a second by Bev Graham.*

**Chairman Wells** - any discussion? All those in favor signify by saying aye (12), all opposed same sign (0). Motion carried.

#### OTHER MATTERS

Committee Chairman Livingston advised the representative from Energy Solutions that he will have lighting incentives on the September 13<sup>th</sup> regular agenda.

Motion by Thomas Snyder, Jr. and seconded by Mike Specha to adjourn. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Dale Livingston  
Buildings/Highway/Environmental/Zoning  
Welfare Chairman  
08/31/2022

**HIGHWAY/BUILDING/GROUNDS/ENVIRONMENTAL/ZONING  
AND WELFARE COMMITTEE  
September 13, 2022**

Present: Dale Livingston, Chuck Smedley, Bev Graham, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha  
Absent: None  
Others present: Matt Wells, Linda Curtin, Cliff Frye, Sherri Craggs, Ron Brown, Curtis Ryen, Melinda Ryen, Bill Kennedy, Tavia Leach and Elizabeth Hile in attendance.

The meeting of the Highway/Building/Grounds/Environmental/Welfare/Zoning Committee was called to order on Tuesday, September 13, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. in the Christian County Courthouse. The purpose of the meeting was County building issues, highway business and any other matters properly brought before the Committee. Roll call was taken and there was a quorum.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

**COURTHOUSE LAWN REQUEST**

Motion by Bev Graham and seconded by Chuck Smedley to recommend to the full Board to approve the use of the courthouse lawn for the 37<sup>th</sup> annual Chillifest the weekend of October 1 and 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2022. All members were in favor. Motion carried. *Dale Livingston made a motion with a second by Chuck Smedley to approve the use of the courthouse lawn*

**Chairman Wells** - any discussion?

**Ray Koonce** – abstained from voting since he is on the committee and since he will be setting up, tearing down and judging chili all weekend. Ray asked for help if anyone was free on Saturday and Sunday.

**Chairman Wells** - any other discussion? All those in favor of letting the Chillifest use the courthouse lawn please signify by saying aye (11), all opposed same sign (0) (1) abstained. Motion carried.

**ENERGY SOLUTIONS**

Curtis Ryen with Energy Solutions conducted a lighting assessment on the county buildings. Energy Solutions is an ally who works with Ameren to improve lighting. He provided the committee with cost improvement worksheets that showed the incentive provided by Ameren and

resulting estimated cost savings. The committee asked numerous questions related to how the savings are calculated as well as inquiring if an algorithm sheet would be available.

Motion by Mike Specha and seconded by Dale Livingston to recommend to the full Board to approve the cost estimates for departments of Health, Probation, Highway and Solid Waste and refer this matter on to Finance. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Mike Specha and seconded by Dale Livingston to recommend approval by the full Board the cost estimate for the Sheriff's office pending seeing the algorithm and savings before the Board meeting and refer this matter on to Finance. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

## ZONING BUSINESS

### Zoning Permits

There was 1 permit for review tonight for a machine shed which requires no permit fee.

Motion by Bev Graham and seconded by Mike Specha to approve and issue permit #14312 for a machine shed at 1197 North 100 East Road, Pawnee, Illinois. No fee is required. All members were in favor. *Motion carried. Dale Livingston made a motion to approve with a second by Bev Graham.*

**Chairman Wells** - any discussion? All those in favor please signify by saying aye (12), all opposed same sign (0). Motion carried.

### Information Request – Troutman/Pepper

Motion by Dale Livingston and seconded by Thomas Snyder, Jr. to recommend to the full Board to authorize Chairman Wells to send a letter to Troutman/Pepper advising to contact the Supervisor of Assessment Office for questions. All members were in favor. Motion carried. *Dale Livingston made a motion with a second by Bev Graham.* Discussion

**Bev Graham** – asked if the letter could be sent since it was approved.

**Chairman Wells** – I believe they were wanting something else signed. Did they send us a letter or did they want me to write one. I was thinking there was a letter in the packet.

**Liz Hile** - there is a letter in the packet stating they had questions about the property.

**Chairman Wells** - we will respond to those questions. I will probably see if Chad can help me with it. He is going to know more about this than I would.

**Bev Graham** – if you want to, States Attorney said he would respond to them about answering the questions and tell them to contact the Supervisor of Assessments with any questions.

**Chairman Wells** – sounds great to me but I am not contacting anybody until this board tells me to. We all have one vote and I don't always like how the vote turns out. They can wait. And I don't mean to be a smart alek about that but until the board decides how we are going to handle this. Yeah I can send it back to them and tell them to contact Chad. I have no problem with that. We will try and get that letter out tomorrow if that is what the majority wants. Any discussion? All those in favor please signify by saying aye (12), all opposed same sign (0). Motion carried. Send a letter tomorrow Liz and tell them to contact Chad.

#### CARBON CAPTURE AND STORAGE ORDINANCE

Committee Chairman Livingston advised the committee that he had been receiving calls from individuals inquiring if the Board was going to do something and that is why this item is on tonight's agenda. This committee addresses zoning. Dale also advised that as far as he knows, there has been no direction from the Board to direct work to the attorney hired for this matter.

Bev Graham commented that at the Personnel/Executive meeting on Monday the States Attorney hoped to have a draft ready for the next meeting which was scheduled for October 3<sup>rd</sup> due to the Columbus Day holiday on the regular meeting night.

Motion by Mike Specha and seconded by Thomas Snyder, Jr. to send the Carbon Capture and Storage Ordinance to the Personnel/Executive Committee. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

#### SOLID WASTE

The secretarial position was bid and an employee from the Circuit Clerk's office bid and was awarded that position.

#### HIGHWAY BUSINESS

Cliff had nothing to report.

#### ANIMAL CONTROL

##### Animal Control Director Report

Sherri Craggs presented a lengthy director's report for September. She highlighted upcoming training that would be completed; work that has been done at the facility and/or ongoing plans for facility improvements. One of the changes was the availability of hours to "view" animals. The overall hours of operations has not changed, only when animals can be viewed. This was done in order to clean the kennels and for the safety of employees and patrons to the facility. As an initiative, she mentioned Small Town Taylorville members toured the facility and CCAC may be considered as a future project. There was additional information in the complete report of which will be provided to all Board members in their meeting packets.

August statistics were 8 reclaimed dogs, 10 adopted dogs, 14 adopted cats, 9 farm cat adoptions, 2 kitten fosters, 2 reclaimed cats and euthanized 1 cat.

## COURT HOUSE BUSINESS

Ron Brown, Maintenance Supervisor, brought the committee up to date on changing of the locks at one county building and ensuring security at that building was working at all times where it wasn't before.

### Boiler Replacement Cost Estimates

Bill Kennedy presented costs for a new boiler. The company will allow the county to purchase the boiler direct and hire the installer. It will take approximately 6 months to get the new boiler. The boiler would need to be stored until it can be installed but installation needs to happen before the FY23/24 heating season. The costs estimates were \$48,675.00 for a Hurst Boiler and a Burnham Boiler for \$52,820.00.

Motion by Thomas Snyder, Jr. and seconded by Dale Livingston to recommend to the full Board to approve the cost of \$48,675.00 for a Hurst Boiler and refer to Finance. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

Bill mentioned that when looking at the Solid Waste building he noticed the roof needs attention to bring it back into good condition. He feels it should be done. Ron commented that in areas the roof is spongy. Bill provided an estimate of \$14,569.00 for those repairs.

Motion by Dale Livingston and seconded by Mike Specha to recommend to the full Board to approve the estimate cost of \$14,569.00 to repair the roof at Solid Waste Management and refer how to pay for this repair to Finance. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

Bill noted that he had been out to Animal Control and looked at the control gate. Bill advised this gate does need to be fixed and he will write up some specifications. The committee commented that ARPA funds could be used if this is not in the budget. The committee requested this be added to the October 3<sup>rd</sup> Personnel/Exec agenda.

Other items that Bill highlighted were the results of the window testing did show asbestos which will alter the overall cost for replacement slightly. Pella has sent representatives to look at the window and we should start to see some progress. The Solid Waste Management building was the building identified for records storage and he will consider in the assessment in the event the Sheriff's office goes in there.

## OTHER MATTERS

Mike Specha addressed the committee providing information about the ARPA funds approved, expended and remaining balance to date. It is his opinion that the Board develop an approval process going forward so we don't outspend. Decisions on use of funds will need to be made by the end of 2024 and spent by the end of 2026. He requested establishing a process be on the Board agenda for September 20<sup>th</sup>.

Motion by Thomas Snyder, Jr. and seconded by Chuck Smedley to adjourn. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Dale Livingston  
Buildings/Highway/Environmental/Zoning  
Welfare Chairman  
09/13/2022

**EXECUTIVE/PERSONNEL/LIQUOR COMMITTEE**  
**September 12, 2022**

Present: Ray Koonce, David Puccetti, Clint Epley, Bryan Sharp  
Absent: Craig Corzine, Chairman  
Others present: Matt Wells, Linda Curtin, Bev Graham, Betty Asmussen, Mike Specha, Julie Mayer, Courtney Sharp, Jodie Badman, Jeff Voorhees, Jeff Stoner, Wes Poggenpohl, Josh Shallenbarger, Brandon Rarick, Craig Paulek, Chuck Smedley, Joseph Gleespen, Jeff, Nolan, Sherri Craggs, Colleen Workman, Lucas Domonwsky, and Elizabeth Hile in attendance.

The Executive, Personnel, and Liquor Committee met on Monday, September 12, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. in County Board meeting room, second floor of the Christian County Courthouse, Taylorville, Illinois. The purpose of the meeting was to address any agenda items, any personnel issues, policies, and any other matters properly brought before the Committee. Roll call was taken and there was a quorum. Due to the absence of Committee Chairman, Craig Corzine, member Ray Koonce led the meeting.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Jeff Stoner provided updates under public comments as EMA update was not on this agenda. He passed out a handout providing updates over the last few months. Part of those updates were the weather station is installed and the inability of that equipment to provide the amount of rainfall without paying additional fees. Radios are in but are taking more time than expected. Noted that the Tailgate and Tall Boys event went well but there is talk about doubling the size next year. He recommended looking into an ordinance that provided guidelines for emergency services based on the number of expected attendance.

Acting Chairman Koonce noted that items 11, 12, and 13 would be moved up on the agenda.

**REVIEW OF NON-BARGAINING POLICY**

Treasurer Asmussen noted that the section of the policy that addresses the compensation for the Chief Deputy positions, which is only 3 employees, has only been updated one time since it was established and that was because the minimum salary for an exempt position was increased. Additionally an individual must complete 2 years of employment before seeing a salary increase.

There is no employee in the county that waits this length of time before their salary increases. The current employees are excellent employees who can step in for the elected official at a moments notice.

Motion by Clint Epley and seconded by Bryan Sharp to recommend to the full Board to amend the salary step section of the Non-Bargaining Policy for the chief deputy positions changing after 2 years of employment to after 1 year of employment; changing after 3 years of employment to after 2 years of employment and adding a step for after 3 years of employment and referring the salary part of the policy to Finance. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Ray Koonce made a motion to amend the salary step section of the Non-Bargaining Policy for Chief Deputies (office holders) with a second by Linda Curtin.*

**Chairman Wells** – after no discussion a roll call vote was taken.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Mike Specha, Matt Wells, (12) aye; (0) nay; (4) absent. The motion carried.

#### CREDIT CARD POLICY REVIEW

The Treasurer advised that outside the Sheriff's office all other offices will come to her office, get the card, make the purchase and then bring back the card and a receipt noting the expense line. The Sheriff's office have their own card. The credit card policy presented to the committee was a policy Betty developed at the recommendation of the auditor at one time when debit cards were canceled.

Animal Control, has requested to have a card because of the hardship it creates to come up get the card, do business and then return the card, etc.

Motion by Bryan Sharp and seconded by Clint Epley to table this matter to the October meeting. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

#### OFFICE MANAGER PAY CHANGE – ANIMAL CONTROL

The committee reviewed the timeline of when the office manager at Animal Control was given the day to day duties of the department and whether or not now that a new director is in place that pay increase given should be changed back. The committee felt that the current office manager stepped up, did a good job and expressed their appreciation.

Motion by Bryan Sharp and seconded by Clint Epley to recommend to the full Board to retain the current rate of \$16.88 per hour paid to Dwanna Kelmel. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried. *Ray Koonce made a motion to retain the current rate for Dwanna Kelmel with a second by Venise McWard.*

**Chairman Wells** – after no discussion a roll call vote was called



A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Linda Curtin, (12) aye; (0) nay; (4) absent. The motion carried.

#### RESOLUTION – R2022 CB 011

Discussion included concerns the Board doesn't have the final say as it will likely be settled by the ICC. Other comments were made opposing any action forcing something on someone's land that they don't want.

Motion by Bryan Sharp and seconded by Clint Epley to recommend to the full Board to approve Resolution R2022 CB 011. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried. *Ray Koonce made a motion to approve the Resolution with a second by Venise McWard.*

#### **Chairman Wells** – called for discussion

**Mike Specha** – Mr. Chairman, just a couple of comments for the record I guess. The motion actual says, one of the lines in states “although the county cannot prevent this from happening, the Illinois Commerce Commission does take into consideration the information”. I think that is an important item. I think it is good for us to remember we are talking about eminent domain for a pipeline that is in 13 counties in Illinois. The eminent domain for this pipeline is an issue and it is also going to be an eminent domain issue for the pipeline that is running north and south, a 350 mile one for wolf carbon that runs through different counties. I am going to vote in support of it I just want to say for the record I think we need to be aware we cannot prevent this from happening in all likelihood.

**Chairman Wells** – I think the problem I have with it is, this decision to push eminent domain upon the public of Christian county isn't providing one person with electricity, it isn't providing one person with water. What's next, there is sewage. That is just kind of where I am at with it. Any other discussion.

All those in favor of sending this to the ICC, please signify by saying aye (12) all opposed same sign (0). Motion carried. I will get it signed as soon as I can get Jacque to notarize it.

#### CHRISTIAN COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

This item was referred to the committee for decisions on whether or not the county is willing to do something and if so what incentives are they willing to do for potential new business.

Motion by Bryan Sharp and seconded by Clint Epley to table until the October 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting and ask Dick Adams to attend. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

**Chairmen Wells** – just so the board knows, Mr. Adams didn't make it to the committee meeting.

**Ken Franklin** – just some clarification on the Resolution for the Pipeline. It talks about a roll call vote on the back of the page.

**Chairman Wells** – you are correct Ken. I do stand corrected. I told you guys two years ago I would make mistakes. Lets backup and call roll. You call roll and I will mark this.

A roll call vote on the Pipeline Resolution being called upon polled the following: Linda Curtin, Venise McWard, David Puccetti, Ken Franklin, Ray Koonce, Bev Graham, Bryan Sharp, Mike Specha, Dale Livingston, Matt Wells, Clint Epley, Chuck Smedley, (12) aye; (0) nay; (4) absent. The motion carried.

#### ARPA FUND REQUESTS

##### Christian County Fair Board

The projects the Fair Board would like to complete are infrastructure projects. The committee in general talked about projects and where do you start drawing the line. Mike Specha noted he has looked at the approved projects, expended money and balance of the ARPA funds and feels strongly the Board needs an approval process going forward. He has asked this issue be placed on the Board agenda. He also asked if there was any new information on the Build, Back, Better funding.

Motion by David Puccetti and seconded by Bryan Sharp to recommend a draft ordinance for the use of ARPA funds for infrastructure improvements at the Christian County Fair Grounds be sent to the Finance Committee for financial approval and Board recommendation. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

##### Shelby Electric Boardband

Josh Shallenbarger with Shelby Electric made a presentation on their PWRnet evolution. This service is for rural customers and could service most of the county. Josh would like for grant purposes the County's support of their project as that is important in securing funding but could also provide different options available for rural broadband in the county. The committee would like to see different options at the next meeting.

##### ACTS Internet

Brandon Rarick with ACTS Internet reviewed the various options to finance broadband internet to rural areas of the county. To do the entire county the cost would be \$3.4 million. There are various ways this can be set up through grants and cost sharing options.

##### County Clerk Request

The County Clerk was unable to attend tonight's meeting.

##### Extension of Staffing to Assist the Administrative Assistant with Records

Liz Hile explained that the previous ordinance for temporary staff to assist in the records management in the Board Office had a not to exceed period of 90 days. That period has expired. A lot of progress has been made with more detailed work to be done going forward. She would

like to request extension of this temporary staffing through the end of the year not to exceed \$5,000.00.

Motion by Bryan Sharp and seconded by David Puccetti to recommend a draft ordinance for the use of ARPA funds not to exceed \$5,000.00 for salary and payroll expenses for temporary staff to assist the Administrative Assistant with records management in the Board Office through the end of the year be sent to the Finance Committee for financial approval and Board recommendation. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

#### GREEN ENERGY PROJECTS UPDATE

Bryan Sharp would like to see more discussion on who, what, when and where on these types of projects that may be coming into the county and who may be affected. Chairman Wells noted that at least in the Board Office he isn't aware of any calls that have come in. He did mention a call about the possibility of storing batteries but no specifics were provided.

#### GRAIN BELT LETTER

In 2015 the Board sent a letter opposing eminent domain for this project. A draft letter was provided in the committee's packets.

Motion by Bryan Sharp and seconded by Clint Epley to recommend to the full Board that a letter be sent opposing the use of eminent domain for the Grain Belt Express project. All members were in favor. Motion carried. *Ray Koonce made a motion to approve a letter to be sent opposing the use of eminent domain with a second by Dave Puccetti.*

**Chairman Wells** – called for a discussion. With no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call vote.

A roll call vote on the Pipeline Resolution being called upon polled the following: Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, (12) aye; (0) nay; (4) absent. The motion carried.

#### GRAIN BELT TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT 6 MONTH MORATORIUM

Motion by Bryan Sharp and seconded by Clint Epley to recommend to the full Board to have the States Attorney assist in writing an ordinance establishing a 6 month moratorium reference the Grain Belt Transmission Line Project. All members were in favor. Motion carried. *Ray Koonce made a motion to approve the 6 month moratorium for Grain Belt Transmission Line Project with a second by David Puccetti.*

**Chairman Wells** – called for discussion.

**Dale Livingston** – you mean on the moratorium?

**Chairman Wells** – yes

**Dale Livingston** - What is the moratorium of because we don't have any zoning to deal with on high energy lines. So what is the moratorium stopping?

**Chairman Wells** – I can't answer that question.

**Venise McWard** – it is my understanding the moratorium is put in place until we get somebody in Zoning and until we can get ordinances.

**Dale Livingston** – we don't have right of way or zoning power over high energy lines that run from state to state already so a moratorium is not going to do anything. If there is nothing in place we can't do anything. You can put a moratorium on buildings for 6 months because we have a building code. We don't have an electric code. So there is nothing to put a moratorium on. Nobody has to come and ask us for permission from the state.

**Chairman Wells** – talk to me

**Bryan Sharp** – that is why you put a moratorium on a CO2 Pipeline and put a moratorium on a CO2 project.

**Chairman Wells** – hold on hold on. Please speak to me. We need a debate not an argument. Were you through Bryan?

**Bryan Sharp** – yes.

**Dale Livingston** – we don't have any CO2 zoning in place so there is no moratorium on that either. It is just a feel good thing. Its not stopping anything. They can still do their permits in Washington and with the state of Illinois. We just don't have anything to put a moratorium on.

**Bev Graham** – CO2 ordinance should be ready - the draft should be ready on October 3 to be presented. It is going to be in place then. The ordinance will be.

**Chairman Wells** – they are talking about high voltage.

**Bev Graham** – I know but he brought up CO2.

**Ray Koonce** – I refer to the State's Attorney – does he have any comments on that as far as most moratoriums.

**Wes Poggenpohl** – I prepared what I thought would be appropriate to put in. You guys want to vote on it that is great, if not, I feel they are going to be just like the CO2 companies coming to the Zoning Board. They didn't have an ordinance there. They are looking for omission. I think it is the same kind of thing. They are going to be reaching out to us. I think 6 months gives us enough time to get that addressed.

**Chairman Wells** – called for any other discussion. So, all those in favor of passing the 6 month moratorium for high voltage power line please signify by saying aye (10), all opposed same sign (2). Motion carried.

#### CITIZENS AGAINST HEARTLAND GREENWAY PIPELINE

Bryan Sharp noted a group opposing the pipeline part of the CO2 project has formed a corporation. Their plans are to follow Sangamon County in filing an injunction against the pipeline portion of the project. The question is would there be interest for Christian County to participate with this group. The cost is \$500.00 annually.

The States Attorney will look into this but expressed some concern about using tax payer dollars for this type of effort as well as not having control of decisions made.

Motion by Bryan Sharp and seconded by David Puccetti to recommend to the full Board to join the efforts of Citizens against Heartland Greenway Pipeline at a cost of \$500.00 annually with approval of the States Attorney and/or County Treasurer. All members were in favor. Motion carried. *Ray Koonce made a motion to join the efforts of Citizens against Heartland Greenway Pipeline with a second by Venise McWard.*

**Chairman Wells** – before we vote on this what is your opinion Mr. Poggenpohl?

**Wes Poggenpohl** – my opinion is for the county board not to get involved in it. It is the same kind of concern before. We are using county money to associate it with a group we essentially don't have any control over. We are putting our name on the line without our hands on the wheel sort of say. If we are going to be involved I want to be the attorney representing us. I want to have more input than one vote. Who knows how many people are associated with this. If a board member wants to do that on their own, that is fine, but on your own that does create a conflict of interest in regards to these types of issues going forward. You do this on your personal time, your personal capacity, I feel like that would preclude you from voting on this ordinance and this topic going forward, because you are involved in some type of litigation against it. That is my opinion.

**Chairman Wells** – after no further discussion, please call roll.

A roll call vote on the Pipeline Resolution being called upon polled the following: Bev Graham (n), Ray Koonce (n), Dale Livingston (n), Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp (abstained), Chuck Smedley (n), Mike Specha (n), Matt Wells (n), Linda Curtin (abstained), Ken Franklin (n), (3) aye; (7) nay; (2) abstained. The motion failed.

**Chairman Wells** -

#### ZONING ADMINISTRATOR APPOINTMENT TERM

Chairman Wells advised that he was instructed to hire a department head. The current zoning rules indicate that the appointment term for the Zoning Administrator is 2 years. He noted that depending on many factors, election, etc. he may not be in this position in 3 months and another chairman

would have his appointment for the remainder of the 21 months of the term. Does this committee want to review the appointment terms or not? No action taken.

#### PURCHASING PROCEDURES – RAISING CHAIRMAN’S LIMITS

The question was posed as to whether or not the committee wants to consider raising the chairman’s spending limits for an emergency situation. The boiler repair was a recent issue that prompted this agenda item.

Motion by Ray Koonce and seconded by David Puccetti to table this item to the October meeting. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

#### SOLID WASTE EDUCATOR

Chairman Wells noted that his hopes is that if an educator is hired that they could also be trained to do inspections so more than 1 person is available. When a new director is hired, they will make a recommendation on the need for this position.

#### AFSCME NEGOTIATIONS – COUNTY NEGOTIATION TEAM

Notice has been served to start negotiations with AFSMCE. The County’s team will need to be determined.

Motion by Bryan Sharp and seconded by Clint Epley to recommend to the full Board to keep the County’s negotiation team for AFSCME negotiations the same – Chairman Wells, Venise McWard, Finance Chair, Craig Corzine, Personnel Chair, Betty Asmussen County Treasurer and Administrative Assistant/HR Liz Hile. All members were in favor. Motion carried. *Ray Koonce made a motion to keep the same negotiation team with a second by Linda Curtin.*

**Chairman Wells** – Any discussion.

**Bev Graham** – asked if Craig Corzine couldn’t be there could Ray Koonce do it.

**Chairman Wells** – that is not what the motion says. I can tell you, and I will tell the full board and I think Venise will back me up. There were times with the FOP negotiations, there were times she missed meetings and there were times other people missed meetings but everyone stayed informed on what was going on. We knew how they felt. Quite honestly, that negotiations, and Bobby sitting back there can tell me if I am right or wrong, there are going to come in once and we are going to tell them some of them that day yes we will do that no we will not do that and we are going to go back and forth. But we are going to know by the time it comes down to the nuts and bolts of the contract what two or three of the biggest issues are the day before we come and get it signed agreed upon and for us to get it back here. All I can tell you is the motion is on the floor. Any other discussion.

All those in favor please signify by saying aye (12) all opposed same sign (0). Motion passed

## OCTOBER MEETING DATE

The normally scheduled October meeting falls on the Columbus Day holiday. The committee will need to decide a meeting date for October. Liz noted that because of a scheduled vacation, agenda items will need to be received by September 21<sup>st</sup>.

Motion by Clint Epley and seconded by David Puccetti to recommend to the full Board to change the Personnel/Executive Committee meeting date in October to Monday, October 3, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. All members were in favor. Motion carried. *Ray Koonce made a motion to change the October meeting date with a second by Dave Puccetti.*

**Chairman Wells** – call for discussion. All those in favor please signify by saying aye (12) all opposed same sign (0). Motion carried

## PERSONNEL HANDBOOK

No action taken.

## OTHER MATTERS

Bryan Sharp spoke about the County Board Rules and the committee where ordinances are heard. He referenced another committee having an ordinance pop up on an agenda. Bryan reference the legislative section of the rules in regards to legislation recommendations and being the liaison between the County Board and the various county officers where county or state rules and regulations are involved. He indicated all ordinances go to this committee.

Motion by Bryan Sharp and seconded by Clint Epley that the Personnel/Executive committee in accordance with the legislative section of the County Board Rules make legislation recommendations and are the liaison between the County Board and the various county officers where county or state rules and regulations are involved and ordinances go to this committee. All members were in favor. Motion carried. *Ray Koonce made a motion that legislative section of the County Board Rules be with the Personnel Executive committee with a second by Bev Graham.*

Chairman Wells called for discussion. My thought on it is this folks. I believe the rules state before the board votes on anything it goes to that committee. We don't have anything where those ordinances start. Says you guys will make a recommendation on the ordinance. So for an ordinance to come out of finance or highway buildings and grounds I can see where there would be a problem with the rules if it came directly to this committee. But for it to start there and come to your committee – as I read rules in the scope. I have one vote.

All those in favor of the motion, please signify by saying aye (10) all those opposed same sign (2). Motion carried.

Motion by David Puccetti and seconded by Clint Epley to adjourn. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Ray Koonce, Acting Chairman  
Executive/Personnel Committee  
09/12/2022

## **AUDIT/FINANCE/PURCHASING/BUDGET COMMITTEE**

August 17, 2022

Present: Venise McWard, Chairman, Vicki McMahon, Tim Carlson, Ken Franklin,  
Linda Curtin  
Absent: None  
Others present: Matt Wells, Betty Asmussen, Brad Paisley, Wes Poggenpohl, Jim Baker,  
Jacque Willison, Sherri Craggs, Courtney Sharp, Jane Griffith and  
Elizabeth Hile.

The Audit/Finance/Purchasing/Budget Committee met on Wednesday, August 17, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. at the Christian County Courthouse, Taylorville, Illinois. The purpose of the meeting was to address agenda items and any other matters properly brought before the committee. Roll call was taken and there was a quorum.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Jane Griffith spoke to the committee about the Christian County Health Department. She advised the committee of two (2) Health Board members placing the administrator on administrative leave; highlighted the budget and their understanding of the pay increases and lack thereof, noted some past history of four (4) individuals leaving for better paying jobs; commented on the administrator developing and administering a COVID plan; questioned if the Health Board violated bylaws, HIPPA and possibly OMA.

### **BUDGET HEARINGS**

#### County Clerk

Jacque Willison noted there were some areas of budget increases and in other areas decreases. She commented on the salary ordinance for the position of County Clerk and the motion regarding the rules related to serving in the position for 1 year and the lack of that change coming back for ordinance correction. She proposed a salary change to the Chief Deputy position and requested the policy be looked into. Indicated that of the grants normally received, one (1) was no longer available. Indicated there would be minimal loss of revenue as notaries will now go through the State of Illinois and not the Clerk's office. Jacque also noted that she plans to ask for ARPA funds for digitizing all the books in the County Clerk's office. She is still determining what she feels would be the best option.

#### States Attorney

Wes Poggenpohl presented the budget for the States Attorney's office. He noted the continued vacancy for a 2<sup>nd</sup> states attorney assistant and would like additional consideration for the salary of that position. He would like see what is done for the Chief Deputies positions be considered for the Victim Advocate employee. Additionally would like the County to consider adjustments for insurance and dependent coverage.



### Chief Judge

Brad Paisley presented the Chief Judges budget. There were not a lot of changes noting some of the costs are difficult to predict.

### Animal Control

Sherri Craggs presented the budget for animal control. She presented 2 different options on staffing costs for consideration. She also noted that a volunteer group would be picking up the balance of the cost for the tommy lift for the truck.

### Health Department

A member of the Health Board presented the Christian County Health Department budget. The Care Grant which is a grant for paying for COVID contact tracers sunsets in December of 2022. The Board plans to increase the reserve in TB in case there were a TB crisis. Most of the department's revenue is received through grants with the exception of vaccines. The plan is to increase vaccines available to the public as well as increase revenue in optical through private pay. Expenses in this budget are being kept very tight.

### Sheriff

Chief Deputy Jim Baker presented with detail the proposed Sheriff's budget. He highlighted the process he used and also indicated that because this is his first year even if expenses were lower than expected, he left the line item amount the same as he feels he will be in a better position next year to know if something could be decreased versus status quo or increased.

### Solid Waste

Without a department head at this time, County Treasurer Asmussen presented a proposed budget off the history from last year. She adjusted the salary to the high end of the range approved by the Board which was \$50,000, otherwise there were no changes. She noted the budget did not include salary for an educator. After discussion, Betty will add that position to the budget. This can be changed after a department head is in place and provides a recommendation.

### OTHER MATTERS

The committee discussed meeting to start drilling down the presented budgets. September 8<sup>th</sup> and September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022 were noted as the next meeting dates with a meeting time of 5:30 p.m.

Motion by Tim Carlson and seconded by Vicki McMahon to adjourn. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Venise McWard  
Finance/Audit/Purchasing/Budget Committee Chairwoman  
08/17/2022

## AUDIT/FINANCE/PURCHASING/BUDGET COMMITTEE

September 8, 2022

Present: Venise McWard, Chairman, Vicki McMahon, Tim Carlson, Ken Franklin,  
Linda Curtin  
Absent: None  
Others present: Matt Wells, Betty Asmussen, and Elizabeth Hile.

The Audit/Finance/Purchasing/Budget Committee met on Thursday, September 8, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. at the Christian County Courthouse, Taylorville, Illinois. The purpose of the meeting was to address agenda items and any other matters properly brought before the committee. Roll call was taken and there was a quorum.

### PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

### BUDGET HEARINGS

Treasurer Asmussen provided reports for the offices who presented on the 1<sup>st</sup> night of budget hearings. She also provided a working budget for Zoning – 021. Betty advised the committee that she also discussed revising where the salaries from the County Clerk's office were paid from in an effort to preserve the automation fund.

The committee directed the Treasurer to make some minor changes to mileage expenses in a couple of departments.

### OTHER MATTERS

No other matters brought before the committee.

Motion by Tim Carlson and seconded by Vicki McMahon to adjourn. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Venise McWard  
Finance/Audit/Purchasing/Budget Committee Chairwoman  
09/08/2022

AUDIT/FINANCE/PURCHASING/BUDGET COMMITTEE  
September 14, 2022

Present: Venise McWard, Chairman, Linda Curtin, Vicki McMahon, Tim Carlson,  
Ken Franklin  
Absent: None  
Others present: Betty Asmussen, Craig Paulek, Mike Specha, Julie Mayer, Jeff Voorhees,  
Jodie Badman, Courtney Sharp, Lucas Domonowsky and Elizabeth Hile.

The Audit/Finance/Purchasing/Budget Committee met on Wednesday, September 14, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. at the Christian County Courthouse, Taylorville, Illinois. The purpose of the meeting was to address agenda items and any other matters properly brought before the committee. Roll call was taken and there was a quorum.

#### CLAIMS

A motion was made by Vicki McMahon and seconded by Tim Carlson to recommend to the full Board to approve the claims presented for September. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried. *Venise McWard made a motion to approve the claims for September with a second by Bev Graham.*

**Chairman Wells** – after no discussion, he called for a roll call vote.

A roll call vote on the Pipeline Resolution being called upon polled the following: Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham (12) aye; (0) nay; The motion carried

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

Motion by Linda Curtin and seconded by Vicki McMahon to move referrals up on tonight's agenda. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

#### REFERRALS

Referrals from Personnel/Executive Committee

Non-Bargaining Ordinance – Chief Deputies salaries

At the September 12, 2022 Personnel/Executive Committee, a motion will be going before the County Board to recommend changing the steps for salary increases from after 2 years of employment to 1 year; after 3 years of employment to after 2 years; adding a step for after 3 years of employment. Thereafter the Finance Committee would determine increases during annual review process. The matter of salary was referred to Finance.

Treasurer Asmussen advised that this policy impacts 3 chief deputies. One in her office, one in the Circuit Clerk's office and one in the County Clerk's office. Outside of a change from FLSA regarding the minimal salary an exempt employee can be paid, the policy has never been updated. Currently, an employee would wait for an increase after completing 2 years of employment. She commented that there is no employee in the county who waits for 2 years before getting an increase. Circuit Clerk Julie Mayer also spoke about the duties of these people and how these individuals may have to step in to fulfill the duties of the elected official. The elected officials for

these offices have discussed what they feel should be a starting salary and presented for consideration a starting salary of \$45,500.00.

Motion by Ken Franklin and seconded by Vicki McMahon to table further discussion until the September 15, 2022 meeting. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

#### ARPA Requests

##### Christian County Fair

Craig Paulek from the Christian County Fair Board highlighted the projects they would like to complete with the use of ARPA funds. The infrastructure projects at a cost of \$100,000.00 are for improvements to road(s) and concrete flooring for a building. The fairgrounds has and continues to be used for a variety of Christian county events and is located in the county not the city.

Motion by Ken Franklin and seconded by Vicki McMahon to recommend to the full Board to approve Ordinance O2022 CB 035 for an amount not to exceed \$100,000.00 in ARPA funds for infrastructure improvements for the Christian County Fairgrounds. *Venise McWard made a motion to approve O2022CB035 with a second by Dave Puccetti.*

**Chairman Wells** – after no discussion, he asked for a roll call vote.

A roll call vote on O2022CB035 being called upon polled the following: Dale Livingston, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, (12) aye; (0) nay; The motion carried

Discussion – Linda Curtin noted the Fair’s importance to her family and the many events that have been hosted there throughout the years. She felt this was a good use of the money to benefit the residents of the county.

A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

Continuation of staffing to assist with records management – Board Office.

Liz Hile highlighted that the original request for using ARPA funds for staffing was for a period not to exceed 90 days with a \$5000.00 limit for salary and related payroll expenses. Much progress has been made with more detailed work to be done. The 90 day time period has expired with use of only just less than \$3,000.00. She would like permission to extend the use of this staff through the end of the year at a cost of salary and related payroll expenses not to exceed \$5000.00.

Motion by Vicki McMahon and seconded by Linda Curtin to recommend to the full Board to approve Ordinance O2022 CB036 for extending staff to assist with records management in the Board Office for an amount for salary and payroll related expenses not to exceed \$5,000.00. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried. *Venise McWard made a motion to approve O2022 CB036 with a second by Bev Graham.*

**Chairman Wells** – after no discussion, he asked for a roll call vote.

A roll call vote on O2022CB036 being called upon polled the following: Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, (12) aye; (0) nay; The motion carried

#### Referrals from Highway/Building/Grounds

Energy Solutions – LED lighting upgrades to various county buildings.

Information was provided to the committee related to lighting improvement costs and estimated cost savings for the departments of health, highway, probation, solid waste and sheriff. The committee wanted a representative to come and provide more information.

Motion by Venise McWard and seconded by Linda Curtin to table further discussion until September 15<sup>th</sup> and ask a representative of Energy Solutions to be present to highlight the program and answer questions. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

#### New Boiler Cost Estimates

The committee was provided with information from Bill Kennedy on a couple of different boiler cost estimates. The companies are offering that the county purchase the boilers direct and then hire the plumber to install. Even with this option, availability is approximately 6 months out. Bill has recommended that a new boiler be installed before the winter of '23/24.

Motion by Venise McWard and seconded by Ken Franklin to recommend to the full Board to purchase a new boiler from Hurst Boiler Company at a cost of \$48,675.00 with the expense coming from the capital improvement fund. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried. *Venise McWard made a motion to purchase new boiler with a second by Dale Livingston.*

**Chairman Wells** – after no discuss he asked for a roll call vote. I have to tell you this if we don't fix the boiler, maybe not this winter but next winter it is going to get cold.

A roll call vote on the new boiler being called upon polled the following: Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Venise McWard, (12) aye; (0) nay; The motion carried

#### Roof Repairs – Solid Waste Management Office

Bill Kennedy advised the Highway/Building/Grounds committee of the need to repair the roof at the Solid Waste Management Office and provided a cost estimate from Bolash Roofing and Construction Company of \$14,569.00.

Motion by Linda Curtin and seconded by Tim Carlson to recommend to the full Board to approve the roofing repair cost estimate submitted by Bolash Roofing and Construction Company at a cost of \$14,569.00 with the cost coming from the Local Solid Waste budget. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried. *Venise McWard made a motion to approve the roof repair cost from Bolash Roofing with a second by Dale Livingston.*

**Chairman Wells** – called for discussion.

**Ray Koonce** – Mr. Chairman, since I work in that district I will abstain from this vote.

A roll call vote on the roofing repairs being called upon polled the following: David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce (abstained), Dale Livingston, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, (12) aye; (0) nay; (1) abstain. The motion carried.

## ANNUAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Annual contributions that were approved in the FY2022 budget were referred back to this committee from the full Board. These contributions were to the Senior Citizens of Christian County for \$2,500.00; Christian County CEO program for \$1,000.00 and Christian County Economic Development for \$5,000.00.

Motion by Ken Franklin and seconded by Vicki McMahon to recommend to the full Board to approve the claims for annual contributions to the Senior Citizens of Christian County in the amount of \$2,500.00; Christian County CEO in the amount of \$1,000.00 and Christian County Economic Development in the amount of \$5,000.00. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried. *Venise McWard made a motion to approve the claims for annual contributions with a second by Bev Graham.*

**Chairman Wells** – after no discussion he asked for a roll call vote.

A roll call vote on the claims for annual contributions being called upon polled the following: David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, (12) aye; (0) nay; The motion carried

## WORK COMP AUDIT APPEAL UPDATE

Liz Hile advised that the appeal to the previous worker's compensation audit has been completed and the County received an additional refund of \$3,194.00 for a total refund of \$4,192.00. She noted that while the county received a refund this year, because of some increased overtime expenses and whether or not the COVID appreciation pay will be considered wages subject to worker's compensation rates, it could be possible the County could pay additional premium after next year's worker's compensation audit.

Board member Mike Specha asked if he could address the committee before they continued budget hearings. Mike has been to all the committees this week to advise that he would like to see a process established regarding how the remaining ARPA funds will be allocated going forward. He indicated that to this point it seems ARPA funds have been approved on a first come first serve basis and is concerned that too many things may be approved with an important project being submitting later in the process whereby funding falls short of the project. He asked that this be placed on the Board agenda and wanted everyone to be aware of the issue.

## BUDGET HEARINGS

ROE presented their budget reporting a budget decrease over last year of \$4,000.00.

The committee reviewed the budgets presented on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of budget hearings and directed the County Treasurer to make some budget changes.

## OTHER MATTERS

There were no other matters raised.

Motion by Tim Carlson and seconded by Vicki McMahon to adjourn. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,  
Venise McWard

**AUDIT/FINANCE/PURCHASING/BUDGET COMMITTEE**  
**September 15, 2022**

Present: Venise McWard, Chairman, Vicki McMahon, Tim Carlson, Ken Franklin,  
Linda Curtin  
Absent: None  
Others present: Betty Asmussen, Julie Mayer, Brent DeMichael, Curtis Ryen, Sherri  
Craggs, Courtney Sharp and Elizabeth Hile.

The Audit/Finance/Purchasing/Budget Committee met on Thursday, September 15, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. at the Christian County Courthouse, Taylorville, Illinois. The purpose of the meeting was to address agenda items and any other matters properly brought before the committee. Roll call was taken and there was a quorum.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

**ENERGY SOLUTIONS**

This was a referral from last night's Finance Committee as they requested a presentation. Curtis Ryen from Energy Solutions was present to review the lighting replacement cost/savings sheets provided and answered any questions. Energy Solutions is a program ally for Ameren. They are a private contractor. Betty advised that probation's cost would fall under the general fund with the health, highway and solid waste being stand-alone funds.

A motion was made by Venise McWard and seconded by Linda Curtin to recommend to the full Board to approve the contracts with Energy Solutions for lighting replacement costs for the departments of Health, Highway, Solid Waste and Probation with the cost for Probation coming out of contingency from the general fund. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried. *Venise McWard made a motion to approve the contracts with Energy Solutions with a second by Dale Livingston.*

**Chairman Wells** – called for a discussion

**Bryan Sharp** – solid waste replacement. Will that be in the court house

Chairman Wells – that's the building. I believe when he says solid waste that is that building.

**Mike Specha** – Mr. Chairman for everyone's information, they all have the information in front of them. On those 4 properties the cost is about \$6200.00. The annual savings on those is about \$7700.00. It would actually take us less than 12 months to recover on these properties. Now we all know energy costs are in a state of flux so it works out to be exactly that way I don't know. Keep in mind if we do nothing across the board, there is still going to be those same margins.

**Chairman Wells** – anything else. After no further discussion, he called for a roll call vote.

A roll call vote on the claims for annual contributions being called upon polled the following; Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, (12) aye; (0) nay; The motion carried

Motion by Venise McWard and seconded by Linda Curtin to table further decisions on the Sheriff's Office project to next month pending additional information. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

## BUDGET HEARINGS

### Mental Health

Brent DeMichael with Christian County Mental Health presented the mental health annual budget. He noted that the 708 fund part of budget was established many years ago. He highlighted the services they continue to provide since the closing of the mental health center in 2019 as well as the group homes they continue to operate in the county.

Before continuing on in the budget review process, the committee was asked if they intended to take any action on the Non-Bargaining Ordinance for the Chief Deputy salaries which was referred from last night to tonight.

Motion by Vicki McMahan and seconded by Linda Curtin to table Non-Bargaining Ordinance until the October meeting. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

The committee continued reviewing the budgets presented on the 3rd night of the budget hearing schedule.

The committee reviewed the history of the ordinance establishing the salary of the County Clerk for the next 4 terms. By ordinance the starting salary for this position for FY 2023 is \$61,176.60.

The committee directed Treasurer Asmussen to make some modifications to some of the budgets to include but not limited to staffing option #2 presented for the Animal Control budget; staffing of the janitorial positions from budgeted 2 full time positions to 1 full time and a part time staff as in the past; estimated hours for part time court security; equipment changes in the Sheriff/Jail budget and increase in legal for Office Zero budget.

Vicki McMahan advised that as a member of the Health Board there may be some possible minor changes to the presented Health Board budget and will know more after their meeting on the 21st.

## OTHER MATTERS

No other matters brought before the committee.

Motion by Tim Carlson and seconded by Vicki McMahan to adjourn. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Venise McWard  
Finance/Audit/Purchasing/Budget Committee Chairwoman  
09/15/2022



## 11. NEW BUSINESS/OLD BUSINESS/OTHER

- **Miranda Smith- Emerald Gardens** – Hi, my name is Miranda Smith. I have started a nonprofit Emerald Gardens on the Owaneco blacktop of Christian County. So I figured I would present our initiatives to the county for support public and private and we are also doing interagency leads with Taylorville and Pana. I have 18 acres on the Owaneco Blacktop about a 50 mile radius from Owaneco is our target area. We are also looking to do therapy gardens and rehabilitation for large groups in Central Illinois. One of our initiatives we would like support in is recycling. So we are looking to see if Christian County is interested in helping us with ordinances and or any zoning that would pertain to us being able to have a recycling center and or initiative property as well as the agricultural zoning where it currently is at. The 18 acres is undeveloped and we currently grow food for about 12 food pantries and homeless shelters including Springfield, Taylorville, Pana and local area. We also presented to Springfield City Board and then also Decatur and Effingham as well. So we are just wanting the communities in the surrounding area to be aware of our multifaceted facility and all of the different programs that we would like to offer our communities through mental health awareness, food, health awareness and insecurity awareness and to also network with individual businesses and other organizations to improve our communities as a whole.

**Mike Specha** – Miranda, how long have you been there?

**Miranda Smith** – I purchased the 18 acres 8 years ago. We officially became an Illinois nonprofit as of February 10 of this year. We are 501C pending so as soon as we get the green light from IRS, we will be able to obtain funding, grants, monetarily. Right now, we are only taking in kind donations and upcycling, recycling initiative. We have already started in repurposing items in the store for the food production in gardens as of now.

- **City of Taylorville Letter of Support Request – Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program-Phase II Downtown Revitalization project** – you should all have a copy of the letter in your packets. So what they are asking us is to send a letter of support to the mayor so they can forward them on to try and get money for downtown Taylorville. I just want to know what the board wishes are. I don't know that they are asking us for any money.

**Ken Franklin** – do we have any idea what they are planning to do.

**Chairman Wells** – we saw a plan at one time that has changed. They are talking about changing the parking somewhat. Talking about putting some more benches downtown. They wanted to do some stuff on the courthouse lawn. Of course, all of that would come back here. We send them a letter of support – they may come back later and ask for some of the ARPA money. I have no idea what their plans are down the line.

**Venise McWard** – I just want to know if anyone talked to businesses around the square that is in support of this.

**Chairman Wells** – I have not, naturally. This is something Taylorville is wanting to do and they are trying to get a grant for it. They think we can help them.

**Ray Koonce** – the information that I have received businesses were contacted but I have also heard from several business that own businesses around the square, they knew nothing about it. They are not happy. They are not very happy at all. I have heard they are going

to increase the parking which a lot of businesses around the square are not happy about and some other changes. There are some mad people around the square. So I would ask the city to maybe to redouble their efforts and talk to the businesses around the square to get their thoughts and see how many were actually contacted. I know a few were not. I would not be in favor of this until the people around the square or at least the majority of them are on board with this.

**Mike Specha** – it is my understanding they did their initial application for this grant last fall and have received authorization for a three million dollar grant for this project in August. This project is past the talking phase but I don't know if it has been pen to paper that there is a plan in place. They already have a three million dollar grant they are working with.

**Chairman Wells** – I understand that. This is the second phase of that and I don't know what that entails. I have know idea. It is just a matter if the board wants a letter sent in support of this.

**Bev Graham** – they already received the \$3,000,000.00 didn't they.

**Mike Specha** – I don't know.

**Matt Wells** – I believe they told us they got this grant. I believe they are wanting this letter in support for Phase II

*Bryan Sharp – made a motion to table this until we have further information.*

**Chairman Wells** – table back to the board for next month

**Bryan Sharp** – yes

Chairman Wells – I have a motion on the floor to table this until the October meeting, is there a second. *Dale Livingston seconded the motion.* All those in favor of tabling this until the October meeting signify by saying aye (12) all opposed same sign (0). Motion carried.

- **Card Service - Animal Control Machine** – this was not on any of the committees' agendas in September. This is something Sherry asked about being able to do this. I believe what she is talking about taking credit cards at animal control, debit cards at animal control. Because sometimes people come out there and want a dog and the shots and everything and its expensive and they don't have cash on them. I personally don't have a problem with it but I don't know if the board wants to send this to committee for further discussion or do we want the lady now running animal control – do we want to vote on whether or not we want her to have a debit credit card type machine out there. I don't think any money – Ray

**Ray Koonce** – in our committee credit card policy review, Animal Control's request to have a card because of hardship, there was a motion by Bryan Sharp and seconded by Clint Epley to table this matter to the October meeting all members were in favor the motion passed.

**Chairman Wells** – I am sorry, read that again.

**Ray Koonce** – under credit card policy review that was tabled to our October meeting.

**Clint Epley** – we are talking about a credit card, she is talking about a credit card machine to have people be able to pay. I thought we passed this a while ago.

**Chairman Wells** – no, I don't think we talked about this. I think what was tabled until next month – Clint is right and Liz is right. Yes the committee did table her having a credit card to spend money until next month to give us more time to talk about it. This is her having a machine out there so if somebody from the public goes out there and whether they are paying a fine, adopting a dog, whatever they are doing I am guessing that money is going right into an account, Betty is going to know about it. I don't know what you guys want to do. Approve this – simply the machine for the public to use out there.

**Bev Graham** – there is a 3 percent charge on that.

**Chairman Wells** – there is a fee

**Bev Graham** – I mean to the person. The charge is \$50 and there is a 3 percent fee attached for the person to pay on top of that.

**Chairman Wells** – can I get a motion on this. *Dale Livingston made a motion to approve the credit card machine with a seconded by Mike Specha.*

**Bev Graham** – I just want the people who know that are using it they have a 3 percent fee added on top of their charge.

**Chairman Wells** – I am sure we will have something out there that will tell them that.

**Ken Franklin** – does the Treasurer have an opinion on this. Are we using something similar in other departments.

**Chairman Wells** – we want to know – we are discussing a credit card machine for the public's use at Animal Control. Question was asked – what is your opinion.

**Betty Asmussen** - I explained this the other night in the finance committee was the opinion of our auditors not to have debit cards several years ago because when you swipe a debit card, funds are withdrawn right away. So the credit card would be where they could use off of their budget when they use a credit card. They would swipe like at Walmart and they would have to turn that claim in with a credit card statement and so it is reviewed by the whole entire county board.

**Chairman Wells** – Betty, I think I have said this wrong not only to you but to the board. What we are talking about now is Animal Control having a credit card machine where the public can use, the public's credit card to pay for services whether it is adopting an animal.

**Betty Asmussen** – less money flowing, less being compromised for fraud. Fraudulent activities. We have a debit card machine, credit card machine here. Julie has one down in her office. County has it we use them. It's the 21<sup>st</sup> century. I don't see why not.

**Chairman Wells** – any other discussion.

**Wes Poggenpohl** – is it the same company that you guys use?

**Betty Asmussen** – no, different. So our vendor is set up specifically for real estate property taxes. It is different vendors Wes for different offices.

**Chairman Wells** – if there is no other discussion. – all those in favor of approving credit card machine for Animal Control please signify by saying aye (12) all opposed same sign (0). Motion carried.

- **Insurance** – I am not sure if it was April or May, I know it was on the agenda. I was in Chicago with my wife that night. Talking about putting the insurance out for bid. Well the board took no action and so now we are in a position where it is now time to renew our property, auto and liability insurance and our worker's comp insurance. We don't have time to put them out for bids. We have to sign the renewal application and I want to make the board aware of that. The other thing I want to make the board aware of is when I took over a couple years ago, when this board first set out one of our goals was to bring insurance back into the county. We have done that with Dimond Brothers. On our worker's comp Snedekers has our property, auto and liability, however, they have signed a contract with Dan and you are going to buy them out over how many years?

**Dan McNeely** – Last September you guys signed a broker of record against Snedeker, ICRMT as exclusive contract with Snedeker and they can't accept that VOR. Over the last year I have sat down with Snedeker a couple different times and worked out a buyout arrangement where we will be co-brokers on the account over 10 years. They will have invested interest. I will handle the renewals. They will always be there as a guidance obviously. They insure a lot of counties in Illinois so it will be a good learning experience for me as well. But we have reached an agreement to bring at least 50 percent of the revenue on that account back local. So I want to – hats off to Snedeker for doing the right thing for the county but over the 10 years we will buy them out of that agreement as long as Dimond Brothers keeps it – that part of the business.

**Chairman Wells** – I can tell you this some of the department heads, the legal services they got with Snedekers and speaking with Mr. Snedeker, Dan, I spoke with the sheriff, I can't think of the name of the attorneys – none of that has changed. There is no change outside of – through the years it will all get to be local. When there is problems or questions, it will be in the county. We won't be reaching out to somebody, I believe they are located in Havana, something to that affect. It is going to be a local thing right here which anyhow, that is there agreement. That is what is going on. Dan is buying us our business from Snedeker but we simply need to sign the renewal application and I need a motion to do that. Dale Livingston made a motion to sign the renewal application with a seconded by Ray Koonce. After no discussion Chairman Wells called for a roll call vote.

A roll call vote on the renewal application being called upon polled the following:; Chuck Smedley, Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, (12) aye; (0) nay; The motion carried

- **Procedure for Remaining ARPA Fund Requests** – Mike has an idea. I told him I would put it on the agenda.

**Mike Specha** – I put it in everyone’s packet a two page document stapled together. The top one says Develop A procedure for Consideration of Remaining ARPA Requests. I tried to do this in a way that was orderly as possible for my thoughts. Our ARPA funds need to be approved by the end of 2024 which is two more years basically and spent by 2026. Currently how the board has been functioning would basically consider requests on a first come first serve basis. It is not necessarily an insult, it is not necessarily a problem but it is how we have been doing it. So if somebody gets to the board and ask for money we are considering it a stand alone request. In my opinion, the board needs a process to review ARPA requests being mindful of the two year window. I think we also need, and this is my words, a strategy for handling ARPA requests would be beneficially to how we do it. This is strictly an example of pretentious strategy and the second page I will discuss quickly after I go through this page and what this means. We will have approximately \$3.2 million available at the end of the year. Just a working number that is uncommitted at this point. So it would be possible if the board could quarterly targets \$400,000.00 per quarter \$1.6 million each year. Does not need to be etched in stone. They are targets. We could use a carryover system for unused funds to the next quarter. We get to the end of the quarter and we have only spent \$200,000.00 our target for the next quarter would be \$600,000.00. In order to better evaluate fund requests, the board should only consider requests on a quarterly basis. Here is why in my mind: if our target is \$400,000, we handle them all during the same quarter and it is \$300,000.00 of requests, in theory we might handle that differently than if it was \$3,000,000.00 in requests. And if we do it only once a quarter, we will be more mindful in where we are in our track. We would also need to set up a system to approve time sensitive requests. We could well have a request for \$20,000 that can’t wait until the end of the quarter, it would need to be put on the next board meeting. This is strictly flexible but I am trying to get some transparency for our system. So I think we need to utilize an easy to understand worksheet for transparency and better evaluation of requests. We may also want to allocating ARPA funds by category to better track spending. This was actually Ken Franklin’s idea I just kind of stole it from him. *My thought is we should probably, if we think this is a good idea, send this possibly to the finance committee to discuss and refine a procedure that would be considered next month.*

**Chairman Wells** – asked if that was a motion.

**Mike Specha** – yes that is a form of a motion but I would also like to finish my explanation. On the second page, what I have done, this is strictly an example of a possible worksheet. You can see we can spend it – so far \$2.700,000 in funds, how much checks have been, what is pending, total expenditures are. This would agree with the report that Betty provides. I didn’t arbitrarily categorize, but I did the best job I could of categorizing what I thought what we had okayed for fell. Whether it was a security related, infrastructure related. Categories would be a part of the finance committee’s job even if we wanted to do that. So what I did at the bottom is if we had targets for allocation by categories, we could see what we have approved to date. It would give us, in my mind, a transparent model to work off of rather than - because money is still available. *My motion is we send this model to finance committee for their consideration and reword as they see necessary.*

**Chairman Wells** – while I am not going to rule against you, but I am going to ask you to rephrase that – that all of the ordinances go to personnel, policy and procedures and finance committee decides on the money later on. So it almost seems like to me if we are going to use this program then it should go to personnel policy and programs. If we are going to develop a program to how stuff is getting approved, it would seem to me like the committee that is approving the ordinances should be approving the procedure.

**Mike Specha** – from my perspective, that is at the board’s discretion. I didn’t really see necessarily this being ordinance driven, I saw it more as road map driven. We need a road map as to how we are spending our money.

**Chairman Wells** – I can accept that.

**Mike Specha** - That is why I thought it should go to finance. We know we have \$6,200,000.00. We know that we are charged with finding the right things to spend that money on by the end of 2024 and so what I want to propose is that we have some transparent model so we best track how to spend our money.

**Chairman Wells** – I have a motion on the floor do I have a second? *Ken Franklin seconded the motion.* Any discussion.

**Ray Koonce** – I like the idea but under our rules, policy and procedures are under our committee by the rules themselves so *I make a motion to table to our committee with a seconded by Bev Graham.*

**Chairman Wells** - if no discussion all of those in favor of tabling this and sending this to personnel policy and procedure please signify by saying aye (12) all opposed same sign (2)

- **2023 Holiday Schedule** – we have two copies in your packets because the request was made to me. There is 13 on one. The Juneteeth holiday being involved. I will tell the board this, that we negotiated with the FOP contracts this subject was brought up, the county has 12 paid holidays. I am not going to tell you cannot have Juneteeth off which holiday do you want to give up. FOP decided they did not want to give up the day before Christmas for this holiday. But it is time for us to approve the holiday schedule. There is two choices there, what is the board’s pleasure.

*Venise McWard made a motion to approve the second version of the 2023 holiday schedule with a second by Bryan Sharp.* Discussion

**Bev Graham** – is that not considered now a federal holiday

**Chairman Wells** – it may be. I know in negotiations with FOP they didn’t want to give up the day before Christmas which is not a federal holiday. That is what they wanted off.

**Betty Asmussen** – Venise are you approving the one with Juneteeth or the one without Juneteeth.

**Venise McWard** – I did the one without Juneteeth on it.

Chairman Wells – any other discussion. If not, all those in favor of approving the holiday schedule without Juneteeth, please signify by saying aye (12) all those opposed same sign (0) motion carried.

- **Election Judge List** –Jacque has presented me with an election judge list. Jacque stated that she needed the boards permission to have Chairman Wells sign off on the list that both parties have presented to me. *Bev made a motion to allow the chairman to sign off on the election judge list with a second by Linda Curtin.* Discussion. All those in favor of the motion please signify by saying aye (12) all opposed same sign (0). Motion carried
- **Closed Session Minutes** – Jacque stated that she did some research on the closed session meeting minutes and I have found out that only in the last couple years have they been typed up. I talked with Linda Curtin, Lori Mense and I also called Jan Bland. The minutes have never been released and they are all on tapes in the vault. None of them have been typed up. With the exception of the ones that I have. There is probably 8 closed session meeting minutes and they all deal with personnel issues.

**Chairman Wells** – it seems to me like whatever she thinks should be released should be sent to personnel policy and procedure committee and then let them review those dates and then come back next month to the full board which ones we are going to release. Maybe we release none of them. But I believe the law says we are supposed to do this at least once maybe twice a year.

**Jacque Willison** – These are supposed to be looked at every 6 months. In past history, it has never been done.

*Ray Koonce made a motion to table this and send to personnel policy and procedure with a second by Bev Graham.* Discussion.

**Chairman Wells** – with no discussion all those in favor of tabling this to the personnel policy and procedure committee please signify by saying aye (12) all those opposed same sign (0), Motion carried.

- **Rammelkamp Bradney, P.C. – Carbon Ordinance** – I read the minutes. I know we had one meeting where we said we would wait on Wes to approve these attorneys. We had another meeting where Wes said yes he thought they were the right one and he agreed and it was good to go and we should sign the agreement. What I do not find in any of our meetings was a vote by the board to tell this company to draw up carbon ordinance. I believe the board has to make that decision. I don't know if executive personnel policy and procedure feels like it has been discussed but we find nothing in the minutes where it came from your committee to this board to say to tell them to start working on a carbon ordinance.

**Bryan Sharp** – made a motion to have Rammelkamp Bradney move forward on drafting an ordinance with regard to CO2 with a second by Ray Koonce.

Dale Livingston – asked if there was a price tag on it.

**Chairman Wells** – I believe we got a fee from them. I believe we have seen a billing schedule from them. I can't tell you what it is and I can't tell you how many hours it is going to take. The board needs to make the decision to have them draw up this ordinance.

**Wes Poggenpohl** – just to clarify, we did, the board did enter into an agreement with that law firm. The agreement specifically states in detail what they are going to do for us. And that was drafting ordinances. So, in effect of approving that, they have already agreed. That is what their purpose is and they are working on it right now. It is already going. To that effect, I know I sent out an email and if anyone has anything specifically they would like to see in that initial draft otherwise we may have to go through revisions. To the effect of the other issues, our agreement with them is for that one purpose. For another purpose we may have to talk to them about an additional agreement. I know when there were here for the one meeting they talked about an estimate of what the cost would be.

**Chairman Wells** – so you believe even though it is not in the minutes specifically, that we already have this agreement and don't need to do this tonight.

**Wes Poggenpohl** – the agreement that you signed says that is the whole purpose of them being our attorney is for drafting an ordinance. The carbon ordinance.

**Chairman Wells** – I need to apologize to the board. First I haven't been to law school. When I read it I didn't understand that. I just thought we were hiring them to take care of everything going forward with the problems we have with zoning and that specialized area. I guess we do not have to vote on this based on the attorney's advice. I apologize for wasting your time.

**Bryan Sharp** – how would we go about asking them to review the other ordinances that have been proposed with regard to the transmission. Can we do that on this agenda?

**Chairman Wells** – I can put it on your agenda for the 3<sup>rd</sup>. Bring it back in October.

**Wes Poggenpohl** – I would agree. Carbon ordinance is the one with the deadline coming first. We just got the moratorium in line so that one we have 6 months to work on. I say we try to knock this one out and then worry about the other.

**Chairman Wells** – so I guess if you want to withdraw your motion, Wes says I am wrong that we do not need to act on this. I just want to make sure in two months there wasn't an issue of why we weren't getting an ordinance and why we hadn't done that. Liz put that on the committee for drafting the ordinance on transmission.



**12. MILEAGE AND PER DIEM REPORT – June 21, 2022**

<b><u>Board Member</u></b>	<b><u>Salary</u></b>	<b><u>Rate</u></b>	<b><u># of Meetings This Month</u></b>
Timothy Carlson	\$100.00	\$25.00	4
Craig Corzine	\$100.00	\$25.00	0
Linda Curtin	\$100.00	\$25.00	6
Clint Epley	\$ 50.00	\$25.00	2
Ken Franklin	\$100.00	\$25.00	6
Bev Graham	\$100.00	\$25.00	3
Ray Koonce	\$100.00	\$25.00	3
Dale Livingston	\$100.00	\$25.00	3
Vicki McMahon	\$100.00	\$25.00	5
Venise McWard	\$100.00	\$25.00	6
David Puccetti	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Bryan Sharp	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Chuck Smedley	\$100.00	\$25.00	4
Thomas Snyder, Jr.	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Mike Specha	\$100.00	\$25.00	3
Matt Wells	\$615.38		

Chairman Wells called for a motion from the floor to approve the Mileage and Per Diem Report *A motion was made by Dale Livingston and seconded by Venise McWard to approve the mileage and per diem report.* With no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Mike Specha Matt Wells, (12) aye; (0) nay; (4) absent. The motion carried.

**13. ADJOURNMENT**

Chairman Wells called for a motion from the floor to adjourn until October 18, 2022. *A motion was made by Dave Puccetti and seconded by Ray Koonce to adjourn until the next meeting on October 18, 2022.*

**Bev Graham** – before when we talked about moving Zoning and Solid Waste to the Court house and they are going to start October 1, has that been settled that they are going to come here to the courthouse.

**Chairman Wells** – I believe both those gentlemen in their interviews were told we decided they were coming over here. I can't tell you Bev that I am going to scream and holler and throw a fit if they are not here by the first. But they are very much aware that is happening. That is what the board decided.

**Ray Koonce** – the 708 board met last night and we did have a quorum. Pat Schneider the secretary is disseminating information as far as available agency and resources throughout the county concerning mental health. It will be coming back to our committee next month and what we plan on doing is all on one sheet and giving it out to the public so everybody knows what their resources

are concerning mental health. We are still working with the director of Macoupin County to see what are next steps are. They have also met with several members of the community, professionals, hospital staff and the outpouring of the community is getting there. It is really great. Seems to be a lot of interest and a lot of good things about to happen on this topic. We have to start small and work our way up. There is a lot of support throughout the community.

Before I ask for a motion to adjourn, Ron, Sherry, Cliff, Blake and Shaun, I want to see you for a couple of minutes as soon as we adjourn.

With no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled (12) aye; (0) nay; (4) absent; the motion carried.

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNTY BOARD**  
AT A MEETING OF THE COUNTY BOARD MEMBERS OF CHRISTIAN COUNTY  
ILLINOIS, BEGUN AND HELD AT THE CHRISTIAN COUNTY COURTHOUSE IN  
TAYLORVILLE, ILLINOIS ON **OCTOBER 18, 2022**  
*ATTEST: JACQUE WILLISON, COUNTY CLERK*

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The following proceeding had and entered at large upon the records of said Board, which is done accordingly in the following words and figures to wit;

Acting as Chairman Venise McWard called the board meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. This meeting was held on the second floor of the courthouse in the County Board Room

**ROLL CALL**

The roll call by County Clerk Jacque Willison showing all members present with Matt Wells, Craig Corzine, Ken Franklin and Thomas Snyder Jr., being absent. A quorum was had to hold the meeting.

**APPROVE COUNTY BOARD MINUTES**

Acting as Chairman Venise McWard asked for any corrections or additions and to accept the September 20, 2022 County Board minutes to approve as printed. Venise McWard called for a motion to approve the minutes. *Bev Graham made a motion to approve the minutes seconded by Dave Puccetti.* After no discussion, Venise McWard asked for roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon, polled the following: (12) aye; (0) nay; (4) absent; the motion carried and the minutes were approved.

**5. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Public comments is time for the public to tell the board what they think – how they feel. It is not a question and answer session. You are limited to three minutes. We ask that when you are recognized to please stand up, state your name and talk for your three minutes. Anyone here from the public who would like to speak at this time?

**Jeff Nolan** – I am really concerned about the county health department. It has gone from a full staff three months ago down to I think 16 people now. My sister-in-law just tenured her resignation yesterday after 24 years, it has gotten so bad. I just found a statue in here from Illinois State Law governing counties along with the county board can remove any member for misconduct and after 16 people quit, I think somebody needs to look into it. This isn't one or two or three people, this is 16 people. And the stuff that has gone on is just ridiculous. It seems like when someone gets a bug about them they just go after them. You know, I saw the same thing with Vince. There is no trying to work with something, lets tell the guy what he is doing wrong and give him a chance. Let's go after him and ruin him. I think Vince has been cleared but anyway. There is a lot of wrong doing going on at that health department. I have been privy to it for about a year. And some of the stuff that was denied Greg is now being done under the new acting administrator or what have you. It is just sickening. It just totally ruined the health department in three months. Just wanted everybody to know it. I expect something to be done. I really do.

**Acting as Chairman Venise McWard** – anyone else for public comments?

**Jane Griffith** – I have been employed by the department for two years. I am here to encourage the board to find out what is going on out there. On multiple occasions, Greg was told he could not get more than 3 percent raises. He could not change job descriptions or change pay. Yes, that is exactly what has happened at the last to health board meetings. I am not saying raises are not deserved because they are. But I feel like a 40 percent increase is a little much. In the two years that I have been there, 18 people have resigned, walked out or been fired. And only one of them has been replaced thus far. And yet, what needs done we get it done. Maybe not timely or as well as possible, but we continue to function. But I want you to know the next thing on the chopping block is the WIC program. I want you to be aware there are 500 clients in Christian county on the WIC program that benefit from it. But according to the interim administrator it does not pay like some of the other programs. It saddens me to think that some of those that need this program are not going to have it. Currently, Montgomery County is helping with the WIC clients but I am not sure how many of our clients can drive to Hillsboro to pick up their card or once in house visits are open can make it there. I know how difficult of time they have getting from Pana or Assumption. I would be happy to talk to anyone of you about the programs out there and what has transpired. My plea is, please come and save the Health Department and the WIC program which serves the most vulnerable people in our county, the women and innocent children under 5.

**Acting Chairman Venise McWard** – anyone else for public comments?

**Joel Malefyt** – I work for Cypress Creek Renewables here on behalf of Skyline Solar. It is number 8 on the agenda. We went through the Zoning Board of Appeals in June. Our project was unanimously recommended for approval. I reached back because an error was determined by one of our attorneys in the notices which has since been corrected. We went to the Executive, Legislative and Personnel committee, our project went back to the ZBA the end of June. Personal conversations with some county board members we noticed some additional landowners that weren't adjacent to the project but could possibly have view. Some folks came out and we answered some questions. Nobody signed up on the object boards and the project again was unanimously recommended for approval by the ZBA and it is on your agenda this evening. Thank you.

**Steve Sipes** – Chairman of the ZBA. I wrote this to the Christian County Board Chairman Matt Wells, Christian County Board Members, I don't like the word resigning because it means I am quitting and I am not quitting, I am just retiring. So I am retiring from the Zoning Board of Appeals effective at the conclusion of this board meeting. I have enjoyed my time spent on the ZBA working for the citizens of Christian County. Thank you Steven Sipes. I am here to help you with the ZBA minutes for tonight if there are any questions, Blake Tarr was introduced at our meeting at the end of September but his effective date wasn't until October 3 I believe. So I am here to answer if there are any follow up questions for any issues of the ZBA on the agenda this evening.

**Acting as Chairman Venise McWard** – thank you and thank you for your service Steve. Other public comments? Any other public comments before I move on.

**6. FUNDRAISER FOR LINCOLN HALL** –Kathy Fergin and Barbara Westrick were in attendance. **Kathy Fergin** – Thank you for allowing myself and Barbara to be here tonight. I am sure through the grapevine you have heard about all the wonderful projects that Cindy Frisina is putting in motion for around the square and our town. One of her projects is a performing art center which is going to be where Sutton's corner is – Main Cross and Webster. This is going to be like a newer Nashville North Auditorium; similar to what Effingham has. So because that is going to be kind of my baby, for a kick off we would like to have a fund raiser and we would love

to do it here in the beautiful courthouse similar to what Barbara had done with the Taylorville Art Council. And we would like it to be here on February 18 and it would be a mardigras masquerade optional and or gala. Some Dixie Land Jazz, some Cajun food stations, and simply to raise money for the kick off. If you have any questions, Barbara has been through this process more than I have.

**Acting as Chairman Venise McWard** – does anyone have any questions for them?

*Ray Koonce* – I make a motion to approve with the permission of the sheriff since he is in charge of the courthouse with a second by Bev Graham. After discussion, a roll call vote was taken by all those in favor signify by saying aye (12) all opposed same sign (0). Motion carried.

7. APPOINTMENTS – there are no appointments at this time.

8. PETITIONS, RESOLUTIONS, ORDINANCES OR PROCLAMATIONS

- **O2022 ZB 031** – Skyline Solar. As Joel mentioned he is here to answer any questions as well as Steve Sipes. It is language cleanup for this particular ordinance.

**Steve Sipes** – when it was first presented at our meeting in June, we had approved the project as it was presented. When it came back to the board there was some questions. Bev had brought up about some concerned citizens about being able to see it. Skyline Solar was kind enough to go back, send those people a personal notice. All the notices were properly sent. They went above and beyond the zoning board recommending to include the project in full and there was a change to the site map. They included some additional vegetation to help those that might be able to see it. Everybody there that night seemed to be alright.

**Acting as Chairman Venise McWard**– asked for a motion to approve. *Dale Livingston made a motion with a second by Bev Graham to approve O2022ZB031.* With no further discussion all those in favor please signify by saying aye (12) all opposed same sign (0). Motion carried

- **O2022 ZB 007** – regarding the meteorological towers and changed the distance. **Steve Sipes** – this was brought back from the board because there was some questions about distances which I think we addressed then. We stayed with the same distances, the board had recommended a fee increase and a time limit so we addressed that at this past meeting. So the fee would be a \$5,000.00 annual fee with a five year limit. This was suggested by the Christian County board. That was discussed and made as a recommendation by the county board.

**Acting as Chairman Venise McWard** –asked for a motion from the floor to approve O2022 ZB 007. *Dale Livingston made a motion with a second by Timothy Carlson.* After no discussion, all those in favor signify by saying aye (12) all those opposed same sign (0). Motion carried.

- **O2022 ZB 038** – to correct O2022 ZB 023 special use application. Steve Sipes – this is the one that got completely messed up coming from the ZBA in the office. Somehow we went to correct this and make changes per the ZBA recommendations it either didn't get saved and the wrong copy got sent to the county board. It was all messed up. You guys

had to rescind the text amendment ordinance that was approved last month and we had to go back and correct it.

Acting as Chairman Venise McWard – called for a motion from the floor. *Dale Livingston made a motion to approve O2022ZB038 with a second by Vicki McMahan.* I want to make sure it says 15,000 instead of 1,500. After no discussion, all those in favor signify by saying aye (12) all opposed same sign (0). Motion Carried.

- **R2022 TR 025** – another tax issue and we need to sale the property. Normally, this would go to the personnel committee. However, due to the time restraint, it is here tonight. I believe this property is in Pana. Acting as Chairman Venise McWard called for a motion. Ray Koonce made a motion to approve R2022TR025 with a second by Dale Livingston. After no discussion, a roll call vote was called upon.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following:, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Mike Specha, Linda Curtin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Mike Specha, Vicki McMahan (12) aye; (0) nay; (4) absent. The motion carried.

**Acting as Chairman Venise McWard** – thanked Steve Sipes for all his help and service with the ZBA. Bev Graham also wanted to thank Joel for all his extra work on the solar project and calling those people.

## **9. READING OF COMMUNICATIONS**

### **OCTOBER 2022 COMMUNICATIONS**

The following communications were presented and placed on file in the Clerk’s Office.

1. October 2022 Prevailing Wage Report
2. The September 2022 Public Defender’s Report
3. The Treasurer’s Reports for period ending September 30, 2022
4. The Local Solid Waste Fees Fund report for September 2022
5. ROE – Expenditure Report for September 2022
6. IDOT – Motor Fuel Tax Allotment and Transactions for September 2022
7. IEPA – Notice of Application for Permit to Manage Waste

**Acting as Chairman Venise McWard** – asked to move McDonough County Attorney Joe Murphy up on the agenda. *A motion by Vicki McMahan and seconded by David Puccetti to move the attorney up on the agenda.* With no discussion, all those in favor please signify by saying aye (12) all those opposed same sign (0). Motion Carried.

**Acting as Chairman Venise McWard** – It is at this point we go into closed session. A motion to go into closed session pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 for the purpose to discuss appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees of a public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity and all subject matters relating thereto and to include the following persons. I would

like to include Blake Tarr, Chad Coady, Jacque Willison, Liz Hile, Wes Poggenpohl, Julie Mayer, Betty Asmussen.

Ray Koonce made a motion to go into closed session with a second by Timothy Carlson. All in favor please signify by saying aye (12) all opposed same sign. (0)

**Went into closed session meeting at 6:51 pm**

**Came out of closed session at 7:19 pm**

**Acting as Chairman Venise McWard** - asked for a roll call. A roll call vote was called upon with the following members present after coming out of closed session. David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Mike Specha, Timothy Carlson, Linda Curtin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley,. (12)

**Acting as Chairman Venise McWard** – *I make a motion to ask the Chairman to sign a retainer agreement with Joseph Murphy of Meyer Capel and work to intervene the ICC immediately with a second by Vicki McMahon.* After no further discussion, a roll call vote was called upon.

A roll call vote called upon polled the following: Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Chuck Smedley, Bryan Sharp, Mike Specha, Timothy Carlson, Linda Curtin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard (12). Motion carried

**Acting as Chairman Venise McWard** – *I move to make a motion to direct the Chairman to discuss specifics with Joseph Murphy on a retainer agreement and cost estimate to write carbon capture storage ordinances immediately with a second by Vicki McMahon.* After no discussion a roll call vote was called.

A roll call vote called upon polled the following: David Puccetti, Chuck Smedley, Bryan Sharp, Mike Specha, Timothy Carlson, Linda Curtin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley: ayes (12). Motion carried.

**Bev Graham** – *made a motion to move the City of Taylorville and Small Town Taylorville from new business to now because Mayor Barry has another engagement with a second by David Puccetti.* After no discussion, please signify by saying aye (12) all opposed same sign (0). Motion carried.

**Mayor Barry** – Steve Craggs is here with Small Town Taylorville and I would like for him to speak first.

**Steve Craggs** – thank you for entertaining us here this evening. We thought it would be a good idea to interface with you folks regarding the grant programs that we have and also to talk over the Phase 2 grant program that we have applied for. Since the center of jewel of the downtown district there is going to be areas where the city is at. We have lighting to consider, we have sidewalks to consider and other items along that agenda. So, the Mayor knows quite a bit more details on this so I thought I would let him go right ahead and give us the rest of the details and we will both be happy to answer any questions and field any other concerns that you might have.

**Mayor Barry** – I gave each of you two different ones. We will go to the first one that says Taylorville Illinois Rebuild Downtowns and Main Streets Capital Grant Planning Level. This is the grant that we received about 6 months ago. We receive notice that we are going to get \$3 million dollars from the Rebuild Illinois Program. These are all preliminary but is basically for

work around the downtown area. One of the main things we are going to do is to make the road one lane instead of two lanes like it is now. We think it would be a lot safer to have just one lane around the square. As you look, there is a bicycle rack, park bench, picnic table. There is a place for public restroom on the courthouse. Some are for it and some are against it. That is a decision that will weigh heavily on what the county wants to do because you guys own the courthouse lawn. We are also putting a stage on the north west corner of the square. Like Steve said there is going to be decorative light posts, sidewalk ramps around the square for ADA and there is going to be some golf cart parking space and electric car charging stations.

Stage 2 - the other one that we gave you. We applied for this grant through IPAC. It is another 3 million dollar grant that we are trying to get. It is basically for doing the walks of the square. West Main Cross, the city has plans to redo it just like we did for East Main Cross. We have applied for a 2.5 million dollar grant through Congressman Davis' office. We are on the final list for that. We will hear word of that in December. So hopefully we will receive that. As you see from the blocks leading from the square on Washington and Market things like that. We will be putting up some decorative lighting, the sidewalk ramps and stuff. As you can see it is an extensive project. And we are hoping to receive this grant money. As of now, most of you know Taylorville, the courthouse and surrounding area is all in the development district. So we do receive about 1.5 million dollars a year. As of now, we are not asking for any money from the county but some of the things that are going on the courthouse lawn, we may have to ask the county to help with some expenses there. Other than that, I know it is a lot to look through in a short amount of time. If there is any questions or comments – these are all preliminary drawings. We have gotten over 9 million dollars over the last three years and we have applied for 7 or 8 million more dollars. I am open for any questions and Steve is to. We work closely with small town Taylorville and downtown.org – Marsha Neal is a head of that. Steve Craggs and Lee Skinner are basically a head of Small Town Taylorville committee with about 6 people on that.

**Steve Craggs** – this is a matching grant so the city is going to have to come up with a considerable sum of money.

**Mayor Barry** – its an 80/20 grant so about 1.5 million dollars. Sort of like the grant that Pana is applying for the bike trail. It depends on your community score and things like that. It may or may not have to be put into matching funds. The city is awaiting on to apply for a grant for the lake and marina.

**Steve Craggs** – the grant that matching funds are coming from the business development district tax – it generates about 1.5 million dollars a year. That is where the grants have been coming from the downtown buildings even beyond like Larry's Creamery. He was given grant money out of that program. Those grants are considered on a project by project basis. Once a month downtown have a committee meeting – Mike is on that committee the BED committee. We oversee those grants - grant by grant. That is why you see a lot of these buildings getting rebuilt.

**Bev Graham** – are they going to lose any parking spaces?

**Mayor Barry** – I would assume there will be a few parking spots lost. I can't tell you exactly. We are going to put bump outs in front of the restaurants to give them outdoor dining. I don't think we will lose any on the north side of the square or the west side. Probably a couple of



charging stations will take up some parking spots. Maybe in the downtown area we might lose 8 or 10 spots possibly.

**Venise McWard** – do you still need a letter of support?

**Mayor Barry** – No, we had to turn that in by September 30<sup>th</sup>. Again, we received over 65 letters for support of the grant. It would have been nice to have one from the county but that is fine. We are okay. I don't think one more letter was going to determine if we get the grant.

**Bev Graham** – do you know when they are going to get started on West Main Cross

**Mayor Barry** – we are waiting to see if we receive the federal grant through Mr. Davis' office. We plan to do it from the square to Cheney and possibly all the way to Houston depending on how much money we get. We applied for 2.5 million.

**Vickie McMahon** – you talked about the restroom and that on the court house lawn. Is that a permanent thing or is that still something you are looking at?

**Mayor Barry** - that was put on there because I get many complaints from restaurant owners and business owners about people wanting to use their restrooms when there is an activity going on downtown. We would like to maybe get a stage put up here and maybe have the municipal band play and things like that and maybe other activities where a restroom is wanted or needed. I have met with a lot of people that are against it. I am asking what is the thought of the board. We can't do that if the county board doesn't allow us to do it. It is going on your draft. There is two sides to that. We spend a lot of money on porta potties throughout the events. Cost savings too. Car shows too. We are just trying to work with people to get along. Hopefully we can revitalize our downtown.

**Bryan Sharp** – I am being picky. Everything looks great. Two inches of top coat. That is going to last about no time at all. You will be back there doing that again. 2 inches isn't much of a service

**Mayor Barry** – to be honest we just got those plans today. I haven't had a chance to really look at them. I will question that.

**Clint Epley** – what kind of kick back are you getting from the businesses from the square.

**Mayor Barry** – I heard that was mentioned at the last county board meeting so I went to the two people that I was told were totally against it and they said they were totally for it. I talked to Nesty's and the Chamber. I haven't gotten no negative comments. I know there may be a few for or against. I have not heard of any negative feed back.

**Steve Craggs** – First program we had 98 letters of support. Besides the businesses it was people who own the buildings. We have worked hard to communicate. Literally in every store. Talking

to the owners, the building owners. And to get 65 for the remainder of the blocks off the square, that is a pretty strong indicator right there.

## **10. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **HIGHWAY/BUILDING/GROUNDS/ENVIRONMENTAL/ZONING AND WELFARE COMMITTEE October 11, 2022**

Present: Dale Livingston, Chuck Smedley, Bev Graham, Thomas Snyder, Jr.  
Absent: Mike Specha  
Others present: Matt Wells, Linda Curtin, Cliff Frye, Sherri Craggs, Ron Brown, Blake Tarr, Shawn Hammers, Leslie DeVore, Lucas Domonowsky and Elizabeth Hile in attendance.

The meeting of the Highway/Building/Grounds/Environmental/Welfare/Zoning Committee was called to order on Tuesday, October 11, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. in the Christian County Courthouse. The purpose of the meeting was County building issues, highway business and any other matters properly brought before the Committee. Roll call was taken and there was a quorum.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

#### **PARKING LOT HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

Leslie DeVore, Chairman of the Christian County Health Department Board presented cost estimates for repairing the Health Department parking lot at the request of the Personnel/Executive Committee. Just prior to the COVID pandemic, the parking lot at the Health Department was scheduled for oil and chip which didn't get completed. The parking lot has really suffered as a result of the heavy COVID traffic. In addition to the parking lot issues, there is an easement on the side of Advanced Eyecare that has developed a large pot hole area and the owners of the business are asking to partner with the County to resolve the issue as they feel the damage resulted from high COVID traffic. Health Department traffic can also enter off Cheney Street which is starting to show signs of stress. Leslie reminded the committee that grants received by the Health Department will not support infrastructure costs. She also wanted to request snow removal.

The estimated cost to oil and chip the parking lot is \$5,354.50 with the County Highway Department working with Louis Marsch. However, Cliff Frye advised the Louis Marsch plant will be shutting down for the season and the work will have to wait until next spring. He noted the estimated cost for the work could increase also.

The lowest cost estimate to repair the section damaged in the easement area on the side of Advanced Eyecare is \$8,400.00. The committee asked if Advanced Eyecare could be contacted to discuss cost sharing.

Motion by Dale Livingston and seconded by Chuck Smedley to refer to the Finance Committee determining whether or not the cost to oil and chip the parking lot at the Health Department would come from the general fund or use of ARPA funds. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

#### ZONING BUSINESS

New Zoning Administrator Blake Tarr highlighted his first week on the job indicating in addition to orientation with HR, he had spent time working with Supervisor of Assessments, Chad Coady on pending and open permits.

#### SOLID WASTE BUSINESS

New Solid Waste Department Head Shawn Hammers also highlighted his first week on the job indicating he has been reviewing the IEPA Delegation Agreement and noted that IEPA will be in contact when they have an inspection needed to start training. He also noted working an inventory of equipment and have 14 filing cabinets in the office. State Archives will be coming in on November 4<sup>th</sup> to review retention/disposal processes.

#### HIGHWAY BUSINESS

##### Request to sell used pickups on GovDeals.com

Cliff Frye is requesting to sell used vehicles that have or will be replaced with new vehicles. One of those vehicles has already been received and the other will be arriving at the end of this month.

Motion by Dale Livingston and seconded by Thomas Snyder, Jr. to recommend to the full Board to allow County Engineer Cliff Frye to sell the Ford F550 Series Pickup and the Dodge 1500 pickup on Gov.Deals.com. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Dale Livingston made a motion to sell Ford F550 pickup with a second by Bryan Sharp. After no discussion, a roll call vote was called upon.*

A roll call vote called upon polled the following: Chuck Smedley, Mike Specha, Timothy Carlson, Linda Curtin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, ayes (12). Motion carried.

##### Request to sell used rotary disc mowers on Gov.Deals.com

Motion by Dale Livingston and seconded by Thomas Snyder, Jr. to recommend to the full Board to allow County Engineer Cliff Frye to sell 2 used John Deere rotary disc mowers on GovDeals.com. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Dale Livingston made a motion with a second by Chuck Smedley to 2 used John Deere rotary disc mowers on GovDeals. After no discussion, a roll call vote was called upon.*

A roll call vote called upon polled the following: Mike Specha, Timothy Carlson, Linda Curtin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, : ayes (12). Motion carried.

Committee Chairman Livingston inquired if Cliff had any other updates on projects. Cliff advised Locust Bridge #30 is completed and Pana Bridge #66 will be completed by the end of this week. Locust Bridge #3, just off the Owaneco Blacktop, is scheduled to start after harvest.

## ANIMAL CONTROL

### Animal Control Director Report

Sherri Craggs presented the October director's report. September statistics were 9 reclaimed dogs, 13 adopted dogs, 12 adopted cats, 14 farm cat adoptions, and 1 dog death. Five CCAC attendees were certified in tranquilizer training. CCACs guns used for tranquilizing are outdated and no parts are available. New dart guns are needed. She highlighted other upcoming training scheduled. She noted that the efforts to expand the CCAC facility is on-going and an outside committee, ASP (Animal Shelter Project) has been formed. She highlighted the members who make up this group. The committee discussed at length donated money received by groups such as ASP to include that these donations are not "county" money. The need for ensuring the gate accessing animal control is operational by winter was also discussed at length.

Motion was made by Dale Livingston and seconded by Chuck Smedley to adjourn. Dale Livingston withdrew his motion.

## COURT HOUSE BUSINESS

Ron Brown, Maintenance Supervisor, highlighted the individual who previously assisted the County with monitoring of the chemicals for the boiler has retired and a new individual has been here to advise what needs to be adjusted.

Curtis Ryen has been in touch with Ron regarding the lighting incentive project. The project will start with work at the Highway Department in a couple of weeks as they are waiting on parts.

Moving of two (2) trees will happen towards the end of the month. Ron gave his thoughts on tree placement.

Ron addressed snow removal and use of backhoe from Highway, when needed, for parking lots at Probation, Animal Control, Health, Jail and Solid Waste. An employee with the Highway Department will continue to use a snow blower around the courthouse.

## NOVEMBER MEETING DATE

The November committee meeting falls on November 8<sup>th</sup> which is Election Day.

Motion by Dale Livingston and seconded by Chuck Smedley to recommend to the full Board to move the November Highway, Building, Grounds, Environmental, Zoning and Welfare meeting to November 10, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Dale Livingston made a motion to move the November Highway Building Grounds meeting to November 10, 2022 with a second by Linda Curtin. After no discussion, all in favor please signify by saying aye (12) all opposed same sign (0). Motion carried.*

OTHER MATTERS

None.

Motion by Thomas Snyder, Jr. and seconded by Chuck Smedley to adjourn. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Dale Livingston  
Buildings/Highway/Environmental/Zoning  
Welfare Chairman  
10/11/2022

**EXECUTIVE/PERSONNEL/LIQUOR COMMITTEE**

**October 3, 2022**

Present: Craig Corzine, Chairman, Ray Koonce, David Puccetti, Clint Epley, Bryan Sharp  
Absent: None  
Others present: Matt Wells, Linda Curtin, Bev Graham, Blake Tarr, Leslie DeVore, Jacques Willison, Dani Knecht, Julie Mayer, Wes Poggenpohl, Josh Shallenbarger, Sherri Craggs, Steve Craggs, Sally Brusveen, Pat Vogel, Maureen Maple, Mardell Pizzoferrato, Tevia Leach, and Elizabeth Hile in attendance.

The Executive, Personnel, and Liquor Committee met on Monday, October 3, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. in County Board meeting room, second floor of the Christian County Courthouse, Taylorville, Illinois. The purpose of the meeting was to address any agenda items, any personnel issues, policies, and any other matters properly brought before the Committee. Roll call was taken and there was a quorum.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Maureen Maple addressed the committee on behalf of several volunteer groups regarding the need to expand Animal Control and the hope this will qualify for receipt of ARPA funds.

**ORDINANCE – O2022 CB 034**

At the September County Board meeting, members voted to pass a six (6) month moratorium on issuance of special use permits for high voltage direct current transmission lines but did not actually pass an ordinance.

Motion by Ray Koonce and seconded by Clint Epley to recommend to the full Board to approve Ordinance O2022 CB 034. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

Ray Koonce made a motion with a second by Vicki McMahon to approve Ordinance O2022 CB 034. After no discussion, all in favor please signify by saying aye (12) all opposed same sign (0).

#### CHRISTIAN COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Due to illness, this item will be tabled until the November meeting.

#### EMA UPDATE

Chairman Wells advised that Jeff Stoner couldn't be present tonight but all radios have now been distributed.

#### ARPA FUND REQUESTS

##### Shelby Electric Broadband – Options and Letter of Support

Josh Shallenbarger from Shelby Electric at this time is just asking for a resolution of support for grant applications. The maximum grant award is \$10 million and would service 793 locations. Additional grants will be opening up again also.

Motion by Craig Corzine and seconded David Puccetti to recommend to the full Board to approve a resolution of support for Shelby Electric Broadband.

*Ray Koonce made a motion with a second by David Puccetti to approve resolution of support for Shelby Electric Broadband. After no discussion, all in favor please signify by saying aye (12) all opposed same sign (0). Motion Carried.*

Motion by Ray Koonce and seconded by Clint Epley to amend the original motion and strike the use of "collaborate" in the last whereas of the suggested document. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

*Ray Koonce made a motion to strike out "collaborate" in suggested document with a second by Clint Epley. After no discussion, all in favor please signify by saying aye (12) all opposed same sign (0). Motion Carried.*

Members voted on the original motion to recommend to the full Board to approve the resolution of support for Shelby Electric Broadband. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

*Ray Koonce made a motion to approve R2022CB029 with a second by Bryan Sharp. After no discussion, all in favor please signify by saying aye (12) all opposed same sign (0). Motion Carried.*

#### County Clerk Request

County Clerk Willison presented information and proposals for reader printers and scanners for digitizing records in the Clerk's Office. Jacque will continue to research options and bring back information next month.

### Health Department Parking Lot

Leslie DeVore, President of the Christian County Health Department highlighted the condition of the Health Department parking lot as a result of high traffic during COVID. She advised the committee that grants received by the Health Department cannot be used on infrastructure. She presented estimated costs for concrete and oil and chip.

Motion by Craig Corzine and seconded by Ray Koonce to forward this matter on to the Highway, Building and Grounds Committee with Chairman Wells talking to Cliff Frye for cost options.

### Control Gate – Animal Control

The gate at Animal Control is a large gate that is difficult to open especially during the winter. Other departments also use this gate after hours. Bill Kennedy has looked at the gate and feels we might be able to put an electronic opener on it cheaper than cost estimates received. Bill is still working on that.

Chairman Corzine asked if it would be reasonable to wait until we get cost estimates and revisit next month.

### Request of Funds for Christian County Animal Control

Several groups have come together supporting a request for ARPA funds to assist in the expansion of Animal Control. Those groups are Taylorville Animal Control Officer, Capital Development Committee for CCAC and Friends of Christian County Animal Control. There have been over 1,000 signature obtained in past years due to overcrowding at the facility. The request is for \$50,000.00 to get the project started. The groups will continue to raise money and Animal Control Director, Sherri Craggs will work on finding grants.

Chairman Wells felt that Highway, Building and Grounds should look at proposed expansion drawings and then possibly come back to Personnel/Executive and on to Finance. States Attorney Poggenpohl didn't know if ARPA funds could be used for meeting grant funding match requirements and perhaps that should be discussed with the County Treasurer.

### ARPA PROCEDURE MODEL

The committee discussed the need for some type of review process recognizing the possibility of obligating funds and a good project missing out because funds have been expended. No action taken.

### CARBON CAPTURE AND STORAGE ORDINANCE

States Attorney Wes Poggenpohl advised the committee that he received a call late this afternoon from the firm hired to assist with the carbon capture and storage ordinance who indicated they had discovered a conflict of interest and would not be able to assist the County. The States Attorney will continue to work on contacting other attorneys.

Motion by Ray Koonce and seconded by Clint Epley to table for further advice from the States Attorney. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

## CURRENT SIX MONTH MORATORIUM UNDERGROUND CARBON SEQUESTRATION FACILITIES ORDINANCE O2022 CB 022 – POSSIBLE EXTENSION

The committee discussed the need to extend the current carbon sequestration moratorium ordinance out another 6 months. The States Attorney recommended considering a shorter extension.

Motion by Craig Corzine and seconded by Bryan Sharp to recommend to the full Board approving a 6 month extension of the moratorium from the expiration of the current ordinance. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

*Ray Koonce made a motion to approve O2022CB022 6 month extension of the moratorium with a second by Clint Epley. After no discussion, all those in favor please signify by saying aye (12) all opposed same sign (0). Motion Carried*

## COUNTY CLERK'S SALARY ORDINANCE

Chairman Corzine asked what the committee wanted to do. He noted he had received a copy of an opinion email from the States Attorney. States Attorney Poggenpohl, who was present, noted there isn't anything in statute dealing with correcting a mistake and didn't know who would challenge it.

Motion by Ray Koonce and seconded by David Puccetti to recommend to the full Board to amend language in the ordinance that was already voted on addressing the salary of the County Clerk. All members were in favor. Motion carried. Chairman Corzine made a reminder that this matter would still need to pass the full Board.

**Ray Koonce** - called a point of order. I need some clarification. In the meeting Mr. States Attorney you didn't feel anybody would challenge it. I didn't receive your email until today. Your email states that regardless of the rule, and whether or not it should apply, the board voted to approve a salary, and it is now too late to change it. So whoever wins the election in November is stuck with a salary that is less than it probably should be. I need clarification, which way is it going to go.

**Wes Poggenpohl** – that is an email I sent a while back before the meeting. The statute is pretty clear. Says salary shall be set more than 180 days before the election, before the start of the term. I think the purpose of that is the whole point is you found your buddy won so you are going to jack the salary up right before they get into office. So really what I am trying to say is if what was passed was meant to be passed probably shouldn't be changing it that is what you guys thought was the plan. Based on the amendments made prior to this being passed I am not for sure this situation with the clerk's office and the amount of time the current clerk has been in there isn't the 10 percent reduction you guys were visualizing. I think the statute, even though when it says shall, I think you guys would be well within your rights to correct a mistake. I don't think anybody is going to challenge this from correcting a mistake. It doesn't have that appearance of us acting inappropriately because we are trying to correct a mistake. We are trying to bring it to the same



pay as everybody else. Your intent was different than what got passed. You have my blessing so to say to correct this mistake.

**Ray Koonce** – *made a motion to correct the mistake with a second by Bev Graham.* Discussion.

**Bev Graham** – I think there was a misunderstanding when this was put out to us that we do not want to reduce the salary by 10 percent. That we wanted whoever that person is serving as clerk to get the amount of money that the other elected officials are getting.

**Acting as Chairman Venise McWard** – okay. But the motion on the floor we are discussing is if it is legal, correct Wes. So you are saying we are in the clear and it is legal for us to go ahead and do this.

**Wes Poggenpohl** – I think you guys are in the clear. You have the right to do it. Whether or not it can be challenged – if somebody chooses to challenge it it could be yes. Like I said before what you intended to do 180 days before the election and there was a mistake made – you are correcting that prior mistake. I think that is fine. If the salary you set more than 180 days is the salary you intended to set and everybody knew that then I don't think we should be changing anything. But if there was some sort of misunderstanding and you are trying to correct something, then I think amending an ordinance that was previously made is fine.

**Vicki McMahon** – do we have a record of the minutes from that particular meeting that we could review.

**Clint Epley** – it was in the packet, wasn't it Liz.

**Liz Hile** – with all the issues on this matter the minutes were put in the packet.

**Vicki McMahon** – okay. I apologize.

**Bryan Sharp** – madam Chairman, could you have Wes walk us through this. This thing has gotten so out of hand. I have no idea. Statutorily, I don't know where that language is or where it falls into place with this. I think we need somebody to explain this. It has been a muddy mess since we started this.

**Acting as Chairman Venise McWard** – I believe we tried to correct it and it has become questionable.

**Wes Poggenpohl** – so with regards to the statute, the statute is very specific, very brief. Talks about all the elected positions. It says, the county board by ordinance shall set the salaries all the listed positions more than 180 days before the term begins. That is pretty clear. My read of it the history of this has been initially there was this rule that if somebody left early in their term, there was going to be a 10 percent reduction in their pay and then at some point this year, there was an amendment to that and it added language that said 12 months. So my reading of that was if somebody leaves their position less than 12 months before their term ends, then the 10 percent

kicks into place. And then shortly thereafter, the ordinance was passed O2022CB013 that set the clerk and recorder salary starting December 1 that included the 10 percent reduction. So that would apply regardless of who wins the election next month and whoever is sworn in on December 1, whoever that is, is going to make 10 percent less than all the other elected County officials. What it looks like is there was an amendment to the county board rules regarding the 10 percent reduction. But that wasn't figured into the equation whenever this ordinance was passed. I don't think the way that it was changed this was the purpose and what the goal was but that is what we got.

**Liz Hile** – just for clarification purposes the ordinances were passed first. And then the board rules were changed.

**Mike Specha** – what happened was we had all the ordinances which included the 10 percent reduction. And at that meeting, we voted as a board to approve it. It was at the next meeting, and I was the one that forwarded this, we amended our board rules to allow for a 10 percent reduction only if they have served less than a year. The person had to run again but only served less than a year. So that was done within the 180 days which is back to this intent. Now this ordinance not being passed 180 days before but we did amend the rules and we are just really doing clarification of something that was within the 180 days.

**Liz Hile** – Wes, another clarification it was the same meeting. Ordinance passed first and then at the end of the meeting the rules changed.

**Wes Poggenpohl** – it probably was all the same meeting just an hour or so apart. Just kind of missed each other.

**Clint Epley** – I was new to the board, but I think the board's intent was if Jacque is still there she shouldn't get a 10 percent reduction correct

**Acting as Chairman Venise McWard** – that is my understanding.

**Clint Epley** – that is mine. If she is in there, that is not fair to her.

**Wes Poggenpohl** – it is not contingent. Whoever is in there gets a 10 percent reduction. It is not different depending on whoever comes out of it. It is the same reduction

**Mike Specha** – that's because the wording in the original rules allowed for a 10 percent reduction if the person was not elected in the prior election. So to fix that basically we said 1 year experience was good enough.

**Ray Koonce** – Madam Chairman basically this boils down to – I agree with Mike and with the State's Attorneys blessing on that now, are you comfortable moving forward legally doing this or not is what it boils down to. Do you want to take the advice of the State's Attorney and are you comfortable as a legal matter that we can do this or not.

**Linda Curtin** – I think there was definitely some confusion and I think we made a mistake and I think we need to correct this immediately.

**Bev Graham** – that is my opinion too and Mike did a very good job on explaining what he did to try and get it corrected and then it totally got all messed up.

**Dale Livingston** – so we have to have a whole new ordinance correct.

**Acting as Chairman Venise McWard** – we have the ordinance number

**Vicki McMahon** – do we amend that ordinance

**Liz Hile** – so the motion that the committee voted on was to amend the ordinance. Only the salary portion of the ordinance. The draft that the state's attorney has reviewed which is O2022CB39 only addresses amending the compensation of O2022CB013.

**Acting as Chairman Venise McWard** – any other questions or discussion?

**Bryan Sharp** – this cleans this mess up?

**Wes Poggenpohl** – I think this will bring us to where this intended for us to be.

Acting as Chairman Venise McWard – this involves money to please take roll.

A roll call vote called upon polled the following: Timothy Carlson, Linda Curtin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Mike Specha, ayes (12). Motion carried.

#### PURCHASING PROCEDURES – RAISING THE CHAIRMAN'S LIMITS

Ray Koonce advised that he had asked for this to be placed on the agenda as a result of the recent boiler issue which the Treasurer confirmed was in the budget. However, should this be reviewed when emergency situations occur.

Motion by Ray Koonce and seconded by Craig Corzine to allow the Chairman of the Board to go over the \$2,000.00 limit in emergency or urgent situations with approval of the Finance Chair or Treasurer approval with the States Attorney reviewing statutes to determine if that change can be made and then forwarding the matter to Finance. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

#### CREDIT CARD POLICY REVIEW

The committee noted concern for possible spending problems and didn't want any more accounts out there. The Treasurer wasn't present to discuss further. No action taken.

#### CLOSED SESSION MINUTES

Closed session minutes should be reviewed every six (6) months. The County Clerk has researched and hasn't been able to determine if minutes were typed prior to her taking office. She has reviewed minutes since she has been in office and provided a copy to the committee. Chairman Wells does not feel there is any closed session minutes on the list that should be opened at this time. It was suggested that the County Clerk continue to research for past closed session minutes.

Motion by Ray Koonce and seconded by Craig Corzine to recommend to the full Board not to release closed session minutes as presented as the need for continued confidentiality still exists and to readdress everything again in six (6) months. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

*Ray Koonce made a motion not to release closed session minutes with a second by Linda Curtin.* Discussion? All those in favor signify by saying aye (12) all opposed same sign (0). Motion carried

#### SOLID WASTE EDUCATOR

This has continued to be placed on the agenda and at some point a recommendation will be forthcoming.

#### PERSONNEL HANDBOOK

No action taken.

#### OTHER MATTERS

Ray Koonce on behalf of the Chillifest Committee thanked the County for their support and those who worked the event.

Motion by Ray Koonce and seconded by Clint Epley to adjourn. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Craig Corzine, Chairman  
Executive/Personnel Committee  
10/03/2022

**AUDIT/FINANCE/PURCHASING/BUDGET COMMITTEE**  
**October 12, 2022**

Present: Venise McWard, Chairman, Linda Curtin, Vicki McMahan, Tim Carlson,  
Ken Franklin  
Absent: None  
Others present: Matt Wells, Betty Asmussen, Julie Mayer, Jacque Willison, Courtney  
Sharp, Debbie Phillips, Tricia Harkins, Erin Harkins, Curtis Ryen, Jim  
Baker, Shawn Hammers, Blake Tarr, Leslie DeVore, Lucas Domonowsky  
and Elizabeth Hile.

The Audit/Finance/Purchasing/Budget Committee met on Wednesday, October 12, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. at the Christian County Courthouse, Taylorville, Illinois. The purpose of the meeting was to address agenda items and any other matters properly brought before the committee. Roll call was taken and there was a quorum.

**CLAIMS**

A motion was made by Vicki McMahan and seconded by Tim Carlson to recommend to the full Board to approve the claims presented for October. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Venise McWard made a motion to approve the claims with a seconded by Dale Livingston. After no discussion, a roll call vote was called upon.*

A roll call vote called upon polled the following: Linda Curtin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahan, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Mike Specha, Timothy Carlson, ayes (12). Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Debbie Phillips with the Christian County Health Department spoke about the proposed budget for the Health Department. She highlighted salaries for staff need to be competitive and also the need for staff overall. She noted that the only money received from the County for this department was that levied for TB. The remaining funding comes from grants.

## ENERGY SOLUTIONS PROPOSAL – SHERIFF’S DEPARTMENT

Curtis Ryen from Energy Solutions was present to answer any questions related to the proposal for the Sheriff’s Department to include any questions regarding the proposed project incentive amount.

Motion by Vicki McMahon and seconded by Linda Curtin to recommend to the full Board to approval the lighting project improvement for the Sheriff’s Department at a cost of \$18,240.00 with the cost coming from capitol improvement. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Venise McWard made a motion to approve the lighting project for the Sheriff’s Department with a second by Dale Livingston. After no discussion, a roll call vote was called upon.*

A roll call vote called upon polled the following: Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Mike Specha, Timothy Carlson, Linda Curtin, yes (12) (0) nays. Motion carried.

## REVISIT PRESENTED BUDGETS

### Solid Waste Management

Shawn Hammers indicated for the salary of educator, he would recommend \$40,000.00. He would also recommend increasing the recycling for schools.

### Zoning

Blake Tarr highlighted the current mileage reimbursement for ZBA members and reimbursement for his zoning inspections mileage. He recommended increasing the line item total to \$1,250.00 - \$1,500.00.

Treasurer Asmussen recommended adding training line item for \$1,000.00 for membership fees should Blake feel this would be beneficial.

## BUDGET HEARINGS

Chief Deputy Jim Baker asked the committee to reconsider the amount in the equipment operating expense for the Sheriff’s Department. He highlighted annual costs that are paid at this time of the year showing the line item will end up at the budgeted \$30,000.00.

Leslie DeVore with the Christian County Health Department presented cost estimates to oil and chip the Health Department parking lot as referred by the Highway, Building, and Grounds Committee. The Health Board would have liked to have improved the parking lot to concrete but that option is not cost effective at this time. The estimate received to oil and chip the lot was \$5,454.50.

She also discussed an easement area along the side of Advanced Eyecare that has broken up which is felt to be a result of high COVID traffic. Advanced Eyecare has offered to partner with the County related to the cost to repair this section. The lowest estimated for repairing this section was \$8,400.00. Contact will be made with Advanced Eyecare on cost sharing. The matter will be taken back to Highway, Building and Grounds Committee next month. Leslie reminded the committee that the Health Department building is a county building. Grants received by the Health Department does not provide for infrastructure improvements.

Motion by Vicki McMahon and seconded by Tim Carlson to recommend to the full Board to approve an ordinance providing for use of ARPA funds not to exceed \$6,500.00 to oil and chip the parking lot at the Christian County Health Department. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Venise McWard made a motion to recommend O2022CB037 ARPA funds for the Christian County Health Department for the parking lot with a second by Dale Livingston. After no discussion, a roll call vote was called upon.*

A roll call vote called upon polled the following: Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Mike Specha, Timothy Carlson, Linda Curtin, Bev Graham, yes (12) (0) nays. Motion carried.

Leslie also discussed approved amendments to the Health Department budget for committee consideration. The Health Board since 1<sup>st</sup> presenting their budget has restructured positions. There was some discussion raised regarding proposed salaries. Leslie felt what was proposed was necessary as it may be difficult to hire positions. She advised that outside the funds levied for TB, all other funding was received from grants. COVID grants sunset the end of December 2022.

Treasurer Asmussen asked the committee to revisit the budget for Animal Control as there were 2 different staffing proposals presented. She also noted that the Coroner would like to increase communications line item to \$2,200.00.

Motion by Vicki McMahon and seconded by Tim Carlson to direct the County Treasurer to increase the communications line item for the coroner's budget to \$2,200.00. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Venise McWard made a motion to increase the communications line item for the Coroner's budget with a second by Linda Curtin. After no discussion, a roll call vote was called upon.*

A roll call vote called upon polled the following: Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Mike Specha, Timothy Carlson, Linda Curtin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, ayes (12) (0) nays. Motion carried.

Motion by Vicki McMahon and seconded by Linda Curtin to direct the County Treasurer to return the equipment operating expense line item for the Sheriff's office back to presented \$30,000.00. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Venise McWard made a motion to return the equipment operating expense line item back to \$30,000 with a second by Linda Curtin. After no discussion a roll call vote was called upon.*

A roll call vote called upon polled the following: Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Mike Specha, Timothy Carlson, Linda Curtin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, ayes (12) (0) nays. Motion carried.

Motion by Vicki McMahon and seconded by Linda Curtin to go into Closed Session pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (1) to discuss appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or

against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity and all subject matters relating thereto and to include the following persons to be present during all or part of such executive session namely, Venise McWard, Tim Carlson, Ken Franklin, Vicki McMahon, Linda Curtin, Matt Wells, Jacque Willison, Betty Asmussen, Julie Mayer and Liz Hile and such other person or persons as the Chairperson or Committee may decide during this meeting and/or during such closed session.

The Committee went into Closed Session at 6:30 p.m.  
The Committee returned to Open Session at 8:11 p.m.

Roll Call – Venise McWard, Tim Carlson, Ken Franklin, Vicki McMahon and Linda Curtin were all present.

#### NON BARGAINING ORDINANCE

Motion by Vicki McMahon and seconded by Linda Curtin to recommend to the full Board to amend the salary section of the Non-Bargaining Starting Salary Policy for the positions of chief deputy in the Treasurer, Circuit Clerk and County Clerk's office to the following: Starting salary effective December 1, 2022 at \$42,500.00; after one (1) year of employment, it shall increase to \$44,000.00; after two (2) years of employment, it shall increase to \$46,500.00; after three (3) years of employment, it shall increase to \$48,000.00. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Venise McWard made a motion to amend the non-bargaining starting salary policy with a second by Dale Livingston. After no discussion, a roll call vote was called upon.*

A roll call vote called upon polled the following: Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Mike Specha, Timothy Carlson, Linda Curtin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahon, ayes (12) (0) nays. Motion carried.

#### BUDGETS

Motion by Linda Curtin and seconded by Vicki McMahon to direct the County Treasurer to reduce the salaries for part time employees at Animal Control to \$44,000.00. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Venise McWard made a motion to reduce the salaries for part time employees at Animal Control with a second by Dale Livingston. Discussion?*

**Clint Epley** – asked what the salary was

**Venise McWard** – \$87,000 for part time

**Liz Hile** – since these were just directing the county treasurer and not – because the full board will come back and vote on the budgets, do you need to vote on each one?

**Wes Poggenpohl** – if this is going to be the final approval then yes you need to. It is not going to hurt to do it twice.

**Acting as Chairman Venise McWard** – after no further discussion, please call roll.



A roll call vote called upon polled the following: Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Mike Specha, Timothy Carlson, Linda Curtin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, ayes (12) (0) nays. Motion carried.

Motion by Vicki McMahon and seconded by Ken Franklin to approve the salary of 1<sup>st</sup> Assistant States Attorney - \$71,000.00; 2<sup>nd</sup> Assistant States Attorney - \$60,000.00; Victim Witness Coordinator - \$41,850 (\$22,000 is received by grant). A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Venise McWard made a motion to approve the salaries for the state's attorneys office with a second by Bev Graham. After no discussion, a roll call vote was called upon*

A roll call vote called upon polled the following: David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Mike Specha, Timothy Carlson, Linda Curtin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, ayes (12) (0) nays. Motion carried.

Motion by Linda Curtin and seconded by Vicki McMahon to approve the salary of Assistant Public Defender - \$62,000.00. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Venise McWard made a motion to approve the salary of the Assistant Public Defender with a second by Linda Curtin. Discussion?*

**Dale Livingston** – why is the Assistant Public Defender's salary \$9,000 less than the Assistant State's Attorney? I am just asking where did they come up with the numbers.

**Acting as Chairman Venise McWard** – because that is what was requested by the assistant Public Defender. Am I correct in that Vicki, Linda, Tim? Liz believes it may have been \$65,000 originally. I don't have my finance book with me tonight. I thought that was what she requested.

**Dale Livingston** – that is not much money. I am just asking.

**Venise McWard** – the second assistant State's Attorney is \$60,000

**Wes Poggenpohl** – the \$60,000 is entry level. I know the Public Defender's office – I think they will take entry level. Some of the stuff they are handling there as well is pretty complex. Better to have more to try and attract someone with more experience. I think it is pretty competitive. Even though we are competitive we are still struggling to find applicants.

**Acting as Chairman Venise McWard** - After no further discussion, a roll call vote was called upon.

A roll call vote called upon polled the following: Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Mike Specha, Timothy Carlson, Linda Curtin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston (n) Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, ayes (11) (1) nays. Motion carried.

Motion by Vicki McMahon and seconded by Linda Curtin to approve the salary of Chief Deputy at the Sheriff's Department - \$75,500; Jail Administrator at the Sheriff's Department - \$61,417.00. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Venise McWard made a motion to approve the salary of the Chief Deputy at the Sheriff's Department with a second by Bryan Sharp. Discussion?*

A roll call vote called upon polled the following: Chuck Smedley, Mike Specha, Timothy Carlson, Linda Curtin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, ayes (12) (0) nays. Motion carried.

Motion by Linda Curtin and seconded by Vicki McMahon to approve the salary of the Administrative Assistant to the Board/HR - \$54,000.00. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Venise McWard made a motion to approve the salary of the Assistan to the Board/HR with a second by Linda Curtin. Discussion?*

A roll call vote called upon polled the following: Mike Specha, Timothy Carlson, Linda Curtin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, ayes (12) (0) nays. Motion carried.

Motion by Venise McWard and seconded by Vicki McMahon to approve the salary of ESDA Director - \$23,175.00. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Venise McWard made a motion to approve the salary of the ESDA Director with a second by Ray Koonce. Discussion?*

A roll call vote called upon polled the following: Timothy Carlson, Linda Curtin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Mike Specha, ayes (12) (0) nays. Motion carried.

Motion by Venise McWard and seconded by Vicki McMahon to approve the salary of Animal Control Director - \$40,500.00. A roll call vote polled 4 ayes and 1 nay. Motion carried.

*Venise McWard made a motion to approve the salary of the Animal Control Director with a second by Dale Livingston. Discussion?*

A roll call vote called upon polled the following: Linda Curtin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Mike Specha, Timothy Carlson, ayes (12) (0) nays. Motion carried.

Motion by Venise McWard and seconded by Vicki McMahon to approve the salary of Zoning Administrator - \$52,000.00. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Venise McWard made a motion to approve the salary of the Zoning Administrator with a second by Ray Koonce. Discussion?*

A roll call vote called upon polled the following: Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Mike Specha, Timothy Carlson, Linda Curtin ayes (12) (0) nays. Motion carried.

Motion by Venise McWard and seconded by Linda Curtin to approve the salary of Maintenance Supervisor - \$65,000.00. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Venise McWard made a motion to approve the salary of the Maintenance Supervisor with a second by Dale Livingston. Discussion?*

A roll call vote called upon polled the following: Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahan, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Mike Specha, Timothy Carlson, Linda Curtin, Bev Graham, ayes (12) (0) nays. Motion carried.

Motion by Vicki McMahan and seconded by Linda Curtin to approve the salary of Christian County Health Department Administrator - \$87,750.00. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Venise McWard made a motion to approve the salary of the Christian County Health Department Administrator with a second by Linda Curtin. Discussion?*

A roll call vote called upon polled the following: Dale Livingston (n), Vicki McMahan, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley (n), Mike Specha, Timothy Carlson, Linda Curtin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, ayes (10) (2) nays. Motion carried.

Motion by Venise McWard and seconded by Ken Franklin to approve the salary of Solid Waste Department Head - \$48,500.00; Educator - \$40,000.00. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Venise McWard made a motion to approve the salaries of the Solid Waste Department Head and Educator with a second by Ray Koonce. Discussion?*

**Vicki McMahan** – I do want to have a discussion. I apologize for that. When we talk about the educator I thought we didn't know if it was going to be full time part time or it is still knew and we were going to leave it there.

**Venise McWard** – if you remember we were going to put \$40,000 there in the budget because right now we are determining if an educator is needed or not. Am I correct Shawn.

**Shawn Hammers-** Yes, with the way the IEPA does things as it stands right now. It pays part of that for my salary. 90 percent of the time on program for IEPA, the agreement is towards inspecting and recording activities and other administrative duties of the office. Some of that time can be for educator but mostly towards inspecting and recording activities.

A roll call vote called upon polled the following: Vicki McMahan, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Mike Specha, Timothy Carlson, Linda Curtin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, ayes (12) (0) nays. Motion carried.

Motion by Venise McWard and seconded by Linda Curtin to direct the County Treasurer to change the hourly rate increase of the Office Manager at the Highway Department to 3%. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Venise McWard made a motion to direct the County Treasurer to change the hourly rate increase for the Office Manager at highway department with a second by Vicki McMahan. Discussion?*

**Dale Livingston** – how come only three percent? Inflation is higher than that.

**Venise McWard** – we just did 3 percent.

**Dale Livingston** – didn't we just give the deputies like 5 percent?

**Venise McWard** – no. It was 4 percent. Three for three years.

**Acting as Chairman Venise McWard** – if no further discussion, please call roll

A roll call vote called upon polled the following: Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Mike Specha, Timothy Carlson, Linda Curtin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahon, ayes (12) (0) nays. Motion carried.

Highway Engineer's salary notice has not been received by the State. This salary to be announced.

Motion by Venise McWard and seconded by Vicki McMahon to approve the salary of Chief Probation Officer - \$95,093.00; Probation Supervisor/Trainer - \$57,273.00; Probation Supervisor/Trainer - \$55,087.00. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Venise McWard made a motion to approve the salary of Chief Probation Office, Supervisor/Trainer with a second by Ray Koonce. Discussion?*

A roll call vote called upon polled the following: Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp (n), Chuck Smedley, Mike Specha, Timothy Carlson, Linda Curtin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston (n), Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, ayes (10) (2) nays. Motion carried.

Treasurer Asmussen will update the budgets and put the budget on file with the County Clerk by November 1<sup>st</sup> as required.

#### REFERRALS

The only referral was the cost of the parking lot repairs for the Health Department which was addressed earlier this evening.

#### OTHER MATTERS

Chief Deputy Baker advised that the x-ray machine for security was implemented in 1998 and parts are no longer available. If the machine goes down security will have to do hand checks of bags. This may be an upcoming ARPA request.

Motion by Tim Carlson and seconded by Vicki McMahon to adjourn. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Venise McWard  
Finance/Audit/Purchasing/Budget Committee Chairwoman  
10/12/2022

**11. NEW BUSINESS/OLD BUSINESS/OTHER**

- **City of Taylorville/Letter of Support request** - moved up on the agenda
- **Small Town Taylorville** – moved up on the agenda
- **McDonough County/Attorney Joe Murphy** – moved up on the agenda
- **Pilot Listing** – Liz stated a couple years ago the chairman renegotiated the percent we receive in lieu of taxes and there has been some changes to that list. We have not received an updated list so there is nothing to add

**12. MILEAGE AND PER DIEM REPORT – June 21, 2022**

<b><u>Board Member</u></b>	<b><u>Salary</u></b>	<b><u>Rate</u></b>	<b><u># of Meetings This Month</u></b>
Timothy Carlson	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Craig Corzine	\$100.00	\$25.00	1
Linda Curtin	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Clint Epley	\$ 50.00	\$25.00	2
Ken Franklin	\$100.00	\$25.00	1
Bev Graham	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Ray Koonce	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Dale Livingston	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Vicki McMahan	\$100.00	\$25.00	4
Venise McWard	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
David Puccetti	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Bryan Sharp	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Chuck Smedley	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Thomas Snyder, Jr.	\$100.00	\$25.00	1
Mike Specha	\$100.00	\$25.00	1
Matt Wells	\$615.38		

Acting as Chairman Venise McWard called for a motion from the floor to approve the Mileage and Per Diem Report.

*A motion was made by Vicki McMahan and seconded by Bev Graham to approve the mileage and per diem report. With no discussion, a roll call vote was called upon.*

A roll call vote called upon polled the following:; Timothy Carlson, Linda Curtin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahan, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Mike Specha ayes (12) (0) nays. Motion carried.

**Bryan Sharp** – Where is the Zoning Office operating out of now and Solid Waste – I am assuming the solid waste building. Both of you guys are in the solid waste building. What is the plan of moving back to the courthouse?

**Dale Livingston** – We are still trying to look into getting that done.

**Bryan Sharp** – did we put a time line on that

**Dale Livingston** – no since they are both new and trying to learn. They know they have to move.

**Bryan Sharp** – do we need to put a time limit on that to get it accomplished. We didn't put a deadline on it. Should we. That will be on the next Personnel committee meeting.

**Bev Graham** – even though it was under the Highway, can these two gentlemen give their own report because it was lengthy of what they have been doing. So they can give their own report at the full county board meeting on what they have been doing. I know Blake has joined an association. He is working with other people – Shawn is so they can give their own report and everybody from the full board can understand more of what they are doing then just having it read from the committee meeting.

Acting as Chairman Venise McWard – thank you both for your hard work.

There was a little discussion on the housing project behind Ace Hardware. It is possibly part of the pilot program and it has stopped construction.

### **13. ADJOURNMENT**

Acting as Chairman Venise McWard called for a motion from the floor to adjourn until November 15, 2022. *A motion was made by Tim Carlson and seconded by David Puccetti to adjourn until the next meeting on November 15, 2022.*

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNTY BOARD**  
AT A MEETING OF THE COUNTY BOARD MEMBERS OF CHRISTIAN COUNTY  
ILLINOIS, BEGUN AND HELD AT THE CHRISTIAN COUNTY COURTHOUSE IN  
TAYLORVILLE, ILLINOIS ON **November 15, 2022**  
*ATTEST: JACQUE WILLISON, COUNTY CLERK*

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The following proceeding had and entered at large upon the records of said Board, which is done accordingly in the following words and figures to wit;

Chairman Matt Wells called the board meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. This meeting was held on the second floor of the courthouse in the County Board Room.

**ROLL CALL**

The roll call by County Clerk Jacque Willison showing all members present with Dale Livingston and Thomas Snyder Jr., being absent. A quorum was had to hold the meeting.

**APPROVE COUNTY BOARD MINUTES**

Chairman Matt Wells asked for any corrections or additions and to accept the October 18, 2022 County Board minutes to approve as printed. Matt Wells called for a motion to approve the minutes. *Venise McWard made a motion to approve the minutes seconded by Bev Graham.* After no discussion, Matt Wells asked for roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon all members present, polled the following: (14) aye; (0) nay; (2) absent; the motion carried and the minutes were approved.

**5. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Chairman Wells asked if there was any comments from the public. There were no public comments. Chairman Wells then proceeded to thank and recognize fellow board members; Bev Graham, Craig Corzine, Ray Koonce, Chuck Smedley and Dale Livingston. These board members will be ending their term. County Clerk Jacque Willison and States Attorney Wes Poggenpohl were also thanked and recognized for their service by the Chairman and board members.

**6. APPOINTMENTS** – there are no appointments at this time.

**7. PETITIONS, RESOLUTIONS, ORDINANCES OR PROCLAMATIONS** – there were no petitions, resolutions, ordinances or proclamations at this time.

**8. READING OF COMMUNICATIONS**

**NOVEMBER 2022 COMMUNICATIONS**

The following communications were presented and placed on file in the Clerk's Office.

1. November 2022 Prevailing Wage Report
2. The October 2022 Public Defender's Report
3. The Treasurer's Reports for period ending October 30, 2022

4. The Local Solid Waste Fees Fund report for October 2022
5. ROE – Expenditure Report for October 2022
  
6. IDOT – Motor Fuel Tax Allotment and Transactions for October 2022

**9. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**HIGHWAY/BUILDING/GROUNDS/ENVIRONMENTAL/ZONING  
AND WELFARE COMMITTEE  
November 10, 2022**

Present: Dale Livingston, Chuck Smedley, Bev Graham, Thomas Snyder, Jr. and Mike Specha  
Absent: None  
Others present: Matt Wells, Linda Curtin, Cliff Frye, Ron Brown, Blake Tarr, Shawn Hammers, Lucas Domonowsky and Elizabeth Hile in attendance.

The meeting of the Highway/Building/Grounds/Environmental/Welfare/Zoning Committee was called to order on Thursday, November 10, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. in the Christian County Courthouse. The purpose of the meeting was County building issues, highway business and any other matters properly brought before the Committee. Roll call was taken and there was a quorum.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

**HIGHWAY/BUILDING/GROUNDS/ENVIRONMENTAL/ZONING AND WELFARE  
COMMITTEE  
November 10, 2022**

**ZONING BUSINESS**

Zoning Administrator Blake Tarr highlighted in his report the zoning revenue, number of permit applications, number of site inspections and fielding ordinance questions for the month. He also stated he has received calls indicating concern on the old elevator outside of Taylorville. Tarr has been in contact with the attorney handling this matter, Jason Brokaw. He also advised they are working to secure a contractor and will also have some areas where coordination will need to occur with the railroad being one. Blake has also been in contact with Dan Sheehan from Black Dimond and a couple of other solar companies. A copy of the director's report was made available to the Board.

**SOLID WASTE BUSINESS**



Solid Waste Department Head Shawn Hammers highlighted some areas in his report, including hazardous waste training, Illinois Counties Solid Waste Management Conferences, updating the hold harmless agreements for the 20ft recycling bins at Morrisonville and Edinburg, grants, IEPA joint inspection for possibly November 20<sup>th</sup> or 21<sup>st</sup>, work he is doing on the County's website for his department and a draft job description for the Educator position. He plans to bring back a copy of that draft to the Personnel/Exec meeting next month. Shawn also made available his report to the County Board.

## HIGHWAY BUSINESS

### CDL Entry Level Driver Training

Cliff Frye informed the County Board that the requirements to obtain a CDL license has changed. To obtain a CDL license, the requirements are to complete a 40+ hour entry level driver's training course at a cost of approximately \$4,000.00. This mandate is making it more difficult to secure CDL drivers and Cliff wanted the committee to be aware that he may need to implement some type of reimbursement program or present other ideas down the road as he currently only has four (4) CDL drivers. He will be watching to see how other counties are handling this and considering information the labor attorney has provided.

*No action needed at this time.*

### Temporary Snow Plow Drivers

Cliff advised that last year he had two (2) temporary snow plow drivers who were paid \$20.00 per hour. One of those drivers will not be coming back and the other we are at the mercy of their employer if they will be able to assist. Cliff would like more temporary plow drivers for the winter season.

Motion was made by Dale Livingston and seconded by Thomas Snyder, Jr. to recommend to the full Board to allow Cliff Frye to hire as many temporary snow plow drivers as he feels is necessary. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Mike Specha made a motion for Cliff Frye to hire temporary snow plow drivers and seconded by Linda Curtin. After no discussion, a roll call vote was called upon.*

A roll call vote called upon the following: Chuck Smedley, Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Vicki McMahan, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp: ayes (14). Dale Livingston and Thomas Snyder, Jr. both absent.

### Annual MFT Maintenance Resolution

Resolution R2022HY026 appropriating \$900,000.00 from the Motor Fuel Tax fund for highway maintenance during FY2023 was presented. This amount has been the same for the last few years.

Motion was made by Thomas Snyder, Jr. and seconded by Chuck Smedley to recommend to the full Board adoption of County Maintenance Resolution R2022HY026. A roll call polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Mike Specha made a motion to approve resolution R2022HY026 and seconded by Ken Franklin.*

A roll call vote called upon the following: Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley: ayes (14). Dale Livingston and Thomas Snyder, Jr. both absent.

#### Annual MFT Retirement Fund Resolution

Resolution R2022HY027 appropriating \$50,000.00 from the Motor Fuel Tax fund for payment of Social Security and IMRF Retirement on the labor performed with MFT funds during FY2023 was presented.

Motion by Chuck Smedley and seconded by Bev Graham to recommend to the full Board adoption of the Social Security and IMRF Retirement Resolution R2022HY027. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Motion made by Mike Specha and seconded by Bev Graham to approve resolution R2022HY027.*

A roll call vote called upon the following: Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Mike Specha: ayes (14). Dale Livingston and Thomas Snyder, Jr. both absent.

#### Annual MFT County Engineers Salary Resolution

Resolution R2022HY028 appropriating the salary and expenses of the County Engineer from the Motor Fuel Tax fund for FY2023 was presented. The State recommended salary is \$119,300.00 (2% increase) and the appropriation for expenses remains unchanged at \$3,000.00

Motion by Dale Livingston and seconded by Mike Specha to recommend to the full Board adoption of the County Engineer Salary and Expenses Resolution R2022HY028. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Mike Specha made a motion to approve resolution R2022HY2028 and seconded by Linda Curtin.*

A roll call vote called upon the following: Timothy Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Mike Specha, Matt Wells: ayes (14). Dale Livingston and Thomas Snyder, Jr. both absent.

### Disposal of surplus equipment and materials

Cliff advised of an old boom mower and trailer that had been in the building damaged by the tornado that hadn't been used for years that he would like to dispose of and miscellaneous items that need to be taken to the scrap yard.

Motion by Bev Graham and seconded by Thomas Snyder, Jr. to recommend to the full Board to allow Cliff Frye to dispose of boom mower, trailer and miscellaneous scrap. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*A motion was made by Mike Specha and seconded by Timothy Carlson to allow Cliff Frye to dispose of boom mower, trailer and miscellaneous scrap.*

A roll call vote called upon the following: Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Vicki McMahan, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson: ayes (14). Dale Livingston and Thomas Snyder, Jr. both absent.

### ANIMAL CONTROL

Due to illness, the items on the agenda for Animal Control will be tabled until next month.

### COURT HOUSE BUSINESS

Ron Brown, Maintenance Supervisor, advised the committee of the condition of the plaster in the Assistant Public Defender's office. That office is currently vacant but the Public Defender will be doing interviews for a new hire and would like the office repaired. One-half of the plaster on the west wall is falling forward and ¼ of the north wall is in the same condition. Hired Help Handyman, Charles Samson, has provided an estimate of \$1,813.00 to repair the bad sections of plaster with two coats of paint. Ron and Tom will take down the plaster in preparation for the repairs.

Motion by Dale Livingston and seconded by Thomas Snyder, Jr. to recommend to the full Board to approve the cost estimate of \$1,813.00 for plaster repair and painting in the Assistant Public Defender's office on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the Courthouse with the expense coming from Capitol Improvement or Contingency. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Mike Specha made a motion to approve the cost estimate of \$1.813.00 for plaster repair and painting in the Assistant Public Defender's office and was seconded by Bev Graham.*

A roll call vote called upon the following: Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Vicki McMahan, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson, Craig Corzine: ayes (14). Dale Livingston and Thomas Snyder, Jr. both absent.

Ron also mentioned the condition of the carpet in that office as well as the condition of the carpet on the stairs of the Courthouse. The committee directed Ron to get bids to replace the carpet in the Assistant Public Defender's office.

Energy Solutions lighting project has been completed at the Health Department and Ron is satisfied with the work. They have also been at the Solid Waste Office as Shawn reported as well with Ron noting they still have work to be done including a recessed light issue.

#### OTHER MATTERS

A question was asked about the current status of the office downstairs and moving Solid Waste/Zoning. Chairman Wells explained that Shawn pointed out some potential concerns with the purchase of the building and the IEPA agreement. Wells noted that Shawn and Blake neither on are opposed to moving. The concern has been raised out of protection of the County. The documents Shawn was asked to provide have been provided to all Board members and to the States Attorney, who was asked to give an opinion as to whether or not another office can move into the building. Additionally, during a walk through, a question was asked about the ability to take a walk down in that office.

*Chairman Wells stated he had heard back from the States Attorney in regards to the Solid Waste Building. States Attorney Wes Poggenpohl stated that the county should be able to do what they want as long as they go through the correct process with the EPA. It was suggested that Shawn Hammers get in touch with the EPA.*

Mike Specha asked if this issue shouldn't be coming back to this (Highway/Building/Grounds) committee based on the CB rules. There was an additional discussion about review/amending the rules with comments that the new Board may accept the current rules or change them.

*Motion by Chuck Smedley and seconded by Dale Livingston to adjourn. All members in favor. Motion carried.*

Respectfully submitted,

Dale Livingston  
Buildings/Highway/Environmental/Zoning  
Welfare Chairman  
11/10/2022

#### **EXECUTIVE/PERSONNEL/LIQUOR COMMITTEE**

**November 7, 2022**

Present: Craig Corzine, Chairman, Ray Koonce, David Puccetti, Clint Epley,  
Bryan Sharp

Absent: None  
Others present: Matt Wells, Linda Curtin, Dick Adams, Sherri Craggs, Shawn Hammers, Jeff Stoner, Dan Sheehan, Heartland Greenway Representative, Lucas Domonowsky and Elizabeth Hile in attendance.

The Executive, Personnel, and Liquor Committee met on Monday, November 7, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. in County Board meeting room, second floor of the Christian County Courthouse, Taylorville, Illinois. The purpose of the meeting was to address any agenda items, any personnel issues, policies, and any other matters properly brought before the Committee. Roll call was taken and there was a quorum.

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

#### CHRISTIAN COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Dick Adams, Christian County Economic Development Director was present to provide and update on economic development since he spoke to the Board earlier this year.

He highlighted programs available to cities, such as TIF districts, that allow them to offer incentives to attract business. He made calls to counties that we might compete with and was told counties don't usually participate. At this time, Mr. Adams would like to be able to come back to the County should CCED learn of a potential business interest where County assistance may be helpful. He advised no action is needed at this time.

#### BLACK DIMOND SOLAR PERMIT

Dan Sheehan with Black Dimond provided an update on their project indicating they were ready to begin the project last year when a problem developed with the grid operator. The grid operator had so many project requests and loss of staff that they pulled back which resulted in pushing back projects.

Black Dimond would like to extend their permit out until 2028 due to the problem with the grid operator. The footprint of the project is the same. It's anticipated the soonest they can start the project now will be late 2025 to 2026.

Mr. Sheehan was asked if the drainage issues noted as part of the conditions of the permit had been met. He explained that until the project is started they can't complete any drainage work but it will be completed.

The question was asked if the Personnel/Executive Committee can do the extension or is that something that will have to go through ZBA. This question will need to be checked on to determine what needs to be done from here.

#### EMA UPDATE

Jeff Stoner advised that on the County's website there is a draft Mitigation Plan. The plan was in draft stage waiting on the City of Taylorville to have something added and it has now been signed.

Before Jeff puts the final version on the website, he wanted to make sure there was no approval process needed. The committee had no problem with Jeff updating the website with the final Mitigation Plan.

Other updates discussed. Radios – There has been some encryption programming problems. He discussed accountability tags, update on the Stonington train incident and small diesel leak/cleanup, grant funding seminar, emergency weather response training to be held in November, and again highlighted a plan for no burning during high wind periods. Discussion also included the States Attorney looking at what other counties are doing on burn ordinances. Shawn Hammers noted that there is something that goes back to 1998 on the books reference to only being allowed to burn yard waste on property it was raised on. Chairman Wells also referenced this as he felt it was a state regulation.

### ARPA FUND REQUESTS

Committee Chairman Corzine stated he is hesitant to review requests as new Board members will be coming in soon and may want to see different uses for the funds. There was a discussion about past information provided related to a potential procedure policy as well as prioritizing requests as there are a lot of good requests but where on the scale does a request fall.

Motion was made by Ray Koonce and seconded by Craig Corzine to table until a new committee is formed. A roll call vote polled 2 ayes and 2 nays. Chairman Wells votes in a tie and voted nay. Motion failed.

The committee continued with hearing the requests.

#### Senior Citizens Request

No representative in attendance to present. No action taken.

#### Meals on Wheels

No representative in attendance to present. No action taken.

#### EMA Request

Jeff Stoner provided a request for a repeater for the Mt. Auburn area as they have had radio issues and dispatch not reaching, missing 911 calls. The estimated cost for a repeater is \$7,161.79.

Committee Chairman Corzine felt this is a 911 Board issue. Jeff advised that in speaking with Matt Adermann who is on the 911 Board, they don't have any money for this.

*Motion by Bryan Sharp and seconded by Ray Koonce to recommend a draft ordinance for the use of ARPA funds for the purchase of a repeater not to exceed \$7,161.79 be send to Finance Committee for financial approval and Board recommendation. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.*

Jeff highlighted the benefits of a training facility as a possible future plan with the use of ARPA funds.

### Control Gate – Animal Control

Sherri Craggs presented a summary of cost estimates she could obtain and a list of businesses that were too busy to provide an estimate. The lowest cost option bid was \$6,308.00, from Goodman Fence Company. Bill Kennedy is also working on a cost as well.

Motion by Craig Corzine and seconded by Ray Koonce to recommend a draft ordinance for the use of ARPA funds to purchase a control gate operator not to exceed \$6,308.00 with input from Bill Kennedy to be sent to the Finance Committee for financial approval and Board recommendation. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

### Taylorville Animal Control Officer, Capital Development Committee for CCAC and Friends of Christian County Animal Control Request

Sherri highlighted the groups that came before the committee requesting \$50,000.00 to assist with the expansion of Animal Control. She also has building plans that she provided. Chairman Wells felt that the building plans should first go to Highway/Building/Grounds, then Personnel/Executive for ordinance followed by Finance.

There was a discussion about funding and grants with the use of ARPA funds, Sherri explained that the grants she was looking at did not involve matching funds. Other discussions included questions regarding funding, timing and by statute what the County's obligation with animal control is.

### CARBON CAPTURE AND STORAGE ORDINANCE

An email was sent to States Attorney Wes Poggenpohl asking if he had any updates. No response was received.

### WIND PERMIT MORATORIUM

Motion by Bryan Sharp and seconded by David Puccetti to recommend to the full Board to have the States Attorney draft a six (6) month moratorium on wind permits to allow for review of current ordinance. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Craig Corzine and seconded by Ray Koonce to have the States Attorney draft a six (6) months moratorium on wind permits.

*Discussion to send to States Attorney for drafting. All members were in favor. Motion passed.*

### PURCHASING PROCEDURES – RAISING THE CHAIRMAN'S LIMITS

A motion made last month to raise the Chairman's limit to \$2,500.00 in an emergency or urgent situation with approval of the Treasurer or Finance chair and for the States Attorney to insure this did not violate any statutes. An email was sent to the States Attorney for status. No response was received.

#### CREDIT CARD POLICY REVIEW

Motion by Craig Corzine and seconded by Bryan Sharp to table to next month's scheduled meeting. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

#### SOLID WASTE /ZONING LOCATION/FUTURE PLANNING

Chairman Wells advised that this item is on the agenda at Ray's request. He also stated that while he wasn't at the Board meeting, he was advised that the question of when a move by the solid waste and zoning departments to the courthouse would occur. Matt discussed the 14 files cabinets in the office and that Shawn found something that could be a potential problem. Matt advised the committee that at no time has either Blake or Shawn told him that they did not want to move. The questions are that the Solid Waste building was purchased with tipping fee money. Per EPA statutes, tipping fee money can only be spent on solid waste management purchases. The concern is could there be an issue if the building purchased with tipping fee money is not used for solid waste purposes. Matt advised the documentation Shawn found has been provided to the States Attorney to determine if they move out can someone else move in. Other issues are if they both can't move together do they stay there as they share a secretary or whether or not a wall can be taken down in that office. If they move we will need to see what they need and get Bill involved as well.

#### PERSONNEL HANDBOOK

No action taken.

#### OTHER MATTERS

Ray Koonce stated it has been his privilege and honor to serve the last four (4) years on the Board.

Committee Chairman Corzine also thanked the members stating he is proud of the manner that this committee has respectfully conducted business.

Motion by Ray Koonce and seconded by Craig Corzine to adjourn. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Craig Corzine, Chairman  
Executive/Personnel Committee  
11/7/2022



*Chairman Wells brought forth to the board an email he had received from States Attorney Wes Poggenpohl stating that States Attorney Poggenpohl thought the Board agreed to have Matt contact Mr. Murphy to discuss the ordinance related to the carbon. States Attorney Poggenpohl stated that he believes that some members of the board blame him for the previous attorney not showing up. Wells stated he was under the impression that the Board wanted the States Attorney to contact the attorneys, not him. Ray Koonce spoke that he remembered the Board directing Mr. Poggenpohl to contact the attorneys. Wells will get in touch with attorneys tomorrow.*

## **AUDIT/FINANCE/PURCHASING/BUDGET COMMITTEE**

**November 9, 2022**

Present: Venise McWard, Chairman, Linda Curtin, Vicki McMahan, Tim Carlson, Ken Franklin  
Absent: None  
Others present: Matt Wells, Cliff Frye, Dan McNeely, Tevia Leach and Elizabeth Hile.

The Audit/Finance/Purchasing/Budget Committee met on Wednesday, November 9, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. at the Christian County Courthouse, Taylorville, Illinois. The purpose of the meeting was to address agenda items and any other matters properly brought before the committee. Roll call was taken and there was a quorum.

### **CLAIMS**

A motion was made by Vicki McMahan and seconded by Linda Curtin to recommend to the full Board to approve the claims presented for November. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

Venise McWard made a motion to approve the claims with a second by Tim Carlson. After no discussion, a roll call vote was called upon.

A roll call vote called upon polled the following: Linda Curtin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahan, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Mike Specha, Timothy Carlson, ayes (12). Motion carried.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Debbie Phillips with the Christian County Health Department spoke about the proposed budget for the Health Department. She highlighted salaries for staff need to be competitive and also the need for staff overall. She noted that the only money received from the County for this department was that levied for TB. The remaining funding comes from grants.

### **ENERGY SOLUTIONS PROPOSAL – SHERIFF’S DEPARTMENT**

Curtis Ryen from Energy Solutions was present to answer any questions related to the proposal for the Sheriff’s Department to include any questions regarding the proposed project incentive amount.

Motion by Vicki McMahan and seconded by Linda Curtin to recommend to the full Board to approval the lighting project improvement for the Sheriff’s Department at a cost of \$18,240.00 with the cost coming from capitol improvement. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Venise McWard made a motion to approve the lighting project for the Sheriff's Department with a second by Dale Livingston. After no discussion, a roll call vote was called upon.*

A roll call vote called upon polled the following: Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahan, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Mike Specha, Timothy Carlson, Linda Curtin, yes (12) (0) nays. Motion carried.

## REVISIT PRESENTED BUDGETS

### Solid Waste Management

Shawn Hammers indicated for the salary of educator, he would recommend \$40,000.00. He would also recommend increasing the recycling for schools.

### Zoning

Blake Tarr highlighted the current mileage reimbursement for ZBA members and reimbursement for his zoning inspections mileage. He recommended increasing the line item total to \$1,250.00 - \$1,500.00.

Treasurer Asmussen recommended adding training line item for \$1,000.00 for membership fees should Blake feel this would be beneficial.

## BUDGET HEARINGS

Chief Deputy Jim Baker asked the committee to reconsider the amount in the equipment operating expense for the Sheriff's Department. He highlighted annual costs that are paid at this time of the year showing the line item will end up at the budgeted \$30,000.00.

Leslie DeVore with the Christian County Health Department presented cost estimates to oil and chip the Health Department parking lot as referred by the Highway, Building, and Grounds Committee. The Health Board would have liked to have improved the parking lot to concrete but that option is not cost effective at this time. The estimate received to oil and chip the lot was \$5,454.50.

She also discussed an easement area along the side of Advanced Eyecare that has broken up which is felt to be a result of high COVID traffic. Advanced Eyecare has offered to partner with the County related to the cost to repair this section. The lowest estimated for repairing this section was \$8,400.00. Contact will be made with Advanced Eyecare on cost sharing. The matter will be taken back to Highway, Building and Grounds Committee next month. Leslie reminded the committee that the Health Department building is a county building. Grants received by the Health Department does not provide for infrastructure improvements.

Motion by Vicki McMahan and seconded by Tim Carlson to recommend to the full Board to approve an ordinance providing for use of ARPA funds not to exceed \$6,500.00 to oil and chip the parking lot at the Christian County Health Department. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Venise McWard made a motion to recommend O2022CB037 ARPA funds for the Christian County Health Department for the parking lot with a second by Dale Livingston. After no discussion, a roll call vote was called upon.*

A roll call vote called upon polled the following: Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Mike Specha, Timothy Carlson, Linda Curtin, Bev Graham, yes (12) (0) nays. Motion carried.

Leslie also discussed approved amendments to the Health Department budget for committee consideration. The Health Board since 1<sup>st</sup> presenting their budget has restructured positions. There was some discussion raised regarding proposed salaries. Leslie felt what was proposed was necessary as it may be difficult to hire positions. She advised that outside the funds levied for TB, all other funding was received from grants. COVID grants sunset the end of December 2022.

Treasurer Asmussen asked the committee to revisit the budget for Animal Control as there were 2 different staffing proposals presented. She also noted that the Coroner would like to increase communications line item to \$2,200.00.

Motion by Vicki McMahon and seconded by Tim Carlson to direct the County Treasurer to increase the communications line item for the coroner's budget to \$2,200.00. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Venise McWard made a motion to increase the communications line item for the Coroner's budget with a second by Linda Curtin. After no discussion, a roll call vote was called upon.*

A roll call vote called upon polled the following: Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Mike Specha, Timothy Carlson, Linda Curtin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, ayes (12) (0) nays. Motion carried.

Motion by Vicki McMahon and seconded by Linda Curtin to direct the County Treasurer to return the equipment operating expense line item for the Sheriff's office back to presented \$30,000.00. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Venise McWard made a motion to return the equipment operating expense line item back to \$30,000 with a second by Linda Curtin. After no discussion a roll call vote was called upon.*

A roll call vote called upon polled the following: Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Mike Specha, Timothy Carlson, Linda Curtin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, ayes (12) (0) nays. Motion carried.

Motion by Vicki McMahon and seconded by Linda Curtin to go into Closed Session pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (1) to discuss appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity and all subject matters relating thereto and to include the following persons to be present during all or part of such executive session namely, Venise McWard, Tim Carlson, Ken Franklin, Vicki McMahon, Linda Curtin, Matt Wells, Jacque Willison, Betty Asmussen, Julie Mayer and Liz Hile and such other person or persons as the Chairperson or Committee may decide during this meeting and/or during such closed session.

The Committee went into Closed Session at 6:30 p.m.  
The Committee returned to Open Session at 8:11 p.m.

Roll Call – Venise McWard, Tim Carlson, Ken Franklin, Vicki McMahon and Linda Curtin were all present.

#### NON BARGAINING ORDINANCE

Motion by Vicki McMahon and seconded by Linda Curtin to recommend to the full Board to amend the salary section of the Non-Bargaining Starting Salary Policy for the positions of chief deputy in the Treasurer, Circuit Clerk and County Clerk's office to the following: Starting salary effective December 1, 2022 at \$42,500.00; after one (1) year of employment, it shall increase to \$44,000.00; after two (2) years of employment, it shall increase to \$46,500.00; after three (3) years of employment, it shall increase to \$48,000.00. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Venise McWard made a motion to amend the non-bargaining starting salary policy with a second by Dale Livingston. After no discussion, a roll call vote was called upon.*

A roll call vote called upon polled the following: Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Mike Specha, Timothy Carlson, Linda Curtin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahon, ayes (12) (0) nays. Motion carried.

#### BUDGETS

Motion by Linda Curtin and seconded by Vicki McMahon to direct the County Treasurer to reduce the salaries for part time employees at Animal Control to \$44,000.00. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Venise McWard made a motion to reduce the salaries for part time employees at Animal Control with a second by Dale Livingston. Discussion?*

**Clint Epley** – asked what the salary was

**Venise McWard** – \$87,000 for part time

**Liz Hile** – since these were just directing the county treasurer and not – because the full board will come back and vote on the budgets, do you need to vote on each one?

**Wes Poggendorf** – if this is going to be the final approval then yes you need to. It is not going to hurt to do it twice.

**Acting as Chairman Venise McWard** – after no further discussion, please call roll.

A roll call vote called upon polled the following: Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Mike Specha, Timothy Carlson, Linda Curtin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, ayes (12) (0) nays. Motion carried.

Motion by Vicki McMahon and seconded by Ken Franklin to approve the salary of 1<sup>st</sup> Assistant States Attorney - \$71,000.00; 2<sup>nd</sup> Assistant States Attorney - \$60,000.00; Victim Witness Coordinator - \$41,850 (\$22,000 is received by grant). A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Venise McWard made a motion to approve the salaries for the state's attorneys office with a second by Bev Graham. After no discussion, a roll call vote was called upon*

A roll call vote called upon polled the following: David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Mike Specha, Timothy Carlson, Linda Curtin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, ayes (12) (0) nays. Motion carried.

Motion by Linda Curtin and seconded by Vicki McMahon to approve the salary of Assistant Public Defender - \$62,000.00. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Venise McWard made a motion to approve the salary of the Assistant Public Defender with a second by Linda Curtin. Discussion?*

**Dale Livingston** – why is the Assistant Public Defender's salary \$9,000 less than the Assistant State's Attorney? I am just asking where did they come up with the numbers.

**Acting as Chairman Venise McWard** – because that is what was requested by the assistant Public Defender. Am I correct in that Vicki, Linda, Tim? Liz believes it may have been \$65,000 originally. I don't have my finance book with me tonight. I thought that was what she requested.

**Dale Livingston** – that is not much money. I am just asking.

**Venise McWard** – the second assistant State's Attorney is \$60,000

**Wes Poggenpohl** – the \$60,000 is entry level. I know the Public Defender's office – I think they will take entry level. Some of the stuff they are handling there as well is pretty complex. Better to have more to try and attract someone with more experience. I think it is pretty competitive. Even though we are competitive we are still struggling to find applicants.

**Acting as Chairman Venise McWard** - After no further discussion, a roll call vote was called upon.

A roll call vote called upon polled the following: Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Mike Specha, Timothy Carlson, Linda Curtin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston (n) Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, ayes (11) (1) nays. Motion carried.

Motion by Vicki McMahon and seconded by Linda Curtin to approve the salary of Chief Deputy at the Sheriff's Department - \$75,500; Jail Administrator at the Sheriff's Department - \$61,417.00. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Venise McWard made a motion to approve the salary of the Chief Deputy at the Sheriff's Department with a second by Bryan Sharp. Discussion?*

A roll call vote called upon polled the following: Chuck Smedley, Mike Specha, Timothy Carlson, Linda Curtin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, ayes (12) (0) nays. Motion carried.

Motion by Linda Curtin and seconded by Vicki McMahon to approve the salary of the Administrative Assistant to the Board/HR - \$54,000.00. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Venise McWard made a motion to approve the salary of the Assitand to the Board/HR with a second by Linda Curtin. Discussion?*

A roll call vote called upon polled the following: Mike Specha, Timothy Carlson, Linda Curtin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, ayes (12) (0) nays. Motion carried.

Motion by Venise McWard and seconded by Vicki McMahon to approve the salary of ESDA Director - \$23,175.00. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Venise McWard made a motion to approve the salary of the ESDA Director with a second by Ray Koonce. Discussion?*

A roll call vote called upon polled the following: Timothy Carlson, Linda Curtin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Mike Specha, ayes (12) (0) nays. Motion carried.

Motion by Venise McWard and seconded by Vicki McMahon to approve the salary of Animal Control Director - \$40,500.00. A roll call vote polled 4 ayes and 1 nay. Motion carried.

*Venise McWard made a motion to approve the salary of the Animal Control Director with a second by Dale Livingston. Discussion?*

A roll call vote called upon polled the following: Linda Curtin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Mike Specha, Timothy Carlson, ayes (12) (0) nays. Motion carried.

Motion by Venise McWard and seconded by Vicki McMahon to approve the salary of Zoning Administrator - \$52,000.00. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Venise McWard made a motion to approve the salary of the Zoning Administrator with a second by Ray Koonce. Discussion?*

A roll call vote called upon polled the following:, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Mike Specha, Timothy Carlson, Linda Curtin ayes (12) (0) nays. Motion carried.

Motion by Venise McWard and seconded by Linda Curtin to approve the salary of Maintenance Supervisor - \$65,000.00. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Venise McWard made a motion to approve the salary of the Maintenance Supervisor with a second by Dale Livinston. Discussion?*

A roll call vote called upon polled the following: Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Mike Specha, Timothy Carlson, Linda Curtin, Bev Graham, ayes (12) (0) nays. Motion carried.

Motion by Vicki McMahan and seconded by Linda Curtin to approve the salary of Christian County Health Department Administrator - \$87,750.00. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Venise McWard made a motion to approve the salary of the Christian County Health Department Administrator with a second by Linda Curtin. Discussion?*

A roll call vote called upon polled the following: Dale Livingston (n), Vicki McMahan, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley (n), Mike Specha, Timothy Carlson, Linda Curtin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, ayes (10) (2) nays. Motion carried.

Motion by Venise McWard and seconded by Ken Franklin to approve the salary of Solid Waste Department Head - \$48,500.00; Educator - \$40,000.00. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Venise McWard made a motion to approve the salaries of the Solid Waste Department Head and Educator with a second by Ray Koonce. Discussion?*

**Vicki McMahan** – I do want to have a discussion. I apologize for that. When we talk about the educator I thought we didn't know if it was going to be full time part time or it is still knew and we were going to leave it there.

**Venise McWard** – if you remember we were going to put \$40,000 there in the budget because right now we are determining if an educator is needed or not. Am I correct Shawn.

**Shawn Hammers-** Yes, with the way the IEPA does things as it stands right now. It pays part of that for my salary. 90 percent of the time on program for IEPA, the agreement is towards inspecting and recording activities and other administrative duties of the office. Some of that time can be for educator but mostly towards inspecting and recording activities.

A roll call vote called upon polled the following: Vicki McMahan, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Mike Specha, Timothy Carlson, Linda Curtin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, ayes (12) (0) nays. Motion carried.

Motion by Venise McWard and seconded by Linda Curtin to direct the County Treasurer to change the hourly rate increase of the Office Manager at the Highway Department to 3%. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Venise McWard made a motion to direct the County Treasurer to change the hourly rate increase for the Office Manager at highway department with a second by Vicki McMahan. Discussion?*

**Dale Livingston** – how come only three percent? Inflation is higher than that.

**Venise McWard** – we just did 3 percent.

**Dale Livingston** – didn't we just give the deputies like 5 percent?

**Venise McWard** – no. It was 4 percent. Three for three years.

**Acting as Chairman Venise McWard** – if no further discussion, please call roll

A roll call vote called upon polled the following: Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Mike Specha, Timothy Carlson, Linda Curtin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahon, ayes (12) (0) nays. Motion carried.

Highway Engineer's salary notice has not been received by the State. This salary to be announced.

Motion by Venise McWard and seconded by Vicki McMahon to approve the salary of Chief Probation Officer - \$95,093.00; Probation Supervisor/Trainer - \$57,273.00; Probation Supervisor/Trainer - \$55,087.00. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Venise McWard made a motion to approve the salary of Chief Probation Office, Supervisor/Trainer with a second by Ray Koonce. Discussion?*

A roll call vote called upon polled the following: Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp (n), Chuck Smedley, Mike Specha, Timothy Carlson, Linda Curtin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston (n), Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, ayes (10) (2) nays. Motion carried.

Treasurer Asmussen will update the budgets and put the budget on file with the County Clerk by November 1<sup>st</sup> as required.

#### REFERRALS

The only referral was the cost of the parking lot repairs for the Health Department which was addressed earlier this evening.

#### OTHER MATTERS

Chief Deputy Baker advised that the x-ray machine for security was implemented in 1998 and parts are no longer available. If the machine goes down security will have to do hand checks of bags. This may be an upcoming ARPA request.

Motion by Tim Carlson and seconded by Vicki McMahon to adjourn. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Venise McWard  
Finance/Audit/Purchasing/Budget Committee Chairwoman  
10/12/2022

#### **11. NEW BUSINESS/OLD BUSINESS/OTHER**

- **City of Taylorville/Letter of Support request** - moved up on the agenda
- **Small Town Taylorville** – moved up on the agenda
- **McDonough County/Attorney Joe Murphy** – moved up on the agenda
- **Pilot Listing** – Liz stated a couple years ago the chairman renegotiated the percent we receive in lieu of taxes and there has been some changes to that list. We have not received an updated list so there is nothing to add



**12. MILEAGE AND PER DIEM REPORT – June 21, 2022**

<b><u>Board Member</u></b>	<b><u>Salary</u></b>	<b><u>Rate</u></b>	<b><u># of Meetings This Month</u></b>
Timothy Carlson	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Craig Corzine	\$100.00	\$25.00	1
Linda Curtin	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Clint Epley	\$ 50.00	\$25.00	2
Ken Franklin	\$100.00	\$25.00	1
Bev Graham	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Ray Koonce	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Dale Livingston	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Vicki McMahan	\$100.00	\$25.00	4
Venise McWard	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
David Puccetti	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Bryan Sharp	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Chuck Smedley	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Thomas Snyder, Jr.	\$100.00	\$25.00	1
Mike Specha	\$100.00	\$25.00	1
Matt Wells	\$615.38		

Acting as Chairman Venise McWard called for a motion from the floor to approve the Mileage and Per Diem Report.

*A motion was made by Vicki McMahan and seconded by Bev Graham to approve the mileage and per diem report. With no discussion, a roll call vote was called upon.*

A roll call vote called upon polled the following:, Timothy Carlson, Linda Curtin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahan, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Mike Specha ayes (12) (0) nays. Motion carried.

**Bryan Sharp** – Where is the Zoning Office operating out of now and Solid Waste – I am assuming the solid waste building. Both of you guys are in the solid waste building. What is the plan of moving back to the courthouse?

**Dale Livingston** – We are still trying to look into getting that done.

**Bryan Sharp** – did we put a time line on that

**Dale Livingston** – no since they are both new and trying to learn. They know they have to move.

**Bryan Sharp** – do we need to put a time limit on that to get it accomplished. We didn't put a deadline on it. Should we. That will be on the next Personnel committee meeting.

**Bev Graham** – even though it was under the Highway, can these two gentlemen give their own report because it was lengthy of what they have been doing. So they can give their own report at the full county board meeting on what they have been doing. I know Blake has joined an association. He is working with other people – Shawn is so they can give their own report and everybody from the full board can understand more of what they are doing then just having it read from the committee meeting.

Acting as Chairman Venise McWard – thank you both for your hard work.

There was a little discussion on the housing project behind Ace Hardware. It is possibly part of the pilot program and it has stopped construction.

### **13. ADJOURNMENT**

Acting as Chairman Venise McWard called for a motion from the floor to adjourn until November 15, 2022. *A motion was made by Tim Carlson and seconded by David Puccetti to adjourn until the next meeting on November 15, 2022.*

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE REORGANIZATIONAL MEETING  
OF THE COUNTY BOARD  
December 5, 2022**

AT A REORGANIZATIONAL MEETING OF THE COUNTY BOARD MEMBERS OF CHRISTIAN COUNTY ILLINOIS, BEGUN AND HELD AT THE COURTHOUSE IN TAYLORVILLE, ILLINOIS, ON DECEMBER 5, 2022.

*ATTEST: JODIE L. BADMAN, COUNTY CLERK*

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The following proceeding, had and entered at large upon the records of said Board, which is done accordingly in the following words and figures to wit;

**SWEARING IN**

Resident Circuit Judge Brad Paisley opened the evening to swear in the newly-elected and re-elected members of the county board.

Judge Paisley began by administering the Oath of Office to the following newly elected and re-elected board members in the room, by district as follows:

District #1	Linda Curtin, Venise McWard, Timothy Carlson and Jeffrey Nolen
District #2	David Puccetti, Vicki McMahan, Thomas Snyder, Jr. and Ken Franklin
District #3	David Buckles, Seth Foster, Bryan Sharp and Mike Specha
District #4	Jean Vandenberg, Matthew Wells, Clint Epley and Clayton Walter

County Clerk Jodie Badman thanked Judge Paisley and convened the board pursuant to statute. She called the board to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

A roll call disclosed all present. The attendance signified a quorum.

**NOMINATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS OF TEMPORARY, PERMANENT CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN**

Clerk Badman called for a motion for nominations for Temporary Chairman. A motion was made by Vicki McMahan and seconded by David Buckles nominating Ken Franklin as Temporary Chairman. A call for additional nominations was made two times and there were none. *A motion was made by Vicki McMahan and seconded by Tim Carlson to close nominations.* A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Timothy Carlson, Linda Curtin, Clint Epley, Seth Foster, Ken Franklin, Vicki McMahan, Venise McWard, Jeffrey Nolen, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Jean Vandenberg, Clayton Walter, Matthew Wells, David Buckles, (16) aye; (0) nay; The motion carried.

A vote was then taken regarding the motion for the nomination of Ken Franklin as Temporary Chairman. *A motion was made by Vicki McMahan and seconded by Tim Carlson nominating*

*Ken Franklin as Temporary Chairman.* A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: David Buckles, Timothy Carlson, Linda Curtin, Clint Epley, Seth Foster, Ken Franklin, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Jeffrey Nolen, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Jean Vandenberg, Clayton Walter and Matthew Wells, (16) aye; (0) nay. The motion carried.

County Clerk Jodie Badman asked Ken Franklin as Temporary Chairman to come forward. Temporary Chairman Franklin then called for nominations for Permanent Chairman for the next two years. A motion was made by Thomas Snyder, Jr. and seconded by Clint Epley to nominate Bryan Sharp as Permanent Chairman for the next two years. Temporary Chairman Franklin then called for any other nominations. *A motion was made by Timothy Carlson and seconded by Linda Curtin to close nominations.* A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Matthew Wells, Clayton Walter, Jean Vandenberg, Mike Specha, Thomas Snyder, Jr. Bryan Sharp, David Puccetti, Jeffrey Nolen, Venise McWard, Vicki McMahon, Ken Franklin, Seth Foster, Clint Epley, Linda Curtin, Timothy Carlson and David Buckles, (16) aye; (0) nay. The motion carried.

A vote was then taken regarding the motion for the nomination of Bryan Sharp as Permanent Chairman. *A motion was made by Venise McWard and seconded by Thomas Snyder, Jr. to nominate Bryan Sharp as Permanent Chairman for the next two years.* A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Timothy Carlson, Linda Curtin, Clint Epley, Ken Franklin, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Jeffrey Nolen, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Jean Vandenberg, Clayton Walter, Matthew Wells, David Buckles, (15) aye; Seth Foster (1) nay. The motion carried.

Temporary Chairman Franklin called for Permanent Chairman Bryan Sharp to come forward and passed the gavel to the new Board Chairman.

Chairman Sharp thanked the Board members.

Next, Chairman Sharp called for a motion for nominations for Vice-Chairman for the next two years. A motion was made by Venise McWard and seconded by Vicki McMahon to nominate Clint Epley as Vice-Chairman for the next two years. Chairman Sharp then called for any other nominations. *A motion was made by David Puccetti and seconded by Timothy Carlson to close the nominations.* A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Clint Epley, Seth Foster, Ken Franklin, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Jeffrey Nolen, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Jean Vandenberg, Clayton Walter, Matthew Wells, David Buckles, Timothy Carlson and Linda Curtin, (16) aye; (0) nay. The motion carried.

A vote was then taken regarding the motion for the nomination of Clint Epley as Vice-Chairman. *A motion was made by Venise McWard and seconded by Thomas Snyder, Jr. to nominate Clint Epley as Vice-Chairman for the next two years.* A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: David Buckles, Timothy Carlson, Linda Curtin, Clint Epley, Seth Foster, Ken Franklin, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Jeffrey Nolen, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Jean Vandenberg, Clayton Walter and Matthew Wells, (16) aye; (0) nay. The motion carried.

Chairman Sharp announced he would like there to be a change in committee meeting days. They are as follows: County Highway/Buildings/Grounds/Environmental/Welfare/Zoning Committee to take place on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month; Executive/Personnel/Legislative/Liquor Committee to take place on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month; and Audit/Finance/Purchasing/Budget Committee to take place on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month. *A motion was made by Vicki McMahon and seconded by Ken Franklin to set the committee meeting days of the month.* There was no discussion. A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Mike Specha, Jean Vandenberg, Clayton Walter, Matthew Wells, David Buckles, Timothy Carlson, Linda Curtin, Clint Epley, Seth Foster, Ken Franklin, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Jeffrey Nolen, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp and Thomas Snyder, Jr., (16) aye; (0) nay. The motion carried.

### **COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS**

#### County Highway/Buildings/Grounds/Environmental/Welfare/Zoning Committee

Thomas Snyder, Jr. – Chair  
David Buckles  
Mike Specha  
Seth Foster  
Jeffrey Nolen

#### Executive/Personnel/Legislative/Liquor Committee

Clint Epley – Chair  
Jean Vandenberg  
David Puccetti  
Clayton Walter  
Matthew Wells

#### Audit/Finance/Purchasing/Budget Committee

Venise McWard – Chair  
Tim Carlson  
Linda Curtin  
Ken Franklin  
Vicki McMahon

Chairman Sharp asked for a motion to approve the committee appointments as presented. *A motion was made by Timothy Carlson and seconded by Jean Vandenberg to approve the committee appointments as presented.* A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Linda Curtin, Timothy Carlson, David Buckles, Jean Vandenberg, Clayton Walter, Matthew Wells, Clint Epley, Seth Foster, Vicki McMahon, Ken Franklin, Jeffrey Nolen, Venise McWard, Bryan Sharp, David Puccetti and Thomas Snyder, Jr., (15) aye; Mike Specha (1) nay. The motion carried.

### **COUNTY BOARD MEETING DATES-THIRD TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH**

Chairman Sharp set the dates for the regular County Board meetings to commence on the third Tuesday of every month. *A motion to set the regular County Board Meeting day and time the same as they are now, on the third Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. was made Thomas Snyder,*

*Jr. and seconded by Timothy Carlson. A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Thomas Snyder, Jr., Bryan Sharp, David Puccetti, Jeffrey Nolen, Venise McWard, Vicki McMahon, Ken Franklin, Seth Foster, Clint Epley, Linda Curtin, Timothy Carlson, David Buckles, Matthew Wells, Clayton Walter, Jean Vandenberg and Mike Specha, (16) aye; (0) nay. The motion carried.*

The meetings will be on the third Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m.

### **APPOINTED BOARDS**

Chairman Sharp appointed Board members to the various boards below:

911 Board – Ken Franklin

Christian County Extension Board – Venise McWard

Christian County Historic Preservation Commission – Clayton Walter

WIB CEO/Board – Linda Curtin

Senior Citizen's Board – Jean Vandenberg

Christian County Health Board – Vicki McMahon

CEFS Economic Development Corporation Board – Clint Epley

Insurance Trust Board (ICIT) – Board Chairman Bryan Sharp

708 Mental Health Board – Thomas Snyder, Jr.

Christian County Transportation Representative – David Buckles

Labor Management/Health & Safety Committee – Jeffrey Nolen

United County Councils of Illinois – David Puccetti, Seth Foster, Matthew Wells

*A motion was made by Linda Curtin and seconded by Ken Franklin to approve the appointments to the various boards as presented. A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Clint Epley, Seth Foster, David Buckles, Timothy Carlson, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, David Puccetti, Jeffrey Nolen, Venise McWard, Bryan Sharp, Vicki McMahon, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Jean Vandenberg, Clayton Walters and Matthew Wells, (16) aye; (0) nay. The motion carried.*

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Chairman Sharp called for public comments and there were none.

### **CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS**

Chairman Sharp presented a card of thanks to Matthew Wells on behalf of the board for his service and dedication as Chairman for the County Board for the last two years.

### **ADJOURN**

With no other business before the Board, Chairman Sharp called for a motion to adjourn. *A motion to adjourn the meeting until **December 20, 2022** was made by David Puccetti and seconded by Timothy Carlson. A roll call vote being called upon all members present, polled the following: (16) aye; (0) nay. The motion carried.*

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNTY BOARD**  
AT A MEETING OF THE COUNTY BOARD MEMBERS OF CHRISTIAN COUNTY  
ILLINOIS, BEGUN AND HELD AT THE CHRISTIAN COUNTY COURTHOUSE IN  
TAYLORVILLE, ILLINOIS ON **December 20, 2022**  
*ATTEST: JODIE L. BADMAN, COUNTY CLERK*

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The following proceeding had and entered at large upon the records of said Board, which is done accordingly in the following words and figures to wit;

Chairman Bryan Sharp called the board meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and Venise McWard led the Pledge of Allegiance. This meeting was held on the second floor of the courthouse in the County Board Room.

**ROLL CALL**

The roll call by County Clerk Jodie Badman showed all members present with Ken Franklin and Matt Wells being absent. A quorum was had to hold the meeting.

**RESIGNATION**

Chairman Bryan Sharp notified the board of the resignation of Matthew Wells, effective December 17, 2022. Chairman Sharp thanked Mr. Wells for his service.

*Discussion was had by Chairman Sharp to the Board on advice he sought for a replacement. Chairman Sharp then asked State's Attorney, John McWard, to present the statute for replacing board members. McWard stated that according to the statute, the Chairman has authority to pick a replacement and that replacement is to be within sixty days of the resignation receipt. A majority of the full board will then need to approve the replacement.*

**APPROVE COUNTY BOARD MINUTES**

Chairman Bryan Sharp asked for any corrections and to accept the November 15, 2022 County Board minutes. Chairman Sharp called for a motion to approve the minutes. *Venise McWard made a motion to approve the minutes seconded by Linda Curtin. Motion carried with (14) ayes; (0) nay.*

Chairman Sharp asked for any corrections and to accept the December 5, 2022 Re-Organizational County Board minutes. He called for a motion to approve the minutes. *Timothy Carlson made a motion to approve and was seconded by Thomas Snyder, Jr.*

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Chairman Sharp asked if there was any comments from the public.

Colerain Evans addressed the board about agenda item HB5855. He stated that he thought Christian County had made public in the past that they were pro 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment or a Firearms Sanctuary County. He would like to see discussion tonight about a reaffirmation that we are a Firearms Sanctuary.

Chairman Sharp asked if there were any more comments from the public.

Mike Specha stated that he decided to take a turn and speak in the public comment section about being a voice concerning the conducting of meetings with all sixteen members involved. Transparency is a term that is loosely thrown around and the Re-Organizational meeting two weeks ago did not get off to a very good start. Through personal conversation, I know that at least eight of the sixteen members did not know in advance or were not contacted about who was about to be nominated for Chair. I was one of the eight. We were unaware of any names that were going to be considered and two minutes after the nomination, we were expected to vote on someone for the next two years. Following, we were given committee assignments that were already prearranged. Speaking for myself, I would have thought I would have discussed my committee assignments in advance, which seems to be the minimum courtesy given to every elected member of this board. My issue is not with the person elected, it is with the process it was followed. We may not have technically broken any board rules but it was anything but transparent. It is my intention to spend my time as a board member doing everything I can to make sure in the future all sixteen of us are allowed an equal opportunity to participate with full knowledge in advance in order to make informed decisions. I did not intend to do that tonight, to stay quiet, but it is my intention to propose adjustments to our board rule in the very near future for equal opportunity and full participation for every board member.

Chairman Sharp asked if there were any more comments from the public.

Phil Cook addressed the board on his opposition to HB5855. This bill is blatantly a violation of my constitutional rights. And personally, myself, I am getting sick and tired of having to jump through hoops every time that we have a tragedy here in Illinois and they want to pass more gun laws if they don't enforce the ones they have now. I saw an article in the paper this morning where Danville police made nine firearms violation arrests over the weekend. Eight of the charges, eight of the people they picked up had no valid FOID card. You can pass as many gun laws as you want to in the State, but it impacts nobody but legal gun owners. Because criminals do not care at all what laws you pass. And if this law goes through and government is going to spend the paper, you're going to make me a felon overnight and I am tired of it. Every time you turn around it's you know you have to register your gun. I am registered with guns and there is no grandfathering, I guess you'll have to get rid of them. So I would like to see Christian County do what Iroquois County has already done and they have made a declaration that they will not enforce any part of HB5855, pass this today. I have lived in Illinois all my life but if they keep it up, I am going to be leaving, I going out of state. Every time you turn around, they are trying to take our guns and I'm tired of it.

#### **APPROVAL OF DECEMBER CLAIMS**

Chairman Sharp entertained a motion to pay the claims. *Venise McWard made a motion and Thomas Snyder, Jr. seconded.*

A roll call vote called upon the following: Timothy Carlson, Linda Curtin, Clint Epley, Seth Foster, Vicki McMahan, Venise McWard, Jeffrey Nolen, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Jean Vandenberg and Clayton Walter: ayes (14), nay (0). Ken Franklin; absent. Motioned carried.

#### **APPOINTMENTS**

Chairman Sharp stated to the board that he would like to appoint Jim Overholt to the ZBA. He asked for a motion to approve Jim Overholt to the ZBA as well as approve him to be Chairman of the ZBA. *Vicki McMahan made the motion and it was seconded by Dave Puccetti.*



*Motion carried with (14) ayes ;( 0) nay.*

**PETITIONS, RESOLUTIONS, ORDINANCES OR PROCLAMATIONS**

a. R2022 CB 031

- i. Resolution which the county board hereby agrees to participate in the service program of the Office of the States Attorneys Appellate Prosecutor, Commencing December 1, 2022 and ending November 30, 2023 and hereby appropriating the sum of \$14,000.00 as consideration for the express purpose of providing a portion of the funds required for financing the operations of the Office of the State's Attorneys Appellate Prosecutor, and agrees to deliver the same to the office of the state's attorneys appellate prosecutor on request during the stated twelve month period.

Chairman Sharp called for a motion to approve. *Clint Epley made the motion and Jean Vandenbergh seconded.*

A roll call vote being called for polled the following: Linda Curtin, Clint Epley, Seth Foster, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Jeffrey Nolen, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Jean Vandenbergh, Clayton Walter, David Buckles and Timothy Carlson— ayes (14); nay (0); The motion carried.

b. R2022 TR 030 – No action taken as this is a duplicate to R2023 TR 001.

c. R2023 TR 001

- ii. Authorizes the chair to execute a deed of conveyance of the county's interest in described property.

Chairman Sharp called for a motion to approve. *Thomas Snyder, Jr. made the motion and Venise McWard seconded.*

A roll call vote being called for polled the following: Clint Epley, Seth Foster, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Jeffrey Nolen, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Jean Vandenbergh, Clayton Walter, David Buckles, Timothy Carlson and Linda Curtin, — ayes (14); nay (0); The motion carried.

d. R2023 TR 002

- iii. Authorizes the chair to execute a deed of conveyance of the county's interest in described property.

Chairman Sharp called for a motion to approve. *Vicki McMahon made the motion and Linda Curtin seconded.*

A roll call vote being called for polled the following: Seth Foster, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Jeffrey Nolen, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Jean Vandenbergh, Clayton Walter, David Buckles, Timothy Carlson, Linda Curtin and Clint Epley, — ayes (14); nay (0); The motion carried.

## READING OF COMMUNICATIONS

### DECEMBER 2022 COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were presented and placed on file in the Clerk's Office.

1. December 2022 Prevailing Wage Report
2. The November 2022 Public Defender's Report
3. The Treasurer's Reports for period ending November 30, 2022
4. The Local Solid Waste Fees Fund report for November 2022
5. The Treasurer's ARPA Balance and Expenditure Report for November 2022
6. ROE – Expenditure Report for November 2022
7. The November 2022 Zoning Report

## NEW BUSINESS/OLD BUSINESS/OTHER

- **State's Attorney Budget** – State's Attorney John McWard spoke to the board about defining the budget left by his predecessor of \$131,000 for two Assistant State's Attorneys. He feels that it is difficult to find qualified individuals to fulfill the positions. He is asking the board approval to hire two individuals but split the salaries differently than what it was budgeted. He feels an attractive salary will get a more qualified candidate. He stated that the Chief Judge of the 4<sup>th</sup> District made him aware that he will have to go outside of our county to prosecute cases because of a conflict of interest in the cases he had before becoming the State's Attorney in December. In return, the Fayette County State's Attorney will be coming to Christian County to prosecute State's Attorney McWard cases that he has a conflict of interest. He then asked the board for approval of a 3-6 month exemption of the county residency ordinance for the potential candidate he has made offer to for Assistant State's Attorney.

*Chairman Sharp asked for a motion to be made for our State's Attorney to offer to one candidate a salary of up to \$131,000 and to grant an extension to the residency for up to 6 months. Vicki McMahon made a motion and Jeff Nolen seconded.*

*Discussion was heard from Mike Specha about the need to make a motion. Betty Asmussen explained that the budget amount is set with different salaries for two assistants and this is just a courtesy.*

*A roll call vote being called for polled the following: Seth Foster, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Jeffrey Nolen, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Jean Vandenberg, Clayton Walter, David Buckles, Timothy Carlson, Linda Curtin and Clint Epley, —ayes (14); nay (0); The motion carried.*

- **2023 Diesel and Gasoline Bids** – Cliff Frye presented the one bid received from Central Commodity FS to the board.

*Chairman Sharp asked for a motion to be to accept the bid from Central Commodities FS for the 2023 Fiscal Year. David Puccetti made a motion and Thomas Snyder, Jr. seconded. A roll call vote being called for polled the following: Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Jeffrey Nolen, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Jean Vandenberg, Clayton Walter, David Buckles, Timothy Carlson, Linda Curtin, Clint Epley & Seth Foster, —ayes (14); nay (0); The motion carried.*

- **Residency Exemption – Highway Department/Snow Plow Driver(s)** – Cliff Frye spoke to the board about last month’s approved Snow Bird drivers. He would like the board to raise the residency requirement for these positions as he has qualified applicants that live just across county line that are interested in position.  
*Chairman Sharp asked for a motion to raise the residency requirements. Jeff Nolen made a motion and Clint Epley seconded.*  
*With (14) ayes and (0) nay, the motion carried.*
- **Carbon Capture and Storage Ordinance and Moratorium Update** – John McWard spoke on some updates. There had been an omission to the ordinance that needed addressed. He had spoken to the Montgomery County State’s Attorney about the process we are going through about the ordinance 2022 CB 022. There is a specific statute that needs referenced and this ordinance needs amended. He will also meet with the Montgomery County State’s Attorney and possibly put together a draft to submit to the board. Blake Tarr inquired what the omission was and SA McWard stated it was missing legal statute wording and that needed amended. Venise McWard posed the question to State’s Attorney McWard if his recommendation was to just amend. SA John McWard stated yes, but the six months was up on the moratorium. Bryan Sharp informed SA John McWard that they had passed an extension on that moratorium within the last month or so. John McWard advised that an amendment should be placed. Vicki McMahan questioned if the board should send to the executive committee for approval. SA John McWard stated he thought that would be necessary.  
*Chairman Sharp asked for a motion to amend O2022 CB 022. Thomas Snyder, Jr. made a motion and Clint Epley seconded.*  
*Point of order by Mike Specha was made asking that it should be brought back to executive committee for approval. Discussion led to taking a vote to change and not send.*  
*With (14) ayes and (0) nay, the motion carried.*
- **Moratorium on Wind Ordinance Update** – John McWard is working with this ordinance as well and will report to the board.
- **HB5855** – Chairman Sharp stated that this bill is definitely an infringement upon the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment rights and several counties have been drafting resolutions in opposition to this bill. A sample copy of the resolution from Iroquois County was handed out to board members to look over. State’s Attorney McWard prepared a resolution similar to the one from Iroquois County for the board, R2022 CB 032.  
*After reviewing, the Thomas Snyder, Jr. made a motion to sign resolution R2022 CB 032 and to mail within the week. Vicki McMahan seconded the motion.*  
*The signed resolution will be mailed by County Clerk, Jodie Badman.*  
*With (14) ayes and (0) nay, the motion carried.*

**2023 County Board Meeting Dates** – *Chairman Sharp called for a motion to approve the 2023 meeting dates. Timothy Carlson made the motion and Thomas Snyder, Jr. seconded. With (14) ayes and (0) nay, the motion carried.*

The dates are as follows:

Tuesday, January 17, 2023  
Tuesday, February 21, 2023  
Tuesday, March 21, 2023  
Tuesday, April 18, 2023  
Tuesday, May 16, 2023  
Tuesday, June 20, 2023  
Tuesday, July 18, 2023  
Tuesday, August 15, 2023  
Tuesday, September 19, 2023  
Tuesday, October 17, 2023  
Tuesday, November 21, 2023  
Tuesday, December 19, 2023

- **Clarify County’s Negotiating Team AFSCME** – Point of clarification from last month’s meeting. Chairman Sharp stated that the board had set up a negotiations team involving Matt Wells, Venise McWard, Craig Corzine, Betty Asmussen and Liz Hile. We need to update the negotiating team.

**MILEAGE AND PER DIEM REPORT – December 20, 2022**

Chairman Sharp called for a motion from the floor to approve the Mileage and Per Diem Report.

*A motion was made by Venise McWard and seconded by Vicki McMahan to approve the mileage and per diem report.*

*A roll call vote being called for polled the following:; Jeffrey Nolen, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Jean Vandenberg, Clayton Walter, David Buckles, Timothy Carlson, Linda Curtin, Clint Epley, Seth Foster, Vicki McMahan & Venise McWard—ayes (14); nay (0); The motion carried.*

**ADJOURNMENT**

Chairman Sharp called for a motion from the floor to adjourn until January 17, 2023.

*A motion was made by David Puccetti and seconded by David Buckles to adjourn until the next meeting on January 17, 2023. With (14) ayes and (0) nay, the motion carried.*