

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 19, 2023**
ATTEST: JODIE L. BADMAN, COUNTY CLERK

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 led the Pledge of Allegiance. Clint Epley led Invocation this evening.

ROLL CALL

The roll call by County Clerk Jodie Badman showed David Buckles, Timothy Carlson, Linda Curtin, Clint Epley, Clint Gabriel, Ray Koonce, Miranda Langen, Vicki McMahan, Venise McWard, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Jean Vandenberg and Clayton Walter as present. Ken Franklin was absent. A quorum was had to hold the meeting.

APPROVE COUNTY BOARD MINUTES

Chairman Bryan Sharp asked for a motion to approve the minutes, as written, from the November 21, 2023 County Board meeting. *Vicki McMahan made a motion to approve the November 21, 2023 minutes, as written; Tim Carlson second. Motion carried with (15) ayes, (0) nay.*

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chairman Sharp asked if there was any comments from the public and reminded those who were to speak that they are allowed three (3) minute to speak and that it is not a question and answer period.

Will Frost an employee with East Point Energy and a representative of the Sangchris Energy Center addressed the Board. Mr. Frost stated that the Special Use Permit received approval from the Zoning Board with conditions attached. He thanked the Zoning Board, County Board and the County at large for their time and consideration getting through the application process. He offered his support in any discussion that may occur with the Special Use Permit this evening.

Next to speak was Dr. Chad Anderson, Director of Public Health. Dr. Anderson stated that today was the first day in the new Health Department Building and everything went smoothly. He thanked the Board in their assistance in getting this accomplished. He is hopeful that the Public Health Board will set a date for an open house.

Christian County Economic Development Corporation

Chairman Sharp introduced Mr. Matt Hart, Director of the CCEDC. Hart, who was appointed director last August, spoke to the Board about his role with CCEDC and gave the mission statement of the corporation: "To promote the creation and retention of jobs, to increase the economic tax base including the development and expansion of commerce and industry in the Christian County area". The CCEDC is continually developing economy in Christian County by redeveloping their website, meeting with existing business to ensure growth and reaching out to perspective business through the website Intersect Illinois, a tool for attracting businesses to come to Christian County. They are also working on expanding the Enterprise Zone for the County.

APPOINTMENTS

Chairman Sharp stated there were no appointment that needed addressed this evening.

PETITIONS, RESOLUTIONS, ORDINANCES AND/OR PROCLAMATIONS

The first ordinance Chairman Sharp brought in front of the Board was O2023 ZB 046, Special Use Application for Sangchris Energy Center, LLC. Sharp called for a motion to approve the ordinance. *Mike Specha made a motion to approve O2023 ZB 046 Special Use Application for Sangchris Energy Center, LLC as written, second by Linda Curtin. Discussion by Vicki McMahon wanted to clarify that this ordinance was for the battery storage facility near Sicily and that was confirmed by the Chairman. Assistant States Attorney, Mary Barry questioned if the list of conditions that were presented by Sangchris Energy Center, LLC at the ZBA meeting were still active and Chairman Sharp confirmed they were. Thomas Snyder, Jr. asked if any of the contingencies been met, Blake Tarr, Zoning Director, responded with a no. Venise McWard stated she had concerns with fire safety, as there are only volunteer fire personnel available nearby. Ray Koonce asked the Chairman to explain the lease to the rest of the Board. Chairman Sharp stated that this tract of land in question is currently under another lease for another project. Venise McWard was also concerned if a leakage occurred, would there be contamination to waterways. Will Frost with Sangchris Energy Center, LLC said they are taking precautions to prevent any danger to waterways. McWard then asked if there were other battery storage facilities located in Illinois. Frost stated that yes there were other facilities in the northern part of Illinois but none of the size of the potential site. A roll call vote called upon the following: Tim Carlson, Clint Epley, Clint Gabriel, Ray Koonce, Miranda Langen, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Jean Vandenberg and Clayton Walter, David Buckles with all nays. Linda Curtin and Mike Specha with ayes. Motion failed to pass with (2) ayes and (13) nays.*

The next ordinance presented for approval was O2023 ZB 047. This ordinance is adding a text amendment to the zoning code in reference to condemnation of properties. The County currently has nothing in the zoning code to deal with structures that have fallen or are in disrepair. *Vicki McMahon made a motion to pass ordinance O2023 ZB 047 as written, second by Ray Koonce. In discussion, Vicki McMahon asked if either Blake Tarr, Zoning Director or Shawn Hammers, Local Solid Waste Director, shortly explained the ordinance. Hammers stated that he and Tarr were reviewing different aspects of the zoning code and realized this ordinance needed to be added. A roll call vote called upon the following: Linda Curtin, Clint Epley, Clint Gabriel, Ray Koonce, Miranda Langen, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Jean Vandenberg, Clayton Walter, David Buckles and Tim Carlson; ayes. Motion carried with (15) ayes and (0) nays.*

Cleaning up the language due to an error in typing for Ordinance O2023 ZB 048, adding or amending the penalties section to the Christian County Zoning Code, was brought to the Board by Chairman Sharp. *Thomas Snyder, Jr. made a motion to approve O2023 ZB 048 as written, second by Venise McWard. No discussion. A roll call vote called upon the following: Clint Epley, Clint Gabriel, Ray Koonce, Miranda Langen, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Jean Vandenberg, Clayton Walter, David Buckles, Tim Carlson and Linda Curtin; ayes. Motion carried with (15) ayes and (0) nays.*

READING OF COMMUNICATIONS

DECEMBER 2023 COMMUNICATIONS

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

1. The Treasurer’s Reports for period ending November 30, 2023
2. The Local Solid Waste Fees Fund report for November 2023
3. IDOT– Motor Fuel Tax Allotment and Transactions for November 2023
4. The Public Defender’s Caseload Report for November 2023
5. Rochester Fire Protection District Decennial Report
6. The December 7, 2023 Prevailing Wage Report

COMMITTEE REPORTS

HIGHWAY/BUILDING/GROUNDS/ENVIRONMENTAL/ZONING AND WELFARE

Thomas Snyder, Jr. highlighted the meeting of the Highway/Building/Grounds/Environmental/Welfare/Zoning Committee. He stated the meeting was called to order on Monday, December 11, 2023 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.

Committee Chair, Thomas Snyder, Jr. presented to the Board the 2024 Diesel and Gasoline Bids. Bids were opened and read for delivery of gasoline and diesel fuel to be used during 2024 with the following results:

| | <u>Group 1</u> | | <u>Group 2</u> | |
|----------------------|----------------|---------|----------------|---------|
| | B2 Clear | B2 Dyed | Winter Add | Gasohol |
| Central Commodity FS | \$0.15 | \$0.15 | \$0.04 | \$0.15 |
| Huels Oil | \$0.10 | \$0.10 | \$0.03 | \$0.10 |

Thomas Snyder, Jr. made a motion to approve the low bid from Huels Oil for Group 1 and 2, second by Mike Specha. No discussion. A roll call vote called upon the following: Clint Gabriel, Ray Koonce, Miranda Langen, Vicki McMahan, Venise McWard, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Jean Vandenberg, Clayton Walter, David Buckles, Tim Carlson, Linda Curtin and Clint Epley; ayes. Motion carried with (15) ayes and (0) nays.

Next, Snyder informed the Board of a frame rail repair quote that was received. Cliff Frye stated that three (3) of the six (6) tandem trucks that the department has are in need of repair. The repair will range from \$18,000.00 to \$36,000.00, depending on how many rails need replaced. *Thomas Snyder, Jr. made a motion to approve Cliff Frye to replace the rails on all three (3) International 4900 Tandem Trucks based on the estimate from DNE Truck Equipment at a cost not to exceed \$36,150.00, second by Mike Specha. No discussion. A roll call vote called upon the following: Ray Koonce, Miranda Langen, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Jean Vandenberg, Clayton Walter, David Buckles, Tim Carlson, Linda Curtin, Clint Epley and Clint Gabriel; ayes. Motion carried with (15) ayes and (0) nays.*

EXECUTIVE/PERSONNEL/LIQUOR

Clint Epley, Committee Chair, highlighted the meeting of the Highway/Building/Grounds/Environmental/Welfare/Zoning Committee. He advised that the meeting was called to order on Tuesday, December 12, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. in the Christian County Courthouse. 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.

First subject brought to the Board by Committee Chair Epley was an Intergovernmental Grant Agreement between the State of Illinois, Illinois Emergency Management Agency and Office of Homeland Security and Christian County. Epley stated that EMA Director, Jeff Stoner, had advised that this is a multiyear agreement that is signed annually. It provides grant reimbursement for EMA. *Clint Epley made a motion to approve to authorize Chairmen Sharp to sign the Intergovernmental Grant Agreement between the State of Illinois, Illinois Emergency Management Agency and Office of Homeland Security and Christian County, second by Thomas Snyder, Jr. No discussion. A roll call vote called upon the following: Miranda Langen, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Jean Vandenberg, Clayton Walter, David Buckles, Tim Carlson, Linda Curtin, Clint Epley, Clint Gabriel and Ray Koonce; ayes. Motion carried with (15) ayes and (0) nays.*

Next, Clint Epley brought before the Board a Federal Surplus Resolution Property Program Agreement. *Clint Epley made a motion to authorize Chairman Sharp to sign the updated version of the Federal Surplus Resolution Property Program agreement, second by David Puccetti. No discussion. A roll call vote called upon the following: Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Jean Vandenberg, Clayton Walter, David Buckles, Tim Carlson, Linda Curtin, Clint Epley, Clint Gabriel, Ray Koonce and Miranda Langen; ayes. Motion carried with (15) ayes and (0) nays.*

Epley then informed the Board on an annual agreement for important services provided by the State's Attorney Appellate Prosecutor's Office. *Clint Epley made a motion to approve resolution R2023 SA 039, which is the official contract between Christian County and the State's Attorney Appellate Prosecutor's Office, second by David Buckles. No discussion. A roll call vote called upon the following: Venise McWard, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Jean Vandenberg, Clayton Walter, David Buckles, Tim Carlson, Linda Curtin, Clint Epley, Clint Gabriel, Ray Koonce, Miranda Langen and Vicki McMahon; ayes. Motion carried with (15) ayes and (0) nays.*

Next, Epley stated that an updated Food and Sanitation Ordinance was presented to the Committee by Dr. Chad Anderson, Director of the Christian County Health Department. This updates included a few changes related to the farmers' markets and food establishment risk categories. *Clint Epley made a motion to approve the recommended ordinance changes and to include updating amendment dates, signature page and new ordinance number O2023 HE 049, second by Vicki McMahon. No discussion. A roll call vote called upon the following: David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Jean Vandenberg, Clayton Walter, David Buckles, Tim Carlson, Linda Curtin, Clint Epley, Clint Gabriel, Ray Koonce, Miranda Langen, Vicki McMahon and Venise McWard; ayes. Motion carried with (15) ayes and (0) nays.*

Epley spoke about a law pertaining to Paid Leave For All Workers (PLAWA) that will go into effective as of January 1, 2024. *Clint Epley made a motion to approve the Paid Leave for All Workers Act (PLAWA) policy with edits and final version, second by David Puccetti. No discussion. A roll call vote called upon the following: Bryan Sharp, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Jean Vandenberg, Clayton Walter, David Buckles, Tim Carlson, Linda Curtin, Clint Epley, Clint Gabriel, Ray Koonce, Miranda Langen, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard and David Puccetti; ayes. Motion carried with (15) ayes and (0) nays.*

AUDIT/FINANCE/PURCHASING/BUDGET COMMITTEE

Venise McWard, Chairman highlighted the Audit/Finance/Purchasing/Budget Committee that met on Wednesday, December 13, 2023, 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.

Venise McWard brought to the Board the need to approve the claims presented for December 2023. *Venise McWard made a motion to approve the claims presented for December 2023, second by Clint Epley. No discussion. A roll call vote called upon the following: Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Jean Vandenberg, Clayton Walter, David Buckles, Tim Carlson, Linda Curtin, Clint Epley, Clint Gabriel, Ray Koonce, Miranda Langen, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, David Puccetti and Bryan Sharp; ayes. Motion carried with (15) ayes and (0) nays.*

The next item coming from Committee by Venise McWard was the negotiated Agreement for Recycling of Surplus Computer and Electronic Equipment with BLH. *Venise McWard made a motion to approve the three (3) year Agreement for Recycling of Surplus Computer and Electronic Equipment with BLH and to authorize Chairman Sharp to sign the agreement, second by Thomas Snyder, Jr. No discussion. A roll call vote called upon the following: Mike Specha, Jean Vandenberg, Clayton Walter, David Buckles, Tim Carlson, Linda Curtin, Clint Epley, Clint Gabriel, Ray Koonce, Miranda Langen, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp and Thomas Snyder, Jr.; ayes. Motion carried with (15) ayes and (0) nays.*

Committee Chair McWard then informed the Board of the low bid of \$1,953.28 from DeMichiel Floors and More for carpet in the lobby area of Probation Department with the cost coming from maintenance line item. *Venise McWard made a motion to approve the low bid of \$1,953.28 from DeMichiel Floors and More for carpet in the lobby area of Probation Department with the cost coming from maintenance line item, second by David Buckles. No discussion. A roll call vote called upon the following: Jean Vandenberg, Clayton Walter, David Buckles, Tim Carlson,*

Linda Curtin, Clint Epley, Clint Gabriel, Ray Koonce, Miranda Langen, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp and Mike Specha; ayes. Thomas Snyder, Jr. abstained. Motion carried with (14) ayes, (0) nays and (1) abstain.

The steeple repair estimate was the next topic presented by McWard. The need for masonry repair on the steeple needs done as soon as possible, as it is leaking and before winter weather. Highway, Building and Grounds recommended approval of the funds from the maintenance line item. The estimated cost from Two Brothers Tuck-Pointing is \$4,900.00 and that includes the lift. *Venise Mc Ward made a motion to approve the estimated cost of \$4,900.00 from Two Brothers Tuck-Pointing for steeple repair with the cost coming from the maintenance line item, second by Jean Vandenbergh. Chairman Sharp stated this was an emergent situation to get this repaired. A roll call vote called upon the following: Clayton Walter, David Buckles, Tim Carlson, Linda Curtin, Clint Epley, Clint Gabriel, Ray Koonce, Miranda Langen, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha and Jean Vandenbergh,; ayes. Motion carried with (15) ayes and (0) nays.*

NEW BUSINESS/OLD BUSINESS/OTHER

Chairman Sharp stated there was no new or old business to discuss.

CTI CONTRACT

Updated information from CTI was received and Assistant State's Attorney, Mary Barry, addressed the Board. There were a couple of items that were left off the original contract that resulted in an amount of \$2,124.80 not budgeted for this year. She stated that it would be possible to take this amount out of the Contingency Fund for this fiscal year and then budget for the correct amount for 2024-2025 Fiscal Year. Chairman Sharp suggested that a motion be made to approve. *Ray Koonce made a motion to approve the transfer of \$2,124.80 out of the Contingency Fund to be spent, in addition to what has already been approved and budgeted, on the CTI contract, second by Venise McWard. During discussion, Mike Specha questioned why you could not spend more than your budgeted amount in a year. He stated he thought a better process would be to spend the amount over what was budgeted as opposed to taking it from a different line item, to have knowledge next year during the budget process. Chairman Sharp stated that there was confusion during the budget process as the backup server cost was listed on another contract that came back after the budget process was completed. Specha said he does not understand why we have to move the money from another line item instead of just approving the amount to be included in the budgeted line item. McWard stated the budget was already approved and passed; the only way to change this is to statutorily amend the budget. Specha then understood. A roll call vote called upon the following: David Buckles, Tim Carlson, Linda Curtin, Clint Epley, Clint Gabriel, Ray Koonce, Miranda Langen, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Jean Vandenbergh and Clayton Walter; ayes. Motion carried with (15) ayes and (0) nays.*

Thomas Snyder, Jr. made a motion to accept the CTI contract as drafted and to authorize Chairman Sharp to sign the contract, second by Miranda Langen. No discussion. A roll call vote called upon the following: Tim Carlson, Linda Curtin, Clint Epley, Clint Gabriel, Ray Koonce, Miranda Langen, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Thomas Snyder,

Jr., Mike Specha, Jean Vandenberg, Clayton Walter and David Buckles; ayes. Motion carried with (15) ayes and (0) nays.

BUILDING PERMIT FOR B&R MARINE

Chairman Sharp stated that B&R Marine, who recently moved their business from Taylorville to Pana, is doing some interior renovations of the new facility and would like to utilize the benefits of the Enterprise Zone on said renovations. To apply for the Enterprise Zone benefits, they must have a building permit. The Chairman stated that the County is not required to issue a building permit to them, however Sharp had spoken with Taylorville Mayor, Bruce Barry to see how they handled these situations. Barry stated that the City issues a building permit at no cost, so that a building permit number can be assigned. Sharp stated that this would be a case by case in the future. He called for a motion to approve issuing B&R Marine a building permit at no cost. *Ray Koonce made a motion to approve the issuance of a building permit to B&R Marine at no cost, second by Clayton Walter. No discussion. A roll call vote called upon the following: Linda Curtin, Clint Epley, Clint Gabriel, Ray Koonce, Miranda Langen, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Jean Vandenberg, Clayton Walter, David Buckles and Tim Carlson; ayes. Motion carried with (15) ayes and (0) nays.*

FUNDING FOR WATER TESTING

Chairman Sharp updated the Board about water testing supplies and water testing. Sharp asked Dr. Anderson if the Health Department could help with the cost of some testing. Clint Epley asked if Ameren could fund some testing. Ray Koonce suggested that if the County would be doing due diligence if the funding could come from us and not another entity. Shawn Hammers stated that the IEPA and Ameren are having ongoing conversations. He stated the Christian County Solid Waste Management department would stay proactive and help in any way they could. The Chairman asked if there was anyone who thought this topic needed to be sent back for review at the committee level. *Ray Koonce made a motion to refer back to the Finance Committee for review, second by David Buckles. A poll ended with a motion to approve. Motion carried with (15) ayes, (0) nay.*

KEY SYSTEMS AT THE COURTHOUSE

The Chairman stated that he had spoken to Chief Deputy, Jim Baker, about the key systems at the Courthouse. Baker is in the process of gathering information from a few companies to evaluate what the best avenue would be to rekey the offices in the Courthouse.

Chairman Sharp then read a thank you letter from the Jay Bliler, Taylorville FFA. Chairman Sharp also recognized Cindy Drea, an employee of Christian County for the past twenty-three (23) years and will be retiring on December 29, 2023.

MILEAGE AND PER DIEM REPORT – December 2023

Chairman Sharp entertained a motion to approve the Mileage and Per Diem Report. *Tim Carlson made a motion to approve the Mileage and Per Diem Report for December, second by Jean Vandenberg. No discussion. A roll call vote called upon the following: Clint Epley, Clint Gabriel, Ray Koonce, Miranda Langen, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Jean Vandenberg, Clayton Walter, David Buckles, Tim Carlson and Linda Curtin; ayes. Motion carried with (15) ayes and (0) nays.*

| <u>Board Member</u> | <u>Salary</u> | <u>Rate</u> | <u># of Meetings This Month</u> | <u>Extension of Rate</u> |
|----------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|--|---------------------------------|
| David Buckles | \$100.00 | \$25.00 | 3 | \$75.00 |
| Timothy Carlson | \$100.00 | \$25.00 | 2 | \$50.00 |
| Linda Curtin | \$100.00 | \$25.00 | 3 | \$75.00 |
| Clint Epley | \$100.00 | \$25.00 | 4 | \$100.00 |
| Ken Franklin | \$100.00 | \$25.00 | 1 | \$25.00 |
| Clint Gabriel | \$50.00 | \$25.00 | 3 | \$75.00 |
| Ray Koonce | \$50.00 | \$25.00 | 3 | \$75.00 |
| Miranda Langen | \$100.00 | \$25.00 | 3 | \$75.00 |
| Vicki McMahan | \$100.00 | \$25.00 | 4 | \$100.00 |
| Venise McWard | \$100.00 | \$25.00 | 4 | \$100.00 |
| David Puccetti | \$100.00 | \$25.00 | 3 | \$75.00 |
| Thomas Snyder, Jr. | \$100.00 | \$25.00 | 3 | \$75.00 |
| Mike Specha | \$100.00 | \$25.00 | 3 | \$75.00 |
| Jean Vandenberg | \$100.00 | \$25.00 | 3 | \$75.00 |
| Clayton Walter | \$100.00 | \$25.00 | 3 | \$75.00 |
| Bryan Sharp | \$769.24 | | | |

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Sharp called for a motion from the floor to adjourn until next meeting scheduled for January 16, 2024.

Timothy Carlson made a motion to adjourn the meeting and second by Ray Koonce. Motion carried with all ayes.