

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

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, 2021 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.
- 2nd 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 (13) aye; (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 sense. 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 (abstained), 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 (abstained), 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 22nd. 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 McMahan 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 McMahan – 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 McMahan, 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 2nd and 3rd. With severe weather and services being open it encourages people to travel. Suggested the County develop an emergency policy.
- Noted the 3rd 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 McMahon, 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 McMahan
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 McMahan 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 McMahan, 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 1st 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 McMahan to recommend to the full Board to modify the salary for States Attorney 1st Assistant to \$71,000 and States Attorney 2nd Assistant to \$60,000. Roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

Venise McWard made a motion to modify the salary for States Attorney 1st and 2nd 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 McMahan, 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 1st 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 1st. 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 eyes. 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 McMahan, 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 eyes 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 McMahan – 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 McMahan – 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 McMahan 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 McMahon, 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 McMahon, 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

<u>Board Member</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u># of Meetings This Month</u>
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.