

**HIGHWAY/BUILDING/GROUNDS/
ENVIRONMENTAL/WELFARE/ZONING
COMMITTEE MINUTES**

March 9, 2021

Present: Dale Livingston, Chairman
Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Bev Graham, Mike Specha
Absent Mike Specha
Others present: Matt Wells, Vince Harris, Michael Gianasi, Cliff Frye, Katrina Dieterich, Bill Kennedy, Dwanna Kelmel, Charles Samson, Matt Rogers, Jacque Huddleston, Jim Andruch, John Reilly, Ben Skinner, Bobby DeClerck, Jan Bland and Elizabeth Hile in attendance.
Via [freeconferencecall.com/](https://www.freeconferencecall.com/) Sheriff Kettelkamp, Sarah Carlson

The meeting of the Highway/Building/Grounds/Environmental/Welfare/Zoning Committee was called for on Tuesday, March 9, 2021 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.

SEALED BIDS FOR SALE OF SURPLUS PROPERTY NEAR ROBY

Chairman Livingston opened the 4 bids received for approximate 8 acres of the 10 acres of property located in Mount Auburn Township near the Village of Roby – Parcel #10-03-23-200-009-00. The property is being sold as is. The bids were as follows:

Matt Rogers	\$18,500.00
Michael Bret Rora	\$16,350.00
Jim Andruch	\$ 7,500.00
Iris Smith	\$ 1,000.00

The 3 top bidders were given the opportunity to raise bids pursuant to the sealed bid terms. The terms of the purchase were reviewed highlighting that a cashier's check for 10% of the purchase price must be delivered to the County Treasurer's Office by 4:00 p.m. Thursday, March 11, 2021. Failure to deliver the 10% cashier's check by March 11th at 4:00 p.m. will automatically disqualify the bid and the County will accept the next highest bid. Motion by Chuck Smedley and seconded by Bev Graham to recommend to the full Board to sell the approximate 8 acres of the property located in Mount Auburn Township near the Village of Roby to the high bid made by Matt Rogers for \$18,500.00. A roll call vote polled all ayes and the motion carried.

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

Request for the sale of other surplus property

The County has approximately 33/34 acres located south of Taylorville on County Highway 1 next to the South Fork and Sangamon River. Because of the shape of the property combined with the presence of levees, this property will need to be surveyed before selling. County Board Chairman Wells would like this to come before the Board in March but it may have to wait until April. Motion by Dale Livingston and seconded by Chuck Smedley to recommend to the full

Board to approve selling as much of the 33/34 acres located south of Taylorville on County Highway 1 as possible. A roll call vote polled all ayes and the motion carried.

Discuss lease of excess property by Animal Control

County Board Chairman Wells advised that after more research, it does not make sense to attempt to lease the excess property by Animal Control due to taxing complications for both County and lessee.

HIGHWAY BUSINESS

Assumption Mayor's request for County to install warning flashing lights

Cliff Frye advised the Committee that he did receive an official letter from the Mayor of Assumption requesting a flashing caution light for a speed limit sign on County Highway 6. Cliff presented a number of DOT allowed alternatives to consider first which included red or orange reflective flags that are mounted above the regulatory sign and reflective strips on the sign post. Motion by Bev Graham and seconded by Chuck Smedley to recommend to the full Board to install red or orange reflective flags above the speed limit sign on County Highway 6 and reflective strips on the sign post as an alternative at this time to a flashing caution light. A roll call vote polled all ayes and the motion carried.

Highway Matching and MFT resolutions for County Highway 12 –Bear Creek Road Project

Cliff Frye provided an overview of the various funding sources for this 3.3 million dollar project. Cliff advised that the County's portion of the project was in the budget. Motion by Dale Livingston and seconded by Bev Graham to recommend to the full Board to approve the Resolution for Improvement Under the Illinois Highway Code for \$450,000.00. A roll call vote polled all ayes and the motion carried. Motion by Dale Livingston and seconded by Bev Graham to recommend to the full Board to approve the Resolution Appropriating Funds Highway Matching Fund for \$250,000.00. A roll call vote polled all ayes and the motion carried. Motion by Bev Graham and seconded by Chuck Smedley to recommend to the full Board to approve signing the Local Public Agency Agreement for Federal Participation. A roll call vote polled all ayes and the motion carried.

ZONING/ANIMAL CONTROL BUSINESS

- Vince advised the Committee that an agreement has been reached between Union Draining District #3 and Brian Grathwolh, owner of Pitchford Farms has been reached indicating when erosion control/buffer strips are needed. The permit was issued.
- Demolition Permits - The County does not currently have Demolish Permits and feels establishing permits would be beneficial.
- Certificate of Occupancy - Vince provided explanation as to who uses occupancy certificates and has said he has received calls regarding occupancy.
- Other items for Zoning Board of Appeals discussion – expansion of definition for solar types with breaking out residential from farm/commercial.
- Flood damage/prevention Ordinance will be appendix D.

Committee reviewed process whereby Vince takes matters to the Zoning Board of Appeals and recommendations come back to the full Board for vote.

COURTHOUSE/BUILDING BUSINESS

- County Board Chairman Wells advised that the outer glass of a window in the County Treasurer's office fell to the ground today. Charles Samson discussed why the window fell out and advised that after a review of the other windows around the Court House, there are approximately 21 windows that have rubber sealing pulling away that will eventually result in the same situation where the outer glass will fall out. Bill Kennedy spoke to the resolution of repairing the other windows stating the materials they plan to use to hold the windows in place will do a good job in resolving this issue. This matter will be referred to the full Board on Tuesday, March 16th.
- Bill Kennedy provided information on installation of water meter/pump and purchase of chemicals for better maintenance of the boiler. He advised the cost of a plumber would also be needed for installation of the water meter/pump. Motion by Dale Livingston and seconded by Bev Graham to recommend to the full Board to approve the cost of updating the boiler and chemicals at a cost of approximately \$2500.00. A roll call vote polled all ayes and the motion carried.
- Kelmore Watch Dog System Discussion – A petition signed by some Court House employees regarding proceeding with the transition back to the Kelmore Watch Dog system had been presented to the County Board. Bobby DeClerck on behalf of the Union provided concerns of employees to the Committee. The Union conveyed that they feel there is no problem with the systems now and that if the County goes back to the Kelmore Watch Dog system that temperatures will be undesirable at some times when employees are in the building. Bill Kennedy felt there are misconceptions about the system as there will be no equipment changes only controls and that departments will still be able to control the offices individually. The purpose is to save money during times people are not in the Court House. Bill offered to help clear up misunderstandings should there be further questions.
- Bill advised there are pipes in the building that are not insulated. A plumber could provide an estimate.
- Hurst-Rosche, Inc. has provided a proposal for structural engineering services for the 1st floor of the court house at a cost of \$5750.00. Bill stated he has been in search of a reasonable estimate and is pleased with this proposal. This matter will be referred to the full Board on Tuesday, March 16th.
- The west wall of the Solid Waste Management Building has some water leakage. Bill Kennedy advised that the mortar needs tuck pointed and there is some stone displacement. It is a good building and worth fixing. Estimated cost of repair is \$22,000.00.
- Bill Kennedy and Judge Spears have had conversations with the Sheriff about developing plans for new jail.
- Knox Boxes – County Board Chairman Wells advised that it has come to his attention that there are no Knox Boxes for the Highway Department, Animal Control or Solid Waste Management. Cliff advised that he has a Knox Box and it will be installed. Vince will contact the Fire Department for recommendations on placement for the Knox Box at Animal Control. Motion by Dale Livingston and seconded by Thomas Snyder, Jr. to recommend to the full Board to approve the purchase of Knox Boxes at Animal Control and Solid Waste Management with the cost being deducted from each departmental

budget. Installation will be completed by maintenance personnel. A roll call polled all ayes and the motion carried.

OTHER MATTERS

County Board Chairman Wells provided an update regarding a meeting on the expansion of the Enterprise Zone for 2 solar farms and reduction of land use from 3.7 square miles to 2.5 square miles. A Public Hearing has been set for Tuesday, March 30th at the Court House. This is the next step in this process. More information will be available next month.

Vince Harris advised that there will be a Pork Chop Dinner on Wednesday, March 24th with all proceeds benefiting the Cat Room at Animal Control. He asked everyone to please support this event.

Cliff Frye advised that the assorted vehicles were sold through government surplus auction with an estimated proceed of \$10,000.00.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- A comment was made via teleconference asking if the Kelmore system will control both heat and air conditioning.
- Indicated that the petition presented the County Board was signed by various groups in the Court House – Union, Non-Union and Judges and stated everyone is satisfied with the current system.
- With the previous Watch Dog system if an employee came into the building after hours that Mr. Kennedy would need to be called to control the offices.
- Candy Smith from Assumption called thanking everyone for revisiting the speeding sign issues; thanked Cliff Frye for his efforts this far and are appreciative of the motion passed by the Committee tonight. They also added additional police monitoring of the situation as well.

Motion by Bev Graham and seconded by Thomas Snyder, Jr to adjourn. A roll call polled all ayes and the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Dale Livingston, Chairman-
Buildings/Highway/Environmental/Zoning/Welfare
Committee
3/09/2021