

**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, AND BY TELECONFERENCE ON **January 19, 2021**  
*ATTEST: MICHAEL C. GIANASI, COUNTY CLERK*

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

In accordance with Executive Order 2020-07, issued by Governor JB Pritzker, this County Board meeting is being conducted by teleconference with remote participation by County Board members.

Chairman Matt Wells called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

The roll call by County Clerk Michael Gianasi showing all members present except Donna Hibbetts did signify a quorum and was declared. Tim Carlson and Vicki McMahon participated remotely.

**RESIGNATION**

Chairman Wells notified the board of the resignation of Donna Hibbetts. He read the letter of resignation dated December 16, 2020. Chairman Wells asked everyone to keep Donna in their thoughts and prayers. *A motion was made by Craig Corzine and seconded by Tim Carlson to accept the resignation of board member Donna Hibbetts.* A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Gene Price, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Matt Wells, Tim Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, (13) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried.

**BOARD MEMBER APPOINTMENTS**

Chairman Wells announced his appointments to fill the open board positions:

- Mike Specha – District 3
- Bev Graham – District 3
- David Puccetti – District 2

Mike Specha and Bev Graham will be members of the Highway/Building/Grounds/Environmental/Welfare/Zoning Committee. David Puccetti will be a member of the Executive/Personnel/Legislative/Liquor Committee and the United Counties Council of Illinois (UCCI) board. *A motion was made by Thomas Snyder, Jr., and seconded by Linda Curtin to accept the appointments as presented by Chairman Wells.* A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Gene Price, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Matt Wells, Tim Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Ray Koonce, (13) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried.

Resident Circuit Judge Brad Paisley administered the oaths of office to the three appointees and Chairman Wells congratulated and welcomed the new members of the Christian County Board.

**APPROVE COUNTY BOARD MINUTES**

Chairman Matt Wells asked for any corrections and to approve the December 15, 2020, County Board minutes. *A motion was made by Ken Franklin and seconded by Gene Price to approve said minutes of the County Board Meeting.* 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., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Tim Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Chairman Wells first called for public comments from the room. Dan McNeely from Dimond Bros. insurance thanked the board for their business as the workmen's compensation agent for

the county. He discussed large group benefits available to the county including online enrollment, an HR hotline, compliance assistance, and self-funded insurance knowledge. He introduced Nicole Brown as a local representative who also works with the City of Taylorville and the Taylorville School District. The Taylorville office is locally owned again as of January 2021, and Dan hopes to get more county business in the future.

Remote participation:

Thomas Snyder, Sr., president of the Christian County Water Reclamation District, stated they use Dimond Bros. and Nicole Brown has been very helpful. Dimond Bros. has done a great job with them over the last four years.

**CHRIS-MONT EMA UPDATE**

Greg Nimmo updated the board with the latest statistics related to the COVID-19 pandemic since the December county board meeting.

- 4,221 residents tested
- 664 positive cases
- 23 additional deaths
- Region 3 has dropped from 9.2% to 5.7%
- Regional hospital ICU bed availability has increased from 14.3% to 26.4%
- Christian County weekly positivity rate is at 10.6%
- The first vaccination clinic was today at the Christian County Fairgrounds; 444 people were served
- Greg thanked everyone who helped make the clinic a success
- Demand for vaccine is very high with supply being low; 300-400 doses being received each week
- Clinics are anticipated each week if the vaccine is available, however they are not notified until just before the beginning of the week how much vaccine will be sent
- Hospitals are ready to have clinics but vaccine availability is still the issue
- Walmart is a registered provider but they also do not have any vaccine to distribute

Chairman Wells asked about the status of the hazard mitigation plan and Greg asked that the plan return to the Executive committee for any final questions before coming to the board. *A motion was made by Ray Koonce and seconded by Dale Livingston to send the hazard mitigation plan to the Executive/Personnel/Legislative/Liquor Committee.* A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Venise McWard, Gene Price, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Tim Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahan, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried.

**PETITIONS, RESOLUTIONS, ORDINANCES OR PROCLAMATIONS**

None

**READING OF COMMUNICATIONS**

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

1. The January 2021 Prevailing Wage Report
2. The December 2020, Public Defender's Report
3. The Treasurer's Reports for the period ending on December 31st, 2020
4. The Local Solid Waste Fees Fund report for December 2020
5. The December 2020, Motor Fuel Tax Allotment Transaction Reports, dated January 6, 2021, were received for both the County and the Road Districts
6. The Christian County November PCOM report was received from the C.E.F.S. Economic Opportunity Corporation. The letter and report have been placed on file in the Clerk's Office
7. The United Counties Council of Illinois sent a letter and reimbursement check for the November Zoom membership meeting. The check was in the amount of \$400.00 and was deposited with the Treasurer

8. The Illinois Department of Corrections sent the latest inspection report for the county jail. The report is available in the Clerk's office and is available for inspection.

Chairman Wells asked Jail Administrator Cecil Polley for any additional comments and he stated:

- Last year there were zero findings and this year the jail was found non-compliant
- Last year was spent fixing as much as they could
- The findings that had been noted have been addressed or are being addressed
- The jail is about as good as we can get it at this point in time

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

#### HIGHWAY/BUILDING/GROUNDS/ENVIRONMENTAL/WELFARE/ZONING COMMITTEE- January 12, 2021 - Minutes read by Dale Livingston

##### HIGHWAY BUSINESS

As previously discussed, a request was made by an Assumption City Council member for a flashing light to warn drivers of an upcoming stop sign. Highway Engineer Cliff Frye was asked if this was an official request and gave a response of “no.” He also noted that if the County begins to provide this additional type of warning sign, they should consider there are about 20 more locations similar in the County. Each sign is about \$1600 and do we want to begin that service. During discussion it was also noted that after a few years those solar lights would require maintenance at an unknown cost. A motion was made by Chuck Smedley and seconded by Thomas Snyder Jr. that any requests of that type must be from an official city or village action and will be considered on a case by case situation. A roll call vote polled all ayes. The motion carried. *A motion was made by Dale Livingston and seconded by Gene Price to require requests to the county to come from the local elected officials.*

##### Discussion:

Chairman Wells mentioned that this was being done so that the request comes from the proper authority – for example, a village mayor or village board action making the request.

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

##### REQUEST TO REMOVE ALLEY FROM PLAT

There is a platted alley in the Village of Rosamond where a home has been built on half and half is being farmed. Cliff Frye will obtain signatures from the adjacent land owners and bring the request back to the Board to remove the platted alley from the plat by ordinance. A motion was made by Dale Livingston and seconded by Charles Smedley to refer to the full Board for review upon receipt of the necessary signatures. A roll call vote polled all ayes. The motion carried. *A motion was made by Dale Livingston and seconded by Venise McWard to table the issue until next month.* A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Tim Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahan, Venise McWard, Gene Price, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried.

##### REQUEST TO REPLACE ANIMAL CONTROL/ZONING TRUCK

Vince Harris, Animal Control Director and Zoning Officer is requesting a newer and reliable truck. Recently, he has a night time call out and was unable to go due to no lights, [He got them fixed the next day but due to wiring problems tail lights are still a problem]. The truck is a 2001 Dodge and constantly in need of repairs. Cliff Frye had suggested to quote state vehicle contracts. A motion was made by Dale Livingston and seconded by Thomas Snyder Jr. for Vince Harris to return with quotes to replace the truck and send to the Finance committee. A roll call vote polled all ayes. The motion carried.

*A motion was made by Dale Livingston and seconded by Chuck Smedley to have Vince Harris return next month to the Finance committee with quotes to replace the truck.*

##### Discussion:

Treasurer Betty Asmussen asked if there was a price range set and Dale responded that they had not gotten that far yet.

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

#### AMEND ANIMAL CONTROL ORDINANCE

Vince Harris has proposed changes to the kennel and hobby breeders and licensing which was reviewed and drafted by Dr. Louis Sloan, Administrator; Dr. Mark Ballman, Department of Agriculture; Friends of CCAC and Vince Harris. A motion was made by Chuck Smedley and seconded by Thomas Snyder Jr. to approve and refer to the full Board. A roll call vote polled all ayes. The motion carried.

Animal Control Director Vince Harris informed the board that there was one change from the copy sent to the board. Under section D, number of dogs, “two” should be replaced with “any.” Board member Vicki McMahon asked about the section restricting the sale of puppies across state lines. Vince said the section was added by Dr. Ballman because if you buy a dog sight-unseen, it’s a violation of the U.S.D.A. He clarified that someone from another state can come to Christian County and purchase a dog; a breeder would not be able to take it to them in another state.

*A motion was made by Dale Livingston and seconded by Thomas Snyder, Jr. to approve the changes to the animal control ordinance as presented.* A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Tim Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Gene Price, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried.

#### FEES DISCUSSED FOR PERSONAL SOLAR AND WIND INSTALLATIONS

The fees were discussed for personal solar and wind installations. Based on other counties, the proposal of \$7 per \$1000.00 of construction will be presented to the ZBA. There was no action as this goes to the Zoning Board of Appeals for hearing to change the ordinance then will return to the full Board.

#### JAIL REPORT

The Chairman’s office received the recent jail inspection report. Chairman Wells explained there are problems in this building built in the 70’s, but also there are improvements from last year. The Sheriff will attend the county board meeting next week if questions and to explain the many reasons to put the safety tax on the ballot in the Spring.

Chairman Wells discussed the results of the jail report and advised the board members of the work history of the current Jail Administrator Cecil Polley. Mr. Polley previously worked for the Illinois Department of Corrections and Matt worked for him for a time. The Chairman reiterated there are problems, but they are working on them.

#### EXECUTIVE/PERSONNEL/LEGISLATIVE/LIQUOR COMMITTEE- January 11, 2021 - Minutes read by Craig Corzine

#### CB RULES REVIEWED

During the December meeting, Chairman Wells asked the board to review the rules for any suggestions.

\*At the reorganizational meeting, the board approved the county board meeting dates for the next year as the third Tuesday of the month as #6 in rules state.

\*At the December 2020 meeting, the full Board moved to change the board chair as the committee chair of the Executive, Personnel, Legislative, and Liquor Committee (page 4) to the board chair will select the committee chairman of that committee as is done for the other standing committees.

\*Rule #8 discusses the Open Meetings Act (OMA) by allowing board members to participate via phone and not in person. In 2015 the Board, updated the Rules with provisions.

When the COVID pandemic began, an Executive Order would supersede OMA 5 ILCS 120/7 and has changed the rules which allow a quorum and voting via electronic participation during the pandemic. The proposed changes to the 2015 #8 would continue after the Executive Order is lifted. Chairman Wells noted that the board members have a \$100 salary for work anytime during the Board meetings and \$25 per diem to attend a designated committee meeting. The following are the suggested additions:

- a member cannot constitute part of the quorum and cannot vote
- a member may participate via audio conference (speaker phone from office)
- a member may ONLY participate due to personal illness or disability; employment purposes or the business of the public body; or a family or other emergency.
- a member may participate with advance notice to the Board Office or County Clerk prior to 4:00 pm the day of the meeting and receive a confirmation of the request. If no confirmation is received, audio participation cannot be guaranteed.
- ADDITION: No per diem is paid to the member unless they attend in person.

Under the Executive Order for the pandemic, any member may participate, be considered part of a quorum, and vote if in attendance through electronic access.

\*Rule #10-Special Meetings-it currently states that a special meeting can be requested by at least one-third of the membership which for a membership of 16 is five and a fraction or six members. The proposed change is just (5) five members. States Attorney Havera will check if the requirement is statutorily for one-third. [State's Attorney Havera, present at the board meeting, stated the statutory requirement is one-third.]

\*Public Comment Protocol for Meetings (on the last page of Rules) concerning the number of minutes to speak was suggested to be made uniform for any type of meeting from five to three minutes.

The time limit designated for each individual to speak:

Each speaker will be given a maximum of ~~five (5)~~ (3) three minutes to speak. If there is a question of clarification from a Board member, another three (3) minutes will be given to respond. Additional time may be allowed as determined by the committee chairman or the board chairman. If the speaker is in attendance for an agenda item, he will be recognized for their public comments at the time the topic is being discussed. The opportunity to comment will be prior to a vote on the topic.

Additionally, Ray Koonce wanted to acknowledge rule #7 and all members agreed to emphasize it to all members and participants.

#7-No personalities or reflection injurious to the feelings of any member shall be tolerated, and the Chair shall immediately call every member indulging in such personalities to order.

A motion was made by Ray Koonce and seconded by Gene Price to recommend and refer the changes to the full Board. A roll call vote polled all ayes.

*A motion was made by Craig Corzine and seconded by Gene Price to approve the changes to the Rules of Order of the Christian County Board Members as presented, not including the change for Rule #10 [leave as one-third].*

Discussion:

Chairman Wells discussed the change to the time limit of the public comments. He also stressed that public comments is just that and not a time to ask questions or have an argument with a board member. It is for a member of the public to tell the board how they feel about an issue. State's Attorney Havera clarified the motion should not include the proposed change to Rule #10 as was noted and amended by Craig Corzine and Gene Price. Board member Vicki McMahon asked about a situation that may occur where the Chair is out-of-line or impolite (hypothetical and not being directed at the current Chair). Chairman Wells stated that if enough of the board members agreed with, a motion, second, and vote, they would control the situation with the Chair. State's Attorney Havera continued with the board taking actions that could result in sanctioning a board member, censure, or even removal from the meeting. Matt added that his goal as the Chairman of the Board is civility.

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

#### FIVE YEAR CHRISTIAN COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

The resolution was distributed the members and a 500 plus page was emailed to all for review. Although some questions were asked, a motion was made by Ray Koonce and seconded by Gene Price to forward to the full Board R2021 CB 001. A roll call vote polled all ayes. The motion carried.

#### RESOLUTION 2019 CB 029-PROPOSITION FOR BALLOT

The resolution was passed in 2019 to put a question on the ballot for a safety tax in the April 6, 2021 Consolidated Election. Chairman Wells noted that the Sheriff was unable to attend this meeting but will attend the full Board meeting next week to detail the need for a judicial complex. No action necessary.

At the request of Sheriff Bruce Kettelkamp, Jail Administrator Cecil Polley was in attendance at the board meeting to answer any questions about the current jail and the need for a new jail.

- Even if the jail report findings were all corrected, the jail is likely short of compliance in other areas
- The condition of the jail raises the likelihood of a lawsuit
- A \$45,000 grant from the Howard Buffett Foundation was used to purchase six new doors
- There has been no case of COVID-19 in the prisoners since February, 2020, when Cecil began
- Screenings and daily temperature checks are occurring
- Inmates still have civil rights; they are being held and have not been convicted
- It would take a large amount of money and considerable time to make the needed improvements to the jail
- The building was built in the 1970's with a capacity to hold fifteen; 55 are in the jail now with the highest around 80
- There is no longer any recreation or out-of-cell time allowed because there is no space available for that use

Board member Dale Livingston asked Cecil his opinion on what needs to be done and his answer was to bulldoze it down and build a new jail. He said that Corrections requirements change often and repairs won't solve the population problem. With the assistance of the State's Attorney's office, they've been able to keep the population number manageable.

Board member Thomas Snyder, Jr., asked why the Sheriff was not at the meeting to discuss this topic. Cecil responded that the Sheriff told him he had control of the jail and that he could speak on the jail.

Board member Ray Koonce asked Cecil if there were any specific items that the board could help with now, since successful passage of the public safety tax would still require years complete a new jail. Cecil said that there are offices for others housed within the jail, including Greg Nimmo, EMA. There are major issues with the roof and plumbing. \$6,000-\$7,000 was spent on tuck pointing the old gym area. One custodian from the courthouse helps with maintenance and even staff and inmates have also helped. He also questioned how much money you would want to put into a building that you would ultimately not continue to use for this purpose. Ray also asked if there were any other grants available. Cecil said there were some available for supporting the inmates but that's difficult without additional space (for example, workout equipment). Cecil prioritizes issues and takes them to Chief Deputy Sheriff Scott Woods to decide based on available money.

State's Attorney Mike Havera added the issues with housing female population numbers greater than what was planned for in the 1970's. Mental health issues now are also much more of a focus than the 1970's. An inmate in that case may remain for a month or six weeks before being moved to the State. Inmates with mental health issues are supposed to be segregated and there is one cell for that purpose at the jail. Mike also mentioned co-defendants that should be separated and inmates with gang affiliations that should also be kept apart. Cecil said that there are eight staff members – four with 15+ years and four with 5 or fewer years. When it comes time to fill those spots, it may be a problem. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, more Zoom calls help decrease

transportation, but inmates are still transported to doctor/dentist appointments and the courthouse when necessary. New inmates should be isolated for seven to fourteen days but Cecil said sometimes five days is all that is available. Cecil also mentioned some inmates meeting with a mental health representative that evening.

Chairman Wells reminded the board that with the public safety tax question appearing on the April ballot, members would be getting questions from the public wanting to know why we would need to raise the sales tax.

Board member Snyder asked again about sending someone to represent you at a meeting when you are on the agenda. Matt answered that he had talked with the Sheriff and Cecil prior to the meeting and asked Cecil to attend the full board meeting so all of the members, including the three new appointments, could hear directly about the problems at the jail.

Sheriff Bruce Kettelkamp, joining remotely, addressed the board:

- He was in complete agreement with the statements from State's Attorney Havera and Jail Administrator Polley
- He was in full support of a new building – jail and Sheriff's office
- He also noted the investigations office and evidence vault are also in bad shape
- Bruce believes asking the public for one penny on the dollar is not too much to ask for this purpose
- He also stated as a conservative Republican, and not for raising taxes, this is for public safety for Christian County, and definitely needed
- He agrees with Chairman Wells to let the voters decide
- If it passes, he will work with the board to determine the best use of the money
- He also mentioned that he would provide tours of the jail to anyone

#### FAMILY FIRST EMERGENCY PAID LEAVE EXPIRED

During April through December 31, 2020, the Family First Emergency Paid Leave required the employer to pay up to 10 days of sick time to employees who were quarantined or tested positive for COVID and additional child care provisions were also available. All paid time awarded was charged towards FML eligible time. With the sunset of the act, the employer no longer has the obligation to award extra benefit time. No action was necessary.

#### ASSISTANT TO THE BOARD/HR JOB DESCRIPTION

As the duties of both positions were reviewed by the committee, it was explained how so many of the duties are related to one another and that it is center of the wheel which reports directly to the chairman. The Human Resource duties reflect serving as benefit coordinator-health insurance, life insurance, pension, HRA and the deductions through payroll; benefit time record keeping, risk management, and labor relations. The Board duties vary as to the pleasure of the Board Chairman but specifically written communication to board members, department heads, employees and the public. As the chairman shall select the replacement person and the duties to be performed, a motion was made by Ray Koonce and seconded by Bryan Sharp to authorize the hiring process and forward to the finance committee for a salary recommendation. A roll call vote polled all ayes. The motion carried.

*A motion was made by Craig Corzine and seconded by Gene Price to authorize the hiring process and forward to the finance committee for a salary recommendation. A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Tim Carlson, Craig Corzine, 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., (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried.*

#### CHANGE COMMITTEE MEETING NIGHT

Committee Chairman Craig Corzine relayed to the members that although the initial decision for the Thursday night meetings really needed to be addressed. The finance committee now meets on the Wednesday before the board meets and should be the last committee to meet for potential committee referrals. A motion was made by Craig Corzine and seconded by Gene Price to set the Executive/Personnel, Legislative, Liquor Committee meetings to be on the second Monday of the month. A roll call vote polled all ayes. The motion carried.

*A motion was made by Craig Corzine and seconded by Ken Franklin to set the Executive/Personnel/Legislative/Liquor Committee meetings to be on the second Monday of the month. A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Matt Wells, Tim Carlson, Craig Corzine, 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., Mike Specha, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried.

#### STATE'S ATTORNEY

State's Attorney Mike Havera asked the committee and the Board, to contact him prior to a meeting if they have any questions. That would allow him time to research the answer if needed. His office number and email will be sent to the members.

#### AUDIT/FINANCE/PURCHASING/BUDGET COMMITTEE-January 13, 2021 – Minutes read by Venise McWard

#### CLAIMS

*A motion was made by Venise McWard and seconded by Dale Livingston to approve the claims presented for January. A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Tim Carlson, Craig Corzine, 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., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried.*

#### COUNTY WEBSITE

Just informational, there was an initial fee of \$1860.00 to create a new website, transfer and update information in 2018. Annual fees are paid for SSL certificate, domain registration and hosting for \$255.00. It was previously presumed there was an annual fee for the website. No action necessary.

#### ILLINOIS COUNTY INSURANCE TRUST

The previous liability carrier was ICIT a self-insured trust. In 2001 there were nine counties and in 2009 the trust was re-capitalized with a six county membership. Even though the County left (and ICIT was no longer active), the counties in the trust were assessed a percentage when the trusts' funds needed to be replenished to cover the claims. Recently, we were notified that a closeout was possible. The amount is not known at this time, but it is something to anticipate the possibility. When that happens Christian County's percentage due from the 2001 trust closeout would be 9.4% and 19.71% for the 2009 closeout. No action necessary.

#### STARTING SALARY POLICY REVISED

The policy of starting salaries for the chief deputies of the Treasurer, Circuit Clerk, County Clerk, Supervisor of Assessments and the Board's Assistant/HR are all exempt positions. They have a step program over a three year period of larger increases and then are eligible for routine increases as set by the County Board. A motion was made by Vicki McMahon and seconded by Tim Carlson to remove the Assistant/HR position from that policy. A roll call vote polled all ayes. The motion carried.

At the board meeting, Venise added the starting salary for the Board Assistant/HR position was \$35,000 and this was proposed so the starting salary was not limited. *A motion was made by Venise McWard and seconded by Dale Livingston to remove the Assistant/HR position from that policy. A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Craig Corzine, 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., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Tim Carlson, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried.*

#### STARTING SALARY FOR BOARD ASSISTANT/HR

As referred from the Personnel Committee, the Finance Committee discussed a starting salary and range for the soon to be vacant position. Although in October 2020, the range for this position was set at \$40,000 to \$60,000. The potential range would most likely not go to the maximum. A draft of an ad was presented and the committee advised that the salary could start at \$40,000 commensurate with experience and certifications. A motion was made by Linda Curtin and seconded by Vicki McMahon for the salary of the position of Assistant to the Board/HR. A roll call vote polled all ayes. The motion carried.

*A motion was made by Venise McWard and seconded by Chuck Smedley to set the starting salary for the Board Assistant/HR position at \$40,000 with experience and certifications. 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., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Tim Carlson, Craig Corzine, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried.*

### ANIMAL CONTROL TRUCK

As reported from the Building Committee, a dependable and newer truck is needed at the Animal Control/Zoning facility. Vince Harris will return with quotes next month, although this truck request is not in his budget and the funds will need to be designated elsewhere (contingency).

### PUBLIC COMMENTS

Vicki McMahon had questions and comments about the ESDA deputy doing the reporting of the COVID and vaccine updates as well as the extreme number of phone calls and website crashing at the Health Department. As just today, the Treasurer and County Clerk have assisted with making the vaccine form available on the christiancountyl.com website. It was discussed that both the Sheriff and Health Department should and could use the main county's website. Arrangements will be set up for their staff to utilize it.

At the board meeting, Vicki McMahon expanded on her comments from the committee meeting:

- Mr. Schott had an interview stating the forms would be available on the Chris-Mont website, the Public Health Facebook page, and at Casey's in Taylorville
- Vicki received numerous phone calls stating that the forms were not available from those sources

Chairman Wells added that he checked the Casey's in Morrisonville and they had several forms in the morning and one left in the evening of the same day. He also confirmed the forms were available at the gas station in Edinburg. He also thanked the Treasurer and County Clerk for getting the information and form from Greg Nimmo and posting the information to christiancountyl.com for the public to download. Other office holders also notified Matt about phone calls and questions coming in about the form and clinic details.

Vicki added that some office holders may not have access to make changes to their pages on the website and Betty would be assisting them

### NEW BUSINESS

*A motion was made by Linda Curtin and seconded by Dale Livingston to extend the Emergency Disaster Declaration to the date of the next county board meeting on February 16, 2021. A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Gene Price, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Tim Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried.*

Chairman Wells stated that this is to provide the opportunity for future reimbursement if additional COVID-19 funding is made available.

### AUTHORIZE BOARD CHAIR TO HIRE BOARD ASSISTANT/HR

Chairman Wells said that Jan Bland's last day is March 19, 2021, and waiting to hire someone may delay their start date into March if board approval at the February meeting is required. The new hire will perform work as the board assistant and also as the Human Resources person and there is a large amount to learn in a short time. *A motion was made by Vicki McMahon and seconded by Dale Livingston to authorize the Chairman to hire a new Board Assistant/HR employee. A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Gene Price, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Tim Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried.*

Board member Linda Curtin commented that the new hire would need every minute with Jan because of the various types of work that are involved in the position.

### SECONDARY COMMITTEE REPORTS

Ken Franklin – 911 Board

- The 911 Board has merged with the Shelby County 911 Board previously
- Some issues, such as radio compatibility, but the boards are working well together
- Ken noted some large budget items but described it as more of a pass-through
- 911 is funded through fees on telephone bills
- They have their own separate budget and currently have a surplus
- Looking to upgrade to a new system in the future

## Gene Price – CEFS

- Attended the meeting in Effingham on January 7
- CEFS covers seven counties; Clay, Effingham, Shelby, Christian, Montgomery, Moultrie, and Fayette
- 22 board members
- They provide Head Start; Meals on Wheels; and senior citizen buildings
- There is an office on Franklin Street in Taylorville
- He had an example of a low-rent apartment in Vandalia where the tenants tore it up and it is going to take about \$19,000 to fix it up to rent out again
- CEFS received \$2.5 million for COVID relief and have about \$7 million in funds to operate

## Linda Curtin – WIB

- Linda let everyone know that WIB is the Workforce Investment Board
- The office is located at 1300 N. 9<sup>th</sup> St., in Springfield
- Meetings are held four times each year – March, May, September, and November, starting at 2:30 p.m.
- Larry Peterson of Taylorville is the Chairman; Michelle Brookens, a former employee of the County Clerk's office, provides reports about the workforce in Taylorville
- The group that Linda works with is from Cass, Christian, Logan, Menard, and Sangamon
- Each county gives a report at each meeting
- They assisted the employees of the Walmart in Pana when it closed
- The last web training report had the following involvement: Cass – 2%; Christian – 14%; Logan – 12%; Menard – 1%; and Sangamon – 71%
- The last Christian County report included the following program involvement:
  - 50% - Health and Science
  - 20% - Construction
  - 30% - Transportation, Logistics, and Business
- WIB works with youth, adult, and displaced local workers at 17 training centers, with some junior colleges, some four-year universities, some tech centers, and some nursing colleges
- The accountant is at the meetings and discusses the grant money received from the federal and state governments, and where the money goes
- Linda mentioned nine grants that had amounts ranging from \$3,200 to \$3 million dollars.
- Success stories are part of the meeting and Linda discussed two:
  - One was a gentleman that really liked to do odd jobs and became involved with WIB. He worked hard and stuck with the program and now owns his own construction company.
  - The second was a single mother that wanted to be a nurse. She also became involved with the WIB program, stuck with it, and was hired on at St. John's making \$45,000/year.

Chairman Wells thanked the members for the reports and mentioned that he wanted everyone to know what the committees did since the board was spending money on these.

## CHRISTIAN COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH

Chairman Wells and board member Ray Koonce met with the director of Christian County Mental Health this morning. Members are appointed by the chairman with approval of the board. The county levies money for mental health. Matt said he would likely send information to the Executive/Personnel/Legislative/Liquor Committee for some recommendations at next month's meeting.

## MILEAGE AND PER DIEM REPORT

*A motion was made by Venise McWard and seconded by Dale Livingston to approve the mileage and per diem report for the month of January 2021. A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahan, Venise McWard, Gene Price, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Tim Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried.*

<u>Board Member</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u># of Meetings This Month</u>
Timothy Carlson	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Craig Corzine	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Linda Curtin	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Ken Franklin	\$100.00	\$25.00	3
Bev Graham	\$100.00	\$25.00	1
Ray Koonce	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Dale Livingston	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Vicki McMahon	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Venise McWard	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Gene Price	\$100.00	\$25.00	3
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		

### **APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS**

At the request of board member Tim Carlson, Chairman Wells called for a motion to accept the resignation of Tim Carlson from the Senior Citizen's board. *A motion was made by Dale Livingston and seconded by Vicki McMahon to accept the resignation of Tim Carlson from the Senior Citizen's board.* 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., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Tim Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried.

Chairman Wells called for a motion to appoint Mike Specha to the Senior Citizen's board. *A motion was made by Gene Price and seconded by Linda Curtin to appoint Mike Specha to the Senior Citizen's board.* 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., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Tim Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried.

Chairman Wells called for a motion to appoint Vince Harris as the Christian County Floodplain Manager. *A motion was made by Dale Livingston and seconded by Chuck Smedley to appoint Vince Harris as the Christian County Floodplain Manager.* A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Venise McWard, Gene Price, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Tim Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahon, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried.

Vince asked if it was for a two-year term or indefinitely and Matt said tonight was for two years. The issue will be brought up with the State's Attorney and may return next month if the term length can be extended.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

With no other unfinished business to come before the Board, *a motion was made by Ray Koonce and seconded by Dale Livingston to adjourn until **Tuesday, February 16, 2021** for the regular County Board meeting at 6:30 p.m.* A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Gene Price, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Tim Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried.