

**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 **June 16, 2020**  
*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.

Chairwoman Becky Edwards called the meeting to order at 6:30p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

The roll call by County Clerk Michael Gianasi showing all members present did signify a quorum and was declared; Linda Curtin, Becky Edwards, Mike McClure, Vicki McMahan, and Clark Pearce participated remotely.

**ACCEPT COUNTY BOARD MINUTES**

Chairwoman Becky Edwards asked for any corrections and to accept the May 19, 2020, County Board minutes and the May 19, 2020, Special County Board minutes. *A motion was made by Tim Carlson and seconded by Brian Wilbur to approve said minutes of the County Board Meetings.* A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Phil Schneider, Matt Wells, Brian Wilbur, Molly Alaria, Tim Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Charles DeClerck, Becky Edwards, Donna Hibbetts, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Mike McClure, Vicki McMahan, Venise McWard, Clark Pearce, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried.

**PETITIONS, RESOLUTIONS, ORDINANCES OR PROCLAMATIONS**

*A motion was made by Vicki McMahan and seconded by Mike McClure to adopt Ordinance O2020ZN006 Petition for a variance to build a garage one (1) foot from the property line at 1127 West Coal St., Taylorville, IL (17-13-33-220-005-00).* Mike McClure asked if any of the property owners in the area opposed the variance and Zoning Administrator Vince Harris answered there was no opposition. A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Matt Wells, Brian Wilbur, Molly Alaria, Tim Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Charles DeClerck, Becky Edwards, Donna Hibbetts, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Mike McClure, Vicki McMahan, Venise McWard, Clark Pearce, Phil Schneider, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Chairwoman Edwards called for public comments.

A question was asked about Vince Harris, the zoning administrator, editing a text amendment after it was published and after the submittal deadline. He responded that the attorney felt that they needed to clarify a few things. The discussion continued to include setback and tower height changes. Chairwoman Edwards reminded that this time is for public comments and is not for questions and answers. The next public comment involved a large public function on the square and how to request the use of the courthouse lawn. The next public comment described the difficulty in hearing the meeting, the importance of future public hearings, and whether they should take place using a call-in system. The next public comment mentioned the time limit for public comments at the upcoming Zoning Board of Appeals meeting, the scheduling of the meeting, and difficulty in hearing the meeting. The next public comment discussed the fairness of having the upcoming meeting using the telephone, the difficulty in hearing the meeting, and the need to have the meeting soon or wait to meet in person. The final public comment suggested using the fairgrounds as a meeting location.

**READING OF COMMUNICATIONS**

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

1. The June Prevailing Wage Report has been placed on file in the Clerk's Office.

2. The May 2020, Public Defender's Report has been placed on file in the Clerk's Office.
3. The Treasurer's Reports for the period ending on May 31st, 2020, have been placed on file in the Clerk's Office.
4. The Local Solid Waste Fees Fund report for May 2020 has been placed on file in the Clerk's Office.
5. The May 2020, Motor Fuel Tax Allotment Transaction Reports, dated June 2, 2020, were received for both the County and the Road Districts.
6. The Christian County April PCOM report was received from the C.E.F.S. Economic Opportunity Corporation. The letter and attached reports have been placed on file in the Clerk's Office.
7. The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency sent a notice titled "Notice of Application for Permit to Manage Waste" for the Five Oaks Recycling and Disposal Facility. The description of the project is "Updated closure and post closure cost estimates in accordance with permit condition XII.7. The notice is on file in the Clerk's office and available for inspection.

#### **APPROVE COMMUNICATIONS AS READ**

Chairwoman Becky Edwards called for a *motion by Linda Curtin and was seconded by Donna Hibbetts to accept the communications as read.* A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Brian Wilbur, Molly Alaria, Tim Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Charles DeClerck, Becky Edwards, Donna Hibbetts, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Mike McClure, Vicki McMahan, Venise McWard, Clark Pearce, Phil Schneider, Matt Wells, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

##### **ACCEPT & FILE COMMITTEE REPORTS AS PRINTED**

*A motion was made by Tim Carlson and was seconded by Ray Koonce to accept & file the committee reports as printed.* A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Molly Alaria, Tim Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Charles DeClerck, Becky Edwards, Donna Hibbetts, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Mike McClure, Vicki McMahan, Venise McWard, Clark Pearce, Phil Schneider, Matt Wells, Brian Wilbur, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried.

##### **HIGHWAY/BUILDING/GROUNDS/ENVIRONMENTAL/ZONING AND WELFARE COMMITTEE**-No meeting

**EXECUTIVE/PERSONNEL/LIQUOR COMMITTEE**-June 8, 2020-Minutes read by Donna Hibbetts

##### **REGULAR MEETING DATE SET**

Brian Wilbur had requested a regular meeting date for this committee be set like the other standing committees. With some discussion, Matt Wells made the motion to set the date as the second Monday of the month with a second from Ray Koonce. The motion carried.

[Highway/building meets the second Tuesday of the month and Finance meets the Thursday before the county board meeting which is set for the third Tuesday of the month.] *A motion was made by Donna Hibbetts and was seconded by Ray Koonce to set the date of the Executive/Personnel/Liquor Committee to the second Monday of the month,* A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Tim Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Charles DeClerck, Becky Edwards, Donna Hibbetts, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Mike McClure, Vicki McMahan, Venise McWard, Clark Pearce, Phil Schneider, Matt Wells, Brian Wilbur, Molly Alaria, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried.

##### **NEW STATE ON NOVEMBER BALLOT AS ADVISORY**

A resolution was presented by Ray Koonce for the County to submit a non-binding public question on the November 3, 2020 ballot regarding the possibility of the formation of a new state separate from Cook County. He noted that several other downstate counties have already passed a resolution for the question to be put on the ballot. The results of this query would help to determine the interest of the voters in the State whether to pursue the possibility. *A motion was made by Donna Hibbetts and was seconded by Ray Koonce to adopt Resolution R2020CB003 A*

*Resolution of the County of Christian Regarding a Non-Binding Public Question on the November 3, 2020 Ballot Regarding the Possibility of the Formation of a New State; placing the question on the November 3, 2020 ballot.*

Board member Ray Koonce read the resolution into the record:

CHRISTIAN COUNTY  
RESOLUTION NO. R2020CB003  
A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNTY OF CHRISTIAN REGARDING A NON-BINDING  
PUBLIC QUESTION ON THE NOVEMBER 3, 2020 BALLOT REGARDING THE  
POSSIBILITY OF THE FORMATION OF A NEW STATE

WHEREAS, pursuant to Illinois law, codified at 10 ILCS 5/28-1 et seq.; a governing board of a political subdivision may initiate the submission of public question to the voters of that political subdivision and;

WHEREAS, the Christian County Board is a political subdivision subject to the provisions of 10 ILCS 5/28-1 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, the Christian County Board has determined that it is in the best interest of Christian County to seek the opinion of the citizens of Christian County in determining whether Christian County should collaborate with the remaining 101 Counties of the State of Illinois regarding the possibility of the formation of a new State.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CHRISTIAN COUNTY BOARD AS FOLLOWS:

1.) The County Board hereby seeks the opinion of the citizens of Christian County in determining whether Christian County should collaborate with the remaining 101 Counties of the State of Illinois regarding the possibility of the formation of a new State.

2.) A non-binding public question shall be submitted to the citizens of Christian County at the next regularly scheduled general election, being held on November 3, 2020; and shall be worded as follows:

“Shall Christian County collaborate in discussions with the remaining 101 Counties of the State of Illinois, with the exception of Cook County, about the possibility of forming a new state and ultimately seeking admission to the Federal Union as the 51st State, pursuant to the provision of the United States Constitution?”

3.) The votes shall be recorded as “Yes” or “No”.

This resolution shall be in effect upon its passage and approval as provided by law.

PRESENTED, APPROVED, AND RESOLVED, by the County Board of the County of Christian, Illinois at a regular meeting thereof held on the 16th day of June 2020.

Ray continued with a comment stating the question is from the Illinois Separation Movement and its purpose is to see if the voters of Illinois are interested in doing this. They want to ask the question before they spend time and money on the effort. Board member Matt Wells said he had been asked if there was any cost to the county to put the question on the ballot. Matt confirmed with County Clerk Gianasi that putting the question on the ballot added no additional cost to the election. Board member Vicki McMahan asked if the same question will be presented in all counties and Ray confirmed it is the same question. Board member Linda Curtin stated that it was an approval or disapproval question and had no legal weight.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Craig Corzine, Becky Edwards, Donna Hibbetts, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahan, Venise McWard, Clark Pearce, Phil Schneider, Matt Wells, Brian Wilbur, Molly Alaria, (12) aye; Linda Curtin, Charles DeClerck, Mike McClure, Tim Carlson, (4) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried.

### A CANNABIS BUSINESS IN CHRISTIAN COUNTY?

A sample ordinance was available as to the types of business establishments the county could determine to be allowed or not: cannabis craft grower, cultivation center, dispensing organization, infuser organization, processing, or transporting. Matt Wells commented that even if we are in favor or not of this type of business, we need to research and learn more about what they are about and the possible revenue. Additionally, if we don't another entity could allow it. Chairperson Donna Hibbetts asked for research from the members. Brian Wilbur volunteered. More info will be brought back next month.

AUDIT/FINANCE/PURCHASING COMMITTEE-June 11, 2020-Minutes read by Clark Pearce.

### CLAIMS

*A motion was made by Clark Pearce and seconded by Mike McClure to approve the claims presented for June. A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Linda Curtin, Charles DeClerck, Becky Edwards, Donna Hibbetts, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Mike McClure, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Clark Pearce, Phil Schneider, Matt Wells, Brian Wilbur, Molly Alaria, Tim Carlson, Craig Corzine, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried.*

### DEEDS OF CONVEYANCE APPROVED

Christian County is trustee for delinquent tax properties. Two were presented with resolutions to adopt.

*A motion was made by Clark Pearce and seconded by Donna Hibbetts to adopt Resolution R2020TR002 authorizing the Chairman of the Christian County Board to execute a deed of conveyance or cancel the certificate for 11-25-22-305-018-00 with a bid of \$828.00. A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Charles DeClerck, Becky Edwards, Donna Hibbetts, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Mike McClure, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Clark Pearce, Phil Schneider, Matt Wells, Brian Wilbur, Molly Alaria, Tim Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried.*

*A motion was made by Clark Pearce and seconded by Matt Wells to adopt Resolution R2020TR004 authorizing the Chairman of the Christian County Board to execute a deed of conveyance or cancel the certificate for 07-19-16-408-006-00 with a bid of \$828.00. A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Becky Edwards, Donna Hibbetts, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Mike McClure, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Clark Pearce, Phil Schneider, Matt Wells, Brian Wilbur, Molly Alaria, Tim Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Charles DeClerck, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried.*

### ESDA DEPUTY DIRECTOR POSITION REQUEST

ESDA Director Greg Nimmo requested the extension of the deputy position on a 16 hour/week schedule with approval monthly to extend. During the pandemic Kevin Schott was brought in to assist with the many duties in both counties. In the aftermath of the two facilities there are still many things to do: evaluate the quarantine responses, working with the Health department, review the pandemic plan, and prepare for immunizations. The salary is \$12.50/hour or \$200/week which is split with Montgomery County. A motion was made by Mike McClure and seconded by Clark Pearce to approve the 16/hours/week for the temporary deputy director on a month to month basis. Voting polled: Clark Pearce-yes, Tim Carlson-no, Venise McWard-no, Vicki McMahon-no, and Mike McClure-yes. The motion failed. Schott will be paid through June 16, 2020. *A motion was made by Clark Pearce to accept what the committee had decided and was not seconded.*

### GPS SERVICE NEEDS FUNDING

Discussion continued from last month as to how to proceed with the payment of the GPS service. As determined by the Chief Judge, this service is not to be paid from Probation Funds. No other budget has been allocated money for this service which is normally paid by the client if they have money to pay. Many who are ordered to where the GPS are indigent and then becomes the County's debt to cover. Although during COVID many more clients were on GPS. The numbers are down considerably however, there will always be the need for GPS to protect the victims of violent crimes and to be held rather than being jailed before a pre-trial can be conducted. The discussion was not about the use but of how to pay the service company when the general fund has taken and will continue to take a large reduction in the revenue. The review of the costs from the vendors had been done and all were comparative in price as well if any

grants were available. Judge Paisley explained that the current numbers are being reviewed to have the GPS removed. Most avenues have been pursued for reduction in expenses, but the problem is and will continue to be how and where to pay the approximate \$56,000 annual expense. Treasurer Asmussen and Laura Cooper will continue to work on a possible avenue to fund the program without using the general fund. No action was taken.

Clark stated there were three outstanding bills from March, April, and May, and it was recommended by Treasurer Asmussen to transfer General Obligation Bond money to pay the bills. *A motion was made by Clark Pearce and seconded by Mike McClure to transfer General Obligation Bond money to pay the outstanding March, April and May GPS bills.*

#### Discussion:

Jan Bland asked if the outstanding bills and remainder of the fiscal year should be paid for. Clark confirmed that at this time they were just paying the three months outstanding. Dale Livingston asked where the fees had been paid from in previous years. Clark said they were paid out of Probation funds but by statute, should not have been paid using those funds. Becky Edwards added that the Chief Judge instructed Laura Cooper not to use probation funds to pay these bills. Dale also asked if the statute had changed. There was no change to the statute and Becky added that the Chief Judge stated there was no statute that defined the fees to be paid from probation funds. Judge Brad Paisley stated in the past there was an appropriation to pay these fees. He also clarified that probation service fees are to be used only for people who are on probation. The people in question have posted bond and are out awaiting trial. They are still monitored using GPS as required by the court. Ray Koonce asked if the use of GPS in these cases was a replacement for holding the people in the jail and if the cost should fall under the Sheriff's department budget. Judge Paisley clarified the two types of cases where monitoring is used. Released on electronic home confinement in lieu of being in jail is one type. Released on bond under the condition that they have no contact with the alleged victim is the other type. There are about fifteen people remaining on the list. Craig Corzine cautioned about "opening the door" with this payment and whether it can be closed again. Mike McClure added that he did not see much of a choice in approving the three previous bills and working out the rest in budget hearings.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Donna Hibbetts, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Mike McClure, Venise McWard, Clark Pearce, Phil Schneider, Brian Wilbur, Molly Alaria, Tim Carlson, Linda Curtin, Charles DeClerck, Becky Edwards, (13) aye; Vicki McMahan, Matt Wells, Craig Corzine, (3) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried.

#### PROBLEM SOLVING COURT EXPENSE

The expense was problem solving court is fully funded through a grant from the state but as a reimbursement it takes months (up to six months) before the funds are paid. Previously, the payment for this grant program was fronted by Effingham County. Recently, they have sent it back to each county to cover and wait for the reimbursement. Laura Cooper has requested the County to front the money-pay the bills like Effingham County used to do. It was mentioned that when 911 was in the same situation they got a loan until the funded was received. No action was taken.

#### BUDGET 2021 HEARINGS

It was suggested to get started earlier than August due to the decreasing revenues. The members set the dates for Wednesday, July 29 and Thursday, July 30 both beginning at 6:00 pm. Department heads will be notified with forms. Treasurer Asmussen repeated again as of now, the general fund revenue decrease has created an \$800,000 deficit.

#### NEW BUSINESS

Chairwoman asked for an extension to the Emergency Declaration Proclamation through December 31, 2020. Becky clarified that it is to have it ongoing should any available federal funding become available. A motion was made by Mike McClure and seconded by Donna Hibbetts to extend the Emergency Disaster Declaration through December 31, 2020. Several members commented on previous extensions as monthly. *An amended motion was made by Mike McClure and seconded by Donna Hibbetts to extend the Emergency Disaster Declaration to the date of the next county board meeting.* A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Mike McClure, Vicki McMahan, Clark Pearce, Phil Schneider, Brian Wilbur, Molly Alaria, Tim Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Charles DeClerck, Becky Edwards, Donna Hibbetts, (14) aye; Venise McWard, Matt Wells, (2) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried.

Janet DeClerck discussed a large vendor show coming to Taylorville on July 24, 25, and 26. If more vendors arrive than Washington Street can hold, may the vendors also use the courthouse lawn. Matt Wells asked why the question shouldn't be asked of the Sheriff. Becky stated that previous use of the lawn had been approved by the county board. Ray Koonce added that there is a fine line between custodian of the courthouse and the grounds outside. *A motion was made by Matt Wells and seconded by Linda Curtin to approve the use of the courthouse lawn for the DowntownTaylorville.org event on July 24, 25, and 26.* A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Dale Livingston, Mike McClure, Vicki McMahan, Venise McWard, Clark Pearce, Phil Schneider, Matt Wells, Brian Wilbur, Molly Alaria, Tim Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Charles DeClerck, Becky Edwards, Donna Hibbetts, Ray Koonce, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried.

*A motion was made by Matt Wells and seconded by Dale Livingston to change the date of the July Highway/Building/Grounds/Environmental/Welfare/Zoning committee meeting.* A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Mike McClure, Vicki McMahan, Venise McWard, Clark Pearce, Phil Schneider, Matt Wells, Brian Wilbur, Molly Alaria, Tim Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Charles DeClerck, Becky Edwards, Donna Hibbetts, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried.

Ray Koonce commended the Taylorville Police Department, Christian County Sheriff's Department, Illinois State Police, and the U.S Marshals Service for the recent drug busts of over twenty individuals. "We are very proud of their service and the job that they have done."

Craig Corzine asked for clarification about the county board text amendment agenda item for the upcoming Zoning Board of Appeals meeting. Becky responded that the text amendment was submitted to amend two items the county board approved at the September 17, 2019 meeting. Becky stated the two amendments to the ordinance were to include all WECS towers have an aircraft detection lighting system and to coordinate with local fire departments on an emergency response plan. All hazardous materials are to be listed. The owner or operator shall cover all the costs for the training and equipment necessary to execute the emergency response plan. Venise McWard asked who changed the permit fees. Matt Wells said in other counties, the county engineer works with the companies on road usage and wondered if we were doing the same. Becky responded that county engineer Cliff Frye has been involved and would be more involved during the special use process. Brian Wilbur talked with Vince Harris and asked that additional communication be made with Jan Bland so the board could be notified. He received many calls about the Zoning Board of Appeals meeting and did not have much information about it. Becky said she would send everyone the Rules and Procedures of the Zoning Board of Appeals and talk with Vince tomorrow. Craig asked if they could make a suggestion to the Zoning Board Appeals to postpone their meeting. Becky said she didn't know legally how the meeting could be delayed. Craig said that there is no reason to rush into anything. Matt Wells said to let them move forward and the county board could choose to table any recommendation whenever it is received. Brian stressed that the ZBA meetings are where the public needs to be heard.

**MILEAGE AND PER DIEM REPORT:**

*A motion was made by Tim Carlson and seconded by Dale Livingston to approve the mileage and per diem report for the month of June 2020.* A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Vicki McMahan, Venise McWard, Clark Pearce, Phil Schneider, Matt Wells, Brian Wilbur, Molly Alaria, Tim Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Charles DeClerck, Becky Edwards, Donna Hibbetts, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Mike McClure, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried.

<b><u>Board Member</u></b>	<b><u>Salary</u></b>	<b><u>Rate</u></b>	<b><u># of Meetings This Month</u></b>
Molly Alaria	\$200.00	\$50.00	2
Timothy Carlson	\$200.00	\$25.00	2
Craig Corzine	\$200.00	\$50.00	2
Linda Curtin	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Charles DeClerck	\$200.00	\$50.00	1
Becky Edwards	\$846.16		
Donna Hibbetts	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Ray Koonce	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Dale Livingston	\$100.00	\$25.00	1

Mike McClure	\$200.00	\$50.00	4
Vicki McMahon	\$200.00	\$50.00	3
Venise McWard	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Clark Pearce	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Philip Schneider	\$200.00	\$50.00	1
Matt Wells	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Brian Wilbur	\$100.00	\$25.00	2

**APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS:**

*A motion was made by Brian Wilbur and seconded by Tim Carlson to reappoint Roger Clymer as a Nokomis Area Fire Protection District Trustee for a 3-year term. A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Venise McWard, Clark Pearce, Phil Schneider, Brian Wilbur, Molly Alaria, Tim Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Charles DeClerck, Becky Edwards, Donna Hibbetts, Ray Koonce, Mike McClure, Vicki McMahon, (14) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; Matt Wells, Dale Livingston, (2) present The motion carried.*

**ADJOURNMENT**

*With no other unfinished business to come before the Board, a motion was made by Mike McClure and seconded by Molly Alaria to adjourn until **Tuesday, July 21, 2020** for the regular County Board meeting at 6:30 p.m. The motion carried.*