

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 **May 18, 2021**
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 Matt 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 all members present including Vicki McMahon who was attending remotely

APPROVE COUNTY BOARD MINUTES

Chairman Matt Wells asked for any corrections or additions and to accept the April 20, 2021 County Board minutes. *Dale Livingston made a motion that the minutes include the addition of mileage per diem for board members. After no discussion, the motion was seconded by Tim Carlson.*

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, Timothy 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.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chairman Wells called for public comments from the room and there were none.

REMOTE PARTICIPATION:

Tom (could hardly hear him) Try that sir. Tom. I wanted to bring something up about 48 29 took multiple years to complete to a 4 year road. The question I have or comments I have Inquiring about making 48 is a state highway a 4 lane. That's all I got. Thank you Tom. Anybody else from the public. No one else from the public. Last call from the public He called last call.

SOLID WAST REPORT

I asked Joe to come here to talk about a couple different items tonight. Joe stated yes that he has two things to cover with you. The first upcoming yearly, so we have an agreement with the IEPA called the Intergovernmental Agreement. It used to be called the Delegation Agreement which gave us the authority to enforce the state rules and then in conjunction with that we received a grant to help offset the cost. Several years ago they combined the two to what now is called the Intergovernmental Agreement. Periodically, every 5 years, in fact, we would renew this delegation agreement. And now it also comes with a reimbursement portion. So there is a financial aspect and an authority aspect to it.

The current agreement ends with the state fiscal year of June 30 and the new fiscal year starts July 1, 2021. This agreement I have back from the state is already signed by IEPA and if you decide

to sign it that will make this agreement good for the next 5 years. So that is the first thing I got for you.

Chairman Wells stated that agreement was a grant in another form and now it is an agreement and it sends how much money each year to us?

Joe stated that it results in a state reimbursement of about \$82,000 a year.

Chairman Wells stated okay so we have an agreement with the state EPA. Is there a motion on the floor to have that agreement executed so that we get reimbursed every year for the next 5 years? I told Joe I do not act alone that this board will decide whether or not we sign this agreement. Chairman Wells called for a motion from the floor; *Bev Graham made a motion and Dale Livingston second the motion.*

A discussion was had with a question being asked if there were any counties in the state that did not participate in this and Joe stated, Oh, yea. This is only available to counties that have a landfill.

Chairman Wells asked for any other questions or comments and if not, a roll call vote being called upon polled the following: David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Gene Price, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried.

The second item Joe has is also a 5 year contractual item involving BLH Electronics here on the corner of the square. It's been probably 15 years ago we started doing business with BLH to handle our electronics recycling. I don't know if you are aware or not in 2012 the state made it illegal to put certain electronic items in the landfill and we knew that was coming and so we started talking with BLH to get ahead of that problem. So we've been under contract with them of one sort or another since 2006. The way our contract is written with them is they provide a store front here in Taylorville that is open to any business or individual in Christian County to take their electronics material over there to be recycled. When the state banned them they did not leave any opportunity for private citizens or even businesses to take care of their recycling. They just said you can't take them to the landfill. BLH does recycle those. They recycle everything in the US and overseas. They are open from 8-6 Monday through Friday and I think from 10-6 on Saturdays. They also accept those recyclables at no charge. You may not know this, but it is extremely important when it comes to tvs, crts and monitors because those items are very difficult to take care off. Every other county in the state has to pay for individual recycling. They have to pay for those items. Being under contract we don't have to pay and that is partly because we have been under contract with them for so long. The current contract will expire at the end of this calendar year. So we are ahead of the curve and getting ready or setup for the next 5 years. The way this contract is constructed or how we would like for it to be constructed for sure the next 5 years and possibly beyond that on an annual basis if both parties agree to be in contract and either party can get out for any reason. That would save us from doing this every 5 years.

Terms of the current contract we pay BLH \$4,150.40 through the end of this current contract. The next contract will result in the numbers going up to \$4,500.00 and after that year it will increase \$200 a year. So 2023 it will be \$4,600 and 2024 it will be \$4,700. Basically increases \$400 each year which is fairly reasonable.

Counties that don't have this service – towns and cities have an electronic collection day or weekend where they bring everything in at once. BLH provides for those too. Charge for TV is 25 cents a pound which can add up in a hurry. Often times they cost \$15,000-\$20,000 for individual collection.

We have the ability to take electronics to BLH as long as you are a Christian County resident which is an important service to all the citizens of Christian County. That is the next item we are looking at to renew is the contract with BLH. It's not something we need to jump on right away but something we want to stay in front of.

Chairman Wells stated he believes he asked Liz to put that down on the August agenda of the finance committee. He stated that gives Joe as they discussed, and there is still some stuff to iron out with the agreement, two or three months and it gives the board two or three months to discuss, kick it around to decide if we want to sign it. I will tell you this I voted against this agreement because it looked to me as \$80,000 was a lot of money. Joe told me it saved us \$40,000 during the term of the contract. I thought by saving us \$40,000 it cost us \$40,000. Joe believes the amount of stuff picked up by BLH would have cost us over \$120,000 over past 4 years.

If you have questions those are things we can discuss in the future once – I mean we can sit here all night and discuss what ifs – but when he has a contract ready to be executed and hopefully that will be at the August meeting of the Finance committee, we can decide what we want to do with it and bring it back to the full board.

Joe stated he would like to throw out a couple numbers. Last 5 years Christian County had 672,290 pounds of electronics; 7.4 pounds per person.

Chairman Wells state that was part of the contract. Yes, we did have to, by contract, we had to give away screens and monitors. We saved two monitors under the advice of CTI. In all honesty, I don't think they would have brought \$40,000 and I am thrilled they are out of the building.

Chairman Wells asked for any other questions or concerns of Joe. Joe stated he would leave the contract with County Clerk Jacque Willison.

APPOINTMENTS:

FARMLAND ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE

Unbeknown to me, we have a group of farmers get together to decide what farmland is worth. They get together – committee of three of them, Assessor and chairman of the board of Review correct Chad. So I have three appointments to make tonight and I am pleased tonight I believe for the first time we are appointing a lady to the Farm Assessment Board. Those three people are: Donna Wilcox who is here tonight in the back of the room, Alex Norris and John Gardner. That will be the Farmland Assessment Committee for this year. Having appointed those people I would entertain a motion to approve those appointments. Is there a motion from the board? *A motion by Venise McWard and second by Thomas Snyder Jr.* Chairman Wells asked for discussion. Chairman Wells was asked to repeat the appointments; Donna Wilcox, Alex Norris and John Gardner. They will sit on that board, Chad's on that board along with Joy Boyd who is the

chairman of the Board of Review. Those five will decide what the tax rate will be on farm ground this year. Chad stated we don't decide the state decides. We just give input to the state Chairman Wells apologized for misspeaking. He stated he has never sat on the Farmland Assessment Committee. With no further discussion a roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Gene Price, David Puccetti (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried. Vicki McMahan lost connection and later stated how she voted.

EMA DIRECTOR

Bruce has indicated he wanted off for a month. He stayed, he's done some good things. He will provide a report later on in this meeting. Chairman Wells stated he was pleased to announce Jeff Stoner who is a Taylorville Fireman as the new EMA Director effectively immediately. Chairman Wells called for a motion from the floor; *Mr. Livingston made a motion and Mr. Franklin second the motion.* Chairman Wells stated there would be more discussion on salaries etc later on with the finance committee report. A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy 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. Vicki McMahon lost communication but later stated how she wanted to vote.

MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR

Chairman Wells is naming Tim Dean as the new Maintenance Supervisor. Interviewed a lot of good people but believes Tim is the man for the job. Chairman Wells called for a motion from the floor; *Mr. Corzine made a motion and Mr. Carlson second the motion.* A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Thomas Snyder Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy 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. Tim will start Monday morning due to previous commitments.

PETITIONS, RESOLUTIONS, ORDINANCES OR PROCLAMATIONS

Last month we approved changing the liquor ordinance and we didn't do it by resolution we simply voted.

RESOLUTIONS:

R2021CB007 – Amending the Resolution Relating to the Sale of Alcoholic Liquor in the County of Christian, State of Illinois Outside the Corporate Limits of any City, Village, or Incorporated Town as Adopted November 12, 1974 and Previously Amended. Basically what that is doing is simply clearing up the language of Class A liquor license. Simply changed the wording if you remember to say package liquor instead of what the other phrase was. That's what this resolution does. The liquor law has to be changed by resolution and I made that mistake last month. We are clearing up the paper work, my paperwork mess from last month with this resolution. Chairman Wells entertained a

motion to pass this resolution. *Dale Livingston made a motion to pass the resolution and Timothy Carlson second the motion.* After no discussion, a roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy 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, and Thomas Snyder Jr. (16) Aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; the motion carried.

R2021CB004 – Resolution Declaring May as Drug Court Month. This resolution was at the request of our sitting Circuit judge Mr. Paisley. He could not be present for this meeting. Chairman Wells read the resolution which is on file in the County Clerk's office.

Chairman Wells called for a motion from the floor; *Bev Graham made a motion and Ray Koonce second.* With no discussion a roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Matt Wells, Timothy 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.

ZBA RECOMMENDATIONS

O2021ZN009 – This is an ordinance that was sent to us by the Zoning Board and it is changing an area near Morrisonville from C1 to C2 to allow a Dollar General Store to be built. This had to be changed so Dollar General could sell milk and ice. Chairman Wells called for a motion from the floor; *A motion was made by Craig Corzine and seconded by Chuck Smedley to allow a change so Dollar General store can be built.* With no discussion a roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Timothy 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.

O2021ZN010 – Basically splits the nonindustrial solar classifications. What we have right now is home and we have industrial like what is being built over by Tovey. We got into a situation where a local farmer put up 900 panels to power grain bins. Well the concern is what if I put 500 panels up in my back yard which is the neighbor's front yard. So what they have come up with is this ordinance states basically for a home solar panel you can have up to 50 panels – the other nonindustrial classification farm and commercial would allow 1800 panels – neither one of those are anything like what's going on outside of Tovey. So this zoning ordinance basically is clarifying language. So if people ask or more and more farmers decide they want to put up solar panels on the farm they will know what classification and what it is they are applying for. Now – we vote and pass this and 6 months some need arises to alter something it will have to be taken back to the Zoning Board per advice of the attorney Mr. Jacoby. But tonight this looks like the best way to go. Chairman Wells called for a motion on the floor; *Dale Livingston made a motion to pass this ordinance and Bev Graham seconded the motion.* After no discussion 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, Timothy Carlson (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried.

READING OF COMMUNICATIONS

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

1. The June Prevailing Wage Report
2. The May 2021, Public Defender's Report
3. The Treasurer's Reports for the period ending on May 31, 2021,
4. The Local Solid Waste Fees Fund report for April 31, 2021
5. The Illinois Department of Transportation – circular letter 2021-16 regarding FY2021 RAISE Program – Rebuild American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity
6. The Illinois Department of Transportation – Transfer of highway jurisdiction from US Rte 51 Expressway from the State of Illinois to the City of Assumption that will occur on June 7, 2021
7. The Illinois Department of Transportation – resolution authorizing the transfer of \$57,850.00 of Surface Transportation Program funds for partial reimbursement of the CC Engineer's salary. The County Treasurer will be issued a warrant in the near future.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

HIGHWAY/BUILDING/GROUNDS/ENVIRONMENTAL/WELFARE/ZONING COMMITTEE- May 11, 2021 - Minutes read by Dale Livingston

The meeting of the Highway/Building/Grounds/Environmental/Welfare/Zoning Committee was called to order on Tuesday, May 11, 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. There was a quorum.

ANDERSON CEMETERY

County Engineer Cliff Frye presented a materials estimate for the cemetery expansion project. Estimate cost for CA6 aggregate would be approximately \$4000.00. In addition to rock and equipment, the project would require 1 week of labor. The County owns this cemetery and is fortunate to have such a good Board running it. Mike Specha inquired about the need for this cost estimate to be referred to the Finance Committee.

A motion was made by Dale Livingston and seconded by Mike Specha to refer the CA6 aggregate estimate of \$4000.00 for the Anderson Cemetery Expansion Project to the Finance Committee. A roll call vote polled all ayes. The motion carried.

TRAILS PLAN

Bud Altman representing Lincoln Prairie Trails Conservancy provided a presentation to promote awareness on the importance of active transportation.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

UPDATE – SALE OF OTHER SURPLUS PROPERTY

- County Engineer Cliff Frye advised the Committee that the survey for the property south of town should be completed in the next week dependent on weather. After the survey is completed we will be able to run ads for bids. Chairman Wells is hopeful this will be on next month's agenda.
- Electronic Equipment – Chairman Wells learned that the County has a contract whereby BLH has the exclusive right to recycle our electronic equipment. The contract with BLH expires at the end of this year. Work is being done on a new contract which will be presented to the Board at a later date. The excess electronic equipment in the Board room will be cleared out by Friday. What equipment we aren't obligated to send to BLH Cliff will put on GovDeals.

HIGHWAY BUSINESS

Bids were opened and read on Tuesday, May 4, 2021 for MFT and non-MFT maintenance materials to be used by the County and Townships during FY21. Cliff Frye presented tabulation of bids for all items. Cliff noted an overall increase in price for the oil products and an overall decrease in price for the aggregate products.

Motion by Dale Livingston and seconded by Mike Specha to recommend to the full Board to accept the low bids for MFT and non-MFT materials for the County as presented. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

Chairman Wells called for a motion from the floor - *A motion was made by Dale Livingston and seconded by Mike Specha to accept the low bids for MFT and non-MFT materials for the County.* After no discussion, 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, Timothy Carlson, Craig Corzine, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried.

Motion by Dale Livingston and seconded by Thomas Snyder Jr. to recommend to the full Board to accept the low bids for MFT materials for the Townships as presented and refer them to the individual Township Highway Commissioners for approval. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

Chairman Wells called for a motion from the floor to accept the low bids for MFT materials for the Townships – *Dale Livingston made a motion and Bryan Sharp seconded the motion.* With no discussion 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, Timothy Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried.

Cliff also noted that the State Bulletin for IDOT's June 11, 2021 bid letting was posted on Friday. The County's Bear Creek Road Project is on it. After the letting, IDOT has 45 days to award the project. Once awarded, the project start date will depend on the contractor's schedule.

SOLID WASTE BUSINESS

Joe Stepping was excused from attendance. Joe will be discussing the BLH contract with Chairman Wells and why it's to our advantage to have that agreement.

ANIMAL CONTROL/ZONING BUSINESS

Committee Chairman Livingston presented Animal Control/Zoning Business in the excused absence of Vince Harris. The report included:

- The number of animals currently at Animal Control and the status of those animals.
- Reported on the ZBA recommendations that will be coming to the CB on May 18th meeting
- Highlighted upcoming issues going before the ZBA on May 25th

Vince added that there was a fund raiser event last Saturday over on the corner and actually brought in \$811.00. So our total has our total is blown away. Brings our total to \$18,500 some odd dollars. Done real well. We rehomed 5 cats and two dogs this week.

- Chemicals – boiler feeder. After working out a chemical issue, the chemicals are now correct and the boiler should be in good shape.
- Progress continues for re-establishing the operation of the Kelmore control system.
- After evaluation of the 1st floor of the Court House the structural engineer advised what work has been previously done was okay and that we should continue to follow the plan. Bill Kennedy will continue the design work in cooperation with Cliff Frye.
- Pipe Insulation Project – The Board has approved the estimated labor costs. Bill Kennedy will provide notice to the contractor.
- Jail – Need for alternative plans and continuing discussions will continue with updates as they become available.
- Chairman Wells advised he had been provided with picture taken by a drone flying around the court house which appeared to show a hole in a clock face. Bill felt a door that is on the clock face may be done. He will look into it.

OTHER MATTERS

Chairman Wells advised the Committee that he received a call questioning a salary of \$58,000 to \$59,000 for the new part time EMA Director's salary. What was discussed in the Executive/Personnel Committee last night was the salary of the former EMA salary, which was \$58,000 to \$59,000 and that this salary was shared between 2 counties. Further discussed was the fact that the Board has already authorized Chairman Wells to hire a new EMA Director but that he would like permission for the new part time EMA Director to be allowed to hire 1-2 assistants with the matter of salary be referred to the Finance Committee. Never was a suggested salary for a new part time EMA Director proposed to be the same as the former full time EMA Director's salary.

Motion by Chuck Smedley and seconded by Mike Specha to adjourn. A roll call vote polled all ayes. The motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

EXECUTIVE/PERSONNEL/LEGISLATIVE/LIQUOR COMMITTEE-

May 10, 2021 - Minutes read by Craig Corzine

The Executive, Personnel, and Liquor Committee met on Monday, May 10, 2021 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. There was a quorum.

APPOINTMENTS

- Farmland Assessment Committee – County Board Chairman Wells advised the Farmland Assessment Committee assesses farmland yearly and three (3) appointments are needed to sit with Chad Coady, Christian County Assessor and the Chairman of the Board of Review. Chairman Wells will be recommending appointments at the May County Board Meeting and plans to name a female farmer as one appointment. He believes this will be the first female farmer appointed to serve on this committee.
- EMA Position(s) – Chairman Wells noted that consultant Bruce Engeling has been working hard and has accomplished much however, the first weekend we had power outages he was out of town and had to return home. At this time he has decided not to continue as an EMA consultant. The former multi-county director's salary was between \$58,000 and \$59,000 a year with the County sharing ½ the salary cost. Prior to the County's participation in a multi-county EMA arrangement, we had a part time EMA Director who was paid approximately \$15,600 per year. Chairman Wells has permission from the Board already to hire an EMA Director but would like for this individual to be able to have 1 – 2 support staff to assist and be available at times when he is away. Chairman Wells highlighted some expected job expectations to include completing grants and timely completion of paperwork, attendance of Board Meetings in person or by phone when needed and minimal annual visits to all Fire Departments as some in the past have felt left out. Chairman Wells would like for Bruce to stay on a month after hiring a part time EMA Director to provide assistance in transition.

A motion was made by Ray Koonce and seconded by Gene Price to recommend to the full Board to allow the part-time EMA Director to hire 1 – 2 assistants, for Bruce Engeling to stay on for 1 month after the part-time EMA Director is hired and to refer the issue of salary for the part-time EMA Director and assistants to the Finance Committee. A roll call vote polled all ayes. The motion carried. Chairman Wells called for a motion from the floor - *A motion was made by Craig Corzine and seconded by David Puccetti for the part time EMA Director to hire 1 or 2 assistants.*

Chairman Wells asked for comments. He stated basically this is what's going on -Bruce, first weekend he decides to do this for us Bruce leaves town for the weekend we a power outage and some problems he has to rush back. Didn't set well with Bruce and it didn't make him want to stay and I don't want this to happen to the next EMA director. We have a new one now and I think he is going to be a good. If we allow him to get some help - if he goes on vacation to Florida, Las Vegas or at his in-laws in

St. Louis or wherever they live and there's a problem he can tell an assistant hey, I'm going to be out of town you are in charge with it and we won't be wondering for two days takes him to get back why EMA isn't responding. That's what's going on. Chairman Wells asked for comments. With no discussion 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, Timothy Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments

EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK AND POLICIES – ICRMT

Chairman Wells advised the Committee the review of the County's Employee Handbook review by ICRMT will take 2 to 3 months. The recommendations will be brought back to the Committee at that time. There is no cost for this service.

FOP REQUEST TO START NEGOTIATIONS EARLY

FOP has requested to start negotiations early. By contract, to reopen, notification shall be given at least ninety (90) days and no more than one-hundred and twenty (120) days prior to the expiration of the contract. July would be the earliest negotiations could start unless agreed otherwise.

Motion by Craig Corzine and seconded by Gene Price to recommend to the full Board to allow Chairman Wells to start early negotiations with FOP in June. A roll call vote polled all ayes. The motion carried.

Chairman Wells asked for a motion from the floor to start early negotiation in June; *Craig Corzine made a motion with David Puccetti seconded the motion to start early negotiations.* With no discussion, 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., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried.

AFSCME REQUEST COVID BONUS

AFSCME representative Matt Whalen has been in contact with Chairman Wells regarding COVID bonuses for AFSCME employees. The Committee asked States Attorney Havera and Circuit Clerk Julie Mayer about the work schedule for their staff as a result of COVID. It was noted the offices made decisions based on needs and that those needs varied from office to office. Committee members noted that because of COVID adjustments had to be made which was a frustrating time for everyone and while the offices did a great job, it didn't necessarily warrant a bonus. A motion was made by Bryan Sharp to table as there was no interest. Motion was withdrawn.

OTHER MATTERS

- Ray Koonce reference the lack of notification by the National Weather Service of the storm in Assumption last week and twice in the past year unexpected storms have occurred also without notification. Ray contacted a local news channel about the situation as well. He is not happy with the National Weather Service and feels they can do better. In regard to some damage in the Assumption area, the EMA director was there Friday morning.
- Chairman Wells noted the County's residency requirements. The contracts, except FOP for the Sheriff (which is silent), indicates all employees must reside in the County within 6 months of hire unless approved by Employer or County Board. The County's Personnel Handbook indicates that approval is by the Personnel Committee. Chairman Wells feels the Handbook should read full Board and not just the Personnel Committee. He intends to bring the issue to the full Board. States Attorney Havera suggested the Board may want to wait until the Employee Handbook comes back from review.

Motion by Gene Price and seconded by David Puccetti to adjourn. A roll call vote polled all ayes. The motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

AUDIT/FINANCE/PURCHASING/BUDGET COMMITTEE-

May 12, 2021 – Minutes read by Venise McWard

The Audit/Finance/Purchasing/Budget Committee met on Wednesday, May 12, 2021 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 Venise McWard and seconded by Vickie McMahon to approve the claims presented for May. A roll call vote polled all ayes. The motion carried.

Venise McWard mad a motion we approve the claims presented for May and Tim Carlson seconded the motion. After no discussion. 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, Timothy Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

AUDIT REPORT

Rich Hooper, partner with LMHN presented the fiscal year end 11/30/2020 audit. The audit went very smoothly for a large audit and complemented the County Treasurer, Board, elected officials and department heads for doing a good job. There were no County funds in a negative balance and while total revenue was down slightly from 2019, there was a surplus in the General Fund. Rich was very pleased with the audit results especially in light of the uncertainties the impact of COVID could have had. Treasurer Asmussen present of summary of the budget numbers from 2002 through 2020.

CPA Rich Hooper, the auditor works closely with Betty, well over all that was a pretty good summary. He spoke briefly on the audit which is on file in the clerk's office. Auditor's opinion was unmodified opinion which means it was a clean opinion. No material weaknesses noted and no compliance issues noted. Some discussion was had. Auditor was asked for suggestions for next year. Talked about the American Rescue Funds. Have a 4 year period to spend the funds. It will be ongoing.

INSURANCE OPEN ENROLLMENT

Chairman Wells noted that a meeting with the Unions regarding 2021-2022 insurance open enrollment numbers for BCBS and Health Alliance was held last week. Jared Blaudow and Dan McNeely from Dimond Brothers was present for this meeting. While the Board has the final decision on what insurance plan(s) will be offered next year, Matt asked the Unions to let him know what carrier they preferred. Both Unions wanted to keep BCBS with final numbers decreasing slightly for all plan types except Employee/Child (ren) which increased.

Motion by Venise McWard and seconded by Ken Franklin to recommend to the full Board to continue with BCBS, Metlife and Eyemed for the health/vision/dental benefits for the 2021-2022 insurance year. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

Venise McWard made a motion we continue with BCBS for the 2021-2022 year and Linda Curtin seconded the motion. After no discussion. 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, Timothy Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried.

COBRA THIRD PARTY ADMINISTRATION

COBRA is a continuation of insurance right that must be provided to employees at specific events. The most common event is at termination of employment. There are other events that are equally important. The County thus far has administered the burden of providing notices on their own. However, there is liability associated with doing so and most employers do have third parties that do the administration. Through ICRMT, the County has liability coverage for situations where election notices may not have happened. However, for each occurrence there is a \$10,000 deductible. Ameriflex who will be our new third party administrator for the HRA and FSA previously administered by American Central, offers COBRA administration services at a rate of \$.60 per employee (\$75 per month minimum) or \$900 per year.

Motion by Venice McWard and seconded by Vickie McMahan to recommend to the full Board to use Ameriflex as the third party administrator for COBRA at a cost of \$.60 per employee (\$75 per month minimum) or \$900 per year. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

Venise McWard made a motion we use Ameriflex as the third party administration for the County and Dale Livingston seconded the motion. Chairman Wells asked a question about the motion – does the money come out of contingency. Betty Asmussen spoke up and stated line items office is Zeros. Chairman Wells asked whose office is zeros and Betty stated the County. Venise stated it would save the county from a lot of liability Chairman Wells stated our insurance people are here and one comment I want to make this board told me to get that stuff out of her office. We get all the time people asking questions and we are going to start sending them to Ms. Brown. Dan McNeely stated it is a stressful time and he wants two people happy Liz and Nicole. Eliminates our liability.

After discussion. 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, Timothy Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahan,(16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried.

EMA SALARY

Chairman Wells started his comments by apologizing to the Committee for information made in the local paper indicating the salary for the part time EMA Director of \$58,000. That information was incorrect. What was presented to the Executive/Personnel Committee on Monday night was reference to the former EMA Director's salary of \$58,000 - \$59,000 which was shared between 2 counties and information regarding the former part time EMA Director's salary of approximately \$15,600. Chairman Wells indicated the intent of that meeting was to request the new EMA Director, which the Board has already approved the Chairman to hire, be allowed to hire 1 to 2 assistants and the salary to be referred to the Finance Committee. Chairman Wells does have the name of 2 individuals who are interested in the part time EMA Director position. Duties will include but are not limited to : (1) reporting to the Board; (2) be in charge of and completing grants,

audits and related paperwork; (3) responsible for visiting every Fire Department in the County so we don't get complaints regarding who to contact.

Chairman Wells advised that there is approximately \$32,000 remaining in this year's fiscal budget for salaries for the part time EMA Director and 1 – 2 assistants. There was much discussion around the salary and whether or not the Board can set the hourly rate of pay for the assistants. Chairman Wells is recommending the part-time EMA Director be paid an annual salary of \$15, 000 per year and \$8000 for 1 – 2 assistants with the salaries to be prorated for the remainder of this fiscal year. Additionally he would like for Bruce Engeling to stay on for an additional 1 month to assist with the transition of the new part-time EMA Director.

Vickie McMahon noted that at the Health Department there is a Director of Emergency Preparedness. She inquired as to whether or not this position might be combined with the EMA Director. Chairman Wells stated that he wants the part-time EMA Director to answer to the Chairman and this Board.

Treasurer Asmussen noted that right now because of COVID there is a lot of grant work to be done and there were grants that reimbursed for salaries of the former EMA Director. When Mike Crews was the part time EMA Director there were grants that may have reimbursed some for salaries but was mainly for other purposes. She also raised whether or not anyone has contacted the State when the Intergovernmental Agreement with Montgomery County ended. Venise thanked Betty for all her work on the grants as well. She was a huge help to Bruce.

Motion by Venise McWard and seconded by Vickie McMahon to recommend to the full Board a salary of \$15,000 a year for the part-time EMA Director and \$8,000 a year for part time assistants prorated for the current fiscal year. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

Venise McWard made a motion to approve a part time EMA salary \$15,000 a year and part time assistance for \$8,000 a year and Ken Franklin seconded the motion. Chairman Wells did forget about Betty asking if the state was contacted. I have asked the new EMA Director to take care of that for us. Bruce asked if he was talking about the division with the county. Bruce stated all we need to do is send a letter to the state. Bruce will work with Jeff to get it taken care of. Mike Specha was concerned that part-time can mean a lot of things. What's anticipated time spent for a part-time EMA Director? Bruce stated 20 hrs. a week.

Chairman Wells stated that's where Bruce was at. We talked about this that and the other. Finance Committee talked about 20 hrs. a week. They didn't want to put an hourly rate to it. Jeff inquired about the job. I think he is capable of doing it. If he can do it in 4 hrs. a week or Jeff takes 14 hrs. Mike Specha stated just trying to rate it into a full time equipment job.

Chairman Wells continued to say quite honestly we talked about. I believe the board talked about at one time, Personnel Committee talked about having them on it about 20 hrs. a week. Hopefully this money will allow Jeff to put in 8-10 hrs. a week and allow an assistant to do the same. I have not told Jeff this but the EMA vehicle needs some work but there are people in this county who haven't seen the EMA vehicle. I know it went through Morrisonville a lot going back and forth to Montgomery County. My opinion is the EMA vehicle needs to be in parades in every city in the county for the next year. I don't know if Jeff or his assistant can get that done but the people need to know we have an EMA department and the people need to know who the EMA Director is.

Betty Asmussen stated I will tell you prior Mike Crews did it part time. He never had any part time help. So we never paid it. Mike Crews was the only one who we paid. He was part time only. He never had any additional part time help coming out of the budget.

Chairman Wells stated Bruce went through the paperwork and it was an absolute mess. He didn't have a template, didn't know what was going on. That's why we want to keep Bruce for another month. Bruce commented that the board wanted him to go through the paperwork. A report was due which was over 500 pages and it was already past due. They got a two month extension but that ended up only being a month extension because in order to be eligible for grants we had to be accredited and that needed to be done by 15th of this month. I had help from Macon EMA Director and the State Director and all the grant stuff that is done because of the help of Betty. She went above and beyond what needed to be done.

Chairman Wells noted that the grants that are done, Bruce has templates for. Bruce stated everything he has done is good for two years. So Jeff will not have to do much. He does have a grant for '21 that is due July 1 so he will need to hit the ground jogging. Betty will have to show him how to do the portable grant stuff.

Mike Specha noted it's not the comment you want to hear from an accountant but he is worried about under paying this job. When you are the director you are expected to get the job done. Nobody cares if it takes you 4 hrs. Or 40 hrs. get the job done and stay until it is done. Now you have a part time position expected to go to parades. Just talking here and that's what I meant by what are we expecting in terms of time frame.

Chairman Wells stated we looked at what the previous part time person was paid. Those were the numbers the treasurer gave us. I expect this deal is prorated. We are half way through this fiscal year so he will be paid half of this for this fiscal year. Come budget time it could be entertained again. Mike stated for the record it needs to be revisited on this position being part time. B

Bev Graham asked if there was information left behind. After a good pattern is set on what it really takes to do on a part time basis. Chairman Wells stated Mike did a lot of his work at the fire house but in the past EMA Directors office in a basement at the Jail. Bruce

found the equipment at the health department. Jeff is going to have to figure it out and I believe he can.

After discussion. 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, Timothy 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.

DAMAGED VEHICLE DEDUCTIBLE

There was a situation at a Health Department COVID drive through clinic where an individual drove over a traffic sign that had been blown over. The traffic sign was one of the highway department's signs. The damage to the vehicle was approximately \$500. The County's insurance has a \$1000 deductible. It's Chairman Wells' understanding that when driving an individual is responsible for care and control over the vehicle. Should the County or Health Department have any responsibility to pay this repair? No action taken.

Chairman Wells stated Cliff took out one of our signs to the drive through to the fair grounds. The sign blew over, driver drove over the sign and it popped up and damage his vehicle. He spoke with his insurance agent and was told an insurance company looks at it when you are driving a vehicle you are responsibility to have care and control of the vehicle. I took it to finance committee. I didn't know what this board would want to do and it died at the finance committee as far as us mailing a payment to fix a vehicle.

ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT/VAULT

The County has a contract with BLH where all surplus electronic equipment is required to be recycled there. According to the contract we are required to provide serial numbers and deliver the equipment to BLH. There is no cost to the County to recycle the equipment at BLH.

Motion by Vickie McMahon and seconded by Ken Franklin to take the surplus electronic equipment, as required by contract, to BLH at no cost to the County. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

INTEGRATED HOUSING AUTHORITY

Chairman Wells noted there have been exchanges of emails regarding the exact properties we are agreeing to in the renegotiation with the Integrated Housing Authority but because how each entity lists those properties, it's confusing. The renegotiations presented to Integrated Housing Authority is to increase the percentage profits received by the County from 13.5% to 15%. A meeting to ensure all parties understand the exact properties we are discussing will take place on Monday, May 17th. Meggann Bell, Integrated Housing Authority representative, Chairman Wells, Supervisor of Assessments Chad Coady and Treasurer Asmussen will be present. While we are pretty sure all properties have been noted, this meeting is to ensure we are all in agreement.

Chairman Wells stopped Venice. This meeting happened yesterday. I had to leave something came up. Betty and Chad were at the meeting. Chad stated we are getting an inventory of all property. Contract left out Berkshire subdivision. Not generating revenue until next year. Asked to add into a 4 year contract. Sending via a new revised contract only with a list of property identified by parcels. Payment due date added to contract - September 30 of every year and received in treasurer's office.

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA)

Treasurer Asmussen provided the most recent information she has on the American Rescue Plan, which included funding totals for municipalities and villages throughout the County. She highlighted the extent of personal information she has to provide in order for the County's funds to be released. Providing this personal information is not optional but mandatory. One-half of the County's \$6.2M will be distributed once all her personal checks are in place. Once received these funds will be put into an investment fund we have. U.S. Treasury has soft guidelines in place with a timeline of July when more defined guidelines are to be available. There will be 4 years to spend this funding. This money will have an ARPA budget line item. Chairman Wells would like to see this money not spent in the fiscal year in order to give time for making decisions and for constituent's time to present needs. Rich Hooper recommended setting this money aside for now and encouraged the Board to address decisions regarding use of this money to investments that will long outlast the 4 years availability to spend the money and to take care on what the money is spent for so there are not ongoing costs after the funding is exhausted. Treasurer Asmussen noted there are many hot topics for use of the money and reminded the Committee that more defined guidelines will be available in July.

Chairman Wells feels the jail problem should be a priority. Not sure what the money can be spent on. Will find out in July – not budgeted for it. Best to sit back and see what US Treasurer says how we can spend the money

REFERRALS

The Building/Highway Committee referred the matter of paying \$4000 for the cost of CA6 aggregate for the Anderson Cemetery expansion to the Finance Committee.

Motion by Vickie McMahon and seconded by Tim Carlson to recommend to the full Board to pay for the estimated \$4000 for CA6 aggregate for the Anderson Cemetery expansion. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried

Venise McWard made a motion to recommend paying \$4000 for Anderson Cemetery expansion and Dale Livingston seconded the motion. Chairman Wells asked if money had to be contingency money – She said yes. After no discussion. a roll call vote being called upon polled the following: David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Gene Price, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried.

The matter of the EMA salary was also referred to the Finance Committee. This item was addressed earlier in tonight's agenda.

OTHER MATTERS

No other matters

Motion by Tim Carlson and seconded by Ken Franklin to adjourn. A roll call vote polled all ayes. The motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS/OLD BUSINESS/OTHER

Rebuild money coming in. Going to sit down with treasurer and Rich

Discussion with former survey company Kent Delay regarding surveying records. They have 8 or 10 file cabinets full of old surveys. Huge asset to county. Inquiring what they want for them. He has Boyd Dapperts original drawings.

Elevator inspected by fire marshal and we paid them \$200

Cyber Security – concern how well the county records are protected. Inquired with CTI to give us a price on the cost for security.

Given permission to pursue the change in Enterprise zone. New agreement must be signed when boundaries change. Taylorville voted last night. Must be registered with the state.

AFSCME contacted Chairman Wells regarding Bonus Pay. FFARC program for us to be reimbursed to give employees extra COVID leave. He is looking into it and will have further information next month.

Extend the Emergency Declaration Proclamation -

Dale Livingston made a motion to extend to approve and Mike Specha seconded it. No discussion.

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

Residency Requirement Letter – Handbook says employees must live in county. All contracts except Sheriff's office must live in the county. Letter has been sent out. Doesn't want anyone to lose their job. Hoping for good justification stating why they don't live in the county. Chairman would like to be able to tell this board in July that everyone working in this county lives in this county or a justification stating why. He wants his office to have a list of who does and who doesn't.

Life Insurance Letter – this is for people who haven't named a beneficiary. Letter going out to take care of this right after open enrollment. Employees can go on line to see what they have.

CEDS update – new name

Mid-Illinois Regional Planning Counseling, Inc. 6th of June what we paid was to form this committee. Three different fees how to fund it. Schedule to meet again before this board meets. I need to be told how to vote. Helps with grants. You need to belong to an organization to be able to apply for certain grants. Different costs. 16,000 a year/50 cents per capita. One is for 5 percent and one for 3 percent good for 6 years. Not sure if county would be able to use this.

Need a motion to tell me how they want this county to vote. *Dale Livingston made a motion to table until June meeting and Craig Corzine seconded the motion* A roll call vote being called upon polled the following:, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr. , Mike Specha (n), Matt Well (n)s, Timothy Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin:, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce (n), Dale Livingston , Vickie McMahon (n), Venise McWard, Gene Price, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp (12) aye; (4) nay. The motion carried

A motion was made by Craig Corzine and seconded by Dale Livingston to send this to the Finance Committee; A roll call vote being called upon polled the following:, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin:, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, Gene Price, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, (16) aye; (0) nay. The motion carried

\$800 Check – UCCI Meeting Attendance 1st quarter 2021 – Liz attending meetings

R.O.E Request/Information - needs additional office space. Sheriff controls courthouse.

MILEAGE AND PER DIEM REPORT

<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 McMahan	\$100.00	\$25.00	3
Venise McWard	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Gene Price	\$100.00	\$25.00	3
David Puccetti	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
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	2
Matt Wells	\$615.38		

A motion was made by Linda Curtin and seconded by Thomas Snyder Jr., to approve the mileage and per diem report. No Discussion

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

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by David Puccetti and seconded by Gene Price to adjourn until the next meeting on June 15, 2021.

Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin:, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce , Dale Livingston , Vickie McMahan, Venise McWard, Gene Price, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, (16) aye; (0) nay. The motion carried