

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 19, 2020**
ATTEST: MICHAEL C. GIANASI, 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;

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 6:39p.m.

ROLL CALL

The roll call by County Clerk Michael Gianasi showing all members present did signify a quorum and was declared.

ACCEPT COUNTY BOARD MINUTES

Chairwoman Becky Edwards asked for any corrections and to accept the April 21, 2020, County Board minutes and the April 29, 2020, Special County Board minutes. *It was moved by Ray Koonce and seconded by Dale Livingston to approve said minutes of the County Board Meetings.* The motion carried.

PETITIONS, RESOLUTIONS, ORDINANCES OR PROCLAMATIONS

None

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chairwoman Edwards called for public comments and there were none.

READING OF COMMUNICATIONS

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

1. The May Prevailing Wage Report has been placed on file in the Clerk's Office.
2. The April 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 April 30th, 2020, have been placed on file in the Clerk's Office.
4. The Local Solid Waste Fees Fund report for April 2020 has been placed on file in the Clerk's Office.
5. The April 2020, Motor Fuel Tax Allotment Transaction Reports, dated May 8, 2020, were received for both the County and the Road Districts.
6. The Christian County March 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 "Proposed Renewal of the Clean Air Act Permit Program Permit – Five Oaks Recycling & Disposal Facility in Taylorville." IEPA is accepting comments on the draft permit and must be postmarked by midnight June 12. The public notice is on file in the Clerk's office and available for inspection.
8. Ameren Illinois notified the County of upcoming vegetation management activities along Illinois Route 104 from Tovey west to the Christian County Line. A map of the project area is on file in the Clerk's office.

APPROVE COMMUNICATIONS AS READ

Chairwoman Becky Edwards called for a *motion by Donna Hibbetts and was seconded by Molly Alaria to accept the communications as read.* The motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ACCEPT & FILE COMMITTEE REPORTS AS PRINTED

A motion was made by Mike McClure and was seconded by Phil Schneider to accept & file the committee reports as printed. Board member Ray Koonce said he would note a correction for the Executive/Personnel committee minutes when read. The motion carried.

HIGHWAY/BUILDING/GROUNDS/ENVIRONMENTAL/ZONING AND WELFARE COMMITTEE-May 12, 2020-Minutes read by Phil Schneider

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Elaine Dewerff inquired about the time frame that Bear Creek road would begin. Cliff Frye explained bid letting would be in the fall of this year and construction would begin in the Spring of 2021.

HIGHWAY BUSINESS

BIDS

Bids were opened and read on Tuesday, April 28, 2020 for MFT and NON-MFT Maintenance Materials to be used by the County and Townships during FY20. Cliff Frye presented tabulation of bids for all items.

For the County, a motion was made by Phil Schneider and seconded by Matt Wells to accept the low bids for MFT and NON-MFT Materials as presented. Board member Tim Carlson asked if the bids were about the same as last year and county highway engineer Cliff Frye said the aggregates were down and the oil was about the same. The motion carried.

For the Townships, a motion was made by Phil Schneider and seconded by Brian Wilbur to accept the low bids for MFT Materials as presented and refer them to the individual Township Highway Commissioners for approval. The motion carried.

INSTALL ON PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY-PRIVATE INDIVIDUALS NOT PERMITTED

A discussion was had regarding allowing a private individual to install utilities on Public Right of Way. The consensus of the committee due to liability & insurance issues, conflicting utilities, JULIE locating, financial responsibility issues, etc. that we should not enter into allowing private installation of utilities on the Public Right of Way.

COURTHOUSE REPAIRS AND UPDATES

Bill Kennedy reported:

- The cost of repairing/leveling the floor between courtrooms B and C including removal of all furniture, belongings, trim, carpet, sub floor, and original wood floor and to install the leveler and replace all that was removed has a cost of \$2,260. [It was noted that this may be a less expensive solution to other floor sags.]
- The repair of ceiling on first floor in County Clerk's vault has a cost of \$395.
- Installation of wire lath in courtroom B like the experiment in the courtroom C - \$1,095.
- Installation of wire lath in hallways, outside offices, and stairwells on the third floor ceilings at a cost of \$1660. [The big courtroom is in good shape.]

The total of these projects come to \$3,750 and Mr. Kennedy recommends these done. A motion was made by Dale Livingston and seconded by Charles DeClerck to approve the repairs. The motion carried. Additionally, there could be the use of an alternative material with a cost of +/- \$295.

FOUNTAIN IS RUSTING

Former City of Taylorville Mayor Frank Mathon purchased the fountain in 2005 and recently noticed the fountain and pipes were rusting. He contacted a sandblasting company who would sandblast the outside and inside at the highway lot if they could get it there and replace the fountain when finished for \$300. Mr. Mathon, a plumber by trade volunteered to replace the pipes and lights. A motion was made by Phil Schneider and seconded by Dale Livingston to get the work done with the help of Mr. Mathon. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Phil Schneider and seconded by Craig Corzine to refer the ceiling repairs and the fountain repairs to the finance committee. The motion carried.

JAIL REPAIRS

- To repair a masonry hole at the jail would cost \$524.
- Masonry repairs around the upper windows, welding of broken window frames, repair of bad flashings and relaying the brick sills needed to bring the windows to a watertight condition is \$6,781. The bad windows leak into the dormitory in the jail and are steadily getting worse.

A motion was made by Dale Livingston and seconded by Phil Schneider to accept the quotes from Two Brothers at \$7305 to do the above masonry projects and refer to the finance committee. The motion carried.

Two Brothers made other suggestions for the repair of the jail which Bill Kennedy suggests we wait at this time.

EXECUTIVE/PERSONNEL/LIQUOR COMMITTEE-May 11, 2020-Minutes read by Donna Hibbetts

OPEN AND RECOVER SAFELY GUIDELINES

Emergency Management Director Greg Nimmo presented a three phase set of guidelines to prepare to open the courthouse and county buildings. Last week the elected office holders and department heads reviewed step by step of the proposed procedure. He noted that these guidelines are recommended to be followed by all departments. He noted that the judicial system has a plan developed and may stand separate. The public health department has reviewed the plan. If an outbreak would occur after the opening, the public health would set the guidance.

He discussed daily procedures for sick or potentially sick employees and how department heads needed to assist public health in the tracking of a covid-19 positive employee. Plan A proposed bringing back shifts of employees on 5/18. Many offices and departments are already working fully staffed but not directly with the public. Upon return, regardless of the recall social distancing and face coverings are recommended. At all times OSHA standards must take precedence. Some of the members stopped the explanation of the guidelines to say the employees are already at the first stage and they need to be brought back to work. However, Chairwoman Edwards noted the Governor's order is still valid through May 30. This lead to the question of liability if opening too early and the county not following the procedures and why not the sheriff to determine the opening. Chairwoman Edwards will consult with the sheriff and public health as soon as possible to get clarification and bring to the full Board. Ray Koonce made a motion and seconded by Molly Alaria to recommend that the county buildings under control of the county board resume open door business on May 26 and employees return to work with the recommendation of public health and the full board, and to recommend to the Sheriff to do the same with the courthouse. Board member Ray Koonce noted his corrections to the motion and commented that the supervisors should work with public health on the correct procedures to open to the public on May 26. Discussion about the choice of May 26 was made as it was related to the Governor's possible extension of his disaster declaration and when he might act. The buildings affected were also noted as county highway, solid waste, and animal control/zoning. *A motion was made by Ray Koonce, as amended, and seconded by Molly Alaria to recommend that the county buildings under control of the county board resume open door business on May 26 and employees return to work with the recommendation of public health and the full board, and to recommend to the Sheriff to do the same with the courthouse.*

Discussion: Chairwoman Becky Edwards asked if there were procedures in place for employees to safely return and Treasurer Betty Asmussen stated there was a protocol already in place for courthouse offices. The motion carried.

ELECTED OFFICIALS SALARIES DISCUSSED

The committee reviewed previous motions to change compensation for county board members. At the February of 2017 meeting of the full County Board, the following motions were made concerning county board members and the county board chairperson.

- A proposal was distributed to the members for a decrease in county board members salary and per diem rates of pay. The current rates are \$200/month and \$50/ meeting-per

diem which is estimated at \$54,000/year for board members and \$22,000 for the board chairman. The proposed amounts are half of the current rates and a reduction of \$6,000 for the board chairman resulting in an estimated savings of \$33,000 per year after all board members on the scale beginning FY 2020. Salaries/per diems are set until 12/2018 when half of the board will have the new proposed rates implemented. In December of 2020, the second half of the board will have the proposed rates implemented.

- A motion was made to change the base salary of county board members to \$100/month effective December of 2018 for those elected or re-elected beginning that term.
- A motion was made to reduce the meeting per diem to \$25 effective December 2018 for those elected or re-elected beginning that term.
- A motion was made for the position of county board chairman to be an annual salary of \$16,000 beginning December 2020. Per diems are not paid to the board chairman and this position is for a two year term voted in by the seated county board members.
- A motion was made to change the base salary of county board members to \$100/month effective December of 2020 for those elected or re-elected beginning that term.
- A motion was made to reduce the meeting per diem to \$25 effective December 2020 for those elected or re-elected beginning that term. All motions carried. [from February 2017 CB meeting minutes.]

Matt Wells asked for clarification that the board chairperson's salary will be \$16,000 beginning the next term. That is so as recorded.

COMPENSATION PACKAGE FOR THE POSITION OF CORONER

During the past four years, the position of Coroner has received a 1.5% increase annually. This salary is the lower than other office holders in this county. Prior to the last election of positions of circuit clerk, county clerk, assessor and treasurer, a 2% increase was awarded-all having the same salary. A motion was made by Molly Alaria and seconded by Brian Wilbur for the position of coroner to receive the same flat dollar amount that the above positions will receive during the respective years (\$1255,\$1269,\$1306,\$1332) and to include health insurance benefits paid by the county using the same standard as other elected office holders which mirror non-bargaining employees and shall provide the same life insurance policy as the same. The motion carried.

CONTINUE THE DECLARATION OF DISASTER

Initially the County's declaration of disaster was declared in March and renewed in April and requested to renew again thru the end of May or further. The declaration does not determine the opening of the buildings or other personnel or safety polices. Its purpose is to be on record if there will be any funds available to the county due to the COVID-19 event.

Christian County's emergency operations plan by proclaiming that a disaster exists within Christian County, this proclamation of disaster will assist the residents of Christian County, by and through its Emergency Management Agency and through coordination of federal, state, county and municipal resources and response activities, in an effort to prevent and reduce further damage and hazards, protect the health and safety of persons, protect property and provide emergency response. A motion was made by Brian Wilbur and seconded by Ray Koonce to extend or amend the Declaration of Disaster to be effective through May 30, 2020 with no reference to the status of the county buildings. The motion carried with one opposed. After much discussion, *a motion was made by Ray Koonce and seconded by Brian Wilbur to amend the committee's motion to be effective through the next county board meeting [June 16, 2020].* 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 Ray Koonce and seconded by Brian Wilbur to extend or amend the Declaration of Disaster to be effective through the next county board meeting [June 16, 2020], as amended, with no reference to the status of the county buildings. 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.

AUDIT/FINANCE/PURCHASING COMMITTEE-May 14, 2020-Minutes read by Clark Pearce.

CLAIMS

A motion was made by Clark Pearce and seconded by Tim Carlson to approve the claims presented for May. A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Vicki McMahon, 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.

HEALTH INSURANCE RENEWAL

Jeremy Travelstead, American Central Insurance presented multiple options from Blue Cross for the open enrollment period. He first noted that quotes from Health Alliance were also received. United Health Care and Aetna elected not to bid as they could not be competitive. Blue Cross is the current carrier. The department heads and union employees in two different meetings were given the BC options for review. The committee evaluated the multiple options. As most options offered very similar benefits, it came down to the premium vs the out-of-pocket potential cost. The first quote from BC came in at a 14% increase. Mr. Travelstead has for over 10 years negotiated a better premium rate. This year the negotiated rate is a 5.6% increase for the same high quality benefits and out-of-pocket. He noted that Eye Med has a slight increase (after the four year rate guarantee) but no increase in the dental or life insurance. As a comment, the employees pay 10% of their coverage for the three insurances and beginning 1/1/2021 all employees will also pay the first \$250 of their deductible. A motion was made by Clark Pearce and seconded by Venise McWard to accept the Blue Cross negotiated rate and others. The motion carried.

The following is a breakdown of the rates:

Current rates-7/1/19-6/30/2020

	<u>BCBS</u>	<u>EYE MED</u>	<u>Metlife</u>	<u>TOTAL of 3</u>
Member	710.38	6.43	24.23	741.04
Spouse	1023.00	5.78	24.48	1053.26
Child(ren)	873.72	6.43	24.48(1only)	904.63
Family	1869.71	12.47	65.13	1974.31

Negotiated renewal-Effective 7/1/2020—6/30/2021

	<u>BCBS</u>	<u>EYE MED</u>	<u>Metlife</u>	<u>TOTAL of 3</u>
Member	748.56	6.75	24.23	779.54
Spouse	994.91	6.06	24.48	1053.26
Child(ren)	845.16	6.74	24.48(1only)	904.63
Family	1840.07	13.08	65.13	1974.31

2019 AUDIT

Rich Hooper of Lively, Mathias, Hooper and Noblet gave a brief overview of the audit. Everything was in compliance, there were no material weaknesses and the process went smoothly with full cooperation of the departments. All funds were balanced. The general fund showed a balance of \$5.5 million; \$3 million was in cash and \$2.57 million in CD's. The revenues were up by \$200,000 in property tax revenues, \$300,000 in replacement property tax money from the State as well as a one-time payment for a solar farm application-\$258,000. Although that portion of the report is good, Mr. Hooper warned the committee that due to the COVID-19 current situation, at least \$1M would be eaten up in the loss of revenues most likely before the end of this fiscal year. He explained some projections in lack of revenues and will be available at the full Board meeting for questions. Rich Hooper addressed the board and stated the opinion was a clean opinion with no material weaknesses noted in the report. He continued by discussing the assets, increased revenues and decreased expenditures. Rich continued by talking about an estimate of lower revenue for the General Fund using the revenue amounts from the two previous years and a 25% reduction in state revenue to the county. He said a \$1 million dollar reduction could be possible due to reduced state funding, closed businesses, and fewer fees collected. Until businesses around the state reopen, all local governments are going to see a significant decrease in revenues.

PROBATION GPS FUNDING

Chief Probation Officer Laura Cooper explained the current method of paying for GPS orders from the courts is through probation fees. In many situations, the individuals with GPS bands

have not yet been convicted, but may have an order of protection filed against them. Over the years as the probation fees are collected from court orders, the fund has dwindled and more programs are being paid from probation funds. In a statute, Judge Paisley commented that the general fund should be paying for the GPS expenses. The cost is \$25 initial enrollment then \$6.25/per day/per person. Adding this to the general fund could exceed \$57,000 annually. The treasurer and committee will revisit the topic. Vicki McMahan stated that she asked Laura for historical information and to include that request in the minutes. Matt Wells asked if State's Attorney Havera should be involved since it is a legal question involving statutes. Mike Havera responded that he has been involved in the discussion with Treasurer Betty Asmussen and Judge Brad Paisley and would wait for their findings and review at that time. Betty said the statute does not reference the general fund and more research is being done.

CORONER SALARY

A motion was made by Clark Pearce and seconded by Venise McWard for the position of coroner to receive the same flat dollar amount that the treasurer, circuit clerk, county clerk and supervisor of assessments will receive during the respective years of their term (\$1255,\$1269,\$1306, \$1332) and to include health insurance benefits paid by the county using the same standard as other elected office holders which mirror non-bargaining employees and shall provide the same life insurance policy as the same. A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: 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, Vicki McMahan, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried.

COUNTY BOARD MEMBERS STAY AS PROPOSED IN FEBRUARY 2017

Discussion was held and the motions passed in February of 2017 were reviewed. The change to the second half of the membership elected in 2020 would now be the same as the members elected in 2018: \$25/per diem and \$100 salary. The position of chairman will be reduced from \$22,000 to \$16,000.

JAIL AND COURTHOUSE REPAIRS TO BE PAID FROM CAPITOL IMPROVEMENT FUND

Mr. Bill Kennedy and Sheriff Kettelkamp gave an overview of the projects the county needed to address for funding.

- The cost of repairing/leveling the floor between courtrooms B and C -- \$2,260.
- The repair of ceiling on first floor in County Clerk's vault --\$395.
- Installation of wire lath in courtroom B like the experiment in the courtroom C -\$1,095.
- Installation of wire lath in hallways, outside offices, and stairwells on the third floor ceilings-- \$1660.

The total of these projects come to \$3,750 and Mr. Kennedy recommends these to be done.

- To repair a masonry hole at the jail-- \$524.
- Masonry repairs around the upper windows, welding of broken window frames, repair of bad flashings and relaying the brick sills needed to bring the windows to a watertight condition --\$6,781.

A motion was made by Venise McWard to approve the above items to be paid from capital improvements and before the second, it was thought no action necessary since there was money budgeted for building improvements already. *A motion was made by Clark Pearce to approve the above items to be paid from capital improvements but died for a lack of a second.* Treasurer Asmussen explained the Capital Improvement Fund and the uses for the money that was already appropriated in the budget. Chairwoman Edwards said it was important to keep track of the funds and the projects. Phil Schneider also mentioned that a membrane was being tested to fix the floor drain issues in the jail.

FOUNTAIN IS RUSTING

As discussed previously, the fountain which is a historical replica of the statue removed in the 1940's, is rusting. It was suggested that project be paid out a small account with revenues from the sale of books etc. called the Preservation Fund. *A motion was made by Clark Pearce and seconded by Mike McClure to proceed with the fountain project and pay for it through the Preservation Fund.* A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: 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, Vicki McMahan, Venise McWard, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Board member Dale Livingston said that as a board, we should support local markets, American-made products, and local businesses.

MILEAGE AND PER DIEM REPORT:

A motion was made by Dale Livingston and seconded by Tim Carlson to approve the mileage and per diem report for the month of May 2020. The motion carried.

<u>Board Member</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u># of Meetings This Month</u>
Molly Alaria	\$200.00	\$50.00	3
Timothy Carlson	\$200.00	\$25.00	4
Craig Corzine	\$200.00	\$50.00	4
Linda Curtin	\$100.00	\$25.00	4
Charles DeClerck	\$200.00	\$50.00	3
Becky Edwards	\$846.16		
Donna Hibbetts	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Ray Koonce	\$100.00	\$25.00	3
Dale Livingston	\$100.00	\$25.00	3
Mike McClure	\$200.00	\$50.00	7
Vicki McMahan	\$200.00	\$50.00	4
Venise McWard	\$100.00	\$25.00	4
Clark Pearce	\$100.00	\$25.00	4
Philip Schneider	\$200.00	\$50.00	3
Matt Wells	\$100.00	\$25.00	3
Brian Wilbur	\$100.00	\$25.00	3

APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS:

None

ADJOURNMENT

With no other unfinished business to come before the Board, *a motion was made by Mike McClure and seconded by Ray Koonce to adjourn until **Tuesday, June 16, 2020** for the regular County Board meeting at 6:30 p.m. The motion carried.*