

Montgomery County Board

Minutes

For Tuesday, October 8th, 2019 – 5:30 PM

The following are minutes of a regular meeting of the Montgomery County Board held at 5:30 PM on Tuesday, October 8th, 2019, in the County Board Room, 2nd floor of the Historic Courthouse, Hillsboro, Illinois.

The meeting was called to order by County Board Chairman Evan Young at 5:30 PM.

Roll call was taken - 20 members present, 1 member absent. (Megan Beeler arrived later in meeting).

Members Present: Connie Beck, Bill Bergen, Glenn Bishop, Ronald Deabenderfer, Tim Fogle, Kirby Furness, Chuck Graden, Mark Hughes, Sandra Johnson, Jeremy Jones, David Loucks, Dennis McCammack, Gene Miles, Jim Moore, Earlene Robinson, Glenn Savage, Bob Sneed, Richard Wendel, Donna Yeske, and Evan Young.

Members Absent: Megan Beeler (Beeler arrived prior to Finance Committee Report).

Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was led by County Board Member Deabenderfer.

Mileage and Per Diem Approval: Motion by Graden and second by Wendel to approve the mileage and per diem. **Roll Call Vote:** Beck, Bergen, Bishop, Deabenderfer, Fogle, Furness, Graden, Hughes, Johnson, Jones, Loucks, McCammack, Miles, Moore, Robinson, Savage, Sneed, Wendel, Yeske and Young. **All in favor, motion carried.**

Approval of Minutes of Previous County Board Meeting:

Motion by Beck and second by Hughes to approve the Minutes of the Previous County Board Meeting held on Tuesday, September 10th, 2019. **All in favor, motion carried.**

Chairman Young welcomed Tim Fogle to his first full county board meeting. Fogle was given the Oath of Office for his appointed county board membership at the October EMA/Ambulance Committee meeting by Circuit Judge Doug Jarman.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. **Ambulance Billing Report** --- Sherry Greenwood – report was submitted.
2. **Animal Control Report** --- Amanda Daniels – report was submitted.
3. **Circuit Clerk's Report** --- Holly Lemons was present for questions.
4. **Coroner's Report** --- Randy Leetham -- report was submitted.
5. **County Clerk and Recorder's Report** --- Sandy Leitheiser was present for questions.
6. **Health & TB Department Report** --- Hugh Satterlee was present for questions. Chairman Young thanked Satterlee for providing flu shots to county board members prior to this meeting.
7. **Highway Department Report** --- Cody Greenwood was present for questions.
8. **Probation Office Report** --- Bance Ulrici – report was submitted.
9. **Public Defender's Report** --- Erin Mattson – report was submitted.
10. **Recycling Report** --- report was submitted.
11. **ROE - Monthly and Quarterly Reports** --- Julie Wollerman – report was submitted.
12. **Sheriff's Report** --- Rick Robbins was present for questions.
13. **SOA Report** --- Ray Durston --- report was submitted.
14. **State's Attorney Report** --- Bryant Hitchings --- report was submitted. Hitchings attended later in the meeting.

15. Treasurer's Report --- Nikki Lohman --- report was submitted.

16. V.A.C. Report --- Dave Strowmatt --- report was submitted.

APPROVAL OF 16 ITEMS ON THE CONSENT AGENDA: Motion by Furness and second by Yeske to approve the 16 items on the Consent Agenda. All in favor, motion carried.

LIAISON REPORTS:

- **708 Board** – Robinson stated there was no meeting for two months and informed members Cross Over Ministries gave \$30,000 they were previously awarded back to the 708 Board.
- **CEFS Board** – Robinson reported the CEFS LIHEAP program started in October for seniors and special needs groups; then the program will open to families with children under six years of age on November 1st and will open to the general public who need help with winter heating bills on December 1st.
- **911 Board** – Bill Bergen stated he will give his report during the EMA Committee report.
- **Health Department** – Sandra Johnson reported they will meet on October 15th, 2019.
- **IL Association of County Officials** – Bergen reported they will have a meeting in Jacksonville on Saturday, October 26th, 2019.
- **MCEDC** – Yeske stated she will give her update during the Economic Development Committee report.
- **Planning Commission** – Deabenderfer stated their next meeting is scheduled for October 27th, 2019.
- **Senior Citizens Board** – Deabenderfer reported they received one bid for the roof replacement from Young's Roofing in the amount of \$13,480. He said the cost for a metal roof would be twice that amount. Deabenderfer also shared the Senior Citizens Board is not planning a Christmas Party this year and instead will have two events next year.
- **UCCI** – Miles stated they met on September 23rd. Another meeting is scheduled for October 26th, 2019, at Lincoln Presidential Library.
- **U of I** – Beck reported they will meet next on Oct. 18th in Taylorville.
- **WCDC** – Wendel stated they had a meeting in August and received their funding for their youth work training program, and the program needs eligible workers from ages 16 to 24. Wendel said the next meeting for WCDC will be held on November 21st, 2019.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

COORDINATING COMMITTEE: Given by County Board Chairman Evan Young:

1. **Information Systems Report Update:** Young reported the new IS employee left his county position for another job, and Watkins will advertise for another employee.
2. **Ordinance Prohibiting Cannabis Business Establishments Update:** Young asked board members to review an ordinance to prohibit cannabis business establishments in the rural areas of the county for the next 30 days so the board can take action next month.
3. **VISTRA Power Plant Update:** Young reported he participated recently in a phone conference with three of the four counties affected by the VISTRA power plant closures. Young stated we are still researching this issue and discussing how to proceed.

4. **Committee Meeting Dates and Times for 2020 Approval:** Young reported the committees each approved their meeting dates for 2020. **Motion Beck and second by Johnson to approve the committee meeting dates and times for 2020. All in favor, motion carried. (See Resolution Book 17, page 337).**

ROAD AND BRIDGE COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Chairman Gene Miles:

1. **Highway Department Office Remodel in New Building - Engineering Fees/Costs Approval:** Miles reported the committee discussed a proposal from Hurst-Rosche Engineering for plans to renovate the office space in the former Wright Automotive Collision Center building. He said the estimated cost to remodel is \$328,000 and the cost for the design plans will be about \$26,000. Hughes asked how many employees will be utilizing this new space, and Miles replied four and possibly a fifth employee if a position eliminated several years ago is brought back. Greenwood stated the plans call for an extra office because they currently have a dual roll employee and if they ever hire for the other position, they will need another office. Hughes stated the remodel cost is excessive for four employees and Miles agreed. Jones asked if there was storage space there for the Coroner in one of the shed buildings, and Greenwood replied they are planning to use all the buildings and storage space and won't know if any extra space is available until they physically move out there. Hughes said when he voted for the purchase of the Wright Automotive site, it was for the whole county's use, and space should be made available if another office needs it. Greenwood stated general fund money would not be used for this remodel project, and the \$328,000 cost for renovation is only an estimate. He said until a contractor looks at the drawings, we won't know how much it will be. Miles reported the committee is talking about cleaning up the current property and then selling the current site, and there are no underground tanks. Greenwood stated when we first talked about building a new building at the county farm, the project came in at \$3.5 million. Greenwood stated this option will enable us to get everything we need for the new site for about \$1 million, and we just need to do it. **Motion by Miles and second by Fogle to hire Hurst-Rosche to prepare the bid package for the Highway Department Office Remodel in the new building for an amount not to exceed \$28,000. All in favor, motion carried.**
2. **Sale of Surplus Equipment Update:** Miles reported Engineer Greenwood will advertise some surplus items and sealed bids will be opened at the next regular meeting.
3. **Village of Walshville Street Issues Update:** Miles reported the Highway Department helped patch some holes on the Walshville Road, and members discussed a proposed new road through Walshville which would eliminate all the curves.
4. **Fuel System Repair Invoice Update:** Miles reported the electronic panel of the fuel system was hit by lightning and the repair bill was \$5,104.53. He said the committee discussed and approved the repair with the Highway Department and the County splitting the invoice.
5. **New Overhead Doors on Collision Center Update:** Miles stated Greenwood reported the metal on the building has been trimmed and they are ready for Furness Concrete to complete the concrete work now.
6. **Other Business Update:** Miles reported the damaged guardrail in Nokomis has been replaced. He said Greenwood reported the Coffeen Lake Bridge is nearly complete and they are just waiting for the guard rail to be installed. Miles also reported they will be striping roads from mid to late October this year. Johnson stated she heard from

constituents in her district who are happy with the Oconee Road improvements completed by the Highway Department.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Chairwoman Megan Beeler:

1. **Capital Improvement Fund Reports Update:** Beeler reported the committee reviewed the Capital Improvement Fund Report, and no coal royalties have been paid since July.
2. **FY 2020 Budget Update:** Beeler reported there are some unknowns in completing the FY 2020 budget. She stated she doesn't anticipate a lot of changes before next month and asked board members to review the budget for the next 30 days. Beeler called to members attention highlighted areas of the proposed budget which denotes changes made from July until now. Beeler also pointed out there will be about \$800,000 from reserves transferred to the general fund next year for county operations. She said the host fee revenue will be placed back into the general fund since the recycling program will no longer be funded. Beeler extended an invitation to attend the next Finance Committee meeting on November 6th, 2019, at 3:00 pm in the county board room.
3. **Reserve Account Minimum Balance Update:** Beeler reported several years ago the County Board approved a motion for the savings account to not go under \$3.5 million or six months of reserves. She stated by the time we pay out the shortage for FY 2020, our reserves will be about \$3.1 million. Beeler added right now we are at \$4.1 million and some expenses have not yet been paid from fund 375 (coal royalties). She said we need to finish paying for Smart Watt and the 911/Sheriff communications remodel. Beeler stated the board will need to think about changing the savings policy, and said we can either change it when we adopt the budget or when we actually spend the money. Deabenderfer would like the county auditors to speak to the board before voting on the minimum savings issue.
4. **FY 2020 Aggregate Levy Approval:** Beeler stated she is waiting on a response from ICRMT for property liability numbers. She said the tax extension amount is \$5,835,252 minus the county election cost of \$114,200 which is a 0.3748% increase. Beeler said she doesn't anticipate any huge increases. Bishop stated we have extra money in IMRF and Social Security, and he feels we are overtaxing our constituents. Beeler replied she received an IMRF rate estimate in April and she is expecting a solid number in November. She said the IMRF payment has to be made by December 31st, 2019, depending on what the actual rates are. Bishop said he would like to see the revenue total match the expense total on the budget. Beeler stated these numbers were provided by the Treasurer's office and she can't speak for Treasurer Lohman, who was not in attendance. **Motion by Beeler and second by Furness to approve the estimated FY 2020 Aggregate Levy in the amount of \$5,835,252 which is a 0.3748% increase. Voice Vote: 20 members voted Yes, Bishop voted No. Motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 17, page 338).**
5. **ETSB Contract and Dispatching Services Update:** Beeler reported the ETSB board approved reimbursing the county 41% for salaries and \$27,787 for administrative fees. She said the County originally asked for \$67,000 to reimburse administrative fees, but the Finance committee accepted this new offer. Beeler reported the committee also discussed the issue of paying for the communications upgrade and remodel, and they felt the County can only afford to budget \$160,000 and not the \$360,000, the amount originally requested.

6. **Recycling Staffing and Funding Approval:** Beeler reported the Finance Committee discussed the issues and options of funding the Recycling program, and based on local private hauler DC Waste's willingness to take over the program, the committee recommended ceasing funding of the recycling program in FY 2020. **Motion by Beeler and second by Furness to cease funding of the recycling program as of December 1st, 2019.** Graden asked about the 2 full time and 1 part time employees working at the Recycling Center and Young replied they will work until the end of November. Young stated the employees have been notified of the plans to close the recycling operation.
- Jones asked if there was a contingent plan for recycling if the private business decides to not take over the program, and Beeler responded there is not a contingency plan. Deabenderfer asked if we should continue the service until the private hauler takes it over, and Beeler responded it will look different under a private market. Beeler stated the program would be eliminated as of December 1st, 2019. Robinson added we can't afford the program. Hughes asked what the recycling program was costing the county per year and Beeler responded \$217,000 in 2018, which doesn't include the host fees or what was transferred to fill the gap. Beeler said the program runs about \$100,000 in the red each year. Young stated we lose \$2,000 on every truckload shipped out.
- Johnson asked how we can explain to the rural residents they can't recycle, and Beeler responded the private trash carrier may start to recycle in the rural areas if there is interest. Fogle asked if we have looked at attaining EPA grants to subsidize recycling, and Beeler responded we have; they fund start up recycling projects but there is no funding to maintain established recycling programs. Jones reported he tried to obtain money to help the recycling program a few years ago from Republic, but he was unsuccessful. Beeler reported the counties around us have had to close their recycling services as well, plus a private business can't compete with the free service the County has been providing. Hughes stated he can't vote to completely close recycling because he feels this is a way county residents benefit from the county's coal money. Beeler responded the coal money is not coming in and closing the drop sheds was a manpower issue, not a funding issue. Young stated a lot of the people are confused about the coal money because our residents also benefit when we purchase squad cards, work on roads, pay for flyovers, etc. He reported these services also benefit the municipalities. Young reported the towns didn't say much about the county's decision to close drop sheds at the recent mayor's meeting, and the City of Nokomis is the only municipality trying to find a way to bring their recycling to the Hillsboro location. Young also reported DC Waste has a foothold in all the county municipalities except Donnellson, plus a provider in another part of the county already offers curbside recycling. Furness stated nobody wants to get rid of recycling, but in the big picture if we continue to take another \$100,000 out of the reserve account to have recycling, there will be less to run the county. Furness stated the supplemental sales tax from the power plant will be gone, and it will come down to hard choices in the next few years. Furness added Montgomery County Government will have to shrink down; we don't have a choice. He said we need to ask ourselves, "Do we provide an extra deputy on the road or do we keep recycling?" Furness stated we have a private carrier willing to take over recycling and residents will have to pay for this service. Furness added we offered a free service for a long time when we were wealthy with coal money, and Deming will run it more efficiently than we do. Young stated he will contact Deming on the time frame as to when he can take over recycling. Hughes asked if we can table this vote

until next month after we find out what Deming is going to do. Miles stated we never found a way to finance the recycling program by charging a fee. He said a special service tax district is out because it is too much work, and no one wants more property taxes. Jones stated we researched charging businesses \$25 per month a few years ago and potential vendors signed up; however, they needed two more trucks and two more staff people, causing expenses to go up. Bergen stated we should look at the bright side; we won't have to store a bunch of containers in our garages to separate materials, it can now go in one container. **Roll Call Vote: 12 Yes, 8 No and 1 abstained. Voting Yes were: Beeler, Bergen, Furness, Graden, Loucks, McCammack, Miles, Moore, Robinson, Sneed, Yeske and Young. Voting No were: Beck, Bishop, Deabenderfer, Fogle, Hughes, Johnson, Jones and Wendel. Savage abstained. Motion carried.**

7. **Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID 16-14-429-016 in Hillsboro Township to the Village of Taylor Springs Approval:** Motion by Beeler and second by Moore to convey deed for parcel ID 16-14-429-016 in Hillsboro Township to the Village of Taylor Springs. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 17, page 339).
8. **Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID 16-14-429-017 in Hillsboro Township to the Village of Taylor Springs Approval:** Motion by Beeler and second by Robinson to convey deed for parcel ID 16-14-429-017 in Hillsboro Township to the Village of Taylor Springs. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 17, page 340).
9. **Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID 16-24-107-027 in Hillsboro Township to the Village of Taylor Springs Approval:** Motion by Beeler and second by Yeske to convey deed for parcel ID 16-24-107-027 in Hillsboro Township to the Village of Taylor Springs. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 17, page 341).

H.W.E. COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Vice Chairwoman Sandy Johnson:

1. **Elections Update:** Clerk Leitheiser reported the filing period for the March 17th, 2020 Election is November 25th, 2019 to December 2nd, 2019 and they have packets in the County Clerk's office.
2. **EPA Report Update:** Gonet shared his monthly open dump inspection report.
 - **Recycling Program and Events Update/Approval:** Johnson reported the owner of DC Waste Bryan Deming addressed the committee with his ideas about offering curbside recycling in Montgomery County for a subscription fee of about \$10 per month. She said Deming is still researching the logistics and costs of how the residential curbside pickup would work in the municipalities, and said the material would no longer be sorted and all materials would be collected in one tote. Johnson stated there would be no drop-off services offered anywhere in the county. Jones asked about county owned property and equipment at the facilities, and Young replied he is in negotiations with Deming to purchase or lease everything to him. Jones stated his concern is there is a need to recover some of the taxpayer's money for the recently purchased baler and other equipment.
 - **BLH – Electronics Recycling:** Johnson reported this event is scheduled for Saturday, October 26th, 2019, from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. at the Litchfield recycling facility.

3. **Animal Control Facility Program Update/Approval:**

- **Municipal Contracts for Animal Control Services:** Young gave a brief update about the Mayors' Meeting and the discussion taking place regarding the proposed municipal contracts. Young stated there was some pushback, but we won't know if the new contracts will be approved until the next Mayors meetings in November. Young stated if the city has ordinances on the books, they are responsible for their animal control. Moore asked if the State's Attorney is okay with the revised municipal contracts and Hitchings replied yes. **Motion by Johnson and second by Graden to approve the Municipality Contracts for Animal Control Services. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 17, pages 342-343).**

BUILDING & GROUNDS COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Chairman Bob Sneed:

1. **Smart Watt Energy Project Update:** Sneed reported Smart Watt continues to work on installing the new lights in the Courthouse Complex, and the project should be completed by October 28th, 2019.
2. **Maintenance and Cleaning Issues and Report Update:** Sneed said there is nothing new to report.
3. **County Surplus Property Sale Update:** Sneed reported there is one more load to take down to the Highway Department storage building, and then we can schedule an auction.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT: Given By Committee Chairwoman Donna Yeske:

1. **MCEDC Update:**
 - **Revolving Loan Fund Update/Approval:** Yeske reported the RLF is doing well.
2. **Tourism Update:**
 - **Great River and Routes Advertisement Update/Approval:** Yeske reported the committee approved placing an ad in the Great River and Routes Travel Guide to be distributed from January 1st, 2020 through December 31st, 2020. Yeske said MCEDC Director Valerie Belusko will draft an ad to send to Great River and Routes, and the committee approved purchasing a 1/6th of a page ad for the travel guide in the amount of \$550.
3. **Eagle Zinc Cleanup Update:** Yeske reported cleanup efforts continue at the Eagle Zinc Site.
4. **CEDS Document Update:** Yeske reported Macoupin County needs to vote on their resolution to approve funds for the CEDS document. She said the actual cost for the CEDS Document to be prepared by a University of Illinois grad student is \$10,000 with the Montgomery County share totaling about \$2,000. Young stated Macoupin County should be voting on their resolution tonight since they meet at the same date and time of the month as we do in Montgomery County.
5. **Planning Commission Update:** Deabenderfer reported there will be a meeting scheduled for Wednesday, October 23rd, 2019, at 5:30 pm where discussion will take place regarding the Wind Ordinance.

E.M.A and AMBULANCE REPORT: Given by Committee Chairman Bill Bergen:

1. **Monthly Report Update:** The Committee reviewed the monthly ambulance billing report.
2. **EMA Old Business Update:**
 - a) **EMA FY2020 Budget Update:** Bergen reported the Finance Committee received and reviewed the revised 911 and EMA budget.
3. **EMA New Business Update:**
 - a) **EMA Volunteer Teams Presentations** – Bergen reported EMA Coordinator Greg Nimmo presented information regarding the various EMA volunteer groups and the upcoming training opportunities for them.
 - b) **DAPL Funds** – Bergen reported Nimmo will attend a check presentation with Dakota Access Pipeline on October 15th, 2019 at Litchfield City Hall. He said DAPL is doing some upgrades and they will give an additional grant to the county to be used for Emergency Management purposes.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Chairman Kirby Furness:

1. **Employee Health Insurance Update:** Furness reported the open enrollment meetings for the medical renewal with Health Alliance are scheduled in four different locations at county buildings. Furness said the HRA utilization is currently at 7.15% as of 9/26/19, and expenses paid are \$32,326.
2. **Employee Personnel Manual Update:** Furness reported the committee continues to review the recommended changes from ICRMT.
3. **Employee Cyber Security Policies Update:** Furness reported the committee reviewed a draft of five employee policies for cyber security prepared by the State Board of Elections and the Statewide Terrorism and Intelligence Center. Once these policies are in place, county employees will be required to sign the agreement, with the original kept in their personnel file and a copy provided to IS services. County Clerk Sandy Leitheiser reported IT Manager Curt Watkins also reviewed the policy documents and added his input. Furness stated he would like the full board to review this policy for 30 days so action can be taken at next month's meeting to approve them. Members also received an Elected Official Waiver form for review, since elected officials are not required to follow the County Board Personnel policies, but they need to comply with proper cyber security employee training and cyber hygiene habits. Moore asked whether a county board member would be required to sign the Elected Official Waiver form, and Leitheiser stated if a county board member uses a county computer on the county network, he/she should abide by our cyber security policies. Furness said these documents will be sent to State's Attorney Hitchings and all elected officials for review so action can be taken next month.

APPROVAL OF 8 COMMITTEE REPORTS & MINUTES:

Motion by Hughes and second by Loucks to approve the eight committee reports and minutes. All in favor, motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None

SCHEDULE CHANGES: None

APPOINTMENTS: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Montgomery County citizen Bill Schroeder was in attendance and stated the sound quality in the County Board room still needs to be addressed because he couldn't hear again at tonight's meeting. He also asked if the cleanup hours are being tracked for work completed at the Eagle Pitcher site since it is taking so long. Montgomery County citizen Karyl Dressen stated she is disappointed on the vote at tonight's meeting to close the recycling program, and she hopes one site will remain open to all county residents. She said by turning recycling over to DC Waste, only residents in town who can pay for the service will be able to recycle. She added this is cutting out a lot of people in the country who will not have the opportunity to recycle, and she wishes this decision could have had more public input before it was made. Young said the DC Waste owner said he is willing to pick up recycling in the rural area if there is interest. Furness asked her to give DC Waste time to see if he can make this work.

PAY BILLS:

1. **Approval to Pay Any Invoices to Adams PC and Books & Moore, and Point of Light**
Motion by Miles and second by Wendel to pay any invoices for Adams, PC and Book & Moore and Point of Light. In favor – 19, Against – 0, Absent – Abstain – 2 (Moore and Bishop). Motion carried.
2. **Motion by Loucks and second by Graden to pay all other approved bills. All in favor, motion carried.**

RECESS: Until the Full Board on Tuesday, November 12th, 2019, at 5:30 PM in the County Board Room, Hillsboro, Illinois. Motion by Fogle and second by Bishop to adjourn the Full Board Meeting. All in favor, motion carried. Meeting Adjourned at 7:30 PM. Minutes respectfully recorded and submitted by Montgomery County Clerk and Recorder Sandy Leitheiser.