

Montgomery County Board Minutes

For Tuesday, January 11th, 2022 – 5:30 PM

The following are minutes of a regular meeting of the Montgomery County Board held at 5:30 PM on Tuesday, January 11, 2022.

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

Roll call was taken - 18 members present, 3 members absent.

Members Present: Russell Beason, Connie Beck, Megan Beeler, Bill Bergen, Ronald Deabenderfer, Doug Donaldson, Tim Fogle, Mark Hughes, Sandra Johnson, Jeremy Jones, David Loucks, Bev McCoy, Gene Miles, Andy Ritchie, Earlene Robinson, Bob Sneed, Patty Whitworth, and Evan Young.

Members Absent: Jim Havera, Richard Wendel and Donna Yeske.

Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was led by County Board member Andy Ritchie.

Mileage and Per Diem Approval: Motion by Miles and second by Sneed to approve the Mileage and Per Diem.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Beason, Beck, Beeler, Bergen, Deabenderfer, Donaldson, Fogle, Hughes, Johnson, Jones, Loucks, McCoy, Miles, Ritchie, Robinson, Sneed, Whitworth, and Young. All in favor, motion carried.

Approval of Minutes of Previous County Board Meeting: Motion by Deabenderfer and second by Donaldson to approve the Minutes of the Previous Regular County Board Meeting held on Tuesday, December 14th, 2021. All in favor, motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- 1. Ambulance Billing Report** -- Mona Lewis – Report was not submitted.
- 2. Animal Control Report** – Amanda Daniels – Report was submitted.
- 3. Circuit Clerk’s Report** -- Daniel Robbins – was present for questions.
- 4. Coroner’s Report** -- Randy Leetham – Report was submitted.
- 5. County Clerk and Recorder’s Report** -- Sandy Leitheiser reported the new Economic Interest Statement forms were distributed to members. She stated all appointed and elected officials at the local level are required by State Law to submit their statements to the County Clerk. Leitheiser said she cannot advise officials how to complete the form. State’s Attorney Affrunti said he also cannot advise officials on how to complete the form. Leitheiser said she has heard officials’ concerns about the new terminology in the new form, and said she is fulfilling her statutory duty in providing the form. She encouraged board members to read the definitions document distributed with the statements for further clarification. Affrunti said if officials read the definitions, he believes they will have a much clearer understanding when completing the statement forms.
- 6. Health & TB Department Report** --Hugh Satterlee was present for questions. Loucks asked if COVID tests are scarce at the Health Department. Satterlee replied they have been fortunate to have had test orders fulfilled per their requests to this point. He also stated a lot of people are choosing to go to hospitals’ emergency rooms to get tested, and this is behavior hospitals want to discourage.
- 7. Highway Department Report** --- Cody Greenwood – was present for questions.
- 8. Probation Office Report** -- Bane Ulrici – Report was submitted.

9. **Public Defender's Report** -- Erin Mattson— Report was not submitted.
10. **ROE – Monthly, Quarterly & Annual Reports** -- Julie Wollerman – Report was submitted.
11. **Sheriff's Report** ---Rick Robbins – Report was submitted.
12. **SOA Report** ---Ray Durston -- Report was submitted.
13. **State's Attorney Report** –Andrew Affrunti - was present for questions.
14. **Treasurer's Report** -- Nikki Lohman - was present for questions.
15. **V.A.C. Report** -- Dave Strowmatt - was present for questions.

APPROVAL OF 15 ITEMS ON THE CONSENT AGENDA: Motion by Whitworth and second by Johnson to approve the 13 reports provided on the Consent Agenda. All in favor, motion carried.

LIAISON REPORTS:

- **708 Board** – Robinson reported they didn't meet this month.
- **CEFS Board** – Fogle stated he was passing along thanks to those who have volunteered for the CEFS Meals on Wheels program in Montgomery County.
- **911 Board** – Bergen reported everything is going smoothly.
- **Health Department** – Johnson reported there was nothing to add. Whitworth stated the board will meet next Thursday and their meetings are held quarterly.
- **IL Association of County Officials** – Bergen stated there was nothing to report.
- **MCEDC** – No report was given.
- **Planning Commission** – Deabenderfer said they will meet tomorrow night to consider a county ordinance for battery storage.
- **Senior Citizens Board** – Deabenderfer said the senior board hasn't met since Covid began, and they don't plan on meeting again while it is still an issue.
- **UCCI** – Miles reported there was a meeting scheduled, but he did not know if it will be held due to COVID.
- **U of I** – Beck reported U of I Extension employee Lisa Peterson is the temporary director of the Montgomery County facility but prior director Amanda Cole will be returning on June 21st, 2022.
- **WCDC**– Young stated the new CEO at WCDC will start in February. He said they are also still accepting applications for a Chief Financial officer (CFO) until Thursday, January 13th.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

COORDINATING COMMITTEE: Given by Chairman Evan Young:

1. **Information Systems Report Update:** Young reported Information Services Manager Curt Watkins has ordered parts for the equipment in the Sheriff's squads.
2. **EMA Report Update:** Kevin Schott was in attendance and stated there is nothing new to report.
3. **Committee Structure Discussion Update:** Young said he had discussions with board members regarding the committee structure. Whitworth said it was discussed at length at the November meeting; then at the Coordinating Committee she said Young stated things were said about the restructuring that were not true. Whitworth said she would like to know what the inaccurate information was, and Young stated he is not going to repeat

what was said to him in a private conversation. Jones said he was the one who made the motion to table the restructure changes and stated no one has talked to him. He asked why we are practicing to be smaller when we have another year of 21 board members and don't know who will be on the board or who will be the chairman after the November election. Young said new board members shouldn't have a large learning curve, and it will be in bad faith for this board to throw everything on a new board. Young stated if we find out it doesn't work in a few months, then it can be changed before November. Fogle stated we are not practicing anything, but being proactive to put together a new model for the new board. Beeler stated she was shocked by the pushback to restructure the committees, and said their intention was to streamline the committee workload with no ulterior motive. Jones stated there are certain people in a clique who know all the decisions before everyone else and the others are outsiders. He said his concern is when one takes more power, one has fewer people making more decisions. He added this causes people to feel left out, which is what is happening right now. Whitworth stated the board does need to consider streamlining committees when it decreases to 14 members, but she said she doesn't think it needs to happen right now. She said she thinks we need to implement those changes in December. Deabenderfer stated there is mistrust in leadership stemming from favoritism shown on both a political party and personal level, which he said is a problem the board has had going back years before this current board. Deabenderfer said he thinks the restructuring should not take place until next year. Donaldson said he thought the way restructuring was presented initially was a little clunky and invited more discussion. Young stated this is why he wanted the 30-day review of restructuring. Young said the Rules Committee recommended cutting the number of committees down to three, not including Coordinating. He stated this is not an issue of he or anyone else trying to do something through the back door. Miles stated he didn't know the board had such a problem with the way it is currently structured. Beeler said she wants to balance the workload among all of the committees, adding the Finance Committee meetings typically last the longest. Jones stated a lot of people who aren't a part of the clique don't get to make the decisions. Deabenderfer stated there is a chance of cronyism in this type of organization when all of the members of the Coordinating committee are from the same party and are handpicked by the Chairman. Hughes stated he agrees with Deabenderfer and suggested doing away with the Coordinating Committee. Miles said it sounds like the biggest problem is the Finance Committee meetings are too long. Beck stated more County Board Districts need to be represented on the committees. Ritchie reported he spent thirty years in the Navy and no one ever asked him who was going to be his commanding officer. He suggested the board try a table-top exercise to simulate lesser committees to see if they will work. Young suggested more members can be added to the Rules Committee as restructuring is considered. Leitheiser reported the current board did not adopt the Rules of Order when they were sworn in in December, 2020, which has typically been the standard practice of prior County Boards. Young stated State's Attorney Affrunti can advise if we have a current County Board Rules of Order.

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

1. **Maintenance and Cleaning Issues and Report Update:** Sneed reported his committee heard a lengthy presentation from maintenance technician Phil Ernst, and they were pleased with his thorough report.
2. **New Locks for Historic Courthouse Update:** Sneed reported Information Services Manager Watkins suggested looking into an electronic key system for at least one of the outside doors of the Historic Courthouse if the Buildings and Grounds committee was interested in improving security. Watkins said he received a rough quote from the company who did a similar system at the Courthouse Complex. He said the price of placing an electronic key system on one door would be \$2,500. Sneed said the door chosen for the system would be the ADA accessible door at the street level entrance, and the committee gave Watkins the go ahead to move forward with the project. Sneed stated an electronic key system will greatly improve the building's security. Leitheiser reported at a recent County Clerk's conference, she learned of a free physical security assessment offered by Homeland Security. She stated she also has grant money for election security which can be used for physical security improvements for election offices; however, the free assessment would cover the entire building. Sneed stated the Building and Grounds Committee approved the physical security assessment be completed. Leitheiser reported it will be done on Thursday, January 13th.
3. **Ameren Electrical Service on Seymour Ave. Transfer to EMA Update:** Sneed reported the committee voted to transfer power at the old Highway Department facility on Seymour Avenue in Hillsboro from the Highway Department's expenses to the County's. He said Emergency Management Agency Coordinator Schott reported he has had to move some items from his department to the building on Seymour, including the MABAS trailer and PPE for Covid response. Sneed reported County Engineer Cody Greenwood doesn't want to pay for the power from his budget anymore since they are no longer at the facility. Schott said he still needs to move two more trailers over to that site. Deabenderfer stated neighbors of the old facility were glad when the Highway Department moved out, and the City of Hillsboro would like to utilize that site for a residential housing development. Schott said he and Young and a few others will be meeting soon regarding storage for EMA trailers and equipment, and he stated this is just a temporary situation until another storage area can be found.
4. **Other Business:** Sneed reported the committee will be considering the replacement of boilers for county buildings soon since they are nearing the end of their lifespans. He said the committee will also be looking at the fire alarms at the Jail since the current ones are now obsolete.

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Vice-Chairman Ron Deabenderfer:

1. **MCEDC Update:** Deabenderfer stated there is nothing new to report since the last meeting.
2. **Revolving Loan Fund Update:** Deabenderfer reported the committee is looking into rewriting the RLF manual as well as changing the RLF completely.
3. **Tourism Update:** Deabenderfer reported the tourism application will need to be approved at the committee's February meeting. He said tourism grants to help with advertising will be offered and will be due on March 29th, 2022, and grants will be awarded after April

12th, 2022 for events scheduled between March and October, 2022. Beeler stated there are currently three facilities in unincorporated Montgomery County who collect a hotel/motel sales tax, however only two of them are paying the county. She said the third facility is an “Air B & B,” and further documentation is needed

4. **Planning Commission Update:** Deabenderfer reported the next meeting is scheduled for January 12, 2022 at 5:30 pm at the Historic Courthouse. He said they will discuss creating a county ordinance for battery storage.
5. **West Central Development Council/Job Center Board/CEO Board Update:** Deabenderfer reported Matt Jones of St. Clair County was hired as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of WCDC and will start in February. He stated there is still a job opening for the position of CFO (Chief Financial Officer) for WCDC.
6. **Montgomery County Bike Trail Update:** Deabenderfer reported Yeske met with State’s Attorney Affrunti regarding a dumping issue at the Green Diamond Bike Trail, and he will write a letter to the property owner instructing them to remove debris from the Waggoner end of the trail.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Chairman Russell Beason:

1. **Bellwether & America Recovery Plan Act (ARPA funding) Update:** Beason reported the committee received a lengthy report from Bellwether representative Bruce DeLashmit regarding ARPA funds. He stated the committee has a lot to digest as they move forward with the application/narrative process.
2. **SOA Report Update:** Beason reported there was a meeting last week to negotiate the assessment for the Coffeen power plant. He stated Vistra submitted a counterproposal to the County’s offer; however the two sides remain far apart. Beason reported Durston said county taxing body representatives met recently and agreed to submit another offer to Vistra.
3. **IMRF Update:** Beason stated Treasurer Lohman reported she has not received any updates on IMRF at this time.
4. **Capital Improvement Fund Reports Update:** Beason said there is nothing new to report.
5. **Ordinance 2022-01 Amending Lost Revenue Ordinance 2021-09 Approval:** Beason reported the county board needs to approve an ordinance to transfer ARPA Lost Revenue funds to be used for Election Equipment. **Motion by Beason and second by Fogle to approve Ordinance 2022-01 amending the Lost Revenue Ordinance 2021-09 approved on October 12, 2021 authorizing the transfer of \$235,175 from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Lost Revenue Fund to the General (Corporate) Fund for the purpose of funding the Election Equipment Purchase project. ROLL CALL VOTE: Voting in Favor: Beason, Beck, Beeler, Bergen, Deabenderfer, Donaldson, Fogle, Hughes, Johnson, Jones, Loucks, McCoy, Miles, Ritchie, Robinson, Sneed, Whitworth and Young. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, page 4).**
6. **Amend Resolution for Circuit Clerk Fees Approval:** Beason stated Circuit Clerk Daniel Robbins reported a resolution establishing civil fees and criminal and traffic assessments has an incorrect fee listed because of a typographical error. Beason stated the original resolution reads the fee is \$266, but it needs to be changed so the fee is set at \$256. **Motion by Beason and second by Hughes to adopt Resolution 2022-02**

amending Resolution 2019CO-5 correcting the establishment of civil fees and criminal and traffic assessments to be charged by the clerk of the circuit court from \$266 to \$256. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 5-19).

7. **AOIC Technology Grant for Circuit Clerk Update:** Beason reported Circuit Clerk Robbins applied for a grant from the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts (AOIC) for a grant for IT upgrades. He said the reimbursed amount from the grant should be for \$53,521.78.
8. **FEMA Grant Update:** Beason reported Treasurer Lohman had to submit detailed information regarding the preventative measures the county has in place for Covid for the FEMA grant. Lohman said EMA Director Kevin Schott deserves credit for taking photographs as he traveled to the various locations in the cold to obtain them.
9. **Senior Citizen Club Funding Update Approval:** Beason reported the county Senior Citizen Club Groups are starting to resume their activities, and the committee voted to recommend giving them one half of their requested funds as seed money. He said Coordinator Chris Daniels reported she has received calls from several of the six Senior Citizen Clubs to find out if they are going to receive their funding this year. Beason said the funds were held back last year since the clubs weren't meeting. Daniels said the clubs thought since they were starting to meet again, they could now get their funds. Beeler reported before COVID, the senior clubs would submit a request for funding and the County would reimburse them based on the amount levied for Senior Services. Beeler said it is her opinion the board should continue to pay as the money is requested rather than giving the groups all of their money at once. Loucks stated they could give the groups some of the funds as seed money and then hold onto the rest of the funds and release them as requested. Deabenderfer said we need clear-cut policy and procedures for the senior funds levied by the county. He said some senior citizens are concerned about how those funds are spent, and the senior clubs were told not to meet because of Covid. He also asked the status of the funds received from last year's levy, adding there is a big lack of communication regarding this funding. Beeler said the senior services fund levy is also to be used for Golden Circle Nutrition and Health Department Senior Services, and those two organizations have been receiving their funding. She said the six Senior Clubs would ask for money for their meetings. Beeler said because there is no designated Senior Services board for Montgomery County, the county board gets to decide how the senior citizen property tax funds designated for senior services are spent each year, with the understanding funds must be spent on the senior population. Treasurer Lohman said there currently is a balance in the Senior Citizen fund. State's Attorney Affrunti said this is the same situation as some of the ambulance special service areas where the County Board levies for the funds and then the County Board gets to decide how the funds are spent. Beason stated he will send a letter to the county Senior Citizens Clubs to clarify this funding. **Motion by Beason and second by Beeler to give the County Senior Clubs half of their requested funds according to what the clubs budgeted for FY 2022. All in favor, motion carried.**
10. **IRS Mileage Rate for 2022 Approval:** Beason reported the IRS recommended mileage rate is 58.5 cents per mile, which is an increase from the 56 cents previously allotted. **Motion by Beason and second by Ritchie to adopt the mileage rate of 58.5 cents per**

mile. VOICE VOTE: 17 voted in favor, 0 against, 1 (Deabenderfer) abstained. Motion carried.

- 11. Other Business:** Beason reported the committee will work on the process for setting salaries for Elected Officials because they have to be set 180 days prior to the officials taking office on December 1st, 2022.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Chairman Bill Bergen:

- 1. Employee Health Insurance Cafeteria Plan Amendment Update:** Bergen stated Treasurer Lohman reported the Cafeteria Plan Amendment for employee health insurance has been signed. He stated this plan is used for dependent care and flex benefits.
- 2. Hire of Part-time EMA Coordinator Approval:** Bergen said EMA Coordinator Schott requested two part-time employees be hired for the EMA department with each of them to be paid one-half of the \$24,000 salary budgeted for FY 2022. Bergen stated the two recommended individuals are very qualified, and the pay is \$25 per hour with no benefits. Schott reported Dan Hough will be the Operations Director and Joe Gasparich will provide administrative assistance with both individuals' combined hours totaling 20 hours per week. Schott stated Hough and Gasparich were volunteers for years and it is only fair to pay them now that budgeted funds are available. **Motion by Bergen and second by Robinson to approve hiring Dan Hough and Joe Gasparich as part-time EMA employees at a rate of \$25 per hour not to exceed 20 hours total worked per week. All in favor, motion carried.**

SAFETY & ELECTIONS: Given by Committee Chairman Mark Hughes:

- 1. Ambulance Billing Office Update:** Hughes reported the committee will be working on setting up a meeting with representatives of each of the ambulance districts to figure out what to do with ambulance billing.
- 2. Animal Control Municipal Contracts Update:** Hughes reported he was unable to attend the last committee meeting so the mayors were told not to come. Bergen stated contracts were discussed briefly at the meeting, including the idea to increase of the per call rate for municipalities to cover the cost of animal control operations.
- 3. Animal Control Facility Program Update:** Hughes reported Animal Control currently has three cats and 13 dogs.
- 4. ETSB/911 Update:** Bergen reported things have been pretty quiet and finances with 911 are stable.
- 5. Elections Update:** Leitheiser reported the U.S. Congressional, Illinois State Senate and Representative maps have been finalized. She stated Montgomery County is still represented by one congressional district, but it has been changed from the 13th to the 15th. She also said there are now three State Representative Districts in the County: the 107th, 108th and 110th. The County will also be split into two State Senate districts as well: the 54th and 55th. Leitheiser also reported the petition circulation period for county candidates running in the upcoming Primary begins January 13, with petitions being filed March 7th through 14th. This year's primary, she reminded, is June 28th, 2022.
- 6. EPA Report Update/Approval:** EPA Coordinator Daniels reported there will be spring and fall events for electronics recycling drives this year. She stated there were a few events held back-to-back last year due to COVID, but the plan for this year is to spread them out more.

7. **Other Business:** State's Attorney Affrunti reported an email had been sent from the Illinois Association of County Board Members regarding the vaccine or test/mask mandate OSHA was requiring companies with 100 or more employees to implement. He said the dates the email mentioned were incorrect, and he clarified companies have until February 24 to be compliant. Affrunti said Montgomery County follows standards from the Illinois Department of Labor, not OSHA; however, the Department of Labor standards must be at least as strict as OSHA and may also be more stringent. He stated the IL Department of Labor has given governments until February 24 to be complaint. Regarding the U.S. Supreme Court ruling on the legality of the vaccine mandate, Affrunti stated it appears the mask mandate may be upheld, but he is unsure at this time what the Court will rule regarding vaccines. Robinson asked what would happen if the board created a policy, but then voted against implementing it. Affrunti said the County would then be subject to fines for not being in compliance with IDOL. As for how Montgomery County qualifies for the Department of Labor standards in their mandate, Affrunti reported it is based on how many employees an employer has on its payroll and the County is well in excess of 100 employees. He stated if the Supreme Court upholds the ruling the mandate would apply to county employees and Affrunti said an employee is defined as a person who reports to work once every seven days.

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

1. **Village of Walshville Street Issues Update:** Miles reported County Engineer Cody Greenwood wrote a letter regarding this issue. Miles stated Walshville Village President Joy McDonald was supposed to attend the last committee meeting but she was unable to because she was ill.
2. **2022 Township MFT Rock Letting Results Approval:** Motion by Miles and second by Whitworth to approve the low bids for the 2022 MFT Township Rock Letting. All in favor, motion carried.
3. **2022 County MFT Rock Letting Results Approval:** Motion by Miles and second by Donaldson to approve the low bids for the 2022 MFT County Rock Letting. All in favor, motion carried.
4. **Right of Way Acquisition for Section 15-00138-00-BR Whitetown Bridge Update:** Miles reported the committee hopes to have updates for this project at their next meeting.
5. **Small Equipment Purchase Update:** Miles reported the committee discussed but did not take action on a small equipment purchase at their last meeting.

APPROVAL OF 7 COMMITTEE REPORTS & MINUTES:

Motion by Beck and second by Beason to approve the seven committee reports and minutes. All in favor, motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None

SCHEDULE CHANGES: None

APPOINTMENTS: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Citizen Bill Schroeder said he appreciated the discussion about the committee restructuring request, and he believes newly elected board members should serve on committees according to their skills or knowledge. He suggested board members complete a resume to determine their qualifications for committees. He also said he believes the board should wait for the next board to decide what to do with committees.

PAY BILLS AND PAYROLL:

Motion by Donaldson and second by Beason to pay all approved bills and payroll. All in favor, motion carried.

ADJOURN:

The next regular full board meeting will be on Tuesday, February 8, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. in the County Board Room, Hillsboro, Illinois. Motion by Donaldson and second by Loucks to adjourn the Full Board Meeting. All in favor, motion carried.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:03 p.m. Minutes respectfully recorded and submitted by Montgomery County Clerk and Recorder Sandy Leitheiser.

Montgomery County Board Minutes

For Tuesday, February 8th, 2022 – 5:30 PM

The following are minutes of a regular meeting of the Montgomery County Board held at 5:30 PM on Tuesday, February 8, 2022.

The meeting was called to order by County Board Chairman Evan Young at 5:35 PM.

Roll call was taken - 18 members present, 3 members absent.

Members Present: Russell Beason, Connie Beck, Bill Bergen, Doug Donaldson, Tim Fogle, Jim Havera, Mark Hughes, Sandra Johnson, Jeremy Jones, David Loucks, Bev McCoy, Gene Miles, Andy Ritchie, Bob Sneed, Richard Wendel, Patty Whitworth, Donna Yeske and Evan Young.

Members Absent: Megan Beeler, Ronald Deabenderfer and Earlene Robinson

Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was led by County Board member Mark Hughes.

Mileage and Per Diem Approval: Motion by Miles and second by Johnson to approve the Mileage and Per Diem. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Voting YES: Beason, Beck, Bergen, Donaldson, Fogle, Havera, Hughes, Johnson, Jones, Loucks, McCoy, Miles, Ritchie, Sneed, Wendel, Whitworth, Yeske and Young. Absent: Beeler, Deabenderfer, Robinson. All in favor, motion carried.

Approval of Minutes of Previous County Board Meeting: Motion by Beason and second by Sneed to approve the Minutes of the Previous Regular County Board Meeting held on Tuesday, January 11th, 2022. All in favor, motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. **Ambulance Billing Report** - Mona Lewis – No report was submitted.
2. **Animal Control Report** - Amanda Daniels – Report was submitted.
3. **Circuit Clerk's Report** - Daniel Robbins 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.
7. **Highway Department Report** - Cody Greenwood – Report was submitted.
8. **Probation Office Report** - Bane Ulrici – Report was submitted.
9. **Public Defender's Report** - Erin Mattson— No report was submitted.
10. **ROE – Monthly, Quarterly & Annual Reports** - Julie Wollerman – Report was submitted.
11. **Sheriff's Report** --- Rick Robbins was present for questions.
12. **SOA Report** ---Ray Durston – Report was submitted.
13. **State's Attorney Report** –Andrew Affrunti was present for questions.
14. **Treasurer's Report** ---Nikki Lohman – Report was submitted.
15. **V.A.C. Report** ---Dave Strowmatt was present for questions.

APPROVAL OF 13 ITEMS ON THE CONSENT AGENDA: Motion by Donaldson and second by Fogle to approve the 13 items on the Consent Agenda. All in favor, motion carried.

LIAISON REPORTS:

- **708 Board** – Robinson was absent so no report was given.
- **CEFS Board** – Fogle reported their rescheduled meeting will be held Thursday, February 10th, 2022.

- **911 Board** – Bergen stated there was nothing new to report.
- **Health Department** – Sandra Johnson stated there was nothing new to report.
- **IL Association of County Officials** – Bergen stated there was nothing new to report.
- **MCEDC** – Yeske stated she will give this report during the Development Committee presentation.
- **Planning Commission** – Ritchie stated their meeting was moved to February 16, 2022 at 9:30 a.m. so interested Planning Commission members could attend the Grain Belt Express meeting on February 9th, 2022.
- **Senior Citizens Board** – Deabenderfer was absent so no report was given.
- **UCCI** – Miles stated their February meeting was canceled.
- **U of I** – Beck reported they did not meet.
- **WCDC** – Wendel reported new CEO Matt Jones started Monday, February 7, 2022. He also said they still have not received any new applicants for the open CFO position.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

COORDINATING COMMITTEE: Given by Chairman Evan Young:

1. **Central Illinois Public Transit – CIPT Ordinance #2022-03 and Intergovernmental Agreement Approval:** CIPT Mobility Manager Nathan Nichols called into the meeting to give his annual report. He stated some counties are in need of drivers, but Montgomery County has four drivers at this time. He also stated a lot of seniors are very active and really enjoy trips with CIPT, and they are hopeful these trips can be resumed soon. **Motion by Beason and second by Whitworth to approve the Central Illinois Public Transit Ordinance #2022-03. All in favor, motion carried. Motion by Ritchie, second by Beck, to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement with Central Illinois Public Transit. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 20-22).**
2. **Information Systems Report Update:** Young reported Information Services Manager Curt Watkins received the modems for the Sheriff's squad cars. Sheriff Rick Robbins stated the modems have not yet been installed in the cars.
3. **EMA Report Update:** Young called on EMA Coordinator Kevin Schott, who reported newly hired part time EMA Coordinator Joe Gasparich will be doing public relations and releasing a few documents. Schott stated one document will be to spread the word about what EMA is and what they do. He said the other document will be about training and the need for volunteers. Schott also reported EMA would like to be invited to the next Mayors' meeting to ask for more involvement from communities by establishing Memorandums of Understanding agreements. Gasparich said they had a lot of volunteers before Covid hit, but they haven't bounced back as strong since the pandemic began. Gasparich also reported there will be a Local Responder class in Nokomis on Wednesday, February 16th, and Thursday, February 17th, at the Nokomis Fire House in Nokomis from 6:00 to 9:00 pm.
4. **Committee Structure Discussion Update:** Young reported he has not had a chance to meet with the rules committee about this topic yet.
5. **Grain Belt Express Transmission Project Update:** Young reported Grain Belt Express has scheduled a public meeting on February 9, 2022, from 5 to 7 p.m. at The Event Center in Hillsboro. He said the topic of the meeting will be the proposed transmission project expected to travel through the northern part of Montgomery County. Young reported the State of Illinois ICC has awarded Grain Belt utility status, which means they have the power to acquire whatever property they need through eminent domain. He said the meeting is expected to be informal and set up in an open house style. Jeremy Jones stated the proposed

route is scheduled to go through his County Board District, and he doesn't think the project will be a good thing for county citizens who will be affected.

6. **VISTRA Solar Panel/Battery Storage Project at Coffeen site Update:** Young reported VISTRA Energy announced a plan to install 44 megawatts of solar panels and 4 megawatts of lithium battery storage at the location of the old Coffeen Power Plant. He also stated the Planning Commission is working on an ordinance for battery storage to present to the County Board.
7. **Other Business:** Young reported new mileage per diem sheets for board members are available in the top drawers of their respective desks.

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

1. **Maintenance and Cleaning Issues and Report Update:** Sneed reported the maintenance staff continues to make repairs in various county buildings. He also reported they were busy with snow removal during last week's winter weather.
2. **Building Security Audit Report for Historic Courthouse Update:** Sneed reported the committee will review the Historic Courthouse's building security audit at their next meeting.
3. **New locks for Historic Courthouse Update:** Sneed reported they are continuing to work on new locks for the Historic Courthouse. He stated they are planning to use an electronic key fob system and may utilize it on the north door in addition to the proposed handicap entrance, as long as it is cost effective.
4. **New Fire Alarms for the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office Update:** Sneed reported the committee voted to replace the fire alarms at the sheriff's office since the current ones are now obsolete.
5. **Boiler Replacement for County Buildings Update:** Sneed reported the committee will continue to have discussions on boiler replacement at next month's meeting.
6. **Other Business:** Sneed reported Circuit Clerk Daniel Robbins is working on a proposal to remodel Courtroom 2 in the Courthouse Complex to provide more updated technology. Robbins stated he is waiting on prices before he can report back to the committee. Sheriff Robbins stated he would also like the topic of concrete sidewalks discussed again, and Sneed agreed this topic will be placed on future committee agendas.

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Chairwoman Donna Yeske:

1. **MCEDC Update:** Yeske reported MCEDC Executive Director Valerie Belusko attended the committee meeting yesterday, and the main takeaway from her presentation is she reported Montgomery County is getting a lot of buzz around the state- specifically about fiber internet and how we acquired it. She said she is still working to see if Wisper Internet will be bringing more internet services to the rural areas of the county.
2. **Revolving Loan Fund Update:** State's Attorney Affrunti reported he is looking into whether or not the County Board has legal authority to loan Revolving Loan funds to local communities. Yeske thanked him for his research.
3. **Tourism Update:** Yeske reported the committee approved the amended tourism application. She said applications are due by March 24th, 2022; and they will hopefully consider them at the April 12, 2022 Full Board meeting. Yeske also stated if anyone knows of any events coming up this year to send the information to Belusko at valerieb@illinois.edu so those events can be added to the publicity provided by *Rivers and Routes*.

4. **Planning Commission Update:** Ritchie reported they hope to have the county's comprehensive plan updated soon.
5. **West Central Development Council/Job Center Board/CEO Board Update:** Yeske stated there was nothing additional to report.
6. **Waggoner Bike Trail Clean-up Update:** State's Attorney Affrunti reported he sent a letter by certified mail regarding the clean-up issue, so hopefully the party(ies) responsible for putting the debris on the trail will get the letter soon and act on it. He said if there is no change after 60 days, the County will be able to remove it. Jones said the person responsible has been ill with Covid for the past few months, and he was told they hope to have the cleanup done soon. Jones also stated there have been problems with snow mobiles, jeeps and four wheelers traveling on the Bike Trail despite temporary barricades the County has placed there. Yeske said it is a struggle to keep barricades in place, and Jones suggested the County may need to consider permanent barricade posts if the problem continues.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Chairman Russell Beason:

1. **SOA Report Update:** Beason reported VISTRA has accepted a counter proposal from the County on the property tax's valuation of the former Coffeen Power Plant now owned by that company.
2. **Capital Improvement Fund Reports Update:** Beason stated there is nothing new to report.
3. **Elected Officials Salaries Update:** Beason reported the County has to authorize salary increases for three elected officials of Sheriff, Treasurer and County Clerk 180 days before they take office. He said they are still collecting input and will work on this further next month.
4. **Amended Travel Ordinance #2022-04 Approval:** Beason reported the approved hotel rate on the County Travel Ordinance has been \$70, and the Finance Committee recommends increasing it to \$125 or, if higher, the State government-approved rate. Beason said the County will reimburse up to \$125, and the State is currently lower than that amount so they probably are not going to catch up to us for a while. **Motion by Beason and second by Donaldson to approve the amended Travel Ordinance #2022-04 increasing the hotel/motel rate either up to \$125.00 per night or the State of Illinois rate. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 23-25).**
5. **IMRF Update:** Beason stated there is nothing new to report.
6. **Finance/Budget Control Policies and Procedures Update:** Beason stated there is nothing new to report.
7. **Bellwether & America Recovery Plan Act (ARPA funding) Update:** Beason reported Bellwether is not the reason for the holdup with ARPA funds. He stated the committee is working on an expedited system for applications throughout the county.
8. **County ARPA Standard Allowance Decision by April 1 Deadline Update:** Beason reported the County has until April 1st, 2022 to decide whether or not to elect to utilize the standard allowance for ARPA funds.
9. **Municipalities' ARPA Allocation Update:** Beason said we will deal with this issue in March when we have additional information. He also said the committee is considering giving each ambulance district a new ambulance using ARPA funds.
10. **FEMA Grant Update:** Beason reported Treasurer Lohman has been working with FEMA.
11. **FY 2021 Auditor Question Regarding the \$50,000 loan on the Books to 911 Update:** Young reported 911 applied for a loan 10 years ago for about \$170,000. He stated all but \$50,000 of the loan has been paid off, and the board has to decide whether or not to forgive

this remaining balance. Beason stated the committee's consensus is to forgive it. Young said the money came from coal funds, so it was not taxpayer money.

- 12. Other Business:** Beason reported the Village of Panama has decided not to sign the intergovernmental agreement for law enforcement services with the County. Sheriff Robbins said Panama was paying the Sheriff's office for their law enforcement services, which also included their village territory in Bond County. Robbins stated now they will only be responding to calls in Panama within Montgomery County. Robbins stated this was Panama's choice and the letter he received did not disclose a reason for the rejection. He reported Panama was the only intergovernmental agreement for law enforcement services the County had.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Chairman Bill Bergen:

- 1. Employee Health Insurance and Monthly HRA report Update:** Bergen reported insurance representative Amanda Mast stated Health Alliance is reporting a high loss. He said nine catastrophic claims were over \$30,000 each and represent 72% of all claims. Bergen said this won't change the insurance costs to the County this year, but it's going to hit us hard next year.
- 2. Illinois Department of Labor Vaccine/Mask Policy Mandate Update:** Bergen stated there is nothing new to report.
- 3. Other Business:** Sheriff Rick Robbins stated as of today, his office is fully staffed.

SAFETY & ELECTIONS: Given by Committee Vice Chairman Bill Bergen:

- 1. Ambulance Billing Office Update:** Bergen reported the committee had a long discussion with representatives from the Hillsboro, Raymond-Harvel and Farmersville-Waggoner Ambulance Districts about what to do with the billing office. He stated the three districts expressed a desire to keep the billing office, and the districts would like to have an additional full-time employee hired to help current employee Mona Lewis. He reported the committee voted to advertise the open position, which is underway.
- 2. FY 2022 Ambulance Billing Agreements Update:** Bergen stated the County needs to get the agreements sent out, as they were supposed to be out in November, 2021.
- 3. Nokomis Ambulance Billing Update:** Bergen stated there was nothing new to report.
- 4. ETSB/911 Update:** Bergen reported ETSB/911 finances are stable.
- 5. EMA Update:** Bergen stated there was nothing new to report.
- 6. Elections Update:** Leitheiser reported staff training for the new election equipment begins February 15th, 2022. She also said the filing period for county elected official candidates begins March 7, 2022, at 8 a.m. and ends March 14, 2022, at 5 p.m. in the County Clerk/Recorder's office.
- 7. EPA Report Update:** EPA Administrator Chris Daniels reported they still need to get to the landfill and will probably visit the bike trail when they do and report back any issues.
- 8. Animal Control Facility Program Update:** Bergen stated there have been complaints about animal control services.
- 9. Animal Control Municipal Contracts Update:** Bergen said the committee debated whether or not to meet with the mayors of the county before finalizing municipal contracts. Young stated Coordinator Daniels will gather financial information to present at the next meeting. Bergen also reported Chairman Young stated county residents have told him their tax dollars pay for Animal Control services, but he said tax dollars do not fund animal control. Instead, it is only funded by fees, fines and the Vanek Estate fund.

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

1. **Village of Walshville Street Issues Update:** Miles reported the committee did not meet due to inclement weather.
2. **Small Equipment Purchase Update:** Miles reported the committee has not acted on this item.
3. **Other Business:** Miles reported the gas pump problem still has not been resolved as they are waiting for a part to be delivered so the pump can be used. Sheriff Robbins said the gas pump issue isn't the Highway Department's fault because many parts are being held up now, but let members know his department's fuel expenses will be higher since his forces must go to area gas stations and use the office credit card to fill up their tanks at a more expensive cost. He also stated the credit card payment system is challenging as well. Beck stated it is difficult for employees who don't have a credit card to pay for fuel at local gas stations because they have to use their own money and wait to be reimbursed.

APPROVAL OF 7 COMMITTEE REPORTS & MINUTES:

Motion by Sneed and second by Fogle to approve the seven committee reports and minutes. All in favor, motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Young announced Grain Belt Express will hold a public meeting tomorrow evening (Wednesday, February 9th, 2022) from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Event Center of Montgomery County.

APPOINTMENTS:

Motion by Whitworth and second by Yeske to appoint Robert Hamm to the Montgomery County Board of Health, effective February 8, 2022, through June 30, 2024. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Hughes and second by Whitworth to appoint Theresa Rapp to the Montgomery County Board of Health, effective February 8, 2022, through June 30, 2023. All in favor, motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

PAY BILLS AND PAYROLL: Motion by Loucks and second by Donaldson to pay all approved bills and Payroll. All in favor, motion carried.

ADJOURN: The next regular full board meeting will be on Tuesday, March 8, 2022, at 5:30 p.m. in the County Board Room, Hillsboro, Illinois. Motion by Wendel and second by Ritchie to adjourn the Full Board Meeting. All in favor, motion carried.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:50 p.m. Minutes respectfully recorded and submitted by Montgomery County Clerk and Recorder Sandy Leitheiser.

Montgomery County Board Minutes

For Tuesday, March 8th, 2022 – 5:30 PM

The following are minutes of a regular meeting of the Montgomery County Board held at 5:30 PM on Tuesday, March 8, 2022.

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.

Members Present: Russell Beason, Connie Beck, Megan Beeler, Bill Bergen, Ronald Deabenderfer, Doug Donaldson, Tim Fogle, Jim Havera, Mark Hughes, Sandra Johnson, Jeremy Jones, David Loucks, Gene Miles, Andy Ritchie, Earlene Robinson, Bob Sneed, Richard Wendel, Patty Whitworth, Donna Yeske and Evan Young

Members Absent: Bev McCoy

Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was led by Jim Havera. Board Chairman Evan Young instituted a moment of silence for former County Board member Glenn Painter who passed away on Feb. 17th at 97 years of age. Young stated Painter served on the board for 34 years from 1972 to 2006. Young also instituted the same moment of silence for the current war situation in Ukraine.

Mileage and Per Diem Approval: Motion by Miles and second by Wendel to approve the Mileage and Per Diem.

ROLL CALL VOTE Beason, Beck, Beeler, Bergen, Deabenderfer, Donaldson, Fogle, Havera, Hughes, Johnson, Jones, Loucks, Miles, Ritchie, Robinson, Sneed, Wendel, Whitworth, Yeske and Young. All in favor, motion carried.

Approval of Minutes of Previous County Board Meeting:

Motion by Deabenderfer and second by Donaldson to approve the Minutes of the Previous Regular County Board Meeting held on Tuesday, February 8th, 2022. All in favor, motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. **Ambulance Billing Report** -- Mona Lewis – No report was submitted.
2. **Animal Control Report** -- Amanda Daniels – Report was submitted.
3. **Circuit Clerk's Report** ---- Daniel Robbins 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.
7. **Highway Department Report** ---Cody Greenwood – Report was submitted.
8. **Probation Office Report** ---Banee Ulrici – Report was submitted.
9. **Public Defender's Report** ---Erin Mattson— No report was submitted.
10. **ROE – Monthly, Quarterly & Annual Reports** – Julie Wollerman – Report was submitted.
11. **Sheriff's Report** ---Rick Robbins was present for questions.
12. **SOA Report** ---Ray Durston – Report was submitted.
13. **State's Attorney Report** –Andrew Affrunti was present for questions.
14. **Treasurer's Report** ---Nikki Lohman was present for questions.
15. **V.A.C. Report** ---Dave Strowmatt was present for questions.

APPROVAL OF 13 ITEMS ON THE CONSENT AGENDA: Motion by Whitworth and second by Johnson to approve the 13 items on the Consent Agenda. All in favor, motion carried.

LIAISON REPORTS:

- **708 Board** – Robinson stated there is nothing new to report.
- **CEFS Board** – Fogle stated they will be expanding Head Start and looking into a building in either Litchfield or Hillsboro.
- **911 Board** – Bergen stated there is nothing new to report.
- **Health Department** -- Sandra Johnson stated there is nothing new to report.
- **IL Association of County Officials** -- Bergen and Beeler stated there is nothing new to report.
- **MCEDC** – Yeske stated Deabenderfer will give this report during the committee reports.
- **Planning Commission** – Deabenderfer stated they are still hammering out the battery storage ordinance. He reported they are feeling pressure for two reasons: 1) they are losing members due to the reporting requirements of new economic interest form, and 2) they are feeling the pressure to complete the ordinance as soon as possible because have to have it in place before construction on a battery storage facility begins at the VISTRA plant so that facility would have to meet the ordinance’s guidelines. Beason asked if the Planning Commission had contacted someone from the Morris Fire Department regarding the lithium battery fire there. EMA Coordinator Kevin Schott said someone from the Morris Fire Department will be meeting with him here sometime in April. Deabenderfer also reported the county needs to work on updating their comprehensive plan.
- **Senior Citizens Board** – Deabenderfer stated there is nothing new to report.
- **UCCI** – Miles stated there is nothing new to report.
- **U of I** – Beck stated there is nothing new to report.
- **WCDC** –Wendel reported they met in February and hired a new Chief Financial Officer (CFO). His name is Ben Beckwith. Wendel also stated new CEO Matt Jones has “hit the ground running” and is doing a great job.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

COORDINATING COMMITTEE: Given by Chairman Evan Young:

1. **Information Systems Report Update:** Young reported Information Services is working on dot gov (.gov) registration due to legislative requirements, and all of Montgomery County’s URL and email addresses will eventually change to .gov addresses once it’s completed.
2. **EMA Report Update:** Young reported EMA Coordinator Dan Hough is hoping to do a campaign for volunteerism in order to address their low number of volunteers.
3. **Committee Structure Discussion Update:** Young stated this discussion is on hold for the moment.
4. **Rules Committee Meeting Update:** Young stated the Rules Committee has not yet been able to meet.
5. **Board Member Resignation Approval:** Young reported board member Jim Havera submitted his letter of resignation effective March 8, 2022. **Motion by Beason and**

second by Beck to accept the resignation of Jim Havera, effective after the conclusion of the Montgomery County Board meeting on March 8, 2022. 19 members voted yes, 1 voted no (Sneed), and 1 member (McCoy) was absent. Sneed stated he will miss working with Havera on the County Board, and said he brought much knowledge and experience as he served. **Motion carried.**

6. **Grain Belt Transmission Lines/Liberty Solar/Wind Farm Update:** Young reported Grain Belt Express will be hosting another meeting on Wednesday, March 9th, from 10 a.m. to noon at the Event Center of Montgomery County in Hillsboro. He stated they will have to hold another meeting in the near future in order to meet their legal obligations, and it will take place in April. Johnson asked if this was the same company who tried to build this same transmission line a few years ago, and what the difference is this time around. Young stated it is the same company as before, and the difference now is they have been granted public utility status by the ICC; therefore, they can utilize eminent domain to acquire land.

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

1. **Maintenance and Cleaning Issues and Report Update:** Sneed reported JayTec representative Nolan Ferguson called in to the meeting to present a water treatment program of putting chemicals through our boilers in all three buildings to help with corrosion and to protect pipes.
2. **Building Security Audit for Historic Courthouse Update:** Sneed reported County Clerk Leitheiser facilitated a building physical security audit of the Historic Courthouse, and the committee discussed the results in closed session.
3. **New locks for Historic Courthouse Update:** Sneed reported they will be installing electronic locks on the handicap and north doors of the Historic Courthouse, which will be accessed by key fobs similar to those used at the Courthouse Complex. He also reported Leitheiser received an election security grant to help pay for upgrades to physical security for the election area of the basement.
4. **Sidewalks at Historic Courthouse and Jail Update:** Sneed reported Hillsboro Mayor Don Downs attended the committee meeting, and they discussed the need for the City and the County to work together to repair the sidewalks surrounding the county buildings downtown.
5. **Other Business:** Sneed stated there are three things on the board's radar: a roof for the new courthouse, concrete sidewalks, and boilers for all of the buildings in the courthouse complex. He also reported Centrica's energy savings agreement stipulates they have to save the County \$28,000 each year, and they reportedly saved the County \$31,000. He said the committee decided to not have a third year assessment completed with Centrica.

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Vice-Chairman Ron Deabenderfer:

1. **MCEDC Update:** Nothing new to report.
2. **Revolving Loan Fund Update:** Deabenderfer reported the interest rates from this loan fund can no longer compete with banks. He stated the RLF has also been used to lend money to municipalities to help with the demolition of old buildings. He said State's Attorney Affrunti notified them they may not be legally permitted to loan money through

the RLF in its present structure. Deabenderfer said something is going to change with the RLF, but details have not been worked out.

3. **Tourism – Grant Round #4 Update:** Deabenderfer reported tourism grant applications are due March 24th, and they are available online as well as in the Coordinated Services office.
4. **Rivers and Routes Tourism Bureau Endorsement Letter Approval:** Deabenderfer reported there is no charge to join the bureau, but they have to have an endorsement letter from the County Board. **Motion by Deabenderfer and second by Ritchie to approve the endorsement letter regarding rejoining the Rivers and Routes Tourism Bureau. All in favor, motion carried.**
5. **Planning Commission Update:** Deabenderfer stated there is nothing additional to report aside from what has already been discussed earlier in the meeting.
6. **West Central Development Council/Job Center Board/CEO Board Update:** Deabenderfer stated there is nothing additional to report aside from what has already been discussed earlier in the meeting.
7. **Waggoner Bike Trail Clean-up Update:** Deabenderfer reported progress has been made on the cleaning up of the bike trail. State’s Attorney Affrunti stated he has updates on the bike trail issue, and he will discuss it with the committee at their next meeting.
8. **American Made “Initiative” and Resolution to Endorse Products Made in USA Update:** South Litchfield Township resident Bob Buda addressed the board regarding a proposed “American-made Initiative.” He stated two local companies (Atlas 46 and Hardcore Hammers) are currently looking to expand throughout Montgomery County. Buda reported Atlas 46 CEO Brian Carver wants to add 500 jobs to the area, and he said the county needs to be able to fund an incentive program to award new businesses or existing ones looking to expand. He said the three things they would like to see happen include: 1) reimbursement for training of new employees, 2) reimbursement for jobs created, and 3) reimbursement for property rented, leased or purchased. Buda urged members not to sign the proposed resolution if they are not prepared to spend money to help. He concluded his presentation by encouraging members to imagine a sign as you enter Montgomery County stating “Montgomery County–Where American Made Matters.” Whitworth stated the idea is intriguing, and she assumes Atlas 46 and Hardcore Hammers are not just talking about Hillsboro, but Montgomery County as a whole. Buda said this will be a major undertaking and notified board members Atlas 46 is being pursued heavily outside of Montgomery County. He stated they already have facilities in Vandalia and Carlinville. Jones stated he loves the fact that these companies are considering moving into Montgomery County’s cities and villages and repurposing our existing buildings. Deabenderfer said this resolution will be presented to the board for a 30-day review.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Chairman Russell Beason:

1. **SOA Report Update:** Beason stated there is nothing new to report.
2. **Capital Improvement Fund Reports Update:** Beason stated there is nothing new to report.
3. **IMRF Update:** Treasurer Lohman reported the IMRF balance reserve amounts have increased and the balances as of December 31, 2021 in our SLEP account went from \$3.3 million to \$4.5 million. She stated the Regular IMRF fund balance went from \$10.7

million to \$14.9 million and the ECO IMRF fund balance went from \$1.9 million to \$2.6 million.

4. **Elected Officials Salaries and Resolution #2022-03 Approval:** Beason reported the Sheriff, County Clerk and Treasurer positions need to have salary increases decided this year at least 180 days before they are set to take office. He proposed a salary increase of \$2,200 per year for the next four years for the Sheriff, County Clerk and Treasurer, starting on December 1, 2022. Deabenderfer asked about the percentage of this increase. Beason said they did not determine the increase based on percentages, but it's between 2.5 and 3 percent. **Motion by Beason and second by Ritchie to approve Resolution #2022-03, which provides for a salary increase of \$2,200 for each year of the four-year term for the positions of County Treasurer, County Clerk and County Sheriff, beginning December 1, 2022. Beeler abstains. All others in favor, motion carried. (For copy of Resolution, see Resolution Book 19, pages 26-27).**
5. **Circuit Clerk Technology Grant Award Update:** Circuit Clerk Daniel Robbins reported all software and hardware has been received other than one copier, which should arrive in three weeks. He said it will all be paid for in the next month, and we will get the grant money in July. Beason said the entire \$53,000 grant was awarded to the county.
6. **Ambulance Special Service Area Levy Language Update:** Beason reported some reorganization is probably in order regarding the ambulance special service area levies and the way billing is done, but it will take some time to discuss and figure out. He said one option being considered is doing away with the individual special service area levies for ambulances and implementing one for the entire county instead. Bergen asked if this means all of the tax levy money will be combined into one fund. Beeler replied affirmatively, though it should not change the way the ambulance districts operate or how much money they get. She stated there is no need for any of the districts to be alarmed.
7. **Intergovernmental Agreement Between Montgomery and South Litchfield Township Approval:** **Motion by Beason and second by Beeler to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement between Montgomery County and South Litchfield Township for Multi-township Assessment services.** South Litchfield Township resident Bob Buda asked if the position of South Litchfield township assessor was still open and if they are still looking for someone. Beck said she is sure they would hire somebody if they could, but they haven't been able to find anyone. **All in favor, motion carried. (For copy of agreement, see Resolution Book 19, pages 28-29).**
8. **Resolution #2022-04 Approving the Declaration of Trust of the IL Trust and Authorizing the Execution Thereof and Authorizing Certain Officials to Act on Behalf Approval:** Beason reported Treasurer Lohman did her homework and she feels this is a good place to invest county money. Lohman said our investment rates through this program would be beneficial. She said this resolution does not take action, but rather just gives her permission to pursue more investment options. Beeler said she called one of the local banks, and they said they would like the opportunity to keep money invested locally and she would like more detailed information about this new investment source before proceeding. Lohman agreed to provide this information, and also endorsed investing locally when feasible. **Motion by Beason and second by Fogle to approve Resolution #2022-04 approving the Declaration of Trust of the Illinois Trust and Authorizing the Execution Thereof and Authorizing Certain Officials to Act on Behalf. All in favor, motion carried. (See Resolution Book 19, pages 30-31).**

9. **Finance/Budget Control Policies and Procedures Update:** Beason stated there is nothing new to report.
10. **Bellwether & America Recovery Plan Act (ARPA funding) Update:** Beason stated there is nothing new to report.
11. **County ARPA Lost Revenue Standard Allowance Ordinance #2022-05 (Rescinds Prior Lost Revenue Ordinance #2021-09 approved 10/12/2021) Approval:** Beason stated the majority of the Finance Committee would like to see the ARPA money distributed in a timely fashion. Whitworth stated by passing the ARPA Lost Revenue Standard Allowance Ordinance it allows the County to distribute the full grant amount. Beeler asked if this resolution rescinds the lost revenue ordinance previously passed. Lohman and Leitheiser said the Bellwether consultant assured them it would. **Motion by Beason and second by Hughes to approve passing the ARPA Lost Revenue Standard Allowance Ordinance #2022-05. 19 voted yes, 1 (Beeler) voted no, 1 (McCoy) was absent. Motion carried. (For copy of Ordinance, see Resolution Book 19, pages 32-33).**
12. **Municipalities' ARPA Allocation Update:** Beason stated there is nothing new to report.
13. **FEMA Grant Update:** Beason stated the FEMA grant has been submitted and signed.
14. **Forgiveness of \$50,000 loan to 911/ETSB Approval:** Beason reported the Finance Committee discussed the remaining \$50,000 loan balance for 911. Deabenderfer reported there have been statements made that the money was not taxpayers' money, but he stated that coal money does belong to the taxpayers. Whitworth agreed. Beeler also agreed it is taxpayers' money, but it is not property tax money. Deabenderfer said he does not want to see the County Board make a habit of allowing loans to be forgiven after ten years of inactivity. **Motion by Beason and second by Beeler to forgive the remaining \$50,000 left on the loan to 911/ETSB. Deabenderfer Voted No. All others in favor, motion carried.**
15. **Other Business:** Treasurer Lohman reported the County only owed \$612 for worker's compensation this year after the audit was completed, and she stated our insurance representative Eric Braasch was very happy with the outcome. In another update, Beason reported Chairman Young informed the Finance Committee there was an error with the ambulance billing office writing checks for too much money, and their account was overdrawn at the bank. Beason said they would like to look into taking Ambulance Billing out of the General Fund and put it into its own fund so it is easier to track. Whitworth said it is very concerning when someone stops her in a public place and asks what is going on with ambulance billing account being overdrawn by an excess of \$50,000 and stated there is a need for more oversight to that office.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Chairman Bill Bergen:

1. Bergen reported the Personnel Committee did not meet due to inclement weather. As a member of the 9111/ETSB Board, he also thanked the County Board for forgiving the remaining \$50,000 loan balance.

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

1. **Village of Walshville Street Issues Update:** Miles stated there is nothing new to report. He said he instructed Road & Bridge committee member Whitworth to tell Walshville Village President Joy McDonald to not attend the committee meeting because County Engineer Cody Greenwood was unable to be there this month.
2. **Executive Session for Right of Way Acquisition for Section 15-00138-00-BR Whitetown Bridge Update:** Miles stated there is nothing new to report.
3. **Small Equipment Purchase Update:** Miles reported there is no longer a need for a trailer because an agreement has been reached with the Health Department for Highway Department use of their trailer, as long as they maintain it, which Miles said they will.
4. **Other Business:** Miles reported Hillsboro Mayor Don Downs attended the Roads and Bridges Committee meeting to discuss the future of the old Highway Department property. Miles stated Downs is going to have a discussion with the Hillsboro City Council and then return to the committee to discuss it further. Miles also reported the oil and culvert letting will take place on April 5, 2022 at 9 a.m. at the Highway Department. He also reported Greenwood will be applying for a Hazard Mitigation Grant to purchase a generator. Miles stated the Highway department is still waiting on parts for the fuel pumps, but they are still useable so any county employees who want to use them are able to do so.

SAFETY & ELECTIONS: Given by Committee Chairman Mark Hughes:

1. **ETSB/911 Update:** Hughes stated there is nothing to report.
2. **Ambulance Billing Office Update:** Hughes stated the ambulance billing office wrote checks for the incorrect amounts which caused their account to be overdrawn, but the issue has been found and it is being remedied.
3. **Ambulance Billing Clerk Position Update:** Hughes reported the committee will hold a special joint meeting with the Personnel Committee on Thursday, March 10th at 5 p.m. to interview two applicants for the open Ambulance Billing Clerk position. He stated Ambulance Special Service Area contracts will also be discussed.
4. **Nokomis Ambulance Billing Update:** Hughes stated there is nothing new to report.
5. **FY 2022 Ambulance Billing Agreements Update:** Hughes stated there is nothing new to report.
6. **Elections Update:** County Clerk Leitheiser reported her staff received training recently on the new election equipment. She also stated the filing period for county candidates to file petitions to run at the June 28th, 2022 General Primary Election began Monday, March 7th, and will end on Monday, March 14th, at 5 p.m.
7. **EPA Report Update:** EPA Administrator Daniels reported she and assistant David Jenkins conducted a few inspections on Tuesday, March 1st. She said one inspection was a follow-up on the Waggoner end of the County's Green Diamond Bike Trail. Daniels noted significant progress has been made on the clean-up of the property; however a lot of work still remains. She said they will be conducting more inspections as the weather continues to improve.
8. **Electronics Recycling Drive Events Update:** Daniels reported the dates for this year's electronics recycling drives are as follows: Litchfield on Saturday, April 30th; Nokomis on Saturday, May 14th; and Hillsboro on Saturday, September 17th. All drives will be held from 9:00 a.m. to Noon.

9. **Animal Control Facility Program Update:** Hughes reported the new pressure washer is not completely installed because they are waiting on one part.
10. **Animal Control Municipal Contracts Update:** Hughes reported the committee agreed to present the Animal Control municipal contracts to the mayors, and they will do so during the Mayors meeting on March 23rd, 2022.

APPROVAL OF 7 COMMITTEE REPORTS & MINUTES:

Motion by Whitworth and second by Robinson to approve the seven committee reports and minutes. All in favor, motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Young announced Grain Belt Express will hold a public meeting Wednesday, March 9th, 2022 from 10 a.m. to noon at the Event Center of Montgomery County. He also stated there will be a Mayor's Meeting Wednesday, March 23, 2022 at 5:00 pm.

SCHEDULE CHANGES: None

APPOINTMENTS: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

PAY BILLS AND PAYROLL: Motion by Hughes and second by Yeske to pay all approved bills and payroll. All in favor, motion carried.

ADJOURN: The next regular full board meeting will be on Tuesday, April 12, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. in the County Board Room, Hillsboro, Illinois. Motion by Beason and second by Loucks to adjourn the Full Board Meeting. All in favor, motion carried.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:11 p.m. Minutes respectfully recorded and submitted by Montgomery County Clerk and Recorder Sandy Leitheiser.

Montgomery County Board Minutes

For Tuesday, April 12th, 2022 – 5:30 PM

The following are minutes of a regular meeting of the Montgomery County Board held at 5:30 PM on Tuesday, April 12, 2022.

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

Roll call was taken - 15 members present, 5 members absent.

Members Present: Russell Beason, Connie Beck, Megan Beeler, Bill Bergen, Doug Donaldson, Tim Fogle, Mark Hughes, Sandra Johnson, Jeremy Jones, David Loucks, Bev McCoy, Andy Ritchie, Bob Sneed, Richard Wendel, Evan Young. Proposed new member Ken Folkerts was also present.

Members Absent: Ronald Deabenderfer, Gene Miles, Earlene Robinson, Patty Whitworth, Donna Yeske

Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was led by WCDC Representative Chris Casey.

New Board Member Appointment:

Motion by Sneed and second by Bergen to approve the appointment of Ken Folkerts to the Montgomery County Board to fill the vacant seat in District #2 (due to Jim Havera's resignation). All in favor, motion carried. County Clerk/Recorder Sandy Leitheiser administered the Official Oath to Ken Folkerts.

Mileage and Per Diem Approval: **Motion by Fogle and second by Wendel to approve the Mileage and Per Diem. ROLL CALL VOTE:** Beason, Beck, Beeler, Bergen, Donaldson, Fogle, Folkerts, Hughes, Johnson, Jones, Loucks, McCoy, Ritchie, Sneed, Wendel, and Young. **All in favor, motion carried.**

Approval of Minutes of Previous County Board Meeting: **Motion by Sneed and second by Johnson to approve the Minutes of the Previous Regular County Board Meeting held on Tuesday, March 8th, 2022. All in favor, motion carried.**

CONSENT AGENDA:

- 1. Ambulance Billing Report --** Mona Lewis – No report was submitted.
- 2. Animal Control Report --** Amanda Daniels – Report was submitted.
- 3. Circuit Clerk's Report ----** Daniel Robbins was present for questions
- 4. Coroner's Report ---** Randy Leetham was present for questions.
- 5. County Clerk and Recorder's Report ---**Sandy Leitheiser was present for questions.
- 6. Health & TB Department Report ---**Hugh Satterlee – Report was submitted.
- 7. Highway Department Report ---**Cody Greenwood was present for questions.
- 8. Probation Office Report ---**Banee Ulrici – Report was submitted.
- 9. Public Defender's Report ---**Erin Mattson— No report was submitted.
- 10. ROE – Monthly, Quarterly & Annual Reports --**Julie Wollerman – Report was submitted.
- 11. Sheriff's Report ---**Rick Robbins was present for questions – He stated there are no vacancies at the Sheriff's Department.
- 12. SOA Report ---**Ray Durston – Report was submitted.
- 13. State's Attorney Report –**Andrew Affrunti was present for questions.
- 14. Treasurer's Report ---**Nikki Lohman was present for questions.
- 15. V.A.C. Report ---**Dave Strowmatt was present for questions.

APPROVAL OF 13 ITEMS ON THE CONSENT AGENDA: Motion by Ritchie and second by Beason to approve the 13 items on the Consent Agenda. All in favor, motion carried.

LIAISON REPORTS:

- **708 Board** – Robinson was absent – no report was given.
- **CEFS Board** -- Fogle reported CEFS is looking for retirees to go out and share their experiences with the public for the Retired Senior Volunteer Program.
- **911 Board** – Bergen reported there will be no meeting this month.
- **Health Department** -- Sandra Johnson reported there is a meeting next week.
- **IL Association of County Officials** -- Bergen, Beeler – Nothing new to report.
- **MCEDC** – Yeske was absent, no report was given.
- **Planning Commission** --Ritchie stated they are continuing their work on the Lithium Battery Storage ordinance, and tomorrow’s meeting should finish it.
- **Senior Citizens Board** -- Deabenderfer was absent, no report was given.
- **UCCI** – Miles was absent, no report was given.
- **U of I** – Beck stated there is nothing to report.
- **WCDC** –Wendel introduced WCDC representatives Chris Casey, Dawn Lutz and Melissa Rice. Casey and Rice gave an overview of WCDC’s services and provided members materials showcasing the programs they provide.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

COORDINATING COMMITTEE: Given by Chairman Evan Young:

1. **Information Systems Report Update:** Young stated there is nothing new to report.
2. **EMA Report Update:** Young stated there is nothing new to report.
3. **Committee Structure Discussion Update:** Young stated there are no updates on committee structure.
4. **Rules Committee Meeting Update:** Young reported the scheduled meeting for today was cancelled due to a lack of a quorum.
5. **Grain Belt Transmission Lines/Liberty Solar/Wind Farm Update:** Young stated Grain Belt Express held their third and final meeting on Wednesday, April 6th.
6. **Carbon Capture and Storage Update:** Young reported he recently met with a company about Carbon Capture and Storage. He explained the CO2 process and how it will be brought in on a pipeline in liquid form and then pumped into the ground. Young said the company is looking at Montgomery and Christian Counties for CO2 storage sites, which would be about 5,000 feet deep. He said the proposed amount of storage is 15 million tons a year in this area. Young stated they are looking at the Raymond and Rountree areas at this time. He said the Christian County Board is looking into this as well. Young stated the permits to get the wells are highly regulated by the US EPA. He said he spoke with the Illinois Geological Survey regarding this project, and easements would have to be negotiated with the land owners. Carbon credits are given to the producer of the carbon and to the company shipping and storing it. Members discussed the ownership of “deep sub-surface” rights, the history of CO2 storage in this area and the potential benefits to involving the county with this project. Young stated the company is just in the infancy stages of the project at this time.

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

1. **Maintenance and Cleaning Issues and Report Update:** Sneed said the committee voted to proceed with installing the second mini split system for the server system of the new courthouse. The total cost of the project will be around \$5,600.
2. **New locks for Historic Courthouse Update:** Sneed said they are working towards the new lock systems on the doors of the Historic Courthouse.
3. **Boiler Replacement for County Buildings Update:** Sneed stated the boiler replacement project will not be worked on for potentially at least two years, and possibly more unless an emergency occurs. He said they will look at the replacement in 2024.
4. **New Roof for County Buildings Update:** Sneed reported the roof project is scheduled to take place next year in 2023.
5. **Sidewalks at Historic Courthouse and Jail Update:** Sneed had nothing new to report, but stated the sidewalk improvements need to be a priority for completion this year if possible.

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Chairman Evan Young:

1. **MCEDC Update:** Young said MCEDC Executive Director Belusko presented the report for the Development Committee.
2. **Revolving Loan Fund Update:** Young said State's Attorney Andrew Affrunti said the County should not be loaning money. He said the committee will have to review what to do with RLF.
3. **Tourism – Grant Round #4 Approval:** Young said the committee reviewed and scored the tourism grant proposals. Eight applications were submitted, but one was disqualified because it was postmarked after the Thursday, March 24, 2022 deadline. **Motion by Young and second by Ritchie to award Tourism Grants for the following events: Atlas 46 American Made Day for \$750, Hardcore Hammers American Made Day for \$750, the 4th Annual Blossom Into Fall Vendor Fair for \$1,000, the Robinson Brothers Homecoming Concert for \$1,000, Hillsboro Concert Series for \$1,000, Old Settlers Car Show for \$850, and the Raymond Celebration for \$750. Hughes abstained from voting; all others voted in favor, motion carried. Motion by Young and second by Ritchie to approve releasing funds for the tourism grants 60 days prior to the last day of the event. All in favor, motion carried.**
4. **Planning Commission Update:** Young reported Ritchie said the Planning Commission is almost done with the battery storage ordinance.
5. **West Central Development Council/Job Center Board/CEO Board Update:** Young stated the Job Center representatives gave an update earlier in the meeting.
6. **Waggoner Bike Trail Clean-up Update:** Young reported State's Attorney Affrunti is working on this issue.
7. **Resolution 22-06 Encouraging Montgomery County and the Citizens of Montgomery County to adopt the motto “A Center for American Made” Approval:** **Motion by Young and second by Beck to approve Resolution 22-06 Encouraging Montgomery County and the Citizens of Montgomery County to adopt the motto “A Center for American Made,” with the change of the word “advertises” to “promotes.”** Beason

said this is a non-binding resolution. Beeler asked Ritchie if he checked with the State's Attorney regarding training dollars, and Ritchie replied he had not. Young said the Job Center representatives can be contacted to explain their workforce programs for training. Beeler stated "American Made" advocate and local resident Bob Buda has different expectations regarding funding for training. **All in favor, motion carried. (For copy of Resolution, see Book 19, pages 34-35).**

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Chairman Russell Beason:

1. **FY 2021 Audit Update:** Beason said Auditors Josh Andres and Kaitlyn Feldman presented the FY 2021 audit report to the Finance Committee on Friday, April 8th, and should be at the full board meeting next month.
2. **SOA Report Update:** Beason stated Supervisor of Assessments Durston reported the final draft of the settlement agreement from the Vistra Attorney was mailed to the taxing bodies to review and sign.
3. **Capital Improvement Fund Reports Update:** Beason stated Treasurer Lohman reported a Litchfield bank raised our interest rate to 0.75 %, and she renewed the CD with them.
4. **Intergovernmental Agreement between Montgomery County and ETSB for the Centralized Emergency Dispatch Center Update:** Beason stated Sheriff Rick Robbins reported this agreement should have been signed in December, but wasn't. Robbins said everything has been running smoothly and the only difference is the money. Beason said this is a minor problem which should be resolved soon.
5. **IMRF Update:** Beason stated there is nothing new to report.
6. **Finance/Budget Control Policies and Procedures Update:** Beason stated there is nothing new to report.
7. **FEMA Grant Update:** Beason stated Lohman reported the FEMA checks are in the Comptroller's office and should be issued in six to eight weeks.
8. **U of I Extension Agreement and Levy Approval:** Beason deferred to University of Illinois Extension Educator Lisa Petersen, who addressed the board regarding the U of I Extension Agreement in the amount of \$150,425. Peterson stated she is thankful for the County's support. **Motion by Beason and second by Fogle to approve the agreement to levy for the University of Illinois Extension in the amount of \$150,425. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 36-37).**
9. **Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID's 10-03-402-010, 011, 012 in North Litchfield Township to Ms. Arry's Mix Kale Greens c/o Yvonne Hunt Approval:** **Motion by Beason and second by Sneed to approve the Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID #s 10-03-402-010, 011, 012 in North Litchfield Township to Ms. Arry's Mix Kale Greens c/o Yvonne Hunt. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 38-41).**
10. **Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID's 10-03-402-015, 016 in North Litchfield Township to Ms. Arry's Mix Kale Greens c/o Yvonne Hunt Approval:** **Motion by Beason and second by Fogle to approve the Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID #s 10-03-402-015, and 016 in North Litchfield Township to Ms. Arry's Mix Kale Greens c/o Yvonne Hunt. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 42-44).**

- 11. Purchase New Vehicle for County Coroner Approval:** Beason said the new Coroner's vehicle is a state bid and the cost is \$49,000. He also stated it will cost an additional \$7,000 to install the coroner's equipment. The County budgeted \$45,000 from ARPA money to cover the cost of a new coroner's vehicle, but could use money from the coroner's budget for the rest of the cost. **Motion by Beason and second by Donaldson to approve the state bid to purchase a new coroner's vehicle for an amount not to exceed \$45,000 from ARPA Lost Revenue Fund 020, and the remaining cost to be taken from the Coroner's Budget Office 329. All in favor, motion carried.**
- 12. Ordinance 2022-07 to Transfer ARPA Funds for Purchase of New Coroner's Vehicle Approval:** **Motion by Beason and second by Wendel to approve Ordinance 2022-07 to Transfer ARPA Funds for the Purchase of a new Coroner's Vehicle. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, page 45).**
- 13. Ambulance Special Service Area Levy Language Update:** Beason stated he had a meeting with the State's Attorney, Treasurer, County Clerk and Chairman Young to discuss the Ambulance Special Service Areas. He said to dissolve the present Special Service Areas and replace them with one county-wide Special Service Area would be a complicated process. After meeting with the State's Attorney, Beason said we are going to take this off the agenda for now and will not be pursuing any change at this time.
- 14. Annual Salary Increase and Starting Pay for non-Union County Employees Update:** Beason reported the Finance Committee needs to have the annual salary increases and starting pay for non-union county employees decided by May so the various departments can put together their budget proposals before the August budget hearings.
- 15. Monthly Coal Report and Minimum Account Reserve Balance Policy Update:** Beason stated the committee needs to consider increasing the reserve balance policy because of the amount of coal revenue the County is expected to receive. The auditors stated during their presentation at the Finance Committee meeting the County currently has four months of operating expenses in reserve.
- 16. Approve FY2023 Budget Hearing Dates Approval:** **Motion by Beason and second by Sneed to approve August 18 and 19, 2022 for the FY 2023 Budget Hearing dates. All in favor, motion carried.**
- 17. Bellwether & America Recovery Plan Act (ARPA funding) Update:** Beason reported Bellwether has sent out some of the reporting procedures to their clients. Treasurer Lohman reported the County Board may need to change their approach since we are now using the standard allowance procedure instead of the lost revenue procedure.
- 18. Municipalities' ARPA Allocation/Application Update:** Beason said the Finance Committee suggested inviting municipalities back in order to have new conversations about how to allocate ARPA funds because many things have changed since the last meetings were conducted.
- 19. DCEO Energy Community Reinvestment Act Grant and Vistra Energy Update:** Beason reported there was a recent meeting to discuss revenue losses for counties with coal-fired power plants closed by Vistra Energy. He said these four counties are eligible for a grant because of the closure. He said a lobbyist who was involved in the legislation that passed to provide this grant facilitated the meeting and she recommended getting the notification process started with a general letter from the County and all other affected taxing bodies. Beason said a letter was drafted to support this effort.

20. **Other Business:** Beason reported the Illinois Department of Corrections will be sending a check for \$64,000 to the county for housing IDOC inmates. He also asked members for input regarding the topics his committee is discussing.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Chairman Bill Bergen:

1. **Ambulance Billing Clerk Position Vacancy Update:** Bergen stated the vacancy has been filled.
2. **Employee Health Insurance and Monthly HRA report Update:** Bergen reported Insurance representative Amanda Mast said she will look at other carriers for employee health insurance due to the projected high increase in premiums the county will receive from Health Alliance.
3. **Start Union Negotiations Update:** Bergen reported the committee decided to start union negotiations for the Circuit Clerk's office in April, the Supervisor of Assessments' office in May, and the Highway Department in June.

ROAD & BRIDGE COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Vice-Chairman Dave Loucks:

1. **Village of Walshville Street Issues Update:** Loucks said the Walshville President couldn't attend the committee meeting so they tabled this issue.
2. **2022 County and Township MFT Oil Letting Results Approval:** Loucks said the Oil letting was held on Tuesday, April 5th. He said the price of seal coat went up about a dollar per gallon from last year. Only one bidder submitted for the County letting, which is what usually happens. **Motion by Loucks and second by Hughes, to approve the 2022 County MFT Oil Letting bid from Louis Marsch, Inc. All in favor, motion carried. Motion by Loucks and second by Donaldson to approve the 2022 Township MFT Oil Letting to the lowest bidder. All in favor, motion carried.**
3. **2022 Pipe Culvert Letting Results Approval:** **Motion by Loucks and second by Beck to approve the 2022 Pipe Culvert Letting bid from Metal Culverts Inc. All in favor, motion carried.**
4. **Resolution 2022-03 Requesting consent from IDOT to the reappointment of the Incumbent as County Engineer Approval:** Loucks reported Greenwood's contract as County Highway Engineer expires in July, and the process to renew has two steps. The first is for the board to approve a resolution requesting consent from the Illinois Department of Transportation to re-hire Greenwood. If a first resolution is approved, the board will have to pass a second resolution to re-hire him. **Motion by Loucks and second by Beason to approve the Resolution requesting consent to the reappointment of the incumbent as County Engineer. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, page 46).**
5. **Right of Way Acquisition for Section 15-00138-00-BR Whitetown Bridge Update:** Loucks reported they are still working on acquiring land from one land owner.
6. **Discussion regarding Personnel Update:** Loucks reported the committee voted to allow County Engineer Greenwood to advertise an open job position of Shop Mechanic at the Highway Department. He said the current mechanic is retiring in September.
7. **Sell the White Pole Building on the Old Highway Department Property Update:** Loucks stated bids will be put out for the white building at the old highway department. He said the bids will be just for the building, not the land it sits on.

8. **Resolution 2022-04 to appropriate funds for 50/50 culvert replacement on Old Brushy Trail, Grisham Twp. Approval:** The total estimated cost of this project is \$7,000, which will be split \$3,500 for both the County and Township. **Motion by Loucks and second by Beeler to approve Resolution 2022-04 appropriating funds for the 50/50 Culvert Replacement on Old Brushy Trail in Grisham Township. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 47-48).**
9. **Resolution 2022-05 to appropriate funds for 50/50 culvert replacement on Hilltop Trail, Grisham Twp. Approval:** The total estimated cost of this project is \$10,000, which will be split \$5,000 for both the County and Township. **Motion by Loucks and second by Fogle to approve Resolution 2022-05 appropriating funds for the 50/50 Culvert Replacement on Hilltop Trail in Grisham Township. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 49-50).**
10. **Resolution 2022-06 to appropriate funds for 50/50 culvert replacement on E. 20th Road, Nokomis Twp. Approval:** The total estimated cost of this project is \$12,000, which will be split \$6,000 for both the County and Township. **Motion by Loucks and second by Johnson to approve Resolution 2022-06 appropriating funds for the 50/50 Culvert Replacement on East 20th Road in Nokomis Township. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 51-52).**
11. **Resolution 2022-07 to appropriate funds for 50/50 culvert replacement on E. 20th Road, Witt Twp. Approval:** The total estimated cost of this project is \$7,000, which will be split \$3,500 for both the County and Township. **Motion by Loucks and second by Donaldson to approve Resolution 2022-07 appropriating funds for the 50/50 Culvert Replacement on East 20th Road in Witt Township. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 53-54).**
12. **Resolution 2022-08 to appropriate funds for 50/50 culvert replacement on N. 16th Avenue, Witt Twp. Approval:** The total estimated cost of this project is \$7,000, which will be split \$3,500 for both the County and Township. **Motion by Loucks and second by Hughes to approve Resolution 2022-08 appropriating funds for the 50/50 Culvert Replacement on North 16th Avenue in Witt Township. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 55-56).**
13. **Resolution 2022-09 to appropriate funds for 50/50 culvert replacement on E. 26th Road, Audubon Twp. Approval:** The total estimated cost of this project is \$14,000, which will be split \$7,000 for both the County and Township. **Motion by Loucks and second by Johnson to approve Resolution 2022-09 appropriating funds for the 50/50 Culvert Replacement on East 26th Road in Audubon Township. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 57-58).**
14. **Resolution 2022-10 to appropriate funds for 50/50 culvert replacement on E. 27th Road, Audubon Twp. Approval:** The total estimated cost of this project is \$25,000, which will be split \$12,500 for both the County and Township. **Motion by Loucks and second by Donaldson to approve Resolution 2022-10 appropriating funds for the 50/50 Culvert Replacement on East 27th Road in Audubon Township. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 59-60).**
15. **Resolution 2022-11 to appropriate funds for 50/50 culvert replacement on Old Litchfield Tr., South Litchfield Twp. Approval:** The total estimated cost of this project is \$6,000, which will be split \$3,000 for both the County and Township. **Motion by Loucks and second by Beason to approve Resolution 2022-11 appropriating funds for**

the 50/50 Culvert Replacement on Old Litchfield Trail in South Litchfield Township. Wendel abstains. Motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 61-62).

16. Other Items: Loucks reported the fuel tanks at the new Highway Department are working, and everything is up and running again.

SAFETY & ELECTIONS: Given by Committee Chairman Mark Hughes:

- 1. Ambulance Billing Office Update:** Hughes said the new ambulance billing employee Jayda Maguire started Monday, April 4th, and she has been doing okay. Young said he stopped by and checked on her also and got a good report.
- 2. FY 2022 Ambulance Billing Agreements Approval:** Hughes said State’s Attorney Andrew Affrunti approved the agreements before Tuesday’s Full Board meeting. **Motion by Hughes and second by Donaldson to approve the agreement to provide ambulance billing services for the Hillsboro Area Ambulance Service for FY 2022. All in favor, motion carried. Motion by Hughes and second by Jones to approve the agreement to provide ambulance billing services for the Farmersville-Waggoner Area Ambulance Service for FY 2022. All in favor, motion carried. Motion by Hughes and second by Beeler to approve the agreement to provide ambulance billing services for the Raymond-Harvel Area Ambulance Service for FY 2022. All in favor, motion carried.**
- 3. Elections Update:** Leitheiser reported they are finalizing ballots for the upcoming election. She said early voting and voting by mail for the June Primary begins May 19. She also said she will train 130 election judges for the upcoming primary election at classes next week. Jones and Fogle asked about the specimen ballot availability, and Leitheiser responded the ballot isn’t final yet due to several objections to statewide candidates.
- 4. EPA Report Update:** EPA Administrator Chris Daniels reported she went out on a few inspections a few weeks ago. She also stated she has not revisited the bike trail in Waggoner, but anticipates returning next week.
- 5. Electronics Recycling Drive Events Update:** Daniels reported the electronics recycling drive dates are as follows: Litchfield on Saturday, April 30, 2022; Nokomis on Saturday, May 14, 2022; and Hillsboro on Saturday, September 17, 2022 – From 9:00 AM to Noon. Sheriff Robbins inquired about recycling tires, and Daniels thought possibly some local tire dealers will take them.
- 6. Animal Control Facility Program Update:** Hughes reported the new pressure washer at the facility is working. He also said there are currently two cats and 18 dogs housed at the facility.
- 7. Animal Control Municipal Contracts Approval:** Hughes reported the committee discussed and approved offering the per call fees for animal control services as follows:

Service	Cost
Pick up & Impound Companion Animals	\$125 Per Call
Impounded Animals – Brought to Facility by Authorized Representative – Mon. – Fri. 9 am to 5:00 pm	\$60 Per Call
Bite Cases and Investigations	\$200 Each
Humane Investigations for Neglect & Abuse	\$250 Each
Weekday After Hours (5:00 pm to 9:00 am)	\$250 Each
Weekends and Holidays	\$250 Each

Motion by Hughes and second by Beck to approve the per call fee structure as presented for animal control services. All in favor, motion carried.

- 8. Ambulance Billing Office Oversight Update:** Hughes reported the committee will discuss this topic further at their May meeting.

APPROVAL OF 7 COMMITTEE REPORTS & MINUTES:

Motion by Beason and second by Donaldson to approve the seven committee reports and minutes. All in favor, motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None.

SCHEDULE CHANGES: None.

APPOINTMENTS:

Motion by Loucks and second by Fogle to appoint Lyle R. James and Mike Rappe to the Montgomery County Board of Review. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Johnson and second by Donaldson to appoint Gary Hulbert to the Nokomis Area Fire Protection District Board. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Donaldson and second by Sneed to appoint Robert Wessell to the Coffeen Fire Protection District Board. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Beeler and second by Beck to appoint Robert Matli to the Raymond Community Fire Protection District Board. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Bergen and second by Beck to appoint Todd Bergman to the Three County Public Water District Board. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Beeler and second by Fogle to appoint Cory Evans to the Montgomery County Housing Authority Board. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Johnson and second by Donaldson to appoint Brent Harrison, Ray Lovelace and Paul Marley to the Fillmore Glendale Cemetery Board. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Donaldson and second by Fogle to appoint Courtney Bell to the Montgomery County 708 Board. All in favor, motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Atlas 46 representative Jonathan Weyer introduced himself as the new community, public and government relations director for that company, and stated they would love to continue partnering with Montgomery County to keep bringing American-made companies to the County.

PAY BILLS AND PAYROLL: Motion by Beason and second by Hughes to pay all approved bills and payroll. All in favor, motion carried.

ADJOURN: The next regular full board meeting will be on Tuesday, May 10, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. in the County Board Room, Hillsboro, Illinois. Motion by Donaldson and second by Fogle to adjourn the Full Board Meeting. All in favor, motion carried.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:59 PM. Minutes respectfully recorded and submitted by Montgomery County Clerk and Recorder Sandy Leitheiser.

Montgomery County Board Minutes

For Tuesday, May 10th, 2022 – 5:30 PM

The following are minutes of a regular meeting of the Montgomery County Board held at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 10th, 2022.

The meeting was called to order by County Board Chairman Evan Young at 5:33 p.m.

Roll call: 18 members present, 3 members absent.

Members Present: Russell Beason, Connie Beck, Bill Bergen, Ronald Deabenderfer, Doug Donaldson, Tim Fogle, Kenneth Folkerts, Mark Hughes, Sandra Johnson, Jeremy Jones, David Loucks, Gene Miles, Andy Ritchie, Earlene Robinson, Bob Sneed, Patty Whitworth, Donna Yeske and Evan Young.

Members Absent: Megan Beeler, Bev McCoy, and Richard Wendel.

Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was led by Crossover Ministries' representative Dawn Young.

Mileage and Per Diem Approval: Motion by Miles and second by Johnson to approve the Mileage and Per Diem. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Beason, Beck, Bergen, Deabenderfer, Donaldson, Fogle, Folkerts, Hughes, Johnson, Jones, Loucks, Miles, Ritchie, Robinson, Sneed, Whitworth, Yeske and Young. All in favor, motion carried.

Approval of Minutes of Previous County Board Meeting: Motion by Folkerts and second by Donaldson to approve the Minutes of the Previous Regular County Board Meeting held on Tuesday, April 12th, 2022. All in favor, motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. **Ambulance Billing Report** - Mona Lewis – No Report was submitted.
2. **Animal Control Report** - Amanda Daniels – Report was submitted.
3. **Circuit Clerk's Report** - Daniel Robbins 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.
7. **Highway Department Report** - Cody Greenwood was present for questions.
8. **Probation Office Report** - Bane Ulrici was present for questions. She reported her office lost their pre-trial officer in March, 2022. She also informed members about a recent planning grant affiliated with the Drug Court program recently received.
9. **Public Defender's Report** - Erin Mattson— No Report was submitted.
10. **ROE – Monthly, Quarterly & Annual Reports** - Julie Wollerman – Report was submitted.
11. **Sheriff's Report** ---Rick Robbins was present for questions.
12. **SOA Report** ---Ray Durston – Report was submitted.
13. **State's Attorney Report** –Andrew Affrunti was present for questions.
14. **Treasurer's Report** ---Nikki Lohman was present for questions.
15. **V.A.C. Report** ---Dave Strowmatt was present for questions.

APPROVAL OF 13 ITEMS ON THE CONSENT AGENDA: Motion by Fogle and second by Whitworth to approve the 13 items on the Consent Agenda. All in favor, motion carried.

LIAISON REPORTS:

- **708 Board** – Robinson reported the 2022 – 2023 applications are due by June 30, 2022.
- **CEFS Board** – Fogle stated there is nothing to report.
- **911 Board** – Bergen stated the State recently swept some 911 funds to fund the new 988 emergency system. He reported it will cost us about \$12,000 per year and said they are going to check out the legalities.
- **Health Department** –Johnson stated there is nothing to report.
- **IL Association of County Officials** -- Bergen stated there is nothing new to report.
- **MCEDC** – Yeske said this report will be made during the Development Committee report.
- **Planning Commission** --Deabenderfer and Ritchie said they continue to meet regarding the battery storage ordinance issues. Deabenderfer said they are meeting more often and will meet again tomorrow.
- **Senior Citizens Board** -- Deabenderfer stated the board is looking to start meeting again soon.
- **UCCI** – Miles stated there is nothing to report.
- **U of I** – Beck stated there is nothing to report.
- **WCDC** – Young reported one of their audits regarding their new development plan resulted in good news.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

COORDINATING COMMITTEE: Given by Chairman Evan Young:

1. **Information Systems Report Update:** Young reported Information Services Manager Curt Watkins has been busy with new computers and dealing with issues with the Highway Department's phones.
2. **EMA Report Update:** Young deferred to EMA Director Kevin Schott, who stated they are making plans to update the Hazard Mitigation plan.
3. **Committee Structure Discussion Update:** Young said the Rules Committee wants some guidance from board members regarding the committee structure, such as how many committees the board should have and how many members should serve on each committee. Jones stated if there is only going to be three committees plus the Coordinating Committee, then the Chair and Vice Chair of each committee need to have more to say. He said the Coordinating Committee is supposed to be there to coordinate between the chairpeople and should not have so much oversight over other departments. State's Attorney Affrunti stated the board needs to keep the quorum issue in mind to avoid problems with the Open Meetings Act. Whitworth asked what the maximum number of people allowed on a committee would be and said an issue with the committees would be the majority of a quorum issue. Affrunti said we should look at counties with a similar board makeup and see how their committees are structured. Robinson stated she does not care because she will be gone when the board reduces in size, but they have talked about this long enough and need to figure it out soon. Sneed said July should be the final date to decide how the new board structure will work. Whitworth stated she believes they should combine the Buildings and Grounds and Roads and Bridges committees to form an Infrastructure committee. County Engineer

Greenwood said his opinion is to keep Roads and Bridges as its own committee. Young said Coordinator Daniels will put together an average time length of committee meetings for the past two years.

4. **Rules Committee Meeting Update:** Nothing new to report.
5. **Carbon Capture and Storage Update:** Nothing new to report.
6. **State Funding for Emergency Number 988 Update:** Young confirmed the information Bergen provided earlier, and he stated the State wants to sweep approximately \$9 million of 911 funds into the new 988 number for mental health emergencies.
7. **Crossover Ministries and Mental Health Awareness Month Proclamation Approval:** Crossover Ministries' representative Linda Liebscher shared a Power Point Presentation from Crossover Ministries regarding Mental Health Awareness, and the Board approved a Proclamation recognizing Mental Health Awareness month as they've done for the last several years. Liebscher said Montgomery County does not have a safe place for people with mental health issues to go for support or help. She said it would take about \$250,000 to run this facility per year, and they are looking for volunteers and donations. Liebscher said there will be a Suicide Awareness seminar in Litchfield this month. Crossover Ministries' representative Dawn Young (who is also a nurse practitioner at Springfield Clinic-Hillsboro) shared her personal experience about her niece who needed mental health help receiving assistance from a Living Room in Springfield, Illinois. **Motion by Robinson and second by Beason to approve the Proclamation for Mental Health Awareness Month in Montgomery County. All in favor, motion carried.**

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

1. **Maintenance and Cleaning Issues and Report Update:** Sneed reported the maintenance department is working on cleaning and maintenance issues pertaining to the outside of the Historic Courthouse. He said we are not making changes to the masonry, contrary to what has been reported on Facebook. Sneed also said they are working on air conditioning units. He commended County Clerk Leitheiser, who recently received a grant to help pay for some doors in the basement area of the Historic Courthouse.
2. **New locks for Historic Courthouse Update:** Sneed reported Information Services Manager Watkins has been in contact with the company responsible for installing the electronic locks. Sneed said they are waiting on parts, which is common in today's economy.
3. **Sidewalks at Historic Courthouse and Jail Approval:** Sneed stated that after looking at the scope of the sidewalk project, it has morphed into a much bigger issue than anticipated. Sneed said County Highway Engineer Cody Greenwood referred him to Hurst-Rosche to put together an estimate for design purposes. Sneed stated Hurst-Rosche and the City of Hillsboro are already sharing a major sidewalk project, which is good timing for this project to be done. He said consideration needs to be given to proper drainage and elevation, and the sidewalk needs be able to hold heavier equipment when work takes place on the building. Sneed stated the approximate design costs are as follows: Survey and Investigation – \$2,800; Phase 1 – Design Estimate with Cost Estimate (includes ADA Ramp Design) – \$11,500; Phase 2 – Depends on Staging/Phasing – \$5,000. The total approximate design cost is \$19,300. **Motion by**

Sneed, second by, Beason to accept the Hurst-Rosche sidewalk design proposal for an amount not to exceed \$19,300. All in favor, motion carried.

- 4. Jail Generator Replacement Update:** Sneed reported replacing the generator at the jail is not something the County has to do immediately, and he hesitates to move forward with the project until after finding out if any ARPA money will be allocated for it, or if there is any coal contingency money left.
- 5. Bids for New Roof for Annex Building Approval:** Sneed reported the roof of the ROE building has leaks. He said he went up and looked at it recently with the staff of Young's Roofing. When the rubber roof was installed, Sneed said the County thought it would last longer than the standard roof, but it did not. He said Young's Roofing submitted a contract proposal for \$23,260 to replace the roof. Sneed said he thought the amount would be high, but he was actually pleasantly surprised by the proposal. Jones asked if Young's Roofing was the only contractor bidding on the job and Sneed replied affirmatively. **Motion by Sneed and second by Miles to accept the contract proposal from Young's Roofing to replace the roof of the Annex building for an amount not to exceed \$23,260. All in favor, motion carried.**

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Vice-Chairman Ron Deabenderfer:

- 1. MCEDC Update:** Deabenderfer reported MCEDC Executive Director Valerie Belusko presented her monthly report and stated the CORI Plan is to start Phase 2 in July, with a kickoff event held in May. MCEDC is paying the \$25,000 expense. She also stated the MCEDC wrapped up their "I Create, I Dream" program in Litchfield.
- 2. Revolving Loan Fund Update:** Deabenderfer reported the RLF is still in limbo. Young said a concern State's Attorney Affrunti mentioned was the County does not have the authority to withhold tax disbursement to assist municipalities with projects.
- 3. Tourism Update:** Deabenderfer reported Donna Yeske expressed a desire to award a second round of tourism grants this year since there is money left over. He stated a few applicants were denied in the previous round because of late submission. The committee approved a second round of Tourism grants because there is some funding left and has set an application submission date of June 2, 2022, by 3:30 p.m.
- 4. Planning Commission Update:** Deabenderfer said Ritchie had already given the report.
- 5. County Bike Trail Clean-up Update:** Deabenderfer reported State's Attorney Affrunti sent a letter to those concerned on February 8, 2022, but no update is available on this issue.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Chairman Russell Beason:

- 1. County Department Heads/Administrators' ARPA Fund Proposals Approval:** Beason reported the following Department Heads came and presented their "wish" list for ARPA funds: Kevin Schott, Joe Gasparich, Daniel Robbins, Sandy Leitheiser, Ed Boyd, Cody Greenwood, Hugh Satterlee, Curt Watkins and Nikki Lohman were all present. He said the board will need to make a decision about how to spend the ARPA money whether it be used inside the county for government purposes or be distributed throughout the communities for economic development or for both. Beason stated he would like to see most of these items funded in the near future. Ritchie provided committee members with a priority list guidelines as follows: 1) Life safety deficiencies

and statutory requirements; 2) Non-deferrable upgrades, maintenance and repair; 3) Operational mode for day-to-day operations; 4) Deferrable upgrades, maintenance and repair; 5) Morale, welfare and recreation. Ritchie gave examples of each category, which would be for priority #1) someone's life would be at risk; priority #2) something for the county to be at risk for a catastrophic failure such as a boiler failure or a leaking roof; priority #3) expenses for the Sheriff's Department, such as plowing snow; priority #4) systems already functioning but needing improvements, such as cracked sidewalks – in other words, categories which are not catastrophic but need to be done within the next couple of years, and priority #5) summer time celebrations, such as holiday observations at the lake. **Motion by Beason and second by Sneed to classify the priority list for ARPA funding as follows: 1) Life safety deficiencies and statutory requirements; 2) Non-deferrable upgrades, maintenance and repair; 3) Operational mode for day-to-day operations; 4) Deferrable upgrades, maintenance and repair; 5) Morale, welfare and recreation.** Bergen asked who was going to grade these requests. Beason responded the Finance Committee will grade the requests. **All in favor, motion carried.**

Hughes asked if there is going to be a motion whether to spend the ARPA money on county government needs or just on the other needs. Beason said there are a few different opinions and said there are coal funds for the county government to utilize, so some of this money can be distributed to other districts without the benefit of coal funds. Yeske asked what information is going to be shared with the municipalities. Beason said we weren't obligated to give communities money. Young stated it was originally set up to give some ARPA money out to communities. Lohman said Montgomery County could have kept it all along, just so we followed the five original ARPA stipulations. She said the standard allowance will let the money be spent on government services. Donaldson stated he hates relying on the coal revenue for county services and says we don't live in a coal-friendly world. He said the coal revenue could stop coming at any time. Beason said coal revenue is good now, and we can spend it on county services.

2. **ARPA Funds for Comprehensive Plan Consultant for Plan Revisions Update:** Young reported the Comprehensive Plan is outdated and businesses can't get grants. Young said he contacted Bellwether to see if they can get this updated so businesses can get grants but hasn't received an answer yet.
3. **SOA Report Update:** Nothing new to report.
4. **Capital Improvement Fund Reports Update:** Nothing new to report.
5. **Intergovernmental Agreement between Montgomery County and ETSB for the Centralized Emergency Dispatch Center Approval:** Beason said the ETSB still has to approve this agreement. **Motion by Beason and second by Jones to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement between Montgomery County and ETSB for the Centralized Emergency Dispatch Center. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 64-67).**
6. **ARPA Meeting Invitation to Representatives in Montgomery County Update:** Beason said representatives from municipalities, ambulance districts and non-government agencies have been invited to attend a meeting on May 25, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. to present a wish list of projects to be funded with ARPA money. Treasurer Lohman stated Bellwether said if the county can now use ARPA funds for many more expenditures than originally stated; there are four things it cannot be used for, three of which are pensions, a rainy day fund, and paying off existing debt.

7. **Ordinance to Authorize ARPA Funds to Purchase Phone Systems Upgrades in the amount of \$16,313.44 Approval:** Beason said this expense will be used to get all of the phones at the Courthouse Complex on the same system and the amount requested will cover the entire project. **Motion by Beason and second by Donaldson to approve the Ordinance authorizing \$16,313.44 of ARPA funds to be made available for the purchase of phone upgrades for the Information Services Department. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, page 68).**
8. **Ordinance to Authorize ARPA Funds to Purchase Network Monitoring in the amount of \$5,500 Approval:** Beason said network monitoring will allow Information Services to monitor switches and servers, which lets them know if there is an issue. IS manager Curt Watkins told the Finance Committee it will help them troubleshoot the issue before having to make a phone call. **Motion by Beason and second by Fogle to approve the Ordinance authorizing \$5,500 of ARPA funds to be made available for the purchase of network monitoring for Information Services. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, page 69).**
9. **Ordinance to Authorize ARPA Funds to Purchase Upgraded Software Licenses in the Amount of \$7,500 Approval:** Motion by Beason and second by Whitworth to approve the Ordinance authorizing \$7,500 of ARPA funds to be made available for software licensing for Information Services. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, page 70).
10. **Ordinance to Authorize ARPA Funds to Purchase Multifactor Authentication in the amount of \$15,000 Approval:** Motion by Beason and second by Yeske to approve the Ordinance authorizing \$15,000 of ARPA funds to be made available for County-wide Multifactor Authentication. All in favor, motion carried. Beason said this security measure is mandated by our Insurance Company. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, page 71).
11. **State's Attorney Salary According to the 2020 Census Update:** Beason said Montgomery County's population dropped below 30,000 in the 2020 census, which means the State's Attorney salary will decrease. Treasurer Lohman reported the Department of Revenue says this change will occur in July. Beason said State's Attorney Affrunti sent a request to the Attorney General to see when his salary change takes place, if it is now, July 1, 2022, Dec. 1, 2022, or the next term. He said he is waiting on clarification and an opinion.
12. **Resolution for Sheriff Salary Reimbursement Starting 7/1/22 (PTAX -451) Update:** Beason said the State has passed legislation requiring County sheriffs to be paid at least 80 percent of the State's Attorney's salary. The board will have to approve a resolution establishing the sheriff's salary, and it is the opinion of the State's Attorney the Resolution only includes the percentage of the State's Attorney salary and an exact dollar figure needs to be given. Treasurer Lohman said the sheriff's salary increase will take effect on December 1, 2022; however, the state will begin reimbursing 66 and two-thirds percent of the sheriff's salary beginning this July.
13. **Resolution Establishing the Salary for the Sheriff Approval:** Motion by Beason and second by Jones to approve the Resolution setting the Montgomery County Sheriff's salary at \$79,067. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, page 72). Motion by Beason and second by Yeske to approve the Resolution establishing the salary of the Montgomery County Sheriff, pending approval of the

State's Attorney. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 73-74).

14. **Resolution to Amend Resolution 2022-03 to remove Sheriff Salary and set Salaries for County Clerk and Treasurer Approval:** Motion by Beason and second by Donaldson to amend Resolution 2022-03, removing the Sheriff and only stating the County Clerk's and Treasurer's salaries. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 75-76).
15. **Annual Salary Increase and Starting Pay for Non-Union County Employees Update:** Beason said the salary increase for non-union employees for Fiscal Year 2022 was 35 cents, but the county is looking at a significant increase in health insurance premiums for FY 2023. He said the Finance Committee voted to table this discussion for one month, pending clarification from the State's Attorney.
16. **Banee Ulrici on Proposed Salaries for Probation Officers Approval:** Beason asked Ulrici to explain the State Mandated Compensation Standard for the Probation Officers. She stated this salary adjustment will align with the State Probation Officers. She said these salaries have been approved by the Chief Judge and the Administrator's Office, effective April 12, 2022, and the State is covering the salary expense and it is fully funded. She said the county will just have to pay the benefits. Ulrici stated there is money left in the budget to cover the additional salary increases because they recently lost their pre-trial officer. **Motion by Beason and second by Bergen to adopt the updated salary schedule for the probation office to be in compliance with the state's administrative office, effective April 12, 2022. All in favor, motion carried.** Sheriff Robbins said he recently hired someone who formerly worked at a large retail store in Litchfield, and he is going back to his old position because of the difference in pay is less if he works for the county.
17. **DCEO Energy Community Reinvestment Act Grant and Vistra Energy Update:** Beason said the county sent a letter, but there is nothing new to report at this time.
18. **Itemized Tax Special Service Areas Update:** Nothing new to report.
19. **Monthly Coal Report and Minimum Account Reserve Balance Update:** Nothing new to report.
20. **FEMA Grant Update:** Treasurer Lohman reported the grant money is in the bank.
21. **IMRF Update:** Nothing new to report.
22. **Finance/Budget Control Policies and Procedures Update:** Nothing new to report.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Chairman Bill Bergen:

1. **Employee Health Insurance and Monthly HRA report Update:** Bergen stated there is nothing new to report.
2. **Start Union Negotiations with Local 148 Update:** Bergen reported the meeting with the Circuit Clerk's union is scheduled for Tuesday, May 24th at 5:00 p.m. He said the regular May 26th meeting will take place if union negotiations need to carry over.
3. **SOA Hire Update:** Bergen reported Supervisor of Assessments Durston submitted his letter of intent to retire, effective November 30, 2022. He said the committee reviewed the handout provided by Durston outlining the requirements for the position and the committee discussed advertising for the opening. Bergen said Durston told the Personnel Committee the county could schedule the Department of Revenue Test to be made available in the county and said classes would also have to be taken to qualify for the

position. Bergen stated once the test is passed, certification for the position is good for two years or for as long as the person serves as the Supervisor of Assessments. Bergen said Durston told the committee it would be nice to have someone hired a few months before he leaves for training purposes. Bergen stated the committee decided to discuss this again at the May meeting and then post the position.

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

1. **Village of Walshville Street Issues Update:** Miles reported Walshville Village President Joy McDonald attended their recent Roads and Bridges committee meeting, and she will meet with her board to see what they want to do about street issues.
2. **Resolution 2022-12 Reappointment of the Incumbent as County Engineer Update:** Miles reported the committee decided to table this item because Greenwood is still waiting for the consent resolution from IDOT.
3. **Right of Way Acquisition for Section 15-00138-00-BR Whitetown Bridge Approval:** Miles reported three parcels are ready to be approved for purchase in order to proceed with this project. Greenwood told the committee other parcels need to be purchased, but they are taking longer to acquire because of landowners' unwillingness to sell. Greenwood said they need to have the Right of Ways certified by December in order to be on schedule for 2023 construction. **Motion by Miles and second by Whitworth to approve the purchase of a portion (0.146 acres) of Parcel ID #s 21-24-100-015 and 21-24-200-011 in East Fork Township from the Lawler Trust in the amount of \$500. All in favor, motion carried. Motion by Miles and second by Beck to approve the purchase of a portion (1.423 acres) of Parcel ID # 21-13-300-008 in East Fork Township from Ron and Crystal Lawler for \$12,500. All in favor, motion carried. Motion by Miles and second by Donaldson to approve the purchase of a portion (2.089 acres) of Parcel ID # 21-24-100-018 in East Fork Township from Louis Bisto for \$7,576. All in favor, motion carried.** Greenwood stated he will keep the committee and board up to date on the two landowners who have not reached agreements.
4. **Discussion regarding Personnel Update:** Miles reported Greenwood hired Joey Hapner as the new Highway Department mechanic. Greenwood stated he ran into similar salary issues as Sheriff Robbins mentioned earlier in the meeting when looking to hire someone.
5. **Section 20-00145-00 PV Coffeen Rd/Seven Sisters Intersection Land Acquisition Update:** Miles reported Greenwood told the committee they are waiting on proposals and negotiating fees for this project, and it will be presented in June. He said the County received grant money for it since it is a safety hazard. Greenwood told the committee the plan is to move the northern part of the intersection east.
6. **Future Equipment Needs/Purchases Update:** Miles reported the Highway Department is having internal discussions about future equipment needs. Greenwood told the committee their trucks have high mileage totals and mowers are accumulating a lot of hours. He also stated they are purchasing a backhoe. He said they use the backhoe a lot and are in need of a decent backup. Greenwood stated the vehicle market is very challenging right now; and if they were to purchase a tandem dump truck at the current cost of \$160,000 to \$200,000, it would be 18-24 months before it's received.
7. **ARPA Funding Request Update:** Miles said Greenwood already addressed these issues at the Finance Committee meeting.

8. **Other Items:** Greenwood stated he has a bid sheet for the sale of a shed building at the old Highway Department on Seymour Avenue in Hillsboro. The bid sheet is also on the county's website.

SAFETY & ELECTIONS: Given by Committee Chairman Mark Hughes:

1. **Ambulance Billing Office Update:** Nothing new to report.
2. **Ambulance Billing Office Oversight Update:** Nothing new to report.
3. **ETSB/911 Update:** Nothing additional to report.
4. **Elections Update:** County Clerk Leitheiser reported her office will be holding a public open house to showcase the new election equipment on May 16th, 2022 from 5 to 7 p.m., and the election equipment vendors will be on site to assist. She invited all board members to attend. She also reported early voting begins May 19th.
5. **EPA Report Update:** EPA Administrator Daniels reported not much happened with EPA last month because she had surgery and was off work. She also reported one of the Illinois EPA financial reps will visit Montgomery County on May 24th, which hasn't been done for two years due to COVID.
6. **Electronics Recycling Drive Events Update:** Daniels reported there was an electronics recycling drive in Litchfield held on Saturday, April 30. She said dates for the other drives in the County are as follows: Nokomis on Saturday, May 14th from 9:00 a.m. to noon; and Hillsboro on Saturday, September 17th from 9:00 a.m. to noon.
7. **Animal Control Facility Program Update:** Hughes stated the new pressure washer is working well. He also reported the facility currently has five cats and 16 dogs. He also said a dog from a bite case in Irving is still at the facility after having been there for one year. He stated all but 2 of the Great Pyrenees dogs are in foster care.
8. **Animal Control Municipal Contracts Update:** Hughes said the mayors attended their committee meeting this past month, and a three-year municipal contract for animal control services was proposed with the county paying for bite cases.

APPROVAL OF 7 COMMITTEE REPORTS & MINUTES:

Motion by Beason and second by Folkerts to approve the seven committee reports and minutes. All in favor, motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None.

SCHEDULE CHANGES: None.

APPOINTMENTS: Motion by Robinson and second by Fogle to appoint Jodi Summers to the Coffeen Fire Protection District for a three-year term. All in favor, motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Ulrici said the date for the next drug court graduation is May 27th, 2022 at 2:00 p.m., and everyone is invited to attend.

PAY BILLS AND PAYROLL: Motion by Donaldson and second by Miles to pay all approved bills and Payroll. All in favor, motion carried.

ADJOURN: The next regular full board meeting will be on Tuesday, June 14th, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. in the County Board Room, Hillsboro, Illinois. Motion by Donaldson and second by Loucks to adjourn the Full Board Meeting. All in favor, motion carried.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:45 p.m. Minutes respectfully recorded and submitted by Montgomery County Clerk and Recorder Sandy Leitheiser.

Montgomery County Board Minutes

For Tuesday, June 14th, 2022 – 5:30 PM

The following are minutes of a regular meeting of the Montgomery County Board held at 5:30 PM on Tuesday, June 14th, 2022.

The meeting was called to order by County Board Chairman Evan Young at 5:34 PM.

Roll call was taken - 16 members present, 5 members absent.

Members Present: Russell Beason, Connie Beck, Ronald Deabenderfer, Ken Folkerts, Mark Hughes, Jeremy Jones, David Loucks, Bev McCoy, Gene Miles, Andy Ritchie, Earlene Robinson, Bob Sneed, Richard Wendel, Patty Whitworth, Donna Yeske and Evan Young.

Members Absent: Megan Beeler, Bill Bergen, Doug Donaldson, Tim Fogle and Sandra Johnson.

Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was led by Montgomery County Highway Engineer Cody Greenwood.

Mileage and Per Diem Approval: Motion by Folkerts and second by Beason to approve the Mileage and Per Diem. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Beason, Beck, Deabenderfer, Folkerts, Hughes, Jones, Loucks, McCoy, Miles, Ritchie, Robinson, Sneed, Wendel, Whitworth, Yeske and Young. All in favor, motion carried.

Approval of Minutes of Previous County Board Meeting: Motion by Deabenderfer and second by Yeske to approve the minutes of the previous regular County Board meeting held on Tuesday, May 10th, 2022. All in favor, motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. **Ambulance Billing Report** --- Mona Lewis – No report was submitted.
2. **Animal Control Report** -- Amanda Daniels – Report was submitted.
3. **Circuit Clerk’s Report** ---- Daniel Robbins 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
7. **Highway Department Report** --- Cody Greenwood was present for questions
8. **Probation Office Report** ---Banee Ulrici – Report was submitted.
9. **Public Defender’s Report** ---Erin Mattson — No report was submitted.
10. **ROE – Monthly, Quarterly & Annual Reports** -- Julie Wollerman – Report was submitted.
11. **Sheriff’s Report** --- Rick Robbins was present for questions.
12. **SOA Report** --- Ray Durston – Report was submitted.
13. **State’s Attorney Report** – Andrew Affrunti was present for questions
14. **Treasurer’s Report** --- Nikki Lohman was present for questions
15. **V.A.C. Report** --- Dave Strowmatt was present for questions. He informed the board of some changes in laws related to the VAC. He stated many of the changes involved cleaned up archaic language, but one change of note was about property tax relief for spouses of deceased veterans. Strowmatt said the change will take effect in tax year 2023, and it states “where the surviving spouse of a veteran whose death was determined to be service-connected and who is certified by the USDVA as a recipient of dependency and indemnity compensation under federal law, is exempt from property taxation.”

APPROVAL OF 13 ITEMS ON THE CONSENT AGENDA: Motion by Wendel and second by Sneed to approve the 13 items on the Consent Agenda. All in favor, motion carried.

LIAISON REPORTS:

- **708 Board** – Robinson reported applications for 708 funds are due June 30, 2022.
- **CEFS Board** -- Fogle was absent, so no report was given.
- **911 Board** – Bergen was absent, so no report was given.
- **Health Department** -- Sandra Johnson was absent, so no report was given.
- **IL Association of County Officials** -- Bergen and Beeler were absent, so no reports were given.
- **MCEDC** -- Yeske stated she will give the report during the Development Committee briefing.
- **Planning Commission** --Deabenderfer stated the commission is presenting the Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) ordinance to the board today for a 30-day review.
- **Senior Citizens Board** -- Deabenderfer stated there have not been any meetings.
- **UCCI** – Miles stated they have not met for a few months, but the annual conference will be held in July in Galena.
- **U of I** – Beck stated they will be meeting this Thursday, June 16, 2022.
- **WCDC** –Wendel reported the WCDC job training program funding was cut by 9.6%, and they have a meeting this week.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

COORDINATING COMMITTEE: Given by Chairman Evan Young:

1. **Information Systems Report Update/Approval:** Young reported Information Services staff has been changing over the county emails from montgomeryco.com to montgomerycountyil.gov. He said the County Board member addresses will be switched over on June 15, 2022.
2. **EMA Report Update/Approval:** Young reported Kevin Schott will have a booth at the county fair to help recruit volunteers for the various first responding entities.
3. **Committee Structure Discussion Update/Approval:** Young deferred to Rules Committee member Deabenderfer, who reported the Rules Committee met multiple times and came to an agreement on a proposed plan for a new committee structure. He stated no one on the committee got everything he or she wanted, but they believe this is the best plan they could come up with. Deabenderfer said the plan is to have a Coordinating Committee, Finance and Budget Committee, an Infrastructure Committee and a Development and Personnel Committee. He said they would like the board to review the proposed committee structure for 30 days and vote on it at the July meeting. If it passes, the plan is to have it implemented in August. Treasurer Lohman asked if this meant there would be a completely new Finance committee for budget hearings. Young said that committee could stay the same. Miles asked when each committee would meet. Young said this would be worked out if the board passed the changes. Young asked State's Attorney Affrunti what he would advice what the size of each committee should be in order to be in compliance with the Open Meetings Act. Affrunti responded as long as the

committees are smaller than the size of a quorum of the Full Board, they should be ok. He said the “majority of a quorum” factor isn’t a big issue as long as the committees are advertising their meetings as committee meetings and are not acting on behalf of the full board.

4. **Rules Committee Meeting Update/Approval:** Deabenderfer said the Rules Committee also made a few changes to the 2020-2022 Board Rules of Order to be adopted. One rule added states “Any non-committee member who attends a committee meeting in which they are not a voting or ex-officio member must sit in the gallery and not at a board member’s desk in order to remain in accordance with the Illinois Open Meetings Act.” The other states “In the matter of Electing a County Board Chairman or Vice Chairman if there is a tie, a coin flip shall be used to determine the winner with the highest vote-getter from the general election between the candidates nominated calling heads or tails.”
5. **Adopt the 2020-2022 County Board Rules of Order Update/Approval:** Motion by Deabenderfer and second by Ritchie to adopt the 2020-2022 Montgomery County Board Rules of Order as presented. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 77-80).
6. **Carbon Capture and Storage Update/Approval:** Young stated Yeske will present this information during the Development Committee briefing.

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

1. **Maintenance and Cleaning Issues and Report Update/Approval:** Sneed reported the north door of the Historic Courthouse has been painted and the windows will be painted next. He stated he also spoke with Maintenance Technician Phil Ernst about mowing at animal control, but Ernst said animal control has staff who can do that and the maintenance staff doesn’t have time.
2. **New locks for Historic Courthouse Update/Approval:** Sneed reported the new electronic locks with key fobs are being installed at the Historic Courthouse.
3. **Sidewalks at Historic Courthouse and Jail Update/Approval:** Sneed stated the contract with Hurst-Rosche to do the survey work has been signed so we can get bids for the project.
4. **Jail Generator Replacement Update/Approval:** Sneed reported this project is on hold.
5. **Interior Door Project for County Clerk’s Office Update/Approval:** Sneed reported this project is on hold until they receive a quote from the contractor. He said safety is an issue in the County clerk’s office and clerk Leitheiser would like increased security.
6. **New Courthouse ADA Issues to Address Update/Approval:** Sneed reported Circuit Clerk Robbins has been looking into bringing the new courthouse into compliance with the ADA, and they will probably have to use ARPA money on the project.

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Chairwoman Donna Yeske:

1. **MCEDC Update:** Yeske reported MCEDC Executive Director Valerie Belusko informed the committee of the good turnout for the “Reversing the Exodus” event recently held at the Coop in Hillsboro.
2. **Revolving Loan Fund Update:** Yeske stated there is nothing new to report.
3. **Tourism Grant Approval:** Yeske reported the committee reviewed three applications for the latest round of Tourism Grant Awards. **Motion by Yeske and second by Whitworth**

to award Tourism Grants to the following applicants for the designated amounts: Dedication of Route 66 Prairie in the amount of \$750, Fall into Taylor Springs in the amount of \$750, and the Witt Labor Day Celebration in the amount of \$1000. All in favor, motion carried.

4. **Planning Commission Update:**

- **Montgomery County Comprehensive Plan Update:** Yeske stated there is nothing new to report.
- **Battery Storage Ordinance Update/Approval:** Yeske said the final draft of the Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) ordinance has been completed and given to County Board members for review. She said the board will vote to approve it at the July meeting.

5. **Economic Development Strategies for Montgomery County Update:** Yeske reported MCEDC Board President and Atlas 46 Representative Jonathan Weyer attended the last committee meeting to share economic development strategies with board members. She stated Weyer wants to see the county come up with an idea for attracting new businesses.

6. **West Central Development Council/Job Center Board/CEO Board Update:** Yeske stated there was nothing additional to report.

7. **EZ Spring Conference and Training Report Update:** Enterprise Zone Administrator Chris Daniels reported she and assistant David Jenkins attended a conference in Springfield on May 12th and 13th. She said the State is encouraging local EZ administrators to remind businesses to complete their reporting to the Illinois Department of Revenue (IDOR).

8. **County Bike Trail Update:** Yeske stated there is nothing new to report.

9. **Other Business:** Young reported on a meeting held in the County Board room earlier that day with Brad Watson from VISTRA on upcoming plans for their Solar Storage Initiative at the power plant. He said the project should be completed in June 2024.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Chairman Russell Beason:

1. **County Department Heads/Administrators' ARPA Fund Proposals Update:** Beason reported discussions been held and he stated they are pretty sure they are going to fund County Projects submitted by Department Heads first.

2. **ARPA Meeting for Representatives in Montgomery County Update:** Beason said a meeting was held May 25th with representatives from various government agencies, businesses and community organizations. Beason stated he feels sure they can come up with an equitable way to fund projects that are not county projects. He stated he promised the local government representatives who attended the last ARPA meeting they will receive a letter with an application and said there will be less money than originally intended for them.

3. **EMA Office Request – Storage Update:** Beason reported EMA Coordinator Kevin Schott told the Finance Committee time to meet is critical for storage needs for his office. Beason said the County is in the process of selling one of the buildings at the old Highway Department where he currently has trailers and PPE inventory stored. He said the PPE inventory and perishable items need to be stored in a climate-controlled area, and the white building the county is selling is not good for that purpose anyway. Beason said they told Schott to move the perishable items to a climate-controlled area.

4. **Sheriff's Office FY 2022 Budget Update:** Sheriff Robbins reported his department's radio project is coming to an end and every police agency in Montgomery County (other than the State Police), is able to communicate with each other.
5. **Ordinance #2022-15 to Authorize ARPA Funds to Purchase EMA Vehicle Approval:** Beason reported Schott told the Finance Committee his office is in need of a new vehicle, and he would like an SUV. He said Sheriff Robbins contacted Victory Lane Ford about a vehicle for his department as well, and the dealer had ordered seven Dodge Durangos and is currently holding two of them for the county if they approve the emergency purchase of them. He stated the total cost of both vehicles with title and registration and interior equipment is estimated at around \$87,000. **Motion by Beason and second by Yeske to approve Ordinance #2022-15 to Authorize ARPA Funds to Purchase a new vehicle for EMA in the amount of \$42,761.00. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy of Ordinance, see Resolution Book 19, page 81).**
6. **Ordinance #2022-16 to Authorize ARPA Funds to Purchase Sheriff's Vehicle Approval:** Beason said Robbins told the committee purchasing this vehicle will help his department limp through October when he is supposed to be able to get more. **Motion by Beason and second by Folkerts to approve the Ordinance to Authorize ARPA Funds to Purchase a new vehicle for the Sheriff's Office in the amount of \$46,761.00. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy of Ordinance, see Resolution Book 19, page 82).**
7. **FY 2023 Budget Update:** Beason reported the budget hearings have been scheduled for August 18th and 19th, 2022.
8. **State's Attorney's and Public Defender's Salary PTAX-451 Approval:** **Motion by Beason and second by Ritchie to approve PTAX-451 for the Public Defender.** Treasurer Lohman stated she received the COLA information Friday afternoon and the PTAX form today with the salary and the reimbursements from the State. She said in order for her to get the reimbursement for the Public Defender, she has to submit the signed PTAX form along with the minutes of the County Board meeting. She said if we don't sign off, we will not be reimbursed. Affrunti said the county can pay what they want to the State's Attorney and Public Defender even though the State is reimbursing at a lower level due to the decrease in the census. **All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 83-85).**
9. **Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID #13-06-452-010 in Witt Township to Steven Brent Approval:** **Motion by Beason and second by Miles to convey deed for Parcel ID #13-06-452-010 in Witt Township to Steven Brent. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 86-87).**
10. **SOA Report Update:** Beason reported the SOA office received the final multiplier on May 12th and it remained the same as the tentative multiplier of 1.0177.
11. **Capital Improvement Fund Reports Update:** Beason reported Treasurer Lohman told the Finance Committee the county has received \$1,249,212.87 in coal royalties since December. She also reported her office has collected almost \$1.7 million in property taxes so far.
12. **Annual Salary Increase and Starting Pay for Non-Union County Employees Update:** Beason stated the committee discussed the annual salary increase and starting pay for non-union county employees, but decided to table the matter until the July meeting in order to gather more accurate figures regarding the number of employees affected by the raise.

13. **DCEO Energy Community Reinvestment Act Grant and Vistra Energy Update:** Beason reported there will be a conference call on June 15th, 2022 at 9 a.m. regarding available grants to counties with now closed Vistra coal-fired power plants.
14. **Monthly Coal Report and Minimum Account Reserve Balance Update:** Beason stated there is nothing new to report.
15. **IMRF Update:** Beason stated there is nothing new to report.
16. **Finance/Budget Control Policies and Procedures Update:** Beason stated there is nothing new to report.
17. **Other Business:** Beason said Sheriff Robbins stated the Sheriff's Office received a grant to upgrade the radios and he is close to closing out the grant.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Member Donna Yeske:

1. **Employee Health Insurance and Monthly HRA report Update:** Yeske reported the committee received the monthly insurance and HRA report from health insurance representative Amanda Mast. Yeske stated the upcoming insurance increases are going to be scary.
2. **Discuss Addendum to Agreement with the Central Labors Pension Update:** Yeske reported the committee discussed an addendum to the agreement, but decided to table it until a future meeting to allow further discussion. Young reported he received a call from the union rep asking why the addendum wasn't signed, and he said he told her he didn't have permission from the committee or the represented employees to do so.
3. **Start Union Negotiations with Local 148 Update:** Yeske reported the committee held a discussion with Local 148 Union Rep Jay Wright and exchanged proposals. She said they will have another meeting at 5:00 p.m. on June 29th, 2022.
4. **SOA Hire Update:** Yeske reported Supervisor of Assessments Ray Durston submitted his letter of intent to retire effective November 30, 2022. She said the committee decided to post the opening this month, hoping to have someone hired in August.

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

1. **Opening of Sealed Bids for the White Truck Shed at Old Highway Department Update:** Miles reported we did not receive any bids for the building, and only one person reached out to view it. The committee agreed to wait and request bids again in the fall.
2. **Village of Walshville Street Issues Update:** Miles reported the Highway Department received a letter from the Walshville Village Board requesting the county move forward with the bypass road recommended earlier, with the understanding the original proposed route will be moved a little further south so it would affect fewer landowners. Miles said County Engineer Greenwood is going to get clarification from the village board regarding the county repairing the village's existing roads destroyed by heavy truck traffic. He said the letter the village sent stated the agreement is "contingent on the County rebuilding the main streets through Walshville as stated in the County Road and Bridge Committee meeting," referring to the May 5, 2022 meeting. Greenwood stated he mentioned repairing the roads, but never said anything about rebuilding them completely, so he will need clarification. The committee needs to iron out some language and definitions.

3. **Resolution 2022-12 Reappointment of the Incumbent as County Engineer Approval:** Motion by Miles and second by Beason to approve Resolution 2022-12, reappointing the Incumbent, Cody Greenwood, as County Highway Engineer with a salary of 100 percent of the State's recommended salary for the first year, effective July 13, 2022, and a minimum of 100 percent of the state's recommended salary for every year after through 2028. Miles said in addition the County Highway Engineer will receive an additional week of vacation, to bring his total to four weeks of vacation per year. Yeske abstains. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 88-89).
4. **Section 20-00145-00-PV Coffeen Rd/Seven Sisters Intersection Land Acquisition Update:** Miles reported the county needs to acquire land in a similar fashion as the White Town Bridge project is being handled. The committee agreed to move forward with the proposal.
5. **Resolution 2022-13 to appropriate funds for 50/50 culvert replacement on Red Bridge Trail, Hillsboro Twp. Approval:** Miles reported the total cost of this project is \$21,000, with the County's share being \$10,500. Motion by Miles and second by Whitworth to approve Resolution 2022-13 to appropriate funds for 50/50 culvert replacement on Red Bridge Trail in Hillsboro Township. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 90-91).
6. **Resolution 2022-14 to appropriate funds for 50/50 culvert replacement on Oak Lane, Fillmore Twp. Approval:** Miles reported the total cost of this project is \$18,000 with the County's share being \$9,000. Motion by Miles and second by Beason to approve Resolution 2022-14 to appropriate funds for 50/50 culvert replacement on Oak Lane in Fillmore Township. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 92-93).
7. **Resolution 2022-15 to appropriate funds for 50/50 culvert replacement on Pine Tree Trail, Witt Twp. Approval:** Miles reported the total cost of this project is \$18,000 with the County's share being \$9,000. Motion by Miles and second by Wendel to approve Resolution 2022-15 to appropriate funds for 50/50 culvert replacement on Pine Tree Trail in Witt Township. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 94-95).
8. **Resolution 2022-16 to appropriate funds for 100% County culvert replacement on Black Diamond Trail Approval:** Miles reported the total cost of this project is \$13,000. Motion by Miles and second by Folkerts to approve Resolution 2022-16 to appropriate funds for 100% County culvert replacement on Black Diamond Trail. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 96-97).
9. **Resolution 2022-17 to appropriate funds for 100% County culvert replacement on Walshville Trail Approval:** Miles reported the total cost of this project is \$21,000. Motion by Miles and second by Loucks to approve Resolution 2022-17 to appropriate funds for 100% County culvert replacement on Walshville Trail. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 98-99).
10. **Resolution 2022-18 to appropriate funds for 100% County culvert replacement on Donnellson Avenue Approval:** Miles reported the total cost of this project is \$22,000. Motion by Miles and second by Loucks to approve Resolution 2022-18 to appropriate funds for 100% County culvert replacement on Donnellson Avenue. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 100-101).

SAFETY & ELECTIONS: Given by Committee Chairman Mark Hughes:

1. **Ambulance Billing Office and Oversight Update:** Hughes reported Hillsboro Ambulance representative Barb Schmedeke told the committee she would like to see Coordinated Services employee David Jenkins oversee the ambulance billing office since he has spent time working there. Hughes stated Jenkins said he could try it for a month and report back at the July meeting and see if the committee is pleased with the situation, or if they would like to move in a different direction.
2. **ETSB/911 Update:** Hughes stated there is nothing new to report.
3. **Elections Update:** Hughes deferred to County Clerk Leitheiser, who reported they have received positive feedback regarding the new election equipment. She stated approximately 350 voters have voted so far, either by voting early in person or by mail.
4. **EPA Report Update:** EPA Administrator Daniels reported State EPA reps visited a few weeks ago for an annual review of the program. She also reported she visited the bike trail a few weeks ago, and no progress has been made on the cleanup since the previous time they were there.
5. **Electronics Recycling Drive Events Update:** Hughes reported there is one Electronics Recycling Drive event left this year, and it will be held in Hillsboro on Saturday, September 17th from 9:00 a.m. to noon at the new Highway Department.
6. **Animal Control Facility Program Update:** Hughes reported there are currently 18 cats and 12 dogs at the Animal Control facility. He also reported they are going to look into purchasing a mower for the facility so it can be mowed. McCoy stated when she worked for the city of Hillsboro, city maintenance workers mowed city-owned properties. Hughes said he spoke with Maintenance Technician Ernst about mowing and understood how busy he is right now with other jobs. Hughes said he told Ernst if there is a time when he is not as busy, they would appreciate it if they could work the Animal Control facility into his mowing schedule.
7. **Animal Control Municipal Contracts Approval:** Hughes reported they made a few tweaks to the Animal Control municipal contracts, such as removing the items the county is required to address by state statute. Miles asked Hughes if he believes the municipalities will sign these contracts. Hughes replied he believes most of them will, adding some municipalities still disagree with the county's interpretation of the state statute regarding the county's jurisdictional boundaries. **Motion by Hughes and second by McCoy to approve the municipal contracts for Animal Control services as presented. All in favor, motion carried.**

APPROVAL OF 7 COMMITTEE REPORTS & MINUTES:

Motion by Whitworth and second by Yeske to approve the seven committee reports and minutes. All in favor, motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Young announced the next Development Committee meeting is scheduled for June 27th, 2022 instead of the first week in July due to the Independence Day holiday.

SCHEDULE CHANGES: None.

APPOINTMENTS: Motion by Jones and second by Beck to approve the appointments of Donald Murphy, Alex Jordan and Todd Megginson to the Bois D’Arc Drainage District #4 until the first Tuesday of September, 2022. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Jones and second by Beck to approve the appointment of Richard Uhrig to the Harvel Drainage District #1 for a 3-year term. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Beck and second by Folkerts to approve the appointment of Richard Lyons to the Harvel Drainage District #2 for a 3-year term. All in favor, motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Citizen Bill Schroeder brought some information regarding the upcoming Phase 2 of Deer Run Coal Mine permitting process which will impact many landowners and approximately 7,000 acres. He stated Montgomery County lost \$303,812 and the State of Illinois lost \$1,399,587 due to the coal mine’s recent bankruptcy and said the County board needs to make sure something is in place to protect itself if the coal mine declares bankruptcy again. He suggested the County Board request that IDNR monitor Deer Run Mine’s financial holdings to avoid future bankruptcy by that company. Chairman Young said he will look into this possibility.

PAY BILLS AND PAYROLL: Motion by Yeske and second by Wendel to pay all approved bills and Payroll. All in favor, motion carried.

ADJOURN: The next regular full board meeting will be on Tuesday, July 12th, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. in the County Board Room, Hillsboro, Illinois. Motion by Hughes and second by Wendel to adjourn the Full Board Meeting. All in favor, motion carried.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:06 p.m. Minutes respectfully recorded and submitted by Montgomery County Clerk and Recorder Sandy Leitheiser.

Montgomery County Board Minutes

For Tuesday, July 12th, 2022 – 5:30 PM

The following are minutes of a regular meeting of the Montgomery County Board held at 5:30 PM on Tuesday, July 12th, 2022.

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

Roll call was taken – 19 members present, 2 members absent.

Members Present: Russell Beason, Connie Beck, Bill Bergen, Ronald Deabenderfer, Doug Donaldson, Tim Fogle, Ken Folkerts, Mark Hughes, Sandra Johnson, Jeremy Jones, David Loucks, Gene Miles, Andy Ritchie, Earlene Robinson, Bob Sneed, Richard Wendel, Patty Whitworth, Donna Yeske and Evan Young

Members Absent: Megan Beeler and Bev McCoy

Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was led by local Emergency Responder Darrin Beckman.

Board Member Resignation: Motion by Donaldson, second by Beason, to accept the resignation of Bev McCoy from the Montgomery County Board – District #6, effective July 7, 2022. All in favor, motion carried.

New Board Member Appointment: Motion by Hughes, second by Yeske, to approve the appointment of Ethan Murzynski to the Montgomery County Board to fill the vacant seat in District #6. All in favor, motion carried. After Murzynski was seated, there were 20 members present, 1 member absent (Beeler).

Mileage and Per Diem Approval: Motion by Miles and second by Fogle to approve the Mileage and Per Diem. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Beason, Beck, Bergen, Deabenderfer, Donaldson, Fogle, Folkerts, Hughes, Johnson, Jones, Loucks, Miles, Murzynski, Ritchie, Robinson, Sneed, Wendel, Whitworth, Yeske and Young. All in favor, motion carried.

Approval of Minutes of Previous County Board Meeting: Motion by Deabenderfer and second by Sneed to approve the Minutes of the Previous Regular County Board Meeting held on Tuesday, June 14th, 2022. All in favor, motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- 1. Ambulance Billing Report** -- Mona Lewis was present for questions; no report was submitted.
- 2. Animal Control Report** -- Amanda Daniels – Report was submitted.
- 3. Circuit Clerk's Report** ---- Daniel Robbins was present for questions.
- 4. Coroner's Report** --- Randy Leetham was present for questions. He referenced the new Coroner's vehicle recently purchased using ARPA funds.
- 5. County Clerk and Recorder's Report** ---Sandy Leitheiser was present for questions.
- 6. Health & TB Department Report** ---Hugh Satterlee was present for questions.
- 7. Highway Department Report** ---Cody Greenwood was present for questions. He reported the fuel pumps at the Highway Department are still down. He said a new part was installed; however, other issues were uncovered and more parts were needed as a result of a recent lightning strike.
- 8. Probation Office Report** ---Banee Ulrici was present for questions. She reported there will be a workshop held Wednesday and Thursday, July 13th and 14th, at the Montgomery County Health Department to identify resources and gaps in probation services.
- 9. Public Defender's Report** ---Erin Mattson — No Report was submitted.

10. **ROE – Monthly, Quarterly & Annual Reports** --Julie Wollerman – No report was submitted.
11. **Sheriff’s Report** ---Rick Robbins was present for questions. He reported the radio system recently purchased with grant money is now in place and is running smoothly. He also reported there are no vacancies in the jail right now.
12. **SOA Report** ---Ray Durston was present for questions.
13. **State’s Attorney Report** –Andrew Affrunti was present for questions.
14. **Treasurer’s Report** ---Nikki Lohman was present for questions.
15. **V.A.C. Report** ---Dave Strowmatt was present for questions.

APPROVAL OF 12 REPORTS ON THE CONSENT AGENDA: Motion by Folkerts and second by Johnson to approve the 12 reports on the Consent Agenda. All in favor, motion carried.

LIAISON REPORTS:

- **708 Board** – Robinson stated there is nothing new to report.
- **CEFS Board** -- Fogle reported Head Start will be restarting in August.
- **911 Board** – Bergen stated there is nothing new to report.
- **Health Department** -- Sandra Johnson stated there is nothing new to report.
- **IL Association of County Officials** -- Beeler was absent. Bergen stated there is nothing new to report.
- **MCEDC** -- Yeske stated there is nothing new to report.
- **Planning Commission** --Deabenderfer stated they will be meeting on Wednesday, July 13th, 2022, at 5:30 p.m. in the Conference room on the 2nd floor of the Historic Courthouse in Hillsboro, IL.
- **Senior Citizens Board** -- Deabenderfer stated he has heard nothing from the Senior Citizens board and there may be some lingering anxiety related to Covid preventing them from meeting.
- **UCCI** – Miles reported the annual conference will be held July 24, 25 and 26 in Galena. He also reported UCCI Executive Director Michael McCreery has retired and his son Ryan McCreery has been named as his successor.
- **U of I** – Beck stated there is nothing new to report.
- **WCDC** –Wendel stated their next meeting is scheduled for July 16th at the WCDC facility in Carlinville.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

COORDINATING COMMITTEE: Given by Chairman Evan Young:

1. **Information Systems Report Update:** Young stated there is nothing new to report.
2. **EMA Report Update:** Young deferred to EMA Coordinator Joe Gasparich who reported they had a drone fly over last weekend’s Nokomis Homecoming parade as a precautionary measure following the recent shooting at a Fourth of July Parade in Highland Park, IL. He also reported Montgomery County’s search and rescue team assisted with a case in Macoupin County where the victim was unfortunately found

deceased. He also reported the County Haz Mat team assisted Macoupin County First Responders with a vehicle accident scene that day.

- 3. Adopt New Montgomery County Board Committee Structure Approval:** Motion by Yeske, second by Loucks, to reduce the number Montgomery County Board committees to 3 standing committees and the Coordinating Committee. 18 members voted yes, 2 voted no. Motion carried. Voting YES: Beason, Beck, Bergen, Deabenderfer, Donaldson, Fogle, Folkerts, Hughes, Johnson, Jones, Loucks, Murzynski, Ritchie, Robinson, Wendel, Whitworth, Yeske and Young. VOTING NO: Miles and Sneed. Motion by Deabenderfer, second by Ritchie, to adopt the Montgomery County Board Committees as follows with the assignments as presented: Coordinating Committee, Development and Personnel Committee, Finance and Budget Committee, and Infrastructure Committee. Yeske stated the restructuring did not leave much for the Coordinating Committee to do and asked if Animal Control should be moved to the Coordinating Committee. She said Chairman Young handles a lot of animal control issues, so it could fit under the coordinating committee responsibilities. Deabenderfer stated the Coordinating Committee is not an action committee. Jones stated when the Coordinating Committee was designed, it was not intended to be an action committee. Whitworth and Deabenderfer replied the Rules Committee worked a long time on the responsibilities falling under each committee and they felt Animal Control should go under Infrastructure Committee and the responsibilities could be shifted if the presented plan does not work out. **All in favor, motion carried.** Young asked members when the board should implement this new committee structure. Whitworth stated she believed it should start in September so the plan and committee members could be announced during the August County Board meeting. Bergen stated this plan would only give the current board three months to try the plan and said he preferred to start in August. Yeske stated she thinks it should begin in August, especially to give potentially new Finance Committee members a chance to attend Budget Hearings for the first time. Other members voiced their support for beginning the new committee structure in August. Young stated he would work on the committee membership and contact members to provide them their assignments soon.

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

- 1. Maintenance and Cleaning Issues and Report Update:** Sneed reported the Maintenance Department continues to work hard to complete various jobs. He said they've done a good job repairing the air conditioning units in the Historic Courthouse.
- 2. New locks for Historic Courthouse Update:** Sneed reported the key fobs are in and they have been distributed to employees.
- 3. Sidewalks at Historic Courthouse and Jail Update:** Sneed reported they are waiting to hear back from Hurst-Roche Engineers regarding this project.
- 4. Jail Generator Replacement Update:** Sneed reported this item is on hold and may be addressed in August.
- 5. Interior Door Project for County Clerk's Office Update:** Sneed reported this item is also on hold. County Clerk Leitheiser stated she has a local contractor providing an estimate as requested by the committee.

6. **EMA Storage Shed Update:** Sneed reported EMA has requested storage space to help with PPE storage needs, as well as storing trailers requiring a climate-controlled environment. He said County Engineer Greenwood is working with EMA Coordinator Schott to remedy PPE storage concerns in the short term.
7. **CEFS Parking Request Update:** Sneed reported CEFS has asked to park some of their vehicles in the sheriff's parking lot because they have had multiple catalytic converters stolen off of their vehicles recently. Sheriff Robbins said he will make contact with them.

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Chairwoman Donna Yeske:

1. **MCEDC Update/Approval:** Yeske stated their committee meeting was canceled and there is nothing new to report.
2. **Revolving Loan Fund Update/Approval:** Nothing new to report.
3. **Tourism Update/Approval:** Nothing new to report.
4. **Planning Commission Update:**
 - **Montgomery County Comprehensive Plan Update:** Nothing new to report.
 - **Battery Storage Ordinance Approval:** Yeske reported the board was initially requested to vote on the Battery Energy Storage (BESS) Ordinance, but now needs to table the vote for further investigation. **Motion by Yeske and second by Donaldson to table voting on the BESS Ordinance until further notice. All in favor, motion carried.** Brad Watson, Senior Director of Community Affairs with Vistra Energy, addressed the board. He stated Vistra is here in Montgomery County for the long haul, and they would like to work together with the board for mutually beneficial interests. He also stated they would like work with the board to draft an ordinance together to help address concerns. Jones asked about Vistra's decommissioning process and if they were bonded by the state or another resource. Watson replied decommissioning has to be done in a safe way and they must follow federal and state regulations, but they are not bonded to anyone because no bond is required. Jones stated he would like something more concrete than a promise from Vistra for the county. Watson thanked the County Board for allowing him to speak and for their service to the county.
 - **Underground Carbon Dioxide (CO2) Storage Update:** Nothing new to report.
5. **West Central Development Council/Job Center Board/CEO Board Update:** Nothing new to report.
6. **Green Diamond Bike Trail Update:** Nothing new to report.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Chairman Russell Beason:

1. **SOA Report Update:** Beason stated there is nothing new to report.
2. **Capital Improvement Fund Reports Update:** Nothing new to report.
3. **IMRF Update:** Beason stated things with IMRF are going well.
4. **IRS Mileage Increase to \$0.625 Approval:** Beason reported the IRS changed the mileage rate for the remainder of 2022 from 58.5 cents to 62.5 cents and the board needs to approve the changes. **Motion by Beason and second by Sneed to approve the mileage rate increase to \$0.625 per mile, effective July 13, 2022. All in favor, motion carried.**

5. **State's Attorney Salary Approval:** Beason reported the State's Attorney's salary reimbursement from the State of Illinois will be decreasing starting this month. He said the committee is recommending keeping the State's Attorney's salary at its current rate until December 1st, 2022 along with the Public Defender's salary as well since they are tied together by state statute. He said this would mean the County Board would have to absorb the \$20,000 reduction from the State. **Motion by Beason and second by Miles to leave the State's Attorney's and Public Defender's salaries alone until December 1, 2022.**
6. **Postage Machine Contracts Renewal Approval:** Beason reported the board needs to renew the agreement for the two postage machines located in the two county courthouses. He said the agreement is for 36 months at a cost of about \$250 per machine per quarter, with the total cost set at \$6,000 for the three years. **Motion by Beason and second by Fogle to approve the Postage Machine Renewal Agreement. All in favor, motion carried.**
7. **FY 2023 Budget Hearings Update:** Beason reported budget hearing dates are scheduled for August 18th and 19th, 2022.
8. **Finance/Budget Control Policies and Procedures Update:** Beason stated there is nothing new to report.
9. **America Recovery Plan Act (ARPA funding) Update:** Beason reported they held a meeting at the end of May with some community representatives to discuss how ARPA funds will be distributed. He said there is a belief among some individuals the County could use all of the ARPA money for inter-departmental needs, but he said he believes there will be some funds left over to distribute other than for county government needs. He stated the Finance Committee is only going to consider applications meeting the top two criteria of the agreed upon guidelines, which are 1) life safety deficiencies and statutory requirements, and 2) non-deferrable upgrades, maintenance and repair.
10. **Annual Salary Increase and Starting Pay for Non-Union County Employees Approval:** Beason reported the finance committee initially considered recommending a non-union employee salary increase of 70 cents per hour; however, he said he asked Treasurer Lohman to put some information together for potential increases to see if they could do better. Beason said the information presented resulted in a \$1.75 per hour increase. He said this increase will get all current county employees to at least \$15 per hour, which will be the State minimum wage beginning January 1st, 2025. **Motion by Beason and second by Donaldson to approve the annual salary increase for non-union county employees of \$1.75 per hour, starting December 1, 2022.** Jones stated he appreciates everything the employees do, and he hopes this expresses this feeling. Ritchie stated he is very moved by loyalty and believes this is a good way to reward it. **17 members voted in favor, 3 members abstained (Yeske, Robinson and Murzynski), motion carried.** Beason said they also have to set the annual starting salary for new county employees, and the committee recommends a \$14 per hour starting salary. **Motion by Beason and second by Whitworth to approve the starting salary for non-union employees at \$14.00 per hour, effective December 1, 2022. All in favor, motion carried.**
11. **Ordinance 2022-17 to Authorize ARPA Funds to Distribute Appreciation Pay to County Employees Approval:** Beason reported, in addition to the salary increase, the committee feels utilizing ARPA money to award bonuses to all county employees is a

good way to show appreciation. He said the committee ultimately settled on \$3,000 for full-time employees and \$1,500 for part-time employees. **Motion by Beason and second by Fogle to adopt Ordinance 2022-17 authorizing the use of ARPA Funds to distribute appreciation pay to county employees in the one-time amount of \$3,000 to current full-time employees and \$1,500 to current part-time employees, for a total amount not to exceed \$740,000.** Johnson asked how much ARPA money would be left if the two ARPA requests considered during this meeting were fulfilled. Treasurer Lohman said the County initially had \$5.5 million in ARPA money, and after the \$1.1 million in lost revenue and all of the requests received to date, the total remaining amount will be about \$3.1 million. Yeske asked if employees who were just hired should get the same bonuses or if the board should pro-rate their raises based on their tenure. Deabenderfer stated it can get tricky when you start pro-rating, and it would just be easier to give the bonuses out as presented. Bergen said the board has asked county employees to make sacrifices in the past, and now is the chance to turn it around. **Murzynski, Robinson and Yeske abstained, All others in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, page 102).**

12. **Ordinance 2022-18 to Authorize ARPA Funds to Purchase VHF Simulcast/Communications System for 911/ETSB Approval:** Beason reported representatives from 911/ETSB attended the committee meeting to submit a request for ARPA funds for a new communications system they said is needed right away. 911 Coordinator Ed Boyd stated he initially believed this would fall under the criteria as a non-deferrable upgrade, but his board corrected him and said it is actually a life safety and statutory requirement upgrade. **Motion by Beason and second by Robinson to adopt Ordinance 2022-18 authorizing the use of ARPA Funds to purchase Communications System upgrades for 911/ETSB in the amount of \$345,000. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 103-104).**
13. **DCEO Energy Community Reinvestment Act Grant and Vistra Energy Update:**
Nothing new to report.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Chairman Bill Bergen:

1. **Employee Health Insurance and Monthly HRA report Update:** Bergen reported insurance representative Amanda Mast informed the committee the loss ratio is improving so the anticipated health insurance premium increase should not be as high as was originally stated.
2. **Bidding out Employee Health Insurance Update:** Bergen reported the committee discussed the possibility of inquiring about other options for employee health insurance.
3. **Discuss Addendum to Agreement with the Central Labors Pension Update:** Bergen stated there is nothing new to report.
4. **Union Negotiations with Local 148 Update:** Bergen reported the committee has held one meeting for union negotiations with this union so far; and the next is scheduled for July 14th, 2022, at 5:00 pm.
5. **SOA Hire Update:** Bergen reported the Supervisor of Assessments position was recently advertised again with a new deadline to apply on July 28th, 2022. The salary range of \$55,000 to \$70,000 was also posted in the advertisement, and the position was emailed to the Supervisor of Assessments state website. He said we have received two applications to date.

6. **Other Business:** Sheriff Robbins reported they have two dispatchers who will be on maternity leave, and one will potentially retire in February 2023.

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

1. **Right of Way Acquisition for Section 15-00138-00-BR Whitetown Bridge Approval:** Miles reported agreements have been reached with both of the remaining property owners for the project, but only one has been signed so far. The plan is for this project to take place during the 2023 construction season. **Motion by Miles and second by Beason to approve the purchase of a portion (0.023 acres) of Parcel ID # 21-13-400-015 in East Fork Township for \$900, and a portion (2.249 acres) of Parcel ID # 21-13-300-010 in East Fork Township for \$11,100 from Brian Ricke. All in favor, motion carried.**
2. **Section 20-00144-00-FP – Walshville Bypass Road Update:** Miles reported Greenwood is working on language for an Intergovernmental Agreement as well as a preliminary engineering agreement with Hurst-Rosche Engineers concerning this project.
3. **Section 20-00145-00-PV – Coffeen Rd./Seven Sisters Intersection Update:** Miles reported Hanson Engineers has been contracted, and they hope for a summer of 2023 construction.
4. **Nokomis Road Blade mix Update:** Greenwood reported he initially anticipated blade mixing the entire stretch of Nokomis Road from Fillmore to Nokomis; however, he told the committee he would like to change the plans and get Nokomis Road up to 80,000 pound limits. He said it would be a hot-mix surface, and also stated they would move some of the blade mixing to Witt South Road.
5. **Other Items:** Miles reported Greenwood is working with EMA Coordinator Kevin Schott to get PPE moved from the white pole building at the old Highway Department into the office building on the same property.

SAFETY & ELECTIONS: Given by Committee Chairman Mark Hughes:

1. **Ambulance Billing Office and Oversight Update:** Hughes reported he had a discussion with State's Attorney Andrew Affrunti about a potential collections issue with the Ambulance Billing Office. Billing employee Mona Lewis told the committee two nursing homes in the County have not paid and now have substantial bills due. Affrunti stated the county is not a collections agency but merely a billing service, so the responsibility would fall on the company to collect payment for those outstanding bills.
2. **Ambulance Billing Intern Update:** Affrunti said the contract for the billing intern is good, so it is ok to move forward.
3. **Elections Update:** Leitheiser reported this year's Primary turnout was approximately 25.82 percent of registered voters, with the average turnout for the County's primary at about 25 percent.
4. **Election Judge Commission Approval:** **Motion by Hughes and second by Fogle to approve the Election Judge Commission List as presented for a two-year term from 2022-2024. Robinson abstained; all others voted in favor. Motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 105-126).**
5. **EPA Report Update:** EPA Administrator Chris Daniels reported she and assistant David Jenkins have been working with the Illinois EPA to conduct inspections. Greenwood asked if there was an update on tire recycling. Daniels said the State has not done anything with it yet due to a high turnover of employees.

6. **Electronics Recycling Drive Events Update:** Hughes reported the final electronics recycling drive will be held in Hillsboro on Saturday, September 17th from 9 a.m. to noon.
7. **Animal Control Facility Program Update:** Hughes stated there is nothing new to report.
8. **Animal Control Mowing Update:** Hughes reported Chairman Young found a used mower for the Animal Control facility, and the Animal Control employees will be mowing the facility grounds.
9. **Animal Control Municipal Contracts Update:** Hughes reported we have not received signed contracts from any municipalities.

APPROVAL OF 7 COMMITTEE REPORTS & MINUTES:

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Young stated he will work on realigning the committee members so the new committees will be ready to meet in August, 2022, prior to the next County Board meeting.

SCHEDULE CHANGES: None

APPOINTMENTS: Motion by Fogle and second by Whitworth to approve the reappointment of Deanne Jones to the Montgomery County Housing Authority Board. All in favor, motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Citizen Bill Schroeder stated the Planning Commission worked hard on the BESS ordinance and he believes it is backwards to have a representative from the company you are trying to control give input on the ordinance. He said he hopes the board will take this into consideration when moving forward and keep the public safety of county residents in mind. Yeske responded Vistra's comments had no bearing on the County Board's decision to table the vote. Chairman Young also responded to Schroeder's request from a prior meeting regarding the Deer Run Coal mine's bankruptcy resulting in a \$300,000 loss to the county by stating his findings show the county had no such loss.

Crossover Ministries' representative Linda Liebscher also addressed the board and stated they would like to apply for ARPA funds to help with their "The Living Room" project which would address mental health issues in the county. She also reminded the board the new 988 emergency phone number designed for those with mental health problems and for suicide prevention purposes goes into effect soon.

PAY BILLS AND PAYROLL: Motion by Miles and second by Wendel to pay all approved bills and Payroll. All in favor, motion carried.

ADJOURN: The next regular full board meeting will be on Tuesday, August 9th, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. in the County Board Room, Hillsboro, Illinois. Motion by Yeske and second by Robinson to adjourn the Full Board Meeting. All in favor, motion carried.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:22 p.m. Minutes respectfully recorded and submitted by Montgomery County Clerk and Recorder Sandy Leitheiser.

Montgomery County Board Minutes

For Tuesday, August 9th, 2022 – 5:30 PM

The following are minutes of a regular meeting of the Montgomery County Board held at 5:30 PM on Tuesday, August 9th, 2022.

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

Roll call: 19 members present, 2 members absent.

Members Present: Russell Beason, Connie Beck, Bill Bergen, Ronald Deabenderfer, Doug Donaldson, Tim Fogle, Ken Folkerts, Sandra Johnson, Jeremy Jones, David Loucks, Gene Miles, Ethan Murzynski, Andy Ritchie, Earlene Robinson, Bob Sneed, Richard Wendel, Patty Whitworth, Donna Yeske and Evan Young

Members Absent: Megan Beeler and Mark Hughes

Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was led by County Board member Doug Donaldson.

Mileage and Per Diem Approval: Motion by Beck and second by Beason to approve the Mileage and Per Diem. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Beason, Beck, Bergen, Deabenderfer, Donaldson, Fogle, Folkerts, Johnson, Jones, Loucks, Miles, Murzynski, Ritchie, Robinson, Sneed, Wendel, Whitworth, Yeske and Young. **All in favor, motion carried.**

Approval of Minutes of Previous County Board Meeting:

Motion by Deabenderfer and second by Fogle to approve the Minutes of the Previous Regular County Board Meeting held on Tuesday, July 12th, 2022. **All in favor, motion carried.**

CONSENT AGENDA:

- 1. Ambulance Billing Report --** Mona Lewis – No report submitted.
- 2. Animal Control Report --** Amanda Daniels – Report was submitted.
- 3. Circuit Clerk’s Report ----** Daniel Robbins – Report was submitted.
- 4. Coroner’s Report ---** Randy Leetham – Report was submitted.
- 5. County Clerk and Recorder’s Report –** Sandy Leitheiser was present for questions. She stated her staff has completed scanning land records through 1978.
- 6. Health & TB Department Report –** Hugh Satterlee was present for questions.
- 7. Highway Department Report –** Cody Greenwood was present for questions.
- 8. Probation Office Report –** Banee Ulrici – Report was submitted.
- 9. Public Defender’s Report –** Erin Mattson — No report submitted.
- 10. ROE – Monthly, Quarterly & Annual Reports – Motion by Beason, second by Johnson, to approve the monthly, quarterly and annual reports for Regional Office of Education #3. All in favor, motion carried.**
- 11. Sheriff’s Report –** Rick Robbins – Report was submitted.
- 12. SOA Report –** Ray Durston – Report was submitted.
- 13. State’s Attorney Report –** Andrew Affrunti – Report was submitted.
- 14. Treasurer’s Report –** Nikki Lohman was present for questions.
- 15. V.A.C. Report –** Dave Strowmatt – Report was submitted.

APPROVAL OF 15 ITEMS ON THE CONSENT AGENDA: Motion by Whitworth and second by Folkerts to approve the 15 items on the Consent Agenda. **All in favor, motion carried.**

LIAISON REPORTS:

- **708 Board** – Robinson reported 12 entities submitted applications for 708 funds and a total of \$920,000 was requested. She said the 708 budget for FY 2022 is \$600,000. Robinson stated they will meet on September 10th to review applications and continue that review in October. 708 Board President Dan Hough reported a peer support team has been put together for first responders in the county following a recent tragedy in Nokomis.
- **CEFS Board** – Fogle stated there was nothing new to report.
- **911 Board** – Bergen stated there was nothing new to report.
- **Health Department** – Sandra Johnson stated there was nothing new to report.
- **IL Association of County Officials** – Bergen stated there was nothing new to report.
- **MCEDC** – Yeske stated there was nothing new to report.
- **Planning Commission** – Ritchie reported they are in a neutral position and awaiting the outcome of their battery storage and carbon capture and storage ordinances.
- **Senior Citizens Board** – Deabenderfer stated there was nothing new to report.
- **UCCI** – Miles reported they had several speakers address law enforcement liabilities at their annual conference in Galena, Illinois.
- **U of I** – Beck stated there was nothing new to report. The next meeting is scheduled for October 20th, 2022.
- **WCDC** – Wendel introduced WCDC Executive Director Matt Jones. Jones stated he has been with West Central since February, 2022. He said since taking over they have been working on organizing their three boards. He also said WCDC was not in good standing with the State of Illinois when he began, but this issue is slowly improving. Jones said WCDC took almost a 10 percent budget cut this year, and right now they are focused on workforce development services in hopes to include economic development services in the future.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

COORDINATING COMMITTEE: Given by Chairman Evan Young:

1. **Information Systems Report Update:** Young reported the Information Services Department has been working on PC installs in the County Clerk's office. He also stated dot gov (.gov) registration is complete and all county employees' email addresses should be switched over to two-factor authentication soon.
2. **EMA Report Update:** EMA Coordinator Dan Hough reported they received their new Dodge Durango and it is getting letter detailed at this time. He also stated they are working with two communities on emergency planning in the next few months. He said the drone flew at an incident in Litchfield over the weekend, and the search and rescue team was dispatched out of the county to help locate a lost skydiver in a corn field, which they did. Hough also reported Wood River just requested their drone assist in the search for another missing person earlier that day.
3. **Rules of Order Approval:** Young reported the Rules of Order committee met and amended the County Board's Rules of Order to coincide with the changes made to the committee structures. **Motion by Ritchie, second by Beason, to adopt the amended Montgomery County Board Rules of Order as presented. All in favor, motion carried.**

4. **Committee Structure Update:** Young stated he will leave this item on the agenda in case any of the committees need to be amended in the future.
5. **Carbon Capture and Storage Update:** Young reported Heartland Greenway representatives attended the Development & Personnel Committee meeting and shared their Carbon Capture and Storage business is coming to Audubon Township. Young stated one land owner has already signed a lease agreement with them. He said they will also approach other counties for their projects. Young reported their process includes pumping the carbon dioxide about 5,000 feet underground and it will take about 100 to 200 years to solidify into rock. Young said he has not seen the proposed route yet, but another meeting is scheduled for this Friday, August 12th, 2022, where they requested the County Clerk, Sheriff and 911 Coordinator be in attendance. He said the CO2 is generated in ethanol plants and is transported by pipeline to Illinois from South Dakota, Iowa and Nebraska. Young said they are also working on compensation to Montgomery County and informed members the project will include construction jobs as well as a few positions to run the wells.
6. **Planning Commission Update:**
 - **Montgomery County Comprehensive Plan Update:** Young stated there was nothing new to report.
 - **Battery Storage Ordinance Update:** Young stated this ordinance is on hold pending further conversations with State's Attorney Andrew Affrunti.
 - **Underground Carbon Dioxide (CO2) Storage Update:** Young stated this ordinance is on hold pending further conversations with State's Attorney Andrew Affrunti.
7. **EPA Report Update:** Young reported EPA Administrator Chris Daniels and EPA assistant David Jenkins are now certified and can conduct on-site investigations on their own.
8. **West Central Development Council/Job Center Board/CEO Board Update:** Young said West Central CEO Matt Jones already addressed the board, and he had nothing else to add.

DEVELOPMENT & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Chairman Bill Bergen:

1. **Carbon Capture and Storage Update:** Bergen stated Chairman Young already spoke about this topic, and he has nothing further to add.
2. **MCEDC Update:** Bergen stated there was nothing new to report.
3. **Tourism Update:** Bergen stated there was nothing new to report.
4. **Ambulance Billing Office Update:** Bergen stated there was nothing new to report.
5. **Ambulance Billing Intern Update:** Bergen reported the ambulance billing office will be getting an intern who will begin as soon as we hear back from the school.
6. **Employee Health Insurance and Monthly HRA report Update:** Bergen reported insurance representative Amanda Mast presented her monthly report to the committee, and the renewal increase for health insurance through Health Alliance will be about 18.35 percent instead of higher 50 percent increase that was quoted just a few months ago.
7. **Bidding out Employee Health Insurance Update:** Bergen said the committee is analyzing options and Mast is compiling information regarding the City of Hillsboro's health insurance plan.

8. **Discuss Addendum to agreement with the Central Labors Pension Update:** Bergen stated there was nothing new to report.
9. **Approve Contract with Circuit Clerk's Union Local 148 Update:** Bergen stated the committee and Circuit Clerk's union has reached an agreement on a new contract. Young reported we just received the contract but there are details needing to be revised. Young said the full board will review it next month after all the revisions are completed.
10. **SOA Hire Approval:** Bergen stated three applications for the Supervisor of Assessments position were submitted. He said one of the applications is from a current employee in the office who said he/she is willing to take the classes to be certified for the position if appointed by the County Board. Bergen said the committee decided to move forward with promoting the staff person from within the office.
11. **Schedule Meeting for Union Negotiations with Local 1084 (Highway Department) Update:** Bergen reported we have two more contracts to negotiate with (the Highway Department and Supervisor of Assessments office unions) before the fiscal year concludes. Bergen said Coordinator Daniels reached out to the representatives from both unions to schedule the beginning date for negotiations.

FINANCE & BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Chairman Russell Beason:

1. **SOA Report Update:** Beason reported the Board of Review has processed 103 certificates of error and has issued approximately 30 complaint packets at this time.
2. **Capital Improvement Fund Reports Update:** Beason stated there was nothing new to report.
3. **IMRF Update:** Beason stated there was nothing new to report.
4. **FY 2023 Budget Hearings Update:** Beason reported the Budget hearings will take place August 18th and 19th, 2022.
5. **Finance/Budget Control Policies and Procedures Update:** Beason reported this is a document needing minor work and he will meet with Megan Beeler to complete it.
6. **Request to add vendors to Prepaid Vendor list Approval:** Beason reported there are requests to add two vendors to the Prepaid Vendor list. He said one vendor is Capital One for a credit card for the Highway Department and the other is Infrastructure Technology Solutions for Information Services. **Motion by Beason, second by Jones to approve adding the Capital One Credit Card for the Highway Department and Infrastructure Technology Solutions to the Prepaid Vendor list. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 137-138).**
7. **Request for Debit Card for Coordinated Services Imprest Account from First Community Bank Approval:** Beason reported county Maintenance Technician Phil Ernst needs to purchase parts that are only available online, and needs a debit card for these purchases. Coordinator Daniels told the Finance Committee her office already has an imprest account. If a debit card could be added, Ernst would be able to use it since Coordinated Services does Buildings and Grounds vouchers. **Motion by Beason and second by Yeske to allow adding a Debit Card to the Coordinated Services Imprest Account at the First Community Bank of Hillsboro. All in favor, motion carried.**

8. **DCEO Energy Community Reinvestment Act Grant and Vistra Energy Update:** Beason deferred to County Clerk Leitheiser, who reported she and other county officials participated in a zoom conference with members of the Illinois Prairie Institute and representatives from state and federal agencies regarding potential grants available to counties impacted by closed coal-fired power plants. She stated a similar workshop will be held in person on Thursday, September 29, 2022, in Carbondale, Illinois, but Leitheiser and MCEDC Executive Director Valerie Belusko will be unable to attend.
9. **America Recovery Plan Act (ARPA funding) Update:** Beason reported approximately \$1,178,000 of the ARPA money has been spent to date, and another \$1,107,000 has been allocated but not spent. He said \$3.24 million has not been allocated to date. He also stated the county has received 13 applications from organizations outside of Montgomery County government so far.
10. **Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 15-04-226-005 in Litchfield to Kevin Eichelberger Approval:** Motion by Beason, second by Fogle, to approve the Resolution to convey deed for Parcel ID # 15-04-226-005 in Litchfield to Kevin Eichelberger. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 127-128).
11. **Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 10-33-318-009 to the City of Litchfield Approval:** Motion by Beason, second by Yeske, to approve the Resolution to convey deed for Parcel ID # 10-33-318-009 to the City of Litchfield. Sneed abstained. All in favor, motion carried. 1. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 129-130).
12. **Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 10-33-477-004 to the City of Litchfield Approval:** Motion by Beason, second by Whitworth, to approve the Resolution to convey deed for Parcel ID # 10-33-477-004 to the City of Litchfield. Sneed abstained. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 131-132).
13. **Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 13-06-258-004 to the City of Witt Approval:** Motion by Beason, second by Yeske, to approve the Resolution to convey deed for Parcel ID # 13-06-258-004 to the City of Witt. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 133-134).
14. **Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 13-06-205-001 to the City of Witt Approval:** Motion by Beason, second by Donaldson, to approve the Resolution to convey deed for Parcel ID # 13-06-205-001 to the City of Witt. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 135-136).

INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Chairman Gene Miles:

1. **Right of Way Acquisition for Section 15-00138-00-BR Whitetown Bridge Approval:** Miles reported County Engineer Cody Greenwood received a signed agreement from the last property owner for Right of Way acquisition. He stated the amount of land purchased will be 0.545 acres. Motion by Miles and second by Robinson to approve the purchase of Parcel ID #21-13-300-015 in East Fork Township from Jerry Welge for \$7,750. All in favor, motion carried.
2. **Section 20-00144-00-FP – Walshville Bypass Road Update:** Miles reported that Greenwood is still working on drafting an intergovernmental agreement with the village of Walshville. He said he would like to finish that agreement and have it signed before drafting the engineering agreements.

3. **Section 17-09117-00-BR – Irving Twp. N. 17th Ave. Letting Results Update:** Miles reported Greenwood received two bids for this bridge letting project, but was not happy with the amounts as they came in twice as high as expected. The lowest was for about \$298,000, with the other bid at \$358,000. Miles said Greenwood told the committee he will not move forward with the bids until he looks into other options.
4. **New Highway Department Clerical Worker Update:** Miles reported there is nothing new to report at this time.
5. **Maintenance and Cleaning Issues and Report Update:** Sneed stated Maintenance Technician Ernst presented his monthly report to the committee. He has been busy with various HVAC and painting projects.
6. **Request for Proposal for Performance Contract for ADA Updates to New Courthouse Update:** Sneed reported this item will have to be addressed by the Finance Committee since ARPA funds may be utilized.
7. **Sign Annual Generator Service Agreement with Altorfer Approval:** Sneed stated the committee will address the generators next month.
8. **Caulking and Tuck Pointing at Courthouse Complex Update:** Sneed reported he received a bid from local contractor Brett Seward to repair areas of the exterior of the Courthouse Complex. The committee voted to seek a second bid and he just received it. Sneed said the bid was similar to Seward's bid, but not all of the specifications were the same. Sneed said he will approach both bidders and ask them to rebid the project.
9. **New Locks at Historic Courthouse Update:** Sneed reported new electronic locks were installed recently in the Historic Courthouse and key fobs were handed out to all Historic Courthouse county employees. He said committee chairmen will receive fobs as well if they have not received them already.
10. **Sidewalks at Historic Courthouse and Jail Update:** Sneed reported he recently received an email from Hurst-Rosche regarding the sidewalk project, so the Infrastructure Committee will review the information at their next meeting.
11. **Jail Generator Replacement Update:** Sneed stated there was nothing new to report.
12. **Interior Door Project for County Clerk's Office Update:** Sneed stated there was nothing new to report.
13. **EMA Storage Shed Update:** Sneed stated there was nothing new to report.
14. **Elections Update:** Sneed deferred to County Clerk Leitheiser, who reported her office is preparing for the November 8th, 2022 General Election. She stated early voting and voting by mail begins September 29th, 2022. She also reported Illinois law now requires her office to mail vote-by-mail applications to all registered voters.
15. **Animal Control Facility Update:** Sneed reported that as of July 31, there are 15 dogs and 8 cats at the facility.
16. **Animal Control Municipal Contracts Update:** Sneed reported the villages of Waggoner and Farmersville recently signed their municipal contracts. The Coffeen city council approved their contract but it has not been turned in yet. Sneed also stated Young told the committee Litchfield Mayor Steve Dougherty said they are close to signing their contract. Sneed said Hillsboro city leaders have a few questions about the contract that need answered.

APPROVAL OF 4 COMMITTEE REPORTS & MINUTES:

Motion by Whitworth and second by Folkerts to approve the four committee reports and minutes. All in favor, motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None

SCHEDULE CHANGES: None

APPOINTMENTS: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Citizen Bill Schroeder stated he was having a hard time hearing Chairman Young and other board members during the meeting's discussion and requested a microphone be used.

PAY BILLS AND PAYROLL: Motion by Fogle and second by Wendel to pay all approved bills and payroll. All in favor, motion carried.

ADJOURN: The next regular full board meeting will be on Tuesday, September 13th, 2022, at 5:30 p.m. in the County Board Room, Hillsboro, Illinois. Motion by Whitworth and second by Loucks to adjourn the Full Board Meeting. All in favor, motion carried.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:48 p.m. Minutes respectfully recorded and submitted by Montgomery County Clerk and Recorder Sandy Leitheiser.

Montgomery County Board Minutes

For Tuesday, September 13th, 2022 – 5:30 PM

The following are minutes of a regular meeting of the Montgomery County Board held at 5:30 PM on Tuesday, September 13th, 2022.

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

Roll call was taken - 21 members present, 0 members absent.

Members Present: Russell Beason, Connie Beck, Megan Beeler, Bill Bergen, Ronald Deabenderfer, Doug Donaldson, Tim Fogle, Ken Folkerts, Mark Hughes, Sandra Johnson, Jeremy Jones, David Loucks, Gene Miles, Ethan Murzynski, Andy Ritchie, Earlene Robinson, Bob Sneed, Richard Wendel, Patty Whitworth, Donna Yeske and Evan Young.

Members Absent: None

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

Mileage and Per Diem Approval: Motion by Hughes and second by Johnson to approve the Mileage and Per Diem. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Beason, Beck, Beeler, Bergen, Deabenderfer, Donaldson, Fogle, Folkerts, Hughes, Johnson, Jones, Loucks, Miles, Murzynski, Ritchie, Robinson, Sneed, Wendel, Whitworth, Yeske and Young. **All in favor, motion carried.**

Approval of Minutes of Previous County Board Meeting: Motion by Donaldson and second by Beason to approve the Minutes of the Previous Regular County Board Meeting held on Tuesday, August 9th, 2022. **All in favor, motion carried.**

CONSENT AGENDA:

- 1. Ambulance Billing Report** – Mona Lewis – No report submitted.
- 2. Animal Control Report** –Emily Gerl was present for questions and reported on the number of animals at the shelter.
- 3. Circuit Clerk’s Report** – Report submitted. Daniel Robbins was present for questions.
- 4. Coroner’s Report** – Report submitted. Randy Leetham was present for questions.
- 5. County Clerk and Recorder’s Report** – Report submitted. Sandy Leitheiser was present for questions.
- 6. Health & TB Department Report** – Report submitted. Hugh Satterlee was present for questions.
- 7. Highway Department Report** – Report submitted. Cody Greenwood was present for questions. He reported there will be a 21-day closure of Illinois Route 185 in October for construction work required by Hillsboro Energy. He presented a draft of a detour agreement he said he would like the board to review before approval at the next meeting. Young stated the board could approve the agreement at a special meeting they plan on having to discuss ARPA.
- 8. Probation Office Report** – Banee Ulrici – No report submitted.
- 9. Public Defender’s Report** – Erin Mattson — No report submitted.
- 10. ROE – Monthly, Quarterly & Annual Reports** – Julie Wollerman – Report submitted.
- 11. Sheriff’s Report** – Rick Robbins – Report submitted.
- 12. SOA Report** – Ray Durston – Report submitted.
- 13. State’s Attorney Report** – Report submitted. Andrew Affrunti was present for questions.

14. Treasurer's Report – Report submitted. Nikki Lohman was present for questions. She reported the due date for the second installment of property taxes has passed, and her office has about three percent of taxpayer funds to collect.

15. V.A.C. Report – Report submitted. Dave Strowmatt was present for questions.

APPROVAL OF 12 ITEMS ON THE CONSENT AGENDA: Motion by Fogle and second by Whitworth to approve the 12 reports submitted on the Consent Agenda. All in favor, motion carried.

LIAISON REPORTS:

- **708 Board** – Robinson reported they started meeting with applicants for 708 funding, and they will continue those meetings next month. She said they received 12 applications and have met with seven so far.
- **CEFS Board** – Fogle reported the LIHEAP program started on September 1. He also said Meals on Wheels in Litchfield is in need of drivers.
- **911 Board** – Bergen stated there is nothing new to report.
- **Health Department** – Sandra Johnson stated there is nothing new to report.
- **IL Association of County Officials** – Bergen stated there is nothing new to report.
- **MCEDC** – Yeske stated there is nothing new to report.
- **Planning Commission** – Ritchie reported they have a meeting planned for October.
- **Senior Citizens Board** – Deabenderfer reported the Chairperson of the Senior Citizens board recently died, and they have not met since then.
- **UCCI** – Miles reported there is a meeting scheduled for September 26th in Springfield.
- **U of I** – Beck reported they will meet in October.
- **WCDC** – Wendel reported they will meet Thursday, September 15th, at 6 p.m. at the WCDC office in Carlinville.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

COORDINATING COMMITTEE: Given by Chairman Evan Young:

1. **Information Systems Report Update:** Young reported Information Services is down to their last few office PC installations.
2. **EMA Report Update:** EMA Coordinator Kevin Schott reported they will start having in-person meetings with municipalities for the upcoming Hazard Mitigation plan. He also reported the drone team has been busy conducting flyovers over parades and community events. Deabenderfer asked if there was a way for EMA to track whether or not hazardous materials are brought into the county. Schott said there is no way to track truck transport if they are just passing through, but he can monitor train activity. He stated if someone plans to store hazardous materials in the county, He/she is required by law to notify him.
3. **Committee Structure Update:** Young asked if any board members had comments about the current committee structure. Loucks said he would like to see the Infrastructure Committee split back into the Buildings and Grounds and Road and Bridge Committees. He said they built a nice conference room at the Highway Department to hold these meetings, and now it is not being utilized. Miles stated their last infrastructure meeting lasted for three hours. Beeler said the most recent Finance and Budget Committee

meeting lasted for five hours. Young said there will be a special full board meeting coming up to discuss ARPA, and the committee structure could be discussed then as well.

4. **Carbon Capture and Storage Update:** Jim Prescott, Hadi Shaaban and Ryan Choquette with Heartland Greenway were present to discuss the proposed Carbon Capture and Storage pipeline and well project to run through the county. Prescott stated questions they get asked most often are why, how and when will they do this project. He stated the why is commercial demand is growing for carbon capture, especially in the agriculture community, in order to address greenhouse gas emissions. He said they already have signed agreements with three of the five ethanol producers in the nation. Regarding the how, Prescott said they have to obtain permits at every level in order to comply with regulations set forth by the federal government. As for when the project will take place, Prescott stated they are at least two years away from construction.

Prescott then deferred to Choquette, who stated aviation fuel is the next step for ethanol companies; and while there is a big push worldwide to move towards electric automobiles, electrifying an airplane is never going to happen. Jones asked where the money is going to come from. Choquette said it will come from carbon credits. Jones asked if changes in regulations as a result of a change in government administration in a few years would affect their timeline or project. Choquette responded the rules are defined to state if they receive tax credits, and they're good for seven years. Deabenderfer asked how this process differs from fracking. Choquette said it is completely different, stating fracking technology is used to get oil and gas out of shale by drilling a horizontal hole into the mineral and pumping in water and sand at a high pressure. Choquette stated the permit they have says they can drill vertically and can never go beyond 80 percent pressure. Ritchie asked what kind of seismic impact this could have. Choquette said the earthquake risk is negligible. Sneed asked about the sustainability of this project. Choquette posed the question, "How do you compete with free?" He added it is sustainable depending on what the government does. He also stated after 30 years, the field and injection wells are plugged. He said injection wells are typically located about one to two miles apart and one can only inject so much carbon dioxide into one area.

Shaaban reported they currently have lease agreements in place with landowners in Audubon Township as well as the northwestern part of Montgomery County, totaling 2,131 acres of land. When asked if there was anything the county could gain financially from the project, Prescott said they are proposing a development agreement with the County Board which would give the County approximately \$250,000 per well. He said the plan is to have between five and seven wells in the eastern part of the county and three to four in the western part. Beeler asked if Heartland Greenway has been granted utility status, or if they will be applying for utility status. Choquette stated they are not a utility, but they are governed by the Illinois Commerce Commission, and public hearings will be held as this project proceeds.

5. **Planning Commission Update:** Young stated there is nothing additional to report.
6. **EPA Report Update:** EPA Coordinator Chris Daniels reported the final electronics recycling drive for the year will be held Saturday, September 17, 2022, from 9 a.m. to noon at the Highway Department in Hillsboro.
7. **West Central Development Council/Job Center Board/CEO Board Update:** Young stated there is nothing new to report.

8. **Open/Forever Close Executive Session Minutes Update:** Young stated there is nothing new to report.

DEVELOPMENT & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Chairperson Bill Bergen:

1. **MCEDC Update:** Bergen stated there is nothing new to report.
2. **Tourism Update:** Bergen stated there is nothing new to report.
3. **Ambulance Billing Office Update:** Bergen stated there is nothing new to report.
4. **Ambulance Billing Intern Update:** Bergen stated there is nothing new to report.
5. **Approve the Resolution to Promote Development of Agriculture Approval:** Montgomery County Farm Bureau manager Katie Wilson spoke to the board about the proposed resolution. She said the Illinois Farm Bureau set priorities every year and this resolution is considered a part of their priorities. **Motion by Bergen and second by Folkerts to adopt the Resolution to Promote Development of Agriculture.** Deabenderfer said he did not want the board to commit themselves to one side or the other, whether promoting industry or agriculture. He asked if this resolution would put off an industrial company in the future. Wilson said this is not what they are trying to do by promoting this resolution. Deabenderfer also stated Hillsboro and Litchfield have both experienced watershed issues and asked if the farm bureau could offer any assistance. Wilson said she has not been approached, but they would be willing to look into it. Whitworth said she would imagine industrial-driven organizations would have a problem with the statement in the Resolution that “agriculture is the backbone of the country.” Wilson said while she understands the argument they could make, she would reply by saying without farms, there’s no food, and without food, there is no business. **All in favor, motion carried. (See Resolution Book 19, pages 139-140).**
6. **Employee Health Insurance and Monthly HRA report Update:** Nothing new to report.
7. **Approve Employee Health Insurance Plan(s) for FY 2023 Approval:** Bergen deferred to Assured Partners representative Amanda Mast, who presented the board with the proposed health insurance plans for county employees which would take effect December 1, 2022, after board approval. Mast said the County is currently insured with Health Alliance, and they were only able to negotiate the premium increase down to 17 percent. She said they received offers from United Healthcare and BlueCross BlueShield, adding the BCBS offer was not competitive and Springfield Clinic is still not in their network. She said the Personnel Committee recommended going with the United Healthcare plan, and they were able to hold premiums steady for employees by going away from plans with an HRA. Mast said they are offering four plans, three of which are similar to plans currently offered with the fourth offered because the St. Louis based Barnes-Jewish hospital system is in that network. That plan is the one with an HRA and would cost the county and employees the most. As for the cost, Mast said the worst case scenario would be every employee would sign up for the premium plan and the HRA utilization would be 25 percent. The total cost to the county would be \$946,058, which Mast said is still below what the group would be paying for with Health Alliance. Mast said another benefit to going with United Healthcare is they are a national carrier; and if an employee is out of the region and needs insurance to cover medical services, it would be beneficial to have them. Mast said there are no increases in premiums or copays. She

also said ER costs are just the deductibles under the new plans. The Ancillary plans for Dental and Vision will be with United Healthcare as well, and premiums will be very similar to what the employees pay now. **Motion by Bergen and second by Donaldson to approve the 4 plans with United Health Care as presented by Amanda Mast. The Choice Plus Plan with HRA, the 1500 Choice Plus plan with No HRA, the 1500 Core no HRA plan and the 5000 Core no HRA plan. All in favor, motion carried. Motion by Bergen and second by Robinson to make the employee health insurance open enrollment meetings mandatory for employees to attend.** Donaldson asked if these meetings will be conducted during work hours, and Chairman Young replied affirmatively. Mast said the reason she recommended making the meetings mandatory was because there is a lot of new information to present with a new health insurance carrier. In addition, Treasurer Lohman and staff had been forced to track down employees to get them to sign a document signing up for insurance or waiving it altogether. **All in favor, motion carried.**

8. **Bidding out Employee Health Insurance Update:** Nothing new to report.
9. **Discuss Addendum Agreement with the Central Labors Pension Update:** Bergen stated he had a conversation with Sheriff Robbins, and the labors pension group hasn't deposit all of the checks the county has sent them. Lohman said they've selected to deposit some checks, but there are approximately ten outstanding at this time.
10. **SOA Hire Update:** Bergen stated he hasn't had the opportunity to get updates from Ray Durston, but Finance and Budget Committee chair Russell Beason will have more information during his report.
11. **Set Dates for Union Negotiations with Local 1084 (Highway Department) Update:** Bergen reported the committee will meet on Thursday, September 29th, 2022 at 5:00 pm in the County Board Room to negotiate the labor contract with Local 1084.
12. **Approve Contract with Circuit Clerk's Union Local 148 Approval:** Bergen reported the committee reviewed the final draft of the union contract with the Circuit Clerk's Union Local 148.
13. **Executive Session for Personnel/Litigation/Property Acquisition Approval:** **Motion by Bergen and second by Donaldson to enter executive session to discuss the union contract with Local 148. All in favor, motion carried. The board entered into executive session at 7:25 p.m. Motion by Ritchie and second by Yeske to come out of executive session. All in favor, motion carried. Board returned to open session at 7:37 p.m.**
Motion by Bergen and second by Robinson to approve the Collective Bargaining Contract with Circuit Clerk's Union Local 148. Wendel abstained. All others in favor, motion carried.

FINANCE & BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Chairperson Russell Beason:

1. **SOA Report Update:** Beason reported SOA employee Kendra Niehaus has begun taking classes to qualify to become the next Supervisor of Assessments. Beason stated Niehaus has passed one class so far and has signed up to take the rest of the courses. Durston's planned retirement date is November 30, 2022.
2. **Capital Improvement Fund Reports Update:** Beason stated there is nothing new to report.

3. **IMRF Update:** Beason stated there is nothing new to report.
4. **Property Casualty Insurance Update:** Beason reported insurance representative Eric Braasch is looking into questions some of the Finance Committee members had during budget hearings.
5. **Sheriff IPRF Insurance Policy Update:** Beason reported Braasch is looking into seeing if the board can use property casualty insurance money levied to pay for software to keep track of risk management certifications.
6. **Discuss FY 2023 Levies Update:** Beason reported the Finance Committee is seeking guidance from State's Attorney Affrunti about levying by rate or by budget for Special Districts. Affrunti stated if they are levying by an "up-to" rate, then truth in taxation hearings shouldn't have to be held. Beeler said some groups had questions about increases in tax amounts because of the change in EAV relative to the rate they levied. Affrunti said he will look into it.
7. **State's Attorney, Public Defender, Circuit Clerk, Animal Control, County Employee Insurance and ROE FY 2023 Budget Proposals Update:** Beason reported the committee heard budget presentations from the Public Defender, Circuit Clerk and Animal Control offices, as well as receiving the proposed budget from the Regional Office of Education. He said they are only waiting on the State's Attorney's budget presentation. After all the presented budgets, the general fund revenues for FY 2023 total \$6,049,044. Revenues for all funds total \$20,656,310. General Fund expenses for FY 2023 total \$8,007,325 and expenses for all funds total \$29,315,793.
8. **Highway Department Fuel Management System Budget Line Update:** Beason reported the Highway Department has had issues with their fuel management system. He said the system is back up and running, but Highway Engineer Cody Greenwood requested the board create a line in the General Fund to pay for future expenses to the system since their department does not need it to function. He said the committee agreed to do so and also agreed to reimburse the Highway Department \$15,000 from coal money already in the Highway Department's FY 2022 budget.
9. **FY 2023 Budget Discussions Update:** Beason stated there is nothing new to report.
10. **Finance/Budget Control Policies and Procedures Update:** Beason stated there is nothing new to report.
11. **America Recovery Plan Act (ARPA funding) Update:** Beason reported they have held a number of meetings regarding the ARPA funding and Chairman Young plans to call a special full County Board meeting to discuss it further.
12. **DCEO Energy Community Reinvestment Act Grant and Vistra Energy Update:** County Clerk Leitheiser reported a workshop is taking place later this month to discuss possible grants available to counties affected by the closure of Vistra Energy's coal-fired power plants. Beason stated Tim Fogle, Patty Whitworth, Donna Yeske and he will be attending on behalf of the county.
13. **Add Imprest Fund for EMA and State's Attorney Approval: Motion by Beason and second by Donaldson to create Imprest Funds for EMA and the State's Attorney's office and authorize the use of debit cards for each office. All in favor, motion carried.**
14. **Automatic Increases for Information Services Subscription Services Approval:** Beason reported the committee recommended tying increases for Information Services tech services to the cost of the department's salary increases. **Motion by Beason and**

second by Loucks to approve tying tech service increases for Information Services to the Department's salary increases. All in favor, motion carried.

15. **Revolving Loan Fund Update:** Beason reported State's Attorney Andrew Affrunti said we cannot legally loan money and the board must decide whether or not to dissolve the fund or overhaul it. The committee is seeking further guidance from Affrunti before proceeding with a recommendation.

INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Chairperson Gene Miles and Committee Member Bob Sneed:

1. **Fuel Management System at Highway Department Update:** Miles reported there is nothing further to add on this topic.
2. **Sale of Surplus Property Update:** Miles reported Greenwood is hoping to sell a 1987 410C backhoe and a 1991 chip spreader. He also said the committee gave Greenwood permission to use the website *govdeals.com* to sell this equipment.
3. **Section 17-09117-00-BR – Irving Twp. N. 17th Ave. Letting Results Update:** Miles reported Greenwood is looking into aluminum box culvert letting this time around since the previous letting yielded bids twice the anticipated estimate.
4. **Hillsboro Seward St. Bridge Project Update:** Miles reported Hillsboro was recently awarded a grant in the amount of \$884,000 to fund this project, which will require a 20 percent match. He stated the county previously agreed to split the match cost of the project with the City 50/50, so the County and City will each pay 10 percent of the cost. He said the total cost of the project is approximately \$1 million.
5. **ARPA Funding Request for Equipment Sheds Update:** Miles stated this item is dependent on what the board decides to do with ARPA money.
6. **Coal Royalties Funding Request for FY 2023 Update:** Miles reported Greenwood is requesting coal funds to purchase slag while he can still get it. He said the Highway Department has switched to slag for their final seal coats. Greenwood also stated Montgomery County Farm Bureau manager Wilson reached out to him recently, and he believes the Farm Bureau is advocating for projects.
7. **Approval of Bid to re-stripe parking lines at Courts Complex Update:** Miles deferred to member Bob Sneed, who reported the committee agreed to accept a bid from PLC Pavement Striping to re-stripe the parking lines of the Courthouse Complex in the amount of \$873.26.
8. **Maintenance and Cleaning Issues and Report Update:** Sneed reported the committee heard a 30-minute maintenance report during their last meeting, and the maintenance department has been busy completing jobs around the county complexes.
9. **Request for Proposal for Performance Contract for ADA Updates to New Courthouse Update:** Sneed reported the committee is waiting on the board's decision regarding the ARPA money.
10. **Sign Annual Generator Service Agreement with Altorfer Update:** Sneed reported the committee agreed to approve a six-year generator service agreement with Altorfer.
11. **Open and Approve Bids for Caulking and Tuck Pointing at New Courthouse Update:** Sneed reported the committee received two bids for caulking and tuck pointing at the Courthouse Complex. He said they awarded the bid to AJWD Masonry in the amount of \$48,400, and they have already begun working on the project.

- 12. New Locks at Historic Courthouse Update:** Sneed reported the electronic locks have been installed at the Historic Courthouse, and the key fobs have been distributed. He said the physical locks to the building still have to be changed. He said they will have to look if the committee already approved changing the physical locks at a previous meeting.
- 13. Sidewalks at Historic Courthouse and Jail Update:** Sneed reported Sheriff Robbins said Kinney Contractors does not have time in their schedule to work on the sidewalks at the jail, but the committee is going to see if they may still pursue it since it is not a large job.
- 14. Hurst-Roche Project Cost Estimate for Sidewalks at Historic Courthouse Update:** Sneed reported Jeremy Connor from Hurst-Rosche presented the engineering report for the sidewalk project around the Historic Courthouse. He said the total cost of the project is \$167,200, which includes the City of Hillsboro's Right of Way. Sneed stated they are going to see if the City can help pay for any of the project.
- 15. Approve Bid for Jail Generator Replacement and Automatic Transfer Switch Approval:** Sneed reported the committee accepted a bid from Altorfer to replace the 60 kilowatt generator at the jail, but the bid was six months old and a new bid had been submitted. **Motion by Sneed and second by Bergen to accept the bid from Altorfer for a replacement generator at the jail in the amount of \$30,593. All in favor, motion carried. Motion by Sneed and second by Fogle to accept the bid from Altorfer for an automatic transfer switch in the amount of \$3,562. All in favor, motion carried.**
- 16. Interior Door Project for County Clerk's Office Update:** Sneed reported this item is on hold for the moment.
- 17. EMA Storage Shed Update:** Sneed reported this item is contingent on the board's decision on the distribution of ARPA funds.
- 18. Solar Farm on County Farm Update:** Young said he reached out to the company interested in putting a solar farm on the county farm about attending a full board meeting but they have not returned his call.
- 19. Elections Update:** County Clerk Leitheiser stated she would like to commend her staff on their work processing election applications. She stated she would also like to assure voters who desire to vote in-person they still can do so. She reported early voting begins September 29, which is the same day vote-by-mail ballots will be sent out.
- 20. Animal Control Administrator Position Update:** Miles reported Young hired Emily Gerl as the temporary animal control administrator after Amanda Daniels gave notice. He stated Hughes felt the committee needed to go through the proper hiring procedures of posting the job opening, and the committee agreed. The job has been posted.
- 21. Animal Control Facility Update:** Miles stated there is nothing new to report.
- 22. Animal Control Municipal Contracts Update:** Miles stated there is nothing new to report.

APPROVAL OF 4 COMMITTEE REPORTS & MINUTES:

Motion by Sneed and second by Beeler to approve the four committee reports and minutes. All in favor, motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Young reported he would like to call a special full County Board meeting on September 22nd, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. to discuss ARPA, the Detour Agreement and the

Committee Structure. Lohman asked if it could be moved to Wednesday since she has a personal conflict on the 22nd. Leitheiser said they will be conducting election judge training that evening in the board room so it's not available. Young said he will look into a different date for the meeting and inform members when it is set.

SCHEDULE CHANGES: None

APPOINTMENTS: Motion by Donaldson and second by Yeske to appoint John Speiser to the Irving-Witt-Nokomis-Rountree Drainage District #1. All in favor, motion carried. (See Resolution Book 19, page 141).

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Coffeen Fire Chief Walt Tarran stated he and representatives from other fire districts would like to be kept in the loop regarding the solar farm at the old Coffeen Power Plant.

PAY BILLS AND PAYROLL: Motion by Miles and second by Beason to pay all approved bills and payroll. All in favor, motion carried.

ADJOURN: The next regular full board meeting will be on Tuesday, October 11th, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. in the County Board Room, Hillsboro, Illinois. Motion by Donaldson and second by Loucks to adjourn the Full Board Meeting. All in favor, motion carried.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:15 p.m. Minutes respectfully recorded and submitted by Montgomery County Clerk and Recorder Sandy Leitheiser.

**Montgomery County Board
Special Meeting Minutes**

For Monday, September 26th, 2022 – 5:30 PM

The following are minutes of a special meeting of the Montgomery County Board held at 5:30 PM on Monday, September 26th, 2022.

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

Roll call was taken – 19 members present, 2 members absent.

Members Present: Russell Beason, Connie Beck, Bill Bergen, Ronald Deabenderfer, Doug Donaldson, Tim Fogle, Ken Folkerts, Mark Hughes, Jeremy Jones, David Loucks, Gene Miles, Ethan Murzynski, Andy Ritchie, Earlene Robinson, Bob Sneed, Richard Wendel, Patty Whitworth, Donna Yeske and Evan Young.

Members Absent: Megan Beeler and Sandra Johnson

Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was led by Health Department Director Hugh Satterlee.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by County Board members Bob Sneed and Gene Miles:

1. **Purchase New Mower for Maintenance Approval:** Sneed reported the mower for the Maintenance department has been in the shop a number of times. He said it is working now; however, he stated they don't know how much longer it is going to work. He said it could last for another ten years, and it could last for ten minutes. Sneed reported maintenance technician Phil Ernst received three quotes from Nail's Power Equipment for a new mower. One was a standard quote, the second included the trade-in of the old mower and the third included the hitch and front blade for snow removal. Sneed reported one proposal was with a \$725 trade in for the old mower, and Maintenance Tech Phil Ernst offered to purchase it himself so it could be used here as a backup if needed. **Motion by Hughes and second by Whitworth to purchase the mower without a trade-in.** Jones questioned if county property could be sold without bidding it out and Young said he could declare it as surplus. Further discussion took place on whether the county could sell surplus property to an individual, and Engineer Greenwood said surplus cannot be sold to an individual; it should be bid instead. Hughes and Whitworth rescinded their motion. **Motion by Hughes, second by Whitworth, to purchase the mower with trade-in and no snow blade for a price of \$9,270.** Sneed stated it's possible we could use the existing snow blade and hitch on the new mower. **All in favor, motion carried.**
2. **Approve Detour Agreement with Hillsboro Energy Approval:** Highway Engineer Greenwood reported he sent a revised Detour Agreement to the board members. He stated Hillsboro Energy would like to finish the job by the beginning of November. He said the work would be paid for completely by a private contractor. **Motion by Jones and second by Donaldson to approve the Detour Agreement with Hillsboro Energy.** Greenwood reported a section of Illinois Route 185 will be closed for approximately 21 days. Chad Fuson from Hillsboro Energy was present and said that residents who live near the area will still be allowed to leave and arrive at their homes, and he said Hillsboro Energy has also communicated with Graham Correctional Center management regarding their employee and visitor traffic, which will also be allowed. **All in favor, motion carried.**

FINANCE & BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Chairman Russell Beason:

1. **America Recovery Plan Act (ARPA funding) Approval:** Beason reported the Finance and Budget Committee has met numerous times to discuss how to distribute the county's ARPA funds, and they hope to be nearing a resolution soon. He stated the committee received two sets of requests for funds: county and non-county requests. He said the committee previously discussed the possibility of using ARPA money to fund the non-county requests while using coal money to fund the county projects; however, some board members voiced concerns about spending down the coal reserves unnecessarily. He said when looking at non-county projects, the committee determined requests had to meet the top two criteria the board previously passed, which were: 1) Life Safety Deficiencies, and 2) Non-deferrable upgrades for efficiency. He stated the other three criteria were classified as 3) Operational mode for day-to-day operations, 4) Deferrable upgrades, maintenance and repair, and 5) Morale, welfare and recreation. He said requests falling into these categories were not considered. Beason stated the committee did not apply the same criteria to the county requests, however. When asked about his requests, Health Department Director Hugh Satterlee stated his projects were selected based on not otherwise having funds for them. Hughes stated he would prefer not to spend coal money at this time, and he asked Treasurer Nikki Lohman how much coal money she believed the county should keep in reserve. Lohman stated the auditors and Bellwether representatives both recommend keeping two years of operating expenses in reserve, which would be about \$16 million. She said there is about \$6 million in reserve at this time. Lohman also shared after her first month in office the coal mine shut down and it has been closed for two fires, plus we went through a pandemic which also adversely impacted the County finances. Lohman said her opinion is to invest the coal money and put it in the General Fund and decrease the Levy to save taxpayers money. Lohman also stated the ARPA grant has to be spent by 12/31/2026 and suggested getting additional input from the entities who submitted requests. She said they should be asked if there are any other grant funds available or if other options were checked out before asking for county ARPA funds. Lohman stated she never felt coal funds should be spent on her digitizing project, and the reason she submitted it for ARPA funds is because the ARPA grant should be used on Government services projects. Lohman added if the board chooses to use coal funds for county projects, she is going to take her project out of consideration. Deabenderfer stated he didn't remember the board voting to spend ARPA money on County projects first. Jones asked if the board was going to go down the list of projects one by one and vote on them at this meeting. Donaldson stated he does not feel comfortable taking action on any of the requests until he is able to read through the packets. He said the letter from Bellwether recommends board members take the time to look through the projects and rank them individually before submitting their rankings to the County Clerk. The letter then states the County Clerk tabulates the rankings and presents the final findings to the board. Members then discuss the results and make their funding decisions. Hughes said he believes the board should look at funding the county projects first and then turn their attention to the non-county projects if there is money left. Loucks stated municipalities got ARPA money just like the County did, and he believes the county should spend ARPA money on county projects first. County Clerk Sandy

Leitheiser asked if the project listings in the packets could be provided to those entities who submitted them to better identify the projects before County Board members did their ranking. Hughes asked Satterlee for clarification on his department's request for telephones. Satterlee said their department's phones are antiquated and need to be replaced. He stated based on the five requests being considered by the board, the panic button request would be his department's top priority. EMA director Kevin Schott said the top priority of his three requests would be the Starcom radios for communication. Yeske stated she believes the board members need to take the information home and look at it, then submit it to the County Clerk. County Clerk Sandy Leitheiser said she would be willing to assist with the tabulation process, but asked if the Coordinated Services office can also be included. Coordinated Services assistant David Jenkins said it was only a recommendation for board members to submit their rankings to the County Clerk, but they could be turned in to someone else. Young asked if Jenkins could keep track of the results. Jenkins said he could. **Motion by Yeske and second by Fogle to have board members take the ARPA request information home and rank the projects individually and submit them to Coordinated Services by October 5, 2022.** Loucks said the Finance and Budget Committee could go over the results if they are submitted before their October 7th meeting. **All in favor, motion carried.**

COORDINATING COMMITTEE: Given by Chairman Evan Young:

- 1. Committee Structure Approval:** Loucks stated he would like to split up the Infrastructure Committee by separating the Roads & Bridges and the Building & Grounds and putting Animal Control portions under the Buildings & Grounds. **Motion by Loucks and second by Yeske to create another committee in order to separate Roads & Bridges and Building & Grounds and to have Animal Control under the B & G Committee.** Robinson asked why animal control wouldn't go under Coordinating Committee because Young deals with animal control now. Loucks said he recommended it be done this way because they haven't spent a lot of time at their Infrastructure meetings on animal control. Deabenderfer said the Rules Committee recommended the current committee structure and he believes any further changes should first be approved by this committee as was done in past practice before going to the full board. He said he would like State's Attorney Andrew Affrunti to render an opinion on this procedure before moving forward with restructuring the committees again. Deabenderfer also said he believes the board should wait until December to make these changes since the board will be reorganizing then anyway. Young said the board made the changes with the idea they could be amended at any time if something wasn't working out. Sneed said he doesn't have a problem with waiting. Robinson said if you wait, you might as well wait until December. **Loucks rescinded his motion and Yeske rescinded her second.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None.

SCHEDULE CHANGES: None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Citizen Bill Schroeder questioned the detour agreement the board approved. Specifically, he asked about item number 11 in the agreement which states “nothing in this Agreement shall be construed to be an admission by Hillsboro [Energy] of any liability for any claim made by the County.” He said this statement would seem to render any claim by the county of damage as worthless. Greenwood said he interpreted this item to say Hillsboro Energy is not responsible for any prior damage to the road. Citizen Karyl Dressen asked if more detail about agenda topics can be published in *The Journal News* so citizens will know if they should attend. Chairman Young stated the entire agenda is sent to all local media, and it is the newspaper’s discretion to decide what information is published.

ADJOURN: The next regular full board meeting will be on Tuesday, October 11th, 2022, at 5:30 p.m. in the County Board Room, Hillsboro, Illinois. Motion by Robinson and second by Donaldson to adjourn the Full Board Meeting. All in favor, motion carried.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:12 p.m. Minutes respectfully recorded and submitted by Montgomery County Clerk and Recorder Sandy Leitheiser.

Montgomery County Board Minutes

For Tuesday, October 11th, 2022 – 5:30 PM

The following are minutes of a regular meeting of the Montgomery County Board held at 5:30 PM on Tuesday, October 11th, 2022.

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

Roll call was taken: 18 members present, 3 members absent.

Members Present: Russell Beason, Connie Beck, Bill Bergen, Ronald Deabenderfer, Doug Donaldson, Tim Fogle, Ken Folkerts, Mark Hughes, Sandra Johnson, Jeremy Jones, David Loucks, Gene Miles, Ethan Murzynski, Andy Ritchie, Earlene Robinson, Bob Sneed, Patty Whitworth and Evan Young

Members Absent: Megan Beeler, Richard Wendel and Donna Yeske

Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was led by EMA Director Kevin Schott.

Mileage and Per Diem Approval: Motion by Fogle and second by Beason to approve the Mileage and Per Diem. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Beason, Beck, Bergen, Deabenderfer, Donaldson, Fogle, Folkerts, Hughes, Johnson, Jones, Loucks, Miles, Murzynski, Ritchie, Robinson, Sneed, Whitworth and Young. **All in favor, motion carried.**

Approval of Minutes of Previous County Board Meeting: Motion by Beason and second by Donaldson to approve the Minutes of the Previous Regular County Board Meeting held on Tuesday, September 13th, 2022. **All in favor, motion carried.**

Motion by Folkerts and second by Deabenderfer to approve the Minutes of the Previous Special County Board Meeting held on Monday, September 26th, 2022. **All in favor, motion carried.**

CONSENT AGENDA:

- 1. Ambulance Billing Report** – Mona Lewis – No report submitted.
- 2. Animal Control Report** – Emily Gerl – No report submitted.
- 3. Circuit Clerk's Report** – Report submitted. Daniel Robbins was present for questions.
- 4. Coroner's Report** – Randy Leetham – No report submitted.
- 5. County Clerk and Recorder's Report** – Report submitted. Sandy Leitheiser was present for questions.
- 6. Health & TB Department Report** – Report submitted. Hugh Satterlee was present for questions.
- 7. Highway Department Report** – Report submitted. Cody Greenwood was present for questions.
- 8. Probation Office Report** – Bane Ulrici – No report submitted.
- 9. Public Defender's Report** – Erin Mattson — No Report submitted.
- 10. ROE – Monthly, Quarterly & Annual Reports** – Julie Wollerman – Report submitted.
- 11. Sheriff's Report** – No report submitted. Rick Robbins was present for questions.
- 12. SOA Report** – Ray Durston – Report submitted.
- 13. State's Attorney Report** – Report submitted. Andrew Affrunti was present for questions. He stated he filed a lawsuit in Montgomery County court recently to have the Safe-T Act declared unconstitutional on behalf of his office and the Sheriff's office. He said other counties are also filing lawsuits and they are moving on this before the Act takes effect in January.

14. **Treasurer’s Report** – Report submitted. Nikki Lohman was present for questions.
15. **V.A.C. Report** – Report submitted. Dave Strowmatt was present for questions.

APPROVAL OF 9 ITEMS ON THE CONSENT AGENDA: Motion by Whitworth and second by Ritchie to approve the 9 items on the Consent Agenda. All in favor, motion carried.

LIAISON REPORTS:

- **708 Board** – Robinson reported the 708 board will award funds next month.
- **CEFS Board** – Fogle reported the CEFS LIHEAP program is up and running, and they are currently taking applications.
- **911 Board** – Bergen stated there is nothing new to report.
- **Health Department** – Sandra Johnson stated there is nothing new to report.
- **IL Association of County Officials** – Bergen stated there is nothing new to report.
- **MCEDC** – Young stated there is nothing new to report.
- **Planning Commission** – Ritchie stated there is nothing new to report.
- **Senior Citizens Board** – Deabenderfer stated there is nothing new to report.
- **UCCI** – Miles reported there will be a special weekend at the end of this month with a dinner which will also include an educational session.
- **U of I** – Beck reported Amanda Cole is present and can answer any questions.
- **WCDC** – Whitworth stated there is nothing new to report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

COORDINATING COMMITTEE: Given by Chairman Evan Young:

1. **Information Systems Report Update:** Young reported the Information Services office increased their tech services 5.6 percent. He said they are still working on their network monitoring project with CTI, and their next project will be the multifactor authentication.
2. **EMA Report Update:** Young reported EMA will hold a Hazard Mitigation Plan meeting on October 19th, 2022.
3. **Committee Structure Update:** Young stated there is nothing new to report.
4. **Carbon Capture and Storage Update:** Young stated Bergen will talk more about this topic during the Development and Personnel Committee briefing.
5. **EPA Report Update:** EPA Administrator Daniels reported they have been busy doing reports and conducting inspections. She stated there is a derelict property near Witt due to receive EPA citations soon.
6. **West Central Development Council/Job Center Board/CEO Board Update:** Young said there is nothing new to report.

INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Chairman Gene Miles and Committee Member Bob Sneed:

1. **Detour Agreement with Hillsboro Energy Approval:** Miles reported some changes were made to the Detour Agreement previously approved by the County Board at their meeting last month, and it needs to be approved again. **Motion by Miles and second by Beason to approve the amended Detour Agreement with Hillsboro Energy as presented. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 189-194).** Greenwood reported the work may begin as soon as October 17th, 2022.

2. **Walshville Bypass Road Intergovernmental Agreement Update:** Highway Engineer Greenwood reported he completed a draft of an Intergovernmental Agreement between the County and the Village of Walshville to construct a bypass road. He stated a copy of the drafted agreement has been sent to the Walshville Village Board, and Walshville Village President Joy McDonald has questions. Greenwood said he invited her to the next Infrastructure Committee meeting to discuss them.
3. **FY 2023 Highway Department Equipment Purchase – Tractor and Boom Mower Approval:** Greenwood reported the Highway Department would like County Board’s approval to move forward with purchasing a new 6145M tractor and boom mower since equipment is so difficult to find. He said the cost of the tractor and mower together is around \$221,000 and the cost of the tractor alone is \$133,003.04. **Motion by Miles and second by Jones to approve purchasing a John Deere 6145M Tractor for the Highway Department from the FY 2023 budget in the amount of \$133,003.04. All in favor, motion carried.**
4. **Whitetown Bridge Project Update:** Miles reported IDOT has scheduled bridge letting for January 2023, and property corners have been staked. He said the estimated time of completion for the project is 90 days.
5. **Coffeen Road/Seven Sisters Intersection Project Update:** Miles reported Greenwood is hopeful to begin purchasing property in the next month or two for this project, and construction will also likely take place next summer; but the completion time will also be shorter.
6. **Bulk Fuel Purchasing Update:** Miles reported the county is currently under a two-year agreement expiring December 31, 2022. He stated Greenwood is working on putting bid specifications together and he plans to advertise soon with the goal of opening bids at the November meeting.
7. **Maintenance and Cleaning Issues and Report Update:** Miles reported Maintenance Tech Phil Ernst submitted his monthly report to the committee members.
8. **Animal Control Facility Update:** Miles reported Interim Animal Control Administrator Emily Gerl recently hired Chasity Maguire, who will go out on calls. He said Maguire previously worked for Animal Control. Miles deferred to Gerl, who informed the committee her department has generated \$1,150 for cremations, and she has been working with the State’s Attorney’s office to determine how to run citations through the Circuit Clerk for the court system.
9. **Animal Control Municipal Contracts Update:** Miles said there is nothing new to report.
10. **Request for Proposal for Performance Contract for ADA Updates to New Courthouse Update:** Miles deferred to Sneed, who reported this matter is dependent upon the Board’s decision on how to distribute ARPA money.
11. **New Locks at Historic Courthouse Update:** Sneed said there is nothing new to report.
12. **Sidewalks at Historic Courthouse and Jail Update:** Sneed reported Sheriff Robbins received bids from Durb’s Dirt Work and Kinney Contractors for sidewalk work around the jail. He said the committee agreed to approve the bid with Durb’s Dirt Work in the amount of \$12,000.
13. **Hurst-Rosche Project Cost Estimate for Sidewalks at Historic Courthouse Update:** Sneed reported Jeremy Conner from Hurst-Rosche presented the revised engineering plan for sidewalks around the Historic Courthouse. He said the new plan divides the project

into two phases. Sneed said they will have to meet with City of Hillsboro leaders to discuss their share of the project before proceeding further.

14. **Approve Cost for ROE Building Roof Replacement Update:** Sneed reported the cost to replace the roof of the ROE building was \$660 more than the committee previously approved because of metal coping. He said the committee approved the revised cost at \$23,920.
15. **Interior Door Project for County Clerk's Office Update:** Sneed said there is nothing new to report.
16. **EMA Storage Shed Update:** Sneed reported this item is dependent upon the board's decision to distribute ARPA money.
17. **Elections Update:** Sneed deferred to Leitheiser, who reported her staff has been busy with early voting, and a total of 1,479 voters have voted either early or by mail to date.

DEVELOPMENT & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Chairman Bill Bergen:

1. **MCEDC Update:** Bergen said there is nothing new to report.
2. **Tourism Update:** Bergen said there is nothing new to report.
3. **Ambulance Billing Office Update:** Bergen reported Hillsboro Area Ambulance Service gave notice they are pulling out of county billing, which leaves Raymond-Harvel and Farmersville-Waggoner as the only remaining ambulance services utilizing county billing. He stated the remaining two ambulance districts cannot afford to keep the office open on their own. Bergen said he spoke with Hillsboro Area Ambulance District representatives today, and they have already turned their billing over to the private company. He reported the remaining two services are looking into contracting with that same private company.
4. **Employee Health Insurance and Monthly HRA report Approval:** Bergen reported Health Insurance broker Amanda Mast recommended the board approve the Tier 2 Advocacy Benefit program. He said if the board does not go with that program, Mast said all questions related to health insurance would go to Treasurer Nikki Lohman and Payroll Clerk Trish Roemelin. The cost is \$2,736 for the Health Advocacy service. **Motion by Bergen and second by Whitworth to proceed with the Tier 2 Benefit Advocacy Solution through Assured Partners. All in favor, motion carried.** Bergen also reported employee open enrollment will take place from October 15th, 2022, through November 1st, 2022.
5. **2023 Holiday Schedule Approval:** **Motion by Bergen and second by Fogle to approve the 2023 Holiday Schedule as presented. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, page 142).**
6. **Supervisor of Assessments Position Approval:** **Motion by Bergen and second by Johnson to appoint Cindy Laurent as acting Supervisor of Assessments for 60 days, or until Kendra Niehaus becomes qualified, effective December 1, 2022. All in favor, motion carried.**
7. **Hiring an Animal Control Administrator Update:** Bergen stated there is nothing new to report.
8. **Discuss and Recommend Approval of Carbon Sequestration Proposal with Heartland Greenway Approval:** Bergen reported the committee looked over the proposal from Heartland Greenway and decided they would like to pursue a development

agreement with more detail. Deabenderfer stated the proposal sent to the committee did not have enough detail to get approved, and he would like to request a more detailed and professional development contract so terms can be discussed. **Motion by Deabenderfer and second by Donaldson to contact Heartland Greenway and ask them to send a more detailed professional development contract so terms can be discussed. All in favor, motion carried.**

9. **SOA Union Change from Local 397 to Local 1084 Update:** Bergen reported the employees in the Supervisor of Assessments Union have decided to switch to Local 1084, which is the same union as the Highway Department.
10. **Union Negotiations with Local 1084 (Highway Department) Update:** Bergen reported the committee reached a tentative agreement with Local 1084 Highway Department on a new 5-year contract, effective December 1st, 2022. He said they hope to have it ready for County Board approval at the November 15th, 2022, meeting.
11. **Union Negotiations with Local 1084 (Supervisor of Assessments) Update:** Bergen reported the committee began negotiations with the SOA union and they hope to have an agreement ready for County Board approval at the November 15th, 2022, meeting.

FINANCE & BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Chairman Russell Beason:

1. **SOA Report Update:** Beason stated there is nothing additional to report at this time.
2. **Capital Improvement Fund Reports Update:** Beason stated there is nothing new to report.
3. **IMRF Update/Approval:** Beason stated there is nothing new to report.
4. **Property Casualty Insurance Update:** Beason reported they are waiting to hear back from Insurance representative Eric Braasch about premium increases.
5. **Sheriff IPRF Insurance Policy Update:** Beason deferred to Sheriff Robbins, who stated he made changes to his budget to reflect paying for software to document training out of the Claims and Adjustments (270) fund.
6. **Sheriff's FY 2023 Budget Proposal Changes Update:** Beason reported Sheriff Robbins is requesting \$12,000 be put back in a salary line item to pay for comp time he will have to pay retiring employees in FY 2023. Robbins stated a severance line was removed from his budget several years ago to balance the budget at that time, and he needs that line restored now due to several recent retirements.
7. **FY 2022 Budget Approved Vehicles for Sheriff's Department Approval:** Sheriff Robbins reported he is requesting a total of six vehicles in FY 2023. He stated three vehicles approved to be purchased using money from ARPA lost revenue will not be available until FY 2023 due to the automobile industry shortage. He said the amount set aside for the vehicles was \$135,000. He also said he is requesting three more vehicles next fiscal year, and the total amount he is requesting for all six is \$290,000. He stated he would like the board's permission to reserve all the vehicles so they can be ordered now. **Motion by Jones and second by Murzynski to allow Sheriff Robbins to reserve three Dodge Durangos for FY 2023. All in favor, motion carried.**
8. **Discuss FY 2023 Levies Update:** Beason said there is nothing new to report.
9. **Present FY 2023 Budget for Review Update:** Beason said board members received the proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2023 in their materials for this meeting.

- 10. FY 2023 Budget Approval: Motion by Beason and second by Donaldson to approve the proposed FY 2023 Budget as presented. All in favor, motion carried. Lohman said any changes to the proposed budget will be documented and posted 15 days before the budget is passed at the November board meeting.**
- 11. Adopt the Estimated FY 2023 Aggregate Levy Approval: Motion by Beason and second by Donaldson to approve the estimated FY 2023 aggregate levy in the amount of \$4,181,705. All in favor, motion carried.**
- 12. Adopt the Estimated FY 2023 Special Service Levies as Presented Approval: Motion by Beason and second by Folkerts to approve the estimated FY 2023 Farmersville/Waggoner Ambulance District's Special Service Area levy in the amount of \$78,700. All in favor, motion carried.
Motion by Beason and second by Deabenderfer to approve the estimated FY 2023 Hillsboro Area Ambulance District's Special Service levy in the amount of \$109,000. All in favor, motion carried.
Motion by Beason and second by Fogle to approve the estimated FY 2023 Litchfield Area Ambulance District's Special Service levy in the amount of \$680,407. All in favor, motion carried.
Motion by Beason and second by Miles to approve the estimated FY 2023 Nokomis-Witt Area Ambulance District's Special Service levy in the amount of \$303,968. All in favor, motion carried.
Motion by Beason and second by Ritchie to approve the estimated FY 2023 Raymond/Harvel Ambulance District's Special Service levy in the amount of \$80,483. All in favor, motion carried.
Motion by Beason and second by Robinson to approve the estimated FY 2023 Community Mental Health (708) Board's levy in the amount of \$675,186. All in favor, motion carried.
Motion by Beason and second by Deabenderfer to approve the estimated FY 2023 Senior Social Services District's levy in the amount of \$109,000. All in favor, motion carried.
Motion by Beason and second by Donaldson to approve the estimated FY 2023 Veterans Assistance Commission levy in the amount of \$52,400. All in favor, motion carried.**
- 13. Finance/Budget Control Policies and Procedures Update: Beason said there is nothing new to report.**
- 14. Recommend Approving the Levy for the University of Illinois Extension Office Approval: Motion by Beason and second by Whitworth to approve the estimated FY 2023 Extension levy in the amount of \$150,425. All in favor, motion carried.**
- 15. Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 10-33-388-003 in North Litchfield Township to the City of Litchfield Approval: Motion by Beason and second by Fogle to approve the Resolution to Convey deed for Parcel ID #10-33-388-003 in North Litchfield Township to the City of Litchfield. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 143-144.)**
- 16. Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 06-18-234-005 in Raymond Township to Blair and Angie Perry Approval: Motion by Beason and second by Beck to approve the Resolution to Convey deed for Parcel ID #06-18-234-005 in Raymond Township**

- to Blair and Angie Perry. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 145-146.)
17. **Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 17-35-307-014 in East Fork Township to Jose Perez Aguilar Approval:** Motion by Beason and second by Fogle to approve the Resolution to Convey deed for Parcel ID #17-35-307-014 in East Fork Township to Jose Perez Aguilar. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 147-148.)
 18. **Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 10-21-200-001 in North Litchfield Township to Devin Tefteller Approval:** Motion by Beason and second by Whitworth to approve the Resolution to Convey deed for Parcel ID #10-21-200-001 in North Litchfield Township to Devin Tefteller. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 149-150.)
 19. **Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 03-21-383-013 in Pitman Township to Fountain Investments LLC Approval:** Motion by Beason and second by Beck to approve the Resolution to Convey deed for Parcel ID #03-21-383-013 in Pitman Township to Fountain Investments LLC. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 151-152.)
 20. **Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 03-21-383-018 in Pitman Township to Lori Boehler Approval:** Motion by Beason and second by Fogle to approve the Resolution to Convey deed for Parcel ID #10-33-388-003 in North Litchfield Township to the City of Litchfield. Sneed reported the board already approved this resolution and it needs to be rescinded and changed to the correct information. Beason moves to rescind his motion, and Fogle seconds. Motion by Beason and second by Beck to approve the Resolution to Convey deed for Parcel ID #03-21-383-018 in Pitman Township to Lori Boehler. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 153-154.)
 21. **Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 03-21-453-007 in Pitman Township to Fountain Investments LLC Approval:** Motion by Beason and second by Robinson to approve the Resolution to Convey deed for Parcel ID #03-21-453-007 in Pitman Township to Fountain Investments LLC. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 155-156.)
 22. **Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 03-28-206-005 in Pitman Township to Michael and Alesia Haslett Approval:** Motion by Beason and second by Jones to approve the Resolution to Convey deed for Parcel ID #03-28-206-005 in Pitman Township to Michael and Alesia Haslett. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 157-158.)
 23. **Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 03-28-214-005 in Pitman Township to Philip Boehler Approval:** Motion by Beason and second by Johnson to approve the Resolution to Convey deed for Parcel ID #03-28-214-005 in Pitman Township to Philip Boehler. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 159-160.)
 24. **Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 04-33-405-003 in Harvel Township to Greg McKinney and Kimberly Kell Approval:** Motion by Beason and second by Donaldson to approve the Resolution to Convey deed for Parcel ID #04-33-405-003 in Harvel Township to Greg McKinney and Kimberly Kell. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 161-162.)

25. **Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 08-22-476-001 in Nokomis Township to ITSM Software Consultants Inc. Approval:** Motion by Beason and second by Johnson to approve the Resolution to Convey deed for Parcel ID #08-22-476-001 in Nokomis Township to ITSM Software Consultants Inc. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 163-164.)
26. **Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 10-33-136-014 in North Litchfield Township to Bruce Johnson Approval:** Motion by Beason and second by Robinson to approve the Resolution to Convey deed for Parcel ID #10-33-136-014 in North Litchfield Township to Bruce Johnson. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 165-166.)
27. **Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 10-33-136-015 in North Litchfield Township to Bruce Johnson Approval:** Motion by Beason and second by Beck to approve the Resolution to Convey deed for Parcel ID #10-33-136-015 in North Litchfield Township to Bruce Johnson. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 167-168.)
28. **Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 10-33-137-006 in North Litchfield Township to Bruce Johnson Approval:** Motion by Beason and second by Beck to approve the Resolution to Convey deed for Parcel ID #10-33-137-006 in North Litchfield Township to Bruce Johnson. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 169-170.)
29. **Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 12-22-402-018 in Irving Township to Karen Summers and Loren Caulk Approval:** Motion by Beason and second by Donaldson to approve the Resolution to Convey deed for Parcel ID #12-22-402-018 in Irving Township to Karen Summers and Loren Caulk. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 171-172.)
30. **Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 12-22-403-005 in Irving Township to Pitman Realty LLC Approval:** Motion by Beason and second by Robinson to approve the Resolution to Convey deed for Parcel ID #12-22-403-005 in Irving Township to Pitman Realty LLC. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 173-174.)
31. **Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 13-06-231-012 in Witt Township to Capstan Management LLC Approval:** Motion by Beason and second by Robinson to approve the Resolution to Convey deed for Parcel ID #13-06-231-012 in Witt Township to Capstan Management LLC. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 175-176.)
32. **Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 16-11-207-010 in Hillsboro Township to Michael H. and Pamela D. Hiller Approval:** Motion by Beason and second by Whitworth to approve the Resolution to Convey deed for Parcel ID #16-11-207-010 in Hillsboro Township to Michael H. and Pamela D. Hiller. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 177-178.)
33. **Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 16-13-309-011 in Hillsboro Township to Pitman Realty LLC Approval:** Motion by Beason and second by Folkerts to approve the Resolution to Convey deed for Parcel ID #16-13-309-011 in Hillsboro Township to Pitman Realty LLC. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 179-180.)

34. **Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 17-07-206-016 in East Fork Township to Cheap Lands Inc. Approval:** Motion by Beason and second by Robinson to approve the Resolution to Convey deed for Parcel ID #17-07-206-016 in East Fork Township to Cheap Lands Inc. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 181-182.)
35. **Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 17-35-155-006 in East Fork Township to Fountain Investments LLC Approval:** Motion by Beason and second by Robinson to approve the Resolution to Convey deed for Parcel ID #17-35-155-006 in East Fork Township to Fountain Investments LLC. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 183-184.)
36. **Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 17-35-330-009 in East Fork Township to Tyler and Sarah Yount Approval:** Motion by Beason and second by Loucks to approve the Resolution to Convey deed for Parcel ID #17-35-330-009 in East Fork Township to Tyler and Sarah Yount. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 185-186.)
37. **Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 20-22-377-016 in Grisham Township to Capstan Management LLC Approval:** Motion by Beason and second by Loucks to approve the Resolution to Convey deed for Parcel ID #20-22-377-016 in Grisham Township to Capstan Management LLC. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 187-188.)
38. **America Recovery Plan Act (ARPA funding) Update:** Beason reported the Finance and Budget Committee had several discussions regarding how to distribute the ARPA grant funds. He stated he board voted to take the project information home and rank each project individually at the September, 2022, meeting; and the Coordinated Services office tabulated the scores and the results are now available. Beason said the county is currently facing a deficit of approximately \$1.6 million for FY 2023, and the committee discussed balancing the budget by using a combination of \$800,000 in ARPA grant funds and \$800,000 in Coal funds. After using ARPA funds to balance the budget, Beason stated there would be enough ARPA funds left to award grants for the top 18 requests on the list. He said even after those 18 projects were funded, there would be approximately \$182,000 of ARPA grant funds left. Ritchie said he would like to see this remaining balance used to fund more of the deficit and take some more of the burden off of the coal money since the auditors have recommended having one to two years of operating expenses saved in reserve. Whitworth agreed the auditors suggest we have two years expense costs in reserve, and she suggested the reserve funds be invested to generate interest. Lohman reported operating expenses are approximately \$8 million each year, and the county currently had \$4.2 million in reserve. Young said we don't have to spend the remaining ARPA balance right away, and it could be used for the following fiscal year if needed.
39. **DCEO Energy Community Reinvestment Act Grant and Vistra Energy Update:** Beason reported he recently attended a workshop in Carbondale designed for counties with closed coal-fired power plants along with members Whitworth and Fogle on September 29th regarding Coal Community Grants and it was very informative. Fogle said it was eye-opening to learn about the number of grants available to counties like ours, and he stated there are approximately \$169 million dollars in available grants.

40. Revolving Loan Fund Update: Beason reported State's Attorney Affrunti recently advised the county should not have the Revolving Loan Fund, so the board will need to decide what to do with it.

APPROVAL OF 4 COMMITTEE REPORTS & MINUTES:

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Young reported they will have to re-advertise the open position of animal control warden and facility manager because the position title was previously incorrectly advertised.

SCHEDULE CHANGES: None.

APPOINTMENTS: Motion by Fogle and second by Bergen to appoint William Fleming to the Litchfield Airport Authority Board for a five-year term. All in favor, motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Crossover Ministries' representative Linda Liebscher addressed the board. She thanked them for their decisions on the distribution of ARPA money. She said while the Crossover Ministries board is disappointed they were not awarded any ARPA money, they will still move forward with the vision the Lord has given them. She stated they did not know about the County having ARPA money until they attended a board meeting. She said she respects the board members and doesn't believe they made any incorrect decisions, but in the future she would like to see changes to the process of how to decide to distribute such money. **(For copy of Liebscher's written statement, see Resolution Book 19, pages 189-191).**

Citizen Bill Schroeder also addressed the board. He spoke of the issue of carbon sequestration and asked if the board members knew Christian County has expressed strong opposition to this type of project. He asked if a proposed contract discussed by the board will be available to the public. Young said they have not received a formal contract yet but it will be made available to the public before the board votes on it.

PAY BILLS AND PAYROLL: Motion by Beason and second by Folkerts to pay all approved bills and Payroll. All in favor, motion carried.

RECESS: The next regular full board meeting will be on Tuesday, November 15th, 2022, at 5:30 p.m. in the County Board Room, Hillsboro, Illinois. Motion by Miles and second by Fogle to recess the Full Board Meeting until November 15, 2022. All in favor, motion carried.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:25 p.m. Minutes respectfully recorded and submitted by Montgomery County Clerk and Recorder Sandy Leitheiser.

Montgomery County Board Minutes

For Tuesday, November 15th, 2022 – 5:30 PM

The following are minutes of a regular meeting of the Montgomery County Board held at 5:30 PM on Tuesday, November 15th, 2022.

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

Roll call was taken – 16 members present, 5 members absent.

Members Present: Connie Beck, Ronald Deabenderfer, Doug Donaldson, Tim Fogle, Ken Folkerts, Mark Hughes, Sandra Johnson, David Loucks, Gene Miles, Andy Ritchie, Earlene Robinson, Bob Sneed, Richard Wendel, Patty Whitworth, Donna Yeske and Evan Young

Members Absent: Russell Beason, Megan Beeler, Bill Bergen, Jeremy Jones and Ethan Murzynski.

Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was led by County Board member Richard Wendel.

Mileage and Per Diem Approval: Motion by Yeske and second by Donaldson to approve the Mileage and Per Diem. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Beck, Deabenderfer, Donaldson, Fogle, Folkerts, Hughes, Johnson, Loucks, Miles, Ritchie, Robinson, Sneed, Wendel, Whitworth, Yeske and Young. All in favor, motion carried.

Approval of Minutes of Previous County Board Meeting: Motion by Deabenderfer and second by Folkerts to approve the Minutes of the Previous Regular County Board Meeting held on Tuesday, October 11th, 2022. All in favor, motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- 1. Ambulance Billing Report** -- Mona Lewis – No report was submitted.
- 2. Animal Control Report** -- Emily Gerl – No report was submitted. Gerl was present for questions.
- 3. Circuit Clerk's Report** – Daniel Robbins – Report was submitted. Robbins was present for questions.
- 4. Coroner's Report** – Randy Leetham – Report was submitted. Leetham was present for questions.
- 5. County Clerk and Recorder's Report** – Report submitted. Leitheiser was present for questions.
- 6. Health & TB Department Report** – Hugh Satterlee – Report was submitted. Satterlee was present for questions.
- 7. Highway Department Report** – Cody Greenwood – Report was submitted. Greenwood was present for questions.
- 8. Probation Office Report** – Bane Ulrici – No report was submitted. Ulrici was present later in the meeting for questions. She updated members regarding grants and recognition the office recently received.
- 9. Public Defender's Report** – Erin Mattson — No report was submitted.
- 10. ROE – Monthly, Quarterly & Annual Reports** -- Julie Wollerman – Report was submitted.
- 11. Sheriff's Report** – Rick Robbins – Report was submitted. Robbins was present for questions.
- 12. SOA Report** – Ray Durston – Report was submitted.

13. State's Attorney Report – Andrew Affrunti – Report was submitted. Affrunti was present for questions.

14. Treasurer's Report – Nikki Lohman – Report was submitted. Lohman was present for questions.

15. V.A.C. Report – Dave Strowmatt – Report was submitted. Strowmatt was present for questions.

APPROVAL OF 11 REPORTS ON THE CONSENT AGENDA: Motion by Donaldson and second by Johnson to approve the 11 reports on the Consent Agenda. All in favor, motion carried.

LIAISON REPORTS:

- **708 Board** – Robinson reported they will be notifying 708 funding recipients about their awards this week.
- **CEFS Board** – Fogle reported CEFS in Litchfield is looking for drivers for Meals on Wheels and stated the CEFS LiHeap program is still open and ready for those interested.
- **911 Board** – Bergen was absent and nothing new was reported.
- **Health Department** -- Johnson stated there was nothing new to report.
- **IL Association of County Officials** -- Bergen and Beeler were absent and nothing new was reported.
- **MCEDC** -- Yeske stated there was nothing new to report.
- **Planning Commission** – Ritchie stated there was nothing new to report and there are no meetings scheduled.
- **Senior Citizens Board** -- Deabenderfer stated there is nothing new to report.
- **UCCI** – Miles reported there was a meeting held Monday, November 14, primarily focused on newly elected individuals.
- **U of I** – Beck reported their next meeting is in December, 2022.
- **WCDC** – Wendel reported there is a meeting scheduled for Thursday, November 17th, 2022.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

COORDINATING COMMITTEE: Given by Chairman Evan Young:

1. **Information Systems Report Update:** Young stated IS employee Mat Marietta is leaving the county Information Services office at the end of this month, and manager Curt Watkins will be looking for a replacement soon.
2. **EMA Report Update:** EMA Coordinator Schott reported they responded to a structure fire in Litchfield over the weekend.
3. **Committee Structure Update:** Young stated there is nothing new to report.
4. **Carbon Capture and Storage Update:** Young stated he is meeting with Heartland Greenway project representative Jim Prescott on Thursday, November 17th, 2022, regarding this project. Young stated the Development and Personnel Committee voted to begin negotiating a development agreement with this company for carbon sequestration in the county.
5. **EPA Report Update:** EPA Administrator Chris Daniels reported the Spring Electronics recycling drive will be held on Saturday, April 29, 2023, in Litchfield; and the Fall event

will be held on Saturday, September 16th, 2023 in Hillsboro. She also reported her office has scheduled open dump EPA inspections for various sites throughout the county.

6. **West Central Development Council/Job Center Board/CEO Board Update:** Young reported their next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 17th, 2022.
7. **County Board Reorganization Meeting Date Update:** Young reported he is working with State's Attorney Affrunti to finalize a date for the County Board reorganization meeting. He stated it will not be held on December 1st as was previously discussed.

DEVELOPMENT & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Chairwoman Donna Yeske:

1. **MCEDC Update:** Yeske said there is nothing new to report.
2. **Tourism Update:** Yeske said there is nothing new to report.
3. **Ambulance Billing Office and Employees Approval:** Yeske stated the ambulance billing office will be closing due to the Hillsboro Area Ambulance Service pulling out of county billing services last month. **Motion by Yeske and second by Donaldson to close the county ambulance billing office effective November 30, 2022.** Whitworth asked about the remainder of bills coming in after the office is closed and who would take care of them. Young stated there shouldn't be a large amount of bills lagging behind because all of the other ambulance services have already begun using a private company to handle their billing, but Coordinated Services assistant David Jenkins will take care of services needed after the office closure. **15 members voted yes, and 1 member (Deabenderfer) voted no. Motion carried.**
4. **Employee Health Insurance and Monthly HRA report Update:** Yeske reported open enrollment was held recently and it went well.
5. **Discuss Addendum to agreement with the Central Labors Pension Update:** Yeske said there is nothing new to report.
6. **Supervisor of Assessments Position Update:** Yeske said there is nothing new to report.
7. **Public Hearing for Proposed Solar Farms/Projects for Anacott Solar, LLC, Bluestar Solar, LLC, and Horseshoe Solar, LLC Update:** Yeske deferred to Cultivate Power representative Kiera Gavin who gave a presentation on the three solar projects for which they are seeking permits in Montgomery County. She stated Cultivate Power is the overseeing developer of the project and the three smaller companies are Anacott Solar, Bluestar Solar, and Horseshoe Solar. When asked why there were three separate companies, Gavin said this was done because a single company is only allowed to have a maximum of 5 megawatts of solar each. Citizen Ron Snoddy was present and said he owns the property next door to where one of the proposed projects is, but nobody approached him about it. He said these solar panels are an eyesore and the company should have approached him before proceeding. Gavin said the owner of the property where the solar panels will be located still plans to farm between the panels and Snoddy's property. County Board members and various citizens discussed several aspects of these solar farm projects. **Motion by Yeske and second by Whitworth to table any decision on the Solar Farm Project Permits until the December 13, 2022, full board meeting at 5:30 pm. All in favor, motion carried.**
8. **Heartland Greenway Carbon Sequestration Project and Development Agreement Update:** Yeske stated there is nothing new to report.

9. **Executive Session for Personnel/Litigation/Property Acquisition Approval:** Motion by Yeske and second by Fogle to enter into executive session for the purpose of discussing Personnel, Litigation, Property Acquisition and union contracts. All in favor, motion carried. Board entered into executive session at 6:37 p.m. at 6:50 p.m., motion by Robinson and second by Whitworth to come out of executive session. All in favor, motion carried.
10. **Approve Collective Bargaining Agreement with Local 1084 (Supervisor of Assessments) Approval:** Motion by Yeske and second by Fogle to approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement with Local 1084 for the Supervisor of Assessments office. All in favor, motion carried.
11. **Approve Collective Bargaining Agreement with Local 1084 (Highway Department) Approval:** Motion by Yeske and second by Donaldson to approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement with Local 1084 for the Highway Department. All in favor, motion carried.

FINANCE & BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Vice-Chairman David Loucks:

1. **SOA Report Update:** Loucks stated Supervisor of Assessments Durston informed the Finance Committee the Board of Review has received 25 complaints at this time. Loucks also reported SOA employee Kendra Niehaus is down to her last qualifying test and also has to complete the state exam to be qualified for the SOA position.
2. **Capital Improvement Fund Reports Update:** Loucks reported the county received another check in October from the Deer Run Coal mine.
3. **IMRF Update:** Loucks stated there are no new updates at this time.
4. **Add United Health Care Services Inc. to the Pre-Approved Vendor List Approval:** Motion by Loucks and second by Yeske to approve adding United Health Care Services Inc. to the Pre-Approved Vendor List and deleting Health Alliance from the Pre-Approved Vendor List. All in favor, motion carried. (See Resolution Book 19, pages 198-199).
5. **Convey deed for Parcel ID 08-23-114-013 in Nokomis Township to John Beach Approval:** Motion by Loucks and second by Johnson to approve conveying deed for Parcel ID 08-23-114-013 in Nokomis Township to John Beach. All in favor, motion carried. (See Resolution Book 19, pages 200-201).
6. **Approve Treasurer signing Technology Grant for Circuit Clerk's Office Approval:** Motion by Loucks and second by Miles to approve the Treasurer signing the technology grant for the Circuit Clerk's office. All in favor, motion carried.
7. **Approve Salary Increase for Interim Supervisor of Assessments Approval:** Motion by Loucks and second by Fogle to approve a salary for Temporary Supervisor of Assessments Cindy Laurent in the amount of \$13,057.70 across the five pay periods she will serve in the position. All in favor, motion carried.
8. **Approve FY 2023 Change Sheet Approval:** Motion by Loucks and second by Donaldson to approve the FY 2023 Budget Change Sheet as presented. All in favor, motion carried. (See Resolution Book 19, pages 202-203).
9. **Approve FY 2023 Budget Approval:** Motion by Loucks and second by Wendel to approve the FY 2023 Budget as presented. All in favor, motion carried.

- 10. Adopt the FY 2023 Aggregate Levy Approval: Motion by Loucks and second by Donaldson to adopt the FY 2023 Aggregate Levy in the amount of \$4,181,075 for a 2.2218 percent increase. All in favor, motion carried. (See Resolution Book 19, page 213).**
- 11. Approve FY 2023 Budget Appropriations, Levies and Resolutions Approval:**
- A. Motion by Loucks and second by Whitworth to approve Resolution 22-19 to Adopt the Fiscal Year 2023 Financial Appropriation Ordinance in the amount of \$36,584,901. All in favor, motion carried.**
- B. Motion by Folkerts and second by Johnson to approve Resolution 22-20 to pass the General Corporate Fund levy for the current taxable year in the amount of \$1,020,600. All in favor, motion carried.**
- C. Motion by Donaldson and second by Yeske to approve Resolution 22-21 to pass the County Health Department levy in the amount of \$655,200. All in favor, motion carried.**
- D. Motion by Wendel and second by Ritchie to approve Resolution 22-22 to pass the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund levy in the amount of \$600,000. All in favor, motion carried.**
- E. Motion by Robinson and second by Beck to approve Resolution 22-23 to pass the Social Security Fund levy in the amount of \$650,000. All in favor, motion carried.**
- F. Motion by Miles and second by Whitworth to approve Resolution 22-24 to pass the levy to pay the costs of Insurance Premiums in the amount of \$400,000. All in favor, motion carried.**
- G. Motion by Donaldson and second by Wendel to approve Resolution 22-25 to pass the County Highway Fund levy in the amount of \$504,000. All in favor, motion carried.**
- H. Motion by Whitworth and second by Loucks to approve Resolution 22-26 to pass the County Highway Federal Aid Matching levy in the amount of \$252,000. All in favor, motion carried.**
- I. Motion by Loucks and second by Johnson to approve Resolution 22-27 to pass the Special Aid to County Bridge Fund levy in the amount of \$252,000. All in favor, motion carried.**
- J. Motion by Sneed and second by Wendel to approve Resolution 22-28 to pass the levy for Veterans Assistance in the amount of \$52,400. All in favor, motion carried.**
- K. Motion by Deabenderfer and second by Beck to approve Resolution 22-29 to pass the levy for Senior Citizen Social Services in the amount of \$109,000. All in favor, motion carried.**
- L. Motion by Hughes and second by Beck to approve Resolution 22-30 to pass the levy for the County Extension Service in the amount of \$150,425. All in favor, motion carried.**
- M. Motion by Donaldson and second by Deabenderfer to approve Resolution 22-31 to pass the Community Mental Health Board Tax levy in the amount of \$675,186.** Robinson said this amount is less than what the board just passed in the budget. Lohman stated this was a question they had been asking for months. Affrunti said he has always maintained Special Service Districts should levy based on the full amount approved by the voters, which would be 0.15 percent in this case. Lohman said if the 708 board levies for the full amount, it would be an increase of more than 5 percent and a truth in taxation

hearing should have been held. Folkerts stated his understanding is a truth in taxation hearing would be needed also when an increase of 5% or more is requested. Affrunti said if the board approves the levy at this meeting for the higher amount to match the budget, they could be subject to possible litigation. **14 members voted yes, and 2 voted no. Yeske and Robinson vote no. Motion carried.**

N. Motion by Sneed and second by Miles to approve Resolution 22-32 to pass the levy for the Farmersville/Waggoner Special Service Area in the amount of \$78,700. All in favor, motion carried.

O. Motion by Donaldson and second by Beck to approve Resolution 22-33 to pass the levy for the Raymond/Harvel Special Service Area in the amount of \$80,483. All in favor, motion carried.

P. Motion by Johnson and second by Miles to approve Resolution 22-34 to pass the levy for the Nokomis/Witt Special Service Area in the amount of \$303,968. All in favor, motion carried.

Q. Motion by Whitworth and second by Deabenderfer to approve Resolution 22-35 to pass the levy for the Hillsboro Special Service Area in the amount of \$109,000. All in favor, motion carried.

R. Motion by Ritchie and second by Beck to approve Resolution 22-36 to pass the levy for the Litchfield Special Service Area in the amount of \$680,407. All in favor, motion carried.

S. Motion by Hughes and second by Fogle to approve Resolution 22-37 to set Salaries for the following Department Heads: Supervisor of Assessments for an amount not to exceed \$70,577; Probation Officer for an amount not to exceed \$103,732; and the Assistant Probation Officers for an amount not to exceed \$255,929. All in favor, motion carried.

T. Motion by Wendel and second by Folkerts to approve Resolution 22-38 to Authorize State's Attorneys Appellate Prosecutor and to appropriate the sum of \$15,000. All in favor, motion carried. (For Copies of all Resolutions and Levies, see Resolution Book 19, pages 204-234).

12. Notification of Non-County ARPA Project Recipients Update: Loucks reported the Finance committee is going to have the Bellwether representatives at their February meeting.

13. DCEO Energy Community Reinvestment Act Grant and Vistra Energy Update: Loucks stated the committee talked about the county needing a Zoning Board and they will refer this need to the Development and Personnel Committee.

INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Chairman Gene Miles and Committee member Bob Sneed:

1. Walshville Bypass Road Intergovernmental Agreement Update: Miles stated Walshville village board President Joy McDonald is invited to a committee meeting and this is on hold until she can attend. He said she had questions about the agreement and the matter is tabled until she attends the meeting.

2. Resolution 2022-19 to appropriate funds for 50/50 culvert replacement on N. 14th Ave., Irving Twp. Approval: Miles said the total cost of the project is \$18,000, with the County's share being \$9,000. **Motion by Miles and second by Whitworth to approve Resolution 2022-19 to appropriate funds for 50/50 culvert replacement on North**

14th Avenue in Irving Township. All in favor, motion carried. (See Resolution Book 19, pages 235-236).

3. **Resolution 2022-20 appropriating funds for the payment of the County Engineer's Salary for 2023 Approval:** Miles said the board approved a six-year agreement earlier this year saying they would agree to pay at least 100% of IDOT's recommended highway engineer salary, and the recommended salary is \$117,300. **Motion by Miles and second by Loucks to approve Resolution 2022-20 appropriating funds for the payment of the County Engineer's Salary for 2023 in the amount of \$117,300. Yeske abstained. All others in favor, motion carried. (See Resolution Book 19, pages 237-238).**
4. **Resolution 2022-21 appropriating additional RBI funds for the construction of Section 15-00138-00-BR – White Town Bridge on Red Ball Trail Approval:** Miles said the amount being appropriated is \$140,000. **Motion by Miles and second by Whitworth to approve Resolution 2022-21 appropriating additional RBI funds for the construction of Section 15-00138-00-BR – White Town Bridge on Red Ball Trail. ROLL CALL VOTE: Voting YES: Beck, Deabenderfer, Donaldson, Fogle, Folkerts, Hughes, Johnson, Loucks, Miles, Ritchie, Robinson, Sneed, Wendel, Whitworth, Yeske and Young. Voting NO: None. ABSENT: Beason, Beeler, Bergen, Jones and Murzynski. All in favor, motion carried. (See Resolution Book 19, page 239).**
5. **Emergency Standby Generator Update:** Miles reported the Finance Committee gave Engineer Greenwood permission to order an emergency standby generator. It will be on order for 38 weeks due to parts shortages and the cost is \$43,935. Greenwood said it is a 60 KW generator.
6. **White Truck Shed auction results Approval:** Miles reported the winning bid for the White Truck Shed at the old Highway Department was by Deanne Cole of Girard in the amount of \$17,200. **Motion by Miles and second by Sneed to accept the bid from Deanne Cole of Girard in the amount of \$17,200 for the White Truck Shed at the old Highway Department. All in favor, motion carried.** Miles stated Cole has 120 days to remove the shed from the property. **Motion by Miles and second by Loucks to have the Highway Department keep all funds from the sale of buildings and items on the old Highway Department property. All in favor, motion carried.**
7. **Maintenance and Cleaning Issues and Report Update:** Sneed reported Maintenance tech Phil Ernst gave a report on work completed around the complex. He said Ernst also requested a salary increase for the maintenance department. Sneed said the committee took it under advisement but didn't take any action.
8. **Request for Proposal for Performance Contract for ADA Updates to New Courthouse Approval:** **Motion by Sneed and second by Hughes to put out a request for Proposal for a Performance Contract for ADA updates to the New Courthouse. All in favor, motion carried.**
9. **New Locks at Historic Courthouse Update:** Sneed reported this will be addressed after the first of the year.
10. **Sidewalks at Historic Courthouse and Jail Update:** Sneed reported this will be addressed after the first of the year.
11. **Interior Door Project for County Clerk's Office Update:** Sneed reported this will be addressed after the first of the year.

12. **Bidding out the County Farm Update:** Sneed said the committee discussed the county farm lease, which is ending soon and will need to be bid out. He said we can bid out this lease in a month or two before it terminates.
13. **EMA Storage Shed Update:** Sneed said there is nothing new to report.
14. **Elections Update:** Leitheiser reported turnout for the November 8th election was 67.44 percent county-wide and she thanked the voters, Election Judges, and her staff for making it a success.
15. **Approve Hire/Appointment of Animal Control Warden and Facility Manager Approval:** Motion by Miles and second by Fogle to approve the hire of Emily Gerl as the Animal Control Warden and Facility Manager. All in favor, motion carried.
16. **Approve Salary for Animal Control Warden and Facility Manager Approval:** Motion by Miles and second by Yeske to keep the salary of the animal control warden and facility manager the same as it is now and then increase it to \$40,602 on December 1, 2022. Deabenderfer asked if the salary should have been set by the Finance Committee. Jenkins stated the \$40,602 figure was the amount for the position after factoring in the board-approved increase of \$1.75 per hour for non-union county officials. All in favor, motion carried.
17. **Animal Control Facility Update:** Miles said there is nothing new to report.
18. **Animal Control Municipal Contracts Update:** Miles reported Gerl received a few more municipal contracts.

APPROVAL OF 4 COMMITTEE REPORTS & MINUTES:

Motion by Johnson and second by Robinson to approve the four committee reports and minutes. All in favor, motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None

SCHEDULE CHANGES: None

APPOINTMENTS: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Christian County resident and Montgomery County native Nicole (Weitekamp) Lanham stated the carbon sequestration project being considered in Montgomery County is unprecedented in scale. She said Heartland Greenway representatives have often referenced the ADM project in Decatur as an example of success, but the size of this project is three percent of this proposed one. She also said there is no guarantee the CO2 pumped into the ground will stay there. Audubon Township resident Greg Archibald said he wishes the county would slow down a little with this project and said he would like to know the route of the pipeline before an agreement is considered. Citizen Bill Schroeder said he would also like to see the county slow down. Citizen Karyl Dressen stated she would like the board to listen to both sides of the issue before making any decisions to proceed with the agreement.

PAY BILLS AND PAYROLL: Motion by Donaldson and second by Robinson to pay all approved bills and Payroll. All in favor, motion carried.

ADJOURN: Until the County Board Reorganization Meeting on a date to be determined in December, 2022, prior to the next regular full board meeting. The next regular full board meeting will be on Tuesday, December 13th, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. in the County Board Room, Hillsboro, Illinois. Motion by Folkerts and second by Fogle to adjourn the Full Board Meeting. All in favor, motion carried. Meeting Adjourned at 7:55 p.m. Minutes respectfully recorded and submitted by Montgomery County Clerk and Recorder Sandy Leitheiser.

Montgomery County Board

Re-Organization Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, December 6th, 2022

Time: 5:30 PM – County Board Room

County Clerk Sandy Leitheiser called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Judge Jim Roberts.

Roll call was taken. 14 members were present, 0 were absent.

Board members present: Russell Beason, Connie Beck, Bill Bergen, Doug Donaldson, Ken Folkerts, Mark Hughes, Jeremy Jones, David Loucks, Gene Miles, Ethan Murzynski, Andy Ritchie, Bob Sneed, Patty Whitworth and Evan Young.

Leitheiser asked for a nomination of a Temporary Chairman of the County Board. **Motion by Young and second by Miles that Bob Sneed be nominated as Temporary County Board Chairman.** Leitheiser asked if there were any other nominations. **Motion by Murzynski and second by Hughes that Andy Ritchie be nominated as Temporary County Board Chairman.** Leitheiser asked if there were any other nominations. Hearing none, she asked for a motion to close the nominations for Temporary County Board Chairman. **Motion by Beason and second by Donaldson to close the nominations for Temporary County Board Chairman. All in favor, motion carried. Roll call vote was taken on the nominations for Temporary County Board Chairman, with members stating the last name of the Temporary Chairman candidate to vote. Members voting for SNEED: Beason, Bergen, Folkerts, Loucks, Miles, Sneed and Young. Members voting for RITCHIE: Beck, Donaldson, Hughes, Jones, Murzynski, Ritchie and Whitworth. Roll call vote resulted in a 7-7 tie.** Sheriff Rick Robbins came forward to facilitate a coin toss. Because candidate Sneed was the top vote-getter between the two candidates during the November 8, 2022 General Election, he called the toss. **Sneed called tails and the coin toss was tails, therefore Sneed won the toss and was elected Temporary County Board Chairman.** Temporary Chairman Sneed came up to the bench to conduct the election for County Board Chairman.

Temporary Chairman Sneed asked for nominations for County Board Chairman. **Motion by Murzynski and second Hughes that Doug Donaldson be nominated as County Board Chairman.** Temporary Chairman Sneed asked if there were any other nominations for County Board Chairman. **Motion by Beason and second by Miles that Evan Young be nominated as County Board Chairman.** Temporary Chairman Sneed asked three more times if there were any nominations for County Board Chairman. Hearing none, Sneed asked for a motion to close nominations for County Board Chairman. **Motion by Beck and second by Ritchie to close the nominations for County Board Chairman. All in favor, motion carried.**

Temporary Chairman Sneed allowed both candidates for County Board Chairman to speak before a vote was taken, starting with Donaldson. Donaldson said the board is clearly divided, and if he is elected, he will make a commitment to work to unify the board. He also stated he will not hold any meetings without the other board members' knowledge and will let the committees run their respective meetings instead of trying to attend every committee meeting and run it himself. Young said he also knows there's division among the board. He said a lot of time is needed to fulfill the job of County Board Chairman and he has always been flexible with his time to fulfill it. He also said there will be a \$2 million deficit in the upcoming year and they will have to work hard to balance it. Following the conclusion of the speeches, Temporary Chairman Sneed requested a roll call vote be taken with board members stating the last name of their desired candidate for chairman. **Roll Call Vote, Voting for DONALDSON: Beck, Donaldson, Hughes, Jones, Murzynski, Ritchie and Whitworth. Voting for YOUNG: Beason, Bergen, Folkerts,**

Loucks, Miles, Sneed and Young. Roll Call Vote results in a 7-7 tie. Sheriff Robbins came forward again to facilitate a coin toss. Because candidate Young was the top vote-getter between the two candidates during the November 8, 2022 General Election, he called the toss. **Young called heads and it was tails, therefore Donaldson won the toss and was elected County Board Chairman.** Donaldson came forward to assume his seat as County Board Chairman.

Newly-elected Board Chairman Doug Donaldson called for nominations for County Board Vice-Chairman. **Motion by Jones and second by Hughes that Andy Ritchie be nominated as County Board Vice Chairman.** Newly-elected Board Chairman Donaldson asked if there were any other nominations for County Board Vice Chairman. **Motion by Miles and Second by Folkerts that Evan Young be nominated as County Board Vice Chairman.** Donaldson asked three more times if there were any other nominations for County Board Vice Chairman. Hearing none, Donaldson asked for a motion to close the nominations for County Board Vice Chairman. **Motion by Beck and second by Sneed to close the nominations for County Board Vice Chairman. All in favor, motion carried.**

Newly-elected Board Chairman Donaldson allowed both Vice Chairman candidates to speak prior to the vote. Ritchie said he was honored to be nominated as Vice Chairman and he has great confidence the board will pull themselves together. Young said if elected, he pledges to help Chairman Donaldson in whatever way he needs it. Following the conclusion of the remarks, newly-elected Board Chairman Donaldson requested a roll call vote be taken with board members stating the last name of their desired candidate for Vice Chairman. **Roll Call Vote was held, with the following members voting for RITCHIE: Beck, Donaldson, Jones, Murzynski, Ritchie and Whitworth. The following members voted for YOUNG: Beason, Bergen, Folkerts, Hughes, Loucks, Miles, Sneed and Young. Roll Call Vote resulted in Young being elected County Board Vice Chairman by a vote of 8-6.**

State's Attorney Andrew Affrunti addressed the County Board regarding the Resolution 2022-39 set for approval. Affrunti said State Statute dictates every 10 years, the board must determine their term lengths by virtue of a lottery. **Motion by Young and second by Murzynski to approve Resolution 2022-39, the Montgomery County Board District Lottery Resolution. All in favor, motion carried.** (For copy of Resolution, see Resolution Book 19, page 240).

After the Resolution was passed, the lottery was conducted. **Drawing terms of 2 years, 4 years and 4 years were: District 1 – Connie Beck; District 2 – Ken Folkerts; District 3 – Evan Young; District 4 – David Loucks; District 5 – Russell Beason; District 6 – Ethan Murzynski; and District 7 – Bob Sneed. Drawing terms of 4 years, 4 years and 2 years were: District 1 – Jeremy Jones; District 2 – Gene Miles; District 3 – Doug Donaldson; District 4 – Patty Whitworth; District 5 – Bill Bergen; District 6 – Mark Hughes; and District 7 – Andy Ritchie.**

No committee assignments were announced and newly-elected Board Chairman Donaldson said all committee meetings scheduled for this week have been cancelled. Donaldson announced the next Full Board meeting will be held on December 13, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. in the County Board room of the Historic Courthouse in Hillsboro.

Public Comment: Citizen Bill Schroeder stated he previously requested a group named Echo Justice be included on the December 13th, 2022 Full Board agenda to speak about carbon sequestration in the County. He asked if they will still be allowed to come and speak to the board now that there is a new County Board Chairman. Donaldson said he does not have a problem with them coming to speak at the next County Board meeting.

Hearing no other public comment, Donaldson requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. **Motion by Hughes and second by Ritchie to adjourn the County Board Re-organization meeting. All in favor, motion carried.** Meeting adjourned at 6:12 p.m.

Montgomery County Board Minutes

For Tuesday, December 13th, 2022 – 5:30 PM

The following are minutes of a regular meeting of the Montgomery County Board held at 5:30 PM on Tuesday, December 13th, 2022.

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

Roll call was taken – 13 members present, 1 member absent.

Members Present: Russell Beason, Connie Beck, Doug Donaldson, Ken Folkerts, Mark Hughes, Jeremy Jones, David Loucks, Gene Miles, Ethan Murzynski, Andy Ritchie, Bob Sneed, Patty Whitworth and Evan Young

Members Absent: Bill Bergen

Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was led by County Board member Jeremy Jones.

Mileage and Per Diem Approval: Motion by Hughes and second by Whitworth to approve the Mileage and Per Diem. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Beason, Beck, Donaldson, Folkerts, Hughes, Jones, Loucks, Miles, Murzynski, Ritchie, Sneed, Whitworth and Young. **All in favor, motion carried.**

Approval of Minutes of Previous County Board Meeting: Motion by Young and second by Beck to approve the Minutes of the Previous Regular County Board Meeting held on Tuesday, November 15th, 2022. **All in favor, motion carried.** Motion by Beck and second by Folkerts to approve the Minutes of the Previous County Board Re-Organization Meeting held on Tuesday, December 6th, 2022. **All in favor, motion carried.**

CONSENT AGENDA:

- 1. Animal Control Report** – Emily Gerl – Report was submitted.
- 2. Circuit Clerk’s Report** – Daniel Robbins – Report was submitted. Robbins was present for questions.
- 3. Coroner’s Report** – Randy Leetham – Report Submitted.
- 4. County Clerk and Recorder’s Report** – Report was submitted. Leitheiser was present for questions.
- 5. Health & TB Department Report** – Hugh Satterlee – Report was submitted. Satterlee was present for questions.
- 6. Highway Department Report** – Cody Greenwood – Report was submitted. Greenwood was present for questions.
- 7. Probation Office Report** – Bane Ulrici – No report was submitted.
- 8. Public Defender’s Report** – Erin Mattson — No report was submitted.
- 9. ROE – Monthly, Quarterly & Annual Reports** – Julie Wollerman – Report was submitted.
- 10. Sheriff’s Report** – Rick Robbins – Report was submitted. Robbins was present for questions.
- 11. SOA Report** – Cindy Laurent – No report was submitted.
- 12. State’s Attorney Report** – Andrew Affrunti – Report was submitted. Affrunti was present for questions.
- 13. Treasurer’s Report** – Nikki Lohman – Report was submitted. Lohman was present for questions.

14. V.A.C. Report – Dave Strowmatt – Report was submitted. Strowmatt reported the VAC board voted to elect Cassandra Hampton as the new VAC Superintendent, succeeding him when he retires. He stated she will start January 3, 2023, and he is retiring January 31, 2023.

APPROVAL OF 11 ITEMS ON THE CONSENT AGENDA: Motion by Hughes and second by Miles to approve the 11 items on the Consent Agenda. All in favor, motion carried.

LIAISON REPORTS:

- **708 Board** – Donaldson reported board member Murzynski will be the new liaison to the 708 board.
- **CEFS Board** – Donaldson reported board member Beason will be the new liaison to the CEFS board.
- **911 Board** – Bergen was absent, so nothing new was reported.
- **Health Department** – Donaldson reported board member Whitworth will be the new liaison to the Board of Health.
- **IL Association of County Officials** – Bergen was absent so nothing new was reported.
- **MCEDC** – Donaldson reported board member Hughes will be the new liaison to the MCEDC.
- **Planning Commission** – Ritchie reported they have not met for several months, and they are currently waiting on further direction for the battery storage ordinance they drafted.
- **Senior Citizens Board** – Donaldson reported board member Folkerts will be the new liaison to the Senior Citizens board.
- **UCCI** – Miles reported they will not meet this month, but will meet next in January, 2023.
- **U of I** – Beck reported they will meet on Thursday, December 15th, 2022.
- **WCDC** – Donaldson reported board member Jones will be the new liaison to the WCDC.

After the County Board reorganized on December 6, 2022, all committee meetings preceding the December 13th Regular Full Board meeting were canceled; therefore, there were no committee reports given during this month's meeting. Pertinent items to be acted on during this meeting were placed under the Chairman's Report.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: Given by Chairman Doug Donaldson:

1. **Pre-Approved Vendor List Addition of Probst Veterinary Clinic Update/Approval:** Motion by Young and second by Murzynski to approve the revised Pre-Approved Vendor List to include the addition of Probst Veterinary Clinic. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 241-242).
2. **County Board Committees and Liaisons Update/Approval:** Chairman Donaldson reported the County Board Committee and Liaison assignments were emailed to each of the board members earlier in the day and are also located inside of black binders on each

of their desks. He said if any board members have any questions or issues with the assignments, they should let him know.

3. **Carbon Sequestration in Montgomery County Update/Approval:** Lan and Pam Richart with Eco-Justice Collaborative from Champaign, IL, gave a presentation in opposition of the proposed Heartland Greenway carbon sequestration project in Montgomery County. During the presentation, Mr. Richart stated the company involved in the Carbon Capture and Sequestration (CCS) project (Navigator) has a strong financial incentive to get the pipeline and wells in the ground as soon as possible. He said Eco Justice believes the CCS project is unproven based on its magnitude so it needs to be heavily scrutinized. Richart also stated when the project was proposed in Christian County, most landowners didn't cooperate, which is why the developers have now moved to Montgomery County. He stated this is not a routine project for Navigator or any company.

Pam Richart stated the developers have not disclosed where the pipelines will go in Montgomery County and gave an overview of the risks of Carbon Sequestration and asked the County Board to call for a Moratorium on pipeline approval until updated federal safety regulations are in place. When asked why the County Board would support this project, Chairman Donaldson allowed for general questions from County Board members and the public, then stated the board has not said either they will support it or if they are against it. He said this project is new to the board and they will be doing more research at this time. Whitworth stated Montgomery County does not currently have zoning and therefore, cannot control what individual landowners do. Tenaska's CCS project representative Monte Ten Kley asked if the board would like them to speak to any of the questions asked. Donaldson said the plan for this meeting is to just listen to the other side of the argument since Heartland Greenway presented their side at a previous meeting. Donaldson thanked the representatives from Eco Justice for their presentation.

4. **Other Business:** None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Motion by Whitworth and second by Ritchie to Enter into Executive Session, as allowed under the Illinois Open Meetings Act, as found in Chapter 5 of the Illinois Compiled Statutes, Section 120, to address this certain and restricted item: 1) "Litigation," when action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting." (5 ILCS 120/2(2)(C)(11). All in favor, motion carried. Board entered into executive session at 6:35 p.m. Motion by Whitworth and second by Jones to come out of executive session. All in favor, motion carried. Board returned to open session at 7:25 p.m. No action was taken.

APPROVAL OF THE CHAIRMAN'S REPORT & MINUTES:

Motion by Hughes and second by Murzynski to approve the Chairman's report and minutes. All in favor, motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Donaldson announced the Rules of Order Committee will need to meet soon to discuss the rules and other potential issues. Rules of Order Committee Chairwoman Beck said she spoke to Rules of Order committee members and they plan to meet in January.

SCHEDULE CHANGES: None.

APPOINTMENTS:

Motion by Young and second by Jones to approve the appointment of Mark Meisner to the Pitman-Zanesville #2 Drainage District for a three-year term. All in favor, motion carried. Motion by Young and second by Jones to approve the appointment of Gregory Weitekamp to the Zanesville #3 Drainage District for a three-year term. All in favor, motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Heartland Greenway representative Jim Prescott stated they agree with the statement made by the opposition group tonight about the need to gather as many questions as needed and then ask those questions throughout this regulatory process. He stated he did not hear any questions asked about the project tonight which could not have been answered by Heartland Greenway representatives.

Christian County landowner Karen Brockelsby said she was approached about carbon sequestration and she would encourage Montgomery County to consider a moratorium similar to Christian County's. Christian County landowner Lee Brockelsby stated issues regarding insurance liability also need to be considered by landowners as well.

Montgomery County Farm Bureau Manager Katie Wilson and Farm Bureau representative Dennis Hand presented the board with a plaque in recognition of the Resolution the board previously passed promoting agriculture.

PAY BILLS AND PAYROLL: Motion by Murzynski and second by Beck to pay all approved bills and Payroll. All in favor, motion carried.

ADJOURN: The next regular full board meeting will be on Tuesday, January 10th, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. in the County Board Room, Hillsboro, Illinois. Motion by Whitworth and second by Loucks to adjourn the Full Board Meeting. All in favor, motion carried.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:36 p.m. Minutes respectfully recorded and submitted by Montgomery County Clerk and Recorder Sandy Leitheiser.