

Montgomery County Board Minutes

For Tuesday, January 10th, 2023 at 5:30 PM

The following are minutes of a regular meeting of the Montgomery County Board held at 5:30 PM on Tuesday, January 10th, 2023.

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

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

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

Members Absent: None

Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was led by County Board member David Loucks.

Mileage and Per Diem Approval: Motion by Whitworth and second by Young to approve the Mileage and Per Diem. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Beason, Beck, Bergen, 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 Hughes and second by Beck to approve the Minutes of the Previous Regular County Board Meeting held on Tuesday, December 13th, 2022. All in favor, motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. **Animal Control Report** -- Emily Gerl – No December report was submitted.
2. **Circuit Clerk's Report** – Daniel Robbins was present for questions – report was submitted. Robbins reported the auditors have finished auditing his office, and he has submitted for another technology grant.
3. **Coroner's Report** – Randy Leetham was present for questions – report was submitted.
4. **County Clerk and Recorder's Report** – Sandy Leitheiser was present for questions - report was submitted.
5. **Health & TB Department Report** – Hugh Satterlee was present for questions – report was submitted.
6. **Highway Department Report** – Cody Greenwood was present for questions – report was submitted.
7. **Probation Office Report** – Banee Ulrici was not present – No report was submitted.
8. **Public Defender's Report** – Erin Mattson was not present — No report was submitted.
9. **ROE – Monthly, Quarterly & Annual Reports** – Julie Wollerman was not present– report was submitted.
10. **Sheriff's Report** – Rick Robbins was present for questions – report was submitted.
11. **SOA Report** – Cindy Laurent was not present– Report was submitted.
12. **State's Attorney Report** – Andrew Affrunti was present for questions – Report was submitted. Affrunti stated the County was successful in their lawsuit stopping the no cash bail bill. He said he doesn't expect the Supreme Court to hear arguments on this bill until March, 2023.
13. **Treasurer's Report** – Nikki Lohman was present for questions – Report was submitted.
14. **V.A.C. Report** – Dave Strowmatt was present for questions – Report was submitted. Strowmatt stated it was his last meeting as Superintendent of the Veterans Assistance

Commission. He thanked the board leadership for their support throughout his tenure. He said Cassandra Hampton will officially take over as superintendent February 1, 2023, and he is confident the board will continue to support her. Members gave Strowmatt a round of applause in appreciation for his dedicated years of service.

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

LIAISON REPORTS:

- **708 Board** – Murzynski reported the next meeting will be held in February.
- **CEFS Board** – Beason stated there is nothing new to report.
- **911 Board** – Bergen stated there is nothing new to report.
- **Health Department** – Whitworth reported they will meet later this month.
- **IL Association of County Officials** – Bergen stated there is nothing new to report.
- **MCEDC** – Hughes reported there will be a meeting on February 9, 2023, and he will have a report next month.
- **Planning Commission** – Ritchie reported their next meeting will be scheduled after coordinating with Valerie Belusko.
- **Senior Citizens Board** – Folkerts reported they are supposed to meet in February, 2023.
- **UCCI** – Miles reported they will meet later this month.
- **U of I** – Beck reported they will meet on March 16, 2023.
- **WCDC** – Jones stated there is nothing new to report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

COORDINATING COMMITTEE: Given by Chairman Doug Donaldson:

1. **Information Systems Report Update:** Donaldson reported Information Systems is performing end of the year maintenance. He also reported Manager Curt Watkins hired a new employee (Zeke Philpot) to replace Mat Marietta, and he began on January 3rd, 2023.
2. **EMA Report Update:** Donaldson reported EMA dealt with several incidents related to the cold weather toward the end of 2022. He also reported EMA Assistant Coordinator Joe Gasparich stated the new Hazard Mitigation Grant plan should be done by the end of 2023. EMA Coordinator Kevin Schott was in attendance and reported their next meeting is scheduled for February 8th at 6:30 p.m.
3. **Committee Structure Update:** Donaldson stated there is nothing new to report and said the Rules committee will discuss future committee structure during their meeting to be held on January 18th.
4. **Carbon Capture and Storage Update:** Donaldson reported he has been in contact with Jim Prescott of the Heartland Greenway carbon sequestration project about hosting first responder training closer to Montgomery County since the closest training currently offered is located in Jacksonville, Illinois.

5. **EPA Report Update:** EPA Administrator Christine Daniels reported the electronics recycling drives for 2023 have been scheduled for the spring and fall.
6. **Rules Committee Meeting Update:** Donaldson reported the Rules Committee will meet on January 18th, 2023, at 5:00 p.m.
7. **West Central Development Council/Job Center Board/CEO Board Update:** Donaldson said there is nothing new to report.
8. **Resolution 2023-01 Opposing HB 5855 Protect Illinois Communities Act Approval:** State's Attorney Affrunti stated the board may want to amend the proposed Resolution to not order the County Clerk to send certified copies to all members of the Illinois General Assembly because it will cost the county more money than is necessary. He said the resolution can be amended so certified copies could be sent only to the leaders of the Senate and House, as well as the office of the Governor. **Motion by Beck and second by Whitworth to amend Resolution 2023-01 to state certified letters be sent to the Governor and Senate and House leaders in the Illinois General Assembly and not sent to all members of the Illinois General Assembly. All in favor, motion carried. Motion by Hughes and second by Beck to approve Resolution 2023-01 as amended opposing HB 5855 Protect Illinois Communities Act. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy of Resolution, see Resolution Book 19, pages 253-254).**

DEVELOPMENT & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Chairman Mark Hughes:

1. **MCEDC Update:** Hughes stated there is nothing new to report.
2. **Heartland Greenway Carbon Sequestration Project and Development Agreement Update:** Hughes reported a few residents from the northeastern part of the county attended the committee meeting and spoke about the carbon sequestration project. He said he knows some of those individuals are in attendance at this meeting.
3. **Macoupin/CIPT Public Transportation Update:** Hughes reported Macoupin County Health Department Director Kent Tarro attended the meeting to present information about Macoupin County Public Transportation. He stated Montgomery County has an Intergovernmental Agreement with CEFS, which includes Central Illinois Public Transit (CIPT). Hughes said it is too late to change affiliation for public transportation this year, but the committee will research this topic in preparation for next year.
4. **Temporary Supervisor of Assessments Update:** Hughes reported Cindy Laurent's appointment as temporary Supervisor of Assessments was a one-time, 60-day appointment, which expires at the end of January. He stated Laurent will still be able to run the office after the appointment expires, but she won't be able to sign official documents related to the abstract or Board of Review. Hughes said the County Board Chairman will sign those official documents until a certified Supervisor of Assessments is in place.
5. **DCEO Energy Community Reinvestment Act Grant Approval:** Hughes reported the County Board will be applying for the DCEO Illinois Energy Community Reinvestment Act Grant. He said Montgomery County is eligible to apply for this grant due to the Coffeen Power Plant closure in 2019 and because it is located in an unincorporated part of the County. Hughes said other units of government are eligible to apply for the grant, but they need to either partner with the County Board in our application or receive a letter of support from the County Board. Hughes reported the committee is recommending

including the taxing districts from the 2021 Vistra Tax bill who want to participate as part of the County application while giving other taxing districts in the county who wish to apply a letter of support. **Motion by Hughes and second by Beck to include the following participating taxing districts in the County application, with Montgomery County serving as the lead entity, for the Energy Community Reinvestment Act Grant: Montgomery County Community Mental Health, Montgomery County Senior Social Services, Lincoln Land Community College, Hillsboro Area Public Library, Multi Township Assessor Grisham-Walshville-East Fork, East Fork Road District, and East Fork Township. All in favor, motion carried.**

6. **Approve Hiring Consultant/Grant Writer for DCEO Energy Community Reinvestment Act Grant Approval:** Hughes reported the committee recommends the County Board hire Dan Rogers to write the grant at \$38.00 per hour. **Motion by Hughes and second by Whitworth to hire Dan Rogers to write the DCEO Energy Community Reinvestment Act grant at \$38.00 per hour.** Young asked how the County will pay Rogers. State's Attorney Affrunti said the cost of hiring the grant writer can be included in the grant application for reimbursement. Young asked how he would be paid if the County is not awarded the grant. Affrunti said the county would then have to pay for his salary from a separate fund. **All in favor, motion carried.**
7. **Jail Inspection Report Update:** Hughes reported the Sheriff received the Jail Inspection Report, and it is available for board members to read if they would like.

FINANCE & BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Chairman Andy Ritchie:

1. **Assistant Public Defender Position Update:** Ritchie reported Judge Jim Roberts needs additional public defender staff to take on an increased workload, and he has hired Wes Poggenpohl for this purpose. Ritchie said Poggenpohl will make more than the budgeted \$70,000, but the overall county budgeted amount will not change since the judge's budget will also be used for this salary.
2. **SOA Report Update:** Ritchie reported Interim Supervisor of Assessments Cindy Laurent informed the committee the tentative abstract was sent to IDOR. He also said Laurent continues to train and guide staff on a daily basis.
3. **Approve Extending Salary for Interim Supervisor of Assessments for February 2023 Approval:** Ritchie reported Laurent's appointment ends at the end of January, but she will still be running the SOA office even after that date expires. He said because Laurent will be running the office, the Finance and Budget Committee recommends she be paid the same salary she has been making as interim Supervisor of Assessments through February. Ritchie stated this is being addressed now because Kendra Niehaus, who hopes to become the certified Supervisor of Assessments, takes the state exam January 17th, 2023. Laurent told the committee if Niehaus passes the exam, she still will not likely be certified until February and will still have to be trained. **Motion by Ritchie and second by Hughes to approve extending and increasing Cindy Laurent's temporary salary through February 2023. All in favor, motion carried.**
4. **Capital Improvement Fund Reports Update:** Ritchie stated there is nothing new to report.

5. **IMRF Update:** Ritchie reported Treasurer Lohman informed the committee there is an employee under senior services who is working seven hours a day, which means they have a 35-hour work week and are IMRF eligible. Lohman stated she has taken care of this matter.
6. **FY 2022 Audit Update:** Ritchie reported the auditors have been on site working. He said the County is fortunate to have found auditors because it is very difficult to find companies to do government audits.
7. **Approve IRS Mileage Rate Increase Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Whitworth to approve the IRS Mileage Rate Increase from 62.5 cents per mile to 65.5 cents per mile, effective January 11, 2023. All in favor, motion carried.
8. **Approve Preapproved Vendor List with Additions of Huels Oil Company and Schreiber Veterinary Services, and Removal of Farmers Oil Company Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Miles to approve the Preapproved Vendor List as presented with the additions of Huels Oil Company and Schreiber Veterinary Services of Sorento, Illinois and the removal of Farmers Oil Company. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 255-256).
9. **Digitizing Collectors Books for Treasurer's Office Approval:** Ritchie reported this is one of the board-approved county ARPA projects. Motion by Ritchie and second by Beason to approve digitizing the collector's books and sign the contract with US Imaging, Inc. All in favor, motion carried.
10. **Ordinance 2023-02 to Authorize ARPA Funds to Digitize Collectors Books for the Treasurer's Office Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Sneed to approve Ordinance 2023-02 authorizing the use of ARPA funds to digitize the Collectors books in the Treasurer's office in the amount of \$510,924. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, page 257).
11. **Ordinance 2023-03 to Authorize ARPA Funds to Purchase Generators for Montgomery County Emergency Management Agency Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Young to approve Ordinance 2023-03 authorizing the use of ARPA funds to purchase generators for the Montgomery County Emergency Management Agency in the amount of \$74,800. Schott stated the generators are owned by Altorfer, and they have a little over 800 hours on them. He said if the board approves the ordinance, he expects to have them within two weeks. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, page 258).
12. **Notification of Non-County ARPA Project Recipients Update:** Ritchie reported a letter will be sent notifying non-county ARPA money recipients of their awards and how to go about receiving those funds. He said the City of Nokomis had a question related to their award. Schott said the Nokomis City Council has a rule stating items exceeding a certain amount must be bid out, but they were unsure if this applied in this situation since it was being paid for with County money. Affrunti said he cannot give the city legal advice, but he could speak with their legal counsel and stated ultimately this decision must be left up to the City of Nokomis.
13. **Bellwether ARPA Reporting and Budgeting Process Update:** Ritchie reported representatives from Bellwether will be in attendance at the February Finance and Budget Committee meeting to talk about ARPA, as well as the possibility of Bellwether taking over the budgeting process from the County. Treasurer Lohman said it would also be good to have entities who have been awarded ARPA money attend the meeting.

14. DCEO Energy Community Reinvestment Act Grant and Vistra Energy Update:
Ritchie stated their committee had nothing additional to report.

INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Chairman Gene Miles:

1. **Walshville Bypass Road Intergovernmental Agreement Update:** Miles reported Walshville village representatives attended the Infrastructure Committee meeting to discuss the proposed Intergovernmental Agreement for the bypass road. He said they proposed two changes to the original draft of the agreement; the first was for the name of the village clerk to be changed and the second was for the addition of a clause clarifying the county's responsibility for repairing the main road through the village after work on the bypass road is completed. Miles said County Highway Engineer Cody Greenwood added language to the agreement reflecting those changes and now we are waiting for the village board's approval before going any further.
2. **Highway Resolution 2023-01 for 2023 County MFT Funding Approval:** Miles reported the MFT amount is \$1.2 million, which is the same amount as last year. **Motion by Miles and second by Loucks to approve Highway Resolution 2023-01 for 2023 County MFT Funding as presented. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, page 259).**
3. **2023-2024 Bulk Fuel Purchasing Letting Results Approval:** Miles reported one qualified bid was submitted from Farmers Oil, with one other bid arriving after the deadline and disqualified. Young asked if the motion should reflect the name change since Huels Oil purchased Farmers Oil. Greenwood said the original agreement was with Farmers Oil, but Huels Oil said they would honor all agreements made prior to the buyout. Affrunti said he did not have an issue with use of either name. **Motion by Miles and second by Young to approve the low bidder of Farmers Oil/Huels Oil for Bulk Fuel Purchasing. All in favor, motion carried.**
4. **2023 MFT Rock Letting Results Update:** Miles reported this item has been tabled.
5. **Property Acquisition for Coffeen Road/Seven Sisters Intersection Project Approval:**
 - A) **Motion by Miles and second by Young to approve the purchase of a portion (0.38 acres) of Parcel ID # 17-03-200-003 from Lon Stroup in the amount of \$800. All in favor, motion carried.**
 - B) **Motion by Miles and second by Whitworth to approve the purchase of a portion (0.267 acres) of Parcel ID # 17-02-100-001 from Lon Stroup in the amount of \$800. All in favor, motion carried.**
 - C) **Motion by Miles and second by Folkerts to approve the purchase of a portion (2.024 acres) of Parcel ID # 12-35-300-002 from the Harold Jurgena Living Trust in the amount of \$7,100. All in favor, motion carried.**
 - D) **Motion by Miles and second by Young to approve the purchase of a portion (0.457 acres) of Parcel ID # 12-34-400-003 from Shelli Beth Maguire in the amount of \$800. All in favor, motion carried.**
6. **Minor Subdivision Plat Approval for D&D Acres in South Litchfield Township Approval:** Greenwood reported this property began as a five-acre tract and is now being split into three lots. **Motion by Miles and second by Jones to approve the Minor Subdivision Plat for D&D Acres in South Litchfield Township. All in favor, motion carried.**

7. **Old Highway Department Building Update:** Miles reported the white truck shed on the old highway department property has not yet been removed.
8. **Maintenance and Cleaning Issues and Report Update:** Sneed stated there was nothing additional to report.
9. **Review and Approve Letter of Intent for ADA Project at New Courthouse Approval:** Motion by Sneed and second by Beason to approve the Letter of Intent with Ameresco for ADA upgrades to the new courthouse. All in favor, motion carried.
10. **A/C at Jail Dispatch Center Bids Approval:** Sneed reported the air conditioning unit for the dispatch room at the jail needs replaced. Sheriff Rick Robbins stated this unit is used for both the employees and for the equipment located in the room. **Motion by Sneed and second by Murzynski to accept the bid from C and C Heating and Cooling for a conventional air conditioning unit at a cost of \$4,810. All in favor, motion carried.**
11. **New Locks at Historic Courthouse Update:** Sneed reported the Historic Courthouse locks will need to be replaced and the committee approved a bid from Gardner L and M Glass for \$1,005 to replace the locks plus \$3 per key. Sneed stated the work is already done.
12. **Sidewalks at Historic Courthouse and Jail Update:** Sneed reported he will be attending a Hillsboro City Council meeting to discuss the city's share of the sidewalks around the Historic Courthouse. Sheriff Robbins said the jail could be removed from this project since the sidewalks there have been upgraded.
13. **Interior Door Project for County Clerk's Office Update:** Sneed said there is nothing new to report.
14. **Bidding out the County Farm Update:** Sneed reported the committee agreed to start advertising to bid the lease agreement for the County Farm. Donaldson said we are putting this item on hold until the State's Attorney's research is completed. Affrunti said he will attend the next Infrastructure Committee meeting to discuss this matter.
15. **EMA Storage Shed Update:** Nothing new to report.
16. **Elections Update:** County Clerk Leitheiser reported there is one election in 2023, which is the April 4th Consolidated Election. She also reported over 900 registered voters in the county are signed up for the permanent vote-by-mail list. She stated the county is mandated by state law to send out vote-by-mail postcards to each county registered voter again, and State's Attorney Affrunti has agreed she must comply. Whitworth asked how much this mailing will cost the county. Leitheiser stated it will cost approximately \$13,000.
17. **Animal Control Facility Update:** Miles reported they are working to replace a door at the animal control facility. He also stated Animal Control Warden Emily Gerl submitted a report, but he has not seen it yet. Coordinator Daniels said the report submitted was for nine days of January, 2023, and she informed Gerl the board needs the previous month's report for their future meetings.
18. **Animal Control Municipal Contracts Update:** Miles reported the municipal contracts state a charge of \$250 will be issued for welfare checks, but some municipalities want the charge removed from the contract before they will sign it since they feel it is something should be covered by the county under state statute. Affrunti said he has already had a conversation with Gerl about it, and the matter is handled.

APPROVAL OF THE COMMITTEE REPORTS & MINUTES:

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Donaldson reminded board members to stay after the meeting is adjourned tonight to take a group photo for the county website.

SCHEDULE CHANGES: None

APPOINTMENTS: **Motion by Ritchie and second by Young to approve the appointment of Darrin Beckman to the 911/Emergency Telephone System Board. All in favor, motion carried.**

Motion by Loucks and second by Young to approve the appointment of Bill Bergen to the 911/Emergency Telephone System Board. All in favor, motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Audubon Township resident Greg Archibald stated he is submitting a resolution to the County Board from the Audubon township board along with 219 signatures opposing carbon sequestration in that area. Audubon Township Resident Sabrina Jones said part of their duty is to make the public information surrounding this issue more accessible to residents. She said despite what has been reported, there are no successful carbon sequestration projects in the world taking place right now. She said a well is currently being placed across from her front yard right now. Tenaska and Heartland Greenway Project Manager Monte Ten Kley said the well Jones referenced is just an observation well. He said they are two to three years away from actually beginning the construction process on this project. Ten Kley said there are other carbon sequestration projects currently underway across the country and similar projects have been taking place for 40 years. Jones asked where the other projects are taking place. Ten Kley cited projects in Texas, South Dakota, Iowa and Minnesota. Resident Jones said those are not successful. Ten Kley asked how Jones defined success. Board member Jeremy Jones said he is interested in hearing about how the Heartland Greenway representatives came to Montgomery County because he believes it's different than how they started in Christian County. County resident Bill Schroeder asked if anyone from the Heartland Greenway project has talked to Drummond Coal about their potential mining in the Audubon township area because they supposedly have the coal rights. Ten Kley stated mining can take place in the same area as carbon sequestration projects. Schroeder also stated the board should look into zoning for matters such as these. County resident Karyl Dressen stated there has not even been a recent map of the pipeline released. Ten Kley said Heartland Greenway should release a map by the end of the month and pledged it will be made available to the public.

PAY BILLS AND PAYROLL: **Motion by Jones 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, February 14th, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. in the County Board Room, Hillsboro, Illinois. Motion by Murzynski and second by Young to adjourn the Full Board Meeting. All in favor, motion carried.**

Meeting Adjourned at 7:21 p.m. Minutes respectfully recorded and submitted by Montgomery County Clerk and Recorder Sandy Leitheiser.

Montgomery County Board Minutes

For Tuesday, February 14th, 2023 – 5:30 PM

The following are minutes of a regular meeting of the Montgomery County Board held at 5:30 PM on Tuesday, February 14th, 2023.

The meeting was called to order by County Board Chairman Doug Donaldson at 5:33 PM.

Roll call was taken – 12 members present, 2 members absent.

Members Present: Russell Beason (via telephone), Connie Beck, Bill Bergen, Doug Donaldson, Ken Folkerts, Mark Hughes, Jeremy Jones, Gene Miles, Andy Ritchie (arrived at 5:45 p.m.), Bob Sneed, Patty Whitworth and Evan Young

Members Absent: David Loucks and Ethan Murzynski

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

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

Approval of Minutes of Previous County Board Meeting: Motion by Beck and second by Whitworth to approve the Minutes of the Previous Regular County Board Meeting held on Tuesday, January 10th, 2023. All in favor, motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- 1. Animal Control Report** – No report was submitted. Gerl was present for questions, and she stated they transferred 22 cats to rescue in January and currently have 22 dogs in custody at the facility.
- 2. Circuit Clerk's Report** – Report was submitted. Daniel Robbins was present for questions. He reported he received a technology grant for approximately \$151,000, which will cover the cost of software and multiple types of technology equipment.
- 3. Coroner's Report** – Randy Leetham – Report was submitted.
- 4. County Clerk and Recorder's Report** – Report was submitted. Sandy Leitheiser was present for questions. She reported the Governor recently signed legislation doubling the recording fee currently collected for the Illinois Rental Housing Surcharge program from \$10 to \$20. She stated most rural counties don't see much of the funds collected from this program.
- 5. Health & TB Department Report** – No report was submitted. Hugh Satterlee was present for questions.
- 6. Highway Department Report** – Report was submitted. Cody Greenwood was present for questions.
- 7. Probation Office Report** – Report was submitted. Bane Ulrici was present for questions.
- 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** – Report was submitted. Rick Robbins was present for questions. He reported there are currently no vacancies at the jail. He also stated he recently hired a telecommunicator, which leaves them with one telecommunicator position vacant.
- 11. SOA Report** – Cindy Laurent – Report was submitted.

12. **State's Attorney Report** – Report was submitted. Andrew Affrunti was present for questions.
13. **Treasurer's Report** – Report was submitted. Nikki Lohman was present for questions.
14. **V.A.C. Report** – No report was submitted. Cassandra Hampton was present for questions.

APPROVAL OF 10 REPORTS ON THE CONSENT AGENDA: Motion by Hughes and second by Young to approve the 10 reports on the Consent Agenda. All in favor, motion carried.

LIAISON REPORTS:

- **708 Board** – Murzynski was absent, so nothing new was reported.
- **CEFS Board** – Beason stated there is nothing new to report, and he is waiting on clarification from Macoupin County regarding their proposal for public transportation.
- **911 Board** – Bergen stated there is nothing new to report.
- **Health Department** – Whitworth reported the Health Department recently purchased property in Litchfield for a satellite center.
- **IL Association of County Officials** – Bergen stated there is nothing new to report.
- **MCEDC** – Hughes stated the last MCEDC meeting took place in November, and there may be plans to meet in February.
- **Planning Commission** – Ritchie was absent during this portion of the meeting, so nothing new was reported.
- **Senior Citizens Board** – Folkerts reported they will meet in person Monday, which will be their first meeting since the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic.
- **UCCI** – Miles stated there is nothing new to report.
- **U of I** – Beck reported they will meet Thursday, February 16th, 2023, in Macoupin County.
- **WCDC** – Jones reported their next meeting is scheduled for March 16th at 6 p.m.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

COORDINATING COMMITTEE: Given by Chairman Doug Donaldson:

1. **Information Systems Report Update:** Donaldson stated there is nothing new to report.
2. **EMA Report and Hazard Mitigation Plan Update:** Donaldson commended all agencies who responded to the debacle at Graham Correctional Facility in January. Donaldson deferred to EMA Director Schott, who reported his office hosted a Hazard Mitigation plan meeting on February 8th. Assistant EMA Director Joe Gasparich stated now is a crucial time for the mitigation plan as they are currently looking at projects; if anyone is interested in submitting or discussing a project, he/she should contact EMA.
3. **Committee Structure Update:** Donaldson stated this will be discussed during the Rules Committee briefing.
4. **EPA Report and Amendment to the Delegation Agreement Approval:** EPA Administrator Chris Daniels reported her office has been working on investigations. She also reported an amendment was made to the County's delegation agreement with the State EPA, and the board needs to vote on it. **Motion by Whitworth and second by Beck to approve the amendment to the IL EPA delegation agreement.** Young asked

if there were any updates to the three properties currently under EPA investigation in Witt, Nokomis and Irving. Daniels reported there haven't been many improvements and they may be contacting the State's Attorney's office to work towards bringing the sites into compliance. **All in favor, motion carried. (For a copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 260-264).**

5. **Rules Committee Meeting Update:** Donaldson reported the Rules Committee met January 18th, 24th, 31st and February 7th, and more information will be given during the Rules Committee briefing.
6. **West Central Development Council/Job Center Board/CEO Board Update:** Donaldson reported he will remain on the CEO board, and Whitworth and Jones will serve on the West Central Development Council.
7. **DCEO Energy Transition Community Grant Update:** Donaldson said there is nothing new to report on our grant status.

RULES COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Chairwoman Connie Beck:

1. **Increase/Decrease Number of Committees of the County Board Approval:** Beck reported the Rules Committee met four times and had lengthy but profitable discussions. She stated after meeting at length, the committee came to the recommendation to split the Infrastructure Committee back into the Buildings and Grounds and Roads and Bridges Committees. She said Miles and Sneed feel combining the committees is too much work for one person. **Motion by Beck and second by Miles to increase the number of committees of the County Board to five (5) standing committees by splitting up the Infrastructure Committee into the Buildings and Grounds and Roads and Bridges Committees.** Hughes stated the board has never tried the combined Infrastructure Committee because even when it was combined, there were always two chairs. He said the Finance and Budget and Development and Personnel Committee meetings last week both lasted around three hours, while the Infrastructure meeting lasted an hour and 50 minutes. Whitworth stated she and Hughes were the dissenting votes on the Rules Committee when it came to the issue of splitting up the Infrastructure Committee. She said she feels Buildings and Grounds and Roads and Bridges overlap significantly. She also stated the list of duties on the proposed committee assignments sheet is much longer for the Finance and Budget and Development and Personnel Committees than they are for the Buildings and Grounds and Roads and Bridges Committee. Donaldson stated the assignment sheet needs to be adjusted, and it will have to be voted on during the next meeting. Miles stated he feels Hughes's and Whitworth's comments are out of order because the committee is supposed to report based on the recommendation made at the committee level. Whitworth said board members still have a right to a discussion in committees. **ROLL CALL VOTE: Voting YES: Beason, Beck, Bergen, Donaldson, Folkerts, Miles, Ritchie, Sneed and Young. Voting NO: Hughes, Jones and Whitworth. Vote is 9-3 in favor, Motion carried.**
2. **Approve Committee Structure Approval:** Donaldson said the next few items cannot be discussed until corrections are made to the committee structure sheet, so they need to be tabled. **Motion by Beck and second by Whitworth to table items regarding the Animal Control Administrator and adopting the Rules of Order. All in favor, motion carried.**

DEVELOPMENT & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Chairman Mark Hughes:

1. **MCEDC Update:** Hughes stated there was nothing additional to report.
2. **Central Illinois Public Transportation and Intergovernmental Agreement Update:** Hughes reported this topic will be addressed during the Finance and Budget Committee briefing.
3. **Heartland Greenway Carbon Sequestration Project and Development Agreement Update:** Hughes reported he attended a meeting in Nokomis in January. He said there was a lot of good information given during the meeting, and there is no new action at this time.
4. **Ambulance Billing Office and Funding Distribution for Ambulance Services Update:** Hughes reported representatives from some of the local ambulance services attended the committee meeting last week to discuss what to do about distributing funds still in the ambulance billing bank account. He said Assistant County Board Administrator David Jenkins and Treasurer Lohman wanted to make sure they have accurate numbers before distributing checks. Young said the ambulance billing office usually operated a year behind, which could be why there is still money in the accounts. Jenkins said he did not pay the ambulance districts their November payments, and hasn't paid them from their automatic deposits yet either, but he will work on getting the checks distributed.
5. **Tourism Grants Approval:** Hughes reported the committee discussed the applications, and the only changes made to them were to update them to current dates. **Motion by Hughes and second by Young to approve the Tourism Grant Application as presented. All in favor, motion carried.**
6. **DCEO Energy Transition Community Grant Update:** Hughes said there is nothing new to report about our grant status.
7. **Ad Hoc Committee for DCEO Energy Transition Community Grant Approval:** Hughes reported the committee discussed creating an ad hoc committee to work with grant writer Dan Rogers on the next phase of the grant application. He said the committee will be made up of County Board representatives and members of the taxing bodies included on the county application. **Motion by Hughes and second by Jones to approve the creation of the DCEO Energy Transition Community Grant Ad Hoc Committee with members Patty Whitworth, Mark Hughes, Andy Ritchie, Lynn Fugate, Dan Hough, Michelle Pulse-Flynn and Nancy Slepicka.** Leitheiser asked if East Fork Township, Road District or MTA submitted any names for consideration. Jenkins said he never received a name; but the meetings would be open to the public, and they can attend if they wish. **All in favor, motion carried.**
8. **Resolution for Support of the Great Rivers and Routes Tourism Bureau Approval:** **Motion by Hughes and second by Bergen to approve Resolution 2023-3, a Resolution of support for the Great Rivers and Routes Tourism Bureau. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, page 265).**
9. **Human Resources Support Request Update:** Hughes stated Sheriff Robbins had an H.R. issue discussed during the Committee meeting, but there is nothing new to report.
10. **Other Business:** Hughes reported there is an Airbnb campground in Butler advertised as cannabis-friendly. He said some concerned residents have approached board members

and other county officials asking what can be done about this site, but nothing can be done.

FINANCE & BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Chairman Andy Ritchie:

1. **CIPT Intergovernmental Agreement and Ordinance Approval:** Ritchie reported this agreement is associated with CEFS out of Effingham. CEFS representative Beth Beck-Marts was in attendance and stated she would love to have the opportunity to discuss the benefits of staying with CIPT beyond this year because she had heard the board is considering changing affiliation to Macoupin County Transit. Hughes said it is too late to make a change to Macoupin County this year, but the matter will be discussed further at a future meeting of the Development and Personnel Committee. **Motion by Ritchie and second by Hughes to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement with Central Illinois Public Transit as presented. All in favor, motion carried. Motion by Ritchie and second by Whitworth to approve Ordinance 2023-4 to provide public transportation in Montgomery County. All in favor, motion carried. (For copies see Resolution Book 19, pages 266-268).**
2. **SOA Report Update:** Ritchie reported SOA Office Manager Cindy Laurent continues to supervise the SOA office. SOA staff member Kendra Niehaus will take her state exam again on February 27th in Edwardsville. He also reported Laurent has requested representatives from the company TrueRoll attend the March Full Board meeting to give a 20-minute presentation on their software for Proactive Homestead Monitoring.
3. **Capital Improvement Fund Reports Update:** Ritchie reported the reserve balance is currently \$6,853,880. Treasurer Lohman stated after receiving a coal royalty check of \$75,000 in November, the County received checks of \$180,000 in December, and \$300,000 in January. She said the \$300,000 check will be reflected in the March report.
4. **IMRF Update:** Ritchie reported Treasurer Lohman received year-end balances for IMRF during the committee meeting Friday, and the results were not good. Lohman stated the balances took a hit as quite a few retirees were paid out last year, including nine from the regular retiree account and two from SLEP. She said she spoke with IMRF, and they did not recommend any extra payments be made at this time. She said they recommended waiting and letting the market fluctuate. Young asked how much of a hit we took. Lohman said regular retirement downturn amount was approximately \$8 million.
5. **FY 2022 Audit Update:** Ritchie stated there is nothing new to report.
6. **Approve Salary Increase for Supervisor of Assessments Office Manager for March 2023 Approval:** Ritchie reported Cindy Laurent will remain the office manager through at least the beginning of March and will still need to provide training for Niehaus even if she passes her exam February 27th. **Motion by Ritchie and second by Young to approve extending the temporary salary increase for Supervisor of Assessments Office Manager Cindy Laurent through March 2023. All in favor, motion carried.**
7. **Approve Purchase of Vehicle for Sheriff's Department Approval:** Ritchie reported the Sheriff's department totaled a vehicle, and we received only \$5,500 from the insurance company. Sheriff Robbins has requested the board approve moving a purchase of a sheriff's vehicle from next year's budget to this fiscal year. Robbins stated after including the amount from the insurance company, the total cost of the new vehicle is

\$42,132.00. **Motion by Ritchie and second by Jones to approve purchasing a vehicle for the sheriff's department in Fiscal Year 2023.** Robbins stated he was hopeful the Finance and Budget Committee would decide where the money would come from. Lohman said there is approximately \$288,071 in ARPA's other expenses fund, but the Sheriff's office also has ARPA Lost Revenue money from the previous year still not utilized. She asked if the purchase could be taken from this fund and be reimbursed. Robbins said as long as it happens quickly because the other vehicles they ordered a while ago should be coming soon. **All in favor, motion carried.**

8. **Sheriff's Department Organizational Structure Approval:** Ritchie reported the Sheriff's Office used to deploy an organizational structure including an elected Sheriff, an Undersheriff and a Chief Deputy. He said approximately five years ago they did away with the Undersheriff position; however, in order to better supervise patrol and administrative areas, they would like to re-establish the Undersheriff position. Ritchie stated Chief Deputy Tyson Holshouser would assume the role of Undersheriff and a patrol deputy would be promoted from within the ranks to assume the role of Chief Deputy. Robbins said he has saved the county money over the last five years by cutting the Undersheriff position, and the Chief Deputy would be in charge of patrol and investigations while the Undersheriff would be in charge of the jail and telecommunications. Robbins stated the cost would be an increase in salary of approximately \$15,000 combined for both positions, but they are salaried positions with no overtime. He said he has the money in his budget this year to pay it, but next year would be a different consideration. Young asked what this action would do to his overtime budget. Robbins said it should not affect it at all. **Motion by Ritchie and second by Whitworth to re-establish the Undersheriff position in the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office. All in favor, motion carried.**
9. **Approve Maintenance Contract for Generators for EMA Approval:** Ritchie reported EMA purchased two generators, and they would like to sign a maintenance contract to service them. The cost is \$2,590 per year for both. Ritchie stated EMA Director Schott said he could budget for the cost of the maintenance contract. Bergen said he doesn't like warranties. Schott said this maintenance contract includes oil changes, batteries and other things. **Motion by Ritchie and second by Folkerts to approve signing the maintenance contract for the EMA generators. All in favor, motion carried.**
10. **Approve Resolution for Electronic Monitoring Fees Approval:** Ritchie reported Probation Office Manager Banee Ulrici informed the Finance and Budget Committee they would like to charge clients \$250 for the use of electronic monitoring bracelets, with the option to refund \$225 back to the county if the bracelets are returned undamaged and reusable. He said these battery-charged bracelets are not given out to every parolee, but are given to those who must travel for work. Ulrici stated some clients travel 2 to 3 hours away for work. **Motion by Ritchie and second by Jones to approve Resolution 2023-5 establishing electronic monitoring fees. All in favor, motion carried.**
11. **Intergovernmental Agreement with City of Nokomis for Police Radio and Telephone Services Approval:** State's Attorney Affrunti stated this item needs to be tabled. **Motion by Ritchie and second by Beck to table approving the Intergovernmental Agreement with the city of Nokomis for Police Radio and Telephone Services. All in favor, motion carried.**

- 12. Contract for Temporary Custodian Approval:** Ritchie reported Sheriff Robbins has requested hiring the cleaning service from the Courthouse Complex temporarily in order to keep up with cleaning at the Historic Courthouse. Robbins said the cost would be \$21.50 per hour for up to 24 hours per week. He said he is hopeful the County won't need to hire anyone, but this needs to be addressed just in case. Sneed said only one person would be working in the Historic Courthouse. Lohman asked Sneed if the money to pay for it could be taken from the Buildings and Grounds coal line. Sneed said it could right now, but if it goes on too long it will need to be addressed. **Motion by Ritchie and second by Jones to approve using the contract with National Maintenance and Cleaning for temporary custodial services at the Historic Courthouse. All in favor, motion carried.**
- 13. Bellwether ARPA Reporting and Budgeting Process Approval:** Ritchie reported Dustin Harmon and Jake Johnson with Bellwether, LLC, gave a presentation during the last Finance and Budget Committee outlining their budget process for local governments. Additionally, Bellwether representative Bruce DeLashmit attended remotely. Ritchie stated Bellwether would work with the County throughout the budget process and will always keep the Finance and Budget Committee and County Board involved. He said the cost of hiring Bellwether is \$6,000 up front, and then another \$6,000 when the process is finished. Lohman said the company would have some of the hard conversations with department heads and include a few members from the board during those conversations. **Motion by Ritchie and second by Beck to hire Bellwether, LLC, for the Montgomery County budget process for two payments of \$6,000 each.** Lohman said the initial payment could come from ARPA expenses, and then the County could budget the second payment during the Fiscal Year 2024 budget process. **All in favor, motion carried.**
- 14. Notification of Non-County ARPA Project Recipients Update:** Ritchie reported he has drafted a letter to be distributed to all of the non-county ARPA award recipients outlining the process for how their money will be distributed. He said the letter 1) announces the entities have been awarded based on their application, 2) notifies them an Intergovernmental Agreement will be distributed with a signed copy returned to the County before distribution takes place, and 3) notifies the entity the board must approve an ordinance transferring the ARPA money into an escrow account before distribution. Affrunti stated the County has a responsibility to the federal government to report how ARPA money is being spent, and some counties have had issues tracking money after it was distributed. Affrunti said hopefully between this and the next meeting the Intergovernmental Agreements will be completed.
- 15. Intergovernmental Agreement for ARPA Distribution Update:** Ritchie said there is nothing additional to report.
- 16. Approve Intergovernmental Agreement with Nokomis-Witt Ambulance Service for ARPA Distribution Approval:** Young reported the Nokomis-Witt Ambulance Service found two used ambulances they would like to purchase with the ARPA money they have been awarded. He said it is his opinion choosing to buy used rigs instead of new should take the place of paying the 40 percent match requested of non-county entities. Whitworth stated other entities are paying a 40 percent match, and the board was led to believe Nokomis-Witt Ambulance could do the same. Young said he doesn't know who led them to believe this. Affrunti said this item, as well as items 17 through 26 on the

agenda; need to be tabled anyway because the Intergovernmental Agreements are not finished. **Motion by Ritchie and second by Jones to table agenda items 16 through 26 for one month. All in favor, motion carried.**

17. **Approve Intergovernmental Agreement with Raymond-Harvel Ambulance Service for ARPA Distribution Update:** This item was tabled during previous discussion.
18. **Approve Intergovernmental Agreement with Farmersville-Waggoner Ambulance Service for ARPA Distribution Update:** This item was tabled during previous discussion.
19. **Approve Intergovernmental Agreement with City of Nokomis for ARPA Distribution Update:** This item was tabled during previous discussion.
20. **Approve Intergovernmental Agreement with Fillmore Police Department for ARPA Distribution Update:** This item was tabled during previous discussion.
21. **Approve Ordinance Authorizing the Use of ARPA Funds to Purchase Ambulance(s) for Nokomis-Witt Ambulance Service Update:** This item was tabled during previous discussion.
22. **Approve Ordinance Authorizing the Use of ARPA Funds to Purchase Ambulance(s) for Raymond-Harvel Ambulance Service Update:** This item was tabled during previous discussion.
23. **Approve Ordinance Authorizing the Use of ARPA Funds to Purchase Ambulance(s) for Farmersville-Waggoner Ambulance Service Update:** This item was tabled during previous discussion.
24. **Approve Ordinance Authorizing the Use of ARPA Funds to Purchase a Warning Siren for the City of Nokomis Update:** This item was tabled during previous discussion.
25. **Approve Ordinance Authorizing the Use of ARPA Funds to Purchase a Police Squad Car for the Fillmore Police Department Update:** This item was tabled during previous discussion.
26. **Approve Ordinance Authorizing the Use of ARPA Funds to Purchase Pagers for Montgomery County First Responders Update:** This item was tabled during previous discussion.
27. **Approve Ordinance Authorizing the Use of ARPA Funds to Purchase Radios/Communications systems for EMA Approval:** Ritchie reported this is the first ordinance of two the Board will pass in purchasing radios and communications equipment for Montgomery County EMA. This amount was approved by the Full Board in October 2022. **Motion by Ritchie and second by Young to approve Ordinance 2023-6 authorizing the use of ARPA funds to purchase radios/communications systems for Montgomery County EMA in the amount of \$2,200. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, page 270).**
28. **Starting Salary and Wage Increases for Non-Union County Employees Update:** Ritchie reported this item was initially put on the agenda to start the conversations to prepare for budget time; however, by hiring Bellwether to take over the budget process, this item no longer needs to be addressed at the moment.
29. **DCEO Energy Community Reinvestment Act Grant and Vistra Energy Update:** Ritchie stated there is nothing additional to report.
30. **Revolving Loan Fund Approval:** Ritchie reported the last outstanding loan has been paid off and the board needs to decide what to do with the Revolving Loan Fund. He

stated the Finance and Budget Committee, pending the approval of the State's Attorney, voted to recommend dissolving the Revolving Loan Fund and returning the money to the Capital Improvement Fund since it was taken from Coal money to begin with. **Motion by Ritchie and second by Beck to dissolve the Revolving Loan Fund, pending approval from the State's Attorney, and to return the money to the Capital Improvement Fund.** Affrunti stated he has no problem with the board dissolving the Revolving Loan Fund. Young asked if the board is going to be done with it completely. Affrunti said the County does not have power to loan money, but there are other avenues to fund many of the same projects. **All in favor, motion carried.**

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

1. **2023 Township MFT Rock Letting Results Approval:** Miles reported the price of quite a few items increased. **Motion by Miles and second by Young to approve the low bidders for the 2023 Township MFT Rock Letting. All in favor, motion carried.**
2. **2023 County MFT Rock Letting Results Approval:** **Motion by Miles and second by Jones to approve the low bidders for the 2023 County MFT Rock Letting. All in favor, motion carried.**
3. **Boom Mower/Ditcher Letting Results Approval:** Miles reported Highway Engineer Greenwood received a price for the boom mower/ditcher from Woody's Municipal Supply in the amount of \$89,396.80. **Motion by Miles and second by Jones to approve the purchase of a boom mower/ditcher from Woody's Municipal Supply in the amount of \$89,396.80. ROLL CALL VOTE: VOTING YES: Beason, Beck, Bergen, Donaldson, Folkerts, Hughes, Jones, Miles, Ritchie, Sneed, Whitworth and Young. VOTING NO: None. ABSENT: Loucks and Murzynski. All in favor, motion carried.**
4. **Walshville Bypass Road Intergovernmental Agreement Update:** Miles reported Greenwood spoke recently with Walshville Village Board President Joy McDonald and she is going to see if the board can pass the Intergovernmental Agreement at their March meeting. Miles said until the village approves the agreement, the board will take no action.
5. **Highway Resolution 2023-02 to appropriate funds for 100% County culvert replacement on Niemanville Trail Approval:** Miles reported the cost of this project will be \$20,000 and it will come from the County Aid to Bridge Fund. **Motion by Miles and second by Whitworth to approve Resolution 2023-02 to appropriate funds for 100% County culvert replacement on Niemanville Trail. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 271-272).**
6. **Old Highway Department Building Update:** Miles reported the Infrastructure Committee gave Greenwood approval to get the old Highway Department building tested for asbestos. Greenwood stated he has not received a formal report yet, but several spots came back hot. Whitworth asked if the County discloses the building has asbestos, would we be able to sell the property "as is," with the intent of having the buyer pay for the abatement at their own expense. Affrunti said it can be done and that language would have to be worked into the agreement.
7. **Maintenance and Cleaning Issues and Report Update:** Sneed reported maintenance superintendent Phil Ernst has been busy working around the courthouse buildings. He said Ernst and Maintenance Assistant Roger Cassidy have been pulling double duty

because they've been doing some of the custodial work around the Historic Courthouse while the regular custodian is off sick. Sneed also reported the VAC building was recently broken into, but the broken door used for entry has since been repaired. He also reported the Animal Control facility should be receiving a new door soon.

8. **Sidewalks at Historic Courthouse Update:** Sneed reported he met with Hillsboro city officials recently, and they are going to partner with the County to repair and replace the sidewalks around the Historic Courthouse. He said they are waiting to hear back about the cost of the project.
9. **Interior Door Project for County Clerk's Office Update:** Sneed said there is nothing new to report.
10. **Bidding out the County Farm Approval:** Sneed reported Affrunti briefed the committee on the legalities of leasing out the county farm. Sneed said the board needs to determine whether or not there is public purpose for the land, and if there isn't, it can be leased. Hughes asked if the County would be in any legal trouble if we lease the farm. Affrunti said if the board decides leasing it would be in the best interest of the County, we should be fine. **Motion by Sneed and second by Miles stating it is in the best interest of the County to continue leasing the County farm. All in favor, motion carried.**
11. **Approve Ordinance Bidding Out County Farm Approval:** Affrunti reported the board needs to pass an ordinance to lease the farm, and if they choose to lease it for longer than two years, they must agree to do so by at least a three-fifths majority vote. **Motion by Sneed and second by Bergen to approve Ordinance 2023-7 leasing out the County Farm. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, page 273).**
12. **EMA Storage Shed Update:** Schott stated he is working on getting things out of the old highway department property.
13. **Window Kits for Probation Office Doors Update:** Sneed reported Probation Office Manager Bane Ulrici received a quote for window kits for their office doors. She will be getting in touch with Gardener Glass to see how much installing the glass will be as well.
14. **Additional Office Space for Probation Update:** Sneed reported Ulrici also informed the Infrastructure Committee she received a grant for mental health court to hire three new employees and she is in need of space to put them. Ulrici said she has been in contact with EMA Director Schott and Sheriff Robbins about using the old ambulance billing office.
15. **Elections Update:** County Clerk Leitheiser reported 1,120 registered voters have requested vote-by-mail ballots for the upcoming April 4, 2023 Consolidated Election to date. She stated February 23rd is when early voting begins and is also the date when her office can begin mailing out ballots.
16. **Animal Control Facility Update:** Gerl reported she has been in contact with Affrunti about asking Probst Veterinarian Clinic to print their own rabies certificates. She said a state statute says the County has to supply the rabies tags, but not the forms. Gerl also said she is working with local Veterinarians with rabies tags.
17. **Animal Control Municipal Contracts Update:** Gerl reported she recently received a contract from the village of Coalton for animal control services. She said she currently has six signed contracts from municipalities and plans to work with representatives from each of the other municipalities to get their agreements signed. Gerl said she is currently

working with an outstanding amount of owner surrendered animals, and she has been too busy to reach out. Affrunti stated in the past we reached out to the mayors at Mayors' meetings to share information about the municipal contracts and why we need to have them approve it, and he suggested a Mayors' meeting be scheduled in the near future. Whitworth asked how many contracts were signed before Gerl took over. Gerl said one contract for Coffeen was previously signed. Whitworth asked if the contract had changed at all since she took over, or if they were the same contracts. Affrunti said there was one small change where some language was accidentally left in, but it has since been removed.

18. Policy Regarding Treatment of Injured/Sick Animals at County Animal Control

Facility Update: Sneed reported Gerl told the committee she would take the recommendation of the Veterinarian in regards to injured animals. Gerl asked if she needed to provide this recommendation in written form. Whitworth replied they thought it would be good to have a policy in writing if an animal comes in sick or injured or if someone relinquishes their pet to the county. Whitworth stated the policy would protect the County; especially if a Veterinarian says a pet should be euthanized. Whitworth said it is not our purpose or roll to take in someone's sick or injured pet. Gerl said she is working on creating a document outlining a policy for how long an injured animal should be treated, including a limit of how much to spend on animal medical care for pets dropped off at the facility. Donaldson asked Gerl to work with State's Attorney Affrunti on this policy. Affrunti said he needs to research if the medical recommendation can come from any Veterinarian or if it has to come from the County Veterinarian. Hughes asked if there was a County Veterinarian and Young responded no. State's Attorney Affrunti said Dr. Alan Probst is our County Veterinarian. He said because the Animal Control Administrator is not a licensed Veterinarian, according to State Statute there must be a County Veterinarian. Gerl asked about the appointments of the County Veterinarian and says the statute says something about the county being required to supply equipment and compensation for the position. Gerl asked if we compensate Dr. Probst, and Affrunti replied he will speak with her about this at a later time. Bergen asked when the County Veterinarian was appointed, and State's Attorney Affrunti replied it was done by County Board approval in August of 2009. After the approval of the committee reports and minutes, Bergen asked if the issue of the County Veterinarian could be put on the committee agenda because Probst was appointed a long time ago. Chairman Donaldson responded it can be placed on an upcoming committee agenda.

APPROVAL OF THE COMMITTEE REPORTS & MINUTES:

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None.

SCHEDULE CHANGES: Donaldson reported the only schedule changes are for the Buildings and Grounds and Roads and Bridges Committees' meeting dates and locations. He said Buildings and Grounds Committee will meet the Tuesday before full board meetings at 8:30 a.m. in the County Board room, and Roads and Bridges Committee will meet the Wednesday before full board meetings at 8:30 a.m. at the Highway Department.

APPOINTMENTS: Motion by Whitworth and second by Folkerts to approve the appointment of Dr. Brian Cady to the Montgomery County Board of Health through June 30, 2025. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Sneed and second by Whitworth to approve the appointment of Dr. Dennis Billiter to the Montgomery County Board of Health through June 30, 2025. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Whitworth and second by Hughes to approve the appointment of Pam Myers to the Montgomery County Board of Health through June 30, 2023. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Hughes and second by Jones to approve the appointment of Dan Hough to the Montgomery County Community Mental Health/708 Board through November 30, 2026. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Young and second by Bergen to approve the appointment of James Holliday to the 911/Emergency Telephone System Board. Hughes asked why there was no expiration date attached to this appointment like the ones prior. Affrunti said the ETSB bylaws state when elections of officers occur and when terms take effect, and the County Board needs to look at when those terms will take effect for the future, but for now they just need to appoint the board members. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Whitworth and second by Bergen to approve the appointment of David Beal to the 911/Emergency Telephone System Board. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Young and second by Bergen to approve the appointment of Mike Smalley to the 911/Emergency Telephone System Board. All in favor, motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: County resident Bill Schroeder asked where the County Board stands on implementing zoning. Donaldson said there is currently no movement on it, but there will be board discussion about it. Schroeder also urged board members to check their emails.

PAY BILLS AND PAYROLL: Motion by Ritchie 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, March 14th, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. in the County Board Room, Hillsboro, Illinois. Motion by Sneed and second by Young to adjourn the Full Board Meeting. All in favor, motion carried.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:53 p.m. Minutes respectfully recorded and submitted by Montgomery County Clerk and Recorder Sandy Leitheiser.

Montgomery County Board Minutes

For Tuesday, March 14th, 2023 – 5:30 PM

The following are minutes of a regular meeting of the Montgomery County Board held at 5:30 PM on Tuesday, March 14th, 2023 in the County Board Room, located on the 2nd floor of the Historic Courthouse, 1 Courthouse Square, Hillsboro, Illinois.

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

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

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

Members Absent: None.

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 Folkerts to approve the Mileage and Per Diem. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Beason, Beck, Bergen, 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 Beck and second by Ritchie to approve the Minutes of the Previous Regular County Board Meeting held on Tuesday, February 14th, 2023. **All in favor, motion carried.**

CONSENT AGENDA:

- 1. Animal Control Report** -- Emily Gerl – Report submitted.
- 2. Circuit Clerk's Report** – Daniel Robbins – Report submitted.
- 3. Coroner's Report** – Randy Leetham – Report submitted.
- 4. County Clerk and Recorder's Report** – Report submitted. Sandy Leitheiser was present for questions.
- 5. Health & TB Department Report** – Hugh Satterlee – Report submitted. Satterlee was present for questions.
- 6. Highway Department Report** – Cody Greenwood – Report submitted. Greenwood was present for questions.
- 7. Probation Office Report** – Banee Ulrici – Report submitted.
- 8. Public Defender's Report** – Erin Mattson — No report submitted.
- 9. ROE – Monthly, Quarterly & Annual Reports** -- Julie Wollerman – Report submitted.
- 10. Sheriff's Report** – Rick Robbins – Report submitted. Robbins was present for questions.
- 11. SOA Report** – Cindy Laurent – Report submitted. Laurent was present for questions.
- 12. State's Attorney Report** – Andrew Affrunti – Report submitted. Affrunti was present for questions.
- 13. Treasurer's Report** – Nikki Lohman – Report submitted. Lohman was present for questions. She stated the ARPA funded digitizing project in her office has begun, and digitizing company employees are currently located in her office's break room working on the project if anyone would like to learn more about the project.
- 14. V.A.C. Report** – Cassandra Hampton – Report submitted. Hampton was present for questions.

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

LIAISON REPORTS:

- **708 Board** – Murzynski reported the 708 board met March 13 and discussed grant applications. He said they reviewed one application during their meeting.
- **CEFS Board** -- Beason reported they were waiting to hear about a plan proposed from Macoupin County Transit pertaining to our public transportation.
- **911 Board** – Bergen stated there is nothing new to report.
- **Health Department** -- Whitworth stated there is nothing new to report.
- **IL Association of County Officials** -- Bergen stated there is nothing new to report.
- **MCEDC** -- Hughes reported they held a meeting March 6th and stated MCEDC Executive Director Valerie Belusko is leaving the organization, as well as MCEDC Board President Jonathan Weyer. He stated they will possibly be looking for MCEDC members.
- **Planning Commission** -- Ritchie stated no meeting of the Planning Commission has been scheduled.
- **Senior Citizens Board** -- Folkerts reported they met February 20th and discussion included the Senior Citizens facility driveway needing rock and the review of lease documents.
- **UCCI** – Miles reported they held a meeting February 27th. He stated an attorney from the Energy Infrastructure Projects Division of the law firm Hepler and Broom, LLC, spoke at the meeting about statewide siting standards for wind and solar projects.
- **U of I** – Beck reported they will meet Thursday, March 16.
- **WCDC** – Jones reported they will meet Thursday, March 16 at 6:00 p.m.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

COORDINATING COMMITTEE: Given by Chairman Doug Donaldson:

1. **Information Systems Report Update:** Donaldson stated there is nothing new to report.
2. **EMA Report and Hazard Mitigation Plan Update:** EMA Director Kevin Schott reported the Hazard Mitigation Plan is progressing and there is nothing new to report at this time.
3. **West Central Development Council/Job Center Board/CEO Board Update:** Donaldson stated there is nothing new to report.
4. **Montgomery County Mental Health Ad Hoc Committee Update:** Donaldson reported he has been approached by a number of members of the community concerned about the mental health crisis in the county. He stated he reached out to surrounding counties to see how they were approaching the situation, has had no response. He determined Montgomery County needs to take the lead on this issue and he is going to create an Ad Hoc committee made up of members of the County Board, local law enforcement, Crossover Ministries' leaders and other community leaders. Donaldson reported EMA Assistant Coordinator and 708 Board Chairman Dan Hough will chair the Ad Hoc committee.

RULES COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Chairwoman Connie Beck:

1. **Approve Committee Assignments Update:** Nothing new to report.
2. **Adopt Rules of Order for County Board Approval:** **Motion by Beck and second by Jones to adopt the Montgomery County Rules of the County Board as presented.** Young stated he would recommend moving Animal Control and EPA under the Roads and Bridges Committee to spread out the duties among all the committees. He said he thinks Animal Control should be under the Roads and Bridges Committee because Miles was overseeing them when they were under the Infrastructure Committee. He also said their facility is close to the Highway Department, which would be convenient for meetings. Young said the reason he believes EPA should be under the Roads and Bridges Committee is because most of the trash is along the roads. Hughes said he spoke with the Animal Control Officer Emily Gerl multiple times over the last week, and most of the issues they discussed have been personnel related. Hughes said he also dealt with animal control issues when he was chairman of the Safety and Elections committee. Beck said the Rules of Order Committee members and State's Attorney Affrunti both felt animal control should go under the Personnel Committee due to the Personnel Issues. State's Attorney Affrunti agreed and said animal control would be best suited for the Personnel Committee. He said they have the animal control services are not a concern, but the issues being brought to the committee have been personnel issues. Beck said the Rules Committee spent a lot of time discussing the assignments and deciding which committees to oversee their services. Miles said he spoke with Animal Control Officer Gerl recently also, and she expressed a desire to remain under his committee. Miles also stated he did not know how animal control got moved in the first place because it was most recently under the Infrastructure Committee, which consisted of Buildings and Grounds and Roads and Bridges. Young asked if he could make a motion related only to those two committee assignments. Affrunti responded they have to vote on the motion presented first. He stated if board members are not in favor of the proposed committee assignments, they should vote no on the motion to approve the rules as presented. **ROLL CALL VOTE, Voting YES: Beck, Hughes, Jones, Murzynski, Ritchie and Whitworth. Voting NO: Beason, Bergen, Donaldson, Folkerts, Loucks, Miles, Sneed and Young. Motion failed by a vote of 8- NO, 6-YES.**
3. **Appoint Animal Control Administrator Approval:** Beck reported the board still needs to appoint an Animal Control Administrator, according to Illinois Statute, and we haven't had one since it went under the Infrastructure committee last year. **Motion by Whitworth and second by Hughes to approve making Mark Hughes the temporary Animal Control Administrator. ROLL CALL VOTE, Voting YES: Beck, Donaldson, Hughes, Jones, Murzynski, Ritchie and Whitworth. Voting NO: Beason, Bergen, Folkerts, Loucks, Miles, Sneed and Young. Motion failed by a 7-NO, 7-YES vote.** Donaldson stated unfortunately we will continue to be out of compliance until the board comes to a decision.
4. **Other Business:** Beck stated the Rules Committee will be scheduling another meeting.

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

1. **Maintenance and Cleaning Issues and Report Update:** Sneed reported the maintenance staff remains busy throughout the Courthouse Complex. He also stated staff from National Maintenance and Cleaning Service continues to clean the Historic Courthouse and Jail while the custodian is absent.
2. **Furnace for Conference Room in VAC/ROE Building Update:** Sneed reported the committee reviewed bids for furnace maintenance in the conference room in the ROE building. He stated the committee voted to pay for maintenance of the furnace and chose the low bid from C&C Heating and Cooling in the amount of \$3660.
3. **Contract with Johnson Controls Update:** Sneed reported the committee voted to table this item until the next meeting.
4. **Security Cameras for Annex Building Update:** Sneed reported the committee voted to purchase cameras from Wareham's Security for cameras behind the ROE building after the building was broken into recently.
5. **Approve Preventative Maintenance Service Agreement for Elevators Approval: Motion by Sneed and second by Young to approve the Schindler Elevator Corporation preventative maintenance agreement in the amount of \$10,233.59. All in favor, motion carried.**
6. **Sidewalks at Historic Courthouse Approval:** Sneed reported Hurst-Rosche Engineers' representative Jeremy Connor presented the latest figures and updates for replacing the sidewalks around the Historic Courthouse. He stated the city of Hillsboro is going to work with the county to share some of the costs of the project. **Motion by Sneed and second by Beason to advertise for bids to replace the sidewalks around the Historic Courthouse. All in favor, motion carried.**
7. **Interior Door Project for County Clerk's Office Update:** Sneed stated there is nothing new to report on this item, but County Clerk Leitheiser should be receiving more information next week.
8. **Approve Bids for County Farm Lease Approval:** Sneed reported the committee received four sealed bids to lease the County Farm, and the top bid went to Arlen Kasten of rural Hillsboro. **Motion by Sneed and second by Murzynski to accept the bid from Kasten Farming to lease the County Farm for three years at an amount of \$410 per acre. All in favor, motion carried.**
9. **EMA Storage Building Update:** Sneed reported EMA Coordinator Schott and Assistant Coordinator Joe Gasparich approached the committee about possibly purchasing a building in Irving to store trailers and equipment and also provide office space. The building is listed at \$150,000, and Sneed said he told EMA to check with the Finance and Budget Committee as a next step. Schott stated that inquiry has been made.
10. **Old Highway Department Building Update:** Sneed reported the committee discussed bids to abate the asbestos at the old Highway Department building. He said they received bids of \$17,200, \$23,160 and \$33,600 respectively from different contractors to abate the building.
11. **Bid Old Highway Department Property Approval:** Sneed reported the committee is recommending the board advertise for bids for the old Highway Department property as is. **Motion by Sneed and second by Miles to advertise bids for the old Highway Department property as is, with the option for the top three bidders to increase**

their bids if they attend the Buildings and Grounds meeting on April 4th, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. in person. Young asked if there will be a minimum bid attached to the bid specifications. Sneed stated there will not. Hughes asked if the board will still have the right to refuse all bids. Sneed said yes, we will, but this provision needs stated in the bid advertisement. **All in favor, motion carried.**

DEVELOPMENT & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Chairman Mark Hughes:

1. **MCEDC Update:** Hughes reported MCEDC will hold their annual meeting on April 27th, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. and they will discuss the future of the organization.
2. **Monthly Insurance and HRA Report Update:** Hughes reported the committee reviewed the monthly HRA report and February's numbers are lower, most likely due to the change in insurance carriers for the fiscal year.
3. **Approve Appointing Supervisor of Assessments Approval:** Hughes reported Supervisor of Assessments employee Kendra Niehaus passed her state Supervisor of Assessments exam and may now be appointed to the position. **Motion by Hughes and second by Young to appoint Kendra Niehaus to the position of Supervisor of Assessments for a probationary period of six months, effective April 1st, 2023. All in favor, motion carried.**
4. **Heartland Greenway Carbon Sequestration Project and Development Agreement Update:** Hughes reported Chairman Donaldson is creating an Ad Hoc committee to discuss what to do next with the Carbon Sequestration project. He said the members of this committee will include County Board members Ken Folkerts, Doug Donaldson, Mark Hughes, Connie Beck and community member John Wright. He said these meetings will be open to the public.
5. **UKA North America – Wind Project Update:** Hughes reported UKA Senior Project Developer Ben Orcutt gave a presentation on a proposed wind farm project for Montgomery County during their committee meeting. He said Orcutt also attended the Roads and Bridges Committee meeting and provided a similar presentation. Hughes stated the board may see an application by late summer.
6. **Statewide Siting of Wind & Solar Facilities – Public Act 102-1123 Update:** Hughes reported the county's wind and solar ordinances must be in line with the changes made by the State by the end of May, 2023.
7. **Solar Provider Group - Permit Application and Setback Waiver Update:** Hughes reported a solar provider group is requesting a setback waiver for their project. County Board Administrator Chris Daniels said we received an application and a check, but have not received the waiver yet.
8. **Tourism Grants Update:** Hughes reported applications for tourism grants have been posted and are now available for pickup. He said they are due March 31st, 2023, and the Development and Personnel Committee will review and score them at their April meeting.
9. **DCEO Energy Transition Community Grant Update:** Hughes reported the county's application for the Energy Community Transition Grant was approved and those taxing districts who applied are eligible for \$2,267,334. He stated the Energy Grant Ad Hoc Committee will meet on March 22nd at 6 p.m. to work with grant writer Dan Rogers on completing Phase II of the grant application.

10. **Approve FY 2023 Agreement with Hillsboro Area Ambulance Service Approval:** Hughes reported these contracts will be sent out for the ambulance service representatives to sign, and then will be returned for signatures from the County Board. **Motion by Hughes and second by Whitworth to approve the FY 2023 Agreement with the Hillsboro Area Ambulance Service. All in favor, motion carried.**
11. **Approve FY 2023 Agreement with Raymond-Harvel Area Ambulance Service Approval:** Motion by Hughes and second by Beck to approve the FY 2023 Agreement with the Raymond-Harvel Area Ambulance Service. All in favor, motion carried.
12. **Approve FY 2023 Agreement with Farmersville-Waggoner Area Ambulance Service Approval:** Motion by Hughes and second by Folkerts to approve the FY 2023 Agreement with the Farmersville-Waggoner Area Ambulance Service. All in favor, motion carried.
13. **Approve FY 2023 Agreement with Nokomis-Witt Area Ambulance Service Approval:** Motion by Hughes and second by Young to approve the FY 2023 Agreement with the Nokomis-Witt Area Ambulance Service. All in favor, motion carried.
14. **Animal Control Facility Update:** Hughes reported there are currently 19 dogs and 4 cats at the Animal Control Facility. Donaldson stated there are actually only 18 dogs as of a few hours ago, since his family adopted a dog from the facility recently.
15. **Animal Control Municipal Contracts Update:** Hughes said there is nothing new to report.
16. **EPA Report Update:** EPA Administrator Daniels reported the next electronics recycling drive will take place April 29th, 2023, from 9 a.m. to noon in Hillsboro.
17. **Other Business:** Hughes reported the Development and Personnel Committee voted to move their meetings to two Mondays before the Full Board meeting to help the Coordinated Services office catch up on their work load during committee week.

FINANCE & BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Chairman Andy Ritchie:

1. **SOA Report Update:** Ritchie deferred to temporary Supervisor of Assessments office manager Cindy Laurent, who presented her report to the board. She stated the office has one less employee after the recent passing of county employee Miles Harris, and the office will be advertising for that Field Representative position. She also reported she is training Kendra Niehaus on other required duties for the Supervisor of Assessments position so she can assume that role soon.
2. **Approve Purchase of TrueRoll Proactive Homestead Monitoring Software Approval:** Laurent reported the Finance Committee has recommended purchasing the TrueRoll Proactive Homestead Monitoring Software to help find exemptions and clean up other data in the SOA office system. She stated funds to purchase the software will come from the GIS budget utilizing multiple funds. Laurent said she believes it will be a great asset to the county. Ritchie stated the software should essentially pay for itself. **Motion by Ritchie and second by Jones to approve purchasing the TrueRoll Proactive Homestead Monitoring Software in the amount of \$11,240. All in favor, motion carried.**

3. **Approve Salary for Supervisor of Assessments Approval:** Ritchie reported the board needs to approve the salary for incoming Supervisor of Assessments Niehaus. He stated the position was advertised at a range of \$55,000 to \$70,000, and the latter amount was budgeted. He said the committee is recommending a salary of \$57,500 for a probationary period of six months. **Motion by Ritchie and second by Young to approve a salary of \$57,500 for a six-month probationary period for Kendra Niehaus as Supervisor of Assessments.** Hughes asked if this will be the total \$57,500 for the six-month period, or an annual wage. Ritchie said it will be an annual wage. **Ritchie amends his motion, with the approval of Young, to state “to approve an annual salary of \$57,500 for a six-month probationary period.” All in favor, motion carried.** Hughes recognized temporary Supervisor of Assessments Laurent, who has been working hard to run the office; and those in attendance applauded her efforts.
4. **Capital Improvement Fund Reports Update:** Ritchie reported the county received a \$310,000 capital improvement check in January and another \$300,000 check in February, the latter of which will be reflected in next month’s report.
5. **FY 2022 Audit Update:** Treasurer Lohman reported today she answered the last five questions the auditors had, and the audit should be finished on schedule.
6. **Intergovernmental Agreement for Centralized Emergency Dispatch Center Approval:** Ritchie reported this agreement is between the County and 911/ETSB. **Motion by Ritchie and second by Whitworth to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement for the Centralized Emergency Dispatch Center. All in favor, motion carried.**
7. **Resolution Implementing Recording Fee Increase Due to State of Illinois Rental Housing Surcharge Program (RHSP) Fund Increase Approval:** Leitheiser reported this is a state mandate and her office must collect the fee. The said the fee for standard documents will increase from \$79 to \$88 and the fee for non-standard documents will increase from \$90 to \$99. **Motion by Ritchie and second by Jones to approve the Resolution Implementing Recording Fees Increase due to the State of Illinois Rental Housing Surcharge Program Fund increase. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy of Resolution, see Resolution Book 19, page 274).**
8. **Approve Purchase of EMA Building Update:** Ritchie reported the committee voted to table this item for one month in order to research all potential options.
9. **Contracts and Intergovernmental Agreements for Non-County ARPA Distribution Update:** Ritchie reported the contracts and Intergovernmental Agreements for ARPA funds for non-county projects have been sent out to the various entities.
10. **Ordinances Authorizing the Distribution of ARPA Funds for Non-County ARPA Projects Update:** Ritchie reported these ordinances will not be acted upon until we receive the signed contracts and IGAs.
11. **Ordinance Authorizing the Use of ARPA Funds to Purchase Communications System for 911 ETSB Update:** Ritchie reported the board previously passed Ordinance 2022-18 authorizing the use of ARPA funds not to exceed \$345,000 to purchase a simulcast system. Bergen stated he objects to the second part because the ordinance does not say simulcast system, but rather communications system. Ritchie said the ordinance was passed with a quote attached to it from GTSI for \$345,000. Affrunti stated if the 911 board does not want to move forward with the simulcast project attached to the initial ordinance, they will need to reapply for the changed project so they are treated like other

bodies/entities/offices. Loucks stated the Finance and Budget Committee discussed letting the ETSB have the \$90,000 requested for the revised project and the county receiving the leftover money to put back into the pot. Donaldson asked if the Finance and Budget Committee made a recommendation at their meeting. Ritchie said they did not. Loucks said they did. Ritchie said they did not because the agenda for the Finance and Budget Committee specifically listed simulcast system, and the new project is not a simulcast system. Bergen stated the 911 board voted 5-2 to not move forward with the simulcast system. He also said he does not consider the GTSI document attached to Ordinance 2022-18 as a quote. He said the 911 board asked GTSI multiple times for additional information and when they did not receive it, the board voted the project down. Ritchie said the Finance and Budget Committee will need to discuss the policy for resubmitting project requests for ARPA funding at their next meeting.

12. **Ordinance 2023-09 Authorizing the Use of ARPA Funds to Purchase Fiber Project for 911 ETSB Approval:** Ritchie reported this is for a budgeted project using ARPA money and is not related to the previous agenda item. **Motion by Ritchie and second by Murzynski to approve Ordinance 2023-09 authorizing the use of ARPA Funds to purchase a fiber project for 911/ETSB for an amount not to exceed \$40,000. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 275-276).**
13. **Ordinance 2023-10 Authorizing the Use of ARPA Funds to Purchase vehicles for Sheriff's Office Approval:** Ritchie reported the vendor agreed to distribute vehicles to the sheriff's office before the purchase was complete. There are three vehicles at a total cost of \$127,000. **Motion by Ritchie and second by Beck to approve Ordinance 2023-10 Authorizing the Use of ARPA Funds to purchase vehicles for the Sheriff's Office for an amount not to exceed \$127,000. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 277-280).**
14. **Ordinance 2023-11 Authorizing the Use of ARPA Funds to Purchase Equipment for Sheriff's Office Approval:** Ritchie reported this is for equipment for the newly purchased sheriff's vehicles. **Motion by Ritchie and second by Hughes to approve Ordinance 2023-11 Authorizing the Use of ARPA Funds to purchase vehicle equipment for the Sheriff's Office for an amount not to exceed \$8,000. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, page 281).**
15. **Ordinance 2023-12 Authorizing the Use of ARPA Funds to Purchase Radios/Communications Equipment for Montgomery County EMA Approval:** Ritchie reported this is the second of two ordinances to purchase radios and communications equipment for EMA and was budgeted for ARPA funds. **Motion by Ritchie and second by Jones to approve the Ordinance Authorizing the Use of ARPA Funds to purchase radios and communications equipment for the Montgomery County EMA for an amount not to exceed \$16,133.15. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 282-286).**
16. **DCEO Energy Community Reinvestment Act Grant and Vistra Energy Update:** Ritchie reported the County's application for the DCEO Energy Community Transition Grant is eligible for \$2,267,334, which will be divided among all the entities included in our application. He stated the Energy Grant Ad Hoc committee will meet next on March 22, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. in the County Board room to work with grant writer Dan Rogers on writing Phase II of the grant.

ROADS & BRIDGES COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Chairman Gene Miles:

1. **Walshville Bypass Road Intergovernmental Agreement Update:** Miles reported this item is on hold until the Walshville Village Board meets again.
2. **Wind Farm – UKA North America – Ben Orcutt Update:** Miles reported UKA North America Wind Project Developer Ben Orcutt gave a presentation during the Roads and Bridges Committee meeting. He stated Orcutt informed them the first project will be located in Bois D’Arc, Pitman and Harvel Townships. Miles also said there will be a total of 16 windmills in Project One, and the primary access roads for the park will be Mine Avenue and Black Diamond Trail.
3. **2023 Township MFT Oil Letting Update:** Miles reported this and the other two lettings on the agenda will all take place on April 4, 2023; and the committee will discuss the lettings at their following meeting.
4. **2023 County MFT Oil Letting Update:** Miles stated there is nothing additional to report.
5. **2023 Pipe Culvert Letting Update:** Miles stated there is nothing additional to report.
6. **Old Highway Department Building Update:** Miles stated the board already discussed the cost of the asbestos abatement at the old Highway Department building. He also reported approximately 80 percent of the steel has been removed from the white truck shed at the old property.
7. **Section 15-00138-00-BR – Whitetown Bridge Update:** Miles reported this project is on the State Letting schedule and the estimated construction cost is \$2.53 million. Greenwood said once construction begins, the project must be completed within 95 working days. Greenwood also reported C-Hill Civil Contractors Inc. was the lowest bidder at \$2,084,483.75. He stated C-Hill recently bought out Depue and Owen, with whom the County has worked before.
8. **Section 09-00133-00-BR – Walshville Trail Bridge Update:** Miles reported this project was slated for 2024, and we have been allotted \$1.442 million dollars to work on the project.
9. **Nokomis Township Road Vacation – Portion of N. 22nd Ave Update:** Miles reported Greenwood held a hearing Monday at the Nokomis Township Shed regarding some local property owners’ appeal to the vacating of approximately 4000 feet of North 22nd Avenue just south of the rock quarry allowed by Nokomis Township. He said Greenwood has five days to make a recommendation.
10. **Other Business:** Miles reported the committee will put the Nokomis Road project between Nokomis and Fillmore back on their radar as a future project.

APPROVAL OF THE COMMITTEE REPORTS & MINUTES:

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None

SCHEDULE CHANGES: None

APPOINTMENTS: Motion by Beck and second by Jones to appoint Michael Broaddus to the Raymond Community Fire Protection District Board to finish a vacated term expiring in May 2023. All in favor, motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Nokomis-Witt Area Ambulance Board member Dave Schweizer began the public comment portion of the meeting. He stated he had questions he would like to have answered with regards to ambulance billing and the ARPA funding. He asked who came up with the idea of a 40-60 split with regards to non-ARPA matching funds and why that idea was approved. He also asked if the County had errors and omissions insurance on the Ambulance Billing office, because former County Ambulance Billing office employee Mona Lewis declared herself the administrator for Medicare almost a year after the NWAAS had removed themselves from county billing.

County resident Chad Compton addressed the board next about a cannabis campground site that recently located near his residence. He distributed handouts showing a Beacon map of the campground's location and Airbnb information on the campground, which has been named "Best Buds 420." He said the campground is located on a five-acre parcel owned by a Florida resident, but the individual managing the site will be overseeing the campground. Compton stated the campground is very near their yard and home, and he is worried about potential unlawful trespassing onto his and the surrounding residents' properties, among other concerns. Compton stated while they are not considering selling their property right now, he did not believe they could sell it even if they wanted to because of the location of the campground. He said he is asking for the board's help because the business is supposed to open on April 19th, and they could be grandfathered in if any laws or ordinances are approved at a later time.

Other members of the public in attendance spoke about the carbon sequestration project proposed for Montgomery County. Audubon Township landowner Kurt Johnson stated they have a group fighting hard against the project, and they believe it is dying a slow death. He urged the County Board to sign a petition to intervene with the Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC), much like Sangamon and McDonough counties have already done. He said another step the board can take to prevent this project from taking place is to pass a moratorium. He stated he has heard the County cannot do anything to stop the project, but he said there is a means by which the moratorium can be imposed.

Audubon Township landowner Trevor Braye stated the pipeline is set to run within 50 feet of his house. He said he read the proposed lease and it is very one-sided. He said the County is being offered \$250,000 per injection well per year over a 30-year period while some landowners are being offered \$3,000 per year. He stated there is no way this area is prepared in case of an event like a pipeline eruption similar to the event in Mississippi. He said the money being offered to the county is a bribe, and they should decline it like other counties have done.

Nokomis landowner Theresa Stevens stated her grandparents came here from Italy with nothing, and farming in the area now under consideration has been their family's livelihood. She asked county board members if they can look at the people in the audience at tonight's meeting and say their opinions don't matter. She stated lives are more important than the almighty dollar.

Audubon Township landowner Sabrina Jones stated she spoke with a large majority of township leaders in the county, and she has not spoken to any township yet who supports the CO2 project. She questioned State's Attorney Affrunti about his use of his cell phone during the meeting, and Affrunti responded he was using it to be in contact with a Sangamon County representative about the issue.

Nokomis landowner Cynthia Crowe asked if the CO2 Ad Hoc Committee meetings will be open to the public. Donaldson replied affirmatively.

Rural Hillsboro landowner Bill Schroeder asked if there would be agendas posted for those meetings. Donaldson stated meetings have not been scheduled yet, but agendas will be posted when they have been scheduled.

Nokomis and Witt Township landowner Andrew Bertolino stated Navigator has never built a CO2 pipeline before, and asked County Board members if they would want this site near them.

Audubon Township resident Greg Archibald stated they have a map of those in the Audubon Township area who have signed leases and those who have refused to sign leases, and they understand 84% haven't signed leases, and 16% have signed leases. Archibald said of those 16% who have signed leases, most of them want out of their contracts.

Fillmore Consolidated Township resident Karyl Dressen asked board members to contact state legislators to support proposed bills which could stop carbon sequestration projects and help protect landowners against eminent domain concerns and provide proper setback limitations within future projects.

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

ADJOURN: The next regular full board meeting will be on Tuesday, April 11th, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. in the County Board Room, Hillsboro, Illinois. Motion by Whitworth and second by Ritchie to adjourn the Full Board Meeting. All in favor, motion carried.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:00 p.m. Minutes respectfully recorded and submitted by Montgomery County Clerk and Recorder Sandy Leitheiser.

Montgomery County Board Minutes

For Tuesday, April 11th, 2023 – 5:30 PM

The following are minutes of a regular meeting of the Montgomery County Board held at 5:30 PM on Tuesday, April 11th, 2023 in the County Board Room, 1 Courthouse Square, Hillsboro, Illinois.

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, Bill Bergen, Doug Donaldson, Ken Folkerts, Mark Hughes, Jeremy Jones, David Loucks, Ethan Murzynski, Andy Ritchie, Bob Sneed, Patty Whitworth and Evan Young.

Members Absent: Gene Miles

Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was led by County Board member Patty Whitworth.

Mileage and Per Diem Approval: Motion by Ritchie and second by Young to approve the Mileage and Per Diem. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Beason, Beck, Bergen, Donaldson, Folkerts, Hughes, Jones, Loucks, 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 Hughes to approve the Minutes of the Previous Regular County Board Meeting held on Tuesday, March 14th, 2023. **All in favor, motion carried.**

CONSENT AGENDA:

- 1. Animal Control Report** – Report submitted. Emily Gerl was present later in the meeting for questions.
- 2. Circuit Clerk's Report** – Report submitted. Daniel Robbins was present for questions.
- 3. Coroner's Report** – Randy Leatham – Report submitted.
- 4. County Clerk and Recorder's Report** – Report submitted. Sandy Leitheiser was present for questions.
- 5. Health & TB Department Report** – Report submitted. Hugh Satterlee was present for questions.
- 6. Highway Department Report** – Report submitted. Cody Greenwood was present for questions.
- 7. Probation Office Report** – Banee Ulrici – No report submitted.
- 8. Public Defender's Report** – Erin Mattson — No report submitted.
- 9. ROE – Monthly, Quarterly & Annual Reports** – Julie Wollerman – Report submitted.
- 10. Sheriff's Report** – No report submitted. Rick Robbins was present for questions. He reminded those present about the upcoming farming season and the need for drivers to be careful on the roadways.
- 11. SOA Report** – Report submitted. Kendra Niehaus was present for questions.
- 12. State's Attorney Report** – Report submitted. Andrew Affrunti was present for questions.
- 13. Treasurer's Report** – Report submitted. Nikki Lohman was present for questions.
- 14. V.A.C. Report** – Report submitted. Cassandra Hampton was present for questions.

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

LIAISON REPORTS:

- **708 Board** – Murzynski reported they will meet again in May.
- **CEFS Board** – Beason stated there is nothing new to report.
- **911 Board** – Bergen stated there is nothing new to report.
- **Health Department** – Whitworth stated they will meet next on April 18th, 2023.
- **IL Association of County Officials** – Bergen stated there is nothing new to report.
- **MCEDC** – Hughes reported the annual meeting will be held April 27th, 2023.
- **Planning Commission** – Ritchie reported some of the planning commission members attended the Vistra briefing on March 21st, 2023.
- **Senior Citizens Board** – Folkerts stated they reviewed their annual report and they need to make repairs to their building.
- **UCCI** – Miles was absent so there was nothing new to report.
- **U of I** – Beck stated there is nothing new to report.
- **WCDC** – Jones reported they are working on streamlining paperwork for the application process for WCDC services.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

DEVELOPMENT & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Chairman Mark Hughes:

1. **Resolution 2023-13 Establishing Moratorium on Carbon Dioxide (CO2) Pipeline Construction in Montgomery County Approval:** Motion by Hughes and second by Beason to adopt the Resolution establishing a moratorium on Carbon Dioxide Pipeline Construction in Montgomery County. Young asked what the resolution entails. Donaldson stated it puts a halt on the CO2 sequestration discussion for two years until more guidelines are released by PHMSA. **ROLL CALL VOTE, Voting YES: Beason, Beck, Bergen, Donaldson, Folkerts, Hughes, Jones, Loucks, Murzynski, Ritchie, Sneed, Whitworth and Young. Voting NO: None. Absent: Miles. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 287-288).**
2. **Carbon Sequestration Ad Hoc Committee Update:** Hughes stated there is nothing new to report.
3. **MCEDC Update:** Hughes stated he will be attending the MCEDC annual meeting at the end of April and will report next month.
4. **Employee Health Insurance and Monthly HRA Report Update:** Hughes reported the committee reviewed the HRA sheet submitted by Treasurer Lohman. He also stated Health Insurance rep Amanda Mast will send a report next month once she has received usage numbers from United Health Care.
5. **Approve Awarding Tourism Grants Approval:** Hughes reported the committee reviewed 18 Tourism Grant applications recently submitted, and they were awarded between 50% and 75% of their requests after all were scored. **Motion by Hughes and second by Whitworth to award tourism grants to the following recipients in the amounts listed: Imagine Hillsboro Cardboard Boat Regatta for \$65; Coffeen Fall Fest for \$750; DAR Trivia Night Scholarship Fundraiser for \$500; Hell’s Burrow**

Haunted Attraction for \$500; Hillsboro Bicentennial for \$500; Imagine Hillsboro Harvest Market for \$750; John L. Lewis Park Playground Dedication for \$500; Litchfield Museum's 10th Birthday Celebration for \$500; Litchfield Pickers Market for \$750; Montgomery County Fair for \$750; Old Settlers Car Show for \$675; Old Settlers Celebration for \$750; Old Settlers Concerts for \$75; Owl Prowl for \$250; Raymond Celebration for \$750; Red Rooster 120 and ½ Anniversary for \$750; Shake the Lakes for \$63; and Witt Labor Day for \$750. Young asked how much money was awarded. Hughes reported approximately \$14,000 was requested, and the total amount awarded came in just under \$10,000. **All in favor, motion carried.**

6. **Moratorium on Cannabis Use in Montgomery County Update:** Hughes reported a couple from rural Butler addressed the committee regarding a neighbor potentially starting a cannabis-friendly campground. Hughes stated he is not sure they can do anything about it because the campground is on private property, but State's Attorney Affrunti is going to look into it. Whitworth asked if the County can zone for cannabis use only. Affrunti said this concept would be considered spot zoning and the county cannot do it. Donaldson stated they are looking into other ways to help.
7. **DCEO Energy Transition Community Grant Update:** Hughes reported the committee has held productive meetings. Whitworth reported the next meeting is scheduled for April 26th, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. and is open to the public if anyone is interested in attending.
8. **Animal Control Facility Update:** Hughes reported Animal Control Warden Emily Gerl is looking to purchase a vehicle to replace the van damaged after hitting a deer. He said it will be discussed further during the Finance and Budget Committee report.
9. **Animal Control Municipal Contracts Approval:** Hughes reported two existing contracts for Witt and Coalton will need to be approved again since there were changes made. Affrunti stated there was language mentioning a fee for services already covered by the county taken out of the contract. He said they also included an opt-out after one year, which may mean signatures from other municipalities. **Motion by Hughes and second by Murzynski to approve the municipal contracts for Witt and Coalton for animal control services. All in favor, motion carried.**
10. **EPA Report Update:** EPA Administrator Christine Daniels reported the Electronics Recycling Drive is scheduled for Saturday, April 29th, 2023, from 9 a.m. to noon on the corner of Illinois and Ryder Streets in Litchfield. She said the fall collection will be held in September at the new Highway Department building in Hillsboro also from 9:00 a.m. to noon. EPA Inspector David Jenkins stated he gave a report to the board members via the Google Drive. He said he can only mention so much in his report in order to remain confidential, but they continue to conduct open dump and landfill inspections in the county. Loucks asked how long violators have to clean up their properties. Jenkins said the goal is to bring the sites into compliance, so it varies from case to case. He said he generally gives between 30 and 45 days between inspections, but if progress is made to cleaning up a site, he will extend the deadline.
11. **Statewide Siting of Wind & Solar Facilities – Public Act 102-1123 Update:** Hughes reported Pubic Act 102-1123 was passed by the Illinois legislature in January 2023 and will become effective January 2024. He said it will need to be reviewed and compared to the county's current Wind and Solar facility ordinances and the differences will be discussed next month. Hughes said the State's Attorney's office will be reviewing the ordinances and providing advice on their revisions. Young asked if the state's changes

are more or less strict than the county's ordinances. Affrunti said the county's solar ordinance is pretty good, but it looks like the wind ordinance will be stricter than it was prior to the new state law.

- 12. Solar Provider Group - Permit Application and Setback Waiver Update:** Hughes reported Affrunti stated the minimum setbacks in the State's new statutes regarding solar are larger than the 500 foot setbacks the county has now. Affrunti has been in contact with Solar Provider Group regarding this statute.
- 13. Other Business:** Hughes reported the committee will need to review the Personnel Manual to make it consistent with new legislation taking place on January 1, 2024, regarding 40 hours paid time off for employees who currently don't receive any paid time off options. Affrunti said it appears the only part of the manual needing updated to be consistent with the new law is the section pertaining to sick leave and allowing for two-hour increments. He said the manual currently mandates a minimum of half a day.

COORDINATING COMMITTEE: Given by County Board Chairman Doug Donaldson:

- 1. Information Systems Report Update:** Donaldson reported Information Services has been working with the Circuit Clerk's office's court grant for technology upgrades. He also reported board members and county employees who receive emails with an html attachment should know those are most likely bad.
- 2. EMA Report Update:** EMA Coordinator Dan Hough reported the Hazard Mitigation plan process is ongoing.
- 3. West Central Development Council/Job Center Board/CEO Board Update:** Donaldson reported they have a meeting scheduled for April 20th, 2023.
- 4. Montgomery County Mental Health Committee Update:** Mental Health Crisis Ad Hoc Committee Chair Dan Hough reported they held a meeting March 28th, 2023, which was very well attended. He said they discussed several needs and will meet next on April 24th, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.

RULES COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Chairwoman Connie Beck:

- 1. Adopt Rules of Order for County Board Approval:** Beck reported the Rules Committee met again March 27th, 2023, and voted to recommend adopting the County Board Rules of Order as presented. **Motion by Beck and second by Jones to adopt the Montgomery County Rules of the County Board as presented. Voice Vote, Voting YES: Beason, Beck, Bergen, Donaldson, Folkerts, Hughes, Jones, Loucks, Murzynski, Ritchie, Sneed and Whitworth. Voting NO: Young. Absent: Miles. Motion carried.**
- 2. Appoint Animal Control Administrator Approval:** **Motion by Beck and second by Whitworth to approve naming the Chair of the Development and Personnel Committee as the Animal Control Administrator. Voice Vote, Voting YES: Beck, Bergen, Donaldson, Folkerts, Hughes, Jones, Loucks, Murzynski, Ritchie, Sneed and Whitworth. Voting NO: Beason and Young. Absent: Miles. Motion carried.**

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Bob Sneed:

- 1. Maintenance and Cleaning Issues and Report Update:** Sneed reported the maintenance staff remains busy working around the courthouse complex.

2. **Bid from Johnson Controls/Clow Controls Update:** Sneed reported the committee voted to use Clow Controls for control maintenance work of the HVAC system of the new courthouse.
3. **Jail Generator Maintenance Update:** Sneed reported the committee will continue discussing getting the new jail generator ready.
4. **Sidewalks at Historic Courthouse Update:** Sneed stated there is nothing new to report.
5. **Interior Door Project for County Clerk's Office Update:** Sneed stated there is nothing new to report.
6. **Quote from National Maintenance and Cleaning to Clean Carpets in Historic Courthouse Update:** Sneed reported the committee voted to approve a quote to clean carpets for high traffic areas in the Historic Courthouse.
7. **Bids for Old Highway Department Property Update:** Sneed reported the committee voted to reject all bids for the old highway department property. He stated there was only one bid, but they rejected it without opening it because some city officials and area residents expressed interest in either having deed restrictions placed on the property or having the property sold in pieces. Sneed stated the committee will take a harder look at the situation and put it out for bids again in the near future. Whitworth stated she believes the county should be a good neighbor to all municipalities; and if one of them wants a deed restriction, the county should acquiesce.
8. **Soil Testing at County Farm Update:** Sneed reported the committee will continue discussing soil testing of the county farm at their next meeting. Young stated he gave Chairman Donaldson the name of an independent soil testing company. Hughes said current lease holder Arlen Kasten mentioned using CPS. Young said the committee should be cognizant of fertilizer suppliers doing the soil testing also because they are the ones doing the selling.
9. **Recommend Bidding Out Elevator Preventative Maintenance Service Agreement Update:** Sneed reported this item will remain on the agenda until the fall since the board has a small window to bid out the maintenance agreement.

FINANCE & BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Andy Ritchie:

1. **SOA Report Update:** Ritchie reported Natalie Bergman will be taking tests to become a Certified Illinois Assessing Officer (CIAO). He also reported TrueRoll has also begun their data collection.
2. **Capital Improvement Fund Reports Update:** Ritchie reported the reserve account currently has \$4,609,592, Operating and Maintenance has \$1,612,312, and Capital Improvement has \$1,335,589.
3. **Approve FY 2022 Audit Approval:** Josh Andres with Scheffel-Boyle presented the FY 2022 audit. He stated the county has \$31 million in total assets as of November 30, 2022. He also stated the main increase in expenses is due to salaries, which is happening everywhere. Andres said \$3 million in increases in the audit were related to salaries and other large increases were related to grants. He reported of the \$31 million in county assets, \$26 million is either restricted or committed. **Motion by Ritchie and second by Whitworth to approve the FY 2022 Audit as presented. All in favor, motion carried.**
4. **Approve Contract with Scheffel-Boyle for Auditing Services Approval:** Ritchie reported the Finance and Budget Committee voted to recommend approving a three-year agreement with Scheffel-Boyle to continue auditing services. **Motion by Ritchie and**

second by Folkerts to approve the three-year agreement with Scheffel-Boyle for auditing services. ROLL CALL VOTE, Voting Yes: Beason, Beck, Bergen, Donaldson, Folkerts, Hughes, Jones, Loucks, Murzynski, Ritchie, Sneed, Whitworth and Young. Voting NO: None. Absent: Miles. All in favor, motion carried.

5. **Intergovernmental Agreement with City of Nokomis for Police Radio and Telephone Services Approval:** Ritchie reported the City of Nokomis pays the county for telephone and radio services. He also stated this agreement is through the end of November and will have to be addressed again later. **Motion by Ritchie and second by Beck to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Nokomis for Police Radio and Telephone Services. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 289-290).**
6. **Approve Signing Amended Intergovernmental Agreement with ETSB for Centralized Emergency Dispatch Center Update:** Ritchie reported this item will be addressed next month since the ETSB has not signed it yet.
7. **Intergovernmental Agreement for Multi-township Assessment of Butler Grove-Irving-Rountree Townships Approval:** Ritchie reported this agreement is for \$7,000. **Motion by Ritchie and second by Young to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement for Multi-township Assessment of Butler Grove-Irving-Rountree Townships. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 291-292).**
8. **Intergovernmental Agreement for Multi-township Assessment of South Litchfield Township Approval:** SOA Niehaus reported this agreement is for \$11,900. **Motion by Ritchie and second by Bergen to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement for Multi-township Assessment of South Litchfield Township. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 293-294).**
9. **Approve Payment of Supreme Court Data Integration Expense and for Full Reimbursement Approval:** Ritchie reported the cost will be \$24,000 and will be split between the Circuit Clerk's Office and probation office. Circuit Clerk Robbins reported it will be paid from his document storage fund, and then will be fully reimbursed. **Motion by Ritchie and second by Sneed to approve payment of the Supreme Court data integration expense. All in favor, motion carried.**
10. **Approve Purchase of EMA Building Update:** Ritchie reported the highway department plans to build a new truck shed and will allow EMA to move into one of their buildings once it is vacated. EMA could remain in their existing building until the new highway building is built in 2024.
11. **Approve Purchase of Vehicle for Animal Control Approval:** Ritchie reported AC Warden Gerl has looked at a variety of vehicles to replace the animal control van recently totaled. The County received \$7,500 back from the insurance company, and the Animal Control office received a \$5,000 donation to be used for the care of animals. Ritchie stated Gerl found a 2008 Dodge Ram truck for \$8,000. It has 86,000 miles on it and does need a camper shell. He said the only low mileage vans Gerl could find were \$20,000 or more. **Motion by Ritchie and second by Young to approve the purchase of a vehicle for animal control in the amount of \$8,000. All in favor, motion carried.**
12. **Approve FY 2024 Agreement with University of Illinois Extension Approval:** Ritchie reported this is for 2023 tax levies paid in 2024. Amanda Cole with the U of I extension was present for questions. **Motion by Ritchie and second by Beck to approve**

the FY 2024 agreement with the University of Illinois Extension. ROLL CALL VOTE, Voting Yes: Beason, Beck, Bergen, Donaldson, Folkerts, Hughes, Jones, Loucks, Murzynski, Ritchie, Sneed, Whitworth and Young. Voting NO: None. Absent: Miles. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 295-296).

13. **Policy and Process for Resubmission of ARPA Funding Application Update:** Ritchie reported he spoke with State's Attorney Affrunti, and there is no need for a policy for the resubmission of applications for ARPA funding.
14. **Approve Ordinance 2023-14 Authorizing the Use of ARPA funds to Pay Bellwether for Budget Services Approval:** Ritchie reported this is the first of two payments the board will make for this budget cycle. **Motion by Ritchie and second by Jones to approve Ordinance 2023-14 authorizing the use of ARPA funds to pay Bellwether for budget services for an amount not to exceed \$6,000. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 297-298).**
15. **Approve Ordinance 2023-15 Authorizing the Use of ARPA funds to pay for Fiber Redundancy Project for Information Services Approval:** Ritchie reported this project is one of the board-approved ARPA projects. **Motion by Ritchie and second by Folkerts to approve the Ordinance 2023-15 authorizing the use of ARPA funds to pay for the fiber redundancy project for Information Services for an amount not to exceed \$60,000. ROLL CALL VOTE, Voting Yes: Beason, Beck, Bergen, Donaldson, Folkerts, Hughes, Jones, Loucks, Murzynski, Ritchie, Sneed, Whitworth and Young. Voting NO: None. Absent: Miles. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 299-302).**
16. **Approve Ordinance 2023-16 Authorizing the Use of ARPA funds to pay for Digitizing project for County Clerk and Recorder's Office Approval:** Ritchie reported this project is one of the board-approved ARPA projects. **Motion by Ritchie and second by Hughes to approve Ordinance 2023-16 authorizing the use of ARPA funds to pay for the digitizing project for the County Clerk and Recorder's Office for an amount not to exceed \$218,705. ROLL CALL VOTE, Voting Yes: Beason, Beck, Bergen, Donaldson, Folkerts, Hughes, Jones, Loucks, Murzynski, Ritchie, Sneed, Whitworth and Young. Voting NO: None. Absent: Miles. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 303-305).**
17. **Approve Ordinance 2023-17 Amending Ordinance 2022-18, Authorizing the Use of ARPA funds to purchase communications system upgrade for 911/ETSB Approval:** Ritchie reported this is for an upgrade of 911's multicast system. The board previously approved the purchase of a simulcast system in the amount of \$345,000, and this approval amends that ordinance. **Motion by Ritchie and second by Loucks to approve Ordinance 2023-17 amending Ordinance 2022-18, authorizing the use of ARPA funds to purchase a communications system upgrade for 911/ETSB for an amount not to exceed \$83,620. ROLL CALL VOTE, Voting Yes: Beason, Beck, Bergen, Donaldson, Folkerts, Hughes, Jones, Loucks, Murzynski, Ritchie, Sneed, Whitworth and Young. Voting NO: None. Absent: Miles. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 306-310).**
18. **Contracts and Intergovernmental Agreements for ARPA Distribution Update:** Ritchie reported two contracts have been received so far for non-county ARPA distribution. One by the Farmersville-Waggoner Area Ambulance Service, and the other

by Raymond-Harvel Area Ambulance Service. He stated contracts were sent to non-governmental agencies, and intergovernmental agreements were sent to local government bodies.

- A. **Contract with Nokomis-Witt Area Ambulance Service for ARPA Distribution Update:** Nothing new to report.
- B. **Contract with Raymond-Harvel Area Ambulance Service for ARPA Distribution Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Beck to approve signing the contract with the Raymond-Harvel Area Ambulance Service for ARPA distribution. ROLL CALL VOTE, Voting Yes: Beason, Beck, Bergen, Donaldson, Folkerts, Hughes, Jones, Loucks, Murzynski, Ritchie, Sneed, Whitworth and Young. Voting NO: None. Absent: Miles. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, page 311).
- C. **Contract with Farmersville-Waggoner Area Ambulance Service for ARPA Distribution Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Jones to approve signing the contract with the Farmersville-Waggoner Area Ambulance Service for ARPA distribution. ROLL CALL VOTE, Voting Yes: Beason, Beck, Bergen, Donaldson, Folkerts, Hughes, Jones, Loucks, Murzynski, Ritchie, Sneed, Whitworth and Young. Voting NO: None. Absent: Miles. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, page 312).
- D. **Intergovernmental Agreement with City of Nokomis for ARPA Distribution Update:** Nothing new to report.
- E. **Intergovernmental Agreement with Fillmore Police Department for ARPA Distribution Update:** Nothing new to report.

19. **Ordinances Authorizing the Use of ARPA Funds for Non-County Distributions Update:** Ritchie reported the board could take action on the ordinances related to the agreements signed and returned.

- A. **Ordinance Authorizing the Use of ARPA Funds to Purchase Ambulance(s) for Nokomis-Witt Area Ambulance Service Update:** Nothing new to report.
- B. **Ordinance 2023-18 Authorizing the Use of ARPA Funds to Purchase Ambulance(s) for Raymond-Harvel Ambulance Service Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Beck to approve Ordinance 2023-18 authorizing the use of ARPA funds to purchase an ambulance for the Raymond-Harvel Area Ambulance Service for an amount not to exceed \$196,800. ROLL CALL VOTE, Voting Yes: Beason, Beck, Bergen, Donaldson, Folkerts, Hughes, Jones, Loucks, Murzynski, Ritchie, Sneed, Whitworth and Young. Voting NO: None. Absent: Miles. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 313-317).
- C. **Ordinance 2023-19 Authorizing the Use of ARPA Funds to Purchase Ambulance(s) for Farmersville-Waggoner Ambulance Service Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Whitworth to approve Ordinance 2023-19 authorizing the use of ARPA funds to purchase an ambulance for the Farmersville-Waggoner Area Ambulance Service

for an amount not to exceed \$127,194.60. ROLL CALL VOTE, Voting Yes: Beason, Beck, Bergen, Donaldson, Folkerts, Hughes, Jones, Loucks, Murzynski, Ritchie, Sneed, Whitworth and Young. Voting NO: None. Absent: Miles. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 318-319).

- D. **Ordinance Authorizing the Use of ARPA Funds to Purchase a Warning Siren for the City of Nokomis Update:** Nothing new to report.
- E. **Ordinance Authorizing the Use of ARPA Funds to Purchase a Police Squad Car for the Fillmore Police Department Update:** Nothing new to report.

20. **Vistra Energy Solar Farm and Battery Storage Facility Update:** Ritchie reported representatives from Vistra Energy held an informational meeting in the County Board room at the Historic Courthouse on March 21st, 2023. Young said he believes they have started doing dirt work at the old Coffeen Power Plant.

ROADS & BRIDGES COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Vice-Chairman Evan Young:

1. **Walshville Bypass Road Intergovernmental Agreement Approval:** Young reported the Walshville Village Board signed the agreement March 14. **Motion by Young and second by Beason to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement with the Village of Walshville for the Walshville Bypass Road project. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 320-328).**
2. **2023 Township MFT Oil Letting Approval:** Motion by Young and second by Jones to approve the low bidders Louis Marsch, Inc. and Litchfield Bituminous Corp. for the Townships 2023 MFT Oil Letting Program. All in favor, motion carried.
3. **2023 County MFT Oil Letting Approval:** Motion by Young and second by Loucks to approve the low bidder Louis Marsch, Inc. for the County's 2023 MFT Oil Letting Program. All in favor, motion carried.
4. **2023 Pipe Culvert Letting Approval:** Motion by Young and second by Whitworth to approve the low bid from Metal Culverts Inc. for pipe culvert letting. All in favor, motion carried.
5. **Old Highway Department Building Update:** Young reported the individual who purchased the white truck building on the old highway department has almost the entire structure taken down. Highway engineer Greenwood stated there's only one section left and he could probably have it finished in one more day.
6. **Section 15-00138-00-BR – Whitetown Bridge Construction Engineering Services Approval:** Greenwood reported WHKS is the proposed engineer, and the project would be completed in approximately 95 working days. He said their job will be to make sure the construction firm is building the project to the required specs. The cost of the construction agreement is \$176,456. **Motion by Young and second by Beason to approve the construction engineering agreement with WHKS. ROLL CALL VOTE, Voting Yes: Beason, Beck, Bergen, Donaldson, Folkerts, Hughes, Jones, Loucks, Murzynski, Ritchie, Sneed, Whitworth and Young. Voting NO: None. Absent: Miles. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 329-343).**

7. **Section 17-05121-00-BR – Wonder Trail Bridge, Fillmore Twp, TBP, Engineering Services Approval:** Young reported this agreement is for preliminary engineering with Prairie Engineers at a cost of \$56,495. **Motion by Young and second by Beason to approve the preliminary engineering agreement with Prairie Engineers. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 344-352).**
8. **Nokomis Township Road Vacation – Portion of N. 22nd Ave Update:** Greenwood reported he made his decision to deny the appeal by local residents and uphold the decision made by the Nokomis Township Road Commissioner regarding vacating a portion of North 22nd Avenue. He said the parties who filed the appeal may now appeal Greenwood’s decision at the court level. Affrunti stated he understands the parties who filed the appeal will not be taking it any further.
9. **Illinois House Bill 2781 – Increase of Township Bridge Funds Update:** Young reported House Bill 2781 is currently in committee at the state level and would increase the amount of township bridge funds. He said the county currently receives \$200,000 per year on average, and if the same formula is used the county would receive approximately \$800,000 per year for township bridges. Young stated the committee will look at a resolution of support for this bill.

APPROVAL OF THE COMMITTEE REPORTS & MINUTES:

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None

SCHEDULE CHANGES: None

APPOINTMENT: **Motion by Loucks and second by Jones to appoint Laura Lee Huber to the Energy Grant Ad Hoc Committee to represent East Fork Township, Road District and Multi-township Assessors. All in favor, motion carried.**

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Linda Liebscher from Crossover Ministries asked where the drug-related deaths are listed on the Coroner’s report given to the County Board. Affrunti said the Coroner need to be asked about those numbers. She also asked about the additional ARPA money not being used for the 911 simulcast system. Ritchie stated it will go back into the larger fund and the committee will now consider other projects already on the list.

County resident Bill Schroeder stated there seems to be a lot of interest in zoning and he asked the board to consider adding an item to one of the committee agendas to discuss the process to begin.

County resident Erica Petcher asked what County Board Committee will be in charge of deciding to place Narcan dispensers around the county. Donaldson said the Health Department would have to look into this request.

Audubon Township resident Sabrina Jones thanked the board for their unanimous vote on the resolution establishing the CO2 pipeline moratorium earlier in this meeting. Audubon Township resident Greg Archibald also expressed thanks to the board on behalf of Audubon Township.

Navigator CO2 representative Danielle Anderson stated their team is available for any questions regarding their CO2 sequestration project. She said their safety regulators are the U.S. EPA and PHMSA. She said the county could have expected to see \$1 million each year prior to the vote on the moratorium earlier in this meeting.

County resident Jenny Miller said the County Board needs to protect the farmer and the rural area.

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

ADJOURN: The next regular full board meeting will be on Tuesday, May 9th, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. in the County Board Room, Hillsboro, Illinois. Motion by Loucks and second by Hughes to adjourn the Full Board Meeting. All in favor, motion carried.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:28 p.m. Minutes respectfully recorded and submitted by Montgomery County Clerk and Recorder Sandy Leitheiser.

Montgomery County Board

Minutes

County Board Room, 2nd Floor, Historic Courthouse
#1 Courthouse Square Hillsboro, IL 62049

For Tuesday, May 9th, 2023 – 5:30 PM

The following are minutes of a regular meeting of the Montgomery County Board held at 5:30 PM on Tuesday, May 9th, 2023.

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

Roll call was taken – 13 members present, 0 members absent.

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

Members Absent: None

Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was led by County Board member Bill Bergen.

Chairman Donaldson requested a moment of silence for Gene Miles, who unexpectedly passed away April 19th, 2023. Donaldson stated Miles served on the County Board representing District #2 since 2006.

Chairman Donaldson stated Chad Ruppert has been recommended by the Montgomery County Republican Central Committee to replace Gene Miles on the County Board until the next election. **Motion by Young and second by Hughes to approve the Appointment of Chad Ruppert to the Montgomery County Board filling the vacant seat in District #2. All in favor, motion carried.** Circuit Judge Kit Hantla administered the oath of Office for Chad Ruppert. Chairman Donaldson then stated there were 14 members present and 0 members absent with Ruppert filling the vacant seat on the County Board.

Mileage and Per Diem Approval: Motion by Jones and second by Beason to approve the Mileage and Per Diem. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Voting YES: Beason, Beck, Bergen, Donaldson, Folkerts, Hughes, Jones, Loucks, Murzynski, Ritchie, Ruppert, Sneed, Whitworth and Young. Voting NO: None. All in favor, motion carried.

Approval of Minutes of Previous County Board Meeting: Motion by Sneed and second by Young to approve the Minutes of the Previous Regular County Board Meeting held on Tuesday, April 11th, 2023. 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.
3. **Coroner’s Report** – Randy Leetham – Report was submitted. Leetham was present for questions.
4. **County Clerk and Recorder’s Report** – Report was submitted. Leitheiser was present for questions.
5. **Enterprise Zone Report** – Christine Daniels – Report was submitted. Daniels was present for questions.
6. **Environmental Protection Agency Report** – Christine Daniels – Report was submitted. Daniels was present for questions.
7. **Health & TB Department Report** – Hugh Satterlee – Report was submitted. Satterlee was present for questions.

8. **Highway Department Report** – Cody Greenwood – Report was submitted. Greenwood was present for questions.
9. **Information Services Report** – Curt Watkins – Report was submitted.
10. **Maintenance Superintendent Report** – Phil Ernst – Report was submitted.
11. **Probation Office Report** – Banee Ulrici – Report was submitted.
12. **Public Defender’s Report** – Erin Mattson — No report was submitted.
13. **ROE – Monthly, Quarterly & Annual Reports** -- Julie Wollerman – Report was submitted.
14. **Sheriff’s Report** – Rick Robbins – Report was submitted. Undersheriff Tyson Holshouser was present for questions.
15. **SOA Report** – Kendra Niehaus – Report was submitted. Niehaus was present for questions.
16. **State’s Attorney Report** – Andrew Affrunti – Report was submitted. Affrunti was present for questions.
17. **Treasurer’s Report** – Nikki Lohman – Report was submitted. Lohman was present for questions.
18. **V.A.C. Report** – Cassandra Hampton – No report was submitted.

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

LIAISON REPORTS:

- **708 Board** – Murzynski reported they will hold a meeting next month.
- **CEFS Board** – Beason stated there was nothing new to report.
- **911 Board** – Bergen stated they approved the dispatch agreement, which the Finance and Budget Committee will present later in the meeting. He also reported they approved to spend 50 percent of the money for the 911 system upgrade.
- **Health Department** – Whitworth reported their next regular meeting is scheduled for July.
- **IL Association of County Officials** – Bergen stated there was nothing new to report.
- **MCEDC** – Hughes reported they held their annual meeting on April 27th, 2023. He said the biggest news is they are looking for a new executive director. He reported they have changed their meeting places and will now begin meeting at the Farm Bureau Building in Hillsboro and not at the University of Illinois Extension office, with the next meeting scheduled for May 25th, 2023.
- **Planning Commission** – Ritchie stated there was nothing new to report.
- **Senior Citizens Board** – Folkerts stated there was nothing new to report.
- **UCCI** – Donaldson stated there was nothing new to report.
- **U of I** – Beck reported their next meeting is scheduled for June 15th, 2023.
- **WCDC** – Jones stated there was nothing new to report.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: County citizen Sarah Castellanos addressed the board describing an experience she and her family recently encountered with the Navigator pipeline. She stated representatives from the pipeline company were on her property without her consent, and her family and neighbors were completely without water for a period while Navigator was working.

Citizen Bill Schroeder stated he would like the board to review the new rules of order for public comment, specifically the rule stating comments shall be limited only to items listed on

the posted agenda. He stated there are times items not on the posted agenda may need addressed by the public.

Citizen Karyl Dressen asked if there was anything the county is doing about zoning. She stated she is urging everyone to support Illinois House Bill 3119, which she said is a bill helping protect Illinois communities against carbon sequestration. She said the bill prohibits the use of eminent domain for CO2 pipeline construction.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

COORDINATING COMMITTEE: Given by Chairman Doug Donaldson:

- 1. Information Systems Report Update:** Donaldson reported Information Services has been working on court server replacement, swapping out PCs and putting new machines in the Adult Redeploy program office, which used to be the ambulance billing office. He also reported they are proceeding with the fiber ring redundancy project.
- 2. EMA Report and Hazard Mitigation Plan Update:** Donaldson recognized the County EMA staff and all the first responders in the County for their dedication and work on the Interstate 55 accident on May 1st. EMA Director Kevin Schott reported the next Hazard Mitigation planning meeting is scheduled for May 24th at 6:30 p.m. Schott stated EMA played a support role at the May 1st accident, and he could not be more proud of the work done by all involved in the incident. He reported EMA coordinator Dan Hough responded from Raymond, while Schott and Gasparich traveled to the scene together. He said the conditions surrounding the incident were unimaginable.
- 3. West Central Development Council/Job Center Board/CEO Board Update:** Donaldson reported the CEO Board is looking for a chair and vice chair, and he will step up to fill one of those roles.
- 4. Proclamation Recognizing May as Mental Health Awareness Month Approval:** Donaldson read the proclamation. **Motion by Young and second by Whitworth to approve the proclamation recognizing May as Mental Health Awareness Month. All in favor, motion carried. (For a copy, see Resolution Book 20, page 1).**

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

- 1. Maintenance and Cleaning Issues and Report Update:** Sneed reported the maintenance staff continues to work throughout the courthouse complex, including putting refrigerant into several air conditioning units. He stated the units will have to eventually be replaced.
- 2. Jail Generator Maintenance Approval: Motion by Sneed and second by Beason to approve the estimate from Hillsboro Electric for generator electrical work at the jail in the amount of \$29,999.14.** Young asked what kind of amp service would be provided. Sneed said it would not take the full load but would be approximately 225 amp service. **All in favor, motion carried.**
- 3. Sidewalks at Historic Courthouse Update:** Sneed reported Hurst-Rosche Engineers representative Jeremy Connor has been working with the City of Hillsboro and the County regarding the sidewalks needing replaced around the Historic Courthouse.
- 4. Approve Intergovernmental Agreement with City of Hillsboro for Sidewalks at Historic Courthouse Approval:** **Motion by Sneed and second by Whitworth to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Hillsboro for sidewalk repair and replacement around the Historic Courthouse.** State's Attorney Affrunti said he reviewed the agreement with Connor and made some grammatical and statute

citing changes, so he endorses the agreement now. **ROLL CALL VOTE: Voting YES: Beason, Beck, Bergen, Donaldson, Folkerts, Hughes, Jones, Loucks, Murzynski, Ritchie, Ruppert, Sneed, Whitworth and Young. Voting NO: None. All in favor, motion carried. (For a copy, see Resolution Book 20, pages 2-4).**

5. **Interior Door Project for County Clerk's Office Update:** Sneed reported County Clerk Leitheiser has a plan for security and ADA compliant upgrades to her office.
6. **Soil Testing at County Farm Update:** Sneed reported soil testing has been completed, but paperwork has not been submitted yet.
7. **Bidding Elevator Preventative Maintenance Service Agreement Update:** Sneed reported this item will be addressed in October.
8. **Other Business:** Whitworth asked if the old Highway Department building on Seymour Avenue in Hillsboro is on hold for the moment. Sneed replied affirmatively. Chairman Donaldson stated it will be put back on the agenda for next month.

DEVELOPMENT & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Chairman Mark Hughes:

1. **MCEDC Update:** Hughes stated he had nothing additional to report.
2. **Planning Commission Update:** Hughes reported there are two active Planning Commission members whose terms expire at the end of June. He stated Chairman Donaldson recently spoke with Brian Niemann, who indicated he would be interested in remaining on the Planning Commission. Hughes said they still need to speak with C.J. Liddell about remaining on the Planning Commission. In addition to those two current members, the Planning Commission is without three other voting members.
3. **Employee Health Insurance and Monthly HRA Report Update:** Hughes reported 22 total inquiries have been handled through Assured Partners Member Advocacy Program so far, for a total savings of \$48,725.25.
4. **County Salaries Update:** Hughes reported County Board Administrator Chris Daniels will be updating the salary spreadsheets using counties similar in size, with a range in population from 25,000 to 35,000. Young suggested using Equalized Assessed Value as well.
5. **Animal Control Facility Update:** Hughes reported Animal Control adopted six dogs in two days. He said this may be due to the recent adoption event they hosted in Nokomis. He also said over \$500 was raised at the adoption event in Nokomis.
6. **Animal Control Municipal Contracts Update:** Hughes reported they are planning to host some Mayors' meetings. He stated newly elected Litchfield alderman Jacob Fleming attended the committee meeting regarding the animal control municipal contract situation. Schott asked if EMA can be included on the Mayors' meeting agenda, and Chairman Donaldson replied affirmatively.
7. **Illinois Department of Agriculture Annual License for Animal Control Update:** Hughes reported the voucher is signed so payment will be made.
8. **EPA Report Update:** EPA Administrator Daniels reported they submitted their written EPA report for County Board review.
9. **Approve Contract for Supervisor of Assessments Approval:** Motion by Hughes and second by Jones to approve the contract for the Supervisor of Assessments. All in favor, motion carried. (For a copy, see Resolution Book 20, pages 5-7).
10. **Approve Signing the FY 2023 Agreement between Montgomery County and the Raymond-Harvel Area Ambulance Service Approval:** Hughes reported the agreements for all the ambulance services will be approved as they are received, and

Raymond-Harvel Area Ambulance Service was the first to return their signed agreement. **Motion by Hughes and second by Beck to approve signing the FY 2023 Agreement between Montgomery County and the Raymond-Harvel Area Ambulance Service. All in favor, motion carried. (For a copy, see Resolution Book 20, pages 8-10).**

11. **Nextlink Broadband Internet Update:** Hughes reported Donaldson received information about bringing possible broadband internet to rural areas of the county from Nextlink. Donaldson stated he spoke to CTI to see if they had any plans to expand to rural parts of the county, and they do not at this time. He said he and Hughes have a phone conference call scheduled for this Thursday at 4:15 p.m. with Nextlink. Donaldson also reported Nextlink has received a grant to help pay for this project.
12. **Statewide Siting of Wind & Solar Facilities – Public Act 102-1123 Update:** Hughes reported State’s Attorney Affrunti reviewed the county wind and solar ordinances and compared them to the new state law. Affrunti stated he revised the ordinances to be in compliance with the state’s legal changes. He said the board may review the ordinance for 30 days with the intent to vote on them next month. Affrunti stated the state now gives the county the ability to regulate solar farms, but changed the setback requirements and changed decommission requirements.
13. **Solar Provider Group - Permit Application and Setback Waiver Approval:** Affrunti reported the state changed the setback requirements from 500 feet to 150 feet. Hughes stated Solar Provider Group has submitted their permit application and the board needs to vote on it. **Motion by Hughes and second by Ritchie to approve the Solar Permit submitted by Solar Provider Group for Parcel ID # 20-23-300-007 on Donnellson Avenue pending approval from the State’s Attorney.** Young asked what happens to this permit if the board votes no, because the county typically is allowed to be stricter than state requirements. Affrunti said this vote is for the permit and not for the ordinance. Supervisor of Assessments Niehaus asked if copies of these permit applications can be sent to her office so they can know what’s coming. **ROLL CALL VOTE: Voting YES: None. Voting NO: Beason, Beck, Bergen, Donaldson, Folkerts, Hughes, Jones, Loucks, Murzynski, Ritchie, Ruppert, Sneed, Whitworth and Young. Motion failed.**

FINANCE & BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Chairman Andy Ritchie:

1. **SOA Report Update:** Ritchie reported Supervisor of Assessments Kendra Niehaus presented her monthly report to the committee. He stated the office has been conducting interviews to hire a field assessor.
2. **Capital Improvement Fund Reports Update:** Ritchie reported the April coal royalty check was only for \$35,000. He said this check will be reflected in the June reports, and he stated the reason for the larger checks recently was because of stockpiled amounts of coal sold. He said the mine will be in full working mode in June and the amounts will likely increase, but the county will see smaller checks for a few months until then.
3. **IMRF Update:** Ritchie reported the County received the tentative preliminary rates for 2024. The regular employees’ rate increased from 6.69 percent to 7.87, which will make the county’s cost higher. The SLEP rates will decrease from 7.65 to 6.87, and the ECO will decrease from 0.91 to 0.90 percent.
4. **Approve Signing Amended Intergovernmental Agreement with ETSB for Centralized Emergency Dispatch Center Approval:** **Motion by Ritchie and second by Sneed to approve the amended Intergovernmental Agreement with ETSB for**

Centralized Emergency Dispatch Center. All in favor, motion carried. (For a copy, see Resolution Book 20, pages 11-14).

5. **County Website – Approve Annual Fee for Website Update:** Ritchie reported Circuit Clerk Robbins received a court grant to pay for the cost of redoing the entire county website, as well as the first year of maintenance. He said the website would then become ADA compliant. He stated the annual maintenance cost is around \$560, and will be paid from the Information Services budget starting in FY 2024.
6. **Resolution/Ordinance 2023-20 to Transfer Revolving Loan Funds Approval:** Ritchie reported the board previously agreed to dissolve the Revolving Loan Fund and now needs to approve a resolution dissolving this fund and returning the money to the Capital Improvement Fund. **Motion by Ritchie and second by Beck to approve Resolution 2023-20 Approving the Elimination of the Montgomery County Revolving Loan Fund. All in favor, motion carried. (For a copy, see Resolution Book 20, page 15).**
7. **Assistant State’s Attorney Position and Salary Update:** Ritchie reported the State’s Attorney’s office had an Assistant State’s Attorney leave and needs to fill the position in order to catch up on work that has fallen behind. He stated the board will have to approve a resolution and ordinance at next month’s meeting to amend the budget as an emergency in order for the county to provide the appropriate resources for the office to perform its duties. Affrunti reported he will have a proposal and more information for the County Board at the June meeting. He said all counties are dealing with Assistant State’s Attorney shortages, and stated Christian County is offering \$135,000 salary and Marion County is offering \$100,000 and neither has been able to fill their vacancies. Donaldson stated Affrunti’s budget for two Assistant State’s Attorney’s is \$135,000 total at this time.
8. **Approve Allocation of Funds for Phase II Application/Projects for DCEO Transition Community Grant Approval:** Ritchie reported the Energy Grant Ad Hoc Committee made a recommendation to the Finance and Budget Committee to approve the allocation of energy grant funds as follows: \$102,000 for Hillsboro Area Public Library; \$625,000 for Lincoln Land Community College; \$125,000 for Montgomery County Community Mental Health; \$50,000 for East Fork Road District; \$50,000 for East Fork Township; and \$50,000 for MTA Grisham-Walshville-East Fork. An estimated \$2,000 would be used to pay for the grant writing fees for Phase II of the application, as \$455 has already been paid for Phase I. The remaining balance of \$1,162,879 was allocated for County use and the Finance and Budget Committee is recommending allocating those funds as follows: \$408,000 for natural gas and electrical distribution to the City of Litchfield’s Interstate 55 commerce center; \$250,000 for the City of Hillsboro’s multi-use trails; \$161,584 for the Montgomery County Clerk and Recorder’s Office’s Security and ADA upgrades; \$60,360 for Crossover Ministries for salaries and recovery programs and \$282,935 for broadband to rural areas of the county. **Motion by Ritchie and second by Murzynski to approve the allocation of energy grant funds as presented.** Ritchie stated the Senior Citizens allocation will be voted on in a separate motion because County Board member Mark Hughes will have to abstain from voting on their request. Young asked if each project should be voted on individually instead of all at once as a shotgun approach. Donaldson stated it is not a shotgun approach. He said the Energy Grant Ad Hoc Committee members held six meetings and went over these projects thoroughly and are now making their recommendations. Whitworth asked if the motion should be amended since they will be considering the small business start-up incentives

in addition to the broadband proposal. Hughes reported they would be splitting the remaining \$282,935 balance as follows: \$100,000 for broadband and \$182,935 for small business start-up grants. He stated the grants would be available to communities with fewer than 4,000 in population for the first two years, and then would be made available for all county municipalities in the third. **Ritchie amended his motion, with the approval of Murzynski who amended his second, to reflect the amount of \$100,000 to be used for broadband and \$182,935 be used for small-business start-up incentives. ROLL CALL VOTE: Voting YES: Beason, Beck, Bergen, Donaldson, Folkerts, Hughes, Jones, Loucks, Murzynski, Ritchie, Ruppert, Sneed, Whitworth and Young. Voting NO: None. All in favor, motion carried.**

9. **Motion by Ritchie and second by Whitworth to approve the allocation of energy grant funds of \$100,000 be used for Montgomery County Senior Services. ROLL CALL VOTE: Voting YES: Beason, Beck, Bergen, Donaldson, Folkerts, Jones, Loucks, Murzynski, Ritchie, Ruppert, Sneed, Whitworth and Young. Voting NO: None. ABSTAINING: Hughes. Motion carried with a 13-0-1 vote.**
10. **Intergovernmental Agreements with City of Nokomis for ARPA Distribution Approval:** Ritchie reported the City of Nokomis sent a check for their warning siren, but they have not returned the signed IGA yet; therefore Treasurer Lohman was instructed to send the check back to the city with a note requesting the signed agreement be sent back first.
11. **Intergovernmental Agreement with Fillmore Police Department for ARPA Distribution Approval:** Ritchie reported the Village of Fillmore returned their signed IGA. **Motion by Ritchie and second by Young to approve signing the Intergovernmental Agreement with the Village of Fillmore for ARPA Distribution. All in favor, motion carried. (For a copy, see Resolution Book 20, page 16).**
12. **Ordinances Authorizing the Use of ARPA Funds for Non-County Distributions for City of Nokomis Approval:** Ritchie reported the board will not be acting on the Nokomis warning siren ordinance yet.
13. **Ordinance 2023-21 Authorizing the Use of ARPA Funds to Purchase a Police Squad Car for the Village of Fillmore Police Department Approval:** **Motion by Ritchie and second by Jones to approve adopting the Ordinance authorizing the use of ARPA funds to purchase a police squad car for the Village of Fillmore in the amount not to exceed \$27,600. All in favor, motion carried. (For a copy, see Resolution Book 20, pages 17-18).**
14. **Approve Updated Preapproved Vendor List Approval:** **Motion by Ritchie and second by Loucks to approve the Preapproved Vendor List as presented. All in favor, motion carried. (For a copy, see Resolution Book 20, pages 19-20).**

ROADS & BRIDGES COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Vice-Chairman Evan Young:

1. **Sale of used Etnyre Chip spreader Approval:** **Motion by Young and second by Beason to approve the sale of the used chip spreader to Eric Robertson in the amount of \$10,350. All in favor, motion carried.**
2. **Illinois House Bill 2781 Increase of TBP Funds Approval:** Young reported this house bill would increase the amount of Township Bridge funds each county receives. **Motion by Young and second by Loucks to approve the Resolution 2023-22 of support for House Bill 2781 – Increasing Township Bridge Program Funds. All in favor, motion carried. (For a copy, see Resolution Book 20, pages 21-22).**

3. **Illinois House Bill 2505 and Senate Bill 2278 Update:** Young reported the County Engineer's Association is currently watching Senate Bill 2278 and House Bill 2505. The senate bill basically says the county would not have to build a new road to accommodate overweight vehicles. The house bill is similar, but goes into more detail with regards to weight, height and length of trucks. He said the board may also act on resolutions of support for these bills in the future.
4. **Permits issued to Navigator Heartland Greenway Update:** Young reported representatives from Navigator were present during the committee meeting to answer questions about permits from Townships and the County to use roadways for the CO2 Carbon Sequestration project. He stated Greenwood will work on a uniform road use Agreement for projects such as these. Whitworth stated she has an issue with permits being granted while the county has passed a moratorium. Affrunti stated hiring an outside attorney would have to run through his office, and he believes this action goes against the spirit of the moratorium the board passed during the previous month. Highway Engineer Greenwood reported he does not ethically have the authority to stop a permit if all the guidelines are being followed. Jones stated the CO2 company can use the state routes, but the county should not permit them to use the county roads while the moratorium is in place. Greenwood asked if the Sheriff's office is going to enforce the moratorium and keep these roads from being used. He stated there are a lot of variables in question in this matter. Young stated they are not taking action on anything tonight, but we need a more unified road use agreement document because the county suffered after the Dakota Access Pipeline project due to the agreement not covering needs adequately. Hughes stated he was on the Roads and Bridges Committee during the Dakota Access Project, and he also remembered the county was negatively affected and lost a lot of money.
5. **Section 15-00138-00-BR – Whitetown Bridge Update:** Young reported they are waiting for the executed contract to come back from IDOT and June 1st is the anticipated start date for this project.
6. **Section 20-00145-00-PV – Coffeen Rd/7 Sisters Ave Update:** Young reported we are waiting on project compliance.

APPROVAL OF THE COMMITTEE REPORTS & MINUTES:

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Kevin Schott announced he is seeking Illinois Senate and House Resolutions recognizing the first responders' bravery in the recent May 1st Interstate 55 incident.

SCHEDULE CHANGES: None

APPOINTMENTS: Motion by Young and second by Whitworth to appoint Roger Clymer to the Nokomis Area Fire Protection District Board for a three-year term. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 20, page 23).

Motion by Young and second by Beck to appoint Breanna Wasson to the Coffeen Fire Protection District Board for a two-year term. All in favor, motion carried.

PAY BILLS AND PAYROLL: Motion by Ritchie and second by Sneed to pay all approved bills and Payroll. ROLL CALL VOTE: Voting YES: Beason, Beck, Bergen, Donaldson, Folkerts, Hughes, Jones, Loucks, Murzynski, Ritchie, Ruppert, Sneed, Whitworth and Young. Voting NO: None. All in favor, motion carried.

ADJOURN: Chairman Donaldson announced the next regular full board meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 13th, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. in the County Board Room, 2nd floor of the Historic Courthouse in Hillsboro, Illinois. Motion by Loucks and second by Ruppert to adjourn the Full Board Meeting. All in favor, motion carried.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:02 p.m. Minutes respectfully recorded and submitted by Montgomery County Clerk and Recorder Sandy Leitheiser.

Montgomery County Board Minutes

For Tuesday, June 13th, 2023 – 5:30 PM

The following are minutes of a regular meeting of the Montgomery County Board held at 5:30 PM on Tuesday, May 9th, 2023 in the County Board room, 2nd floor of the Historic Courthouse in Hillsboro, IL.

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

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

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

Members Absent: None

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

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

Approval of Minutes of Previous County Board Meeting: Motion by Hughes and second by Beason to approve the Minutes of the Previous Regular County Board Meeting held on Tuesday, May 9th, 2023. **All in favor, motion carried.**

CONSENT AGENDA:

- 1. Animal Control Report** – Emily Gerl – Report was submitted. Gerl was present for questions. She reported her department had 88 intake animals last month and transferred out 31 animals.
- 2. Circuit Clerk's Report** – Daniel Robbins – Report was submitted. Robbins was present for questions. He reported Illinois legislation was recently passed to eliminate juvenile court fines and fees.
- 3. Coroner's Report** – Randy Leetham – Report was submitted.
- 4. County Clerk and Recorder's Report** – Report was submitted. Sandy Leitheiser was present for questions.
- 5. Enterprise Zone Report** – Christine Daniels – Report was submitted. Daniels was present for questions.
- 6. Environmental Protection Agency Report** – Christine Daniels – Report was submitted. Daniels was present for questions.
- 7. Health & TB Department Report** – Hugh Satterlee – Report was submitted. Satterlee was present for questions.
- 8. Highway Department Report** – Cody Greenwood – Report was submitted. Greenwood was present for questions.
- 9. Information Services Report** – Curt Watkins – Report was submitted.
- 10. Maintenance Superintendent Report** – Phil Ernst – Report was submitted.
- 11. Probation Office Report** – Bane Ulrici – No report was submitted.
- 12. Public Defender's Report** – Erin Mattson – No report was submitted.
- 13. ROE – Monthly, Quarterly & Annual Reports** – Julie Wollerman – Report was submitted.

14. **Sheriff's Report** – Rick Robbins – Report was submitted. Robbins was present for questions.
15. **SOA Report** – Kendra Niehaus – Report was submitted. Niehaus was present for questions.
16. **State's Attorney Report** – Andrew Affrunti – Report was submitted. Affrunti was present for questions.
17. **Treasurer's Report** – Nikki Lohman – Report was submitted. Lohman was present for questions.
18. **V.A.C. Report** – Cassandra Hampton – Report was submitted. Hampton was present for questions.

APPROVAL OF REPORTS ON THE CONSENT AGENDA: Motion by Folkerts and second by Sneed to approve the 16 reports on the Consent Agenda. All in favor, motion carried.

LIAISON REPORTS:

- **708 Board** – Murzynski reported they met last night and heard from some citizens who spoke about mental health issues in the County. He stated the 708 Board also formed a subcommittee for Mental Health Wellness at this meeting. He said their next meeting will be held in July.
- **CEFS Board** – Beason stated there is nothing new to report.
- **911 Board** – Bergen reported they will meet on Thursday, June 15th, 2023.
- **Health Department** – Whitworth reported they will meet on July 18th, 2023.
- **IL Association of County Officials** – Bergen reported the state passed an increase in the local government distribution fund. He also reported the gas tax will increase on July 1st, 2023.
- **MCEDC** – Hughes reported they will meet next on June 22nd, 2023. He stated they have discussed hiring an executive director, and they will ask some interested parties to the next meeting.
- **Planning Commission** – Ritchie stated there is nothing new to report.
- **Senior Citizens Board** – Folkerts stated Senior Citizens Director Lyn Fugate found a large copy of the Declaration of Independence they would like to donate to have hung in the Historic Courthouse.
- **UCCI** – Donaldson reported Chad Ruppert will be the new UCCI liaison.
- **U of I** – Beck reported their next meeting will be held June 22ⁿ, 2023.
- **WCDC** – Jones stated there is nothing new to report.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Audubon Township landowner Rick Graden spoke about the CO2 sequestration project slated to take place throughout the county. He stated he and his family are responsible for taking care of their farm, and the CO2 pipeline is proposed to travel within a mile of one of their neighbor's property. He said PHMSA is responsible for regulating pipelines, and CO2 is a hazardous material. He said there was a tremendous turnout at a PHMSA meeting held recently on May 31st and June 1st in Iowa. He said he is not in favor of the Carbon sequestration project; but if it is coming through, the county needs to have good, hard safety guidelines.

Audubon Township landowner Sabrina Jones stated her family lives 50 yards from an active observation well currently under construction. She said semi-trucks are in and out of the area around the clock, which she said has raised the decibel level significantly in her home. She

stated she was told the crew working there would only be there for a month, but now they are saying they will be there until at least August, 2023. She stated many in the Audubon Township community do not trust the County Board, and she asked why the board passed a moratorium on the pipeline but did not include the injection wells. Jones also stated the county is not properly monitoring overweight semi-trucks using local roads either.

Witt Township landowner Karen Sanders stated the pipeline is proposed to run within less than 1,000 feet from her home. She stated CO2 pipelines differ from other pipelines because they do not transport any necessary resources. She also stated Illinois has been targeted to be a CO2 trash bucket and her research shows landowners in Illinois do not want the CO2 pipeline in our state. She asked the board to uphold the moratorium they recently passed, and she warned members the Navigator company has never constructed a CO2 pipeline before and is now wreaking havoc in this county.

Audubon Township landowner Greg Archibald stated no setbacks have been given for the pipeline. He also stated the Navigator company does not want to abide by any rules, which is why they are proceeding as fast as they have been to avoid state and federal rules.

County Citizen Bill Schroeder stated he wants board members to read and become familiar with legislation recently proposed in the Illinois General Assembly, specifically House Bill 3119 and Senate Bill 2024. He also stated the County could enforce setbacks if they had zoning.

Nokomis-Witt Ambulance District Vice-President Dave Schweizer spoke about the County ARPA funds and asked what the board plans to do with the ARPA money not being given to the Nokomis-Witt Ambulance Service because they could not produce their matching funds. He also asked if the county had errors and omissions insurance; if not, he said the ambulance service may have to take legal action against the county to recoup money the district lost from many Medicare bills they did not receive due to the Montgomery County Ambulance Billing office closure. State's Attorney Affrunti replied he researched the matter and the county doesn't have errors and omissions insurance, but he will see if this situation falls under our general insurance policy.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

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

1. **Maintenance and Cleaning Issues and Report Update:** Sneed reported maintenance staff continues to work on issues around the courthouse complex.
2. **Painting Emergency Staircase and Band on Historic Courthouse Update:** Sneed reported the committee reviewed a bid from Cenric Painting to paint the fire escape and band around the Historic Courthouse. He said the county is going to be addressing sidewalks, so they will plan to do the painting after the sidewalks are completed.
3. **Sidewalks at Historic Courthouse Approval:**
 - **Approving Bid for Sidewalks at Historic Courthouse Approval:** Sneed reported they opened bids on June 1st with Jeremy Conner from Hurst-Rosche Engineers present. He stated only one bid was submitted and it came from Kinney Contractors. Sneed stated the county will pay for the sidewalks and then bill the City of Hillsboro for their portion of the project. **Motion by Sneed and second by Whitworth to accept the bid from Kinney Contractors for the Historic Courthouse Sidewalk Construction project in the amount not to exceed**

\$232,215. ROLL CALL VOTE: Voting YES: Beason, Beck, Bergen, Donaldson, Folkerts, Hughes, Jones, Loucks, Murzynski, Ritchie, Ruppert, Sneed, Whitworth and Young. Voting NO: None. All in favor, motion carried.

- **Interior Door Project for County Clerk’s Office Update:** Sneed reported the County is waiting to hear back from the state on the status of the DCEO Energy grant before proceeding any further with this project.
- **Old Highway Department Property Approval:** Sneed reported the committee discussed various options of how to proceed with the old Highway Department property. After reviewing the different scenarios, he said the committee agreed to recommend to the board that the old Highway Department property be sold as a whole with the contingency EMA will not vacate the remaining structure they currently occupy until two years from now after a new shed at the Highway Department’s current location is constructed. Sneed said the county will pay for the asbestos abatement of the structure and demolish it once it is vacated. Young asked if the abatement will be done now or after EMA vacates the building. Sneed stated the committee will have to look into this matter. **Motion by Sneed and second by Beason to proceed with selling the old highway department property with the contingencies presented. All in favor, motion carried.**
- **Bidding Out Elevator Preventative Maintenance Service Agreement Update:** Sneed said there was nothing new to report.

DEVELOPMENT & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Chairman Mark Hughes:

1. **Employee Health Insurance and Monthly HRA Report Update:** Hughes reported Assured Partners Representative Amanda Mast hopes to have enrollment figures for the committee at next month’s meeting.
2. **Animal Control Facility Update:** Hughes stated he had nothing additional to report.
3. **Animal Control Municipal Contracts Update:** Hughes reported there is a Mayor’s meeting scheduled for June 28th, 2023 where municipal contracts will be discussed further.
4. **Approve Signing FY2023 Agreement between Montgomery County and Farmersville-Waggoner Area Ambulance Service Approval:** **Motion by Hughes and second by Jones to approve signing the FY 2023 Agreement between Montgomery County and the Farmersville-Waggoner Area Ambulance Service. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 20, pages 24-25).**
5. **EPA Report Update:** Hughes said there is nothing additional to report.
6. **MCEDC Update:** Hughes reported the next MCEDC meeting is scheduled for June 22nd, 2023. He said he will not be able to attend the meeting because he will be out of town, but he hopes to have financial information from MCEDC to share at the next committee meeting.
7. **Planning Commission Update:** Hughes reported the board will be voting on the reappointment of C.J. Liddell and Brian Niemann to the Planning Commission at the end of this meeting. He stated there will still be three vacancies on the commission after these reappointments are approved.

8. **Nextlink Broadband Internet Update:** Hughes reported Nextlink Internet and Phone Service representative Rick Harnish gave a presentation on an opportunity for broadband internet to come to rural Montgomery County. He stated the company has been awarded funding from various grants to bring high-speed internet to the rural parts of the county. Hughes said their service is a hybrid model, utilizing both fiber and wireless assets. Loucks asked how long it would take for them to come to the county. Donaldson stated they have a six-year build timeframe. He said they will be required by the FCC to offer speeds of up to one gigabyte per second, but customers are not required to purchase those speeds. Donaldson said all Nextlink is looking for are letters of support from the County Board, but the County could assist with the purchase of monopoles to further wireless internet service if they desire.
9. **Updated Solar Ordinance 2023-23 Approval:** Motion by Hughes and second by Ritchie to approve the updated Solar Ordinance as presented. Young asked if this ordinance aligns with the state requirements and what would happen if the board voted no on this ordinance. State's Attorney Affrunti stated it aligns with the changes made by the state, and if the County Board voted no, the County would go through litigation and lose. **ROLL CALL VOTE: Voting YES: Beck, Bergen, Donaldson, Folkerts, Hughes, Jones, Murzynski, Ritchie, Sneed and Whitworth. Voting NO: Beason, Loucks, Ruppert and Young. Motion carried with a vote of 10-4 in favor. (For copy, see Resolution Book 20, pages 26-42).**
10. **Updated Wind Ordinance Approval:** Motion by Hughes and second by Ritchie to approve the updated Wind Ordinance as presented. **VOICE VOTE: Voting YES: Beason, Beck, Bergen, Donaldson, Folkerts, Hughes, Jones, Murzynski, Ritchie, Ruppert, Sneed and Whitworth. Voting NO: Loucks and Young. Motion carried with a vote of 12-2 in favor. (For copy, see Resolution Book 20, pages 43-67).**
11. **Solar Provider Group - Permit Application/Public Hearing and Setback Waiver Approval:** Local engineer Jeremy Conner reported he could provisionally approve the permit as long as Solar Provider Group follows the requirements. State's Attorney Affrunti stated he does not like approving things provisionally. Hughes said they could table the matter for another month. **Motion by Hughes and second by Young to table this item for one month. All in favor, motion carried.**
12. **General Abatement Ordinance for G&M Vending in Schram City on Parcel ID # 17-07-106-018 Approval:** Hughes reported this abatement would basically freeze G&M Vending's property taxes for four years. **Motion by Hughes and second by Beck to approve the general abatement Ordinance for G&M Vending. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 20, page 68).**
13. **Scheduling of Union Negotiation Meetings with Local 773 (Correctional Officers and Telecommunicators) Update:** Hughes reported the committee will have union negotiations coming up soon.

FINANCE & BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Chairman Andy Ritchie:

1. **SOA Report Update/Approval:**
 - a. **Revising the Lease Application in SOA Office Update:** Ritchie reported Supervisor of Assessments Kendra Niehaus would like to require the recording of lease agreements in order for residents to qualify for homestead exemptions. He

said there are currently 193 leases totaling \$102,996.13 in tax exemptions. If leases were recorded, it would result in \$15,247 in recording fee revenue and Niehaus stated they would like to regulate the lease applications better.

- b. Proposing an Ordinance requiring the recording of Leases Update:** Niehaus stated she would like to have the board pass an ordinance requiring an electric bill recorded in the name of the individual leasing the property in order to show proof of residency. She said she found 12 other counties who have similar ordinances we can use as a template. **Motion by Ritchie to approve an ordinance requiring the recording of leases starting in Fiscal Year 2024.** Donaldson stated they don't have an ordinance written up yet. **Ritchie withdraws his motion.**
- 2. Intergovernmental Agreement between Montgomery County and the Multi-township Assessment District of Nokomis-Audubon Approval:** **Motion by Ritchie and second by Folkerts to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement between Montgomery County and the Multi-township Assessment District of Nokomis-Audubon.** Young asked about the agreement amount, and Niehaus said it is for \$6,900, which is the same as the previous years' amounts. **All in favor, motion carried. (For a copy, see Resolution Book 20, pages 69-70).**
- 3. Capital Improvement Fund Reports Update:** Ritchie reported the county received a smaller check in April because the previous larger checks were a result of the mine catching up with coal sales. He said the check received by the treasurer's office in May was around \$170,000, so the amounts might increase a little but coal mine representatives said to expect smaller checks for a few months while they are moving to a new mining panel.
- 4. Resolution to Convey Deed to Parcel ID #10-03-405-011 in North Litchfield Township to Yvonne Hunt Update:** Ritchie reported the item died in committee, so no further action needs to be taken.
- 5. Addendum to Intergovernmental Agreement between Montgomery County and the City of Litchfield for Police Radio & Telephone Services Approval:** Ritchie reported the county provided 80 percent of Litchfield's dispatching services prior to June 1, 2023, and now will expand on those services. He said the City of Litchfield has agreed to pay an additional \$25,000 annually to the county for these services, which will be effective from June 1st to December 1, 2023. Ritchie stated the price per month based on the proposed addendum would be \$14,809. Sheriff Robbins reported the amount prior to the addendum was \$152,713 per year, and that amount will increase to \$177,713. **Motion by Ritchie and second by Murzynski to approve the Addendum to the Intergovernmental Agreement between Montgomery County and the City of Litchfield for Police Radio and Telephone Services. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 20, pages 71-72).**
- 6. Approve Purchase of Body Cameras/In-vehicle Cameras/Video Equipment/Storage for Sheriff's Department Approval:** Ritchie said the State of Illinois has mandated the use of body and in-vehicle cameras by Sheriff's Departments by 2025, and the Sheriff's office recently received a grant to pay for cameras and equipment. Sheriff Robbins received a quote from Motorola for the equipment as well as for cloud-based storage for five years. Ritchie said the grant would pay for the \$13,425 in body cameras and equipment, as well as the \$86,275 for the vehicle camera equipment; however, the county

would have to purchase the equipment up front and be reimbursed after the fact. In addition, the \$130,725 for storage and equipment would not be covered by this grant. The Sheriff's office is currently seeking another grant to help pay for this part of the project. **Motion by Ritchie and second by Whitworth to approve purchasing body and in-vehicle cameras and equipment in the amount not to exceed \$99,700. ROLL CALL VOTE: Voting YES: Beason, Beck, Bergen, Donaldson, Folkerts, Hughes, Jones, Loucks, Murzynski, Ritchie, Ruppert, Sneed, Whitworth and Young. Voting NO: None. All in favor, motion carried. Motion by Ritchie and second by Murzynski to approve the purchase of cloud storage over a 5-year period for a total amount not to exceed \$130,725.** Loucks asked for clarification as to whether this amount would be paid in one lump sum or spread out over a five-year period. Robbins stated he would like to see the motion approved as it is, and then if the grant requires it be paid for up front, then they will come back to the board. **ROLL CALL VOTE: Voting YES: Beason, Beck, Bergen, Donaldson, Folkerts, Hughes, Jones, Loucks, Murzynski, Ritchie, Ruppert, Sneed, Whitworth and Young. Voting NO: None. All in favor, motion carried.**

7. **Imprest Account for Maintenance Department Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Beason to approve creating an Imprest Account for the Maintenance Department. All in favor, motion carried.
8. **Assistant State's Attorney Position and Salary Update/Approval:** Affrunti reported his office is currently operating without a full staff of two Assistant State's Attorneys, leaving the remaining Assistant State's Attorney and himself to both prosecute all cases and handle all county legal matters. He said he posted the open position of Assistant State's Attorney and has one potential candidate interested. He reported based on brief calculations, he would be \$30,000 over budget if he were to offer a competitive salary for an incoming Assistant State's Attorney. He said the vacant position has a budgeted salary of \$55,000, and he said he has received no interest from candidates at this salary. Affrunti stated he would like to offer an incoming Assistant State's Attorney a salary of \$100,000 per year and increase his current assistant to the same amount. The current line in the budget for Assistant State's Attorney salaries is about \$130,000. Beason asked why this increase was not seen during last year's budget hearings. Affrunti stated he did not anticipate losing an Assistant State's Attorney. He said he cannot compete with benefits at the state level, so the county has to make up for this problem by providing competitive salaries. Treasurer Lohman stated the board can amend the budget, but a resolution has to be passed establishing proof there is an emergency and a need to increase the salaries. She said the board would also have to pass an ordinance increasing the budget. Affrunti stated he is presenting this information to the board at this meeting so the budget can correctly reflect actual salaries in the State's Attorney's office.
9. **Ordinance 2023-26 Authorizing the Use of ARPA Funds to purchase vehicle(s) for Sheriff's Department Approval:** Ritchie reported the vehicle will be a Dodge Durango from Victory Lane in the amount of \$42,684. **Motion by Ritchie and second by Hughes to approve Ordinance 2023-26 authorizing the use of ARPA funds to purchase a vehicle for the sheriff's department for an amount not to exceed \$42,684.** Robbins reported this is the ninth vehicle for the department this year. **All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 20, pages 73-74).**

- 10. Ordinance 2023-27 Authorizing the Use of ARPA Funds to Purchase vehicle equipment for Sheriff’s Department Approval: Motion by Ritchie and second by Beck to approve Ordinance 2023-27 authorizing the use of ARPA funds to purchase vehicle equipment for the sheriff’s department for an amount not to exceed \$25,000. Sheriff Robbins reported this amount should cover equipping all the new vehicles. He stated there is a lot of equipment is not transferrable since they are changing from Tahoes to Durangos. **All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 20, pages 75-76).****
- 11. Approval Authorizing the Use of ARPA Funds to Purchase Pagers for Montgomery County First Responders: Ritchie reported the County Board budgeted to pay for 100 percent of the cost for pagers for emergency response agencies who requested them. He said the Finance and Budget Committee discussed two options for distributing pagers to these agencies: The first to have EMA Director Kevin Schott purchase the pagers and distribute them to the agencies; and the second to distribute funds to each of the agencies so they can purchase the pagers using their preferred vendor. The Finance and Budget Committee approved allowing these agencies to purchase their own pagers using ARPA funds provided by the county. Ritchie stated each agency will be sent an agreement telling them the maximum amount of funds they are allowed to spend on the pagers. Assistant County Board Administrator David Jenkins reported the board budgeted \$57,500 for 115 pagers for the county agencies. He said this amount was based on a cost of \$500 per pager with each of the agencies requesting a specific amount, and not all of the agencies will be allotted the same amount for the pagers. **Motion by Ritchie and second by Beck to approve allowing the first responding agencies to purchase their own pagers using ARPA funds the county provides. All in favor, motion carried.****
- 12. Contracts and Intergovernmental Agreements for ARPA Distribution Approval:**
- A. Intergovernmental Agreement with City of Nokomis for ARPA Distribution Approval: Ritchie reported the City of Nokomis sent their signed agreement and check to the county, so the board can now proceed with both the agreement and the ARPA ordinance for the City of Nokomis’s request for a warning siren. **Motion by Ritchie and second by Murzynski to approve signing the Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Nokomis for ARPA Distribution. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 20, page 77).****
- 13. Ordinance 2023-28 Authorizing the Use of ARPA Funds for Non-County Distributions Approval:**
- A. Ordinance 2023-28 Authorizing the Use of ARPA Funds to Purchase a Warning Siren for the City of Nokomis Approval: Motion by Ritchie and second by Young to approve the ordinance authorizing the use of ARPA funds to purchase a warning siren for the City of Nokomis for an amount not to exceed \$21,000. **All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 20, pages 78-80).****
- 14. Allocation of Remaining ARPA Funds for FY 2024 Budget Update: Ritchie reported the Finance and Budget Committee will review the remaining ARPA funds and will review the list of ARPA projects not previously approved which may now be funded with these remaining ARPA funds.**

ROADS & BRIDGES COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Vice-Chairman Evan Young:

1. **TBP Funds Update:** Young reported the Township Bridge Project fund changes were made as part of the State budget proposal, which has passed both houses of the General Assembly and now awaits the Governor's signature. He stated the state used to allot \$15 million for the entire state for Township Bridges, but this amount was increased to \$60 million.
2. **Permits issued to Navigator Heartland Greenway Update:** Young stated there is nothing new to report.
3. **Section 15-00138-00-BR – Whitetown Bridge Update:** Young reported the bridge is gone, and the project is slated for 95 working days.
4. **Section 20-00145-00-PV – Coffeen Rd/7 Sisters Ave Update:** Young reported they are probably looking at a December, 2023 letting so fall harvest will not be affected. He stated utilities can start to be moved now.

COORDINATING COMMITTEE: Given by Chairman Doug Donaldson:

1. **Information Systems Report Update:** Donaldson reported the Information Systems department has three of 10 PCs left to install, and they are also working to upgrade one of the main backup servers.
2. **EMA Report and Hazard Mitigation Plan Update:** EMA Director Kevin Schott reported a Hazard Mitigation meeting is scheduled for August 23rd, 2023 at 6 p.m. He also reported the Montgomery County weather radio system is down due to the Coffeen Power Plant shutdown and there is currently no weather radio system in the county. Schott stated he is working on a possible tower relocation site in Butler so this service can resume.
3. **West Central Development Council/Job Center Board/CEO Board Update:** Donaldson reported he has volunteered to be the chairman of the West Central Development Council. He said he will need to appoint a proxy from the County Board membership for himself in case he can't attend. Donaldson said there is a meeting in Carlinville scheduled for July 20th.
4. **Committee Assignments Approval:**
 - A. **Motion by Jones and second by Hughes to approve the appointment of Ethan Murzynski as the Chairman of the Roads and Bridges Committee.** Young stated he believes it is a conflict of interest for Murzynski to be the Chairman of the Roads and Bridges committee since Murzynski is also the Hillsboro Township road commissioner. Donaldson said he was aware of this information, but the board has had road commissioners serve on the Roads and Bridges committee before, so he sees no conflict of interest. State's Attorney Affrunti said Murzynski can be the Chairman of the Roads and Bridges committee and he would just have to abstain from any vote regarding Hillsboro Township. **VOICE VOTE: Voting YES: Beason, Beck, Bergen, Donaldson, Folkerts, Hughes, Jones, Murzynski, Ritchie, Ruppert, Sneed and Whitworth. Voting NO: Loucks and Young. Motion carried with a vote of 12-2 in favor.**
 - B. **Motion by Donaldson and second by Jones to approve adding Ethan Murzynski to the Coordinating Committee. VOICE VOTE: Voting YES: Beck, Bergen, Donaldson, Folkerts, Hughes, Jones, Murzynski, Ritchie,**

Ruppert, Sneed and Whitworth. Voting NO: Beason, Loucks and Young. Motion carried with a vote of 11-3 in favor.

C. Motion by Donaldson and second by Sneed to approve the appointment of Bill Bergen as Vice Chair of the Roads and Bridges Committee. All in favor, motion carried.

D. Motion by Donaldson and second by Whitworth to approve adding Chad Ruppert to the Development and Personnel and Roads and Bridges Committees. All in favor, motion carried.

E. Motion by Donaldson and second by Folkerts to approve adding Evan Young to the Finance and Budget Committee. All in favor, motion carried.

F. Motion by Donaldson and second by Jones to approve removing Evan Young from the Roads and Bridges Committee, and Ethan Murzynski from the Finance and Budget and Development and Personnel Committees. All in favor, motion carried.

G. **Other Business:** Donaldson reported the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) held a presentation in Des Moines, IA. He said he requested a presentation be held closer to our area, but PHMSA said they will not be holding any additional presentations.

APPROVAL OF THE COMMITTEE REPORTS & MINUTES: Motion by Hughes and second by Whitworth to approve the five committee reports and minutes. All in favor, motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Donaldson recognized Nikki Lohman for recently being named the Illinois County Treasurer's Association 2023 Zone 2 Treasurer of the Year. He also announced there will be a Mayors' meeting scheduled for June 28th, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.

SCHEDULE CHANGES: None.

APPOINTMENTS: Motion by Young and second by Ritchie to appoint C.J. Liddell to the Montgomery County Planning Commission for a three-year term. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Beck and second by Young to appoint Brian Niemann to the Montgomery County Planning Commission for a three-year term. All in favor, motion carried.

PAY BILLS AND PAYROLL: Motion by Beck and second by Jones to pay all approved bills and Payroll. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Voting YES: Beason, Beck, Bergen, Donaldson, Folkerts, Hughes, Jones, Loucks, Murzynski, Ritchie, Ruppert, Sneed, Whitworth and Young. Voting NO: None. All in favor, motion carried.

ADJOURN: The next regular full board meeting will be on Tuesday, July 11th, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. in the County Board Room, Hillsboro, Illinois. Motion by Ritchie and second by Loucks to adjourn the Full Board Meeting. All in favor, motion carried.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:30 p.m. Minutes respectfully recorded and submitted by Montgomery County Clerk and Recorder Sandy Leitheiser.

Montgomery County Board Minutes

For Tuesday, July 11th, 2023 – 5:30 PM

The following are minutes of a regular meeting of the Montgomery County Board held on the 2nd floor of the Historic Courthouse at 5:30 PM on Tuesday, July 11th, 2023.

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

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

Members Present: Russell Beason, Connie Beck, Bill Bergen, Doug Donaldson, Ken Folkerts, Mark Hughes, Jeremy Jones, David Loucks, Ethan Murzynski, Andy Ritchie, Chad Ruppert, Bob Sneed, Patty Whitworth 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 Murzynski and second by Whitworth to approve the Mileage and Per Diem. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Voting YES: Beason, Beck, Bergen, Donaldson, Folkerts, Hughes, Jones, Loucks, Murzynski, Ritchie, Ruppert, Sneed, Whitworth and Young. Voting NO: None All in favor, motion carried.

Approval of Minutes of Previous County Board Meeting: Motion by Young and second by Folkerts to approve the Minutes of the Previous Regular County Board Meeting held on Tuesday, June 13th, 2023. All in favor, motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- 1. Animal Control Report** -- Emily Gerl – Report was submitted. Gerl informed the board of an upcoming pet adoption event.
- 2. Circuit Clerk's Report** – Daniel Robbins – Report was submitted. Robbins was present for questions.
- 3. Coroner's Report** – Randy Leetham – Report was submitted.
- 4. County Clerk and Recorder's Report** – Sandy Leitheiser - Report was submitted. Leitheiser was present for questions. She reported her staff is currently completing land record software conversion and their work continues regarding digitizing older marriage records.
- 5. Enterprise Zone Report** – Christine Daniels – Report was submitted. Daniels was present for questions.
- 6. Environmental Protection Agency Report** – Christine Daniels – Report was submitted. Daniels was present for questions.
- 7. Health & TB Department Report** – Hugh Satterlee – Report was submitted. Satterlee was present for questions.
- 8. Highway Department Report** – Cody Greenwood – Report was submitted. Greenwood was present for questions. He thanked the board for passing the resolution of support for the Township Bridge Program funding increase, and the law passed to increase funding. He stated they are likely to see an increase of about 300 percent this fall, which will all go to funding roads and bridges services.
- 9. Information Services Report** – Curt Watkins – Report was submitted.
- 10. Maintenance Superintendent Report** – Phil Ernst – Report was submitted.
- 11. Probation Office Report** – Bane Ulrici – Report was submitted.
- 12. Public Defender's Report** – Erin Mattson — No report was submitted.

13. **ROE – Monthly, Quarterly & Annual Reports** -- Julie Wollerman – Report was submitted.
14. **Sheriff’s Report** – Rick Robbins – Report was submitted. Undersheriff Tyson Holshouser was present for questions.
15. **SOA Report** – Kendra Niehaus – Report was submitted. Niehaus was present for questions. She reported her office is waiting to hear about an estimate for digitizing all map work in the SOA office.
16. **State’s Attorney Report** – Andrew Affrunti – Report was submitted. Affrunti was present for questions.
17. **Treasurer’s Report** – Nikki Lohman – Report was submitted. Lohman was present for questions. She reported the due date for the first installment to pay property taxes is this Friday. She stated as of today’s meeting, her office has collected 44 percent of property taxes due.
18. **V.A.C. Report** – Cassandra Hampton – Report was submitted. Hampton was present for questions.

APPROVAL OF ITEMS ON THE CONSENT AGENDA: Motion by Hughes and second by Sneed to approve the 17 items on the Consent Agenda. All in favor, motion carried.

LIAISON REPORTS:

- **708 Board** – Murzynski reported they met last night and the committee will review applications at their meeting next month. He also stated a new mental health sub-committee had members appointed, with EMA Director Kevin Schott facilitating the sub-committee.
- **CEFS Board** -- Beason stated there is nothing new to report.
- **911 Board** – Bergen reported they are waiting on a few parts to come in so the towers can be updated.
- **Health Department** -- Whitworth reported they will meet next week.
- **IL Association of County Officials** -- Bergen stated there is nothing new to report.
- **MCEDC** -- Hughes reported he missed the last meeting, but they have posted the executive director position vacancy.
- **Planning Commission** -- Ritchie stated there is nothing new to report.
- **Senior Citizens Board** -- Folkerts reported he delivered the framed Declaration of Independence donated by the Senior Citizens Board to the County.
- **UCCI** – Ruppert stated there is nothing new to report.
- **U of I** – Beck reported U of I Regional Director Amanda Cole is leaving and Sarah Martin will assume the position as interim director. She also reported there are four openings on the Extension Council for anyone who is a Montgomery County resident who is interested in participating, and asked those interested to contact her for more information.
- **WCDC** – Jones reported they will meet next on July 20th, 2023.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Bill Schroeder informed board members of a CO2 sequestration meeting to be held in Springfield on July 17th, 2023.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

COORDINATING COMMITTEE: Given by Chairman Doug Donaldson:

1. **Information Systems Report Update:** Donaldson reported Information Services is working on firewall projects and upgrading backup servers. He also reported they received preliminary designs for the new website, and the plans are currently under scrutiny by all the office holders.
2. **EMA Report Update:** EMA Director Kevin Schott reported the next Hazard Mitigation meeting is scheduled for August 23rd, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. He stated the deadline to submit surveys to be included in the plan is July 17th. He also reported there will be a meeting on July 31st with Heartland Greenway to discuss safety regarding CO2 pipelines. He said we have to be prepared if the CO2 pipeline comes through the county.
3. **West Central Development Council/Job Center Board/CEO Board Update:** Donaldson reported the next meeting is scheduled for July 20th in Carlinville.
4. **CO2 Sequestration Ad Hoc Committee Update:** Donaldson reported they met on June 22nd and will meet again on July 18th. He stated he has distributed information packets to each of the committee members for their review. He said nothing will be resolved at the July 18th meeting, but they will discuss ways the county can best protect the citizens of the county. He said he and other board members will attend the CO2 meeting in Springfield on July 17th previously referenced by Schroeder. Donaldson also stated he talked with an Ameren representative and invited them to the meeting.
5. **FOIA Officer Appointment Update:** Donaldson reported he spoke with State's Attorney Andrew Affrunti about the FOIA officer duties. Affrunti noted once his office has needed staff, the FOIA duties will be better facilitated.
6. **Other Business:** Donaldson reported a Mayors meeting was held in June, and another meeting is scheduled for September.

RULES OF ORDER COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Chairwoman Connie Beck:

1. **Amend Rules of the County Board Approval:** Beck reported the Rules committee met recently and came to the agreement the rules regarding public comment are restrictive; therefore they decided to recommend removing the rule limiting public comment topics only to items on the agenda of the posted meeting so the public can speak on any topic. She also reported the other rule they agreed to amend involves board members physically attending board meetings. She stated since the state lifted the COVID disaster declaration, a quorum must be physically present in order for meetings to be conducted. Donaldson stated board members who attend remotely would still be allowed to vote if a quorum is physically present. Beason asked if board members who attend remotely would be allowed to collect per diem. Donaldson said no, they will not. **Motion by Beck and second by Jones to approve the amended Rules of Order as presented. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 20, pages 81-92).**
2. **Other Business:** None

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

1. **Maintenance and Cleaning Issues and Report Update:** Sneed reported Maintenance Superintendent Ernst presented his monthly report to the committee. He stated the staff remains busy working around the Courthouse Complex.
2. **AC Units for County Buildings Update:** Sneed reported Ernst received prices for air conditioning units. He stated the committee will begin looking into replacing AC units.
3. **Interior Door Project for County Clerk's Office Update:** Sneed reported we are still waiting to hear about the results of the DCEO energy grant for this project.
4. **Old Highway Department Property Update:**
 - **Advertise for Bids for Seymour Avenue Surplus Property (Old Highway Department) Update:** Sneed reported they are waiting to hear from the State's Attorney before moving forward with this project.
5. **Marker for Historic Courthouse and Mural for VAC building Approval:** Local Historian Jeff Dunn presented information on a proposed historical marker for the Historic Courthouse lawn and a mural to be located on the VAC building. Dunn stated the topic for the marker would be our county's coal and industrial heritage. He said the cost for the marker would be about \$5,500, with the University of Illinois grant paying for half and the remainder paid for by local fundraising. As for the mural, Dunn said he is thinking about depicting the old Hillsboro Glass factory, which played a big part in enriching our industrial history. He stated the cost of the mural would be between \$6,000 and \$8,000, with the University of Illinois grant paying for half, and local donors paying for the other half. He said these items are in conjunction with the University of Illinois' Mythic Mississippi Project aimed at promoting local history and tourism. He stated the cost for the county would be very minimal. **Motion by Sneed and second by Bergen to approve installing a historical marker on the property of the Historic Courthouse. All in favor, motion carried. Motion by Sneed and second by Beck to approve the creation of a mural on the VAC building exterior north wall.** Sneed stated the county would be allowing the use of the building but would not tell the city what kind of mural to put there. **All in favor, motion carried.** Jones stated we are blessed to have Historian Dunn's expertise with the history of our county.
6. **Other Business:** Sneed reported they will be addressing the condition of the two trees on the south lawn of the Historic Courthouse property.

DEVELOPMENT & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Chairman Mark Hughes:

1. **Employee Health Insurance and Monthly HRA Report Update:** Hughes reported Assured Partners representative Amanda Mast presented the monthly report to the committee. He said she hopes to have enrollment figures at the next meeting and stated Springfield Clinic is still not in BCBS's network.
2. **Animal Control Facility Update:** Hughes said there is nothing new to report.
3. **Animal Control Municipal Contracts Update:** Hughes stated contracts were discussed at the Mayors' meeting. Animal Control Warden Gerl reported they have not received all the signed municipal contracts yet. Affrunti reported he spoke with the village attorney for Taylor Springs, and he sent the updated contract to her, which includes the opt-out clause after one year. Beck asked if all the contracts were the same. Affrunti said about

98 percent of the contracts were the same. Clerk Leitheiser read the following municipal contracts with signed contracts filed by Gerl with the County Clerk's office for public review: Coalton, Coffeen, Harvel, Panama, Waggoner and Witt. She said she is still waiting on a copy of the Village of Butler's signed contract from Gerl.

4. **Approve Signing FY2023 Agreement between Montgomery County and Nokomis-Witt Area Ambulance Service Approval:** Motion by Hughes and second by Young to sign the FY2023 agreement between Montgomery County and the Nokomis-Witt Area Ambulance Service. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 20, pages 93-95).
5. **MCEDC Update:** Hughes reported the next meeting will be held July 27th at 5:30 p.m.
6. **Nextlink Broadband Internet Update:** Donaldson reported 11 municipalities submitted letters of support for the Broadband project. He stated the target submitted by Nextlink is for it to be underway by the end of the year. He said Nextlink is mandated by the FCC to offer 1 gig download speed and 500 meg upload speed, although consumers will not have to purchase packages for those speeds. He shared that Nextlink pricing seems very competitive as well. Donaldson also reported Daniels and Leitheiser participated in a meeting with county representatives from Bond, Clinton, Fayette and Madison counties about broadband, plus Nextlink has requested another meeting with us soon.
7. **Non-union Employee Salary Increases Update:** Hughes reported the Finance and Budget Committee will be discussing this topic further during their report.
8. **Solar Provider Group - Permit Application/Public Hearing and Setback Waiver Approval:** Hughes reported he spoke with Hurst-Rosche engineer Jeremy Connor and he approved the revised permit application and submitted a letter stating the project met our requirements. Motion by Hughes and second by Jones to approve the revised permit application from Solar Provider Group based on the successful review completed by independent agency Hurst-Rosche engineers. All in favor, motion carried.
9. **Vistra Energy – Coffeen Solar Project Permit Application Update:** Hughes reported Vistra Energy submitted an extensive solar project permit to the county. He said he spoke with Hurst-Roche Engineer Connor about a proposal for engineering services for this project, but will also request proposals from other engineering firms in the County as well. Highway Engineer Greenwood stated Prairie Engineers of Taylor Springs is another firm to contact.
10. **Scheduling of Union Negotiation Meetings with Local 773 (Correctional Officers and Telecommunicators) Update:** Hughes said there is nothing new to report.

FINANCE & BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Chairman Andy Ritchie:

1. **SOA Report Update:** Ritchie reported SOA Niehaus submitted her monthly report for review.
 - a. **Revising the Lease Application in SOA Office Update:** Ritchie reported Niehaus is waiting on this review from State's Attorney Affrunti.
 - b. **Proposing an Ordinance requiring the recording of Leases Update:** Ritchie reported Niehaus is waiting on State's Attorney Affrunti for the ordinance document.

2. **Capital Improvement Fund Reports Update:** Ritchie reported we last received \$274,000 in monthly royalties from the coal mine.
3. **FY 2024 Budget Update:** Ritchie reported budget worksheets have been sent to office holders, and Treasurer Lohman said they must be returned by the end of July.
4. **Non-union Employee Salary Increases and Starting Salary Approval:** Ritchie reported the Finance and Budget Committee discussed the issue of salary increases for non-union county employees at length. He said the Development and Personnel Committee produced a spreadsheet along with a recommendation to the Finance Committee showing the State and Federal Standard Occupation Codes for non-union employee positions and where they ranked in the median of those figures. Ritchie said some employees ranked as low as 70% and some over 100%, so the Personnel Committee suggested doing a tier of raises to help close the gap for the lower paid employees. Young said he proposed a 4.5 percent across the board increase at the committee meeting as he felt it is more in line with the Cost Of Living Allowance (COLA) increase. Ritchie stated the Finance Committee voted to recommend to the full board a 6% across the board raise. **Motion by Ritchie and second by Whitworth to increase salary line items for non-union county employees by six percent.** Bergen asked if any employees had produced feedback about the 6% raise. Ritchie said many employees expressed thanks for the increases being considered. Jones stated the Development and Personnel Committee wanted to stair step the increases in order to bring up the employees who were below the state and federal SOC median. Affrunti stated increasing the salary line item would give department heads the opportunity to increase their employees' salaries as they prefer, which may result in increasing some of the lower paid employees closer to their respective averages. Loucks stated he is not in agreement with an increase based on a percentage. He said he believes giving a flat dollar amount raise would be better. Jones asked what is considered a livable wage. Circuit Clerk Daniel Robbins stated \$18.12 per hour is currently considered a livable wage and anything below is considered the poverty rate. Affrunti stated increasing the line items also would help office holders when employees retire or leave. Ruppert said Department Heads know best where the raises need to go. **ROLL CALL VOTE: Voting Yes: Beason, Beck, Bergen, Donaldson, Folkerts, Hughes, Jones, Murzynski, Ritchie, Ruppert, Sneed and Whitworth. Voting NO: Loucks and Young. Motion carried with a 12-2 vote in favor.**
5. **County Minimum Starting Salary Approval:** Ritchie reported the committee also discussed increasing the starting salary and they came to an agreement to set the starting salary at \$1 per hour above the state minimum wage. **Motion by Ritchie and second by Hughes to establish the county minimum starting hourly salary at \$1.00 above the Illinois minimum wage.** Affrunti stated the board cannot force department heads to start employees at the minimum, but they can set the floor for what employees must be paid starting out. **All in favor, motion carried.**
6. **COLA increase for State's Attorney and Affected Office holders Approval:** **Motion by Ritchie and second by Beck to approve the State's Attorney COLA salary increase of 4.6%.** Donaldson stated this is mandated by the State of Illinois. **All in favor, motion carried.**

8. **Illinois Department of Revenue PTAX 451 Salary Adjustment for the Public Defender Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Whitworth to approve the IL Department of Revenue PTAX-451 Salary Adjustment for the Public Defender. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 20, page 96).
9. **Illinois Department of Revenue PTAX 451 Salary Adjustment for the Sheriff Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Beck to approve the IL Department of Revenue PTAX 451 Salary Adjustment for the Sheriff. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 20, page 97).
10. **Assistant State's Attorney Position and Salary Approval:** Ritchie reported State's Attorney Affrunti posted the open position and is still having difficulty getting applicants. Affrunti prepared a resolution declaring an emergency situation in the State's Attorney's office. Ritchie read the Resolution.
- **Resolution #2023-28.5 Increasing Assistant State's Attorney(s) Salary Update/Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Beck to approve the Resolution as read. Affrunti stated as part of the process, he will not be asking for an increase to the budget. He said he spoke with Treasurer Lohman and he believes he can cover the cost of the increase without amending the budget. Young asked why the board needs to pass the resolution if his office can cover the cost of the salary increase. Affrunti said if a situation arises where his budget's salary portion goes over budget, he would be held personally liable without the resolution, which shows support for this emergency situation. Beason said he is reluctant to endorse the wording of the resolution without it better defining the emergency. Ruppert said he agrees with Beason because as it is written in its original form, it sounds like the board is authorizing a blank check. Young stated in his opinion there is no emergency because Affrunti said he has the money in his budget for the increase. Young said as a result, he doesn't believe this resolution needs to be passed right now. Sneed asked if the state helps pay for assistant state's attorney salaries. Affrunti said they provide a small stipend of \$3,000 per year. Donaldson stated valid concerns were raised and he believes the resolution needs to be amended to read "WHEREAS, the State's Attorney has an emergency situation and the county has to provide the appropriate resources for him to perform his statutory duties *with respect to hiring an assistant state's attorney only.*" Motion by Ritchie and second by Beck to amend the resolution with the following clause: "WHEREAS, the State's Attorney has an emergency situation and the county has to provide the appropriate resources for him to perform his statutory duties with respect to hiring an assistant state's attorney only." VOICE VOTE. Motion to amend the Resolution wording carried with a 13-1 vote in favor. Young voted No. Motion by Ritchie and second by Beck to approve Resolution #2023-28.5 as amended. ROLL CALL VOTE: Voting YES: Beck, Donaldson, Hughes, Jones, Murzynski, Ritchie, Sneed and Whitworth. Voting NO: Beason, Bergen, Folkerts, Loucks, Ruppert and Young. Motion passes with an 8-6 vote in favor. (For copy, see Resolution Book 20, page 98).
9. **Deer Creek Property Request Update:** Ritchie reported the committee voted to table this matter until hearing from the individual interested in purchasing the parcels.

10. **Approve Signing Intergovernmental Agreement with Nokomis-Witt Area Ambulance Service for Pagers (ARPA) Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Young to approve the signed contract with Nokomis-Witt Area Ambulance for Pagers from the ARPA funding. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 20, page 99).
11. **Ordinance# 2023-29 Authorizing the Use of ARPA Funds to Purchase Pagers for the Nokomis-Witt Area Ambulance Service in an amount not to exceed \$10,000 Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Folkerts to approve ARPA funds to Purchase pagers for the Nokomis-Witt Area Ambulance Service in the amount not to exceed \$10,000. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 20, page 100).
12. **Approve Signing an Intergovernmental Agreement with Fillmore Fire Protection District for Pagers in the amount not to exceed \$10,500 from ARPA funds Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Ruppert to approve signing an Intergovernmental Agreement with Fillmore Fire Protection District for Pagers in the amount not to exceed \$10,500 from ARPA funds. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 20, page 101).
13. **Ordinance #2023-30 Authorizing the Use of ARPA Funds to Purchase Pagers for the Fillmore Fire Protection District in an amount not to exceed \$10,500 Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Young to approve the ordinance Authorizing the Use of ARPA Funds to Purchase Pagers for the Fillmore Fire Protection District in an amount not to exceed \$10,500. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 20, page 102).
14. **Approve the signed Intergovernmental Agreement with Raymond/Harvel Fire Protection District for Pagers in the amount not to exceed \$8,000 from ARPA funds Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Beck to approve the signed Intergovernmental Agreement with Raymond/Harvel Fire Protection District for Pagers in the amount not to exceed \$8,000 from ARPA funds. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 20, page 103).
15. **Ordinance #2023-31 Authorizing the Use of ARPA Funds to Purchase Pagers for the Raymond/Harvel Fire Protection District in the amount not to exceed \$8,000 Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Ruppert to approve the Ordinance Authorizing the Use of ARPA Funds to Purchase Pagers for the Raymond/Harvel Fire Protection District in the amount not to exceed \$8,000. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 20, page 104).
16. **Approve the Signed Intergovernmental Agreement with the Village of Taylor Springs for Pagers in the amount not to exceed \$5,000 for the Fire Department from ARPA funds Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Loucks to approve the Signed Intergovernmental Agreement with the Village of Taylor Springs for Pagers in the amount not to exceed \$5,000 for the Fire Department from ARPA funds. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 20, page 105).
17. **Ordinance #2023-32 Authorizing the Use of ARPA Funds to Purchase Pagers for the Village of Taylor Springs Fire Department in an amount not to exceed \$5,000 Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Whitworth to approve the Ordinance Authorizing the Use of ARPA Funds to Purchase Pagers for the Village of Taylor

- Springs Fire Department in an amount not to exceed \$5,000. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 20, page 106).
18. **Approve the Signed Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Witt for Pagers in the amount not to exceed \$2,500 for the Fire Department from ARPA funds Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Ruppert to approve the Signed Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Witt for Pagers in the amount not to exceed \$2,500 for the Fire Department from ARPA funds. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 20, page 107).
 19. **Ordinance #2023-33 Authorizing the Use of ARPA Funds to Purchase Pagers for the City of Witt Fire Department in an amount not to exceed \$2,500 Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Young to approve the Ordinance Authorizing the Use of ARPA Funds to Purchase Pagers for the City of Witt Fire Department in an amount not to exceed \$2,500. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 20, page 108).
 20. **Approve the Signed Intergovernmental Agreement with the Raymond/Harvel Ambulance Services for Pagers in the amount not to exceed \$8,000 from ARPA funds Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Jones to approve the Signed Intergovernmental Agreement with the Raymond-Harvel Ambulance Service for Pagers in the amount not to exceed \$8,000 from ARPA funds. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 20, page 109).
 21. **Ordinance #2023-34 Authorizing the Use of ARPA Funds to Purchase Pagers for the Raymond/Harvel Ambulance Services in an amount not to exceed \$8,000 Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Folkerts to approve the Ordinance Authorizing the Use of ARPA Funds to Purchase Pagers for the Raymond-Harvel Ambulance Service in an amount not to exceed \$8,000 Update/Approval. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 20, page 110).
 22. **Ordinance #2023-35 Authorizing the Use of ARPA Funds to Purchase Data Storage for Sheriff's Body Cam footage in the amount of \$40,000 Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Beason to approve the Ordinance authorizing the use of ARPA funds to purchase data storage for Sheriff's Body Cam Footage in the amount not to exceed \$40,000. Ruppert asked if this was what was discussed during last month's meeting. Donaldson replied affirmatively. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 20, page 111-114).
 23. **Maintenance Supervisor to Work on Preparing the Office 005 Building and Grounds Budget Approval:** Ritchie reported Phil Ernst inquired about preparing the Building and Grounds Office 005 Budget. He stated committee members and State's Attorney Affrunti felt he should be working on his budget. Sneed stated this is news to him, but he has no thoughts on the matter. He said Ernst has plenty of work to do, but if he wants to prepare the budget he can do it. **Motion by Ritchie and second by Whitworth to have the Maintenance Supervisor prepare the Office 005 Building and Grounds Budget. All in favor, motion carried.**
 24. **Allocate \$38,000 for Waggoner Baseball Field Project from DCEO Energy Grant Funds Approval:** Ritchie reported Patty Whitworth shared a presentation regarding the Waggoner Baseball and Soccer Field Revitalization Plans with the committee. Jones stated the group has been fundraising for this project and would like to construct ADA facilities to the Waggoner Park and fields. The total build cost would be \$38,036.69 and

committee members felt this was a worthwhile project and would enhance economic activity. Whitworth stated she would like to allocate some of the DCEO Energy Grant for this project. **Motion by Ritchie and second by Jones to allocate \$38,000 for the Waggoner Baseball and Soccer Field Revitalization Plans contingent upon receiving the DCEO Energy Grant. All in favor, motion carried.**

- 25. Allocation of Remaining ARPA Funds for FY 2024 Budget Update:** Ritchie reported the committee reviewed a spreadsheet prepared by Assistant Coordinator David Jenkins showing the remaining ARPA funding available along with the remaining projects. He stated there were 7 projects removed from the list for various reasons. Ritchie stated the Highway Department garages were taken off the list because Engineer Greenwood said he informed the Buildings and Grounds committee he would be budgeting for a new shed to purchase by using highway funds instead. Ritchie reported a discussion took place on funding the project list rankings based on board members original choices. State's Attorney Affrunti suggested reaching out to the remaining projects' representatives to see if they still need the same amount of money. Young stated his feeling is to give the Highway Department funds for the garages so EMA can get moved into the building at the new Highway Department and the old Highway Department property can be sold so it will return to the tax rolls. Murzynski asked how many projects are ahead of the Highway Department garages. Donaldson stated the following projects are as follows: Circuit Clerk Barriers and Security, ETSB Scalable UPS units, Litchfield warning siren and Information Services Video Backup storage are the only projects ahead of the Highway Department garages. He said if the board chooses to go down the list, the money would essentially run out with the Highway Department garages. He said the committee will discuss this matter further after finding out if the requests down the list are still needed or wanted.
- 26. Other Business:** No other items were discussed or acted upon due to not receiving signed Intergovernmental Agreements/Contracts or Ordinances for first responder agency pagers.

ROADS & BRIDGES COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Chairman Ethan Murzynski:

- 1. Highway Resolution #2023-03 appropriating funds for 50/50 culvert replacement on E. 14th Rd., Irving Twp. Approval:** Motion by Murzynski and second by Ruppert to approve Resolution 2023-03 appropriating funds for 50/50 culvert replacement on East 14th Road in Irving Township. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 20, page 115-116).
- 2. Highway Resolution #2023-04 appropriating funds for 50/50 culvert replacement on E. 1st Rd., South Litchfield Twp. Approval:** Motion by Murzynski and second by Bergen to approve Resolution 2023-04 appropriating funds for 50/50 culvert replacement on East 1st Road in South Litchfield Township. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 20, page 117-118).
- 3. Highway Resolution #2023-05 appropriating funds for 100% County culvert replacement on N. 18th Ave. Approval:** Motion by Murzynski and second by Whitworth to approve Resolution 2023-05 appropriating funds for 100 percent culvert replacement on North 18th Avenue. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 20, page 119-120).

4. **Highway Resolution #2023-06 appropriating funds for 50/50 culvert replacement on E. 21st Rd., Witt Twp. Approval:** Motion by Murzynski and second by Young to approve Resolution 2023-06 appropriating funds for 50/50 culvert replacement on East 21st Road in Witt Township. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 20, page 121-122).
5. **Highway Resolution #2023-07 appropriating funds for 50/50 culvert replacement on E. 20th Rd., Witt Twp. Approval:** Motion by Murzynski and second by Jones to approve Resolution 2023-07 appropriating funds for 50/50 culvert replacement on East 20th Road in Witt Township. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 20, page 123-124).
6. **Highway Resolution #2023-08 appropriating funds for 50/50 culvert replacement on E. 17th Rd., Rountree Twp. Approval:** Motion by Murzynski and second by Ruppert to approve Resolution 2023-08 appropriating funds for 50/50 culvert replacement on East 17th Road in Rountree Township. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 20, page 125-126).
7. **Section 20-00144-00-FP Walshville Bypass Road Preliminary Engineering Agreement Approval:** Greenwood reported this is the next step in the process for the Walshville Bypass Road. Motion by Murzynski and second by Hughes to approve the Preliminary Engineering Agreement with WHKS for the Walshville Bypass Road in the amount of \$148,493.63. ROLL CALL VOTE: Voting YES: Beason, Beck, Bergen, Donaldson, Folkerts, Hughes, Jones, Loucks, Murzynski, Ritchie, Ruppert, Sneed, Whitworth and Young. Voting NO: None. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 20, page 127-137).
8. **Section 23-05122-00-PV Fillmore Twp E. 24th Rd. Hydraulic Study – RBI Funds Approval:** Greenwood reported this agreement will be funded with Fillmore Township’s Rebuild Illinois money. Motion by Murzynski and second by Whitworth to approve the agreement with Hurst-Rosche engineers for the East 24th Road Hydraulic Study in Fillmore Township. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 20, page 138-146).
9. **Section 15-00138-00-BR Red Ball Trail Bridge Update:** Greenwood reported construction is going well, and the county board should anticipate a 95 working-day project.
10. **Section 20-00145-00-PV Coffeen Rd./Seven Sisters Intersection Update:** Nothing new to report.
11. **Upcoming Road Use Agreements Update:** State’s Attorney Affrunti reported he will talk with Greenwood about potential outside attorneys to use for Road Use Agreements.
12. **Other Business:** Greenwood reported the roof of the white block building located on the new Highway Department grounds sustained storm damage in the recent storms. He stated an insurance claim was submitted since the roof needs replaced.

APPROVAL OF THE COMMITTEE REPORTS & MINUTES: Motion by Beck and second by Folkerts to approve the five committee reports and minutes. All in favor, motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Young informed members an additional CO2 pipeline may be coming to central Illinois with that proposed pipeline ending in Macon County.

SCHEDULE CHANGES: None

APPOINTMENTS: None

PAY BILLS AND PAYROLL: Motion by Beason and second by Ritchie to pay all approved bills and payroll. All in favor, motion carried. **ROLL CALL VOTE: Voting YES:** Beason, Beck, Bergen, Donaldson, Folkerts, Hughes, Jones, Loucks, Murzynski, Ritchie, Ruppert, Sneed, Whitworth and Young. **Voting NO:** None. All in favor, motion carried.

ADJOURN: The next regular full board meeting will be on Tuesday, August 8th, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. in the County Board Room, Hillsboro, Illinois. Motion by Sneed and second by Hughes to adjourn the Full Board Meeting. All in favor, motion carried.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:50 p.m. Minutes respectfully recorded and submitted by Montgomery County Clerk and Recorder Sandy Leitheiser.

Montgomery County Board Minutes

For Tuesday, August 8th, 2023 – 5:30 PM

The following are minutes of a regular meeting of the Montgomery County Board held at 5:30 PM on Tuesday, August 8th, 2023.

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

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

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

Members Absent: None

Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was led by County Board member Evan Young.

Mileage and Per Diem Approval: Motion by Young and second by Ritchie to approve the Mileage and Per Diem. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Voting YES: Beason, Beck, Bergen, Donaldson, Folkerts, Hughes, Jones, Loucks, Murzynski, Ritchie, Ruppert, Sneed, Whitworth and Young. Voting NO: None. All in favor, motion carried.

Approval of Minutes of Previous County Board Meeting: Motion by Beck and second by Folkerts to approve the Minutes of the Previous Regular County Board Meeting held on Tuesday, July 11th, 2023. All in favor, motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. **Animal Control Report** -- Emily Gerl – No report submitted. Gerl was present for questions.
2. **Circuit Clerk's Report** – Daniel Robbins – Report submitted. Robbins was present for questions. He reported a new state law is being discussed which would eliminate all balances owed on juvenile court cases. Asked how much this state law would eliminate from his budget, Robbins stated it is too early to tell.
3. **Coroner's Report** – Randy Leetham – Report submitted.
4. **County Clerk and Recorder's Report** – Report submitted. Leitheiser was present for questions.
5. **Enterprise Zone Report** – Christine Daniels – Report submitted. Daniels was present for questions.
6. **Environmental Protection Agency Report** – Christine Daniels – Report submitted. Daniels was present for questions.
7. **Health & TB Department Report** – Hugh Satterlee – Report submitted. Satterlee was present for questions.
8. **Highway Department Report** – Cody Greenwood – Report submitted. Greenwood was present for questions.
9. **Information Services Report** – Curt Watkins – Report submitted.
10. **Maintenance Superintendent Report** – Phil Ernst – Report submitted.
11. **Probation Office Report** – Banee Ulrici – Report submitted.
12. **Public Defender's Report** – Erin Mattson — No report submitted.
13. **ROE – Monthly, Quarterly & Annual Reports** -- Julie Wollerman – Report submitted.

14. **Sheriff's Report** – Rick Robbins – Report submitted. Robbins was present for questions. He reported the Governor signed a law allowing law enforcement agencies to hire non U.S. citizens to be officers. He stated the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office will continue to require officers to be U.S. citizens as a condition of employment.
15. **SOA Report** – Kendra Niehaus – Report submitted.
16. **State's Attorney Report** – Andrew Affrunti – Report submitted. Affrunti was present for questions. He introduced new Assistant State's Attorney Clark Johnson, who was also present during the meeting.
17. **Treasurer's Report** – Nikki Lohman – Report submitted. Lohman was present for questions. She reported as of this meeting, 70 percent of property taxes have been collected, and they will be preparing for the second distribution in the next few weeks.
18. **V.A.C. Report** – Cassandra Hampton – Report submitted.

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

LIAISON REPORTS:

- **708 Board** – Murzynski reported they will meet Monday, August 14th, 2023.
- **CEFS Board** – Beason stated there is nothing new to report.
- **911 Board** – Bergen stated they will meet a week from Thursday.
- **Health Department** – Whitworth reported they last met in July, 2023.
- **IL Association of County Officials** -- Bergen stated there is nothing new to report.
- **MCEDC** – Hughes reported they have conducted interviews for a new executive director, and a meeting has been scheduled for August 17th to discuss economic development.
- **Planning Commission** – Ritchie stated there is nothing new to report.
- **Senior Citizens Board** – Folkerts reported the framed Declaration of Independence document donated to the County is now hanging in the County Board room. He also reported they are waiting to hear back about the DCEO Energy Transition grant because they need to pave the driveway to the senior citizens center before the weather gets bad.
- **UCCI** – Ruppert stated there is nothing new to report.
- **U of I** – Beck stated there is nothing new to report.
- **WCDC** – Jones reported they have a new website now which will allow businesses and prospective employees to communicate better and improve workforce development services. He stated the website address is west-central.org.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

COORDINATING COMMITTEE: Given by Chairman Doug Donaldson:

1. **Information Systems Report Update:** Donaldson stated Information Services manager Curt Watkins submitted a lengthy report this month and the office has been very busy.
2. **EMA Report and Hazard Mitigation Plan Update:** EMA Director Kevin Schott reported the next Hazard Mitigation planning meeting will be held August 23rd, 2023, at 6 p.m.
3. **West Central Development Council/Job Center Board/CEO Board Update:** Donaldson reported West Central wants to move their offices to Montgomery County, specifically in the Litchfield or Hillsboro area. He also reported he appointed Andy Ritchie as a proxy for the CEO board.
4. **CO2 Sequestration Ad Hoc Committee Update:** Donaldson reported the ad hoc committee met July 18th, on the day after some members of the County Board attended a meeting in Sangamon County regarding CO2 sequestration. He stated the initial part of the Sangamon County meeting was good, but later it turned into a back and forth of emotions rather than an informational meeting. He stated the next CO2 sequestration ad hoc committee meeting is scheduled for August 22nd, 2023, and he would like for representatives from Heartland Greenway be present to answer questions from the committee. Ruppert announced the Sangamon County Board is meeting tonight to decide whether or not to allow the proposed pipeline in their county.
5. **Committee Member Assignments Approval:** Donaldson reported Patty Whitworth has a conflict in attending the Building and Grounds Committee meetings because of the need to provide childcare for her family. She and Connie Beck, who serves on Roads and Bridges, have agreed to switch committees. Donaldson stated Building and Grounds Chairman Sneed and Roads and Bridges Committee Chairman Murzynski were both made aware of the situation and both have approved this membership change. **Motion by Beason and second by Jones to approve adding Patty Whitworth to the Roads and Bridges Committee and removing her from the Buildings and Grounds Committee. Whitworth abstains. All in favor, motion carried. Motion by Jones and second by Sneed to approve adding Connie Beck to the Buildings and Grounds Committee and removing her from the Roads and Bridges Committee. Beck abstains. All in favor, motion carried.**

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

1. **Maintenance and Cleaning Issues and Report Update:** Sneed reported the Maintenance staff replaced three air conditioner units, one furnace and one refrigerator. He also reported they and the Highway Department worked with Hillsboro City employees to prepare and lay sod around the Historic Courthouse, and it was a beautiful thing to see these entities working together.
2. **AC Units for County Buildings Update:** Sneed said there is nothing additional to report.
3. **Interior Door Project for County Clerk's Office Update:** Sneed reported we are still waiting to get confirmation on the energy grant.

4. **Old Highway Department Property Approval:**
 - **Abate Red Building on Old Highway Department Property Approval:** Sneed reported Cenpro Services increased their initial asbestos abatement bid but the new total still comes in lower than the other bids received. **Motion by Sneed and second by Beason to accept the bid from Cenpro Services for asbestos abatement of the old highway department building in the amount not to exceed \$18,500. All in favor, motion carried.**
 - **Approve Purchase Agreement, Advertise for Bids for Seymour Avenue Surplus Property (Old Highway Department) Update:** Sneed reported we are waiting for an approved purchase agreement from the State's Attorney's office for the old highway department property. Affrunti stated he will have more time to work on it now since he has hired a second assistant.
5. **Approve Payment to Kinney Contractors for Sidewalk Construction at Historic Courthouse Approval:** Sneed reported the final numbers for the sidewalk construction came in about \$450 more than previously approved. **Motion by Sneed and second by Whitworth to approve paying Kinney Contractors \$232,665 for the sidewalk construction project at the Historic Courthouse. ROLL CALL VOTE: Voting YES: Beason, Beck, Bergen, Donaldson, Folkerts, Hughes, Jones, Loucks, Murzynski, Ritchie, Ruppert, Sneed, Whitworth and Young. Voting NO: None. All in favor, motion carried.**
6. **Approve Contract with Ameresco for Courthouse Complex Renovation Approval:** Sneed reported the entire renovation project for the Courthouse Complex was initially estimated at \$1.4 million. After revising the plan, Circuit Clerk Robbins informed the committee the updated cost will be \$1,128,903, and he is requesting the amount be paid using ARPA money. \$856,000 has already been approved for the project, but it is the next one on the list of projects not approved and there is money available. Sneed stated the Board will approve the amounts during the Finance and Budget hearings, but they also need to approve the contract. **Motion by Sneed and second by Beck to approve the contract with Ameresco for the Courthouse Complex renovation project for an amount not to exceed \$1,128,903. ROLL CALL VOTE: Voting YES: Beason, Beck, Bergen, Donaldson, Folkerts, Hughes, Jones, Loucks, Murzynski, Ritchie, Ruppert, Sneed, Whitworth and Young. Voting NO: None. All in favor, motion carried.**
7. **Other Business:** Sneed reported National Maintenance is continuing to clean the Historic Courthouse and Jail due to the need to fill in for the custodian who is on medical leave.

DEVELOPMENT & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Chairman Mark Hughes:

1. **Public Comment:** Hughes reported Nokomis Park District representative Brad Janssen of Nokomis addressed the committee regarding the pool renovation project in Nokomis. They are looking for help with funding. Hughes stated they will not be able to use DCEO Energy Grant funds to help pay for this at this time.
2. **Employee Health Insurance and Monthly HRA Report Update:** Hughes reported health insurance representative Amanda Mast gave her report. He said he would like Mast to attend the full board meetings in the future to provide more in-depth information.

3. **Animal Control Facility Update:** Hughes reported there is a budget shortfall again this year, and the board will need to decide how to address it. Hughes said it will be discussed as part of the budget process.
4. **Animal Control Municipal Contracts Update:** Nothing new to report.
5. **MCEDC Update:** Hughes stated there was nothing additional to report.
6. **Nextlink Broadband Internet Update:** Donaldson reported he, Clerk Leitheiser, and Coordinator Daniels had a phone conference with Nextlink representative Mike Johnson, and he assured them they are still very much interested in working with Montgomery County for rural broadband. He stated the employee who was previously working with the County is no longer with the company due to restructuring, but Nextlink is still committed to working with us. Donaldson stated they have an on-site meeting scheduled with Nextlink and representatives from the Macoupin and Christian County Boards for August 10th at 4 p.m.
7. **Vistra Energy – Coffeen Solar Project Permit Application Approval:**
 - **Approve Independent Engineering Contract for Coffeen Solar Project Permit Application Approval:** Motion by Hughes and second by Jones to approve the proposal from Hurst-Rosche Engineers to perform the independent review for the amount of \$2,500. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 20, pages 147-148).
8. **Revisions to Personnel Manual Update:**
 - **Illinois Law for Additional Time Off Update:** Hughes reported the State of Illinois passed a law requiring the County to offer 40 hours of paid leave to employees. Affrunti stated Montgomery County will have to adopt their personnel manual as an Ordinance document; but once this is done, they will be in compliance with the law. He suggested this be taken care of soon.
9. **Illinois DCEO Community Development Block Grant Update:** Hughes reported the Litchfield City Council voted to be the lead entity on the grant, which will offer private sector businesses financial assistance with COVID related purchases. Only one grant application may be submitted per county, which is why it will be important for the City of Litchfield and County to work together.
10. **Panhandle Picklers Pickleball Courts Update:** Hughes reported the timeframe for any additional funding opportunities has expired.
11. **Scheduling of Union Negotiation Meetings with Local 773 (Correctional Officers and Telecommunicators) Update:** Hughes reported they will plan for union negotiations for the month of September.
12. **Other Business:** Sheriff Robbins reported he had researched FMLA guidelines in the previous employee handbook, which stated a Department Head would start the timeline for an employees' FMLA after they were off work for three consecutive days. He stated this was removed from the manual, and he feels it needs to be put back in.

FINANCE & BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Chairman Andy Ritchie:

1. **SOA Report Update:** Ritchie reported Supervisor of Assessments Niehaus will be implementing a policy requiring recording leases to qualify for homestead exemptions. The committee previously discussed the passing of an ordinance, but Illinois law gives

Niehaus the authority to implement a policy requiring the recording of such documents without an ordinance.

2. **Capital Improvement Fund Reports Update:** Ritchie reported Treasurer Lohman presented the Capital Improvement report to the committee. She noted the county is building its reserve through investments as well as through coal royalties.
3. **FY 2023 Agreement with Hillsboro Area Ambulance Service Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Whitworth to approve the FY 2023 agreement with the Hillsboro Area Ambulance Service. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 20, pages 149-152.)
4. **Circuit Clerk Audit Extension Approval:** Circuit Clerk Robbins reported the State added a new fund, and all circuit clerks are trying to figure it out, which has caused them to fall behind on their audits. Motion by Ritchie and second by Young to approve extending the Circuit Clerk's audit deadline to November 30, 2023. All in favor, motion carried.
5. **Deer Creek Property Request Update:** Ritchie reported Country Bend Campground owners recently acquired many of the Deer Creek properties owned by Mission Bible Training Center, which will include the private roadways in and out of the area. He stated the campground owners would like to purchase the remaining properties to use as an extension of their business. Ritchie said because of this interest, the committee voted to deny conveying deeds to another interested party.
6. **Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID #15-04-253-013 in South Litchfield Township to the City of Litchfield Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Bergen to approve the Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID #15-04-253-013 in South Litchfield Township to the City of Litchfield. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 20, page 153.)
7. **Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID #15-05-226-012 in South Litchfield Township to the City of Litchfield Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Folkerts to approve the Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID #15-05-226-012 in South Litchfield Township to the City of Litchfield. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 20, page 154.)
8. **Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID #10-32-458-012 in North Litchfield Township to the City of Litchfield Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Beck to approve the Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID #10-32-458-012 in North Litchfield Township to the City of Litchfield. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 20, page 155.)
9. **Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID #10-33-318-002 in North Litchfield Township to the City of Litchfield Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Jones to approve the Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID #10-33-318-002 in North Litchfield Township to the City of Litchfield. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 20, page 156.)
10. **Approve Signing an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Coffeen Fire Protection District for Pagers for an amount not to exceed \$3,000 from ARPA funds Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Young to approve signing the Intergovernmental Agreement with the Coffeen Fire Protection District for pagers in the amount not to exceed \$3,000. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 20, page 157.)

11. **Ordinance 2023-36 Authorizing the Use of ARPA Funds to Purchase Pagers for the Coffeen Fire Protection District in the amount not to exceed \$3,000 Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Young to approve the ordinance authorizing the use of ARPA funds to purchase pagers for the Coffeen Fire Protection District for an amount not to exceed \$3,000. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 20, page 158).
12. **Approve Signing an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Nokomis Fire Protection District for Pagers in the amount not to exceed \$2,500 from ARPA funds Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Folkerts to approve signing the Intergovernmental Agreement with the Nokomis Fire Protection District for pagers in the amount not to exceed \$2,500 from ARPA funds. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 20, page 159).
13. **Ordinance 2023-37 Authorizing the Use of ARPA Funds to Purchase Pagers for the Nokomis Fire Protection District for an amount not to exceed \$2,500 Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Ruppert to approve the ordinance authorizing the use of ARPA funds to purchase pagers for the Nokomis Fire Protection District for an amount not to exceed \$2,500. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 20, page 160).
14. **Approve Signing an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Shoal Creek Fire Protection District for Pagers in the amount not to exceed \$3,000 from ARPA funds Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Whitworth to approve signing the Intergovernmental Agreement with the Shoal Creek Fire Protection District for pagers for the amount not to exceed \$3,000 from ARPA funds. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 20, page 161).
15. **Ordinance 2023-38 Authorizing the Use of ARPA Funds to Purchase Pagers for the Shoal Creek Fire Protection District for an amount not to exceed \$3,000 Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Loucks to approve the ordinance authorizing the use of ARPA funds to purchase pagers for the Shoal Creek Fire Protection District for an amount not to exceed \$3,000. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 20, page 162).
16. **Approve Signing a Contract with the Hillsboro Area Ambulance Services for Pagers for an amount not to exceed \$5,000 from ARPA funds Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Murzynski to approve signing the contract with the Hillsboro Area Ambulance Service for pagers for an amount not to exceed \$5,000 from ARPA funds. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 20, page 163).
17. **Ordinance 2023-39 Authorizing the Use of ARPA Funds to Purchase Pagers for the Hillsboro Area Ambulance Service for an amount not to exceed \$5,000 Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Hughes to approve the ordinance authorizing the use of ARPA funds to purchase pagers for the Hillsboro Area Ambulance Service for an amount not to exceed \$5,000. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 20, page 164).
18. **Courthouse Complex Renovation from Ameresco Approval:** Ritchie reported the revised total to renovate the Courthouse Complex is \$1,128,903. Of this total, \$856,000 was previously approved using ARPA money, but the project is first on the list of projects not yet approved, and there is money left. He said if approved, they should be able to complete the project by the fall of 2024. **Motion by Ritchie and second by**

Beason to approve the Courthouse Complex renovation project to be paid for with ARPA funds for an amount not to exceed \$1,128,903. ROLL CALL VOTE: Voting YES: Beason, Beck, Bergen, Donaldson, Folkerts, Hughes, Jones, Loucks, Murzynski, Ritchie, Ruppert, Sneed, Whitworth and Young. Voting NO: None. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 20, pages 165-166).

19. **Ordinance 2023-40 Authorizing the Use of ARPA Funds to Pay for Courthouse Complex Renovation Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Hughes to approve the ordinance authorizing the use of ARPA funds to pay for the Courthouse Complex Renovation for an amount not to exceed \$1,128,903. ROLL CALL VOTE: Voting YES: Beason, Beck, Bergen, Donaldson, Folkerts, Hughes, Jones, Loucks, Murzynski, Ritchie, Ruppert, Sneed, Whitworth and Young. Voting NO: None. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 20, page 167).
20. **Allocation of Remaining ARPA Funds for FY 2024 Budget Update:** Ritchie reported the Coordinated Services office recently sent out certified letters to non-county ARPA requestors asking them if they are still in need of their original requested project funding; and if so, what amounts are needed. He said their responses are due by August 30th, 2023.
21. **Department Head/Board Member Meeting for Budget Update:** Ritchie reported he, Treasurer Lohman and representatives from Bellwether will be meeting with Department Heads on August 14th to discuss FY 2024 budgets. He stated one other member of the Finance committee and a non-Finance committee board member will also be invited to attend. He stated these are not open public meetings.
22. **FY 2024 Budget Update:** Ritchie stated there was nothing additional to report.
23. **University of Illinois Extension FY 2025 Budget and Levy Approval:** Ritchie reported University of Illinois Extension Interim Director Sarah Marten presented their budget to the committee. He said they are requesting their levy be increased to \$157,000, which is a 4.37 percent increase. He stated they have not increased their levy in about 11 years. **Motion by Ritchie and second by Beck to approve the Fiscal Year 2025 levy in the amount of \$157,000 from the University of Illinois Extension. All in favor, motion carried.**

ROADS & BRIDGES COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Chairman Ethan Murzynski:

1. **Section 15-00138-00-BR Red Ball Trail Bridge Update:** Murzynski said Highway Engineer Greenwood reported the installation of deck beams will probably be pushed back to next week.
2. **H.R. 3372 proposal in Congress to raise the federal weight limit of heavy trucks Update:** Murzynski reported a bill is being discussed in congress introducing a 10-year pilot program instituting a 91,000 pound weight limit for trucks. Greenwood stated there is a lot of opposition to this bill. He said individual states would have to sign on to participate in this program.
3. **Upcoming Road Use Agreements Update:** Murzynski reported they have a draft of a Road Use Agreement for the Anacott Solar project.

APPROVAL OF THE COMMITTEE REPORTS & MINUTES: Motion by Ritchie and second by Young to approve the five committee reports and minutes. All in favor, motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Ruppert reported he just heard via text that members of the Sangamon County Board passed two items pertinent to CO2 sequestration at their meeting this evening. He said one action suspends issuing all permits related to the carbon sequestration project until December 31, 2023; and the second action is a resolution opposing carbon sequestration until specific concerns are addressed.

SCHEDULE CHANGES: None

APPOINTMENTS: Motion by Beck and second by Jones to approve the appointment of Larry Meisner to the Harvel #2 Drainage District for a three-year term. All in favor, motion carried.

PAY BILLS AND PAYROLL: Motion by Beason and second by Murzynski to pay all approved bills and Payroll. ROLL CALL VOTE: Voting YES: Beason, Beck, Bergen, Donaldson, Folkerts, Hughes, Jones, Loucks, Murzynski, Ritchie, Ruppert, Sneed, Whitworth and Young. Voting NO: None. All in favor, motion carried.

ADJOURN: The next regular full board meeting will be on Tuesday, September 12th, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. in the County Board Room, Hillsboro, Illinois. Motion by Beck and second by Loucks to adjourn the Full Board Meeting. All in favor, motion carried.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:35 p.m. Minutes respectfully recorded and submitted by Montgomery County Clerk and Recorder Sandy Leitheiser.

Montgomery County Board Minutes

For Tuesday, September 12th, 2023 – 5:30 PM
County Board Room, Historic Courthouse
#1 Courthouse Square, Hillsboro, IL 62049

The following are minutes of a regular meeting of the Montgomery County Board held at 5:30 PM on Tuesday, September 12th, 2023.

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

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

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

Members Absent: None

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

Mileage and Per Diem Approval: Motion by Beck and second by Folkerts to approve the Mileage and Per Diem. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Voting YES: Beason, Beck, Bergen, Donaldson, Folkerts, Hughes, Jones, Loucks, Murzynski, Ritchie, Ruppert, Sneed, Whitworth and Young. Voting NO: None. All in favor, motion carried.

Approval of Minutes of Previous County Board Meeting: Motion by Jones and second by Whitworth to approve the Minutes of the Previous Regular County Board Meeting held on Tuesday, August 8th, 2023. 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 was submitted. Leetham was present for questions.
- 4. County Clerk and Recorder's Report** – Report was submitted. Leitheiser was present for questions. She thanked her staff for their work in the completion of digitizing land records from the year 1977, which totaled over 5,000 land record documents. She stated they are now working their way backwards in time and hope to eventually digitize records back to 1920.
- 5. Enterprise Zone Report** – Christine Daniels – Report was submitted. Daniels was present for questions.
- 6. Environmental Protection Agency Report** – Christine Daniels – Report was submitted. Daniels was present for questions. She reported an electronics recycling drive will be held Saturday, September 16th, 2023 from 9 a.m. to Noon at the County Highway Department in Hillsboro.
- 7. Health & TB Department Report** – Hugh Satterlee – Report was submitted. Satterlee was present for questions.
- 8. Highway Department Report** – Cody Greenwood – Report was submitted. Greenwood was present for questions.
- 9. Information Services Report** – Curt Watkins – Report was submitted.
- 10. Maintenance Superintendent Report** – Phil Ernst – Report was submitted.

11. **Probation Office Report** – Banea Ulrici – Report was submitted. Ulrici was present for questions.
12. **Public Defender’s Report** – Erin Mattson — No report was submitted.
13. **ROE – Monthly, Quarterly & Annual Reports** -- Julie Wollerman – Report was submitted.
14. **Sheriff’s Report** – Rick Robbins – Report was submitted. Robbins was present for questions. He reported he met with State’s Attorney Affrunti and other elected officials and informed members the new state “no cash bail” law goes into effect next week. He said the State’s Attorney, Judges, and law enforcement have no control over this new state law, so anyone who has issue with the repercussions is encouraged to contact state legislators.
15. **SOA Report** – Kendra Niehaus – Report was submitted. Niehaus was present for questions.
16. **State’s Attorney Report** – Andrew Affrunti – Report was submitted. Affrunti was present for questions. He also reported the “no cash bail” law goes into effect September 18th and the number of people currently incarcerated who will qualify for detention will likely decrease.
17. **Treasurer’s Report** – Nikki Lohman – Report was submitted. Lohman was present for questions. She reported the second property tax due date was September 1st, and her office has collected 97 percent of taxes owed so far. She stated delinquency notices will be mailed out on Friday or Monday.
18. **V.A.C. Report** – Cassandra Hampton – Report was submitted.

APPROVAL OF ITEMS ON THE CONSENT AGENDA: Motion by Hughes and second by Folkerts to approve the 17 items on the Consent Agenda. All in favor, motion carried.

LIAISON REPORTS:

- **708 Board** – Murzynski reported the 708 Board passed funding to go forward for a county-wide survey to be conducted about mental health. He stated they also reviewed applications for future 708 funding.
- **CEFS Board** – Beason stated there is nothing new to report.
- **911 Board** – Bergen reported they are continuing to upgrade their communication system.
- **Health Department** – Whitworth stated there is nothing new to report.
- **IL Association of County Officials** – Bergen reported over 30 unfunded county mandates were passed by the state legislature last year.
- **MCEDC** – Hughes reported Bill Montgomery was hired as the new executive director of MCEDC. Montgomery was present, and he stated he is happy to be on board.
- **Planning Commission** – Ritchie stated there is nothing new to report.
- **Senior Citizens Board** – Folkerts stated they are waiting on funding from the energy grant.
- **UCCI** – Ruppert stated a meeting is scheduled for September 25th, 2023.
- **U of I** – Beck stated there is nothing new to report.
- **WCDC** – Jones stated they will meet next on September 21st, 2023.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Citizen Bill Schroeder asked if all the questions asked by citizens at the last CO2 Sequestration Ad Hoc Committee meeting were recorded. He reported representatives from Heartland Greenway stated during the meeting they had thousands of acres and multiple people signed up in the county, and Schroeder asked if those statements had been fact-checked. He also stated the Heartland Greenway presentation at the meeting seemed like a sales pitch, and he hopes those statements and others made by the company in the future can be fact-checked moving forward.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

COORDINATING COMMITTEE: Given by Chairman Doug Donaldson:

1. **Information Systems Report Update:** Donaldson reported Information Services has advertised for bids for a fiber redundancy ring project, which will be paid for using ARPA funds. He stated the deadline to submit bids is September 22nd, and two companies have expressed interest to Information Services Manager Curt Watkins thus far.
2. **EMA Report and Hazard Mitigation Plan Update:** EMA Director Kevin Schott reported additions to the Hazard Mitigation Grant must be submitted by October 1st, 2023, and the final meeting/hearing will be held on January 24th, 2024, from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm.
3. **West Central Development Council/Job Center Board/CEO Board Update:** Donaldson reported CEO Board meetings will now be held at 5 p.m., and they are currently being held at the Job Center in Carlinville, though they are actively looking for space in Montgomery County. He called on Hillsboro Economic Development and Community Planner Sarah McConnell who was in the audience for more detail, and she stated they will still have their Carlinville office but they are looking for additional space in Montgomery County. They currently have an office in Litchfield and are looking at other places in Litchfield or in Hillsboro.
4. **CO2 Sequestration Ad Hoc Committee Update:** Donaldson reported the committee hosted a meeting August 22nd, with representatives from the Heartland-Greenway project and county citizens in attendance. Donaldson said the ad-hoc committee gave them about 25 questions in advance so they could address them at the meeting, which was the focus of their presentation. He stated project representatives have been hesitant to go into anything with their plume modeling based on opposition coming from Montgomery County. Donaldson reported the ICC will hold hearings in October, and he plans to schedule another Ad Hoc committee meeting after the ICC results are known.

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

1. **Maintenance and Cleaning Issues and Report Update:** Sneed reported two compressors on the chiller at the new courthouse failed. He stated the board will need to replace these compressors, but are waiting on a second bid, since only one bid has been received so far.
2. **Tuck Pointing at VAC Building Update:** Sneed reported this will be addressed at the October committee meeting.
3. **Interior Door Project for County Clerk's Office Update:** Sneed reported we are waiting for the State's Energy Grant for this project.

4. **Old Highway Department Property Update:**

- **Approve Purchase Agreement, Advertise for Bids for Seymour Avenue Surplus Property (Old Highway Department) Update:** Sneed reported we are waiting for a purchase agreement from the State's Attorney's office before moving forward with this project. Affrunti stated he plans to attend the next committee meeting to go over the final details.

DEVELOPMENT & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Chairman Mark Hughes:

1. **Employee Health Insurance and Monthly HRA Report Update:** Hughes reported Assured Partners Representative Amanda Mast said she received preliminary premiums from United Health Care, and they are projected to increase by 29 percent. Hughes said representative Mast plans to be at the next county board meeting.
2. **Animal Control Facility and Municipal Contracts Update:** Hughes stated contracts can be taken off the agenda because he does not foresee any changes to those in the near future. He said they can be put it back on if the board needs to address them.
3. **Animal Control Policy Update:** Hughes reported Animal Control Warden Gerl spoke during the committee meeting on July 31st about spending a certain amount of money on a particular animal picked up on I-55 and about two aggressive dogs which have been at the Animal Control facility for a year. Hughes asked if a conversation needed to be started surrounding a policy about how long to keep an animal and how much money to spend on an individual animal. Hughes said a lot of people attended last week's committee meeting, and they will continue to do research and discuss the matter further next month.
4. **Appoint Animal Control Deputy Administrator Approval: Motion by Hughes and second by Ruppert to appoint Dr. Alan Probst as Deputy Administrator of Animal Control.** Young asked if Hughes reached out to any other vets. Hughes said no. Bergen asked if there was a term limit on the Deputy Administrator position. State's Attorney Affrunti said the Deputy Administrator position should be addressed whenever the individual holding the Administrator position changes, since the Administrator can be a licensed veterinarian under Illinois law. Chairman Donaldson said if they are not a licensed veterinarian, then the Deputy Administrator has to be a licensed veterinarian according to State Statute. **Voice vote was held. Voting YES: Beason, Beck, Bergen, Donaldson, Folkerts, Hughes, Jones, Loucks, Murzynski, Ritchie, Ruppert, Sneed and Whitworth. Voting NO: Young. Motion carried with a 13-1 voting in favor.**
5. **MCEDC Update:** Hughes reported the next MCEDC meeting is scheduled for next Thursday at 5:30 p.m. at the Farm Bureau Building in Hillsboro, Illinois.
6. **Nextlink Broadband Internet Update:** Hughes reported County Clerk Leitheiser and County Coordinator Daniels attended a meeting in Greenville recently involving a number of representatives from broadband companies including Nextlink representative Mike Johnson. Leitheiser stated they are excited for the prospect of rural broadband in the county. She said other counties represented at the meeting included Bond, Clinton, Fayette, Washington and Madison. Although Nextlink did not receive Rural Digital Opportunity Fund (RDOF) grant funds in every county, Leitheiser said they are receptive to working with counties who did not receive those grant funds.

7. **Vistra Energy – Coffeen Solar Project Permit Application Update:** Hughes reported the committee has not had a chance to see the independent review from Hurst-Rosche; therefore, they will wait until next month to address this matter further. Donaldson said Hurst-Rosche representative Jeremy Connor is meeting with Vistra representatives at 5:00 pm today to discuss the issues from the review.
8. **Vistra Energy – Coffeen Solar Project Enterprise Zone Request Update:** Hughes reported this item will be discussed again after the next Mayors’ meeting. Donaldson stated the meeting is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, October 18th, 2023.
9. **Ordinance Adopting Personnel Manual Update:** Hughes reported Treasurer Lohman attended a webinar on this matter today, and she will share information at the next committee meeting.
10. **Illinois DCEO Community Development Block Grant Update:**
 - **Intergovernmental Agreement with City of Litchfield for the DCEO Community Development Block Grant Update:** Hughes reported he has spoken with Litchfield Economic Development Coordinator Tonya Flannery and Hillsboro Economic Development and Community Planner Sarah McConnell, and both stated no interest has been received regarding projects related to this grant. He said no intergovernmental agreement will be needed due to this lack of interest.
11. **Scheduling of Union Negotiation Meetings with Local 773 (Correctional Officers and Telecommunicators) Update:** Hughes reported the Sheriff Department Correctional Offices and Telecommunicators have decided to switch from union Local 773 to union Local 1084. He stated a negotiations meeting will be scheduled soon.

FINANCE & BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Chairman Andy Ritchie:

1. **SOA Report Update:** Ritchie reported the Supervisor of Assessments office has been inputting the work from the assessors into the county tax software; and when completed, they will roll their information to the County Clerk’s office for tax extension.
2. **Capital Improvement Fund Reports Update:** Ritchie reported the July Coal Royalty Check totaled \$197,243.83, bringing the balance to \$8,421,610. He stated we also received a check for August, which will be reflected in next month’s report.
3. **Allocation of Remaining ARPA Funds for FY 2024 Budget Approval:** Ritchie reported the County has enough ARPA funds to move further down the list of requested projects. He stated both county and non-county entities were notified of additional funds and were asked to respond if they are still interested in funding. Every entity replied, and the list was revised to reflect the responses. Ritchie said the remaining ARPA funds will cover items #21 through #29 on the ARPA request list. After funding #29, there will be a remaining balance of about \$45,880.80 in ARPA money. **Motion by Ritchie and second by Young to approve funding ARPA projects 21 through 29 on the updated list. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy of list, see Resolution Book 20, page 168).**
4. **Highway Department \$30,000 Payment Approval:** Ritchie reported the Highway Department has been paying \$30,000 annually since 2020 to reimburse coal funds used to purchase their current property. However, since the Highway Department is not able to own property and in order to utilize the \$30,000 elsewhere on an annual basis, Ritchie said the committee is recommending forgiving the remaining balance on the loan.

Motion by Ritchie and second by Beason to forgive the remaining balance on the loan for the new Highway Department building starting in Fiscal Year 2023. Whitworth asked what the remaining balance is. Greenwood said if they would have made this year's payment, they would have paid \$120,000 total of the \$300,000 loan so far. **All in favor, motion carried.**

5. **County Policy for Special Fund Use Update:** Ritchie reported the committee discussed the potential creation of a policy for how each department is able to utilize their special funds. He said this item was brought to light after a discussion surrounding the Circuit Clerk's budget. Ritchie said Affrunti informed the committee the County Board does not have a voice in how departments utilize special funds, as the statute reads the County Board "shall" expend funds at the request of the Clerk of the Courts. Ritchie stated Lohman is seeking a UCCI opinion to interpret the statute. Lohman said she found UCCI opinions on similar matters but has not heard back about the request she submitted. County Clerk Leitheiser stated this issue may affect her office as she pays employee salaries with her special funds and asked Affrunti for an analysis of her office usage.
6. **FY 2024 Budget Update:** Ritchie reported the County is looking at a deficit of around \$640,000, which does not include the 14 percent of the total proposed 29 percent increase in health insurance. Ritchie stated the committee asked Lohman to send the latest proposed budget to Department Heads to see if they can make any additional reductions to bring it closer to balance. He stated a special meeting of the Finance and Budget Committee has been scheduled for September 28th at 5:30 p.m. for the purpose of discussing the County budget.
7. **Resolution Increasing Election Judge Salary Update:** Ritchie reported this item was tabled until next month so State's Attorney Affrunti may review it.
8. **Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 08-23-160-029 in Nokomis Township to Jason and Sarah Miller Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Whitworth to approve the Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 08-23-160-029 in Nokomis Township to Jason and Sarah Miller. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 20, pages 169-170).
9. **Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 13-06-333-002 in Witt Township to Tucker Teubel Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Young to approve the Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 13-06-333-002 in Witt Township to Tucker Teubel. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 20, pages 171-172).
10. **Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 16-12-205-004 in Hillsboro Township to Scott Anderson Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Hughes to approve the Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 16-12-205-004 in Hillsboro Township to Scott Anderson. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 20, pages 173-174).
11. **Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 16-12-111-006 in Hillsboro Township to Brittany Harris Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Folkerts to approve the Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 16-12-111-006 in Hillsboro Township to Brittany Harris. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 20, pages 175-176).
12. **Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 17-35-406-002 in East Fork Township to Snowwhite and Jonathan Nixon Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Young

to approve the Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 17-35-406-002 in East Fork Township to Snowwhite and Jonathan Nixon. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 20, pages 177-178).

13. **Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 21-23-226-008 in East Fork Township to Travis and Amanda Hemken Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Bergen to approve the Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 21-23-226-008 in East Fork Township to Travis and Amanda Hemken. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 20, pages 179-180).

ROADS & BRIDGES COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Chairman Ethan Murzynski:

1. **Section 15-00138-00-BR Red Ball Trail Bridge Update:** Murzynski reported they are making progress on this project and are ahead of schedule. Greenwood stated they are working on a new box culvert now as well as the 3rd Avenue intersection.
2. **Upcoming Road Use Agreements Update:** Greenwood reported Keira Gavin from the Anacott solar project is going to submit road use agreements for the other two solar applications, which are Bluestar and Horseshoe.
3. **Resolution 2023-09 Appropriating Funds for 100% County Culvert Replacement on E. 20th Road Approval:** Motion by Murzynski and second by Young to approve Resolution 2023-09 appropriating funds for 100 percent county culvert replacement on East 20th Road for an amount not to exceed \$9,000. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 20, pages 181-182).
4. **Township Bridge Program (TBP) Funding Update:** Murzynski reported the TBP funds came through in the amount of \$816,473, which is much greater than the average \$204,000 received previously.
5. **Seasonal Renting/Leasing of Roadside Mowing Equipment Update:** Greenwood reported he is exploring the option about leasing mowers, but nothing is set.

APPROVAL OF THE COMMITTEE REPORTS & MINUTES: Motion by Whitworth and second by Ritchie to approve the five committee reports and minutes. All in favor, motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None

SCHEDULE CHANGES: Donaldson reported a Mayors' meeting has been tentatively scheduled for October 18th, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. He said a special Finance and Budget Committee meeting has also been scheduled for Thursday, September 28th, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.

APPOINTMENTS:

Motion by Donaldson and second by Jones to approve the appointment of Alex Jordan to the Bois D'Arc #4 Drainage District Board to a term expiring the first Tuesday in September, 2025. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Donaldson and second by Beck to approve the appointment of Donald Murphy to the Bois D'Arc #4 Drainage District Board to a term expiring the first Tuesday in September, 2026. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Donaldson and second by Beck to approve the appointment of Todd Megginson to the Bois D'Arc #4 Drainage District Board to a term expiring the first Tuesday in September, 2024. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Donaldson and second by Young to approve the appointment of Daniel Tester to the Irving-Witt-Nokomis-Rountree #1 Drainage District Board to a term expiring the first Tuesday in September 2026. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Donaldson and second by Jones to approve the appointment of Robert Wagahoff to the Farmersville-Waggoner Fire Protection District Board to a three-year term expiring September 2026. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Donaldson and second by Beck to approve the appointment of Leonard Rovey to the Farmersville-Waggoner Fire Protection District Board to a two-year term expiring September, 2025. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Donaldson and second by Beck to approve the appointment of John Welsh to the Farmersville-Waggoner Fire Protection District Board to a one-year term expiring September 2024. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Donaldson and second by Loucks to approve the appointment of Paul Pershing to the Three County Public Water District Board to a five-year term expiring October 31, 2028. All in favor, motion carried.

PAY BILLS AND PAYROLL: Motion by Ritchie and second by Hughes to pay all approved bills and Payroll. All in favor, motion carried. ROLL CALL VOTE: Voting YES: Beason, Beck, Bergen, Donaldson, Folkerts, Hughes, Jones, Loucks, Murzynski, Ritchie, Ruppert, Sneed, Whitworth and Young. Voting NO: None. All in favor, motion carried.

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

Meeting Adjourned at 6:31 p.m. Minutes respectfully recorded and submitted by Montgomery County Clerk and Recorder Sandy Leitheiser.

Montgomery County Board Minutes

For Tuesday, October 10th, 2023 – 5:30 PM
1 Courthouse Square, 2nd Floor, Hillsboro, IL 62049

The following are minutes of a regular meeting of the Montgomery County Board held at 5:30 PM on Tuesday, October 10th, 2023.

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

Roll call was taken – 12 members present, 2 members absent.

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

Members Absent: Bill Bergen and David Loucks

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

Mileage and Per Diem Approval: Motion by Sneed and second by Folkerts to approve the Mileage and Per Diem. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Voting YES: Beason, Beck, Donaldson, Folkerts, Hughes, Jones, Murzynski, Ritchie, Ruppert, Sneed, Whitworth and Young. Voting NO: None. All in favor, motion carried.

Approval of Minutes of Previous County Board Meeting: Young stated Hughes reported during the last meeting Animal Control was \$120,000 over budget for the fiscal year and asked the minutes be corrected. Hughes said he checked and they actually have about \$13,000 left for the rest of the fiscal year. After searching the minutes, this statement was not in the minutes, so no action was needed. Motion by Young and second by Whitworth to approve the Minutes of the Previous Regular County Board Meeting held on Tuesday, September 12th, 2023, as presented. All in favor, motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. **Animal Control Report** – Emily Gerl – No report was submitted. Gerl was present for questions. She reported they took in four cats, 18 dogs and one guinea pig over the last month. She said they have eight dogs, nine cats and one guinea pig at this time.
2. **Circuit Clerk's Report** – Daniel Robbins – Report was submitted.
3. **Coroner's Report** – Randy Leetham – Report was submitted.
4. **County Clerk and Recorder's Report** – Report was submitted. Leitheiser was present for questions.
5. **Enterprise Zone Report** – Christine Daniels – Report was submitted. Daniels was present for questions.
6. **Environmental Protection Agency Report** – Christine Daniels – Report was submitted. Daniels was present for questions.
7. **Health & TB Department Report** – Hugh Satterlee – Report was submitted. Satterlee was present for questions.
8. **Highway Department Report** – Cody Greenwood – Report was submitted.
9. **Information Services Report** – Curt Watkins – Report was submitted.

10. **Maintenance Superintendent Report** – Phil Ernst – Report was submitted. Ernst was present for questions. He reported belts for the Historic Courthouse elevator were ordered, and they should be here in two to three weeks.
11. **Probation Office Report** – Banee Ulrici – Report was submitted.
12. **Public Defender’s Report** – Erin Mattson — No report was submitted.
13. **ROE – Monthly, Quarterly & Annual Reports** – Julie Wollerman – No report was submitted.
14. **Sheriff’s Report** – Rick Robbins – Report was submitted.
15. **SOA Report** – Kendra Niehaus – Report was submitted. Niehaus was present for questions.
16. **State’s Attorney Report** – Andrew Affrunti – Report was submitted. Affrunti was present for questions.
17. **Treasurer’s Report** – Nikki Lohman – Report was submitted. Lohman was present for questions. She reported delinquent notices were sent out recently, and the annual tax sale is scheduled for Monday, October 30th, 2023.
18. **V.A.C. Report** – Cassandra Hampton – Report was submitted. Hampton was present for questions.

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

LIAISON REPORTS:

- **708 Board** – Murzynski reported they reviewed grant applications and voted to move forward on grants for 2024.
- **CEFS Board** – Beason stated there was nothing new to report.
- **911 Board** – Bergen was absent so there was nothing new to report.
- **Health Department** – Whitworth reported they will meet next on October 17th, 2023.
- **IL Association of County Officials** – Bergen was absent so there was nothing new to report.
- **MCEDC** – Hughes stated MCEDC Executive Director Bill Montgomery will give a report during the Development and Personnel Committee report.
- **Planning Commission** – Ritchie stated there is nothing new to report.
- **Senior Citizens Board** – Folkerts stated there is nothing new to report.
- **UCCI** – Ruppert reported their fall conference is scheduled for October 27th and 28th, 2023.
- **U of I** – Beck stated there is nothing new to report.
- **WCDC** – Jones reported they are on track for their goals.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: MCEDC Executive Director Bill Montgomery distributed a survey to County Board members and he said he would like them to list their top three economic issues for their districts needing assistance from MCEDC. He also stated he will do his best to be of service to residents of the county, as well as try to be an effective resource.

Animal Control volunteer Jessica Durbin stated she put on a recent very successful pet adoption event. She said it was a “Canines and Cars” event, and they had 55 car entries. She also reported four dogs and two cats were adopted. She said, in addition to the adoptions, the event

helped get animals out of the facility to socialize them and help them decompress. As a volunteer, Durbin said she has had contact with all the dogs and she would like the board to consider all options before euthanasia is done, as well as look into breeding permits and issues with negligent owners. She said she knows sick and aggressive dogs have been euthanized and she understands why in these circumstances, but she believes there are other options for healthy, adoptable dogs.

County resident Karyl Dressen referenced a recent public notice in *The Journal-News* regarding the expansion of the longwall mining shadow area for Deer Run Mine. She said the public comment portion is open for 30 days. Dressen said none of the current County Board members were on the board when the mine was brought to the county, and none of the current County Board members live in the active longwall area. She stated Illinois Route 185 has either been closed to traffic, reduced to one lane, or had its speed limit reduced to 20 miles per hour on various occasions because of mine subsidence from this mine. She also said some farmers have not been able to farm in the mined area because of drainage issues caused by the subsidence. Dressen stated she hears about coal revenues at each board meeting and said more county residents will be adversely affected by this potential expansion.

County resident Bill Schroeder stated he had heard the County Board was going to become an intervenor on the proposed CO2 pipeline with the ICC and asked if they filed. State's Attorney Affrunti responded affirmatively.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

COORDINATING COMMITTEE: Given by Chairman Doug Donaldson:

1. **Information Systems Report Update:** Donaldson reported Information Service manager Curt Watkins received three bids for the fiber redundancy project and two bids did not come in within the allotted bid amount. He also reported the new website should be ready to go live within the next few weeks. Donaldson reported the office had a staff member leave recently, and the open position has been advertised.
2. **EMA Report and Hazard Mitigation Plan Update:** EMA Coordinator Joe Gasparich reported they have one more Hazard Mitigation meeting planned, adding they have been without a plan for the last six months. He said the plan will hopefully be finalized by February. EMA Coordinator Dan Hough reported the National Weather Service remains in litigation regarding the lack of weather radio coverage in the county due to the removal of transmitters from a county tower location.
3. **West Central Development Council/Job Center Board/CEO Board Update:** Donaldson reported the next meeting is scheduled for October 19th, 2023.
4. **CO2 Sequestration Ad Hoc Committee Update:** Donaldson reported the Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC) was scheduled to hold public hearings October 17th through 20th on the proposed CO2 pipeline, but Navigator CO2 removed their permit application in Illinois earlier today. Affrunti reported the county's law firm in this matter emailed him recently saying the hearings have been cancelled. Ruppert said he would still like to have another meeting with the ad hoc committee to discuss a game plan if a new permit is filed. Donaldson stated he would look at some dates and put a meeting together.
5. **2024 Committee Meeting Dates and Times Approval:** Motion by Donaldson and second by Beck to approve the 2024 Coordinating Committee meeting dates and times as presented. All in favor, motion carried.

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

1. **Maintenance and Cleaning Issues and Report Update:** Sneed reported the maintenance staff continues their work around the courthouse complex. He stated the elevator in the Historic Courthouse is down because the belts are frayed.
2. **Tuck Pointing at VAC Building Approval:** Sneed reported the committee reviewed two bids for tuck pointing at the VAC building and along the north staircase of the Historic Courthouse. **Motion by Sneed and second by Young to approve the bid from Seward Masonry for tuck pointing of the VAC building and north staircase of the Historic Courthouse for an amount not to exceed \$17,450. All in favor, motion carried.**
3. **Interior Door Project for County Clerk's Office Update:** Sneed reported we are still waiting on the energy grant before moving forward with this project. County Clerk Leitheiser stated grant funds have been received through the County's GATA portal, but we are waiting on further guidance from our DCEO agency grant manager.
4. **Old Highway Department Property Update:**
 - **Approve Purchase Agreement, Advertise for Bids for Seymour Avenue Surplus Property (Old Highway Department) Update:** Sneed reported the committee voted to put the old highway department property up for bid. He stated the county will continue occupying the building to house EMA equipment and we will pay rent in exchange. He said part of the bid requirements will be for interested parties to submit a development plan.
5. **Repair Chiller at New Courthouse Approval:**
 - **Purchase Compressors for Chiller at Courthouse Complex Approval:** Sneed reported two compressors went out on the chiller at the Courthouse Complex, and it is currently operating on three small ones. He stated we received two bids and the committee is recommending accepting the low bid from Clow Controls. **Motion by Sneed and second by Beason to approve the bid from Clow Controls for compressors for the chiller at the new courthouse for an amount not to exceed \$32,950. All in favor, motion carried.**
6. **Payment for Sidewalks for Kinney Contractors Approval:** Sneed reported the sidewalk project around the Historic Courthouse is now completed and the bill needs paid. **Motion by Sneed and second by Hughes to approve paying Kinney Contractors a total of \$235,665 for sidewalk repairs. ROLL CALL VOTE: Voting YES: Beason, Beck, Donaldson, Folkerts, Hughes, Jones, Murzynski, Ritchie, Ruppert, Sneed, Whitworth and Young. Voting NO: None. All in favor, motion carried.**

DEVELOPMENT & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Chairman Mark Hughes:

1. **Employee Health Insurance and Monthly HRA Report Update/Approval:** Hughes reported the committee has recommended an insurance plan from our current insurance carrier which will include a 17.1 percent premium increase. Assured Partners representative Amanda Mast was present and stated United Healthcare initially submitted a plan with a 29 percent increase but they were able to get the cost down to 19.9 percent with a premium holiday, which brings the actual increase total to 17.1 percent. Mast said

one of the four plans is an HRA plan. Treasurer Lohman asked if employees will be required to log onto their individual online portal to sign up during open enrollment, or if their plans will automatically roll over. Mast said they can set up either an active or passive enrollment, but she recommends an active enrollment so employees will have to take the time to look at their options. **Motion by Hughes and second by Ruppert to accept the Employee Health Insurance Plans from United Health Care as presented. All in favor, motion carried.**

2. **MCEDC Update:** Montgomery County Economic Development Corporation Executive Director Bill Montgomery reported the next meeting is scheduled for November 16th at the new SEI Center in Litchfield showcasing that facility.
3. **Animal Control Facility Update:** Hughes stated there was nothing additional to report and Gerl had previously given the report.
4. **Animal Control Policy Approval:** Hughes reported the committee discussed approving a policy regarding the length of time animals are housed at the Animal Control facility and veterinary expenses for individual animals. The policy reads: *“The Montgomery County Animal Control facility may house or foster a surrendered or confiscated animal for a period of no longer than six months. After said time frame has passed, the animal must be vacated from the Animal Control facility or foster home by means of adoption, transfer to an animal shelter, transfer to the humane society or animal protective league, or, if all other avenues have been exhausted, euthanized. Additionally, veterinary expenses for an individual animal shall be limited to vaccination and parasite control. Animal medical expenses outside of those parameters shall not be funded without prior authorization of the Animal Control Deputy Administrator or the Montgomery County Board.”* **Motion by Hughes and second by Whitworth to approve the Animal Control policy as presented.** Gerl said the part of the policy referencing vet expenses will affect her spaying and neutering animals. Affrunti stated the spaying and neutering of animals is paid for out of its own fund line item, and she will still be able to pay for those expenses from there. Young stated he hasn’t had a chance to talk with constituents from his district about their views on the policy yet and he is not comfortable voting on this policy. Donaldson stated it is a valid concern. Young said he wants to table the motion for one month. Affrunti stated there was already a motion and second made needing voted on first. Whitworth stated the committee made a recommendation based on discussions they have been having for quite some time, so she does not believe this needs to be tabled. **ROLL CALL VOTE: Voting YES: Donaldson, Hughes, Jones, Murzynski, Ritchie, Ruppert and Whitworth. Voting NO: Beason, Beck, Folkerts, Sneed and Young. Motion passed with a 7-5 vote in favor of the motion.**
5. **Nextlink Broadband Internet Update:** MCEDC representative Bill Montgomery reported he recently spoke with Nextlink representative Mike Johnson, who has expressed a willingness to attend a future County Board meeting.
6. **Vistra Energy – Coffeen Solar Project Permit Application Ordinance 2023-41 Approval:** Hughes reported Vistra Energy representatives recently spoke with Jeremy Connor from Hurst-Rosche on the issues he had after the independent review. Connor was in attendance at the meeting and he said those issues have been resolved. Vistra Energy legal representative Russell Whitaker said they are continuing to request exemptions so they don’t have to pull out the existing electrical infrastructure. EMA Coordinator Hough asked if Vistra Energy is open to allow the National Weather Service

equipment to return to their property. Whitaker said if it was on infrastructure such as a smokestack it could be a problem; but they are not opposed to having the conversation about allowing it again. **Motion by Hughes and second by Ruppert to approve the Vistra Energy Solar Project Permit Application Ordinance 2023-41 as presented.** Affrunti said the ordinance approves the solar permit application. **All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 20, page 183).**

7. **Vistra Energy – Coffeen Solar Project Enterprise Zone Request Update:** Hughes reported the mayors will meet on October 18th and this item will be discussed further at a later time. He said the meeting will be held at 5:00 p.m. in the County Board room of the Historic Courthouse in Hillsboro.
8. **Ordinance Adopting Personnel Manual Update:** Hughes reported State’s Attorney Affrunti, Treasurer Lohman, County Clerk Leitheiser Assistant Coordinator Jenkins and himself attended a webinar hosted by the Illinois Department of Labor on new legislation regarding paid time off. He stated Affrunti is going to adjust the Personnel Manual to reflect the requirements of the legislation.
9. **2024 Holiday Schedule Approval:** **Motion by Hughes and second by Jones to approve the 2024 Holiday Schedule as presented. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 20, page 184).**
10. **Cole McDaniel from Spoon River Economic Development Update:** Hughes reported Spoon River Economic Development Director Cole McDaniel called into their committee meeting to discuss options for economic development assistance for the County.
11. **Scheduling of Union Negotiation Meetings with Local 1084 (Correctional Officers and Telecommunicators) Update:** Hughes reported we are still waiting to receive paperwork from the State regarding the change of unions. He stated a special meeting will likely be held to negotiate the next contracts.

FINANCE & BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Chairman Andy Ritchie:

1. **SOA Report Update:** Ritchie reported Supervisor of Assessments Kendra Niehaus submitted her monthly report to the committee. He said she mailed a letter and new lease application to current landowners detailing leaseholder exemption requirements. Niehaus stated leases must now be recorded prior to acceptance because the office is seeking to better regulate this process.
2. **Capital Improvement Fund Reports Update:** Ritchie reported a few CDs were due at the end of September and Treasurer Lohman was able to invest these funds again at a rate of 5.31 percent. He also reported the capital improvement fund currently has a \$1.5 million balance. Lohman stated the total is actually how much has been allocated for projects, and the total fund is at around \$8.5 million currently.
3. **County Policy for Special Fund Use Update:** Ritchie reported the committee reviewed a memorandum from State’s Attorney Affrunti regarding special funds as well as some UCCI opinions regarding special funds for county departments and how those monies are to be allocated. Affrunti stated the committee decided if special funds are used to pay for employee salaries, those same funds will also have to be used to pay for IMRF and Social Security benefits.

4. **Presenting FY 2024 Budget for Review Approval:** Ritchie reported after several lengthy regular and special meetings, the Finance and Budget Committee agreed to a proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2024, which includes a general fund deficit of a little more than \$300,000. He said the goal this year was to get as close to a \$280,000 deficit as we could, with the idea of having a completely balanced budget by year three. Ritchie said the deficit started at between \$1.4 million and \$1.6 million and was reduced to \$280,000 before increasing back to \$780,000. Ritchie stated representatives from the budget consultant firm Bellwether said even with the \$300,000 general fund deficit this year; the county is still on track for a balanced budget by year three. **Motion by Ritchie and second by Folkerts to place the provisional budget on display per State Statute.** Maintenance Superintendent Ernst questioned the Buildings and Grounds section of the budget, stating he had taken \$7,000 from one of the maintenance contract lines and used it to supplement his and his employee's salary. He said that amount was for the Johnson Controls service contract, which was not renewed because he and his employee are able to do the work. He wanted to use the remaining balance to supplement their salaries without costing the county any more money. Ernst said after his proposal was made, the committee voted to give him and his employee the six percent salary increase along with an additional \$2,000 each; but the budget being proposed today only includes the six percent increase. Ritchie said the board has to get the budget balanced. Affrunti stated he can attend the next Finance Committee meeting on November 3rd, 2023 and request budget changes be made since it is prior to the November Full Board meeting when the budget is scheduled to be approved. **Voice Vote: Voting YES: Beason, Beck, Donaldson, Folkerts, Hughes, Jones, Murzynski, Ritchie, Whitworth and Young. Voting NO: Sneed and Ruppert. Motion passed, with a 10-2 vote in favor of the motion.**
5. **Adopt the Estimated FY 2024 Aggregate Levy Update:** Ritchie reported this levy will be adopted during the November meeting, and Bellwether will provide the ordinance to go along with it.
6. **Adopt the Estimated FY 2024 Special Levies Update:** Ritchie reported these levies will be adopted during the November meeting, and Bellwether will provide the ordinances to go along with them.
7. **Resolution 2023-42 Increasing Election Judge Salary Approval:** Ritchie reported this resolution will increase election judge salaries to \$185 for those who have not gone through training and \$205 for those who have. He stated this does not apply to early voting judges, as they are paid for from a different fund. He also said the state will fully reimburse the increase. **Motion by Ritchie and second by Whitworth to approve Resolution 2023-42 increasing the Election Judge Salaries to \$185 without training and \$205 with training. VOICE VOTE: 11 members in favor, 1 member (Jones) abstained, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 20, page 185).**
8. **Pre-approved Vendor List Revisions Update:** Ritchie reported there are two problems with the current list: the first is some of the veterinary services listed are no longer in business, and the other is the need to find a vet service offering after-hours care. He said the committee has agreed to forward the issue on to the Development and Personnel Committee and await their recommendation before updating the list.

9. **Other Business:** Lohman thanked Bellwether for all the work they did on the budget. Ritchie also thanked Bellwether for their assistance in getting the budget deficit down to around \$300,000. Ruppert asked who audits the budget. Lohman said Scheffel-Boyle does, and they are usually on site in December starting their work on it.

ROADS & BRIDGES COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Chairman Ethan Murzynski:

1. **Section 15-00138-00-BR Red Ball Trail Bridge Update:** Murzynski reported the Red Ball Trail Bridge project is ahead of schedule.
2. **Anacott Solar Road Use Agreement Approval:** Motion by Murzynski and second by Whitworth to approve the Road Use Agreement for the Anacott Solar Project as presented. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 20, page 186).
3. **Bluestar Solar Road Use Agreement Approval:** Motion by Murzynski and second by Ritchie to approve the Road Use Agreement for the Blue Star Solar Project as presented. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 20, page 187).
4. **Section 23-01134-00-BR White Settlement Tr., Audubon Twp., Bridge Replacement Engineering Services Approval:** Motion by Murzynski and second by Hughes to approve the preliminary engineering agreement with Hurst-Rosche for an amount not to exceed \$40,000. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 20, page 188).
5. **Section 23-07108-00-BR N. 26th Ave., Harvel Twp., Bridge Replacement Engineering Services Approval:** Motion by Murzynski and second by Jones to approve the preliminary engineering agreement with Hurst-Rosche for an amount not to exceed \$35,000. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 20, page 189).
6. **Section 23-10121-00-BR E. 23rd Rd., Nokomis Twp., Bridge Replacement Engineering Services Update:** Murzynski reported this item was tabled until the next month while more information is gathered.
7. **Section 23-18119-00-BR E. 22nd Rd., Witt Twp., Bridge Replacement Engineering Services Update:** Murzynski reported this item was tabled until next month while more information is gathered.
8. **New equipment purchase for FY24 Update:** Murzynski reported the Highway department would like to purchase a track hoe. Donaldson stated they demonstrated machines from both John Deere and Caterpillar, and they were more impressed with the one from Caterpillar because it already came with the additional options they needed, despite being a little more expensive.
9. **Old Highway Dept. Update:** Murzynski reported the asbestos abatement of the old Highway Department building on Seymour Avenue has been completed. Sneed stated the bill will be paid for from coal contingency money.
10. **Roof replacement on white block building Update:** Murzynski reported the Highway Department received \$55,000 from the county's insurance company to replace the roof on the block building on their current property. He stated they received a quote from Young's Roofing for a shingled surface at approximately \$67,000, as well as a bid from

Pro-Bilt for a metal roof for around \$90,000. He said the Buildings and Grounds Committee will discuss this matter at their meeting next month.

11. **Walshville Bypass Road Update:** Murzynski reported the preliminary engineering should be completed for this project within the next 12 months.
12. **2024 Committee Meeting Dates and Times Approval:** Motion by Murzynski and second by Ruppert to approve the 2024 Roads and Bridges Committee meeting dates and times as presented. All in favor, motion carried.
13. **Other Items:** Donaldson reported a tire pickup event for townships has been scheduled for December 4th, 2023.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Executive Session for Personnel/Litigation/Property Acquisition Approval:

Motion by Hughes and second by Folkerts to enter into executive session in accordance with 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21)- Discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed under the Open Meetings Act, whether for purposes of approval by the body of the minutes or semi-annual review of the minutes as mandated by Section 2.06. All in favor, motion carried. The County Board entered into executive session at 7:00 p.m. Motion by Whitworth and second by Sneed to return to open session. All in favor, motion carried. Committee returned to open session at 7:13 p.m.

Review of Executive Session Minutes Approval: Motion by Hughes and second by Beck to “OPEN” the following executive session committee and full board meeting minutes: March 26, 2019 Coordinating Committee; March 10, 2020 Full Board; June 29, 2021 Coordinating Committee; July 6, 2021 Safety and Elections Committee; July 29, 2021 Personnel Committee; August 3, 2021 Safety and Elections Committee; August 10, 2021 Full Board; November 4, 2021 Road and Bridge Committee; November 18, 2021 Personnel Committee; December 14, 2021 Full Board; January 27, 2022 Personnel Committee; February 4, 2022 Finance Committee; April 6, 2022 Buildings and Grounds Committee; April 7, 2022 Roads and Bridges Committee; May 5, 2022 Road and Bridge Committee; May 24, 2022 Personnel Committee; June 9, 2022 Road and Bridge Committee; September 13, 2022 Full Board; and November 15, 2022 Full Board. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Beck and second by Ritchie to keep the following executive session committee and full board meeting minutes “CLOSED” pending further review: November 26, 2019 Coordinating Committee; January 8, 2020 Finance Committee; January 28, 2021 Personnel Committee; December 7, 2021 Safety and Elections Committee; December 27, 2021 Coordinating Committee; March 2, 2022 Buildings and Grounds Committee; August 4, 2022 Development and Personnel Committee; August 18, 2022 Infrastructure Committee; October 5, 2022 Infrastructure Committee; October 18, 2022 Development and Personnel Committee; December 13, 2022 Full Board; February 9, 2023 Development and Personnel Committee; March 9, 2023 Development and Personnel Committee; March 10, 2023 Finance and Budget Committee; May 10, 2023 Finance and Budget Committee; June 6, 2023 Buildings and Grounds Committee; and September 7, 2023 Development and Personnel Committee. All in favor, motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE COMMITTEE REPORTS & MINUTES: Motion by Beck and second by Folkerts to approve the five committee reports and minutes. All in favor, motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None

SCHEDULE CHANGES: Donaldson reported a Mayors' meeting has been scheduled for Wednesday, October 18th, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.

APPOINTMENTS: Motion by Sneed and second by Ritchie to appoint the following members to the Litchfield Area Ambulance Special Service Board: Marilyn Sisson, Dwayne Gerl, Sara Zumwalt, Dan Newkirk, Josh Hughes, Kassidy Paine, Jake Fleming, Ray Kellenberger and Mike James. All in favor, motion carried.

PAY BILLS AND PAYROLL: Motion by Ritchie and second by Whitworth to pay all approved bills and Payroll. All in favor, motion carried. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Voting YES: Beason, Beck, Donaldson, Folkerts, Hughes, Jones, Murzynski, Ritchie, Ruppert, Sneed, Whitworth and Young. Voting NO: None. All in favor, motion carried.

RECESS: The next regular full board meeting will be on Tuesday, November 14th, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. in the County Board Room, Hillsboro, Illinois. Motion by Hughes and second by Ritchie to recess the Full Board Meeting until November 14, 2023. All in favor, motion carried.

Meeting recessed at 7:17 p.m. Minutes respectfully recorded and submitted by Montgomery County Clerk and Recorder Sandy Leitheiser.

Montgomery County Board Minutes

For Tuesday, November 14th, 2023 – 5:30 PM

The following are minutes of a regular meeting of the Montgomery County Board held in the County Board Room of the Historic Courthouse in Hillsboro, Illinois, at 5:30 PM on Tuesday, November 14th, 2023.

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

Roll call was taken – 12 members present, 2 members absent.

Members Present: Russell Beason, Connie Beck, Bill Bergen, Doug Donaldson, Ken Folkerts, Jeremy Jones, David Loucks, Ethan Murzynski, Andy Ritchie, Chad Ruppert, Patty Whitworth and Evan Young.

Members Absent: Mark Hughes and Bob Sneed.

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

Since Veterans Day was recently held, Chairman Donaldson Recognized Veterans by holding a moment of silence.

Mileage and Per Diem Approval: Motion by Young and second by Ritchie to approve the Mileage and Per Diem. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Voting YES: Beason, Beck, Bergen, Donaldson, Folkerts, Jones, Loucks, Murzynski, Ritchie, Ruppert, Whitworth and Young. Voting NO: None. All in favor, motion carried.

Approval of Minutes of Previous County Board Meeting: Motion by Beason and second by Jones to approve the Minutes of the Previous Regular County Board Meeting held on Tuesday, October 10th, 2023. All in favor, motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- 1. Animal Control Report** – Emily Gerl – No report was submitted.
- 2. Circuit Clerk’s Report** – Daniel Robbins – Report was submitted.
- 3. Coroner’s Report** – Randy Leetham – Report was submitted.
- 4. County Clerk and Recorder’s Report** – Report was submitted. Sandy Leitheiser was present for questions.
- 5. Enterprise Zone Report** – Christine Daniels – Report was submitted. Daniels was present for questions.
- 6. Environmental Protection Agency Report** – Christine Daniels – Report was submitted. Daniels was present for questions.
- 7. Health & TB Department Report** – Hugh Satterlee – Report was submitted. Satterlee was present for questions.
- 8. Highway Department Report** – Cody Greenwood – Report was submitted.
- 9. Information Services Report** – Curt Watkins – Report was submitted.
- 10. Maintenance Superintendent Report** – Phil Ernst – Report was submitted. Ernst was present for questions.
- 11. Probation Office Report** – Bane Ulrici – Report was submitted. Ulrici was present for questions.
- 12. Public Defender’s Report** – Erin Mattson — No report was submitted.
- 13. ROE – Monthly, Quarterly & Annual Reports** – Julie Wollerman – No report was submitted.

- 14. **Sheriff's Report** – Rick Robbins – Report was submitted. Robbins was present for questions.
- 15. **SOA Report** – Kendra Niehaus – Report was submitted. Niehaus was present for questions. She stated township factors for the 2023 Assessment Year have been calculated.
- 16. **State's Attorney Report** – Andrew Affrunti – Report was submitted. Affrunti was present for questions.
- 17. **Treasurer's Report** – Nikki Lohman – Report was submitted.
- 18. **V.A.C. Report** – Cassandra Hampton – Report was submitted.

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

LIAISON REPORTS:

- **708 Board** – Murzynski reported the funding applicants have signed their contracts, and their first payment will be awarded in December.
- **CEFS Board** – Beason stated there is nothing new to report.
- **911 Board** – Bergen reported almost all of the new radio system equipment has been completed. He said there is still work to be done on a tower in Panama.
- **Health Department** – Whitworth reported the Health Department now has the Covid vaccine available.
- **IL Association of County Officials** – Bergen reported an IACO Conference is underway at this time.
- **MCEDC** – Hughes was absent so nothing was reported.
- **Planning Commission** – Ritchie stated there is nothing new to report.
- **Senior Citizens Board** – Folkerts stated there is nothing new to report.
- **UCCI** – Ruppert reported he attended the Fall Conference on October 28th, 2023. He said rural Broadband Internet was a topic of discussion and added he has resources from the conference for anyone interested.
- **U of I** – Beck stated there is nothing new to report.
- **WCDC** – Jones reported their next meeting will be held November 16th at 6 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

COORDINATING COMMITTEE: Given by Chairman Doug Donaldson:

1. **Information Systems Report Update:** Donaldson reported Information Services Manager Watkins accepted a proposal for the Fiber redundancy project, which will be funded using ARPA money.
2. **EMA Report and Hazard Mitigation Plan Update:** EMA Director Kevin Schott reported the final meeting will be held January 24th in the County Board room, 2nd floor in Hillsboro, Illinois.
3. **West Central Development Council/Job Center Board/CEO Board Update:** Donaldson reported the CEO Board held a meeting on October 19th, which was well

attended. He said they have asked for school contacts for CEO Matt Jones to use to coordinate vocational education services.

4. **CO2 Sequestration Ad Hoc Committee Update:** Donaldson reported no date has been set yet, but a meeting will be scheduled at a later time to receive an update on this topic.
5. **Committee Assignments Approval:** Donaldson reported when Patty Whitworth and Connie Beck switched committees, a vice chair of the Buildings and Grounds committee was never named. He also stated Chad Ruppert will be appointed as Chair of the Development and Personnel Committee. **Motion by Donaldson and second by Young to approve appointing Russell Beason as the Vice Chair of the Buildings and Grounds Committee. All in favor, motion carried. Motion by Donaldson and second by Young to approve appointing Chad Ruppert as the Chairman of the Development and Personnel Committee. All in favor, motion carried. Motion by Donaldson and second by Bergen to approve adding Chad Ruppert to the Coordinating Committee, removing Mark Hughes. All in favor, motion carried.**

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Vice Chairman Russell Beason:

1. **Maintenance and Cleaning Issues and Report Update:** Beason reported Maintenance Superintendent Phil Ernst gave the committee a detailed description of the work being done around the Courthouse Complex.
2. **Contract for Cleaning Services from National Maintenance and Cleaning Inc. Update:** Beason reported the committee discussed a new contract for cleaning, which included an increased hourly rate. He said the committee decided to table the matter until some issues are resolved.
3. **Interior Door Project for County Clerk's Office Update:** Beason said there is nothing new to report.
4. **Repair/Replace Roof of Block Building at Highway Department Update:** Beason reported the committee discussed options for a new roof for the block building at the Highway Department, and they agreed to have Highway Engineer Greenwood write up bid specifications for advertising.
5. **Advertise for Bids for County Board Room Audiovisual Approval:** Beason reported Circuit Clerk Daniel Robbins will be applying for another technology grant, which will include funding for audiovisual upgrades for the county board room. These upgrades will allow this room to serve as the backup courtroom in case of an emergency. He said the current backup building for court is the old Witt School, which is now privately owned. Before applying for the grant, the county must advertise for bids. **Motion by Beason and second by Beck to advertise for bids for audiovisual upgrades to the County Board room of the Historic Courthouse in Hillsboro. All in favor, motion carried.**
6. **Ameresco Payment for Courthouse Complex Renovation Approval:** Beason reported this is the first payment to Ameresco for the Courthouse Complex renovation. **Motion by Beason and second by Ritchie to approve the new courthouse renovation payment to Ameresco for an amount not to exceed \$98,202.96. ROLL CALL VOTE: Voting YES: Beason, Beck, Bergen, Donaldson, Folkerts, Jones, Loucks, Murzynski, Ritchie, Ruppert, Whitworth and Young. Voting NO: None. All in favor, motion carried.**

7. **Old Highway Department Property Update:** Beason reported the committee opened one bid for the old Highway Department property on Seymour Avenue for \$5,000. He stated the committee voted to reject the bid and remove this item from the agenda until further notice.

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

1. **Employee Health Insurance and Monthly HRA Report Update:** Bergen stated there is nothing new to report.
2. **Employee Health Insurance Member Advocacy Approval:** Bergen reported this program helps employees with medical or insurance questions. He said it has been approved for the last couple of years. **Motion by Bergen and second by Whitworth to approve the Employee Health Insurance Member Advocacy Program in the amount of \$2,352. All in favor, motion carried.**
3. **MCEDC Update:** Bergen reported there will be an MCEDC meeting held at the SCI Center in Litchfield on Thursday, November 16th, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.
4. **Funding for Montgomery CEO Event Approval:** Bergen reported two Montgomery CEO students addressed the committee about possible funding for a Drone Show event they are holding as their class business project. He said county funding will be used to pay for advertising the event. He said there is approximately \$300 left in the tourism grant budget for this year, and the committee is recommending giving the remaining balance to the CEO class if State's Attorney Andrew Affrunti says it is allowable. Affrunti stated he has no issue with it. **Motion by Bergen and second by Ruppert to approve awarding this year's remaining tourism grant balance to Montgomery CEO. All in favor, motion carried.**
5. **Animal Control Facility Update:** Bergen reported that six dogs and two cats had been adopted recently from the Animal Control facility.
6. **Animal Control Policy Approval:** Bergen reported the committee discussed and agreed to amend the Animal Control policy passed last month to not consider fosters as counting towards animals being housed at the facility. Additionally, the medical expenses portion of the policy will allow for the funding of medications authorized in accordance with the Humane Act and the Illinois Department of Agriculture. **Motion by Bergen and second by Young to approve the amended Animal Control Policy on Housing and animal medical expenses as presented. All in favor, motion carried. (See Resolution Book 20, page 190).**
7. **Pre-Approved Vendor List Approval:** Bergen reported the committee also voted to remove Countryside Vet Clinic and the Nokomis Veterinary Clinic from the Pre-Approved Vendor list since they are no longer in business, as well as Schreiber Veterinary Services. He said Animal Control will still be allowed to use Schreiber, but all their bills will come to the committee first. **Motion by Bergen and second by Jones to approve the updated Pre-Approved Vendor List with the removals of Countryside Vet Clinic, Nokomis Veterinary Clinic and Schreiber Veterinary Services. All in favor, motion carried.**
8. **Nextlink Broadband Internet Update:** Nextlink Vice President of Planning Mike Johnson gave a presentation about his company's background and plan for rural broadband internet in the area. He said he grew up in Carlinville, and his uncle Doug

Johnson was an optometrist in Hillsboro for many years. He said the best internet his relatives were able to get outside of town for a long time was six megabytes of speed. He presented maps to the board showing the company's existing footprint and buildout plans. He said they have been awarded \$22.9 million in federal funds, of which \$7 million alone is dedicated to Montgomery County. He stated they plan to construct additional towers to cover gaps in coverage, and the biggest tower they would install takes up two parking spaces. According to the federal grant they received, Nextlink must build out Montgomery County by 2027. Johnson said he knows the County has allocated \$100,000 from Energy Transition Grant funds for broadband, and Nextlink will match this amount at 100 percent. While he wouldn't rule out building fiber to rural homes in the County, Johnson said the best "bang for the buck" in these locations is fixed wireless internet. He said they will be offering speeds of up to 1 gigabyte per second downloads, and their price for 300 mbps down and 30 mbps up is approximately \$39.00. Chairman Donaldson thanked Johnson for his presentation and told members it was informational at this time.

9. **Vistra Energy – Coffeen Solar Project Enterprise Zone Request Update:** Donaldson reported the Enterprise Zone mayors recently voted to reject Vistra Energy's request for the addition of 1.1 square miles to the County's existing Enterprise Zone. He said the County is only allowed 15 square miles total for Enterprise Zone use, and 12.1 square miles are currently being used. He said the vote had to be unanimous to allow Vistra Energy's request, and it was not unanimous at all.
10. **Revised Personnel Manual Update:** State's Attorney Affrunti reported he completed the personnel manual revisions and sent them to the Coordinated Services office, Chairman Donaldson and Committee Chairman Hughes. He said the committee will make a recommendation at their December meeting, and the board will vote on the revisions next month.
11. **2023 Electronics Recycling Drive Summaries Update:** Bergen reported Environmental Protection Administrator Chris Daniels presented summaries of this year's electronics recycling drives to the committee.
12. **Union Negotiation Meetings with Local 1084 (Correctional Officers and Telecommunicators) Update:** Bergen reported the committee will hold a special meeting on November 20th, 2023, beginning at 4:30 p.m. to discuss the union contracts.

FINANCE & BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Chairman Andy Ritchie:

1. **SOA Report Update:** Ritchie reported Supervisor of Assessments Niehaus presented her report to the committee. He stated she is waiting to hear back from Information Services about a Devnet login and password for the North Litchfield Township assessor, who is currently completing his property record cards on paper.
2. **Capital Improvement Fund Reports Update:** Ritchie reported the County received a coal royalty check of around \$32,000 for the month of September, in addition to \$500,000 from a CD and \$139,180 from the City of Hillsboro for their share of the sidewalks. He said the royalty check for October was received after the report was submitted, and totaled approximately \$250,000.
3. **Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 10-03-402-001, 007 & 017 in North Litchfield to Country Bend Campground LLC Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and

- second by Young to approve the Resolution to convey deed for Parcel ID # 10-03-402-001, 007 and 017 in North Litchfield Township to Country Bend Campground LLC. All in favor, motion carried. (See Resolution Book 20, page 191).
4. **Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 10-03-402-018, 019 & 020 in North Litchfield to Country Bend Campground LLC Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Beck to approve the Resolution to convey deed for Parcel ID # 10-03-402-018, 019 & 020 in North Litchfield Township to Country Bend Campground LLC. All in favor, motion carried. (See Resolution Book 20, page 192).
 5. **Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 10-03-402-021, 022 & 023 in North Litchfield to Country Bend Campground LLC Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Whitworth to approve the Resolution to convey deed for Parcel ID # 10-03-402-021, 022 and 023 in North Litchfield Township to Country Bend Campground LLC. All in favor, motion carried. (See Resolution Book 20, page 193).
 6. **Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 10-03-402-024, 10-03-403-002 & 003 in North Litchfield to Country Bend Campground LLC Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Folkerts to approve the Resolution to convey deed for Parcel ID # 10-03-402-024, 10-03-403-002 and 003 in North Litchfield Township to Country Bend Campground LLC. All in favor, motion carried. (See Resolution Book 20, page 194).
 7. **Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 10-03-403-004, 005 & 006 in North Litchfield to Country Bend Campground LLC Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Young to approve the Resolution to convey deed for Parcel ID # 10-03-403-004, 005 and 006 in North Litchfield Township to Country Bend Campground LLC. All in favor, motion carried. (See Resolution Book 20, page 195).
 8. **Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 10-03-403-008, 009 & 010 in North Litchfield to Country Bend Campground LLC Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Whitworth to approve the Resolution to convey deed for Parcel ID # 10-03-403-008, 009 and 010 in North Litchfield Township to Country Bend Campground LLC. All in favor, motion carried. (See Resolution Book 20, page 196).
 9. **Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 10-03-403-011, 013 & 018 in North Litchfield to Country Bend Campground LLC Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Beck to approve the Resolution to convey deed for Parcel ID # 10-03-403-011, 013 and 018 in North Litchfield Township to Country Bend Campground LLC. All in favor, motion carried. (See Resolution Book 20, page 197).
 10. **Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 10-03-403-019, 10-03-404-002 & 004 in North Litchfield to Country Bend Campground LLC Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Beck to approve the Resolution to convey deed for Parcel ID # 10-03-403-019, 10-03-404-002 and 004 in North Litchfield Township to Country Bend Campground LLC. All in favor, motion carried. (See Resolution Book 20, page 198).
 11. **Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 10-03-404-005, 007 & 008 in North Litchfield to Country Bend Campground LLC Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Young to approve the Resolution to convey deed for Parcel ID # 10-03-404-005, 007 and 008 in North Litchfield Township to Country Bend Campground LLC. All in favor, motion carried. (See Resolution Book 20, page 199).
 12. **Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 10-03-404-009, 10-03-405-002 & 003 in North Litchfield to Country Bend Campground LLC Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Beck to approve the Resolution to convey deed for Parcel ID # 10-03-

405-002 and 003 in North Litchfield Township to Country Bend Campground LLC. All in favor, motion carried. Whitworth stated the motion neglected to include one of the parcels listed on the Resolution. **Motion by Ritchie and second by Whitworth to approve the Resolution to convey deed for Parcel ID # 10-03-404-009, 10-03-405-002 and 003 in North Litchfield Township to Country Bend Campground LLC. All in favor, motion carried.** (See Resolution Book 20, page 200).

13. **Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 10-03-405-005, 006 & 009 in North Litchfield to Country Bend Campground LLC Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Beck to approve the Resolution to convey deed for Parcel ID # 10-03-405-005, 006 and 009 in North Litchfield Township to Country Bend Campground LLC. All in favor, motion carried. (See Resolution Book 20, page 201).
14. **Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 10-03-405-013, 016 & 017 in North Litchfield to Country Bend Campground LLC Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Beck to approve the Resolution to convey deed for Parcel ID # 10-03-405-013, 016 and 017 in North Litchfield Township to Country Bend Campground LLC. All in favor, motion carried. (See Resolution Book 20, page 202).
15. **Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 10-03-405-019, 021 & 036 in North Litchfield to Country Bend Campground LLC Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Beck to approve the Resolution to convey deed for Parcel ID # 10-03-405-019, 021 and 036 in North Litchfield Township to Country Bend Campground LLC. All in favor, motion carried. (See Resolution Book 20, page 203).
16. **Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 10-03-406-007, 012 & 013 in North Litchfield to Country Bend Campground LLC Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Beck to approve the Resolution to convey deed for Parcel ID # 10-03-406-007, 012 and 013 in North Litchfield Township to Country Bend Campground LLC. All in favor, motion carried. (See Resolution Book 20, page 204).
17. **Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 10-03-407-002, 003 & 10-03-405-030 in North Litchfield to Country Bend Campground LLC Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Beck to approve the Resolution to convey deed for Parcel ID # 10-03-407-002, 003 and 10-03-405-030 in North Litchfield Township to Country Bend Campground LLC. All in favor, motion carried. (See Resolution Book 20, page 205).
18. **Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 10-03-405-032, 033 & 035 in North Litchfield to Country Bend Campground LLC Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Beck to approve the Resolution to convey deed for Parcel ID # 10-03-405-032, 033 and 035 in North Litchfield Township to Country Bend Campground LLC. All in favor, motion carried. (See Resolution Book 20, page 206).
19. **Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 10-03-408-002, 004 & 011 in North Litchfield to Country Bend Campground LLC Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Beck to approve the Resolution to convey deed for Parcel ID # 10-03-408-002, 004 and 011 in North Litchfield Township to Country Bend Campground LLC. All in favor, motion carried. (See Resolution Book 20, page 207).
20. **Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 10-03-408-012, 013 & 018 in North Litchfield to Country Bend Campground LLC Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Beck to approve the Resolution to convey deed for Parcel ID # 10-03-408-012, 013 and 018 in North Litchfield Township to Country Bend Campground LLC. All in favor, motion carried. (See Resolution Book 20, page 208).

21. **Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 10-03-408-019, 021 & 022 in North Litchfield to Country Bend Campground LLC Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Beck to approve the Resolution to convey deed for Parcel ID # 10-03-408-019, 021 and 022 in North Litchfield Township to Country Bend Campground LLC. All in favor, motion carried. (See Resolution Book 20, page 209).
22. **Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 10-03-408-023, 037 & 040 in North Litchfield to Country Bend Campground LLC Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Beck to approve the Resolution to convey deed for Parcel ID # 10-03-408-023, 037 and 040 in North Litchfield Township to Country Bend Campground LLC. All in favor, motion carried. (See Resolution Book 20, page 210).
23. **Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 10-03-405-011 in North Litchfield to Country Bend Campground LLC Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Beck to approve the Resolution to convey deed for Parcel ID # 10-03-405-011 in North Litchfield Township to Country Bend Campground LLC. All in favor, motion carried. (See Resolution Book 20, page 211).
24. **Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 16-14-426-022 in Hillsboro to Brandon Petty Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Folkerts to approve the Resolution to convey deed for Parcel ID # 16-14-426-022 in Hillsboro Township to Brandon Petty. All in favor, motion carried. (See Resolution Book 20, page 212).
25. **Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 12-22-404-011 in Irving to Frank Elam Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Young to approve the Resolution to convey deed for Parcel ID # 12-22-404-011 in Irving Township to Frank Elam. All in favor, motion carried. (See Resolution Book 20, page 213).
26. **Intergovernmental Agreement between Montgomery County and the Emergency Telephone System Board for Centralized Emergency Dispatch Center Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Bergen to approve the three-year Intergovernmental Agreement between Montgomery County and the Emergency Telephone System Board for Centralized Emergency Dispatch Center. All in favor, motion carried. (See Resolution Book 20, page 214-217).
27. **FY 2024 Budget Change Sheet Approval:** State's Attorney Affrunti presented the FY 2024 Budget Change sheet to the board, which included the following changes: Salary Superintendent of Buildings in Office 005 from \$58,978 to \$60,978.40; Salary-Custodial Full-time in Office 005 from \$36,930 to \$38,930.40; Transfer out in Office 375 from \$300,963 to \$304,963; Transfer into the General Fund from Coal from \$300,963 to \$304,963; Maintenance/Service Contracts in Office 310 from \$46,000 to \$54,000; Small Equipment Purchases in Office 310 from \$18,000 to \$300,000; Salary Contribution in Office 360 from \$3,704.25 to \$3,048; E-citation in Office 494 from \$6,800 to \$20,000; AOIC Tech Grant in Office 310 from \$0 to \$300,000; Property & Liability Insurance in Office 270 from \$294,883 to \$311,562; Cyber Insurance in Office 270 from \$14,300 to \$18,710; and Workmen's Compensation in Office 275 from \$62,324.44 to \$86,902. **Motion by Jones and second by Ritchie to approve the Fiscal Year 2024 Budget Change Sheet as presented.** Bergen asked about the small equipment increase to \$300,000 and the AOIC Tech Grant to the same amount. Assistant Coordinator David Jenkins stated the AOIC line is for a technology grant Circuit Clerk Robbins is trying to get, which would be county revenue. He said the small equipment purchase is a result of spending Tech Grant funds. Affrunti stated those adjustments balance each other out.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Voting YES: Beason, Beck, Bergen, Donaldson, Folkerts, Jones, Murzynski, Ritchie, Ruppert, and Whitworth. Voting NO: Loucks and Young. Motion carried with a 10-2 vote in favor of the motion.

- 28. FY 2024 Budget Ordinance Approval: Motion by Ritchie and second by Whitworth to approve the FY 2024 Budget Ordinance #2023-43 as presented.** Bergen asked what the \$1.5 million in coal royalty expenses will be spent on. Ritchie said approximately \$300,000 is for balancing the budget, along with \$500,000 for Highway Department expenses. Jenkins said another \$300,000 is for maintenance expenses. Affrunti said these expenses are itemized on the budget page for office 375. Bergen also asked about the income and sales tax revenue increases for FY 2024 and where those amounts came from. He said if the board is comfortable with passing the budget with those figures in place, that is fine; but he is not comfortable without more information. Young said he is also not comfortable with those figures. He stated he was told Bellwether representatives started inflating revenues in places where the budget came up short in order to balance the budget. Affrunti asked who he gave Young this information. Young replied Treasurer Nikki Lohman told him. Ruppert said as an example, the income tax revenue is projected to be a 28 percent increase from the prior year, and he asked if anyone could remember an increase of more than 10 percent in prior budgets. **ROLL CALL VOTE: Voting YES: Beck, Donaldson, Jones, Murzynski, Ritchie, and Whitworth. Voting NO: Beason, Bergen, Folkerts, Loucks, Ruppert and Young. Motion fails with a 6-6 tie vote.** Affrunti asked if there were any motions to amend the budget. Ruppert stated it is unrealistic to expect to pass a budget with these questions unanswered. Young stated he would like to make a motion to have the budget be more in line with Bellwether's original recommendation. Affrunti said he needs to specifically reference which lines to adjust. Young said he wants to change the line for the Salary for the Superintendent of Buildings to \$58,978, the line for the Custodial full-time salary to \$36,930 and the Assistant State's Attorney line to \$143,000. Affrunti stated these cuts would result in a total reduction of \$60,900. **Motion by Young and second by Beason to approve the FY 2024 Budget with the adjustments to line items 100-005-510.001, 100-005-510.002 and 100-055-510.903 as referenced.** Jones stated the board cannot expect to keep the employees they have based on these proposed adjustments. Affrunti said if these adjustments pass, his office will lose one of the Assistant State's Attorneys, and he will no longer be able to attend the board meetings since he will have to cover other court related duties. He said this staffing decrease will also cause other expenses to increase. Maintenance Superintendent Ernst stated he took \$7,000 out of his budget by not signing the contract with Johnson Controls, and his department was getting \$4,000 for salaries and the county was keeping \$3,000. He said if these adjustments pass, the board should put the \$7,000 back into the contract for Johnson Controls. Ernst said this expense will likely increase because contracts typically increase every year. Donaldson stated he reached out to Treasurer Lohman who was absent from the meeting via phone text, and she replied the income tax and sales tax revenue projections came from the State of Illinois. **Beason withdrew his second to Young's motion. Affrunti asked if there is a new second to Young's motion. Loucks seconded the motion. ROLL CALL VOTE: Voting YES: Loucks and Young. Voting NO: Beason, Beck, Bergen, Donaldson, Folkerts, Jones, Murzynski, Ritchie, Ruppert and Whitworth. Motion failed with a 10-2 vote against the motion. Motion by Whitworth and second by Jones to approve**

the original FY 2024 Budget Ordinance #2023-43 with change sheet revisions previously approved. ROLL CALL VOTE: Voting YES: Beason, Beck, Bergen, Donaldson, Folkerts, Jones, Murzynski, Ritchie and Whitworth. Voting NO: Loucks, Ruppert and Young. Motion carries with a 9-3 vote in favor of the motion.

29. **Estimated FY 2024 Aggregate Levy Approval:** Motion by Beck and second by Whitworth to adopt the estimated FY 2024 Aggregate Levy in the amount of \$4,550,780. All in favor, motion carried.

30. **FY 2024 Budget Appropriations, Levies, Ordinances and Resolutions Approval:**

A. **Resolution to Adopt the Fiscal Year 2024 Financial Appropriation Ordinance Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Beck to approve the Resolution to adopt the Fiscal Year 2024 Financial Appropriation Ordinance. All in favor, motion carried.

B. **Ordinance Approving FY 2024 Montgomery County Levies #23-44A Approval:** Motion by Beck and second by Whitworth to adopt the Ordinance approving the FY 2024 Montgomery County Levies. All in favor, motion carried.

C. **Resolution #23-44B to pass the levy for Veterans Assistance Approval:** Motion by Jones and second by Bergen to approve the Resolution to pass the levy for Veterans Assistance in the amount of \$55,020. All in favor, motion carried.

D. **Resolution #23-45 to pass the levy for Senior Citizen Social Services Approval:** Motion by Folkerts and second by Murzynski to approve the Resolution to pass the levy for Senior Social Services in the amount of \$114,478. All in favor, motion carried.

E. **Resolution #23-46 to pass the levy for the County Extension Service Approval:** Motion by Beck and second by Ruppert to approve the Resolution to pass the levy for the County Extension Service in the amount of \$157,000. All in favor, motion carried.

F. **Resolution #23-47 to pass the Community Mental Health Board Tax levy Approval:** Motion by Young and second by Whitworth to approve the Resolution to pass the Community Mental Health Tax Levy in the amount of \$708,978. All in favor, motion carried.

G. **Resolution #23-48 to pass the levy for the Farmersville/Waggoner Special Service Area Approval:** Motion by Jones and second by Beck to approve the Resolution to pass the levy for the Farmersville-Waggoner Special Service Area in the amount of \$82,600. All in favor, motion carried.

H. **Resolution #23-49 to pass the levy for the Raymond/Harvel Special Service Area Approval:** Motion by Folkerts and second by Beck to approve the Resolution to pass the levy for the Raymond-Harvel Special Service Area in the amount of \$84,507. All in favor, motion carried.

I. **Resolution #23-50 to pass the levy for the Nokomis/Witt Special Service Area Approval:** Motion by Young and second by Ruppert to approve the Resolution to pass the levy for the Nokomis-Witt Special Service Area in the amount of \$319,172. All in favor, motion carried.

J. **Resolution #23-51 to pass the levy for the Hillsboro Special Service Area Approval:** Motion by Whitworth and second by Ritchie to approve the

Resolution to pass the levy for the Hillsboro Special Service Area in the amount of \$113,405. All in favor, motion carried.

K. Resolution #23-52 to set Salaries for the following Department Heads: Supervisor of Assessments, Probation Officer, and the Assistant Probation Officers Approval: Motion by Beck and second by Ruppert to approve the Resolution to set the salaries for the following department heads at the stated amounts: Supervisor of Assessments at \$60,950; Probation Officer at \$108,619; and Assistant Probation Officers at \$269,981. All in favor, motion carried.

L. Resolution #23-53 to Authorize State's Attorneys Appellate Prosecutor and to appropriate the sum Approval: Motion by Jones and second by Beck to approve the Resolution to Authorize the State's Attorneys Appellate Prosecutor and to appropriate the sum of \$8,000. All in favor, motion carried.

- 31. ARPA Funds to Balance FY 2023 Budget Deficit Approval:** Ritchie stated last year the Board approved balancing the FY 2023 budget deficit of about \$1.2 million using half coal and half ARPA money. As of the end of October, he said the county is looking at an FY 23 deficit of around \$400,000, and the Finance and Budget Committee is recommending using approximately \$600,000 in ARPA money first before using coal money to balance the FY 2023 Budget. **Motion by Ritchie and second by Young to approve using ARPA funds to balance the Fiscal Year 2023 Budget before using coal funds. All in favor, motion carried.**
- 32. Intergovernmental Agreement with the Raymond Community Fire Protection District for ARPA distribution Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Beck to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement with the Raymond Community Fire Protection District for ARPA Distribution. All in favor, motion carried. (See Resolution Book 20, page 218).
- 33. Ordinance #23-54 Authorizing the Use of ARPA Funds to Purchase a skid unit for Raymond Community Fire Protection District Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Folkerts to approve the Ordinance authorizing the use of ARPA funds to purchase a skid unit for the Raymond Community Fire Protection District for an amount not to exceed \$13,377. All in favor, motion carried. (See Resolution Book 20, page 219).
- 34. Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Litchfield for ARPA Distribution Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Beason to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Litchfield for ARPA distribution. All in favor, motion carried. (See Resolution Book 20, page 220).
- 35. Ordinance #23-55 Authorizing the Use of ARPA Funds to Purchase a warning siren for the City of Litchfield Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Bergen to approve the Ordinance authorizing the use of ARPA funds to purchase a warning siren for the City of Litchfield for an amount not to exceed \$20,400. All in favor, motion carried. (See Resolution Book 20, page 221).
- 36. Intergovernmental Agreement with Farmersville-Waggoner Fire Protection District for ARPA Distribution Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Jones to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement with the Farmersville-Waggoner Fire

Protection District for ARPA distribution. All in favor, motion carried. (See Resolution Book 20, page 222).

37. **Ordinance #23-56 Authorizing the Use of ARPA Funds to Purchase SCBA Equipment for the Farmersville-Waggoner Fire Protection District Approval:** Motion by Ritchie and second by Beck to approve the Ordinance authorizing the Use of ARPA funds to purchase SCBA Equipment for the Farmersville-Waggoner Fire Protection District for an amount not to exceed \$19,891.20. All in favor, motion carried. (See Resolution Book 20, page 223).
38. **Ordinance #23-57 Authorizing the Use of ARPA funds to purchase generator equipment for Montgomery County EMA Approval:** Ritchie reported EMA was approved for \$80,000 in ARPA money for generators, and they have spent \$74,800. He stated this ordinance would approve paying for labor and hook-up of the portable generators. Motion by Ritchie and second by Beason to approve the Ordinance authorizing the use of ARPA funds to purchase generator equipment for Montgomery County EMA for an amount not to exceed \$3,168.90. All in favor, motion carried. (See Resolution Book 20, page 224).

ROADS & BRIDGES COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Chairman Ethan Murzynski:

1. **Section 15-00138-00-BR Red Ball Trail Bridge Update:** Murzynski reported temporary seeding is being put down around the bridge now, with final seeding expected to happen next year. He said once temporary seeding is completed, the bridge should be opened to traffic.
2. **Bid Results for new hydraulic excavator Approval:** Murzynski reported the Committee reviewed one bid for a new track hoe, which has been budgeted for next year. Motion by Murzynski and second by Whitworth to accept the bid from Cat Altorfer for a new hydraulic excavator in the amount of \$251,335. ROLL CALL VOTE: Voting YES: Beason, Beck, Bergen, Donaldson, Folkerts, Jones, Loucks, Murzynski, Ritchie, Ruppert and Whitworth. Voting NO: Young. Motion carries with an 11-1 vote in favor.
3. **Resolution 2023-10 appropriating funds for 50/50 culvert replacement on Hillside Ave., Witt/Nokomis Twp. Approval:** Motion by Murzynski and second by Whitworth to approve Resolution 2023-10 appropriating funds for 50/50 culvert replacement on Hillside Avenue. All in favor, motion carried. (See Resolution Book 20, pages 225-226).
4. **Agreement for County Engineer's Salary Program Approval:** Murzynski reported this is a six-year agreement. Motion by Murzynski and second by Bergen to approve the agreement for the County Engineer's Salary program. All in favor, motion carried. (See Resolution Book 20, page 227).
5. **Resolution 2023-11 Appropriating Funds for the Payment of the County Engineer's Salary Approval:** Murzynski reported the committee discussed the salary increase and agreed on a 2.5 percent increase for the Highway Engineer. Motion by Murzynski and second by Beason to approve Resolution 2023-11 appropriating funds for the payment of the County Engineer's salary with an increase of 2.5 percent. All in favor, motion carried. (See Resolution Book 20, page 228-229).

6. **Section 09-00133-00-BR – Walshville Tr. Bridge Replacement Engineering Services Approval:** Highway Engineer Greenwood reported construction is slated for Fiscal Year 2028. Motion by Murzynski and second by Loucks to approve the engineering agreement with WHKS for the Walshville Trail Bridge Replacement in the amount of \$99,675.13. ROLL CALL VOTE: Voting YES: Beason, Beck, Bergen, Donaldson, Folkerts, Jones, Loucks, Murzynski, Ritchie, Ruppert, Whitworth and Young. Voting NO: None. All in favor, motion carried. (See Resolution Book 20, page 230).
7. **Section 23-10121-00-BR E. 23rd Rd., Nokomis Twp., Bridge Replacement Engineering Services Approval:** Motion by Murzynski and second by Whitworth to approve the engineering agreement with WHKS for the East 23rd Road Nokomis Township Bridge Replacement in the amount of \$146,461. Ruppert reported this agreement is more expensive due to the proximity of the railroad. ROLL CALL VOTE: Voting YES: Beason, Beck, Bergen, Donaldson, Folkerts, Jones, Loucks, Murzynski, Ritchie, Ruppert, Whitworth and Young. Voting NO: None. All in favor, motion carried. (See Resolution Book 20, page 231).
8. **Section 23-18119-00-BR E. 22nd Rd., Witt Twp., Bridge Replacement Engineering Services Update:** Murzynski reported this item was tabled.
9. **Surplus Property Approval:** Murzynski reported the Highway Department received a new mower and tractor on Monday, and they need to establish their old mower as surplus property in order to be able to sell it. The old machine is a 2002 John Deere 6410 tractor with a 2001 Tiger boom mower and ditching head. Motion by Murzynski and second by Whitworth to declare the 2002 John Deere 6410 tractor and 2001 Tiger boom mower and ditching head as surplus property. All in favor, motion carried.
10. **Old Highway Dept. Update:** Nothing additional to report.
11. **Roof replacement on white block building Update:** Nothing additional to report..

APPROVAL OF THE COMMITTEE REPORTS & MINUTES: Motion by Folkerts and second by Beck to approve the five committee reports and minutes. All in favor, motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None.

SCHEDULE CHANGES: None.

APPOINTMENTS: Motion by Jones and second by Bergen to appoint William Kinney as Litchfield Airport Authority Commissioner to a five-year term, expiring November 2028. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Loucks and second by Whitworth to appoint Maria Clark to the Community Mental Health (708) Board for a five-year term, expiring November 2028. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Murzynski and second by Beck to appoint Cory Bilyeu to the Community Mental Health (708) Board for a five-year term, expiring November 2028. All in favor, motion carried.

PAY BILLS AND PAYROLL: Motion by Ritchie and second by Young to pay all approved bills and Payroll. ROLL CALL VOTE: Voting YES: Beason, Beck, Bergen,

**Donaldson, Folkerts, Jones, Loucks, Murzynski, Ritchie, Ruppert, Whitworth and Young.
Voting NO: None. All in favor, motion carried.**

ADJOURN: The next regular full board meeting will be on Tuesday, December 12th, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. in the County Board Room, Hillsboro, Illinois. Motion by Folkerts and second by Beason to adjourn the Full Board Meeting. All in favor, motion carried.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:02 p.m. Minutes respectfully recorded and submitted by Montgomery County Clerk and Recorder Sandy Leitheiser.

Montgomery County Board Minutes

For Tuesday, December 12th, 2023 – 5:30 PM

The following are minutes of a regular meeting of the Montgomery County Board held at 5:30 PM on Tuesday, December 12th, 2023, in the conference room of the Farm Bureau Building, Hillsboro, Illinois.

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

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

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

Members Absent: None.

Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was led by Bill Bergen.

Mileage and Per Diem Approval: Motion by Whitworth and second by Ritchie to approve the Mileage and Per Diem. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Voting yes: Beason, Beck, Bergen, Donaldson, Folkerts, Hughes, Jones, Loucks, Murzynski, Ritchie, Ruppert, Sneed, Whitworth and Young. Voting no: none. All in favor, motion carried.

Approval of Minutes of Previous County Board Meeting: Motion by Beason and second by Jones to approve the Minutes of the Previous Regular County Board Meeting held on Tuesday, November 14th, 2023. All in favor, motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- 1. Animal Control Report** -- Emily Gerl – No report submitted.
- 2. Circuit Clerk's Report** – Daniel Robbins – Report submitted. Robbins said remodeling at the Courthouse Complex is now underway.
- 3. Coroner's Report** – Randy Leetham – Report submitted. Leetham was present for questions.
- 4. County Clerk and Recorder's Report** – Report submitted. Leitheiser was present for questions.
- 5. Enterprise Zone Report** – Christine Daniels – Report submitted. Daniels was present for questions.
- 6. Environmental Protection Agency Report** – Christine Daniels – Report submitted. Daniels thanked the Highway Department for hosting the recent tire collection drive sponsored by the IL Environmental Protection Agency.
- 7. Health & TB Department Report** – Hugh Satterlee – Report submitted. Satterlee was present for questions.
- 8. Highway Department Report** – Cody Greenwood – Report submitted.
- 9. Information Services Report** – Curt Watkins – Report submitted.
- 10. Maintenance Superintendent Report** – Phil Ernst – Report submitted.
- 11. Probation Office Report** – Banee Ulrici – Report Submitted.
- 12. Public Defender's Report** – Erin Mattson — No report submitted.
- 13. ROE – Monthly, Quarterly & Annual Reports** -- Julie Wollerman – No report submitted.

14. **Sheriff's Report** – Rick Robbins – Report submitted. Robbins was present for questions. Robbins reported they went from 57 to 21 detainees in the county jail as a result of the new Illinois SAFE-T act law.
15. **SOA Report** – Kendra Niehaus – Report submitted. Niehaus was present for questions and shared information regarding the quadrennial reassessment notice recent mailing to all county property taxpayers. She explained based on Illinois Department of Revenue (IDOR) property sales ratio study, township factors are used to equalize assessments between properties and to avoid a state multiplier. She said IDOR uses sales information for properties sold in 2020, 2021 and 2022 (three years) for the sales ratio study. She also reviewed the IDOR formula for farm ground assessments.
16. **State's Attorney Report** – Andrew Affrunti – Report submitted. Affrunti was present for questions
17. **Treasurer's Report** – Nikki Lohman – Report submitted. Lohman was present for questions.
18. **V.A.C. Report** – Cassandra Hampton – Report submitted.

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

LIAISON REPORTS:

- **708 Board** – Murzynski said he had nothing new to report.
- **CEFS Board** -- Beason said he had nothing new to report.
- **911 Board** – Bergen said he had nothing new to report.
- **Health Department** -- Whitworth stated they will meet again in January, 2024.
- **IL Association of County Officials** -- Bergen said he had nothing new to report.
- **MCEDC** -- Hughes said their last meeting was held at the SCI center in Litchfield.
- **Planning Commission** -- Ritchie said he had nothing new to report.
- **Senior Citizens Board** -- Folkerts reported the Senior Citizens Board recently bought a new storage shed, and the parking lot re-pavement is also completed. Folkerts said a Senior Citizens Board luncheon meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 18th, 2023 at 1:30 pm, and he invited county board members to attend.
- **UCCI** – Ruppert said UCCI has been sending a lot of information via email recently.
- **U of I** – Beck said they will meet this coming Thursday evening.
- **WCDC** – Jones said he had nothing new to report.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Montgomery County citizen Larry Miller said he came to address his concern regarding the Animal Control policy recently passed by the County Board implementing a six month time limit on getting the animals out of the animal control facility before they are euthanized. Miller said he wished the board would reconsider their new policy because six months is not enough time to get some dogs out because no one wants them. Miller added Christian County doesn't have a set time for euthanizing animals in their animal control facility.

Montgomery County citizen Bill Schroeder stated he wants to be sure the County Board hasn't forgotten about the need to implement zoning in Montgomery County. He said that even though the CO2 pipeline project fell by the wayside for now, a similar project could be introduced again in the future, and zoning would provide more local control of land use. He suggested the County Board add the topic of zoning to the CO2 pipeline Ad-hoc Committee for their consideration.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

COORDINATING COMMITTEE: Given by County Board Chairman Doug Donaldson:

1. **Information Systems Report Update:** Chairman Donaldson reported the IT department has been busy working on the body camera project for the Sheriff's Department, and they will be implementing the new county website soon.
2. **EMA Report and Hazard Mitigation Plan Update:** Donaldson referred to EMA representative Dan Hough, who reported the next Hazard Mitigation Plan meeting will be held on January 24th, 2023, in the County Board Room of the Historic Courthouse in Hillsboro.
3. **West Central Development Council/Job Center Board/CEO Board Update:** Chairman Donaldson said they had an open house today, and their next meeting is scheduled for December 21st, 2023.
4. **CO2 Sequestration Ad Hoc Committee Update:** Chairman Donaldson said the next CO2 Sequestration Ad Hoc Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 18th, 2023 at 5:00 PM in the County Board Room of the Historic Courthouse in Hillsboro.
5. **Other Business:** Chairman Donaldson informed members the board packet information will not be projected on a screen in future meetings, and he asked board members to start bringing their chrome books to their meetings in January, 2024, to review their packet information for upcoming meetings. Donaldson stated members will still be given a long agenda on their desks for the full County Board meeting.

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

1. **Maintenance and Cleaning Issues and Report Update:** Sneed reported Maintenance Superintendent Phil Ernst shared his monthly report with the committee. Members discussed the lack of response from Schindler Elevator regarding the Historic Courthouse elevator that has been out of use since October 3rd, 2023. Chairman Donaldson reported he and Sheriff Robbins have been calling and emailing Schindler representatives but have not received any responses; and he recently contacted the Illinois Fire Marshal's office regarding our non-compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Donaldson said the last he heard, the elevator will be out of service until the middle of December, 2023.
Sneed said the Generator at the Jail has been installed and is in operation. He said they repaired the furnace at the Annex Building for the ROE office recently, and the compressor for the chiller is being shipped on December 28th, 2023. Sneed also said the Committee approved postponing the painting the fire escape and band around the Historic Courthouse due to paying for the generators from the FY 2024 budget.
2. **Contract for Cleaning Services from National Maintenance and Cleaning Inc. Approval:** Sneed reported he spoke with the owner of National Maintenance & Cleaning regarding cleaning issues at the Courthouse Complex, and a new cleaning staff person will begin employment in January, 2024. Sneed said the committee reviewed and approved recommending the new cleaning contract, which increases their rate by \$1.00 per hour to a total of \$22.50 per hour. **Motion by Sneed and second by Beason to approve to new contact with National Maintenance and Cleaning Inc. to clean the New Courthouse for \$22.50 per hour. All in favor, motion carried.**
3. **Interior Door Project for County Clerk's Office Update:** Clerk Leitheiser reported we are still waiting on the DCEO Energy Transition Grant Funding for this project. Leitheiser stated she and Coordinator Daniels were on a conference call with our DCEO Grant Administrator and requested a timeline of when we could expect the grant award agreement, but no date has been given.

4. **Repair/Replace Roof of Block Building at Highway Department Update:** Sneed reported Engineer Greenwood is drawing up the bid specifications.
5. **Bids for County Board Room Audiovisual Upgrades Update:** Sneed reported no bids have been received yet for this project. Circuit Clerk Robbins has submitted the grant for the County Board Room to receive audiovisual upgrades since this room is designated as a backup location for court services. Coordinator Daniels will follow up with IT manager Watkins to see if any project cost updates have been submitted and will pass them along to Robbins when they are available.
6. **Ameresco - Courthouse Complex Renovation Project Update:** Sneed reported work has begun with the renovation project in the Courthouse Complex to address safety and ADA issues. He said they began the project in the large Courtroom #3.
7. **Old Highway Department Property Update:** Sneed reported the committee discussed the bid submitted last month for the old Highway Department property on Seymour Avenue in Hillsboro. He said some committee members voiced their concern with the low bid and stated they felt the committee should look into what would be a good bid price for the 14 lots. He said the county's bid specifications had the stipulation that the bidder must provide a development plan along with their bid, and said we will possibly use the building for storage for the next few years. Sneed said he recently contacted the Hillsboro Township Assessor for average assessment for empty lots in Hillsboro city limits, and he will provide these results to next month's meeting. Chairman Donaldson clarified the buildings on the Seymour property will be taken down at the County's expense, so bids should not include demolition costs. Whitworth stated she understands there are some drainage issues in the middle of the property and asked if the county will take care of them before it is sold, and Sneed responded affirmatively.
8. **Other Business:** Sneed reported Health Department Director Satterlee came to the committee and said they don't have a use for the white block building at the new Highway Department site. Sneed said EMA Director Schott stated he needs office space and a climate controlled environment for storage of their equipment. He said Satterlee suggested revamping the brown building at the Highway Department for EMA as an option. Discussion took place about this building and included information that it would not be climate controlled for EMA storage as the ceiling had been taken out and the building has been gutted. He said the committee felt the Highway Department's brown building might be more suitable for EMA; however, they learned the trailers will not fit in the brown building. Sneed said the committee will continue to look at different options. Sneed also confirmed Kinney Contractors have corrected the issue with the sidewalk at the ADA entrance on the west side of the Historic Courthouse.

DEVELOPMENT & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Chairman Chad Ruppert:

1. **Employee Health Insurance and Monthly HRA Report Update:** Ruppert said the committee reviewed the monthly HRA report prepared by Treasurer Lohman.
2. **MCEDC Update:** Ruppert called upon MCEDC Executive Director Bill Montgomery, who reported they met recently at the new SCI Center in Litchfield and also toured the new trade school facility. Montgomery also reported Illini Web Services was hired to update the MCEDC Website, and the website's new launch date is set for March 2024.
3. **Animal Control Facility Update:** Ruppert reported animal intake for November was 8 cats and currently there are 13 cats and 12 dogs at the facility. Donaldson reported he attended the Christmas pet photo and adoption event held at the facility this past Sunday,

and stated two dogs were adopted. Ruppert also reported they are working on additional security at the Animal Control facility and possibly installing a buzzer at the door.

4. **Animal Control Policy Update:** Ruppert reported the he is working on a draft of the Animal Control policy Jones shared with the committee.
5. **Nextlink Broadband Internet Update:** Ruppert said the committee discussed a recent BEAD grant webinar. MCEDC representative Montgomery asked if we still need to pursue BEAD grant money since we are working with Nextlink who already received federal RDOF grant funding. Clerk Leitheiser replied these are two different grants and the county needs to receive as much rural broadband internet funding as possible. She suggested since MCEDC is a 501 C-3 not-for-profit corporation, they can pursue BEAD grant funding for Montgomery County.
6. **Enterprise Zone Update:** Ruppert asked Coordinator Daniels to explain the reported new legislation regarding the criteria for the maximum square miles allowed in an Enterprise Zone. Daniels said she received recent confirmation from State's Attorney Affrunti that the new legislation pertains to Montgomery County and we can now have 20 square miles instead of 15 miles in our Enterprise Zone because we have more than four units of Government in our current Enterprise Zone. She stated the legislation allows any Zone with four or more Counties or Units of Government to go up to 20 square miles within its boundaries. Chairman Donaldson stated he would like to schedule a Mayor's meeting in early 2024 to inform the Enterprise Zone Mayors of the additional territory under this new law.
7. **Wind and Solar Legislation SB 1699 Update:** Ruppert reported Wind Farm legislation SB 1699 passed both the Illinois House and Senate and was on the Governor's desk for signature. UKA North America LLC, Community Relations Specialist Maggie Poteau was in attendance at the meeting and confirmed the bill was signed by the Governor this past Friday. State's Attorney Affrunti said he looked at the bill briefly and initially feels it shouldn't have an effect on our current ordinance, but he will go over it with more detail and report his findings to the committee. Ms. Poteau confirmed they are hoping to submit their Wind Farm application to the County Board in January of 2024 and hope to complete their project by November of 2025.
8. **Personnel Manual Amendments Update:** Ruppert stated the committee will be addressing the FMLA policy brought to the committee's attention by Sheriff Robbins. Chairman Donaldson said he reached out to Bond, Fayette, Macoupin and Christian Counties and their policy is the same as ours.
9. **Union Negotiations with Local 1084 (Correctional Officers and Telecommunicators) Approval:** Chairman Donaldson said an executive session will be needed to discuss this contract.
10. **Executive Session for Personnel/Litigation/Property Acquisition Approval:** Motion by Ruppert and second by Hughes to enter into executive session to discuss a collective bargaining agreement with Union Local 1084 representing the Correctional Officers and Telecommunicators. All in favor, motion carried.
EXECUTIVE SESSION WAS HELD.
Motion by Beason and second by Whitworth to come out of executive session. All in favor, motion carried.
11. **Collective Bargaining Agreement with Local 1084 (Correctional Officers) Update/Approval:** Motion by Ruppert and second by Jones to approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement with Local 1084 (Correctional Officers) pending review of the State's Attorney. All in favor, motion carried.

- 12. Collective Bargaining Agreement with Local 1084 (Telecommunicators) Update/Approval:** Motion by Ruppert and second by Bergen to approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement with Local 1084 (Telecommunicators) pending review of the State's Attorney. All in favor, motion carried.

FINANCE & BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Chairman Andy Ritchie:

- 1. SOA Report Update:** Ritchie said Supervisor of Assessments Niehaus shared her monthly report earlier in the meeting.
- 2. Intergovernmental Agreement between Montgomery County and the Multi-Township Assessment District of Audubon-Nokomis Approval:** Ritchie reported the County needs to sign an Intergovernmental Agreement so we can do the assessment duties for Audubon-Nokomis Township. **Motion by Ritchie and second by Folkerts to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement between Montgomery County and the Multi-Township Assessment District of Audubon-Nokomis. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 20, pages 232-233).**
- 3. Intergovernmental Agreement between Montgomery County and the Multi-Township Assessment District of Butler Grove-Irving-Rountree Approval:** Ritchie stated we need this Intergovernmental agreement to perform services for the MTA District of Butler Grove-Irving-Rountree Districts. **Motion by Ritchie and second by Hughes to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement between Montgomery County and the Multi-Township Assessment District of Butler Grove-Irving-Rountree. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 20, pages 234-235).**
- 4. Capital Improvement Fund Reports Update:** Ritchie said the committee reviewed the Treasurer's Capital Improvement Fund reports. We received \$251,891 in coal revenue for last month and we have a balance of \$1,474,557.18.
- 5. ARPA Ordinance #23-58 for the Second Payment to Bellwether in the amount of \$6,000 for the FY 2024 Budget Process Work Approval:** Ritchie said the committee reviewed the ordinance prepared by Treasurer Lohman to pay Bellwether for the second installment of the work they performed on the FY 2024 Budget Process. **Motion by Ritchie and second by Young to approve the ARPA Ordinance for the Second Payment to Bellwether in the amount of \$6,000 for the FY 2024 Budget Process Work. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 20, page 236).**
- 6. ARPA Ordinance #23-59 Authorizing the Transfer of ARPA Funds to the General Fund #100 for the FY 2023 Budget Approval:** Ritchie reported we need to transfer ARPA funds to the General Funds to balance the FY 2023 balance. **Motion by Ritchie and second by Young to approve the ARPA Ordinance Authorizing the Transfer of \$231,665 in ARPA Funds to the General Fund #100 for the FY 2023 Budget. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 20, page 237).**
- 7. ARPA Ordinance #23-60 Authorizing the Transfer for ARPA Funds to the Animal Control Fund #365 for the FY 2023 Budget Approval:** Ritchie reported the committee discussed transferring ARPA money to Animal Control to cover the shortfall for FY 2023 instead of using Vanek Estate money. **Motion by Ritchie and second by Jones to approve the ARPA Ordinance Authorizing the Transfer for ARPA Funds in the amount of \$156,874.30 to the Animal Control Fund #365 for the FY 2023 Budget. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 20, page 238).**

ROADS & BRIDGES COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Chairman Ethan Murzynski:

1. **Section 15-00138-00-BR Red Ball Trail Bridge Update:** Murzynski reported the Red Ball Trail Bridge was officially opened last week. He said grass seeding and a final punch list will take place next spring to close out the project.
2. **Section 23-18119-00-BR, East 22nd Road, Witt Township Bridge Replacement Engineering Services Approval:** Murzynski reported the committee recommended the Engineering services agreement with Hurst-Rosche Engineers for the bridge in Witt Township on East 22nd Road in the amount of \$40,000. **Motion by Murzynski and second by Ruppert to approve the Engineering Services Agreement from Hurst-Rosche Engineers for the Witt Township Bridge Replacement in the amount of \$40,000. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 20, pages 239-248).**
3. **Resolution 2024-01, 2024 County MFT Resolution Approval:** Murzynski stated the committee discussed and approved recommending the MFT Resolution in the amount of \$1.2 million which was the same as last year. **Motion by Murzynski and second by Whitworth to approve Resolution 2024-01, the 2024 County MFT Resolution in the amount of \$1.2 million. ROLL CALL VOTE: Voting yes: Beason, Beck, Bergen, Donaldson, Folkerts, Hughes, Jones, Loucks, Murzynski, Ritchie, Ruppert, Sneed, Whitworth and Young. Voting no: none. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 20, page 249).**
4. **Resolution #2024-02 to Appropriate Funds from the County Aid to Bridge Fund 235 with Witt Township Road District 50% / 50% split Approval:** Murzynski reported the committee discussed and approved recommending resolution #2024-02 to appropriate funds from the County Aid to Bridge Fund 235 with Witt Township Road District for a 50% / 50% split. This is a 36" pipe replacement on East 21st Road in Witt Township and the Counties portion is \$4,500. **Motion by Murzynski and second by Young to approve Resolution #2024-02 to Appropriate Funds from the County Aid to Bridge Fund 235 with Witt Township Road District for a 50% / 50% split, and Montgomery County's share is \$4,500. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 20, pages 250-251).**

APPROVAL OF THE COMMITTEE REPORTS & MINUTES:

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Donaldson announced the CO2 Ad Hoc Committee will meet on Monday, December 18th, 2023 at 5:00 pm in the County Board Room of the Historic Courthouse. Jones asked who is monitoring the property in Audubon Township purchased by the pipeline for their test well, and Donaldson pledged to find this information and report it back to the board.

SCHEDULE CHANGES: none

APPOINTMENTS: Motion by Donaldson and second by Young to reappoint Don Huber and Mandy Sebeschak to the ETSB Board for a three year term to expire 1/1/27. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Young and second by Beck to reappoint Larry Ziegler for a three year term for the Zanesville #3, County Zone #15 Drainage District ending November 2026. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Jones and second by Beck to reappoint Randal Riemann for a three year term, for the Pitman-Zanesville #2, County Zone #33 Drainage District ending November 2026. All in favor, motion carried.

PAY BILLS AND PAYROLL:

Motion by Hughes and second by Folkerts to pay all approved bills and Payroll. ROLL CALL VOTE: Voting yes: Beason, Beck, Bergen, Donaldson, Folkerts, Hughes, Jones, Loucks, Murzynski, Ritchie, Ruppert, Sneed, Whitworth and Young. Voting no: none. All in favor, motion carried.

ADJOURN: Chairman Donaldson thanked everyone for their work and wished everyone a Merry Christmas. He announced the next regular full board meeting will be on Tuesday, January 9th, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. in the County Board Room, Hillsboro, Illinois. **Motion by Hughes and second by Ritchie to adjourn the Full Board Meeting. All in favor, motion carried.**

Meeting Adjourned at 7:03 pm. Minutes respectfully recorded and submitted by Montgomery County Clerk and Recorder Sandy Leitheiser.