

Montgomery County Board
Energy Grant Ad Hoc Committee Minutes
County Board Room, 2nd Floor, Historic Courthouse
#1 Courthouse Square, Hillsboro, IL 62049

Date: Wednesday, June 12th, 2024

Time: 6:00 pm - County Board Room

Members Present: Patty Whitworth, Chad Ruppert, Doug Donaldson, Mark Hughes, Sandy Leitheiser, Dan Hough

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Dan Rogers, Daniel Robbins, Christine Daniels and Mike Plunkett of County Board Administration

The committee met to discuss the following:

1. **Public Comments:** None
2. **2024 DCEO Energy Transition Community Grant Update/Approval:** Plunkett reported County Board Administration learned that Montgomery County was approved for \$1,351,928. Chairman Donaldson added that projects totaling \$4,488,342 had been requested.
3. **Recommend Projects to be Included in 2024 Phase of the Energy Grant Application Update/Approval:** After Chairman Donaldson suggested eliminating nearly \$3 million in grant requests that he believed may not qualify, the committee also eliminated projects that have already been completed and those that may have a another funding source. The committee then discussed items that could be deferred to next year's round of grant funding, and changed the amounts on some projects to meet the grant budget. The list is tentative and subject to DCEO approval. Rogers said he will email County Board Administration to request information for grant narratives from the various department heads, and County Board Administration will collect and compile that information from departments requesting funding. The grant application is due by the end of July.
4. **Other Business:** The committee set a tentative meeting date of 6 p.m. Wednesday, June 26th, in the County Board Room at the Historic Courthouse in Hillsboro if necessary; Rogers will let County Board Admin know if the meeting is required.

Motion to adjourn by Hughes and second by Ruppert. All in favor, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 6:54 p.m. The summaries of minutes were respectfully submitted by acting secretary Christine Daniels, as deputized by Montgomery County Clerk/Recorder Sandy Leitheiser.

Montgomery County Board
Coordinating Committee Meeting Minutes
County Board Room, 2nd Floor, Historic Courthouse
#1 Courthouse Sq. Hillsboro, IL 62049

Date: Thursday, June 27th, 2024

Time: 8:30 AM – County Board Room

Roll Call - Members Present: Doug Donaldson, Ethan Murzynski, Andy Ritchie, Chad Ruppert, Bob Sneed and Evan Young

Members Absent: None

Others Present: EMA Director Kevin Schott, Engineer Cody Greenwood, Supervisor of Assessments Kendra Niehaus, County Clerk Sandy Leitheiser, Circuit Clerk Dan Robbins, Treasurer Nikki Lohman, Sheriff Rick Robbins, IS Director Curt Watkins, State's Attorney Andrew Affrunti, Hillsboro Community Planner Sarah McConnell, Christine Daniels and Mike Plunkett from County Board Administration

The committee met today to discuss the following:

Public Comments: None

Coordinating Committee: Doug Donaldson, Board Chairman

1. **Information Systems Report Update/Approval:** Curt Watkins reported downtown county buildings are hooked up to the redundant fiber ring; the HVFD has yet to be. He has been prepping for court grant work and working the County Clerk's office. He recommended the county use IS contingency funds for a \$95,000 phone system upgrade and hopefully reimburse the fund with the DCEO Energy Transition grant.
2. **EMA Report Update/Approval:** Kevin Schott reported the Small Business Administration is in Litchfield taking applications for low-interest long-term loans for those severely impacted by the rain event emergency.
3. **West Central Development Council/Job Center Board/CEO Board Update/Approval:** Chairman Donaldson reported a meeting is set for July 18th.
4. **Labor Disaster Relief Team MOU Update/Approval:** Director Schott recommended the county board adopt the Memorandum of Understanding.
5. **DCEO Energy Transition Grant Ad Hoc Committee Meeting Update/Approval:** The ad hoc committee is continuing to meet in preparation for the July 31st grant application deadline.
6. **Long Term Recovery Meeting (COAD) Update/Approval:** Plunkett reported the next step is for MCEDC to appoint a committee to receive tax-exempt donation and distribute funds in case of an emergency. That discussion will continue.
7. **Illinois Regional Archives Depository (IRAD) System Update/Approval:** Treasurer Lohman reported learning about IRAD, a department of the State Archives that will provide micro-filming and scanning at no cost. Plunkett said the County Board Administration office is interested in participating, and Sheriff Robbins said his office is also interested. County Clerk Leitheiser said her records are used daily and she does not want them taken off site. Chairman Donaldson asked County Board Administration to continue to investigate.
8. **Other Business:** Volunteers from the Village of Wenonah who have raised nearly \$7,000 for a veterans memorial have asked the county for assistance to complete the job. Chairman Donaldson passed their information on to Pattern Energy for a possible monetary donation and to the Laborers Local for a possible in-kind donation.

Development & Personnel Committee: Chad Ruppert, Chairman

1. **Employee Health Insurance and Monthly HRA Report Update/Approval:** The committee will review and discuss.
2. **Animal Control Municipal Contract Update/Approval:** Changes made last month will be presented at the next Mayors Meeting.
3. **Animal Control Municipal Billing Update/Approval:** The committee will discuss.
4. **Animal Control Policy Update/Approval:** The committee will continue to discuss.

5. **Wind & Solar Permit Fees Update/Approval:** Committee Chair Ruppert said he would like his committee to review data collected by County Board Administration and recommend a new permit fee structure.
6. **Bushue HR Update/Approval:** The next meeting has yet to be scheduled.
9. **DCEO Energy Transition Grant Update/Approval:** The ad hoc committee is continuing to meet in preparation for the July 31st grant application deadline.
7. **DCEO Energy Transition Grant Small Business Start-Up Incentive Update/Approval:** The committee will review two pending grant applications and make a recommendation to the County Board.
8. **Next Sun 22c Solar Update/Approval:** The Public Hearing will reconvene at 5:30 p.m. Monday, July 1st. Committee Chair Ruppert said he believes issues with non-participating neighbors have been resolved.
9. **Plains Solar Update/Approval:** The Public Hearing will begin at 6:00 p.m. Monday, July 1st.
10. **Other Business:** Committee Chair Ruppert said he would like the Rules Committee to examine board member pay for solar and wind hearings, and he will be meeting with Treasurer Lohman to discuss Animal Control expenses. Vice Chairman Young asked about a meeting with a wind energy company; Chairman Donaldson said Pattern Energy hosted local labor and government officials for an event in January where all County Board members were invited, and again on June 26th, to which Development & Personnel Committee members were invited.

Buildings and Grounds: Bob Sneed, Chairman

1. **Maintenance and Cleaning Issues and Report Update/Approval:** The committee will review and discuss.
2. **DAR Traveling Display Request Aug. 3-9 Update/Approval:** The committee will discuss the request.
3. **Historic Courthouse Historical Marker Update/Approval:** Jeff Dunn will attend the committee meeting with Historic Marker pictures and text samples.
4. **New Courthouse Roof Replacement Bid Opening Update/Approval:** The committee will open and review bids.
5. **Surplus Old Jail Generator Bid Opening Update/Approval:** The committee will open and review bids.
6. **Interior Door Project for County Clerk's Office Update/Approval:** County Clerk Leitheiser reported work began on Tuesday, June 25th.
7. **County Board Room Tech Grant Update/Approval:** Prerequisite electric work is complete.
8. **Other Business:** Committee Chair Sneed reminded the 44% electric rate increase will have an impact on next year's budget.

Roads and Bridges Committee: Ethan Murzynski, Chairman

1. **UKA Virden Wind Road Use Agreement Update/Approval:** The committee will continue to review.
2. **Coffeen Power Station Coal Ash Impoundment Closure Update/Approval:** Plunkett reported that Vistra has asked the County Board to let IEPA know it prefers a Coal Ash Impoundment at the former Coffeen Power State be closed in place rather by removal, which would require some 46,000 truckloads. The committee will review and discuss.

Finance and Budget Committee: Andy Ritchie, Chairman

1. **SOA Report Update/Approval:** The committee will review and discuss.
2. **Capital Improvement & Coal Fund Reports Update/Approval:** The committee will review and discuss.
3. **Commission Election Judges Update/Approval:** County Clerk Leitheiser will present a list of potential election judges for approval.
4. **Audit Presentation Update/Approval:** Treasurer Lohman said she continues to be in communication with the auditor.
5. **State's Attorney Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) Update/Approval:** Treasurer Lohman reported a state 4.7% Cost of Living Adjustment will apply to the State's Attorney salary beginning July 1, and subsequently to the Public Defender and Sheriff.
6. **Pre-Approved Vendor List Update/Approval:** The committee will review recommended changes.
7. **FY 2025 Budget Process Update/Approval:** Treasurer Lohman continues to work with Bellwether.
8. **Declare Supervisor of Assessments F-250 Surplus Update/Approval:** The committee will review and consider a recommendation.

9. **Other Business:** Treasurer Lohman said the Farmersville-Waggoner Area Ambulance District has already requested a levy that will require a Truth-In-Taxation Hearing, and she anticipates the Nokomis-Witt Area Ambulance District will do the same. There may be other similar requests from the other county special districts or special service areas.

Appointments for Full Board meeting:

1. **Bois D' Arc King #3 Drainage District Board – Bryan Fesser, Ed Goebel and Montgomery Elvidge**

Motion to adjourn by Murzynski and second by Sneed. All in favor, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 10:05 a.m. The summaries of minutes were respectfully submitted by acting secretary Mike Plunkett, as deputized by Montgomery County Clerk/Recorder Sandy Leitheiser.

Montgomery County Board

Development & Personnel Committee Meeting Minutes

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

Date: Monday, July 1st, 2024

Time: 5:00 PM – County Board Room

Roll Call - Members Present: Chad Ruppert, Bill Bergen, Russell Beason, Mark Hughes, Jeremy Jones and Doug Donaldson

Members Absent: None

Others Present: County Clerk Sandy Leitheiser, Circuit Clerk Daniel Robbins, State's Attorney Andrew Affrunti, Sheriff Rick Robbins, Undersheriff Tyson Holshouser, Animal Control Warden Emily Gerl, County Board Member Ken Folkerts, MCEDC Executive Director Bill Montgomery, Hillsboro Community Planner Sarah McConnell, Jeremy Connor of Hurst-Rosche, Christine Daniels and Mike Plunkett of County Board Administration.

The committee met today to discuss the following:

1. **Public Comment:** None
2. **Employee Health Insurance and Monthly HRA Report Update/Approval:** A report and presentation is scheduled for next month.
3. **Animal Control Municipal Billing Update/Approval:** Chairman Donaldson said he will discuss at the next Mayors Meeting. Animal Control Warden Gerl said she is meeting with the Irving Village Board on Tuesday, July 9th.
4. **Animal Control Policy Update/Approval:** The committee discussed correspondence from Fillmore Mayor Rexdon Boliard and Ruppert stated they will continue to work on the policy. Gerl reported 310 animals taken in to date and reviewed other stats on her report. Gerl showed the committee a “no kill” shelter plaque the facility received based on euthanasia rate stats.
5. **Wind & Solar Permit Fees Update/Approval:** The committee reviewed information from UCCI compiled by County Board Administration from 25 counties throughout the state. Currently, Montgomery County's ordinances require a \$2,500 fee for a solar siting permit and \$50,000 fee for a wind siting permit. Committee Chair Ruppert said he favored a fee structure based on “per megawatt” with a fee cap. **Motion by Jones and second by Bergen to recommend changing language in both the county Solar Ordinance and Wind Ordinance to reflect a non-refundable application fee equal to \$2,500 per megawatt of proposed nameplate capacity up to a maximum fee of \$250,000. All in favor, motion carried.**
6. **Bushue HR Update/Approval:** Committee Chair Ruppert asked County Board Administration to schedule a meeting for all office-holders to attend after the next Coordinating Committee meeting.
7. **DCEO Energy Transition Grant Small Business Start-Up Incentive Update/Approval:** Committee Chair Ruppert would like the committee to consider all applications received to date at their next meeting.
8. **Other Business:** None

Motion to pay the bills by Bergen and second by Hughes. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion to Adjourn by Hughes and second by Beason. All in favor, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 5:30 pm. The summaries of minutes were respectfully submitted by acting secretary Mike Plunkett, as deputized by Montgomery County Clerk/Recorder Sandy Leitheiser.

**Montgomery County Board
Development & Personnel Committee
Hearing Minutes
County Board Room, 2nd Floor, Historic Courthouse
#1 Courthouse Square, Hillsboro, IL 62049**

Date: Monday, June 3rd, 2024

Time: 6:40PM

Roll Call - Members Present: Chad Ruppert, Bill Bergen, Russell Beason, Mark Hughes, Jeremy Jones

Members Absent: Doug Donaldson

Others Present: State Representative Wayne Rosenthal, County Board members Ken Folkerts and Connie Beck, Christine Daniels and Mike Plunkett of County Board Administration, Jeremy Connor of Hurst-Rosche, Developer Alex Farkes, Engineer Sean Hickey and Attorney Ben Jacobi of 22c.

1. **Pledge of Allegiance:** Led by Committee Chair Chad Ruppert
2. **Identification of North Sun 22c Application and Project Overview:** Committee Chair Ruppert described the purpose of the hearing, which was to discuss the proposed solar project application for North Sun LLC submitted by 22c Development, LLC, as outlined in the Montgomery County Solar Energy Farm and Solar Gardens Installations in Unincorporated Montgomery County, Illinois Ordinance. The project application is to install an up-to-10 MW commercial solar energy facility on parcel 06-14-400-003 bound to the east by North Road and bound to the south by N. 21st Avenue. A verbatim record was taken by a court reporter; transcripts are available at the County Board Administration office.
3. **Hearing Rules and Procedures Update/Approval:** Committee Chair Ruppert detailed rules and procedures.
4. **Presentation by Applicant:** Applicant Alex Farkes, Attorney Ben Jacobi, and Engineer Sean Hickey described the scope of the community solar project that will feed into an Ameren line. Farkes said that after discussion with neighbors, he would move the project to 200-foot setbacks from property lines instead of the ordinance-required 50-feet.
5. **Questions for Applicant:** In addition to members of the Committee, questions were asked by Tim Marten, Mark Schweizer, Dionne Manzer, Dan Mulch, Ken Manzer, and Jeremy Connor.
6. **Presentation by Independent Consultants for Montgomery County:** None
7. **Public Comment:** Ken Manzer addressed many concerns, including severe weather and basement drains, and said he believes that being surrounded on three sides by the solar project would diminish his enjoyment of his property. Dan Mulch referenced noise and glare, submitted photos of the application site from his property, invited the Committee to the site, and asked them to take time to review new information.
8. **Receipt of Written Comments Regarding the Application:** Committee Chair Ruppert accepted three letters into the record, one from the Wood Family Partnership, one from Larry Wernsing of Raymond, and one from Robert Mulch Sr.
9. **Closing Comments by Applicant:** None

10. Set Meeting Date for Deliberation and Vote to Recommend/Deny Application Update/Approval:

The meeting was recessed at 9:26 p.m. until 5:30 p.m. Monday, July 1st 2024.

Committee Chair Ruppert reconvened the meeting at 5:30 p.m. Monday, July 1st, with Chard Ruppert, Bill Bergen, Russell Beason, Mark Hughes and Jeremy Jones present. Neighbor agreements between the project representative and the Manzlers and Mulches were entered into the record, as well as letters from the Manzlers and Mulches expressing no opposition to the project. A new project map was also entered into the record that indicated a 100-foot setback to the north and west and a 200-foot setback from Manzer property lines. Mulch indicated that North Sun has agreed to relocate components to mitigate any potential noise and has submitted a glare study. Committee Chair Ruppert questioned the impact of the new project location on existing drainage district tiles. Mulch, who is also a Drainage District Commissioner, said the district has no agreement yet. Committee Chair Ruppert suggested a condition to the siting permit be an agreement with the Raymond-Rountree Drainage District regarding the existing tile main. Committee Chair Ruppert then closed testimony. **Motion by Hughes and second by Beason to recommend approval of a siting permit for North Sun on the condition that the project reach an agreement over existing tile main with the Raymond-Rountree Drainage District. ROLL CALL: Voting yes: Bergen, Beason, Hughes, Jones, Ruppert. All in favor, motion carried.**

11. Adjournment Update/Approval: Motion by Hughes and second by Bergen to adjourn. All in favor, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 6:00 pm. The summaries of minutes were respectfully submitted by acting secretary Mike Plunkett, as deputized by Montgomery County Clerk/Recorder Sandy Leitheiser.

Montgomery County Board
Buildings & Grounds Committee Meeting Minutes
County Board Room, 2nd Floor, Historic Courthouse
#1 Courthouse Square, Hillsboro, IL 62049

Date: Tuesday, July 2nd, 2024

Time: 8:30 AM – County Board Room

Roll Call - Members Present: Bob Sneed, Connie Beck, Russell Beason, Ken Folkerts, and Doug Donaldson

Members Absent: Mark Hughes

Others Present: Supervisor of Assessments Kendra Niehaus, Circuit Clerk Daniel Robbins, Maintenance Director Phil Ernst, Christine Daniels and Mike Plunkett of County Board Administration

The committee met today to discuss the following:

1. **Public Comments:** None
2. **Maintenance and Cleaning Issues and Report Update/Approval:** Maintenance Director Ernst highlighted many of the 52 items on his monthly report. He stated weed killer has not been used around the Historic Courthouse cannon
3. **DAR Traveling Display Request Aug. 3-9 Update/Approval:** Committee Chair Sneed said the Christiana Tillson Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) had requested permission to display their Revolutionary War Veterans display on the Historic Courthouse lawn for Old Settlers. **Motion by Beason and second by Beck to allow the Christiana Tillson DAR Chapter to place a Revolutionary War Veteran display on the Historic Courthouse lawn August 3rd through August 9th. All in favor, motion carried.**
4. **Historic Courthouse Historical Marker Update/Approval:** Jeff Dunn was unable to attend and asked to be placed on the August committee agenda. Through email, he complimented the Historic Courthouse lawn and offered to provide bricks from his building that match the Historic Courthouse for the county to use as spares. Plunkett will put him in touch with Maintenance Director Ernst.
5. **New Courthouse Roof Replacement Bid Opening Update/Approval:** Committee Chair Sneed began the discussion by explaining insurance adjusters determined the county has no claim for the Courts Complex roof. He then opened four bids: C&A Restoration \$126,345.89 plus \$50/sheet for any necessary sheeting replacement, Central Roofing \$108,380 plus \$3.65/square foot for sheeting, Young's Roofing \$188,880 plus \$80/sheet, and HD Exteriors \$128,576.31 with no bid for sheeting. **Motion by Beason and second by Beck to recommend awarding the bid of \$126,345.89 to C&A Restoration of Rockford. Motion withdrawn.** During discussion before the motion was withdrawn, Sales Manager Aaron Bankes of C&A Restoration was present and told the committee his bid exceeded specs with a 50-year warranty on material and labor, and his bid would repair what he considered an error in installation where the current shingles meet the flat rubber roof. When Committee Chair Sneed asked Bankes if his bid met the prevailing wage requirement, the bidder asked what the term "prevailing wage" referred to. After a telephone call to State's Attorney Andrew Affrunti, Chairman Donaldson said the county is obligated to go with the low bid if it meets specs. Committee Chair Sneed said the low bid does meet specs, including where the shingles meet the flat rubber roof. Chairman Donaldson voted as an ex-officio member of the committee. **Motion by Folkerts and second by Beason to recommend awarding the low bid of \$108,380 to Central Roofing of Mattoon. ROLL CALL: Voting yes: Folkerts, Sneed, Donaldson. Voting no: Beck, Beason. Motion carried 3-2.**
6. **Surplus Old Jail Generator Bid Opening Update/Approval:** Committee Chair Sneed opened two bids, one from the Village of Taylor Springs for \$1,550 and the second from Brad Niemann for \$1,700.

Motion by Beason and second by Folkerts to sell the surplus old jail generator to Brad Niemann for \$1,700. All in favor, motion carried.

7. **Interior Door Project for County Clerk's Office Update/Approval:** Work is progressing.
8. **County Board Room Tech Grant Update/Approval:** Electric work has been completed on schedule.
9. **Other Business:** Circuit Clerk Robbins asked if furniture from the Courts Complex that has been replaced can be declared surplus.

Motion to pay the bills by Beason and second by Beck. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion to Adjourn by Beason and second by Folkerts. All in favor, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 10:03 am. The summaries of minutes were respectfully submitted by acting secretary Mike Plunkett, as Deputized by Montgomery County Clerk/Recorder Sandy Leitheiser.

Montgomery County Board

Roads & Bridges Committee Meeting Agenda

Conference Room, County Highway Dept.
11159 IL Rte 185, Hillsboro, IL 62049

Date: Wednesday, July 3rd, 2024

Time: 8:30 AM – County Highway Department

Members present: Ethan Murzynski, Bill Bergen, David Loucks, Doug Donaldson

Members Absent: Patty Whitworth, Chad Ruppert

Other Present: County Engineer Cody Greenwood, Mike Plunkett from County Board Administration

The committee met today to discuss the following:

Roads & Bridges Committee:

1. **Public Comments:** None
2. **UKA Virden Wind Road Use Agreement Update/Approval:** Engineer Greenwood reported on a recent conference call with UKA and their consultant. The Virden Wind developer has not finalized the construction haul route yet, and Greenwood needs to study the final haul route before determining pre-construction road needs.
3. **Vistra Coal Ash Impoundment Closure Plan Update/Approval:** The committee discussed a request from Vistra for the county to let the Illinois EPA know if it prefers an impoundment structure at Coffeen Power Station be closed in place rather than closed by removal. Engineer Greenwood said closure by removal will result in over 46,000 truckloads of material transported to a local landfill, averaging out to a truckload every two minutes. **Motion by Bergen and second by Loucks to recommend the county express to IEPA its opinion that an impoundment structure at Coffeen Power Station be closed in place. All in favor, motion carried.**
4. **Walshville Bypass Road Update/Approval:** Engineer Greenwood reported that a meeting date will be set at a location in Walshville, likely at Village Hall, to discuss the proposed bypass with the public. He anticipates the meeting will be within the next few months.
5. **Surplus Equipment Update/Approval:** Engineer Greenwood asked to declare two Bush Hog rotary cutters as surplus property so they can be sold. Greenwood said the equipment has not been used since it was replaced by John Deere bat wing cutters. **Motion by Loucks and second by Bergen to recommend declaring a 2021 and a 2022 Bush Hog rotary cutter as surplus property. All in favor, motion carried.**
6. **Other Items:** Chairman Donaldson reported that seismic testing at the Route 185 sink hole site revealed no void under the highway.

Motion by Loucks and second by Bergen to Pay Bills. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Bergen and second by Loucks to adjourn the meeting. All in favor, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:02 a.m. Minutes respectfully submitted by acting secretary Mike Plunkett as deputized by the Montgomery County Clerk and Recorder Sandy Leitheiser.

Montgomery County Board
Energy Grant Ad Hoc Committee Agenda
County Board Room, 2nd Floor, Historic Courthouse
#1 Courthouse Square, Hillsboro, IL 62049

Date: Wednesday, July 3rd, 2024

Time: 6:00 pm - County Board Room

Members Present: Doug Donaldson, Sandy Leitheiser, Dan Hough

Members Absent: Patty Whitworth, Chad Ruppert, Mark Hughes

Others Present: Dan Rogers, Christine Daniels and Mike Plunkett from County Board Administration

A quorum was not present to conduct business. County Board Chairman Doug Donaldson chaired the meeting in the absence of Committee Chair Patty Whitworth. The committee met to discuss the following:

1. **Public Comments:** None

2. **2024 DCEO Energy Transition Community Grant Update/Approval:** Plunkett advised the committee due to a math error, the committee still had \$126,549 grant funds to allocate in the application. The committee discussed using the Illinois Regional Archives Depository (IRAD) services for scanning county records. Leitheiser said that is not an option for her land records because she would have to relinquish the originals, and had concerns about the records' security. Chairman Donaldson suggested adding \$50,000 to the Information Services phone system upgrade to complete the project, add \$11,800 for the maintenance request to repair and paint the band around the Historic Courthouse, and increasing the EMA request for a training area and safe room at the block building at the highway department to \$144,749. The committee concurred.

3. **Other Business:** None

Meeting adjourned at 6:32 p.m. The summaries of minutes were respectfully submitted by acting secretary Mike Plunkett, as deputized by Montgomery County Clerk/Recorder Sandy Leitheiser.

Montgomery County Board

Finance & Budget Committee Meeting Agenda

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

Date: Friday, July 5th, 2024

Time: 8:33 AM – County Board Room

Roll Call - Members Present: Connie Beck, Ken Folkerts, David Loucks, Evan Young

Members Absent: Andy Ritchie, Patty Whitworth and Doug Donaldson

Others Present: Treasurer Nikki Lohman, County Clerk Sandy Leitheiser, Sheriff Rick Robbins, Undersheriff Tyson Holshouser, Supervisor of Assessments Kendra Niehaus, Christine Daniels and Mike Plunkett of County Board Administration

The committee met today to discuss the following:

1. **Public Comment:** None
2. **SOA Report Update/Approval:** Supervisor of Assessments Niehaus noted her department is spending 2-3 days per week in field work. Wooded acres, she added, are being reassessed as they are sold because wooded acres sold after 2007 are no longer assessable as farmland. She is also looking into the assessment status of the Hillsboro Country Club and structures at the Montgomery County Fairgrounds.
3. **Capital Improvement & Coal Fund Reports Update/Approval:** Treasurer Lohman reported after a \$98,671 May coal royalty payment, the coal fund has a \$9.4 million total fund balance.
4. **Commission Election Judges Update/Approval:** County Clerk Leitheiser presented a list of potential Election Judges as provided by party chairs. If the list is approved by the full board, the County Clerk will publish a legal notice on July 11th announcing the date, time and location for the court commission approval of the list. **Motion by Young and second by Loucks to recommend commission of list of Election Judges. All in favor, motion carried.**
5. **Audit Presentation Update/Approval:** Treasurer Lohman reported the audit should be completed by July 25th.
6. **FY 2025 Budget Process Update/Approval:** Treasurer Lohman dispersed second quarter General Fund reports provided by Bellwether, and provided non-General Fund reports from her office. She noted that the salaries line items in Animal Control deserve attention. Lohman reported department heads should have budget forms the following week, and will she suggest hearing dates to Bellwether. Two ambulance districts have requested levies substantially greater than 5% over last years, which will require at least two Truth-In-Taxation hearings. The Treasurer and County Board Administration will work on a schedule for the hearings.
7. **State's Attorney Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) Update/Approval:** Treasurer Lohman reported the State of Illinois has made a 4.7% cost of living adjustment (COLA) to the State's Attorney salary, which will also result in changes to other county office holder salaries determined by the State's Attorney's salary.
8. **Pre-Approved Vendor List Update/Approval:** County Clerk Leitheiser presented a revised Pre-Approved Vendors list, reflecting a vendor name change from Benefit Planning Consultants to Chard Snyder, and adding Direct Energy Business as the new power supplier. **Motion by Loucks and second by Folkerts to recommend approval of changes to the Pre-Approved Vendors list. All in favor, motion carried.**

9. Declare Supervisor of Assessments F-250 Surplus Update/Approval: Supervisor of Assessments Niehaus said her office no longer needs a 2000 Ford F-250 that was originally purchased by the Montgomery County Highway Department. **Motion by Folkerts and second by Loucks to declare a 2000 Ford F-250 regular cab pickup truck as surplus property. All in favor, motion carried.**

10. Other Business: None

Motion to pay the bills and payroll by Young and second by Folkerts. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion to Adjourn by Loucks and second by Folkerts. All in favor, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at am. The summaries of minutes were respectfully submitted by acting secretary Mike Plunkett, as deputized by Montgomery County Clerk/Recorder Sandy Leitheiser.