

# Montgomery County Board Minutes

For Tuesday, April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023 – 5:30 PM

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The following are minutes of a regular meeting of the Montgomery County Board held at 5:30 PM on Tuesday, April 11<sup>th</sup>, 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 14<sup>th</sup>, 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 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023.
- **IL Association of County Officials** – Bergen stated there is nothing new to report.
- **MCEDC** – Hughes reported the annual meeting will be held April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023.
- **Planning Commission** – Ritchie reported some of the planning commission members attended the Vistra briefing on March 21<sup>st</sup>, 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 10<sup>th</sup> 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 26<sup>th</sup>, 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 29<sup>th</sup>, 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 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023.
- 4. Montgomery County Mental Health Committee Update:** Mental Health Crisis Ad Hoc Committee Chair Dan Hough reported they held a meeting March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023, which was very well attended. He said they discussed several needs and will meet next on April 24<sup>th</sup>, 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 27<sup>th</sup>, 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 21<sup>st</sup>, 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. 22<sup>nd</sup> 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 22<sup>nd</sup> 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.