

**Montgomery County Board
Long Agenda**

For Tuesday, January 10th, 2023 – 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 - members present, 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:

Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was led by

Mileage and Per Diem Approval: Motion by _____ and second by _____ 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 _____ and second by _____ 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 report
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.
6. **Highway Department Report** – Cody Greenwood –
7. **Probation Office Report** – Bane Ulrici –
8. **Public Defender’s Report** – Erin Mattson — No report
9. **ROE – Monthly, Quarterly & Annual Reports** – Julie Wollerman – No Report.
10. **Sheriff’s Report** – Rick Robbins – Report submitted.
11. **SOA Report** – Cindy Laurent – Report submitted.
12. **State’s Attorney Report** – Andrew Affrunti – Report submitted.
13. **Treasurer’s Report** – Nikki Lohman – Report submitted.
14. **V.A.C. Report** – Dave Strowmatt – Report submitted.

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

LIAISON REPORTS:

- **708 Board** -- Murzynski
- **CEFS Board** -- Beason
- **911 Board** – Bergen
- **Health Department** -- Whitworth
- **IL Association of County Officials** -- Bergen
- **MCEDC** -- Hughes
- **Planning Commission** -- Ritchie
- **Senior Citizens Board** -- Folkerts
- **UCCI** – Miles
- **U of I** – Beck
- **WCDC** – Jones

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

COORDINATING COMMITTEE: Given by Chairman Doug Donaldson

1. **Information Systems Report Update/Approval:** Information Services is performing end of the year maintenance. Manager Curt Watkins hired a new employee to replace Mat Marietta. His name is Zeke Philpot and he began January 3.
2. **EMA Report Update/Approval:** EMA dealt with several incidents related to the cold weather towards the end of 2022. EMA Coordinator Joe Gasparich says the Hazard Mitigation Grant plan should be done by the end of 2023.
3. **Committee Structure Update/Approval:** Nothing new to report.
4. **Carbon Capture and Storage Update/Approval:** Donaldson has been in contact with Jim Prescott of the Heartland Greenway carbon sequestration project. Many leases have been signed in and around Audubon Township. An emergency responders training event related to carbon sequestration is supposed to be held in Jacksonville coming up. Donaldson plans on having a conversation with Prescott about Montgomery County hosting one.
5. **EPA Report Update/Approval:** EPA Administrator Christine Daniels will be compiling end of the year information for EPA.
6. **Rules Committee Meeting Update/Approval:** The Rules Committee will meet on January 18, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. to discuss rules of the county board and compare past rules of order with other counties.
7. **West Central Development Council/Job Center Board/CEO Board Update/Approval:** Nothing new to report.
8. **Resolution Opposing HB 5855 Protect Illinois Communities Act Update/Approval:**

Motion by _____ and second by _____ to adopt the Resolution opposing House Bill 5855. All in favor, motion carried.

9. **Executive Session for Personnel/Litigation/Property Acquisition Update/Approval: (if needed)**
10. **Other Business:** None.

DEVELOPMENT & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Mark Hughes:

1. **MCEDC Update/Approval:** Nothing new to report. MCEDC will meet February 9, 2023.
2. **Heartland Greenway Carbon Sequestration Project and Development Agreement Update/Approval:** A few residents from the northeastern part of the County attended the meeting and spoke about the carbon sequestration project. They weren't sure why the County issued permits for seismic testing, but Chairman Donaldson explained that they were issued permits to use the roads. Citizens in attendance indicated the carbon project was turning residents against each other.
3. **Macoupin/CIPT Public Transportation Update/Approval:** Kent Tarro attended the meeting to present information about Macoupin County Public Transportation. Montgomery County has an Intergovernmental Agreement with CEFS, which includes Central Illinois Public Transit (CIPT). Tarro said some counties are dropping CIPT and said Montgomery County may want to look into that as well. He said it will probably be too late to do this year, but could be looked into for next year.
4. **Temporary Supervisor of Assessments Update/Approval:** The committee initially planned on extending temporary Supervisor of Assessments Cindy Laurent, but found out that is not possible. When she was appointed, it was a one time, 60-day appointment. Though her appointment ends at the end of January, she can still run the office and will still be conducting the same duties.
5. **DCEO Energy Community Reinvestment Act Grant Update/Approval:** The week before Christmas, the State of Illinois notified the County of a funding opportunity through the Energy Community Reinvestment Act Grant. Montgomery County is eligible to apply for such a grant since the Coffeen Power Plant that closed in 2019 was located in an unincorporated part of the County. Other units of government are eligible to apply for the grant, but they need to either partner with the County in our application or receive a letter of support. The total amount being awarded by the state is \$40 million, and all recipients are guaranteed \$50,000. After each recipient is awarded \$50,000, the State will divide what's left of the grant money and award it to grantees using a formula based on property tax loss and job loss. The committee recommends using the 2021 Vistra Tax bill as a reference for which taxing districts in the County to include in our application.

Motion by Hughes and second by _____ to include the following 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 Update/Approval:** Chairman Donaldson and Sandy Leitheiser have been in touch with Dan

Rogers about writing this grant, and the committee recommends hiring him. He will charge the County \$38 per hour worked.

Motion by Hughes and second by to hire Dan Rogers to write the DCEO Energy Community Reinvestment Act grant. All in favor, motion carried.

7. **Jail Inspection Report Update/Approval:**
8. **Executive Session for Personnel/Litigation/Property Acquisition Update/Approval: (if needed)**
9. **Other Business:** None.

FINANCE & BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Andy Ritchie:

1. **Assistant Public Defender Position Update/Approval:** Judge Jim Roberts hired Wes Poggenpohl as the new full-time associate public defender. Judge Roberts said he would have spoken to the board before making the decision, but we were in the middle of our reorganization and Poggenpohl had other offers. Poggenpohl will make more than the budgeted \$70,000, but the county budget will not change. He will be paid out of the public defender's associate PD line until it is gone, and then will be paid from the Judge's conflict public defender line since he has not filled and does not plan on filling the third conflict PD position. Poggenpohl used to be an assistant State's Attorney here.
2. **SOA Report Update/Approval:** Interim Supervisor of Assessments Cindy Laurent informed the committee the tentative abstract was sent and received. She also said she continues to train and guide staff on a daily basis as to what she can do as interim SOA.
3. **Approve Extending Salary for Interim Supervisor of Assessments for February 2023 Update/Approval:** When Laurent's appointment ends at the end of January, she will still be running the SOA office. Her duties will effectively stay the same except for the fact that she cannot sign the abstract or items related to the Board of Review. Those items will have to be signed by Chairman Donaldson. Because Laurent will still be running the office, the Finance and Budget Committee recommends she continue to be paid the same salary she has been making as interim Supervisor of Assessments through February. The reason this is being addressed now is Kendra Niehaus, who hopes to take over, takes the state exam January 17. Laurent told the committee if she passes that exam, she still will not be certified likely until February, and will still have to be trained.

Motion by Ritchie and second by to approve extending Cindy Laurent's temporary salary through February 2023. All in favor, motion carried.

4. **Capital Improvement Fund Reports Update/Approval:** Treasurer Lohman is in the process of talking to local banks about investments. The county's term investments are coming up in March.
5. **IMRF Update/Approval:** 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 need to be signed up for IMRF. The employee also currently makes \$9 per hour and the state minimum wage is \$13; however, that salary is set by the senior citizens board. Lohman said she will call the individual and get her to sign IMRF documents, but the senior board will have to discuss her pay.

6. **FY 2022 Audit Update:** The auditors have been on site working. Tomorrow is their last day here.
7. **Approve IRS Mileage Rate Increase Update/Approval:**

Motion by Ritchie and second by _____ to approve the IRS Mileage Rate Increase 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 Update/Approval:**

Motion by Ritchie and second by _____ to approve the Preapproved Vendor List as presented with the additions of Huels Oil Company and Schreiber Veterinary Services and the removal of Farmers Oil Company. All in favor, motion carried.

9. **Digitizing Collectors Books for Treasurer's Office Update/Approval:** This is one of the board-approved county ARPA projects.

Motion by Ritchie and second by _____ to approve digitizing the collector's books and sign the contract with US Imaging, Inc. All in favor, motion carried.

10. **Ordinance to Authorize ARPA Funds to Digitize Collectors Books for the Treasurer's Office Update/Approval:**

Motion by Ritchie and second by _____ to approve Ordinance 2023-_____ 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.

11. **Ordinance to Authorize ARPA Funds to Purchase Generators for Montgomery County Emergency Management Agency Update/Approval:**

Motion by Ritchie and second by _____ to approve Ordinance 2023-_____ authorizing the use of ARPA funds to purchase generators for the Montgomery County Emergency Management Agency in the amount of \$74,800. All in favor, motion carried.

12. **Notification of Non-County ARPA Project Recipients Update/Approval:** A letter will be put together notifying non-county ARPA money recipients of their awards and how to go about receiving those funds.

13. **Bellwether ARPA Reporting and Budgeting Process Update/Approval:** 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.

14. **DCEO Energy Community Reinvestment Act Grant and Vistra Energy Update/Approval:**

15. **Executive Session for Personnel/Litigation/Property Acquisition Update/Approval: (if needed)**

16. **Other Business:** The Committee plans on working on Finance and Budget Control policies previously started under former chair Megan Beeler.

INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Gene Miles:

1. **Walshville Bypass Road Intergovernmental Agreement Update/Approval:** Walshville village representatives Gary Applegate, George Guinn and Joy McDonald attended the Infrastructure Committee meeting to discuss the proposed Intergovernmental Agreement for the bypass road. They proposed two changes to the original draft of the agreement. The first was for the name of the village clerk to be changed. 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. They said requested the County scarify, level, oil and chip the village road after construction of the bypass road is concluded. Engineer Greenwood added language to the agreement reflecting those changes and now we are waiting for their approval before bringing it to the Full Board.
2. **Resolution 2023-01, 2023 County MFT Resolution Update/Approval:** The MFT amount is \$1.2 million, which is the same amount as last year.

Motion by Miles and second by _____ to approve Resolution 2023-01, the 2023 County MFT Resolution as presented. All in favor, motion carried.

3. **2023-2024 Bulk Fuel Purchasing Letting Results Update/Approval:** Greenwood received one qualified bid from Farmers Oil. One other bid came in after the deadline and had to be disqualified.

Motion by Miles and second by _____ to approve the low bidder of Farmers Oil for Bulk Fuel Purchasing. All in favor, motion carried.

4. **2023 MFT Rock Letting Results Update/Approval:** This item was tabled.
5. **Property Acquisition for Coffeen Road/Seven Sisters Intersection Project Update/Approval:** Greenwood informed the committee everything went smoothly with purchasing these properties.

A) Motion by Miles and second by _____ 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 _____ 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 _____ 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 _____ 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 Update/Approval:** This property started off as a five-acre tract and is being split into three lots.

Surveyor Carl Nail informed the committee the Minor Subdivision Process eliminates the construction process.

Motion by Miles and second by _____ 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/Approval:** Once the white truck shed has been removed from the old highway department, the Board will need to decide what to do with the Old Highway Department Building and subsequent property. EMA currently has a trailer in the old brick building. He informed the committee he received a quote from Morton Buildings to construct a new building for EMA, which would cost approximately \$200,000. If the county chooses to sell the property, the board needs to decide what the next step is. The committee gave permission to Greenwood to get the building tested to see what kind of abatement would be needed.
8. **Maintenance and Cleaning Issues and Report Update/Approval:** Maintenance Tech Ernst continues to be busy working around the courthouse complex.
9. **Review and Approve Letter of Intent for ADA Project at New Courthouse Update/Approval:** Ameresco still has some fine tuning to do with their proposal. The board has to approve a Letter of Intent before entering into an agreement. State's Attorney Andrew Affrunti has reviewed and approved the letter.

Motion by Miles and second by _____ 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 Update/Approval:** The air conditioning unit for the dispatch room at the jail needs replaced, and the committee received four bids. Two were from Neuhaus and two were from C and C Heating and Cooling. Both companies submitted bids for split units; however, Ernst told the committee he would prefer a conventional unit. Neuhaus submitted a bid for a Daikin split unit for a cost of almost \$10,000. Their bid for the normal unit was approximately \$8,000. The bids from C and C were \$7,000 for the mini split, and \$4,810 for the conventional.

Motion by _____ and second by _____ 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/Approval:** Maintenance tech Ernst received a bid from Gardner L and M Glass for \$1,005 to replace the locks at the Historic Courthouse plus \$3 per key. The committee voted to accept the bid and the locks have been replaced.
12. **Sidewalks at Historic Courthouse and Jail Update/Approval:** The committee will be working to get put on the agenda for a Hillsboro City Council meeting in order to discuss the city's share of the sidewalk upgrades.
13. **Interior Door Project for County Clerk's Office Update/Approval:** Nothing new to report.
14. **Bidding out the County Farm Update/Approval:** The current lease expires at the end of January, and the committee voted to advertise bidding out the agreement.

15. **EMA Storage Shed Update/Approval:** Nothing additional to report.
16. **Elections Update/Approval:** There is one election in 2023, which is the April 4th Consolidated Election. It is for all local elections, excluding townships. Early voting begins February 23, 2023. Over 900 registered voters in the county are signed up for permanent vote-by-mail.
17. **Animal Control Facility Update/Approval:** They are working on replacing a door at the animal control facility. Also, an employee clipped a deer on the way to pick up cats from the hospital, and the vehicle needs repaired. The insurance company is keeping Treasurer Lohman informed. Gerl informed the committee she would like to sell dog houses currently occupying space at the animal control facility. She said the houses are going to waste, and they could be used by someone else.
18. **Animal Control Municipal Contracts Update/Approval:** The municipal contracts state a charge of \$250 will be issued for welfare checks. Gerl said Animal Control has always done those as a courtesy and some municipalities want that charge removed from the contract before they sign it.
19. **Executive Session for Personnel/Litigation/Property Acquisition/County Property Update/Approval: (if needed)**
20. **Other Business:** None.

APPROVAL OF THE COMMITTEE REPORTS & MINUTES:

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

SCHEDULE CHANGES:

APPOINTMENTS:

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

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

PAY BILLS AND PAYROLL:

Motion by _____ and second by _____ to pay all approved bills and Payroll. All in favor, motion carried. For itemized listing of bills paid, refer to Accounts Payable Book for FY 2022.

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 _____ and second by _____ to adjourn the Full Board Meeting. All in favor, motion carried.

Meeting Adjourned at _____pm. Minutes respectfully recorded and submitted by Montgomery County Clerk and Recorder Sandy Leitheiser.