

**Montgomery County Board
Long Agenda**

For Tuesday, October 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, October 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, Ethan Murzynski, Andy Ritchie, Chad Ruppert, 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, Murzynski, Ritchie, Ruppert, 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, September 12th, 2023. 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. **Enterprise Zone Report** – Christine Daniels – Report submitted.
6. **Environmental Protection Agency Report** – Christine Daniels – Report submitted.
7. **Health & TB Department Report** – Hugh Satterlee – Report submitted.
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** – Bane Ulrici – Report submitted.
12. **Public Defender’s Report** – Erin Mattson — No Report
13. **ROE – Monthly, Quarterly & Annual Reports** -- Julie Wollerman –
14. **Sheriff’s Report** – Rick Robbins – No report.
15. **SOA Report** – Kendra Niehaus – Report submitted.
16. **State’s Attorney Report** – Andrew Affrunti – Report submitted.
17. **Treasurer’s Report** – Nikki Lohman – Report submitted.
18. **V.A.C. Report** – Cassandra Hampton – Report submitted.

APPROVAL OF ITEMS ON THE CONSENT AGENDA: Motion by _____ and second by _____ to approve the _____ 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** – Ruppert
- **U of I** – Beck
- **WCDC** – Jones

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

COORDINATING COMMITTEE: Given by Chairman Doug Donaldson

1. **Information Systems Report Update/Approval:** Information Service manager Curt Watkins received three bids for the fiber redundancy project. Two did not come in within the allotted amount. The new website should be ready to go live within the next few weeks. The office is also down one staff member as Zeke Philpot’s last day was September 29th. The open position has been advertised.
2. **EMA Report and Hazard Mitigation Plan Update/Approval:** The final hazard mitigation plan meeting will be held in January.
3. **West Central Development Council/Job Center Board/CEO Board Update/Approval:** The next meeting is scheduled for October 19.
4. **CO2 Sequestration Ad Hoc Committee Update/Approval:** The Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC) will be holding public hearings October 17th through 20th. Heartland-Greenway is reluctant to speak with the county much more since the County has participated with the same attorneys representing other surrounding counties.
5. **2024 Committee Meeting Dates and Times Update/Approval:**

Motion by Donaldson and second by _____ to approve the 2024 Coordinating Committee meeting dates and times as presented. All in favor, motion carried.

6. **Review of Executive Session Minutes Update/Approval:** County Clerk Sandy Leitheiser, Coordinator Chris Daniels and Chairman Donaldson met October 2nd to review executive session minutes.

Motion by _____ and second by _____ 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.

Motion by _____ and second by _____ to return to open session. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by _____ and second by _____ to “OPEN” the following executive session committee and full board meeting minutes: _____ All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by _____ and second by _____ to keep the following executive session committee and full board meeting minutes “CLOSED” pending further review: _____ All in favor, motion carried.

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

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Bob Sneed:

1. Maintenance and Cleaning Issues and Report Update/Approval: The maintenance staff continues to work around the courthouse complex.
2. Tuck Pointing at VAC Building Update/Approval: The committee reviewed two bids for tuck pointing at the VAC building and the north staircase of the Historic Courthouse. AJWD submitted a bid that totaled \$28,400. Seward Masonry submitted a bid that totaled \$17,450. The committee is recommending approving the low bid from Seward Masonry.

Motion by Sneed and second by _____ 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/Approval: We are still waiting on the energy grant before moving forward with this project.
4. Old Highway Department Property Update/Approval:
 - Approve Purchase Agreement, Advertise for Bids for Seymour Avenue Surplus Property (Old Highway Department) Update/Approval: State’s Attorney Affrunti spoke with the committee about the purchase agreement. One item that was discussed dealt with who will maintain insurance on the property once it is sold. The agreement will include the county will pay for renter’s insurance while occupying the old highway department building. The committee also decided to pay rent in an amount equal to the amount the building is assessed in value in order to offset the property taxes of that particular property. The advertisement has been posted and the committee will review bids at their next committee meeting. Bid submissions must include a development plan for the property.
5. Repair Chiller at New Courthouse Update/Approval:

- **Purchase Compressors for Chiller at New Courthouse Update/Approval:** We received two bids for compressors for the chiller at the new courthouse. One was from Johnson Controls for \$36,541. The other came from Clow Controls for \$32,950.

Motion by Sneed and second by _____ 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 Update/Approval:** The board previously approved paying an amount that was less than what was actually invoiced. The final amount has not changed since it was previously addressed, but the invoice that was submitted was misread. The actual final amount is \$235,665. The County’s share is still a little under \$100,000.

Motion by Sneed and second by _____ to approve paying Kinney Contractors \$235,665 for sidewalk repairs. (ROLL CALL VOTE). All in favor, motion carried.

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

8. **Other Business:** None.

DEVELOPMENT & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Mark Hughes:

1. **Employee Health Insurance and Monthly HRA Report Update/Approval:** Assured Partners representative Amanda Mast presented the employee health insurance figures to the committee. United Healthcare initially submitted plans that included a 29 percent increase in premiums. After negotiations, they lowered that increase to 17.1 percent, which includes a \$25,000 premium holiday credit. Offers from other insurance carriers included Health Alliance with a 13 percent increase, and BlueCross BlueShield with a 58.6 percent increase. Health Alliance’s plan, though lower in premium, would include an HRA model that the County got away from this year.

Motion by Hughes and second by _____ to accept the Employee Health Insurance Plans from United Health Care as presented. All in favor, motion carried.

2. **MCEDC Update/Approval:** Montgomery County Economic Development Corporation Executive Director Bill Montgomery introduced himself to the committee. He plans on passing out a short survey to board members on what they believe MCEDC should do for the County.
3. **Animal Control Facility Update/Approval:** Animal Control Warden Gerl reported they took in 14 cats during the month of September, and were able to adopt eight out. She also said she transferred eight cats and 12 dogs out of the facility.
4. **Animal Control Policy Update/Approval:** The committee discussed 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 timeframe 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 _____ to approve the animal control policy as presented. All in favor, motion carried.

5. **Nextlink Broadband Internet Update/Approval:** Nextlink representative Mike Johnson has expressed a willingness to attend a future board meeting. The details are still being worked out.
6. **Vistra Energy – Coffeen Solar Project Permit Application Update/Approval:** Vistra Energy representatives attended the committee meeting. Legal representative Russell Whitaker informed the committee he spoke with Jeremy Conner on the issues he had following the independent review. Whitaker said there were really two issues overall that needed to be addressed. The first relates to a fence that already exists on the property. The ordinance states setbacks must be at least 50 feet, but the fence is closer than that, and they would like to request that existing fence be allowed to remain there. Whitaker said the solar panels themselves will all exceed the 50 feet requirement. The second issue is in relation to the decommissioning of the plant. Whitaker said they are committed to removing whatever equipment they install and they have a decommissioning plan as part of their application. He also said they have a corporate guarantee that goes with it.
7. **Vistra Energy – Coffeen Solar Project Enterprise Zone Request Update/Approval:** The mayors will meet October 18 and this item will be discussed further at that time.
8. **Ordinance Adopting Personnel Manual Update/Approval:** Hughes, State’s Attorney Affrunti, Treasurer Lohman, County Clerk Leitheiser and Assistant Coordinator Jenkins attended a webinar hosted by the Department of Labor on new legislation regarding paid time off. Affrunti is going to adjust the personnel manual to reflect the requirements of the legislation, and the Development and Personnel Committee will review it during their next meeting. FMLA language will also be adjusted.
9. **2024 Holiday Schedule Update/Approval:**

Motion by Hughes and second by _____ to approve the 2024 Holiday Schedule as presented. All in favor, motion carried.

10. **Cole McDaniel from Spoon River Economic Development Update/Approval:** Spoon River Economic Development Director Cole McDaniel called into the 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/Approval:** We are still waiting to receive paperwork from the State regarding the change of unions. A special meeting will likely need to be held to negotiate the next contracts.
12. **Executive Session for Personnel/Litigation/Property Acquisition Update/Approval: (if needed)**
13. **Other Business:** None.

FINANCE & BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Andy Ritchie:

1. **SOA Report Update/Approval:** Supervisor of Assessments Kendra Niehaus submitted her monthly report to the committee. In it, she said a letter stating leaseholder exemption requirements has been mailed to all current landlords along with the new application.
2. **Capital Improvement Fund Reports Update/Approval:** A couple CDs came due at the end of September. Treasurer Lohman was able to invest again at a rate of 5.31 percent. The August coal royalty payment came in at \$101,562.53. In total, the capital improvement fund stands currently at \$1.5 million.
3. **County Policy for Special Fund Use Update/Approval:** For informational purposes, the Committee reviewed a memorandum from State’s Attorney Affrunti, as well as some UCCI opinions on special funds for county departments and how those monies are to be allocated. No action was taken.
4. **Presenting FY 2024 Budget for Review Update/Approval:** After several lengthy regular and special meetings, the Finance and Budget Committee has agreed to a proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2024, which includes a general fund deficit of a little more than \$300,000. 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 3. Bellwether representatives are in attendance to answer any questions.
5. **Adopt the Estimated FY 2024 Aggregate Levy Update/Approval:** This levy is adjusted to reflect a recommendation from Bellwether to utilize funds from the IMRF and Social Security reserves in order to avoid a truth in taxation hearing. IMRF reserves are currently at \$1.7 million and Social Security is at \$1.2 million.

Motion by Ritchie and second by _____ to adopt the estimated FY 2024 aggregate levy in the amount of \$4,951,376. All in favor, motion carried.

6. **Adopt the Estimated FY 2024 Special Levies Update/Approval:** Most of the special service levies are at or near the max rate of five percent.

Motion by Ritchie and second by _____ to adopt the estimated FY 2024 Community Mental Health Levy in the amount of \$708,978. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Ritchie and second by _____ to adopt the estimated FY 2024 Senior Social Services Levy in the amount of \$114,478. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Ritchie and second by _____ to adopt the estimated FY 2024 Raymond-Harvel Area Ambulance Special Service Levy in the amount of \$80,483. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Ritchie and second by _____ to adopt the estimated FY 2024 Veterans Assistance Commission Levy in the amount of \$55,020. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Ritchie and second by _____ to adopt the estimated FY 2024 Hillsboro Area Ambulance Special Service Levy in the amount of \$113,405. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Ritchie and second by _____ to adopt the estimated FY 2024 Nokomis-Witt Area Ambulance Special Service Levy in the amount of \$319,172. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Ritchie and second by _____ to adopt the estimated FY 2024 Farmersville-Waggoner Area Ambulance Special Service Levy in the amount of \$82,600. All in favor, motion carried.

7. **Resolution Increasing Election Judge Salary Update/Approval:** This resolution would increase election judge salaries to \$185 for those who have not gone through training and \$205 for those who have. This does not apply to early voting judges. The state will fully reimburse the increase.

Motion by Ritchie and second by _____ to approve the Resolution Increasing the Election Judge Salaries to \$185 without training and \$205 with training. All in favor, motion carried.

8. **Pre-approved Vendor List Revisions Update/Approval:** There are two problems with the current list: one is that some of the veterinary services listed are no longer in business, and the other is the need to find a vet service that offers after-hours care. The committee voted to recommend removing Countryside Vet Clinic from the list since that name is no longer in service. Hillsboro Advanced Vet Clinic is already on the list. The committee also agreed to forward the list to the Development and Personnel Committee to discuss an after-hours vet service.

Motion by Ritchie and second by _____ to approve the revised Pre-Approved Vendor list with the removal of Countryside Vet Clinic. All in favor, motion carried.

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

ROADS & BRIDGES COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Ethan Murzynski:

1. **Section 15-00138-00-BR Red Ball Trail Bridge Update/Approval:** Highway Engineer Cody Greenwood presented pictures of the progress on the project. It will likely be oil and chipped within the next two weeks.
2. **Anacott Solar Road Use Agreement Update/Approval:** The committee reviewed Road Use Agreements for both the Anacott Solar and Bluestar Solar projects. State's Attorney Affrunti and the county's third-party law firm have reviewed the agreements and don't have any issues.

Motion by Murzynski and second by _____ to approve the Road Use Agreement for the Anacott Solar Project as presented. All in favor, motion carried.

3. **Bluestar Solar Road Use Agreement Update/Approval:**

Motion by Murzynski and second by _____ to approve the Road Use Agreement for the Blue Star Solar Project as presented. All in favor, motion carried.

4. **Section 23-01134-00-BR White Settlement Tr., Audubon Twp., Bridge Replacement Engineering Services Update/Approval:**

Motion by Murzynski and second by _____ to approve the preliminary engineering agreement with Hurst-Rosche for an amount not to exceed \$40,000. All in favor, motion carried.

- 5. Section 23-07108-00-BR N. 26th Ave., Harvel Twp., Bridge Replacement Engineering Services Update/Approval:** This agreement is a little less because the firm has already done some hydraulic and surveying work.

Motion by Murzynski and second by _____ to approve the preliminary engineering agreement with Hurst-Rosche for an amount not to exceed \$35,000. All in favor, motion carried.

- 6. Section 23-10121-00-BR E. 23rd Rd., Nokomis Twp., Bridge Replacement Engineering Services Update/Approval:** 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/Approval:** This item was tabled until next month while more information is gathered.
- 8. New equipment purchase for FY24 Update/Approval:** Greenwood has budgeted for and is looking to purchase an excavator next year. They are currently using two backhoes to do jobs that could be done better by an excavator. They will be demoing a machine from John Deere. He also has a price from Cat Altorfer. The price of the Cat machine is \$6,000 more than John Deere's, but it is not an apples-to-apples comparison. The John Deere is a basic machine and all the extra options that would need to be added to it are aftermarket options.
- 9. Old Highway Dept. Update/Approval:** The asbestos abatement has been completed to the building on Seymour Ave.
- 10. Roof replacement on white block building Update/Approval:** The block building on their current property has storm damage. They received a check from the insurance company for just under \$55,000. Greenwood received a quote from Young's roofing for a shingled surface that is around \$67,000, as well as a bid from Pro-Bilt for a metal roof, which would include removing the existing surface, for around \$90,000. The Buildings and Grounds Committee will discuss the matter at their meeting next month since that building will end up being occupied by EMA.
- 11. Walshville Bypass Road Update/Approval:** The engineers have begun surveying for the project. The preliminary engineering should be completed within the next 12 months. The phase after that will include negotiations with property owners. Construction on the project is anticipated to begin in the summer of 2026.
- 12. 2024 Committee Meeting Dates and Times Update/Approval:**

Motion by Murzynski and second by _____ to approve the 2024 Roads and Bridges Committee meeting dates and times as presented. All in favor, motion carried.

- 13. Other Items:** A tire pickup event for townships has been scheduled for December 4, 2023.

APPROVAL OF THE COMMITTEE REPORTS & MINUTES:

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

SCHEDULE CHANGES: A Mayors meeting has been scheduled for Wednesday, October 18th at 5:00 p.m.

APPOINTMENTS:

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

PAY BILLS AND PAYROLL:

Motion by _____ and second by _____ to pay all approved bills and Payroll. All in favor, motion carried. (ROLL CALL VOTE)

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 _____ and second by _____ to recess the Full Board Meeting until November 14, 2023. All in favor, motion carried.

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

**Montgomery County Board
Long Agenda**

For Tuesday, October 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, October 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, Ethan Murzynski, Andy Ritchie, Chad Ruppert, 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, Murzynski, Ritchie, Ruppert, 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, September 12th, 2023. 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. **Enterprise Zone Report** – Christine Daniels – Report submitted.
6. **Environmental Protection Agency Report** – Christine Daniels – Report submitted.
7. **Health & TB Department Report** – Hugh Satterlee – Report submitted.
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** – Bane Ulrici – Report submitted.
12. **Public Defender’s Report** – Erin Mattson — No Report
13. **ROE – Monthly, Quarterly & Annual Reports** -- Julie Wollerman –
14. **Sheriff’s Report** – Rick Robbins – No report.
15. **SOA Report** – Kendra Niehaus – Report submitted.
16. **State’s Attorney Report** – Andrew Affrunti – Report submitted.
17. **Treasurer’s Report** – Nikki Lohman – Report submitted.
18. **V.A.C. Report** – Cassandra Hampton – Report submitted.

APPROVAL OF ITEMS ON THE CONSENT AGENDA: Motion by _____ and second by _____ to approve the _____ 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** – Ruppert
- **U of I** – Beck
- **WCDC** – Jones

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

COORDINATING COMMITTEE: Given by Chairman Doug Donaldson

1. **Information Systems Report Update/Approval:** Information Service manager Curt Watkins received three bids for the fiber redundancy project. Two did not come in within the allotted amount. The new website should be ready to go live within the next few weeks. The office is also down one staff member as Zeke Philpot’s last day was September 29th. The open position has been advertised.
2. **EMA Report and Hazard Mitigation Plan Update/Approval:** The final hazard mitigation plan meeting will be held in January.
3. **West Central Development Council/Job Center Board/CEO Board Update/Approval:** The next meeting is scheduled for October 19.
4. **CO2 Sequestration Ad Hoc Committee Update/Approval:** The Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC) will be holding public hearings October 17th through 20th. Heartland-Greenway is reluctant to speak with the county much more since the County has participated with the same attorneys representing other surrounding counties.
5. **2024 Committee Meeting Dates and Times Update/Approval:**

Motion by Donaldson and second by _____ to approve the 2024 Coordinating Committee meeting dates and times as presented. All in favor, motion carried.

6. **Review of Executive Session Minutes Update/Approval:** County Clerk Sandy Leitheiser, Coordinator Chris Daniels and Chairman Donaldson met October 2nd to review executive session minutes.

Motion by _____ and second by _____ 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.

Motion by _____ and second by _____ to return to open session. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by _____ and second by _____ to “OPEN” the following executive session committee and full board meeting minutes: _____ All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by _____ and second by _____ to keep the following executive session committee and full board meeting minutes “CLOSED” pending further review: _____ All in favor, motion carried.

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

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Bob Sneed:

1. Maintenance and Cleaning Issues and Report Update/Approval: The maintenance staff continues to work around the courthouse complex.
2. Tuck Pointing at VAC Building Update/Approval: The committee reviewed two bids for tuck pointing at the VAC building and the north staircase of the Historic Courthouse. AJWD submitted a bid that totaled \$28,400. Seward Masonry submitted a bid that totaled \$17,450. The committee is recommending approving the low bid from Seward Masonry.

Motion by Sneed and second by _____ 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/Approval: We are still waiting on the energy grant before moving forward with this project.
4. Old Highway Department Property Update/Approval:
 - Approve Purchase Agreement, Advertise for Bids for Seymour Avenue Surplus Property (Old Highway Department) Update/Approval: State’s Attorney Affrunti spoke with the committee about the purchase agreement. One item that was discussed dealt with who will maintain insurance on the property once it is sold. The agreement will include the county will pay for renter’s insurance while occupying the old highway department building. The committee also decided to pay rent in an amount equal to the amount the building is assessed in value in order to offset the property taxes of that particular property. The advertisement has been posted and the committee will review bids at their next committee meeting. Bid submissions must include a development plan for the property.
5. Repair Chiller at New Courthouse Update/Approval:

- **Purchase Compressors for Chiller at New Courthouse Update/Approval:** We received two bids for compressors for the chiller at the new courthouse. One was from Johnson Controls for \$36,541. The other came from Clow Controls for \$32,950.

Motion by Sneed and second by _____ 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 Update/Approval:** The board previously approved paying an amount that was less than what was actually invoiced. The final amount has not changed since it was previously addressed, but the invoice that was submitted was misread. The actual final amount is \$235,665. The County’s share is still a little under \$100,000.

Motion by Sneed and second by _____ to approve paying Kinney Contractors \$235,665 for sidewalk repairs. (ROLL CALL VOTE). All in favor, motion carried.

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

8. **Other Business:** None.

DEVELOPMENT & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Mark Hughes:

1. **Employee Health Insurance and Monthly HRA Report Update/Approval:** Assured Partners representative Amanda Mast presented the employee health insurance figures to the committee. United Healthcare initially submitted plans that included a 29 percent increase in premiums. After negotiations, they lowered that increase to 17.1 percent, which includes a \$25,000 premium holiday credit. Offers from other insurance carriers included Health Alliance with a 13 percent increase, and BlueCross BlueShield with a 58.6 percent increase. Health Alliance’s plan, though lower in premium, would include an HRA model that the County got away from this year.

Motion by Hughes and second by _____ to accept the Employee Health Insurance Plans from United Health Care as presented. All in favor, motion carried.

2. **MCEDC Update/Approval:** Montgomery County Economic Development Corporation Executive Director Bill Montgomery introduced himself to the committee. He plans on passing out a short survey to board members on what they believe MCEDC should do for the County.
3. **Animal Control Facility Update/Approval:** Animal Control Warden Gerl reported they took in 14 cats during the month of September, and were able to adopt eight out. She also said she transferred eight cats and 12 dogs out of the facility.
4. **Animal Control Policy Update/Approval:** The committee discussed 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 timeframe 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 _____ to approve the animal control policy as presented. All in favor, motion carried.

5. **Nextlink Broadband Internet Update/Approval:** Nextlink representative Mike Johnson has expressed a willingness to attend a future board meeting. The details are still being worked out.
6. **Vistra Energy – Coffeen Solar Project Permit Application Update/Approval:** Vistra Energy representatives attended the committee meeting. Legal representative Russell Whitaker informed the committee he spoke with Jeremy Conner on the issues he had following the independent review. Whitaker said there were really two issues overall that needed to be addressed. The first relates to a fence that already exists on the property. The ordinance states setbacks must be at least 50 feet, but the fence is closer than that, and they would like to request that existing fence be allowed to remain there. Whitaker said the solar panels themselves will all exceed the 50 feet requirement. The second issue is in relation to the decommissioning of the plant. Whitaker said they are committed to removing whatever equipment they install and they have a decommissioning plan as part of their application. He also said they have a corporate guarantee that goes with it.
7. **Vistra Energy – Coffeen Solar Project Enterprise Zone Request Update/Approval:** The mayors will meet October 18 and this item will be discussed further at that time.
8. **Ordinance Adopting Personnel Manual Update/Approval:** Hughes, State’s Attorney Affrunti, Treasurer Lohman, County Clerk Leitheiser and Assistant Coordinator Jenkins attended a webinar hosted by the Department of Labor on new legislation regarding paid time off. Affrunti is going to adjust the personnel manual to reflect the requirements of the legislation, and the Development and Personnel Committee will review it during their next meeting. FMLA language will also be adjusted.
9. **2024 Holiday Schedule Update/Approval:**

Motion by Hughes and second by _____ to approve the 2024 Holiday Schedule as presented. All in favor, motion carried.

10. **Cole McDaniel from Spoon River Economic Development Update/Approval:** Spoon River Economic Development Director Cole McDaniel called into the 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/Approval:** We are still waiting to receive paperwork from the State regarding the change of unions. A special meeting will likely need to be held to negotiate the next contracts.
12. **Executive Session for Personnel/Litigation/Property Acquisition Update/Approval: (if needed)**
13. **Other Business:** None.

FINANCE & BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Andy Ritchie:

- 1. SOA Report Update/Approval:** Supervisor of Assessments Kendra Niehaus submitted her monthly report to the committee. In it, she said a letter stating leaseholder exemption requirements has been mailed to all current landlords along with the new application.
- 2. Capital Improvement Fund Reports Update/Approval:** A couple CDs came due at the end of September. Treasurer Lohman was able to invest again at a rate of 5.31 percent. The August coal royalty payment came in at \$101,562.53. In total, the capital improvement fund stands currently at \$1.5 million.
- 3. County Policy for Special Fund Use Update/Approval:** For informational purposes, the Committee reviewed a memorandum from State's Attorney Affrunti, as well as some UCCI opinions on special funds for county departments and how those monies are to be allocated. No action was taken.
- 4. Presenting FY 2024 Budget for Review Update/Approval:** After several lengthy regular and special meetings, the Finance and Budget Committee has agreed to a proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2024, which includes a general fund deficit of a little more than \$300,000. 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 3. Bellwether representatives are in attendance to answer any questions.
- 5. Adopt the Estimated FY 2024 Aggregate Levy Update/Approval:** This levy is adjusted to reflect a recommendation from Bellwether to utilize funds from the IMRF and Social Security reserves in order to avoid a truth in taxation hearing. IMRF reserves are currently at \$1.7 million and Social Security is at \$1.2 million.

Motion by Ritchie and second by _____ to adopt the estimated FY 2024 aggregate levy in the amount of \$4,951,376. All in favor, motion carried.

- 6. Adopt the Estimated FY 2024 Special Levies Update/Approval:** Most of the special service levies are at or near the max rate of five percent.

Motion by Ritchie and second by _____ to adopt the estimated FY 2024 Community Mental Health Levy in the amount of \$708,978. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Ritchie and second by _____ to adopt the estimated FY 2024 Senior Social Services Levy in the amount of \$114,478. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Ritchie and second by _____ to adopt the estimated FY 2024 Raymond-Harvel Area Ambulance Special Service Levy in the amount of \$80,483. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Ritchie and second by _____ to adopt the estimated FY 2024 Veterans Assistance Commission Levy in the amount of \$55,020. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Ritchie and second by _____ to adopt the estimated FY 2024 Hillsboro Area Ambulance Special Service Levy in the amount of \$113,405. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Ritchie and second by _____ to adopt the estimated FY 2024 Nokomis-Witt Area Ambulance Special Service Levy in the amount of \$319,172. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Ritchie and second by _____ to adopt the estimated FY 2024 Farmersville-Waggoner Area Ambulance Special Service Levy in the amount of \$82,600. All in favor, motion carried.

7. **Resolution Increasing Election Judge Salary Update/Approval:** This resolution would increase election judge salaries to \$185 for those who have not gone through training and \$205 for those who have. This does not apply to early voting judges. The state will fully reimburse the increase.

Motion by Ritchie and second by _____ to approve the Resolution Increasing the Election Judge Salaries to \$185 without training and \$205 with training. All in favor, motion carried.

8. **Pre-approved Vendor List Revisions Update/Approval:** There are two problems with the current list: one is that some of the veterinary services listed are no longer in business, and the other is the need to find a vet service that offers after-hours care. The committee voted to recommend removing Countryside Vet Clinic from the list since that name is no longer in service. Hillsboro Advanced Vet Clinic is already on the list. The committee also agreed to forward the list to the Development and Personnel Committee to discuss an after-hours vet service.

Motion by Ritchie and second by _____ to approve the revised Pre-Approved Vendor list with the removal of Countryside Vet Clinic. All in favor, motion carried.

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

ROADS & BRIDGES COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Ethan Murzynski:

1. **Section 15-00138-00-BR Red Ball Trail Bridge Update/Approval:** Highway Engineer Cody Greenwood presented pictures of the progress on the project. It will likely be oil and chipped within the next two weeks.
2. **Anacott Solar Road Use Agreement Update/Approval:** The committee reviewed Road Use Agreements for both the Anacott Solar and Bluestar Solar projects. State's Attorney Affrunti and the county's third-party law firm have reviewed the agreements and don't have any issues.

Motion by Murzynski and second by _____ to approve the Road Use Agreement for the Anacott Solar Project as presented. All in favor, motion carried.

3. **Bluestar Solar Road Use Agreement Update/Approval:**

Motion by Murzynski and second by _____ to approve the Road Use Agreement for the Blue Star Solar Project as presented. All in favor, motion carried.

4. **Section 23-01134-00-BR White Settlement Tr., Audubon Twp., Bridge Replacement Engineering Services Update/Approval:**

Motion by Murzynski and second by _____ to approve the preliminary engineering agreement with Hurst-Rosche for an amount not to exceed \$40,000. All in favor, motion carried.

5. **Section 23-07108-00-BR N. 26th Ave., Harvel Twp., Bridge Replacement Engineering Services Update/Approval:** This agreement is a little less because the firm has already done some hydraulic and surveying work.

Motion by Murzynski and second by _____ to approve the preliminary engineering agreement with Hurst-Rosche for an amount not to exceed \$35,000. All in favor, motion carried.

6. **Section 23-10121-00-BR E. 23rd Rd., Nokomis Twp., Bridge Replacement Engineering Services Update/Approval:** 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/Approval:** This item was tabled until next month while more information is gathered.
8. **New equipment purchase for FY24 Update/Approval:** Greenwood has budgeted for and is looking to purchase an excavator next year. They are currently using two backhoes to do jobs that could be done better by an excavator. They will be demoing a machine from John Deere. He also has a price from Cat Altorfer. The price of the Cat machine is \$6,000 more than John Deere's, but it is not an apples-to-apples comparison. The John Deere is a basic machine and all the extra options that would need to be added to it are aftermarket options.
9. **Old Highway Dept. Update/Approval:** The asbestos abatement has been completed to the building on Seymour Ave.
10. **Roof replacement on white block building Update/Approval:** The block building on their current property has storm damage. They received a check from the insurance company for just under \$55,000. Greenwood received a quote from Young's roofing for a shingled surface that is around \$67,000, as well as a bid from Pro-Bilt for a metal roof, which would include removing the existing surface, for around \$90,000. The Buildings and Grounds Committee will discuss the matter at their meeting next month since that building will end up being occupied by EMA.
11. **Walshville Bypass Road Update/Approval:** The engineers have begun surveying for the project. The preliminary engineering should be completed within the next 12 months. The phase after that will include negotiations with property owners. Construction on the project is anticipated to begin in the summer of 2026.
12. **2024 Committee Meeting Dates and Times Update/Approval:**

Motion by Murzynski and second by _____ to approve the 2024 Roads and Bridges Committee meeting dates and times as presented. All in favor, motion carried.

13. **Other Items:** A tire pickup event for townships has been scheduled for December 4, 2023.

APPROVAL OF THE COMMITTEE REPORTS & MINUTES:

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

SCHEDULE CHANGES: A Mayors meeting has been scheduled for Wednesday, October 18th at 5:00 p.m.

APPOINTMENTS:

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

PAY BILLS AND PAYROLL:

Motion by _____ and second by _____ to pay all approved bills and Payroll. All in favor, motion carried. (ROLL CALL VOTE)

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 _____ and second by _____ to recess the Full Board Meeting until November 14, 2023. All in favor, motion carried.

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