

**Montgomery County Board
Long Agenda**

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

The following are minutes of a regular meeting of the Montgomery County Board held at 5:30 PM on Tuesday, April 11th, 2023.

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, March 14th, 2023. All in favor, motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. **Animal Control Report** -- Emily Gerl –
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 – Report submitted.
7. **Probation Office Report** – Bane Ulrici –
8. **Public Defender’s Report** – Erin Mattson —
9. **ROE – Monthly, Quarterly & Annual Reports** -- Julie Wollerman – Report submitted.
10. **Sheriff’s Report** – Rick Robbins –
11. **SOA Report** – Kendra Niehaus – Report submitted.
12. **State’s Attorney Report** – Andrew Affrunti – Report submitted.
13. **Treasurer’s Report** – Nikki Lohman – Report submitted.
14. **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 – Miles
- U of I – Beck
- WCDC – Jones

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

DEVELOPMENT & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Mark Hughes:

1. **Resolution Establishing Moratorium on Carbon Dioxide (CO2) Pipeline Construction in Montgomery County Update/Approval:** The Development and Personnel committee discussed the issues involved with a Resolution Establishing a Moratorium on Carbon Dioxide (CO2). Other area county moratoriums were shared. Issues surrounding the pipeline include an acid added to the CO2 that could eat away at the material and corrode the pipe.

Motion by Hughes and second by _____ to adopt the Resolution establishing a moratorium on Carbon Dioxide Pipeline Construction in Montgomery County. All in favor, motion carried.

2. **Carbon Sequestration Ad Hoc Committee Update/Approval:** Nothing new to report.
3. **MCEDC Update/Approval:** Hughes 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/Approval:** The committee reviewed the HRA sheet submitted by Treasurer Lohman. 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 Update/Approval:** The committee reviewed 18 Tourism Grant applications that were submitted and scored them. The numbers were calculated and all were awarded between 50% and 75%.

Motion by Hughes and second by _____ to award tourism grants to the following recipients in the amounts listed: Imagine Hillsboro Cardboard Boat Regatta for \$65; Coffeen Fall Fest for \$750; DAR Trivia Night Scholarship Fundraiser for \$500; Hell’s Burrow Haunted Attraction for \$500; Hillsboro Bicentennial for \$500; Imagine Hillsboro Harvest Market for \$750; John L. Lewis Park Playground Dedication for \$500; Litchfield Museum’s 10th Birthday Celebration for \$500; Litchfield Pickers Market for \$750; Montgomery County Fair for \$750; Old Settlers Car Show for \$675; Old Settlers Celebration for \$750; Old Settlers Concerts for \$75; Owl Prowl for \$250; Raymond Celebration for \$750; Red Rooster 120 and ½ Anniversary for \$750; Shake the Lakes for \$63; and Witt Labor Day for \$750. All in favor, motion carried.

6. **Moratorium on Cannabis Use in Montgomery County Update/Approval:** A couple from rural Butler addressed the committee regarding a neighbor that is potentially going to start a cannabis-friendly campground. State's Attorney Andrew Affrunti stated the County doesn't have zoning, so there is no nuisance ordinance to keep anyone from starting one of these businesses using cannabis on their property. The committee also discussed looking at how to establish county zoning which would also require the appointment of a zoning board. Affrunti shared a draft of a moratorium on cannabis use in Montgomery County. The committee will discuss further at a future meeting.
7. **DCEO Energy Transition Community Grant Update/Approval:** The ad hoc committee met and developed guidelines for entities to submit requests for the DCEO Energy Transition Community Grant. The next meeting is scheduled for April 29th where a vote will be taken on projects and allocation of funds.
8. **Animal Control Facility Update/Approval:** Animal Control Warden Emily Gerl is looking to purchase a used vehicle to replace the van that was damaged after hitting a deer. It will be discussed further during the Finance and Budget Committee report.
9. **Animal Control Municipal Contracts Update/Approval:** Some of the contracts were changed and need to be re-addressed and approved by the board. Also, Hillsboro City officials expressed a desire to have an opt-out after one year. The municipalities also don't like the contract automatically renewing after 3 years. The committee discussed the emergency phone number of 217-259-6104 to call after hours. The committee discussed taking the sign with the after-hours number down.
10. **EPA Report Update/Approval:** The Electronics Recycling Drive is scheduled for Saturday, April 29th, 2023 from 9 am to noon in Litchfield on the corner of Illinois and Ryder Streets. The fall collection will be held in September at the former Wright Automotive building in Hillsboro, also from 9:00 a.m. to noon.
11. **Statewide Siting of Wind & Solar Facilities – Public Act 102-1123 Update/Approval:** Public act 102-1123 took place in January 2023 and will become effective January 2024. The public act 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. Counties have 120 days from January 1st, 2023 to comply with Public Act 102-1123.
12. **Solar Provider Group - Permit Application and Setback Waiver Update/Approval:** State's Attorney Andrew Affrunti stated the minimum setbacks in the State's new statutes regarding solar are larger than the 500 foot setbacks we have now. Affrunti stated he has been emailing back and forth with Andrew Evans with Solar Provider Group that has sent in a solar permit.
13. **Executive Session for Personnel/Litigation/Property Acquisition Update/Approval: (if needed)**
14. **Other Business:** The committee will need to review the Personnel Manual to make it consistent with new legislation taking place on January 1, 2024 regarding 40 hour paid time off for employees that don't any paid time off options. The new law states employees can take sick leave in 2-hour increments, which will need to be changed in the manual.

COORDINATING COMMITTEE: Given by Chairman Doug Donaldson

1. **Information Systems Report Update/Approval:** Information Services has been working with the Circuit Clerk's office's court grant for technology upgrades. Also, board members and county employees who receive emails with an html attachment should know those are most likely bad. Office Manager Curt Watkins presented information on the Fiber Redundancy Project around the courthouse complex, which the Finance and Budget Committee will be addressing.
2. **EMA Report Update/Approval:** The Hazard Mitigation plan is continuing.
3. **West Central Development Council/Job Center Board/CEO Board Update/Approval:** Nothing new to report.
4. **Montgomery County Mental Health Committee Update/Approval:** The Mental Health Crisis Ad Hoc Committee held a meeting Tuesday, March 28th, and there was a good turnout.
5. **Executive Session for Personnel/Litigation/Property Acquisition Update/Approval: (if needed)**
6. **Other Business:** None.

RULES COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Connie Beck:

1. **Adopt Rules of Order for County Board Update/Approval:** The Rules Committee met again March 27th and voted to recommend adopting the County Board Rules of Order as presented.

Motion by Beck and second by _____ to adopt the Montgomery County Rules of the County Board as presented. All in favor, motion carried.

2. **Appoint Animal Control Administrator Update/Approval:** At their March 27th Meeting, the Rules Committee voted to recommend the Board make the Animal Control Administrator the Chair of the Development and Personnel Committee.

Motion by Beck and second by _____ to approve making the Chair of the Development and Personnel Committee the Animal Control Administrator. All in favor, motion carried.

3. **Other Business:** None.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Bob Sneed:

1. **Maintenance and Cleaning Issues and Report Update/Approval:** The furnace at the ROE building has been replaced. The maintenance staff remains busy working around the courthouse complex.
2. **Bid from Johnson Controls/Clow Controls Update/Approval:** The committee reviewed proposals from Johnson Controls and Clow Controls for HVAC maintenance in the new courthouse. Johnson Controls submitted a contract proposal, which included premium prices of \$6,645 for 2024, \$7,177 for 2025 and \$7,751 for 2026. Clow Control submitted a price, which would not include a contract. The pricing includes \$100 per hour for service work and \$130 per hour for control work and balance work. Maintenance Superintendent Phil Ernst informed the committee most of Clow's work would be control work. The committee voted to use Clow Controls for control maintenance work of the HVAC system of the new courthouse.

3. **Jail Generator Maintenance Update/Approval:** The county purchased a generator for the jail, and it was initially believed there would not be an issue switching out the old for the new. Russ Jones from Hillsboro Electric looked at it, and submitted an estimate of \$30,850.14. The generator could be moved to the new courthouse, but the jail needs it more. The committee voted to table this matter for one month.
4. **Sidewalks at Historic Courthouse Update/Approval:** Nothing new to report.
5. **Interior Door Project for County Clerk's Office Update/Approval:** Nothing new to report.
6. **Quote from National Maintenance and Cleaning to Clean Carpets in Historic Courthouse Update/Approval:** The committee reviewed two bids from National Maintenance and Cleaning to clean the carpets of the historic courthouse. One quote is for cleaning all the carpets, and the other is for high traffic areas only. The price for the entire thing is \$2,086.50, with high traffic areas coming in at \$850. The committee voted to approve the quote for high traffic areas.
7. **Bids for Old Highway Department Property Update/Approval:** The committee voted to reject all bids. Initially, the board voted to advertise bidding out the property as is, but some board members have received requests to put deed restrictions on the property. The board will have to decide whether to move forward with selling the property as is, demolishing the old highway department office before advertising for bids, advertising for bids with a deed restriction, advertising for bids for the property as a whole, or piecing out the lots before advertising for bids. In the meantime, the board will have to find a place for EMA to go if the property is sold.
8. **Soil Testing at County Farm Update/Approval:** The last time the soil was tested at the county farm was 2020. Mark Hughes will be talking to Arlen Kasten, who was awarded the lease, about soil testing vendors and will report back to the committee next month.
9. **Recommend Bidding Out Elevator Preventative Maintenance Service Agreement Update/Approval:** This item will remain on the agenda until the fall since the board has a small window to bid out the maintenance agreement.
10. **Executive Session for Personnel/Litigation/Property Acquisition/County Property Update/Approval: (if needed)**
11. **Other Business:** None.

FINANCE & BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Andy Ritchie:

1. **SOA Report Update/Approval:** The SOA office posted a job opening for the Field Rep position on April 1. Natalie Bergman will be taking tests to become a Certified Illinois Assessing Officer (CIAO). TrueRoll has also begun their data collection.
2. **Capital Improvement Fund Reports Update/Approval:** The fund is doing well, and some of the investments came due at the end of March.
3. **Approve FY 2022 Audit Update/Approval:** The auditors will present the audit at the full board meeting.

Motion by Ritchie and second by _____ to approve the FY 2022 Audit as presented. All in favor, motion carried.

- 4. Approve Contract with Scheffel-Boyle for Auditing Services Update/Approval:** The contract for auditing services has expired, and 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 _____ to approve the three-year agreement with Scheffel-Boyle for auditing services. All in favor, motion carried.

- 5. Intergovernmental Agreement with City of Nokomis for Police Radio and Telephone Services Update/Approval:** The City of Nokomis pays the county for telephone and radio services. This agreement is through the end of November and will have to be addressed again at that time.

Motion by Ritchie and second by _____ to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Nokomis for Police Radio and Telephone Services. All in favor, motion carried.

- 6. Approve Signing Amended Intergovernmental Agreement with ETSB for Centralized Emergency Dispatch Center Update/Approval:** The ETSB needs to sign the document. The Finance and Budget Committee voted to approve the amended IGA pending the signature from the ETSB.

Motion by Ritchie and second by _____ to approve signing the amended Intergovernmental Agreement with ETSB for Centralized Emergency Dispatch Center, pending the ETSB signing the agreement. All in favor, motion carried.

- 7. Intergovernmental Agreement for Multi-township Assessment of Butler Grove-Irving-Rountree Townships Update/Approval:**

Motion by Ritchie and second by _____ to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement for Multi-township Assessment of Butler Grove-Irving-Rountree Townships. All in favor, motion carried.

- 8. Intergovernmental Agreement for Multi-township Assessment of South Litchfield Township Update/Approval:**

Motion by Ritchie and second by _____ to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement for Multi-township Assessment of South Litchfield Township. All in favor, motion carried.

- 9. Approve Payment of Supreme Court Data Integration Expense and for Full Reimbursement Update/Approval:** This is being mandated by the Supreme Court. The cost will be \$36,000 and will be split between the Circuit Clerk's Office, probation office and pre-trial office. The county will pay for it, send proof of payment and then it will be fully reimbursed. Circuit Clerk Daniel Robbins informed the Finance and Budget Committee if the certification does not arrive by April 28, the payment will be sent back.

Motion by Ritchie and second by _____ to approve payment of the Supreme Court data integration expense. All in favor, motion carried.

10. **Approve Purchase of EMA Building Update/Approval:** The highway department plans on building 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 Update/Approval:** AC Warden Emily Gerl has looked at a variety of vehicles to replace the animal control van that was 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. Gerl found a 2008 Dodge Ram truck for \$8,000. It has 86,000 miles on it and does need a camper shell. The only low mileage vans Gerl could find were \$20,000 or more.

Motion by Ritchie and second by _____ 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 Update/Approval:** This is for 2023 tax levies paid in 2024. Amanda Cole with the U of I extension will present more information at the full board meeting.

Motion by Ritchie and second by _____ to approve the FY 2024 agreement with the University of Illinois Extension as presented. All in favor, motion carried.

13. **Policy and Process for Resubmission of ARPA Funding Application Update/Approval:** Ritchie will be writing up a policy for the Finance and Budget Committee to review regarding the process for resubmitting applications for ARPA funding. Projects eligible for resubmission would be applications that were submitted prior to the board ranking them in October 2022.

14. **Approve Ordinance Authorizing the Use of ARPA funds to Pay Bellwether for Budget Services Update/Approval:** This is the first of two payments the board will make for this budget cycle.

Motion by Ritchie and second by _____ to approve the Ordinance 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.

15. **Approve Ordinance Authorizing the Use of ARPA funds to pay for Fiber Redundancy Project for Information Services Update/Approval:** This project is one of the board-approved ARPA projects.

Motion by Ritchie and second by _____ to approve the ordinance authorizing the use of ARPA funds to pay for the fiber redundancy project for Information Services for an amount not to exceed \$60,000. All in favor, motion carried.

16. **Approve Ordinance Authorizing the Use of ARPA funds to pay for Digitizing project for County Clerk and Recorder's Office Update/Approval:** This project is one of the board-approved ARPA projects.

Motion by Ritchie and second by _____ to approve the ordinance 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. All in favor, motion carried.

17. Approve Ordinance Amending Ordinance 2022-18, Authorizing the Use of ARPA funds to purchase communications system upgrade for 911/ETSB Update/Approval: 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 amends that ordinance.

Motion by Ritchie and second by _____ to approve the ordinance 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. All in favor, motion carried.

18. Contracts and Intergovernmental Agreements for ARPA Distribution Update/Approval: Two contracts/Intergovernmental Agreement 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.

- A. Contract with Nokomis-Witt Area Ambulance Service for ARPA Distribution Update/Approval: Nothing new to report.
- B. Contract with Raymond-Harvel Area Ambulance Service for ARPA Distribution Update/Approval:

Motion by Ritchie and second by _____ to approve signing the contract with the Raymond-Harvel Area Ambulance Service for ARPA distribution. All in favor, motion carried.

- C. Contract with Farmersville-Waggoner Area Ambulance Service for ARPA Distribution Update/Approval:

Motion by Ritchie and second by _____ to approve signing the contract with the Farmersville-Waggoner Area Ambulance Service for ARPA distribution. All in favor, motion carried.

- D. Intergovernmental Agreement with City of Nokomis for ARPA Distribution Update/Approval: Nothing new to report.
- E. Intergovernmental Agreement with Fillmore Police Department for ARPA Distribution Update/Approval: Nothing new to report.

19. Ordinances Authorizing the Use of ARPA Funds for Non-County Distributions Update/Approval: Since only two signed agreements have been returned, the board may act only on the ordinances related to those agreements, which fall under 19B and 19C on the agenda.

- A. Ordinance Authorizing the Use of ARPA Funds to Purchase Ambulance(s) for Nokomis-Witt Area Ambulance Service Update/Approval: Nothing new to report.
- B. Ordinance Authorizing the Use of ARPA Funds to Purchase Ambulance(s) for Raymond-Harvel Ambulance Service Update/Approval:

Motion by Ritchie and second by _____ to approve the ordinance 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. All in favor, motion carried.

C. **Ordinance Authorizing the Use of ARPA Funds to Purchase Ambulance(s) for Farmersville-Waggoner Ambulance Service Update/Approval:**

Motion by Ritchie and second by _____ to approve the ordinance 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. All in favor, motion carried.

D. **Ordinance Authorizing the Use of ARPA Funds to Purchase a Warning Siren for the City of Nokomis Update/Approval:** Nothing new to report.

E. **Ordinance Authorizing the Use of ARPA Funds to Purchase a Police Squad Car for the Fillmore Police Department Update/Approval:** Nothing new to report.

20. **Vistra Energy Solar Farm and Battery Storage Facility Update/Approval:** Representatives from Vistra Energy held an informational meeting in the board room on March 21.

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

22. **Other Business:** None.

ROADS & BRIDGES COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Evan Young:

1. **Walshville Bypass Road Intergovernmental Agreement Update/Approval:** The Walshville Village Board signed the agreement March 14, and nothing has changed since the county board reviewed it prior to it being signed. The project will likely take place in summer 2025.

Motion by Young and second by _____ to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement with the Village of Walshville for the Walshville Bypass Road project. All in favor, motion carried.

2. **2023 Township MFT Oil Letting Update/Approval:** This item was tabled until the May meeting as this letting was moved to April 10.

3. **2023 County MFT Oil Letting Update/Approval:** This item was tabled until the May meeting as this letting was moved to April 10.

4. **2023 Pipe Culvert Letting Update/Approval:** Metal Culverts, Inc. was the only vendor to submit bids. Prices went down slightly compared to where they were last year.

Motion by Young and second by _____ to approve the low bid from Metal Culverts Inc. for pipe culvert letting. All in favor, motion carried.

5. **Old Highway Department Building Update/Approval:** The individual who purchased the white truck building on the old highway department has only four sides of the newest part of the structure to remove.

6. **Section 15-00138-00-BR – Whitetown Bridge Construction Engineering Services Update/Approval:** The board needs to approve hiring a construction engineer. WHKS is the proposed engineer, and the project would be completed in approximately 95 working days. The cost of the construction agreement is \$176,456.

Motion by Young and second by _____ to approve the construction engineering agreement with WHKS. All in favor, motion carried.

7. **Section 17-05121-00-BR – Wonder Trail Bridge, Fillmore Twp, TBP, Engineering Services Update/Approval:** This agreement is for preliminary engineering, and will be with Prairie Engineers. This is a Fillmore Township project, which will be paid for using Township Bridge money. 80 percent will be paid for by the state with the remaining 20 percent being split between the Count and Fillmore Township. The cost of the preliminary engineering agreement is \$56,495.

Motion by Young and second by _____ to approve the preliminary engineering agreement with Prairie Engineers. All in favor, motion carried.

8. **Nokomis Township Road Vacation – Portion of N. 22nd Ave Update/Approval:** Greenwood made his decision to deny the appeal and uphold the decision made by the Nokomis Township road commissioner on vacating a portion of North 22nd Avenue. The parties who filed the appeal may now appeal Greenwood’s decision with the circuit court; however, Greenwood informed the Roads and Bridges Committee it would not be taken any further.
9. **Illinois House Bill 2781 – Increase of Township Bridge Funds Update/Approval:** The Township Bridge funds program has been in place for 43 years with no increases made. House Bill 2781, which is currently in committee at the state level, would increase the amount of township bridge funds. Currently, the county receives \$200,000 per year on average. If the same formula is used, the county would receive approximately \$800,000 per year for township bridges. This has nothing to do with county bridges. Some counties have filed resolutions supporting this bill, and Greenwood will look into this to possibly present to the committee at a future meeting.

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

11. **Other Business:** None.

APPROVAL OF THE COMMITTEE REPORTS & MINUTES:

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

SCHEDULE CHANGES:

APPOINTMENTS:

Motion by _____ and second by _____ 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:

PAY BILLS AND PAYROLL:

Motion by _____ and second by _____ 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 _____ 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.