

**Montgomery County Board
Long Agenda**

For Tuesday, September 12th, 2023 – 5:30 PM

The following are minutes of a regular meeting of the Montgomery County Board held at 5:30 PM on Tuesday, September 12th, 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, August 8th, 2023. All in favor, motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. **Animal Control Report** – Emily Gerl – Report submitted.
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 –
13. **ROE – Monthly, Quarterly & Annual Reports** – Julie Wollerman – Report submitted.
14. **Sheriff’s Report** – Rick Robbins – Report submitted.
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 Services has advertised for bids for a fiber redundancy ring project, which will be paid for using ARPA funds. Deadline to submit bids is September 22, and two companies have expressed interest to Information Services Manager Curt Watkins thus far.
2. **EMA Report and Hazard Mitigation Plan Update/Approval:** Additions to the Hazard Mitigation Grant must be submitted by October 31. The final hearing will be held January 24, 2024 from 5 to 7 p.m.
3. **West Central Development Council/Job Center Board/CEO Board Update/Approval:** CEO Board meetings will now be held at 5 p.m., and they are currently being held at the job center in Carlinville; though they are actively looking for space in Montgomery County.
4. **CO2 Sequestration Ad Hoc Committee Update/Approval:** The committee hosted a meeting August 22, with representatives from the Heartland-Greenway project and county citizens in attendance.
5. **Executive Session for Personnel/Litigation/Property Acquisition Update/Approval: (if needed)**
6. **Other Business:** None.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Bob Sneed:

1. **Maintenance and Cleaning Issues and Report Update/Approval:** The compressors on the chiller at the new courthouse failed. Maintenance Superintendent Ernst has attempted to repair it to get it

running, but it needs to be replaced. National Maintenance also continues to clean the Historic Courthouse and Jail.

2. **Tuck Pointing at VAC Building Update/Approval:** This will be addressed at the October committee meeting.
3. **Interior Door Project for County Clerk's Office Update/Approval:** We are waiting for the State's Energy Grant for 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:** We are waiting for a purchase agreement from the State's Attorney's office before moving forward with this.
5. **Repair Chiller at New Courthouse Update/Approval:**

Motion by Sneed and second by _____ to approve purchasing two compressors for the chiller at the new courthouse from Johnson Controls for an amount not to exceed \$39,040. All in favor, motion carried.

6. **Executive Session for Personnel/Litigation/Property Acquisition/County Property Update/Approval: (if needed)**
7. **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 said premiums are increasing by 29 percent as of right now, but she will try to negotiate and get those numbers down by the next meeting.
2. **Animal Control Facility and Municipal Contracts Update/Approval:** Animal Control Warden Gerl reported she has gotten a lot of dogs adopted out recently, and the facility is down to 10 as of September 7th. They also have 15 kittens and two elderly cats.
3. **Animal Control Policy Update/Approval:** The committee will research before coming up with some policies for animal control.
4. **Appoint Animal Control Deputy Administrator Update/Approval:** Because Hughes is not a licensed vet, he has to appoint someone who is in order to be in compliance with state law (510 ILCS 5/2.01, 5/2.07).

Motion by Hughes and second by _____ to appoint Dr. Alan Probst as Deputy Administrator of Animal Control. All in favor, motion carried.

5. **MCEDC Update/Approval:** Bill Montgomery was hired as the new executive director of the Montgomery County Economic Development Corporation (MCEDC). He was in attendance at the meeting last week, but had to leave when we went into executive session. He will hopefully be back at the next meeting.

6. **Nextlink Broadband Internet Update/Approval:** County Clerk Sandy Leitheiser and County Coordinator Chris Daniels attended a meeting in Greenville involving a number of representatives from broadband companies and other counties. Leitheiser has encouraged Nextlink representative Mike Johnson to attend a committee and full board meeting in the near future.
7. **Vistra Energy – Coffeen Solar Project Permit Application Update/Approval:** The independent review from Hurst-Rosche was submitted Friday, but since the committee did not get a chance to review, this will be discussed next month. The review was sent to Russell Whitaker of the Vistra group.
8. **Vistra Energy – Coffeen Solar Project Enterprise Zone Request Update/Approval:** This item will be discussed further after the next mayors meeting, which is tentatively scheduled for later this month.
9. **Ordinance Adopting Personnel Manual Update/Approval:** Assured Partners invited Treasurer Nikki Lohman to attend a webinar on this matter on September 12th.
10. **Illinois DCEO Community Development Block Grant Update/Approval:**
 - **Intergovernmental Agreement with City of Litchfield for the DCEO Community Development Block Grant Update/Approval:** After speaking with Litchfield Economic Development Coordinator Tonya Flannery and Hillsboro Economic Development and Community Planner Sarah McConnell, no interest has been received regarding projects related to the CDBG. There is still time, but there is no need to pass an Intergovernmental Agreement if there is no interest.
11. **Scheduling of Union Negotiation Meetings with Local 773 (Correctional Officers and Telecommunicators) Update/Approval:** Those will be scheduled within the next month.
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:** The Supervisor of Assessments office has been putting in all the work from the assessors, and then they will roll their information to the County Clerk's office.
2. **Capital Improvement Fund Reports Update/Approval:** The July Coal Royalty Check came in at \$197,243.83, bringing the balance to \$8,421,610. We did receive a check for August, which will be reflected in next month's report.
3. **Allocation of Remaining ARPA Funds for FY 2024 Budget Update/Approval:** The County has enough ARPA funds to move further down the list of requested projects. County and non-county entities were notified of additional funds and were asked to respond if they were still interested in funding. Every entity replied, and the list was revised to reflect the responses. Remaining ARPA funds will cover items 21 through 29 on the ARPA request list. After funding #29, there will be a remaining balance of about \$45,000 in ARPA money.

Motion by Ritchie and second by _____ to approve funding ARPA projects 21 through 29 on the updated list. All in favor, motion carried.

- 4. **Highway Department \$30,000 Payment Update/Approval:** The Highway Department has been paying \$30,000 annually since 2020 to reimburse coal funds used to purchase their current property. However, since the highway department is not able to own property and in order to utilize that \$30,000 elsewhere on an annual basis, the committee is recommending forgiving the remaining balance on the loan.

Motion by Ritchie and second by _____ to forgive the remaining balance on the loan for the new highway department starting in Fiscal Year 2023. All in favor, motion carried.

- 5. **County Policy for Special Fund Use Update/Approval:** The committee discussed the potential creation of a policy for how each department is able to utilize their special funds. This item was brought to light after a discussion surrounding the Circuit Clerk’s budget. State’s Attorney Affrunti says the County Board does not have a say in how departments utilize said funds, as the statute reads the County Board “shall” expend funds at the request of the clerk of the courts. Treasurer Lohman is seeking a UCCI opinion to interpret the statute as read.
- 6. **FY 2024 Budget Update/Approval:** The County is looking at a deficit of around \$640,000, which does not include the potential 29 percent increase in health insurance. The committee asked Treasurer Lohman to send the latest proposed budget to department heads to see if they can make any additional reductions to get it closer to being balanced. A special meeting of the Finance and Budget Committee has been scheduled for September 28th at 5:30 p.m. for the purpose of discussing only the County budget.
- 7. **Resolution Increasing Election Judge Salary Update/Approval:** This item was tabled until next month so State’s Attorney Affrunti may review it.
- 8. **Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 08-23-160-029 in Nokomis Township to Jason and Sarah Miller Update/Approval:**

Motion by Ritchie and second by _____ to approve the Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 08-23-160-029 in Nokomis Township to Jason and Sarah Miller. All in favor, motion carried.

- 9. **Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 13-06-333-002 in Witt Township to Tucker Teubel Update/Approval:**

Motion by Ritchie and second by _____ to approve the Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 13-06-333-002 in Witt Township to Tucker Teubel. All in favor, motion carried.

- 10. **Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 16-12-205-004 in Hillsboro Township to Scott Anderson Update/Approval:**

Motion by Ritchie and second by _____ to approve the Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 16-12-205-004 in Hillsboro Township to Scott Anderson. All in favor, motion carried.

11. Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 16-12-111-006 in Hillsboro Township to Brittny Harris Update/Approval:

Motion by Ritchie and second by _____ to approve the Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 16-12-111-006 in Hillsboro Township to Brittny Harris. All in favor, motion carried.

12. Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 17-35-406-002 in East Fork Township to Snowwhite and Jonathan Nixon Update/Approval:

Motion by Ritchie and second by _____ to approve the Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 17-35-406-002 in East Fork Township to Snowwhite and Jonathan Nixon. All in favor, motion carried.

13. Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 21-23-226-008 in East Fork Township to Travis and Amanda Hemken Update/Approval:

Motion by Ritchie and second by _____ to approve the Resolution to Convey Deed for Parcel ID # 21-23-226-008 in East Fork Township to Travis and Amanda Hemken. All in favor, motion carried.

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

15. Other Business:

ROADS & BRIDGES COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Ethan Murzynski:

- 1. Section 15-00138-00-BR Red Ball Trail Bridge Update/Approval:** They are flooring concrete on the deck of the bridge, as well as doing dirt work at the 3rd Avenue intersection and installing pipe culverts. As of last Tuesday, they were 46 to 47 working days into the project, and they appear to be ahead of schedule and may not need all 95 working days.
- 2. Upcoming Road Use Agreements Update/Approval:** We are waiting on a response from Anacott Solar, as Highway Engineer Cody Greenwood had them prepare a draft of a Road Use Agreement. Greenwood also contacted Russell Whitaker from the Vistra Solar project about drafting a road use agreement as well.
- 3. Resolution 2023-09 Appropriating Funds for 100% County Culvert Replacement on E. 20th Road Update/Approval:** This will be a 36-inch, 45-foot culvert and will be paid for using County Aid to Bridge Funds. The amount is \$9,000.

Motion by Murzynski and second by _____ to approve Resolution 2023-09 appropriating funds for 100 percent county culvert replacement on East 20th Road for an amount not to exceed \$9,000. All in favor, motion carried.

- 4. Township Bridge Program (TBP) Funding Update/Approval:** The TBP funds came through in the amount of \$816,473. The average in years past was around \$204,000. Greenwood has a long list of Township Bridges that need replaced.

5. **Seasonal Renting/Leasing of Roadside Mowing Equipment Update/Approval:** Greenwood is looking into seasonal renting or leasing of mowing equipment. The highway department had an issue with their bush hog and it was down for about a month. Cross Implement is offering leases on mowers of around \$3,500 per year. The highway department usually goes through mowers every six to seven years, and they are about \$25,000.

6. **Other Items:** None.

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, September 27th at 5:00 p.m. A special Finance and Budget Committee meeting has also been scheduled for Thursday, September 28th at 5:30 p.m.

APPOINTMENTS:

Motion by _____ and second by _____ to approve the appointment of Alex Jordan to the Bois D’Arc #4 Drainage District Board to a term expiring the first Tuesday in September, 2025. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by _____ and second by _____ to approve the appointment of Donald Murphy to the Bois D’Arc #4 Drainage District Board to a term expiring the first Tuesday in September, 2026. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by _____ and second by _____ to approve the appointment of Todd Megginson to the Bois D’Arc #4 Drainage District Board to a term expiring the first Tuesday in September, 2024. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by _____ and second by _____ to approve the appointment of Daniel Tester to the Irving-Witt-Nokomis-Rountree #1 Drainage District Board to a term expiring the first Tuesday in September 2026. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by _____ and second by _____ to approve the appointment of Robert Wagahoff to the Farmersville-Waggoner Fire Protection District Board to a three-year term expiring September 2026. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by _____ and second by _____ to approve the appointment of Leonard Rovey to the Farmersville-Waggoner Fire Protection District Board to a two-year term expiring September, 2025. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by _____ and second by _____ to approve the appointment of John Welsh to the Farmersville-Waggoner Fire Protection District Board to a one-year term expiring September 2024. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by _____ and second by _____ to approve the appointment of Paul Pershing to the Three County Public Water District Board to a five-year term expiring October 31, 2028. 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)

ADJOURN:

The next regular full board meeting will be on Tuesday, October 10th, 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.