

**LIVINGSTON COUNTY BOARD**  
**MINUTES OF June 15, 2017 MEETING OF THE COUNTY BOARD**

**OPENING**

County Board Chairman Young called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., in the County Board Room of the Historic Courthouse, 112 W. Madison, Pontiac, Illinois.

The invocation was presented by Pastor Joel Paine of the Assembly of God Church in Pontiac. Justin Goemmel led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The clerk called roll with the following **present:** John “Jack” Vietti, Jason Bunting, John Slagel, G. Michael Ingles, Joseph D. Steichen, Ronald L. Kestner, Carolyn Gerwin, Steven Lovell, Vicki Allen, Robert F. Weller, Justin Goemmel, James A. Carley, Daryl N. Holt, Mark Runyon, William Mays, David W. Heath, Stanley R. Weber, Bob Young, John L. Yoder and Marty Fannin **Absent:** Tim Shafer, Paul A. Ritter and Kathy Arbogast  
**Vacancy:** Kelly Cohlman

**Also Present:** County Clerk-Kristy Masching, Executive Director-Alina Hartley, Zoning Administrator-Chuck Schopp, County Highway Engineer-Clay Metcalf, GLCEDC CEO-Adam Dontz and Finance Director-John Clemmer

**AGENDA**

Chairman Young noted that Executive Session would be removed and asked for approval of the amended agenda. *Motion by Yoder, second by Holt to approve the agenda.* **MOTION CARRIED ON UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE.**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Chairman Young called for approval of the May 11, 2017 meeting minutes. *Motion by Weller, second by Ingles to approve the May 11, 2017 meeting minutes.* **MOTION CARRIED ON UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE.**

**PRESENTATION**

None

**APPEARANCES**

None

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Approval of Bills
- B. Appointments:
  - a) **Leonard Haberkorn** – re-appointment to the Chatsworth Fire Protection District, three year term commencing first Monday in May, 2017 and ending the first Monday in May, 2020.
  - b) **Nelson Zehr (Resolution #2017-06-22)** – re-appointment to the Fairbury Rural Fire Protection District, three year term commencing first Monday in May, 2017 and ending the first Monday in May, 2020.
  - c) **Brad Maley (Resolution #2017-06-23)** – re-appointment to the Fairbury Rural Fire Protection District, three year term commencing first Monday in May, 2017 and ending the first Monday in May, 2020.
  - d) **Thomas Clark (Resolution #2017-06-24)** – re-appointment to the Long Point Community Fire Protection District, three year term commencing first Monday in May, 2017 and ending the first Monday in May, 2020.
  - e) **Carl Krause** – re-appointment to the Cullom Fire Protection District, three year term commencing first Monday in May, 2017 and ending the first Monday in May, 2020.
  - f) **Chris Clement** – re-appointment to the Pontiac Rural Fire Protection District, three year term commencing first Monday in May, 2017 and ending the first Monday in May, 2020.

- g) **Michael Haberkorn** – re-appointment to the Livingston County Regional Planning Commission, four year term commencing June 15, 2017 and expiring June 14, 2021.

Chairman Young called for approval of the consent agenda. *Motion by Bunting, second by Fannin for approval of the consent agenda.* **MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE.** **Ayes:** Vietti, Bunting, Slagel, Ingles, Steichen, Kestner, Gerwin, Lovell, Allen, Weller, Goembel, Carley, Holt, Runyon, Mays, Heath, Weber, Young, Yoder and Fannin **Nays:** None **Absent:** Shafer, Ritter and Arbogast **Vacancy:** Cohlman

#### AG & ZONING

**Zoning Case ZM-1-17 – Bob Cissell - Dollar General (#2017-06-25)** –Committee Chairman Daryl Holt reported that the applicant, Dollar General had asked for a change to the zoning classification of property where they desired to build their store in South Streater from an R2, Low Density Multiple Family Residence District to a C1, Local Business District. This proposal had been considered at last month’s meeting but had been referred back to the Ag Committee as well as the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) for further review of additional information provided by the developer. As a result, a public hearing was held by the ZBA with further testimony being presented regarding the water control, parking lot drainage, lighting and fencing. The ZBA recommended that this case be approved and referred it back to the Ag Committee. *Motion by Holt, second by Fannin to approve Zoning Case ZM-1-17 (Bob Cissell-Dollar General), changing the zoning classification of the subject property from an R2, Low Density Multiple Family Residence District, to a C1, Local Business District, classification.* Discussion followed. Zoning Administrator-Chuck Schopp stated that there were a few residents at the hearing who were opposed to this proposal mainly due to traffic concerns. He also noted that this was the last undeveloped lot in the area which could be developed as residential or commercial and that there were a number of businesses in that area already. Schopp also commented that what the board members were deciding tonight had to do with changing the zoning classification of the property and that the water and septic issues would be addressed separately if the process moved forward. Holt reported that 170 residents signed a petition in favor of the business and that the township supervisor had conducted a survey with 72 residents in favor and 6 residents opposed to the proposal. Chuck reminded the members that their vote should be based on the recommendation made by the ZBA. Comments and concerns were heard from James Reihl who resides in close proximity to the site and is opposed to the project due to increased lighting and traffic issues and their effect on his home. **MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE.** **Ayes:** Vietti, Bunting, Ingles, Kestner, Allen, Weller, Goembel, Carley, Holt, Heath, Weber, Young, Yoder and Fannin **Nays:** Slagel, Steichen, Gerwin, Lovell, Runyon and Mays **Absent:** Shafer, Ritter and Arbogast **Vacancy:** Cohlman

#### HIGHWAY

Committee Chairman Jason Bunting reviewed the **Action Agenda Item** as follows:

- a) **Letting Results:** June 6, 2017 Letting
- b) **Quarterly Report:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter FY2017

*Motion by Bunting, second by Runyon to approve the Highway Action items.* **MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE.** **Ayes:** Vietti, Bunting, Slagel, Ingles, Steichen, Kestner, Gerwin, Lovell, Allen, Weller, Goembel, Carley, Holt, Runyon, Mays, Heath, Weber, Young, Yoder and Fannin **Nays:** None **Absent:** Shafer, Ritter and Arbogast **Vacancy:** Cohlman

#### FINANCE

**Resolution (#2017-06-26) Budget Transfers Associated with Maintenance Transition** – Vice-Committee Chairman David Heath stated that this resolution pertained to the budget transfer associated with the transition of the maintenance department between the county and the Sheriff’s Department. It had been reviewed by both the Finance Director-John Clemmer and members of the Finance Committee. *Motion by Heath, second by Ingles to approve the resolution transferring line item appropriations and expenses associated with the Maintenance transition within the General Fund for the period from December 1, 2016 through November 30, 2017.* **MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE.** **Ayes:** Vietti, Bunting, Slagel, Ingles, Kestner, Gerwin, Lovell, Allen, Weller, Goembel, Carley, Holt, Runyon, Heath, Weber, Young and Yoder **Nays:** Steichen, Mays and Fannin **Absent:** Shafer, Ritter and Arbogast **Vacancy:** Cohlman

**Resolution (#2017-06-27) Prevailing Wage** – Vice-Committee Chairman David Heath explained that approving the prevailing wages was an annual function of the board authorized by statute. He noted that most people weren't in favor of it but it had to be done since it was a statutory mandate. He did say that it could be and had been approved by our board under protest. Discussion highlights included: ordinance was approved under protest last year; some counties aren't passing the ordinance this year; and the rates haven't changed since July of 2015. *Motion by Heath, second by Holt to pass the Prevailing Wage Ordinance, but include language that says the Board did not agree with this mandate and that they are approving the ordinance under protest.* **MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE.** **Ayes:** Vietti, Bunting, Ingles, Steichen, Kestner, Gerwin, Lovell, Allen, Carley, Holt, Mays, Heath, Weber and Young **Nays:** Slagel, Weller, Goembel, Runyon, Yoder and Fannin **Absent:** Shafer, Ritter and Arbogast **Vacancy:** Cohlman

**Resolution (#2017-06-28) Granting funds to GLCEDC for STEAM** – Vice-Committee Chairman David Heath stated that this request was for the approval of a grant for \$31,000 for a STEAM program at the Woodland School District. The committee unanimously recommended it. *Motion by Heath, second by Bunting to approve the funding of a grant in the amount of \$31,000 for the STEAM program at the Woodland School District.* Discussion followed. GLCEDC CEO-Adam Dontz provided additional information on the grant noting that this was the second STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics) program grant that had been approved with the first grant going to Pontiac District #429. The STEAM program is an application (hands-on) based curriculum as opposed to reading it out of a text book. The grant will provide assistance for curriculum enhancement/professional development training (from Texas Instruments and Bradley University) and the purchase of equipment (Texas Instruments graphing calculators) for use in their program. The Woodland School District is spending about \$104,000 with the county's contribution of \$31,000 amounting to about one-third of the overall plan. Adam also stated that with these grants, one of GLCEDC's requirements is that the schools bring the business community in 3-4 days a semester, to be involved in the classroom co-teaching. The GLCEDC has also formed an education workforce committee which partners members from the business sector with the schools and focuses on the development of the county's future workforce participants. This grant is a one-time grant which will impact about 480 students and will not affect their school's state funding. **MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE.** **Ayes:** Vietti, Bunting, Slagel, Ingles, Kestner, Lovell, Allen, Weller, Carley, Holt, Mays, Heath, Weber, Young, Yoder and Fannin **Nays:** Steichen, Gerwin, Goembel and Runyon **Absent:** Shafer, Ritter and Arbogast **Vacancy:** Cohlman

Vice-Chairman David Heath reported that FY 2018 budget information had been circulated by John Clemmer with capital requests to be reviewed next month.

#### **SHERIFF, JAIL & LICENSE**

Chairman Ron Kestner reported the following items of interest from their committee meeting: toured the jail on June 6; 143 detainees in the jail, with 39 from the federal northern district, 12 from the federal central district, 36 from Cook County and 56 from Livingston County; and approved two raffle licenses.

**Mobile Home Park License Application** - Chairman Ron Kestner stated that they reviewed a Mobile Home Park license application from ILPO Redwood MHP, LLC for the Redwood Manor Trailer Park due to a change in ownership. This company is based in Colorado. *Motion by Kestner, second by Weller to approve the mobile home park license for ILPO Redwood MHP, LLC.* Clerk Masching noted that she had received additional information from the company as well as their phone number. **MOTION CARRIED ON UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE.**

**Approval of Invoices: Brownells** – Bill Mays explained that he had again questioned the invoices for the purchase of expensive gun parts. He didn't feel that that's what the Uniform Replacement Fund was to be used for and that the public should be made aware of what was happening. Chairman Ron Kestner stated that they had talked about this issue before and re-iterated that the State's Attorney had told them there wasn't a lot they could do about it now. It would need to be addressed in the budget sessions and contract negotiations. Chairman Young stated that union negotiations were currently taking place with our negotiating team and attorney working

towards a policy that was a little more palatable for the board and the citizens. It was noted that the invoice had already been paid. *Motion by Kestner, second by Heath to approve payment of the Brownells Invoice from the Sheriff's Department.* **MOTION FAILED ON ROLL CALL VOTE.** **Ayes:** Vietti, Kestner, Allen, Heath, Weber and Young **Nays:** Slagel, Ingles, Weller, Goembel, Carley, Holt, Runyon, Mays, Yoder and Fannin **Abstain:** Bunting, Steichen, Gerwin and Lovell **Absent:** Shafer, Ritter and Arbogast **Vacancy:** Cohlman

**Approval of Travel Expenses Exceeding Travel Policy** – Committee Chairman Kestner reported that the travel expenses were incurred January when the jail superintendents attended an educational training seminar in Orlando, Florida. Marty Fannin questioned why they didn't travel together, with the response being that there was a scheduling conflict and that Inman spent some time with his brother-in-law. Fannin felt that it could have been handled differently in light of the travel policy which the county adopted. Alina Hartley explained that at the end of last year, the board implemented a statutorily required travel policy, in which thresholds were set. If a department exceeds those thresholds, then those travel invoices will need to be approved by the full county board with a roll call vote. Ms. Hartley further explained that they exceeded both their meeting and meal thresholds. She also noted that even though the superintendents were aware of the policy they did not consider it when they made their plans. The superintendents said they would request pre-approval next time. This instance would be retroactive since the invoices had already been paid. Travel expenses that exceed the thresholds must be approved in advance. Ms. Hartley noted that the superintendents indicated to her that it was just an oversight on their part. *Motion by Kestner, second by Holt to approve the travel expenses for educational training.* Discussion followed. Ingles commented that the training took place at a hotel conference center where the room rates and meals, which are included in the activities, are considerably higher than expenses incurred during normal travel. Ms. Hartley also noted that the Board must vote on these items by roll call vote, there was no ramification to the Sheriff for non-compliance, and the Sheriff still had the same authority as he did with any other item within his budget. **MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE.** **Ayes:** Slagel, Ingles, Kestner, Gerwin, Lovell, Allen, Weller, Goembel, Holt, Heath, Weber, Young and Yoder **Nays:** Vietti, Carley, Runyon and Mays **Absent:** Shafer, Ritter and Arbogast **Abstain:** Bunting, Steichen and Fannin **Vacancy:** Cohlman

#### **PUBLIC PROPERTY**

Committee Chairman Mike Ingles reported that Facilities Services Manager-Chad Carnahan updated them on the projects taking place at the Health and Education Building. He was also working on estimated costs for major improvement projects for next year's budget capital requests.

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE**

Chairman Young reported the following items of interest. A meeting had been held with the Judges, the State's Attorney, Sheriff, and Judge Fitzsimons about resolving the ADA issues at the Law and Justice Center. Young reported that about 80% of the Livingston Manor building had been demolished. Discussion had taken place with on how property was assessed in the county and the number of properties that need to be assessed and included on the tax rolls. ZBA met and will meet again on July 6 with the board members anticipating to be better prepared to answer some of the questions that no one knew were coming at the last meeting. Negotiations are on-going. Young reported that the Department of Agriculture would be doing aerial spraying (June 20, 21 or 22) over Fairbury, Pontiac and Streator for the gypsy moth. The spray is not harmful to the citizens of the county.

#### **PERSONNEL**

No report

#### **ELECTION, RULES & LEGISLATION**

Committee Chairman Fannin reported that their committee met earlier this evening to approve the appointments that had been taken care of under the Consent Agenda.

#### **INFORMATION & TECHNOLOGY**

Committee Chairwoman Vicki Allen reported that Jon Sear reviewed his monthly report with the committee. He had been reviewing options related to an exchange server, replaced firewalls and replaced laptops with desktops at the State's Attorney's office.

#### **VETERANS ASSISTANCE**

Committee Chairman Joe Steichen reported that they had reviewed the Commission's tentative budget and had voted to refer it onto the Finance Committee. Steichen also reported that one of the vans had been totaled in an accident. They will be looking into purchasing a replacement sooner than anticipated.

#### **RECREATION**

Joe Steichen reported that they hadn't met in three or four months. Clay Metcalf had put in a request to IDOT for some information regarding the agreement that the county would have to enter into for the maintenance of the path. We also had some questions regarding the liability and the potential cost the county would infer. A response hadn't been received from IDOT.

#### **HOUSING AUTHORITY**

Chairman Young reported that John Slagel would be replacing Kelly Cohlman as the board's representative on the Livingston County Housing Authority Board.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Clerk Masching reminded the members that per diems were due in her office by 10:00 a.m., Friday (16th), in order to meet the payroll of Friday, June 23.

Jason Bunting commented on what happened at the ZBA meeting the week before. He voiced his disdain over how his peers in attendance were treated. He felt that there was fault on both sides and that everyone needed to leave their personalities and past discretions aside and come together for the good of our county.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Removed from agenda.

#### **ACTION RESULTING FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Removed from agenda.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

*The meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m., on motion by Kestner, second by Mays. MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL AYES ON VOICE VOTE.*

**Bob Young, Chairman**

Attest:

*Kristy A. Masching*  
County Clerk

July 20, 2017  
Approved

Minutes Bd 061517.A