

**LIVINGSTON COUNTY BOARD**  
**MINUTES OF April 12, 2018 MEETING OF THE COUNTY BOARD**

**OPENING**

County Board Chairman Robert 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.

At this time, Chairman Young asked for a moment of silence in memory of David Rainbolt, who passed away last week. David had worked as the Maintenance Foreman for the Livingston County Highway Department and had retired September 1.

The invocation was presented by James “Doc” Carley. Tim Shafer led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The clerk called roll with the following **present:** John “Jack” Vietti, Jason Bunting, John Slagel, Joseph D. Steichen, Tim Shafer, Patrick D. Killian, Ronald L. Kestner, Paul A. Ritter, Carolyn Gerwin, Steven Lovell, Vicki Allen, Kathy Arbogast, Robert F. Weller, 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:** G. Michael Ingles  
**Vacancy:** Justin Goembel

**Also Present:** County Clerk-Kristy Masching, Executive Director-Alina Hartley, Enbridge Public Affairs-Cheryl Harvey, Lauri Pope-CPA, Mack & Associates and Assistant County Highway Engineer-Trent Ruestman

**AGENDA**

Before Chairman Young called for approval of the agenda, he stated that Item B: Resolution Recognizing the PTHS Unified Basketball State Champions would be removed from the agenda. Since all of the team members were unable to attend the April meeting, it was decided to recognize their accomplishment at the May meeting instead. He also noted that there wasn’t an Executive Session either. Young then called for approval of the agenda as amended. *Motion by Bunting, second by Fannin to approve the agenda as amended.* **MOTION CARRIED ON UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE.**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Chairman Young called for approval of the February 15 and March 15, 2018 meeting minutes. *Motion by Fannin, second by Ritter to approve the February 15 and March 15, 2018 meeting minutes.* **MOTION CARRIED ON VOICE VOTE.**

**PRESENTATION**

**Enbridge: Presentation of Vehicle Grant Award to Veterans Assistance** – Cheryl Harvey, a representative from Enbridge Energy Public Affairs was delighted to present a Chevrolet Trailblazer SUV vehicle to the Livingston County Veterans Assistance Commission. Ms. Harvey noted that it had been driven by one of their local supervisors, had a little over 70,000 miles of use and was in great shape. She also recognized eight of the forty employees from the Flanagan Terminal who were veterans of the Armed Services. She also noted that April was “National Safe Digging Month” and reminded everyone to dial 811 before doing any digging on their property. Veteran’s Assistance Superintendent Tom Bailey and some members of the commission were in attendance for the exchange of the vehicle. Board member Joe Steichen also recognized and thanked Superintendent Tom Bailey for his fifteen years of service with the Veteran’s Commission.

There was a short recess for members of the Veterans Assistance Commission to proceed outside for the ceremonial exchange of the vehicle.

**Mack & Associates-FY2017 Annual Audit** – Lauri Pope of the Mack & Associates auditing firm presented financial highlights and reviewed some of the basic financial statements of the FY2017 audit report. She reported that the Independent Auditors’ Report stated that their firm had issued a clean opinion on the financial statement, which is an unmodified opinion. They feel that the financial statements reflected in this reporting are stated fairly

in all material respects. Ms. Pope noted the following financial highlights (pg 4): county's net position decreased from \$87,313,043 to \$86,821,930 in 2017; the General Fund ended FY 2017 with a fund balance of \$25,626,874, which was a 1% increase over the prior year; Public Health ended the year with a fund balance of \$1,215,744; Mental Health ended their year with a fund balance of \$1,387,178; overall, the County's governmental funds ended the year with a fund balance of \$35,188,754 which represented an increase of 3% over the prior year; and the General Fund's total expenditures of \$14.8 million were \$4.6 million less than what was budgeted. The Statement of Net Position (page 14), which includes government and business-type activities, showed the county's assets ending the year at \$89.9 million, up from \$89.4 million. There were deferred outflows of resources at \$13 million, liabilities \$6.8 million and deferred inflows of revenue of \$9.2 million, for a total year end net position of \$86.8 million, which was a decrease of about \$500,000 from last year's total of \$87.3 million. The Business-type activity, Livingston Manor Nursing Home reflected no activity since it was closed and demolished during FY 2017. The Component Unit which was comprised of the 911/ETSB showed no activity as well since it was consolidated into the Vermilion Valley ETSB. Ms. Pope noted that the Government-Wide Statement of Activities-Statement B (pg 15) was basically an income statement showing governmental activity expenses at \$25.8 million, total general revenues and transfers of \$16 million for a total change in net position of an increase of the governmental activities of \$1.4 million, a decrease in the business activities which was the demolition and transfer of assets from the nursing home demolition of \$1.8 million, for a total of overall net position of \$86.8 million. The Balance Sheet-Statement C (pg 16) shows the Governmental Funds end-of-year assets at \$36.4 million, deferred outflows of property taxes at \$8.4 million, liabilities at \$1.2 million, and deferred inflows of property taxes of \$8.4 million, with an ending fund balance of \$35.1 million, which was up from last year's ending balance of \$34 million. The Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances – Statement D (pg 18) reflected end-of-the year revenues at \$23.6 million, up slightly from last year. The end-of-year expenses ended up just under \$23 million, down from last year. She noted that the excess of revenues over expenditures of \$564,554 brought our fund balance up to \$35.1 million. Statement E, F & G (pgs 21-23) reflect the following Nursing Home items: showed that all of the assets had been transferred accordingly; there was a non-operating loss of \$1.8 million, which includes transfer to the County Construction & Building Renovation Fund and disposal of the assets. Ms. Pope pointed out that starting with Schedule B-1 (starting on pg 77), the General Fund was laid out between the different accounts within the General Fund. It showed where the funds and the transfers between those funds have occurred. She concluded noting that the total liabilities, deferred inflows and fund balance ended at \$30.7 million with total revenues increasing and total expenditures decreasing. *Motion to approve the FY 2017 Annual Audit by Shafer, second by Steichen.* **MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE.** **Ayes:** Vietti, Bunting, Slagel, Steichen, Shafer, Killian, Kestner, Ritter, Gerwin, Lovell, Allen, Arbogast, Weller, Carley, Holt, Runyon, Mays, Heath, Weber, Young, Yoder and Fannin **Nays:** None **Absent:** Ingles **Vacancy:** Goembel

#### APPEARANCES

None

#### CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of Bills
- B. Appointments:
  - a) **Mary Gambardella** – re-appointment to the Livingston County Housing Authority, five year term commencing May 23, 2018 and expiring the May 2023.
  - b) **Greg Yoder** – (**Resolution #2018-04-12**) reappointment to the Fairbury Rural Fire Protection District, three year term commencing May 7, 2018 and expiring the first Monday in May 2021.

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

## HIGHWAY

Committee Chairman Jason Bunting introduced Assistant Highway Engineer-Trent Ruestman who reviewed the **Action Agenda Items** as follows:

- a) **Letting Results:** April 3, 2018 Letting
- b) **Bridge Petition:** Sunbury Road District – Replace existing 30” x 30’ Corrugated Metal Pipe with one 48” x 36’ Precoated CMP @ 3245N, 1800E Road. Estimated Cost = \$5,000. Section 18-28000-00-AB.
- c) **Bridge Petition:** Newtown Road District – Repair existing timber planking on Structure 053-3173 @ 3088N, 900E Road. Estimated Cost = \$20,000. Section 18-17000-00-AB.
- d) **Bridge Petition:** Reading Road District – Scour remediation under Structure 053-4104 @ 2900N, 560E Road. Estimated Cost = \$14,500. Section 18-23000-00-AB.

*Motion by Bunting, second by Runyon to approve all of the action items with one roll call vote.* **MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE.** **Ayes:** Vietti, Bunting, Slagel, Steichen, Shafer, Killian, Kestner, Ritter, Gerwin, Lovell, Allen, Arbogast, Weller, Carley, Holt, Runyon, Mays, Heath, Weber, Young, Yoder and Fannin  
**Nays:** None **Absent:** Ingles **Vacancy:** Goemmel

## AG & ZONING

Chairman Daryl Holt reported the following information. Their committee will be reviewing two proposals for solar energy projects in the future. At a meeting held with Republic Services, the committee learned that the company is in the process of repairing seven wells at the landfill and will also be capping Parcel C. Holt noted that the existing gas system at the Streater Area Landfill had been shut down. As a result, Republic had added an extra flare to burn off the excess gas being emitted at this closed site. Holt also noted that in light of impending solar energy projects and the possibility of having a wind farm application, Chuck had budgeted for a part-time clerical employee to help with the additional paperwork created with the implementation of these processes. Chuck has posted internally for this position.

## SHERIFF, JAIL & LICENSE

Committee Chairman Ron Kestner reported the following: heard the monthly department report, the Pro-Active Report and the Animal Control Report; and approved one raffle license. The committee learned that the jail was currently housing 49 detainees from the Federal North District, 20 from the Federal Central District, 25 from Cook County, and 48 from Livingston County.

**Liquor License & Mobile Home Renewal Applications** – Chairman Kestner stated that they had reviewed the annual liquor license and mobile home renewal applications for establishments that were located outside of incorporated areas. *Motion by Kestner, second by Holt to approve the liquor license and mobile home renewals commencing May 1, 2018 and expiring April 30, 2019.* **MOTION CARRIED ON UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE.**

## ELECTION, RULES & LEGISLATION

**Presentation of Proposed Amendments to the Standing Rules** – Committee Chairman Marty Fannin commented that he had presented the amendments in March for the board members to review for a month with action to take place in April. There was one change suggested regarding the language referring to the chairman serving as an alternate. The language was changed to indicate that this action would take place only when needed in order to fulfill a committee quorum. *Motion by Fannin, second by Ritter to approve the amendments to the Standing Rules of the County Board.* **Ayes:** Vietti, Slagel, Shafer, Killian, Kestner, Ritter, Lovell, Allen, Carley, Holt, Runyon, Heath, Weber, Young, Yoder and Fannin **Nays:** Bunting, Steichen, Gerwin, Arbogast, Weller and Mays **Absent:** Ingles **Vacancy:** Goemmel

Chairman Fannin also noted redistricting discussions were on-going. The committee was reviewing other options for the number of districts other than three, such as six and eighteen.

### FINANCE

**Resolution (#2018-04-13): Authorizing Sale of Excess Property** - Committee Chairman Shafer stated that the excess property pertained to seven vehicles which had been rotated through the Sheriff's department fleet. *Motion by Kestner, second by Shafer to approve the resolution authorizing the disposition of surplus personal property (seven vehicles) by auction.* **MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE.** **Ayes:** Vietti, Bunting, Slagel, Steichen, Shafer, Killian, Kestner, Ritter, Gerwin, Lovell, Allen, Arbogast, Weller, Carley, Holt, Runyon, Mays, Heath, Weber, Young, Yoder and Fannin **Nays:** None **Absent:** Ingles **Vacancy:** Goembel

### PUBLIC PROPERTY

**ComEd Energy Efficiency Program** - Chairman Young (in the absence of Ingles & Weber) reported on the discussion held with ComEd regarding an energy efficiency survey they were offering to qualifying customers. ComEd would conduct a survey of our buildings to see where opportunities for both electric and natural gas saving measures could be implemented. The county can decide if they'd like to move forward with any of ComEd's recommendations. There is no cost to the county. *Motion by Holt, second by Weber to authorize applying for ComEd's Retro-Commissioning Building Tune-up survey for the county buildings.* **MOTION CARRIED ON UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE.**

### INFORMATION & TECHNOLOGY

Committee Chairwoman Vicki Allen reported that they met with Jon Sear. Jon had been busy with the following activities: helping the County Clerk's office during the March 20 election; continuing work on the telephone conversion; resolving issues with the Spillman system; worked on the safe schools program with the Sheriff's Department and 911, noting that Odell and Saunemin schools would be the last schools added.

### PERSONNEL

Committee Chairman Kathy Arbogast reported the following highlights from their meeting. The committee had received and were reviewing the proposed changes to the **Personnel Manual**, with action to follow at next month's committee meeting. Ms. Arbogast stated that most employees had signed up for the one-hour long **sexual harassment training** session. She encouraged all of the board members to sign up as well. Diane Schwahn was selected for the **Finance Director** position, which leaves her position vacant. It will be determined at a later date whether someone is needed for the vacant position. The **Circuit Clerk's office** has experienced the resignation of a full time and a part time position. The part time position has been posted with the full time position being fulfilled by attrition. The last item they discussed was the **salary schedule** which hadn't been updated since January 1, 2011. A proposed update was presented in 2014, with no action taken. The county is having difficulties fulfilling clerical positions due to the low entry level wages. Ms. Harris also reviewed some of the classification changes within the schedule as well.

### VETERANS ASSISTANCE

Chairman Joe Steichen was happy to report that they were substantially under budget due to the low number of bills which were submitted for the month, leaving them in a good position. Steichen also noted that there would be an additional cost savings with the acquisition of the Enbridge donation of the SUV for a \$1. Once again, Steichen expressed his gratitude to Enbridge for their donation. The VAC President-Chris Studebaker was on hand to thank Joe for his help and hard work in securing the vehicle. Studebaker then expressed his gratitude to Enbridge for their generous donation. He thanked the board as well, for their continued support of the VAC and extended the board an open invitation to all of their meetings.

### ADMINISTRATIVE

Chairman Young announced that he would be appointing Linda Ambrose to serve in Justin Goembel's District #3 county board position. She was elected in the March 20 Primary to serve in her district. Young noted that the Livingston County Precinct Committee Chairmen had concurred with his decision. She will be sworn in at the May 17<sup>th</sup> board meeting.

### RECREATION

No report

**HOUSING AUTHORITY**

No report

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Rodney Patterson addressed some of the responses he and other concerned residents had received from board members regarding the Community Health Care Program (CHCP). He rebutted some of the responses received regarding the following: that CHCP is in competition with local business providers for services such as housekeeping; CHCP clients could utilize other resources, such as state programs; and clients are utilizing CHCP because they are in spend-down in order to meet state criteria. He noted the following items: that 25% of the county budget didn't go for social services; the Public Health Department receives 42% reimbursement from the state; the Mental Health Board receives 50% or more back from the state; and that the county board should revisit their priorities regarding the budget (ie: CHCP – little over \$200,000 and Economic Development-\$1.8 million). He requested that the board reconsider the sun setting of the Community Health Care Program.

Joan Lipinski presented her thoughts on the amendment to the County Board Standing Rules allowing the chairman to become the alternate in order to fulfill the quorum requirement for a committee. She stated that she had sent out twenty-three emails addressing this proposal with the board members and only received one response back. She questioned the legality of whether the same person could serve as the alternate for all the committees with possible voting rights. Chairman Young responded that this was proposed in an effort to save money since the committee members would be paid a per diem and mileage, even if there's not a quorum. Alina Hartley stated that before any amendments were distributed to the board for consideration, they were referred to the State's Attorney's office for review.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

None

**ACTION RESULTING FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION**

None

**CLOSING CEREMONY**

None

**ADJOURNMENT**

*The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m., on motion by Vietti, second by Holt. MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL AYES ON VOICE VOTE.*

**Bob Young, Chairman**

Attest:

*Kristy A. Masching*  
County Clerk

May 18, 2018  
Approved