

**LIVINGSTON COUNTY BOARD**  
**MINUTES OF May 14, 2020 MEETING OF THE COUNTY BOARD**

**OPENING**

County Board Chair Kathy Arbogast called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Pursuant to the Governor's Executive Order 2020-07, this meeting was held remotely with most individuals participating through Zoom or Teleconference.

Pastor Victor Randle presented the invocation. Vicki Allen led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The clerk called roll with the following **present:** James A. Carley, Linda Ambrose, William Mays, Steven Lovell, John Vitzthum, James Blackard, Gerald Earing, Mark Runyon, Patrick D. Killian, Bill Wilkey, Michael L. Kirkton, John L. Vietti, Jason Bunting, John Slagel, Gina Manker, Joseph D. Steichen, Tim Shafer, Marty Fannin, Ronald L. Kestner, Paul A. Ritter, Kathy Arbogast, Joel J. Barickman and Vicki Allen **Absent:** Robert F. Weller

**Also Present:** County Clerk-Kristy Masching, Executive Director - Alina Hartley, Public Health Department Administrator - Jackie Dever, State's Attorney - Randy Yedinak and IT Director – Jon Sear

**AGENDA**

Chair Arbogast called for approval of the agenda as presented. *Motion by Carley, second by Earing to approve the agenda.* **MOTION CARRIED ON UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE.**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Chair Arbogast called for approval of the March 12, April 2 and April 16, 2020 meeting minutes. *Motion by Fannin, second by Kirkton to approve the March 12, April 2 and April 16, 2020 meeting minutes.* **MOTION CARRIED ON UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE.**

**CHAIR'S STATEMENT**

County Board Chair Kathy Arbogast presented the following statement with regards to the COVID-19 situation.

“It is very clear that the issues pertaining to COVID-19 and how it affects each and every one of us are very difficult and have many moving parts. There are no simple or easy answers. We, as a county cannot rush into a decision just to make a decision or just because some other county has done it. For every voice we hear that challenges the Governor's actions, we hear another that supports those very same measures. Before we make any decisions, we need time to digest what is out there. Those that we rely on for valuable input and advice are working around the clock to help guide us in the direction that is in the best interest of Livingston County. That is not something that is going to happen overnight. We need to understand that our patience will achieve far more than any immediate action at this point. As we continue to work on a solution, our number one priority will continue to be the welfare and safety of our citizens.”

**PRESENTATION**

**Public Health Department Annual Report** - Public Health Department Administrator-Jackie Dever was in attendance to answer questions the Board had regarding her report. *Motion by Vietti, second by Killian for approval of the Public Health 2019 Annual Report.* **MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE. Ayes:** Carley, Ambrose, Mays, Lovell, Vitzthum, Blackard, Earing, Runyon, Killian, Wilkey, Kirkton, Vietti, Bunting, Slagel, Manker, Steichen, Shafer, Fannin, Kestner, Ritter, Arbogast, Barickman and Allen **Nays:** None **Absent:** Weller

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Approval of Bills
- B. Appointment:

- a) **Chris Schneider** - re-appointment to the Flanagan-Graymont Fire Protection District commencing May 1, 2020 and expiring April 30, 2023.
- b) **Nelson Zehr (Resolution #2020-05-20)** – re-appointment to the Fairbury Rural Fire Protection District commencing May 1, 2020 and expiring the first Monday in May, 2023.
- c) **Brad Maley (Resolution #2020-05-21)** – re-appointment to the Fairbury Rural Fire Protection District commencing May 1, 2020 and expiring the first Monday in May, 2023.

*Motion by Shafer, second by Wilkey for approval of the Consent Agenda. MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE. Ayes:* Carley, Ambrose, Mays, Lovell, Vitzthum, Blackard, Earing, Runyon, Killian, Wilkey, Kirkton, Vietti, Bunting, Slagel, Manker, Steichen, Shafer, Fannin, Kestner, Ritter, Arbogast, Barickman and Allen **Nays:** None **Absent:** Weller

**FINANCE**

**Resolution (#2020-05-22): Approving IGA for Assessment Services** – Committee Chairman Tim Shafer reported that their action item was the renewal of an assessor’s agreement with Nebraska Township for township assessment services. This would extend their agreement for another five year term. The Finance Committee approved this agreement unanimously. *Motion by Shafer, second by Bunting to approve the resolution to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement with Nebraska Township and Future Agreements for Assessor Services. MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE. Ayes:* Carley, Ambrose, Mays, Lovell, Vitzthum, Blackard, Earing, Runyon, Killian, Wilkey, Kirkton, Vietti, Bunting, Slagel, Manker, Steichen, Shafer, Fannin, Kestner, Ritter, Arbogast, Barickman and Allen **Nays:** None **Absent:** Weller

**COMMENTS FROM OTHER COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN**

On behalf of the **Highway Committee**, Chair Lovell reported the following items of interest: Chatsworth Bridge deck has been set; Sunbury and Union Township bridges have been let; and the Highway staff would be back working a full schedule starting Monday (18<sup>th</sup>).

On behalf of the **SJL Committee**, Chair Carley reported the following items of interest: the department is running smoothly; health wise everyone is ok; Pro-Active unit has been active; and Kevin Shaughnessy was hired on as a new deputy.

On behalf of the **Ag & Zoning Committee**, Chair Bunting reported that after a lengthy discussion, the ZBA approved a Special Use Permit for the Pontiac Flying Service with a 4-3 vote.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Rebecca Fehr voiced her disappointment that there was no report from last week’s Admin Committee meeting. She noted that the State’s Attorney and the Public Health Department Administrator were addressing the questions members were asking regarding the following: surrounding counties who were working on re-opening plans guided by safe practices; questions about the legality of following the Governor’s illegal Executive Order; and what would happen if a business was turned into the county if someone thought there was defiance to the Executive Order. She felt that by not letting the residents of this county know the questions and answers presented at the Admin meeting, a serious disservice to the constituents of this county was the result.

Alina Hartley noted that the next meeting would be held on Thursday, June 11<sup>th</sup>.

**CLOSING CEREMONY COMMUNICATION & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

N/A

**ADJOURNMENT**

*The meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m., on motion by Wilkey, second by Killian. MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL AYES ON VOICE VOTE.*

**Kathy Arbogast, Chair**

Attest:

*Kristy A. Masching*

County Clerk

June 11, 2020

Approved

Minutes Bd 051420.A