

LIVINGSTON COUNTY BOARD
MINUTES OF April 15, 2021 MEETING OF THE COUNTY BOARD

OPENING

County Board Vice-Chair Jason Bunting (in the absence of County Board Chair Kathy Arbogast) called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., in the County Board Room of the Historic Courthouse, 112 W. Madison, Pontiac, Illinois.

Pastor Victor Randall presented the invocation. Tim Shafer led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Also Present: County Clerk-Kristy Masching, Executive Director-Alina Hartley, Public Health Director-Jackie Dever, Chief Deputy-Jeff G. Hamilton, County Highway Engineer-Clay Metcalf, Finance Director-Diane Schwahn, Human Resources Director-Ginger Harris, Treasurer-Nikki Meier and IT Director-Jon Sear

AGENDA

Vice-Chair Bunting called for approval of the agenda as presented. *Motion by Ritter, second by Weller to approve the agenda as presented.* **MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE.** **Ayes:** Vietti, Bunting, Kirkton, Manker, Slagel, Fannin, Shafer, Kestner, Welch, Carley, Weller, Ritter, Lovell, Ambrose, Earing, Vitzthum, Wilkey and Runyon **Nays:** None **Absent:** Barickman, Steichen, Mennenga, Mays, Blackard and Arbogast

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Vice-Chair Bunting called for approval of the County Board minutes from the following meetings: December 17, 2020; January 14, 2021; February 11, 2021; March 23, 2021; and March 31, 2021. *Motion by Wilkey, second by Ambrose to approve the December 17, 2020; January 14, 2021; February 11, 2021; March 23, 2021; and March 31, 2021 board meeting minutes.* **MOTION CARRIED ON VOICE VOTE.**

PRESENTATION

Public Health 2020 Annual Report - Public Health Administrator Jackie Dever reviewed the annual report which was handed out to each board member. The Public Health Department is governed by an eight member Board of Health which is appointed by the County Board. Joe Steichen is the County Board's representative on their board. The department is comprised of 30 full and part-time staff members. The Tuberculosis (TB) Clinic Fund expenses were lower because fewer people came in due to the pandemic. Administrative costs were higher based on everything that was going on (COVID). The increase in their tax levy was used for the additional administrative expenses. Ms. Dever explained that the increase in the grant revenue in 2020 was the result of two grants they received, a large contact tracing grant and a CURE/COVID grant totaling about \$400,000. Fees for Service and EPSDT/Medicaid were down significantly because they didn't provide many services and didn't hold any in-house clinics from March to June of 2020 and currently haven't resumed the Family Case Management and WIC programs. She talked briefly about the various programs and the reasons some caseloads varied so much from the prior year. Discussion took place. *Motion by Kestner, second by Earing to approve the Public Health 2020 Annual Report.* **MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE.** **Ayes:** Vietti, Bunting, Kirkton, Manker, Slagel, Fannin, Shafer, Kestner, Welch, Carley, Weller, Ritter, Lovell, Ambrose, Earing, Vitzthum, Wilkey and Runyon **Nays:** None **Absent:** Barickman, Steichen, Mennenga, Mays, Blackard and Arbogast

Ms. Dever also spoke on her experience working with the National Guard at a COVID vaccination clinic. She stated that it was an amazing experience and such an honor to work with them. With their help, they vaccinated 1,200 people in two days.

APPEARANCES

N/A

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of Bills
- B. Appointment:
 - a. **Matthew P. Cavanagh** – appointment to the Chatsworth Fire Protection District commencing May 1, 2021 and expiring May 1, 2024.
 - b. **Greg Yoder (Res. #2021-04-05)** – appointment to the Fairbury Rural Fire Protection District commencing May 1, 2021 and expiring May 1, 2024.
 - c. **FY 2021-2022 Strategic Plan**

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

HIGHWAY

Committee Chair Steve Lovell reviewed the **Action Agenda Items** as follows:

- a) **Engineering Agreement:** Nebraska Rd. District, Sect No. 17-15128-00-BR, Proposed SN 053-4219 (1585N, 400E), – Hampton Lenzini & Renwick (HLR), STP-Br Program FY24. Design for Replacement of Existing Bridge, Cost not to exceed \$34,000 including soil borings. Right-of-way engineering and environmental coordination to be done at consultant’s schedule of chargeable rates.
- b) **Engineering Agreement:** CH 3 (Campus Rd.), Sect No. 20-00199-04-BR, (2830N, 3300E), – Hampton Lenzini & Renwick (HLR), STP-Br Program FY24. Phase I Design to determine Replacement or Rehabilitation of Existing Bridge, Cost not to exceed \$26,000.
- c) **Engineering Agreement:** CH 16 (Ancona Rd.), Sect No. 21-00210-01-BR, (2855N, 300E), – Hampton Lenzini & Renwick (HLR), STP-Br Program FY24. Design to Rehabilitate Existing Bridge, Cost not to exceed \$38,000.

Motion by Lovell, second by Runyon to approve all items of the Highway Action Items (with one roll call vote). **MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE.** **Ayes:** Vietti, Bunting, Kirkton, Manker, Slagel, Fannin, Shafer, Kestner, Welch, Carley, Weller, Ritter, Lovell, Ambrose, Earing, Vitzthum, Wilkey and Runyon **Nays:** None **Absent:** Barickman, Steichen, Mennenga, Mays, Blackard and Arbogast

PUBLIC PROPERTY

Lease/Sublease Agreement: Project OZ – Committee Chair John Vitzthum stated that this agreement would renew the current lease agreement we have with Project OZ. There will be room in the new building for them, too. *Motion by Manker, second by Kirkton to approve the Lease/Sublease Agreement with Project Oz.*

MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE. **Ayes:** Vietti, Bunting, Kirkton, Manker, Slagel, Fannin, Shafer, Kestner, Welch, Carley, Weller, Ritter, Lovell, Ambrose, Earing, Vitzthum, Wilkey and Runyon **Nays:** None **Absent:** Barickman, Steichen, Mennenga, Mays, Blackard and Arbogast

Committee Chair John Vitzthum reported that at their recent zoom meeting with the building contractors on the new building, learned that work was being delayed due to the NICOR issue. NICOR won’t let them install the windows which delays the installation of dry wall. Discussion took place. It was noted that NICOR had failed to provide the County with any type of time line. Ms. Hartley explained that the issue is that the current existing line (for the H&E Building) is in the footprint of the new Public Health building and needs to be moved over. A new service line needs to be run for the new building. NICOR won’t run two service lines on the same property.

After re-engineering their plans, NICOR will allow us to put in a new service line, de-activate the secondary line and run a temporary service from the new building to the old building. Due to this delay with NICOR, the county will have an additional cost of about \$30,000 per month.

Vitzthum also reported that IHR notified them that they will be relocating their services to a new location on or before August 1, 2021. A copy of the letter was provided to all the board members. They are asking to be reimbursed for \$400,000 in capital improvements that they have invested in the building. It was noted that there is a lease agreement with IHR but it didn't acknowledge any type of reimbursement for improvements. Further discussion will take place at future meetings.

FINANCE

Resolution (#2021-04-06): Authorizing Transfer of Deed Parcel #05-05-04-376-031- Committee Chair Tim Shafer reported that this resolution would authorize the sale of property located in Dwight Township (Parcel #05-05-04-376-031) for back taxes. The property sold for \$813 with the County receiving \$300 and the County Recorder \$63 to record the transfer of deed. *Motion by Shafer, second by Earing to approve the Resolution Authorizing the Transfer of Deed for Parcel #05-05-04-376-031.* **MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE.** **Ayes:** Vietti, Bunting, Kirkton, Manker, Slagel, Fannin, Shafer, Kestner, Welch, Carley, Weller, Ritter, Lovell, Ambrose, Earing, Vitzthum, Wilkey and Runyon **Nays:** None **Absent:** Barickman, Steichen, Mennenga, Mays, Blackard and Arbogast

SHERIFF, JAIL & LICENSE

Chair Jim Carley reported that Sheriff Childress did a nice job in an interview with FOX News recently. He expressed his gratitude to the Sheriff's Department staff for the great job they are doing and how smooth the department is running.

AG & ZONING

Committee Chair Bunting stated that the electronic recycling event is scheduled for Saturday, June 12th in Pontiac at the old Kmart parking lot. They will be collecting items from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

PERSONNEL

Committee Chair Vietti reported that they approved Executive Session minutes.

ELECTION, RULES AND LEGISLATIVE

Committee Chair Mike Kirkton reported that they were working on reapportionment for Livingston County, as they continue to wait on census data. Kirkton also stated that he testified to three legislative sub-committees in the past two weeks.

VETERAN'S ASSISTANCE

Committee Chair Ron Kestner announced that Tom Bailey is in his 19th year of service to the VAC. He also noted that one of the high-mileage vans may need to be replaced in next year's budget. The VAC is currently well within its budget.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Committee Chair Marty Fannin stated that they discussed the H&E Building's phone and security systems. The decision was made to go with Bennett Electronic Services. It was under \$30,000 so it didn't need to be bid out. IT Director-Jon Sear noted that it was the same system that is being used in the Historic Courthouse, the L&J Center and the PSC so they can be tied together and use one badge in all the buildings for security purposes. The phone system will also be tied into all the buildings mentioned earlier. Fannin also noted that discussion had been held on streaming committee meetings with it being determined that we don't have the staff nor the funding available at this time.

ADMINISTRATIVE

No meeting was held.

LIVINGSTON COUNTY HOUSING AUTHORITY

John Slagel reported that the LCHA had received a response back from HUD about the disposition of the Chatsworth property. They were informed that it wouldn't happen without a letter of support from the County or from the Village of Chatsworth. A meeting will need to be set up sometime between the County and the Village of Chatsworth to come to an agreeable solution. LCHA was also contacted by a local school about getting no-cost internet service for Meadowview and Meyers tenants at no cost to agency.

MID-CENTRAL COMMUNITY ACTION

Bill Wilkey reported that their Executive Director was in the hospital with Covid.

BOARD OF HEALTH

No report.

MENTAL HEALTH BOARD

Jack Vietti reported that their next meeting would be held next Thursday, May 20th at 4:00 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by Wilkey, second by Kirkton to go into Executive Session pursuant to 5ILCS 120/2 (c) (21) Semi-Annual Review of Executive Session Minutes. MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE. Ayes: Vietti, Bunting, Kirkton, Manker, Slagel, Fannin, Shafer, Kestner, Welch, Carley, Weller, Ritter, Lovell, Ambrose, Earing, Vitzthum, Wilkey and Runyon **Nays:** None **Absent:** Barickman, Steichen, Mennenga, Mays, Blackard and Arbogast

There was a five minute break beginning at 6:40 p.m. and ending at 6:45 p.m. Executive Session began at 6:45 p.m., with regular session resuming at 7:00 p.m.

ACTION RESULTING FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

5ILCS 120/2 (c) (21) Semi-Annual Review of Executive Session Minutes – The Board reviewed minutes from: April 11, 2013; May 14, 2015; October 15, 2015; July 20, 2017; January 11, 2018; August 16, 2018; February 14, 2019; March 14, 2019; April 11, 2019; July 11, 2019; August 15, 2019; October 17, 2019; June 13, 2019 and December 12, 2019

Motion by Weller, second by Ritter to:

- **Approve executive session minutes for content & open:** June 13, 2019
- **Approve executive session minutes for content & close:** December 12, 2019
- **Open previously approved for content executive session minutes:** None
- **Keep closed the following content approved executive session minutes:** April 11, 2013; May 14, 2015; October 15, 2015; July 20, 2017; January 11, 2018; August 16, 2018; February 14, 2019; March 14, 2019; April 11, 2019; July 11, 2019; August 15, 2019; and October 17, 2019
- Authorize the destruction of all verbatim records dated eighteen months and older, previously approved for content.

MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE. Ayes: Vietti, Bunting, Kirkton, Manker, Slagel, Fannin, Shafer, Kestner, Welch, Carley, Weller, Ritter, Lovell, Ambrose, Earing, Vitzthum, Wilkey and Runyon **Nays:** None **Absent:** Barickman, Steichen, Mennenga, Mays, Blackard and Arbogast

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Hartley noted that the Liquor License Renewals were not included on tonight's agenda. They expire April 30th. Consensus of the group was to allow the issuance of the licenses on a temporary basis until the Board could ratify the action at the Board's next meeting (May 13).

Vice-Chair Bunting reminded the public that with the onset of spring, to be cautious and safe and share the road with the large farm equipment travelling on the roads.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

N/A

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m., on motion by Fannin, second by Welch. **MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE.** **Ayes:** Vietti, Bunting, Kirkton, Manker, Slagel, Fannin, Shafer, Kestner, Welch, Carley, Weller, Ritter, Lovell, Ambrose, Earing, Vitzthum, Wilkey and Runyon **Nays:** None **Absent:** Barickman, Steichen, Mennenga, Mays, Blackard and Arbogast

Kathy Arbogast, Chair

Attest:

Kristy A. Masching
County Clerk

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