

LIVINGSTON COUNTY BOARD
MINUTES OF October 14, 2021 MEETING OF THE COUNTY BOARD

OPENING

County Board member Robert Weller (in the absence of County Board Chair Kathy Arbogast and Vice-Chair Jason Bunting who attended via zoom) 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 Jan Ambrose presented the invocation. John Vitzthum led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Also Present: County Clerk-Kristy Masching, Executive Director-Alina Hartley, County Highway Engineer-Clay Metcalf, Human Resources Director-Ginger Harris, Treasurer-Nikki Meier, Finance Director-Diane Schwahn, State's Attorney Randy Yedinak, Sheriff-Tony Childress, Assistant Planning Director-Jesse King and IT Director-Jon Sear

AGENDA

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Weller called for approval of the September 16, 2021 Regular Session County Board meeting minutes. *Motion by Wilkey, second by Manker to approve the September 16, 2021 Regular Session meeting minutes.* **MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE.** **Ayes:** Vietti, Bunting, Kirkton, Manker, Barickman, Slagel, Fannin, Shafer, Mennenga, Welch, Carley, Weller, Mays, Lovell, Ambrose, Blackard, Earing, Vitzthum, Arbogast, Wilkey and Runyon **Nays:** None **Absent:** Steichen, Kestner and Ritter

PRESENTATION

N/A

APPEARANCES

N/A

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of Bills
- B. Appointments

- a. **Gary Marx – (Resolution #2021-10-37):** reappointment to the Dwight Fire Protection District for a three-year term commencing the first Monday in May, 2021 (May 3) and expiring the first Monday in May, 2024 (May 6).

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

AG & ZONING

Resolution (#2021-10-38): Zoning Case SU-11-21 Flanagan Solar (Enbridge) - Committee member Gerald Earing introduced Assistant Zoning Administrator-Jesse King. King presented the following items about the Flanagan/Enbridge Solar Farm proposal. The project is for an up to 10 MW solar farm encompassing around 147 acres on Enbridge owned property located north of Pontiac across from the landfill. King stated that no one showed up in opposition at the Livingston County Regional Planning Commission meeting or at the Zoning Board of Appeals public hearing. This project will exclusively power the Enbridge facility with excess power being put back into the grid. Joseph Horn, a Project Engineer with IEA explained that they were general contractors who build solar farms. Enbridge had partnered with IEA to assist in the development and eventual construction of their project. *Motion by Earing, second by Lovell to approve Zoning Case SU-11-21 Flanagan Solar.* **MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE. Ayes:** Vietti, Bunting, Manker, Barickman, Slagel, Fannin, Shafer, Mennenga, Welch, Carley, Weller, Lovell, Blackard, Earing, Vitzthum, Arbogast, Wilkey and Runyon **Nays:** Kirkton, Mays and Ambrose **Absent:** Steichen, Kestner and Ritter

Resolution (#2021-10-53): Zoning Case ZM-3-21 Zutat Feed Solutions – Jason Bunting reported that this case had been brought before the Board at their July meeting along with the U-Lock U-Store case in Streator. Bunting stated that there were to have been two separate motions and roll calls. Instead, the discussion quickly transitioned from the Zutat Case to Zoning Case ZM-2-21 Pitte (U-Lock U-Store) and the Board inadvertently failed to act on the Zutat Case. Jesse King provided the following information on this case: currently operating out of Roberts, IL; looking for larger facility in Livingston County to expand their existing Forrest family operation; they manufacture animal feed with recycled food products (bread, food, chips); and, the proposed site is located just south of Rte 24 in Chatsworth. *Motion by Bunting, second by Vitzthum to approve Zoning Case ZM-3-21 Zutat Feed Solutions.* **MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE. Ayes:** Vietti, Bunting, Kirkton, Manker, Barickman, Slagel, Fannin, Shafer, Mennenga, Welch, Carley, Weller, Mays, Lovell, Ambrose, Blackard, Earing, Vitzthum, Arbogast, Wilkey and Runyon **Nays:** None **Absent:** Steichen, Kestner and Ritter

HIGHWAY

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

- a) **Bridge Petition & Engineering Agreement:** Eppards Point Rd. District, Sect No. 21-08136-00-BR, Proposed SN 053-4239 (1100N, 1265E), – Hampton Lenzini & Renwick (HLR), TBP Program FY24/FY25. Design for Replacement of Existing Bridge.
- b) **Agreement & Resolution (#2021-10-39):** Hampton, Lenzini and Renwick, Springfield, IL – Preliminary Engineering Services Agreement for design of a bridge replacement of SN 053-5503 on the Livingston-LaSalle County line between Section 4 in Newtown Township, Livingston County and Section 31 in Otter Creek Township, LaSalle County, 3300N, 880E Section 21-00230-00-BR. Also, an Appropriating Resolution for the entire project – County Aid to Bridge Funds.

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, Barickman, Slagel, Fannin, Shafer, Mennenga, Welch, Carley, Weller, Mays, Lovell, Ambrose, Blackard, Earing, Vitzthum, Arbogast, Wilkey and Runyon **Nays:** None **Absent:** Steichen, Kestner and Ritter

County Engineer-Clay Metcalf noted that 80% of the project cost where the bridge lies on the county line with LaSalle County will be paid for by LaSalle County with the remaining 20% paid by Livingston County.

Gerald Earing announced that Dwight will be hosting an e-recycling day on Saturday, November 6 and will run from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

FINANCE

Presentation of FY 2022 Budget, Capital Requests & Levies – Committee Chair Tim Shafer presented the draft FY 2022 Budget, Capital Requests & Levies which will be on public display prior to taking formal action on it at the November 10, 2021 County Board meeting. Shafer noted that the document has been put into a format which

shows the reader where the money comes from and where it's going which allows them to have a much better understanding of the workings of the county. *Motion by Shafer, second by Fannin to place the FY 2022 Budget, Capital Requests & Levies on display for public inspection.* **MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE.** **Ayes:** Vietti, Bunting, Kirkton, Manker, Barickman, Slagel, Fannin, Shafer, Mennenga, Welch, Carley, Weller, Mays, Lovell, Ambrose, Blackard, Earing, Vitzthum, Arbogast, Wilkey and Runyon **Nays:** None **Absent:** Steichen, Kestner and Ritter

Resolution (#2021-10-40 through #2021-10-46) Authorizing Transfers of Property – Shafer reported that the seven parcels (PIN#01-01-02-280-057, PIN#15-15-22-126-006, PIN#15-15-800-211, PIN#01-01-01-101-001, PIN#07-07-27-100-005, PIN#27-27-03-335-007, PIN#01-01-200-613) were transfers of deeds for properties sold on the sealed bid auction. *Motion by Shafer, second by Earing to approve the seven Resolutions (#2021-10-40 through #2021-10-46) Authorizing Transfers of Property (with one roll call vote).* **MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE.** **Ayes:** Vietti, Bunting, Kirkton, Manker, Barickman, Slagel, Fannin, Shafer, Mennenga, Welch, Carley, Weller, Mays, Lovell, Ambrose, Blackard, Earing, Vitzthum, Arbogast, Wilkey and Runyon **Nays:** None **Absent:** Steichen, Kestner and Ritter

Resolution (#2021-10-48): Approving Land Records Imaging Project Results of RFP – County Clerk Kristy Masching reported that she received one bid for \$85,938.50 which was under budget and was received from Fidar Technologies. The book scanning project will take place in the election room located in the basement of the Historic Courthouse and is scheduled for November 8-9. The duplicate set of aperture cards (microfilm) will be sent to the company's site for processing. *Motion by Shafer, second by Wilkey to approve the Resolution Approving the Land Records Imaging Project Results RFP.* **MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE.** **Ayes:** Vietti, Bunting, Kirkton, Manker, Barickman, Slagel, Fannin, Shafer, Mennenga, Welch, Carley, Weller, Mays, Lovell, Ambrose, Blackard, Earing, Vitzthum, Arbogast, Wilkey and Runyon **Nays:** None **Absent:** Steichen, Kestner and Ritter

Resolution (#2021-10-49): Approving Proposals Resulting from American Rescue RFP – Shafer explained that they had received many applications from the American Rescue RFP and were planning to continue further discussion on Monday, October 18. The list of proposed items for consideration were designations related to health and dire human straits such as landlord and tenant situations which were approved stipulations of the program. *Motion by Shafer, second by Fannin to accept the proposals recommended to date for the American Rescue Plan: Community Response Programs.* Discussion followed. It was noted that all of the proposals met the terms of the act and came in at a total amount of \$952,615. The County's total allocation is \$6.9 million with \$3.4 million received to date. There were more grant requests received than the total amount of money we were allocated to receive. **MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE.** **Ayes:** Vietti, Bunting, Kirkton, Manker, Barickman, Slagel, Fannin, Shafer, Mennenga, Welch, Carley, Weller, Mays, Lovell, Ambrose, Blackard, Earing, Vitzthum, Arbogast, Wilkey and Runyon **Nays:** None **Absent:** Steichen, Kestner and Ritter

PERSONNEL

Resolution (#2021-10-50): Personnel Policy Change Vacation Policy – Committee Chair Jack Vietti explained that the change in policy would allow employees the opportunity to cash out up to half of one year's allocation. *Motion by Vietti, second by Blackard to approve the Resolution Amending the Livingston County Personnel Policy Manual.* **MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE.** **Ayes:** Vietti, Bunting, Kirkton, Manker, Barickman, Slagel, Fannin, Shafer, Mennenga, Welch, Carley, Weller, Lovell, Ambrose, Blackard, Earing, Vitzthum, Arbogast, Wilkey and Runyon **Nays:** Mays **Absent:** Steichen, Kestner and Ritter

Vietti also commented that Jeff Gilmore presented to review the health insurance renewal for 2022. Gilmore was able to decrease the proposed insurance renewal increase from 16% to a 9% increase.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Resolution (#2021-10-51): Approving Jail Camera System Replacement Results of RFP – Committee Chair Fannin stated that they were seeking approval of a resolution approving a jail camera system replacement. Two bids were received with Bennett Electronic Service Co. of Pontiac submitting the low bid of \$139,662 plus \$1,549

per each of the eighteen additional cameras for a grand total of \$167,544. A total of \$150,000 had been budgeted for this project with the additional \$17,544 to be expensed from the IT Department budget. *Motion by Fannin, second by Barickman to approve the Jail Camera System Replacement project.* **MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE.** **Ayes:** Vietti, Bunting, Kirkton, Manker, Barickman, Slagel, Fannin, Shafer, Mennenga, Welch, Carley, Weller, Mays, Lovell, Ambrose, Blackard, Earing, Vitzthum, Arbogast, Wilkey and Runyon **Nays:** None **Absent:** Steichen, Kestner and Ritter

SHERIFF, JAIL & LICENSE

Committee Chair Jim Carley reported their committee had discussed Jail Superintendent Stu Inman's retirement and his successor, had reviewed all the monthly reports and the proposed 2022 Holiday Schedule.

Resolution (#2021-10-52): Approving 2022 Holiday Schedule - Ms. Hartley explained that the draft of the resolution presented to the members had been drafted in accordance with the schedule set by the Illinois Supreme Court. She stated that historically, the County Board had always followed the Supreme Court schedule. The Supreme Court added two additional holidays for 2022, Juneteenth and General Election Day. Hartley had provided the members with information on how this would affect the county departments noting that two union contracts state that their members will follow the Supreme Court Holiday schedule. Hartley pointed out that veering away from the Supreme Court schedule would create some internal difficulties within the county. Discussion followed on the following: total number of holidays (14); another unfunded mandate; will have an impact on the budget; the SJL Committee sent this onto the Board without a recommendation; and the General Election Day Holiday is not a federally mandated holiday at this time but was approved by Governor Pritzker for 2022. *Motion by Carley, second by Vietti to approve the 2022 Holiday Schedule as presented.* **MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE.** **Ayes:** Vietti, Barickman, Slagel, Fannin, Shafer, Mennenga, Welch, Carley, Weller, Lovell, Blackard, Earing, Vitzthum, Arbogast and Wilkey **Nays:** Bunting, Kirkton, Manker, Mays, Ambrose and Runyon **Absent:** Steichen, Kestner and Ritter

ELECTION, RULES AND LEGISLATIVE

Committee Chair Mike Kirkton stated that the final draft copy of the revised Standing Rules had been sent out to the ERL Committee for their review in October. A copy will be provided to all the board members for their review in November with a final vote to take place in December.

PUBLIC PROPERTY

Committee Chair John Vitzthum noted the following items pertaining to the new Public Health building: have a transformer set but not hooked up; tour of the building revealed that the inside work is about 95% complete; weather not cooperating with outside work; back-ordered siding finally came in; and back-up generator is still on back order.

VETERAN'S ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

Jim Blackard (in the absence of Committee Chair Ron Kestner) reported that they met and further discussed Tom Bailey's impending retirement. They had no action items.

ADMINISTRATIVE

No report.

LIVINGSTON COUNTY HOUSING AUTHORITY

John Slagel reported that they did not meet this month. He reminded those in attendance to call the Livingston County Housing Authority if they knew of property in Pontiac that would be a nice site to build a small low-income, senior living center.

MID-CENTRAL COMMUNITY ACTION

No report.

BOARD OF HEALTH

No report.

MENTAL HEALTH BOARD

Jack Vietti reported that their next meeting would be held next Thursday, October 21st at 4:00 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Kathy Arbogast thanked Bob Weller for conducting the meeting for her and Bunting. (Both attended the meeting via zoom).

EXECUTIVE SESSION

N/A

ANNOUNCEMENTS

N/A

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m., on motion by Vietti, second by Fannin. **MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE. Ayes:** Vietti, Bunting, Kirkton, Manker, Barickman, Slagel, Fannin, Shafer, Mennenga, Welch, Carley, Weller, Mays, Lovell, Ambrose, Blackard, Earing, Vitzthum, Arbogast, Wilkey and Runyon **Nays:** None **Absent:** Steichen, Kestner and Ritter

Kathy Arbogast, Chair

Attest:

Kristy A. Masching
County Clerk

Minutes Bd-Reg Sesn 101421.A