

**LIVINGSTON COUNTY BOARD**  
**MINUTES OF November 10, 2021 MEETING OF THE COUNTY BOARD**

**OPENING**

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 Charles Ambrose presented the invocation. Seth Welch 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, Ronald L. Kestner, Seth Welch, James A. Carley, Paul A. Ritter, William Mays, Steven Lovell, Linda Ambrose, James Blackard, Gerald Earing, John Vitzthum, Kathy Arbogast (Zoom), Bill Wilkey and Mark Runyon **Absent:** Joseph D. Steichen, Tim Shafer, Scott Mennenga and Bob Weller

**Also Present:** County Clerk-Kristy Masching, Executive Director-Alina Hartley, County Highway Engineer-Clay Metcalf, Human Resources Director-Ginger Harris, Zoning Administrator-Chuck Schopp, GLCEDC CEO-Adam Dontz, Treasurer-Nikki Meier, Finance Director-Diane Schwahn and IT Director-Jon Sear

**AGENDA**

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Chair Arbogast called for approval of the August 12, 2021 County Board meeting minutes. *Motion by Lovell, second by Carley to approve the August 12, 2021 County Board meeting minutes.* **MOTION CARRIED ON VOICE VOTE.**

Chair Arbogast called for approval of the November 10, 2021 County Board Public Hearing (Small Business Stabilization Grant: Closeout Report) meeting minutes. *Motion by Ambrose, second by Ritter to approve the November 10, 2021 County Board Public Hearing (Small Business Stabilization Grant: Closeout Report) meeting minutes.* **MOTION CARRIED ON VOICE VOTE.**

**PRESENTATION**

N/A

**APPEARANCES**

N/A

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Approval of Bills
- B. Appointments
  - a. **Pam Krominga** – Appointment to the Livingston County Mental Health 708 Board to complete the term of Deb Moran from November 2021 to May, 2025.

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

**AG & ZONING**

**Work Agreement: The Diegan Group** – Committee Chair Jason Bunting stated that The Diegan Group provides technical assistance with the County in conducting reviews of the landfill and other environmental issue.

The new agreement proposes a slight increase in the hourly rate for three members of the staff with three other staff members' rates remaining the same. *Motion by Bunting, second by Earing to approve the Work Agreement with the Diegan Group as presented.* **MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE.** **Ayes:** Vietti, Bunting, Kirkton, Manker, Barickman, Slagel, Fannin, Kestner, Welch, Carley, Ritter, Mays, Lovell, Ambrose, Blackard, Earing, Vitzthum, Arbogast, Wilkey and Runyon **Nays:** None **Absent:** Steichen, Shafer, Mennenga and Weller

Bunting reported that the e-recycling event held at Dwight on Saturday, November 6 collected a little less than two and a half truckloads of recyclable equipment. Bunting thanked all who came out to help with the successful event.

### HIGHWAY

Committee Chair Steve Lovell introduced County Highway Engineer Clay Metcalf who reviewed the **Action Agenda Items** as follows:

- a) **Agreement & Resolution (#2021-11-53):** Hampton, Lenzini and Renwick, design of bridge replacement SN 053-3032 on CH 16 2520N, 300E, Including appropriating resolution – Rebuild Illinois Bond funds and Motor Fuel Tax
- b) **Agreement:** Fehr Graham Eng. & Environmental – Preliminary Engineering Services for design of bridge replacement SN 053-3107 in Long Point Road Dist., 2410N, 500E.
- c) **Quarterly Report: 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter FY 21**

*Motion by Lovell, second by Runyon to approve all three 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, Kestner, Welch, Carley, Ritter, Mays, Lovell, Ambrose, Blackard, Earing, Vitzthum, Arbogast, Wilkey and Runyon **Nays:** None **Absent:** Steichen, Shafer, Mennenga and Weller

Lovell reported that the order for the new truck was cancelled and the building was in the hands of the architect.

### FINANCE

**Ordinances Providing for the Levy of Taxes FY 2022 & Adopting the FY 2022 Annual Budget & Appropriations** - Executive Director Alina Hartley reviewed comments that Finance Director Diane Schwahn had put together regarding the FY 2022 budget, since she was unable to attend the meeting. It was noted that one of the goals was to maintain or reduce the County Tax Rate. The levy worksheet (pg. 70) showed that the rate was expected to decrease to 1.07316 for FY 2022, compared to 1.12374 in 2021 and 1.17086 in 2019. At the end of the budget (pg. 219), a document was included that outlined the changes made to the budget after the budget was put on display last month. All totals, individual department narratives and summary tables were updated to reflect the changes. A brief overview of the revenue and expenses was included in the transmittal letter and detailed in the Budget summaries section (pages 53-68). There are tables (pages 59 and 60) which show two years of actuals, the estimated amounts for FY 2021 and budgeted amounts for FY 2022. Revenues across all funds (not including transfers) were budgeted at \$30,727,547 (a 16% increase over FY 2021). For FY 2022 the county's expenditures exceeded our revenues by approximately \$8.9 million which is attributed to the following: \$1.6M-completion of the H&E Building project; \$2.3 M-Deficit in the Pontiac Host Fund due to capital projects; \$780,000-Economic Development carry over; and \$4M across all Highway Funds. Revenues & expenses for the General Fund may be found in the Budget Summaries section (pages 62-64). General Fund revenue has increased approximately 8%. Expenses in the General Fund have increased approximately 7%. Most of this increase is due to approved wage increases for contract and non-contract employees. Wage increases for non-contract employees was higher this year, in order to stay competitive and catch up with the minimum wage increases taking place. The ending fund balances for all funds are shown on page 58. Overall, the county's fund balances remain strong. Diane wanted to thank the Finance Committee and the County Board for their support in the development of the budget document. She also thanked Ginger Harris and Alina for their assistance as well. Hartley noted that the biggest kudos should go to Diane for all the hard work she had put in to the process to provide the budget document. Alina also stated that she was impressed with Diane's attention to detail and her ability to keep up with all the changes that were made throughout the process.

*Motion by Slagel, second by Bunting to approve Ordinance (#2021-11-55): Providing for the Levy of Livingston County Taxes, Ordinance (#2021-11-56): Providing for the Levy of Taxes: Mental Health Fund Levy & Developmentally Disabled Person Fund Levy and Ordinance (#2021-11-57): Providing for the Levy of Taxes: Southeast Livingston County Ambulance Service Fund (with one roll call vote). **MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE.** Ayes: Vietti, Bunting, Kirkton, Manker, Barickman, Slagel, Fannin, Kestner, Welch, Carley, Ritter, Mays, Lovell, Ambrose, Blackard, Earing, Vitzthum, Arbogast, Wilkey and Runyon Nays: None Absent: Steichen, Shafer, Mennenga and Weller*

*Motion by Slagel, second by Bunting to approve Ordinance (#2021-11-54): Adopting FY 2022 Annual Budget & Appropriations. **MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE.** Ayes: Vietti, Bunting, Kirkton, Manker, Barickman, Slagel, Fannin, Kestner, Welch, Carley, Ritter, Mays, Lovell, Ambrose, Blackard, Earing, Vitzthum, Arbogast and Wilkey Nays: Runyon Absent: Steichen, Shafer, Mennenga and Weller*

**Resolution (#2021-11-58 through #2021-11-61) Authorizing Transfers of Property** – Treasurer Nikki Meier reported that the four parcels (PIN#16-16-09-428-003 Chatsworth, PIN#27-27-03-153-006 Chatsworth, PIN#27-27-03-184-007 empty lot, Chatsworth and PIN#27-27-03-328-005 Owego Twp. Pontiac, were transfers of deeds for properties sold on the sealed bid auction. *Motion by Slagel, second by Earing to approve the four Resolutions (#2021-11-58 through #2021-11-61) Authorizing Transfers of Property (with one roll call vote).* **MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE.** Ayes: Vietti, Bunting, Kirkton, Manker, Barickman, Slagel, Fannin, Kestner, Welch, Carley, Ritter, Mays, Lovell, Ambrose, Blackard, Earing, Vitzthum, Arbogast, Wilkey and Runyon Nays: None Absent: Steichen, Shafer, Mennenga and Weller

**Resolution (#2021-11-62): Approving Proposals Resulting from American Rescue (Community Response Program) RFP** – Vice-Chair Slagel (in the absence of Committee Chair Shafer) explained that their committee had discussed the proposals at great length. The resolution included the proposals they were recommending for approval at this time. Slagel stated that they had denied a few proposals and were also holding a few back for further discussion. The Public Health Department found other grant sources to cover their request for COVID related salary expenses. *Motion by Slagel, second by Fannin to approve Resolution (#2021-11-62) Proposals Resulting from the American Rescue (Community Response Program) RFP.* Discussion followed. It was noted that the County has awarded \$2.5 million to date which includes the presented resolution and has received \$3.4 million of a potential \$6.9 million. **MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE.** Ayes: Vietti, Bunting, Kirkton, Manker, Barickman, Slagel, Fannin, Kestner, Welch, Carley, Ritter, Mays, Lovell, Ambrose, Blackard, Earing, Vitzthum, Arbogast and Runyon Nays: Wilkey Present: Mays Absent: Steichen, Shafer, Mennenga and Weller

### **ELECTION, RULES AND LEGISLATIVE**

Committee Chair Mike Kirkton stated that the final draft of the revised Standing Rules had been completed. The final copy will be provided to all the board members for their review for one month with a vote to be taken at the December County Board meeting. If members have any questions, corrections or need more explanation on an item they are to contact any of the committee members. Kirkton expressed his gratitude to the committee for the time and effort they put into the review and updating of this document.

### **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

Committee Chair Marty Fannin reported that would be looking into multi-factor authentication for all the county employees. They hope to vote on it next month.

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

Committee Chair Jim Carley reported that at the Admin Committee meeting suggestions and recommendations were made. Their committee has had discussions with the Sheriff and the department. Carley stated that the Sheriff's Department is in full agreement with the following: that all payments from the federal prison program go directly to the Courthouse rather than the Jail first; the federal payments will now be paid electronically to the Treasurer; their department will adhere to all the guidelines outlined in the County's Purchasing Program; and all

contracts will be reviewed by the State's Attorney and will have two signatures. A new favorable medical contract has been worked out by Lisa Draper.

#### **PERSONNEL**

Chair Vietti reported that they didn't meet.

#### **PUBLIC PROPERTY**

Committee Chair John Vitzthum noted that the power was turned on today at the new building. Hartley stated that there would be 2-3 weeks of mechanical equipment startups, review of mechanical punch lists next week, all furniture is installed and the water leak issue has been resolved. The generator install is unknown at this time. The demolition process was discussed. Vitzthum reported that he had received word from the Children's Advocacy group was very excited to be there.

#### **VETERAN'S ASSISTANCE COMMISSION**

Committee Chair Ron Kestner reported that they had a well-attended meeting. Tom Bailey reported that he had had some inquiries about the part-time secretarial position, as well as his part-time superintendent job. They will end the year well within their budget.

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE**

No report.

#### **LIVINGSTON COUNTY HOUSING AUTHORITY**

John Slagel reported that they are meeting next week.

#### **BOARD OF HEALTH**

No report.

#### **MENTAL HEALTH BOARD**

Jack Vietti reported that their next meeting would be held next Thursday, November 17 at 4:00 p.m.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mike Kirkton reminded everyone that Veteran's Day was tomorrow. He reminded everyone that Memorial Day was in memory of those who lost their lives in defense of our country. Veteran's Day honors those who came home. Hug a Veteran.

Marty Fannin wished the Marine Corp a "Happy Birthday" today. "Semper Fi"

Kathy Arbogast extended a thank you to all the Veterans who serve on our Board. She noted that the City of Pontiac would be holding a Veteran's Day ceremony at 11:00 a.m. on the west side of the Historic Courthouse. If it's inclement weather, they will hold it at St. Mary's.

Bill Wilkey inquired about the status of the Law & Justice Center ADA issues. Hartley stated that it was pending at this time and would be discussed in a future Executive Session

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

N/A

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

N/A

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

*The meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m., on motion by Kestner, second by Blackard.* **MOTION CARRIED ON VOICE VOTE.**

**Kathy Arbogast, Chair**

Attest:

*Kristy A. Masching*  
County Clerk

Minutes Bd-Reg Sesn 111021.A