

LIVINGSTON COUNTY BOARD
MINUTES OF March 17, 2022 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.

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

Also Present: County Clerk-Kristy Masching, Executive Director-Alina Hartley, Mental Health Executive Director-Chris Myers, Public Health Administrator-Jackie Dever, Circuit Clerk LeAnn Dixon, Zoning Administrator-Chuck Schopp, Human Resources Director-Ginger Harris, Treasurer-Nikki Meier, Chief Jeff G. Hamilton, Finance Director-Diane Schwahn, State's Attorney Randy Yedinak and IT Director-Jon Sear

AGENDA

Chair Arbogast amended the agenda by removing item 1.b. Lease Agreement: Temporary Storage Space (under Public Property Committee). Arbogast called for approval of the agenda as amended. *Motion by Fannin, second by Earing to approve the agenda as amended.* **MOTION CARRIED ON UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE.**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Arbogast called for approval of the February 24, 2022 County Board meeting minutes. *Motion by Ritter, second by Wilkey to approve the February 24, 2022 County Board meeting minutes.* **MOTION CARRIED ON UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE.**

PRESENTATION

Mental Health Annual Report – Mental Health Executive Director Chris Myers presented her FY 2021 Annual Report which is required by statute. She stated that the report highlighted the great agencies/programs in Livingston County, how their funds were distributed, and to ensure the taxpayers that the LCMHB is fiscally responsible, accountable, and strives to meet the priorities of the citizens of Livingston County. Myers also provided some Livingston County 2021 statistics regarding suicides, drug usage, developmental disabilities, special needs, mental health issues, domestic violence and emergency placement/case management for youth. She reported that Livingston County has one of the highest levels of overdose. Myers also commented on the services the Mental Health Department provided as well as those available from entities who they partner with to provide other services. Myers stated that in 2021, the LCMHB spent 81% of their tax levy funds on the Purchase of Services to various agencies, with only 19% being used for administrative costs. She stated that she does auditing with all of the agencies at least once a month to review their billing and that the people being served do qualify for the services provided. *Motion by Vietti, second by Manker for approval of the Mental Health Annual Report for FY 2021.* **MOTION CARRIED ON UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE.**

Public Health 2021 Annual Report – Public Health Administrator Jackie Dever reviewed the annual report which was handed out to each board member. The department is comprised of 26 full and 5 part-time staff members. The Tuberculosis (TB) Clinic Fund expenditures are used to help any clients or residents who might test positive, to cover expenses such as testing, labs and medications. The expenditures also include the Medical Director for the program and staff time. Dever explained that the Public Health Department tax levy of \$411,660 typically helped to pay for their salaries in most of their grants. She noted that 63% of their revenue came from grants but that didn't always cover all of their salaries. Dever stated that this year was different because staff members were pulled from their normal grants to work in Covid related activities with lots of grants available to

cover those expenses. Grant revenue was up significantly this past two years due to all the Covid grants they received. Dever reviewed their revenue sources and what programs they were used for. She noted that EPSDT/Medicaid revenues were down significantly because they didn't provide many services and hadn't resumed many Family Case Management and WIC program clinics. Dever commented that their largest expenditure was for personnel at 63%. She talked briefly about the various programs and the reasons some caseloads varied so much from the prior year. She noted that in FY21 they did over 24,000 Covid shots. Sanitation classes for Environmental Health are scheduled to start in April. Dever was pleased to say that things were returning to normal for their department. Some discussion took place. *Motion by Wilkey, second by Lovell for approval of the Public Health Annual Report for FY 2021.* **MOTION CARRIED ON UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE.**

APPOINTMENT

Appointment of Livingston County Sheriff - Chair Arbogast explained that there were two candidates who had expressed their interest in being considered for the interim Sheriff appointment. She stated that she had interviewed both candidates and thought long and hard about what both had presented to her, as well as hearing what board members and the public had conveyed. Arbogast noted that it was not an easy decision. She then announced that her appointment would be Jeff G. Hamilton. *Motion by Arbogast, second by Ritter for approval of the appointment of Jeff G. Hamilton as the Sheriff.* Discussion took place. Jason Bunting stated that he was going to move to table the appointment until next month and then explain his request once the motion was seconded but wasn't able to since the first motion was made immediately.

State's Attorney Yedinak came forward to clarify what the options were under Robert's Rules of Order for proceeding. Yedinak stated that for a motion to table, the person making the motion had to be recognized by the Chair. If you don't have the floor you can't make the motion. A motion to table is appropriate if the point of the motion is to postpone it to a much later date. A motion to table is simply, something urgent has come up and we need to address it right now. The more proper motion would be a motion to postpone to a certain date. The difference between the two is that a motion to table is a majority vote while a motion to postpone is a two-thirds vote. It was noted that the Chair could make a motion, ask for a second and then call for discussion before recognizing someone from the floor.

Bunting explained that his only reason for tabling the vote was the fact that the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson of the Sheriff, Jail and License Committee were not in attendance to vote. He felt that whoever was appointed as the interim Sheriff would like to have the approval of both the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Sheriff, Jail and License Committee. **MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE.** **Ayes:** Vietti, Kirkton, Manker, Fannin, Shafer, Mennenga, Welch, Ritter, Lovell, Earing, Vitzthum, Arbogast, Wilkey and Runyon **Nays:** Bunting, Steichen, Mays and Ambrose **Abstain:** Blackard **Present:** Barickman **Absent:** Slagel, Kestner, Carley and Weller

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of Bills
- B. Appointments

- a. **Dave Lowe** – Re-appointment to the Saunemin Fire Protection District, commencing 1st Monday in May 2022 for a three year term ending in September 2022.
- b. **Alina Hartley** – Appointment to the Vermilion Valley ETSB, commencing March 17, 2022.

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

PUBLIC PROPERTY

Resolution (#2022-03-12): Accepting Low Bid – Brock Industrial – Asbestos Abatement – Committee Chair John Vitzthum reported that this resolution was to accept the bid from Brock Industrial (located in Joliet) for the

asbestos abatement project at the H&E Building. This company was the second lowest bidder but was selected after the low bidder withdrew their bid due to an error on their part. Their committee recommended the Brock Industrial bid be forwarded on to the Board for their approval. *Motion by Vitzthum, second by Ritter to accept the low bid from Brock Industrial for the asbestos abatement project.* **MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE. MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE.** **Ayes:** Vietti, Bunting, Kirkton, Manker, Barickman, Fannin, Shafer, Welch, Ritter, Lovell, Ambrose, Blackard, Earing, Vitzthum, Arbogast and Runyon **Nays:** Steichen, Mennenga and Wilkey **Present:** Mays **Absent:** Slagel, Kestner, Carley and Weller

~~**Lease Agreement – Temporary Storage Space**~~ (Removed from agenda.)

Resolution (#2022-03-13): Approving Disposition and Transfer of Surplus Property (Pontiac Recyclers), Resolution (#2022-03-14): Approving Transfer of Surplus Property (Livingston County Commission on Children & Youth) and Resolution (#2022-03-17) Approving Transfer of Surplus Property (Futures Unlimited) – Vitzthum stated that the Livingston County Commission on Children & Youth as well as Futures Unlimited wanted some of the surplus property (desks and filing cabinets) left at the H&E Building. The Public Property Committee recommended their approval of that transfer. Vitzthum noted that there would be three resolutions approved with the one roll call vote. Hartley reported that prior to the Board meeting, the Public Property Committee met and had a lengthy discussion on the cost associated with the lease of temporary space along with the increased cost for moving the remaining property to the auction site in Pontiac. Hartley stated that based on these increased costs the auction would need to generate revenue in excess of \$10,000. Hartley noted that it was not likely to do so. It would cost the County more money to move the property off site and auction it than it would to dispose of it. The resolution presented to the Board was to dispose of that property, and to allow non-profits use of it assuming it's picked up prior to March 22nd. Property remaining after that would be disposed of by Pontiac Recycling or Livingston County Landfill as deemed appropriate. *Motion by Vitzthum, second by Earing for approval of Resolution (#2022-03-13): Approving Disposition and Transfer of Surplus Property (Pontiac Recyclers), Resolution (#2022-03-14): Approving Transfer of Surplus Property (Livingston County Commission on Children & Youth) and Resolution (#2022-03-17) Approving Transfer of Surplus Property (Futures Unlimited), with one roll call vote.* **MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE.** **Ayes:** Vietti, Bunting, Kirkton, Manker, Barickman, Fannin, Steichen, Shafer, Mennenga, Welch, Ritter, Mays, Lovell, Ambrose, Blackard, Earing, Vitzthum, Arbogast, Wilkey and Runyon **Nays:** None **Absent:** Slagel, Kestner, Carley and Weller

HIGHWAY

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

- a) **Letting Results:** March 3, 2022 Letting
- b) **Bridge Petition:** Fayette Road District – Replace existing CMP's with 2 – 30" ERS x 32' Precoated CMP's @ 100N, 2625E Road. Estimated Cost = \$6,000. Section 22-10000-00-AB.
- c) **Bridge Petition:** Sullivan Road District – Replace existing CMP's with 2 – 30" ERS x 46' Precoated CMP's @ 2000N, 3400E Road. Estimated Cost = \$7,000. Section 22-27000-00-AB.
- d) **Resolution (#2022-03-15):** Resolution appropriating Rebuild Illinois (RBI) Bond Funds from Motor Fuel Tax for construction costs to replace S.N. 053-3058 on CH 34, Mortland Bridge 3070N, 800E, Section 19-00171-01-BR. February 3, 2022 Letting.

Motion by Blackard, second by Ritter to approve the Highway Action Items (All four with one roll call vote).

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

FINANCE

Circuit Clerk Semi-Annual Report – Circuit Clerk LeAnn Dixon reported that there were no big changes in her report. She noted that the collection of fees was down for the second half of the year which is normal due to the

fact that residents receive their tax refunds the first of the year. Dixon stated that most of their collections are paid by electronic means. Civil cases which are mandated by the state to be e-filed are all paid electronically. *Motion by Shafer, second by Wilkey to approve the Circuit Clerk's Semi-Annual Report.* **MOTION CARRIED ON UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE.**

EXECUTIVE

Resolution (#2022-03-16): Approval of Emergency Closure Pay – *Motion by Arbogast, second by Fannin to approve the Emergency Closure Pay.* Some discussion took place. It was stated that this resolution authorized payment for the second snow day and reversal of benefits applied, it didn't change the current policy in any way. If the policy was to be changed it would take place at a later date. Chair Arbogast noted that 23 in the General Division would be receiving their benefit time back and four employees didn't receive any benefit time back. It was also stated that the money being paid out was already in the department's budgets. **MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE.** **Ayes:** Vietti, Bunting, Kirkton, Manker, Barickman, Fannin, Steichen, Shafer, Mennenga, Welch, Ritter, Mays, Lovell, Ambrose, Blackard, Earing, Vitzthum, Arbogast, Wilkey and Runyon **Nays:** None **Absent:** Slagel, Kestner, Carley and Weller

AG & ZONING

Committee Vice-Chair Ritter reported that their committee had discussions on the following: airport setbacks; solid waste report; the upcoming county e-recycling event; and the EDF Renewable wind farm. Zoning Administrator Chuck Schopp stated that the e-recycling event would be held on Saturday, April 2 from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. at the old Kmart plaza parking lot. Schopp noted that this has been a very successful project. He also reported that he's had discussions with both wind farms. Solar farm issues are heating back up as well. Ritter also invited residents to come and help at the e-recycling event on April 2 and thanked all those who were involved in the process.

SHERIFF, JAIL & LICENSE

Committee members reported that there wasn't anything out of the ordinary to report. The committee had denied a request for mileage reimbursement from the former sheriff.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

No report since they didn't meet.

RULES, LEGISLATION, VETERANS & COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

Committee Chair Mike Kirkton stated that they didn't have any action items. They had met with the following community service representatives: LaDonna Russell-Work Force Board; Debbie Ruff and Lee Bunting – Livingston County Soil & Water Conservation District; Jackie Dever, Public Health Department and Chris Myers, Mental Health Department. Three more agencies are scheduled to meet with their committee next month.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Dennis Tipsord was present to introduce himself as a candidate seeking the Republican nomination for the 105th District in the House of Representatives.

Tim Henson expressed his gratitude for the opportunity to interview for the interim Sheriff appointment.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

N/A

ANNOUNCEMENTS

N/A

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m., on motion by Fannin, second by Ritter. **THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL AYES ON VOICE VOTE**

Kathy Arbogast, Chair

Attest:

Kristy A. Masching
County Clerk

Minutes Bd-Reg Sesn 031722.A