

LIVINGSTON COUNTY BOARD
MINUTES OF DECEMBER 15TH, 2022 MEETING OF THE COUNTY BOARD

OPENING

County Board Chair James A. Carley 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 Ginger Harris presented the invocation. William Mays led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

County Clerk Kristy Masching called roll of the full board with the following **present:** John L. Vietti, Jason Bunting, Rebekah Fehr, Gina Manker, Joel J. Barickman, Linda Ambrose, Marty Fannin, Dan Myers, Mark Runyon, William Mays, Robert F. Weller, John J. Vitzthum, Jim Blackard, Gerald L. Earing, Seth L. Welch, James A. Carley, Steven J. Lovell, and Paul A. Ritter **Absent:** None

Also Present: Executive Director Alina Hartley, County Clerk Kristy Masching, HR Director Ginger Harris, Finance Director Diane Schwahn, Network & Computer Systems Administrator Jon Sear, IT Support Tech Dakota Russell, County Treasurer M. Nikki Meier, Sheriff Ryan Bohm, Jail Superintendent Lisa Draper and Mark DeKeersgieter (CIRBN representative).

AGENDA

Chair Carley called for any additions or changes to the agenda with none requested. *Motion by Manker, second by Lovell to approve the agenda as presented.* **MOTION CARRIED ON VOICE VOTE WITH ALL AYES.**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Carley called for approval of the meeting minutes from November 17th, 2022. *Motion by Ritter, second by Earing to approve the minutes as presented.* **MOTION CARRIED ON VOICE VOTE WITH ALL AYES.**

PRESENTATION

Connect Livingston Broadband – Allocation of ARPA Funds for Broadband Initiatives: Board member Marty Fannin stated that a broadband survey was conducted and they received 393 responses from local homes and businesses within Livingston County. Fannin stated the survey showed that 77% of respondents need to resort to cellular data for internet, 64% are not satisfied with the affordability of their internet service, 59% were not satisfied with the speed of their internet and 56% were not satisfied with the reliability. Fannin reported 86% of the County were underserved, showing speed of less than 100 mbps. Fannin stated that Connect Livingston Broadband is working to make sure that all residents have access to affordable connectivity of at least 100 mbps symmetrical. Mark DeKeersgieter from CIRBN stated that Livingston County has been a partner with CIRBN since 2012. DeKeersgieter reviewed the structure of CIRBN along with the reasons Livingston County should partner with CIRBN on broadband initiatives within Livingston County. *Motion by Fannin, second by Blackard for approval of the Allocation of the remaining ARPA Funds (estimated at \$1.6 million) for Broadband Initiatives.* **MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE. Ayes:** John L. Vietti, Jason Bunting, Rebekah Fehr, Gina Manker, Joel J. Barickman, Linda Ambrose, Marty Fannin, Dan Myers, Mark Runyon, Robert F. Weller, John J. Vitzthum, Jim Blackard, Gerald L. Earing, Seth L. Welch, James A. Carley, Steven J. Lovell, and Paul A. Ritter **Present:** William Mays **Absent:** None

APPEARANCES

N/A

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of Bills
- B. Addition of FT Position – Jail Administrative Assistant – PS2
- C. Appointment – Steven P. Koeller – Flanagan-Graymont Fire Protection District

Motion by Fannin, second by Earing for approval of the Consent Agenda. MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE. Ayes: John L. Vietti, Jason Bunting, Rebekah Fehr, Gina Manker, Joel J. Barickman, Linda Ambrose, Marty Fannin, Dan Myers, Mark Runyon, William Mays, Robert F. Weller, John J. Vitzthum, Jim Blackard, Gerald L. Earing, Seth L. Welch, James A. Carley, Steven J. Lovell, and Paul A. Ritter **Absent:** None

PUBLIC PROPERTY

Lease Agreement: Odell Tower – S&Z Property Brothers: Committee Chair John Vitzthum reported that the Odell property that houses the Odell Tower was recently sold to S&Z Property Brothers, and that this lease is with the new owners. Hartley stated that the current lease goes through 2030, so two additional five-year renewal options were added which now gives the County options through 2040. Hartley stated the terms of the lease are remaining the same, stating the County will pay the portion of the taxes associated with the tower and the current lease rate is \$5,000 but will increase every five years by \$500. *Motion by Vitzthum, second by Weller to approve the Odell Tower Lease Agreement as submitted. MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE. Ayes:* John L. Vietti, Jason Bunting, Rebekah Fehr, Gina Manker, Joel J. Barickman, Linda Ambrose, Marty Fannin, Dan Myers, Mark Runyon, William Mays, Robert F. Weller, John J. Vitzthum, Jim Blackard, Gerald L. Earing, Seth L. Welch, James A. Carley, Steven J. Lovell, and Paul A. Ritter **Absent:** None

Committee Chair John Vitzthum stated that they have had some issues with the generator at the Health Building, but things are slowly getting worked out.

FINANCE

Resolution (#2022-12-78): States Attorney Appellate Prosecutor: Committee Chair Marty Fannin stated this is a resolution done every year, noting that there was a decrease in the rate. *Motion by Fannin, second by Ritter to approve the State's Attorney Appellate Prosecutor Resolution. MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE. Ayes:* John L. Vietti, Jason Bunting, Rebekah Fehr, Gina Manker, Joel J. Barickman, Linda Ambrose, Marty Fannin, Dan Myers, Mark Runyon, William Mays, Robert F. Weller, John J. Vitzthum, Jim Blackard, Gerald L. Earing, Seth L. Welch, James A. Carley, Steven J. Lovell, and Paul A. Ritter **Absent:** None

Resolutions (#2022-12-79 through #2022-12-83): Authorizing Transfer of Deed: County Treasurer M. Nikki Meier stated that there are 5 parcels. Meier stated one property is an empty lot in Streator, another is a long strip of wooded land in Ancona, and a house each in Cornell, Pontiac and Saunemin.

- i. Parcel: 01-01-01-101-002 (**Resolution #2022-12-79**)
- ii. Parcel: 01-01-28-284-002 (**Resolution #2022-12-80**)
- iii. Parcel: 08-08-14-126-021 (**Resolution #2022-12-81**)
- iv. Parcel: 15-15-22-210-010 (**Resolution #2022-12-82**)
- v. Parcel: 29-29-03-337-003 (**Resolution #2022-12-83**)

Motion by Fannin, second by Manker to approve the Resolutions Authorizing the Transfer of Deeds. MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE. Ayes: John L. Vietti, Jason Bunting, Rebekah Fehr, Gina Manker, Joel J. Barickman, Linda Ambrose, Marty Fannin, Dan Myers, Mark Runyon, William Mays, Robert F. Weller, John J. Vitzthum, Jim Blackard, Gerald L. Earing, Seth L. Welch, James A. Carley, Steven J. Lovell, and Paul A. Ritter **Absent:** None

Resolution (#2022-12-84): Authorizing ARPA Grant: Committee Chair Marty Fannin stated this resolution is to accept Good Samaritan's proposal authorizing a grant in the amount of \$324,500. *Motion by Fannin, second by Ambrose to approve the Resolution Authorizing the ARPA Grant. MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE. Ayes:* John L. Vietti, Jason Bunting, Rebekah Fehr, Gina Manker, Joel J. Barickman, Linda Ambrose, Marty Fannin, Dan Myers, Mark Runyon, Robert F. Weller, John J. Vitzthum, Jim Blackard, Gerald L. Earing, Seth L. Welch, James A. Carley, Steven J. Lovell, and Paul A. Ritter **Present:** William Mays **Absent:** None

HIGHWAY

Committee Chair Steven J. Lovell stated that they did not have a committee meeting this month, but will be having a meeting in January.

SHERIFF, JAIL & LICENSE

Committee Chair Robert F. Weller stated that they had a quick meeting this month. Weller stated the agenda was short including 3 raffle licenses, one being the Pontiac Sportsman’s Club and two from Dwight Country Club, as well as a brief discussion regarding the Jail Administrative Assistant position.

AGRICULTURE & ZONING

Committee Chair Jason Bunting reported he has no action items to discuss. Bunting stated the committee has started working through the Ordinance on the Solar Farm Moratorium. Bunting stated the committee is working in the right direction, and that there will be a special meeting on December 22, 2022 at 6:00p.m. for anyone interested in attending. Bunting reported that at the January board meeting, they are hoping to come to some type of resolution to send back to the ZBA for public hearings regarding the changes to the Ordinance, as well as put in motion the extension of the moratorium.

Chair James A. Carley personally thanked Committee Chair Jason Bunting for the way he conducted the Agriculture & Zoning Committee Meeting, along with everyone else involved. Carley stated he felt like a lot of progress was made at the meeting.

INFORMATION and TECHNOLOGY

Committee Chair Gina Manker stated that they did not have a committee meeting this month.

RULES, LEGISLATION, VETERANS, AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

Committee Chair Jack Vietti stated that there was a short meeting this month approving one appointment for Steven P. Koeller of the Flanagan Graymont Fire Protection District.

EXECUTIVE

Committee Chair James A. Carley stated the Executive Committee did not meet this month. Carley thanked all committee members and chairman who have stepped up to take on their roles. Carley stated the next board meeting will be held on Thursday, January 12, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

N/A

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The floor was open for public comment.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m. on motion by Vietti, second by Lovell. MOTION CARRIED ON VOICE VOTE.

James A. Carley, Chair

Attest:

Jordan Uselding

Executive Assistant

On behalf of County Clerk, Kristy Masching