

LIVINGSTON COUNTY BOARD
MINUTES OF MARCH 16TH, 2023 MEETING OF THE COUNTY BOARD

OPENING

County Board Vice-Chair Steven Lovell 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. Mark Runyon led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Executive Director Alina Hartley called roll with the following members **present:** John L. Vietti, Rebekah Fehr, Gina Manker, Joel J. Barickman, Linda Ambrose, Dan Myers, Mark Runyon, William Mays, Robert F. Weller, John J. Vitzthum, Jim Blackard, Gerald L. Earing, Steven J. Lovell, and Paul A. Ritter **Absent:** James A. Carley, Marty Fannin, Michael Haag and Seth L. Welch

Also Present: Executive Director Alina Hartley, Executive Assistant Jordan Uselding, Human Resource Director Ginger Harris, Finance Director Diane Schwahn, Network & Computer Systems Administrator Jon Sear, IT Support Tech Dakota Russell, Highway Engineer Clay Metcalf, Sheriff Ryan Bohm, States Attorney Michael Regnier, Zoning & Planning Administrator Jesse King, Assistant Planning Administrator Patricia Merlino, Mental Health Board Executive Director Chris Myers and Public Health Administrator Jackie Dever

AGENDA

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Lovell called for approval of the meeting minutes from February 16, 2023, and February 28, 2023. *Motion by Runyon, second by Earing to approve the minutes as submitted.* **MOTION CARRIED ON VOICE VOTE WITH ALL AYES.**

PRESENTATION

Public Health Annual Report – Public Health Administrator Jackie Dever provided the Board with a hardcopy of the Health Department’s annual report for the year 2022. Dever stated they received some funding from the state, so they were able to use remaining grant funds to update some of their technology. Dever stated the financials remained steady throughout the year compared to fiscal year 2021. Discussion took place regarding expenditures and revenue.

Mental Health Annual Report – Mental Health Board Director Chris Myers provided the Board with a synopsis of the department’s annual report for the year 2022. Myers stated the Mental Health Board and agencies they partnered with were able to serve over 3300 individuals in programs that address the needs of people with mental illness, developmental disabilities and substance use issues. Myers stated that each year these agencies put in applications for their programs that they seek funding for and abide by the fiscal year outlining the parameters for the use of the tax levy dollars. Myers reported that once a year the Mental Health Board audits each agency for a month worth of billing to make assure that the files, records, clients, staff and billing all align with the parameters they set forth in each contract. Discussion took place.

Motion by Vietti, second by Vitzthum to approve the Public Health and Mental Health Annual Reports. **MOTION CARRIED ON VOICE VOTE WITH ALL AYES.**

APPEARANCES

N/A

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of Bills
- B. Appointments– Jim Tronc – Saunemin Fire Protection District

Motion by Ambrose, second by Earing for approval of the Consent Agenda. MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE. Ayes: John L. Vietti, Rebekah Fehr, Gina Manker, Joel J. Barickman, Linda Ambrose, Dan Myers, Mark Runyon, William Mays, Robert F. Weller, John J. Vitzthum, Jim Blackard, Gerald L. Earing, Steven J. Lovell, and Paul A. Ritter **Absent:** James A. Carley, Marty Fannin, Michael Haag and Seth L. Welch

AGRICULTURE & ZONING

Resolution (#2023-03-18): Zoning Case SU-14-22 Allium Solar: Nicholas Standiford, zoning attorney with Schain, Banks, Kenny, & Schwartz LTD in Chicago and Paul Bottum with Cultivate Power were present to talk about Zoning Case SU-14-22 Allium Solar. Standiford stated that this zoning case was turned down at the Zoning Board of Appeals meeting in February, but states it meets all the requirements in the Livingston County Zoning Ordinance, Solar Farm Ordinance, special use standards and intent of the comprehensive plan. Bottom reviewed the project and addressed the concerns that were presented at the ZBA meeting regarding lack of communication with surrounding neighbors, vegetation, drainage issues, and items missing within the application. Discussion took place. County Board Vice-Chair, Steven Lovell, moved that Zoning Case SU-14-22 Allium solar be referred back to the Zoning Board of Appeals for further consideration as it relates to drainage issues and decommissioning. *Motion by Lovell, second by Earing to refer Zoning Case SU-14-22 Allium Solar back to the Zoning Board of Appeals. MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE. Ayes:* John L. Vietti, Gina Manker, Joel J. Barickman, Dan Myers, Robert F. Weller, John J. Vitzthum, Jim Blackard, Gerald L. Earing, Steven J. Lovell, and Paul A. Ritter **Nays:** Rebekah Fehr, Linda Ambrose, Mark Runyon and William Mays **Absent:** James A. Carley, Marty Fannin, Michael Haag and Seth L. Welch

Resolution (#2023-03-19): Opposing Public Act 102-1123: Committee Chair Gerald Earing stated the Public Act 102-1123 takes away all county zoning rights. *Motion by Earing, second by Fehr to approve the Resolution Opposing Public Act 102-1123. MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE. Ayes:* John L. Vietti, Rebekah Fehr, Gina Manker, Joel J. Barickman, Linda Ambrose, Dan Myers, Mark Runyon, William Mays, Robert F. Weller, John J. Vitzthum, Jim Blackard, Gerald L. Earing, Steven J. Lovell, and Paul A. Ritter **Absent:** James A. Carley, Marty Fannin, Michael Haag and Seth L. Welch

Resolution (#2023-03-20): Zoning Ordinance Amendment Solar: *Motion by Weller, second by Ritter to approve the Resolution Amending the Zoning Solar Farm Ordinance. MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE. Ayes:* John L. Vietti, Rebekah Fehr, Gina Manker, Joel J. Barickman, Linda Ambrose, Dan Myers, Mark Runyon, William Mays, Robert F. Weller, John J. Vitzthum, Jim Blackard, Gerald L. Earing, Steven J. Lovell, and Paul A. Ritter **Absent:** James A. Carley, Marty Fannin, Michael Haag and Seth L. Welch

Resolution (#2023-03-21): Zoning Ordinance Amendment WECS: Rebekah Fehr noted that there was a typo in the resolution, where it stated “solar farm” instead of “wind energy”. Alina Hartley advised the board that this typo was corrected on the final copy of the resolution prior to the meeting. *Motion by Ritter, second by Fehr to approve the Resolution Amending the Zoning Wind Energy Ordinance. MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE. Ayes:* John L. Vietti, Rebekah Fehr, Gina Manker, Joel J. Barickman, Linda Ambrose, Dan Myers, Mark Runyon, William Mays, Robert F. Weller, John J. Vitzthum, Gerald L. Earing, Steven J. Lovell, and Paul A. Ritter **Nays:** Jim Blackard **Absent:** James A. Carley, Marty Fannin, Michael Haag and Seth L. Welch

Committee Chair Gerald Earing stated there will be an Electronic Recycling Day Event on April 8th, 2023.

SHERIFF, JAIL & LICENSE

Sheriff's Annual Report – Sheriff Ryan Bohm provided a synopsis of the annual report for the year 2022. Sheriff Bohm reported that in 2022 the Livingston County Sheriff's Police primarily consisted of 3 Administrators, 5 Sergeants, 2 Deputies, 3 School Resource Officers and 1 Animal Control Officer. Bohm stated the Sheriff's department utilized a fleet of 46 vehicles and spent \$249,101.39 in fuel and maintenance costs. Bohm mentioned that the deputies conducted 8,068 hours of law enforcement training throughout the year. Bohm reported that the department generated \$159,810.54 in fees for civil process, town contracts, FTA fees and warrant service fees. Bohm reported the Detectives Unit handled over 250 cases and brought 1200 pieces of evidence into the vault. Bohm stated the Pro-Active Unit seized many narcotics, conducted 13 search warrants, made 39 arrests and assisted other agencies 35 times. Bohm reported the Livingston County Jail contains bed space for 188 detainees, with an average daily population of 146 and generates \$3,161,132.35. Bohm reported Court Security screened an average of 94 persons per day and transported an average of 1.22 detainees daily. Bohm mentioned Animal Control processed 94 dogs at the Kennel, in which 64 were returned to owner, 12 transferred to Humane Society/Shelter, 8 adopted, 13 euthanized and 5 remaining at the end of the year.

Sheriff's Semi-Annual Report – Sheriff Ryan Bohm provided the Board with a copy of the semi-annual report from June 1, 2022 to December 1, 2022, with no questions to follow.

Motion by Ritter, second by Manker to approve the Sheriff's Annual and Semi-Annual Reports. MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE. Ayes: John L. Vietti, Rebekah Fehr, Gina Manker, Joel J. Barickman, Linda Ambrose, Dan Myers, Mark Runyon, William Mays, Robert F. Weller, John J. Vitzthum, Jim Blackard, Gerald L. Earing, Steven J. Lovell, and Paul A. Ritter **Absent:** James A. Carley, Marty Fannin, Michael Haag and Seth L. Welch

Sheriff Ryan Bohm informed the Board that 2 detectives went to Pontiac Township High School and spent time with students in their science class, where they used forensic science and investigative techniques to solve a crime module set up in the lab. Bohm stated that he received postcards from the students at the High School and was blown away by the positive feedback received.

RULES, LEGISLATION, VETERANS, AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

Resolution (#2023-02-22): Standing Rules Amendment: Committee Chair Jack Vietti advised the board that this resolution is changing the name of the Executive Committee back to the Administrative Committee thus amending the Standing Rules of the County Board. *Motion by Vietti, second by Earing to approve the Resolution Amending the Standing Rules of the County Board. MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE. Ayes:* John L. Vietti, Rebekah Fehr, Gina Manker, Joel J. Barickman, Linda Ambrose, Dan Myers, Mark Runyon, William Mays, Robert F. Weller, John J. Vitzthum, Jim Blackard, Gerald L. Earing, Steven J. Lovell, and Paul A. Ritter **Absent:** James A. Carley, Marty Fannin, Michael Haag and Seth L. Welch

HIGHWAY

- a. **Letting Results:** March 2, 2023 Letting
- b. **Bridge Petition & Engineering Agreement:** Odell Rd. District, Sect No. 23-23125-01-BR, Phase I Design to determine structure type and apply for funding for SN 053-4106 (2400N, 1990E), - Hampton Lenzini & Renwick (HLR)
- c. **Bridge Petition:** Indian Grove Road District – Scour Remediation at SN 053-3294 @ 520N, 1925E Road, Estimated Cost = \$25,000. Section 23-13000-00-AB

Motion by Weller, second by Blackard for approval of three highway action items with one roll call vote.

MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE. Ayes: John L. Vietti, Rebekah Fehr, Gina Manker, Joel J. Barickman, Linda Ambrose, Dan Myers, Mark Runyon, William Mays, Robert F. Weller, John J. Vitzthum, Jim Blackard, Gerald L. Earing, Steven J. Lovell, and Paul A. Ritter **Absent:** James A. Carley, Marty Fannin, Michael Haag and Seth L. Welch

Committee Chair Steven Lovell reported that they are down to pouring the last section of the flooring at the new highway building.

FINANCE

Committee Vice-Chair Gerald Earing reported that the committee is helping the Sheriff's Department with the STEP Grant and working on the opioid settlement Funds.

PUBLIC PROPERTY

Committee Chair John Vitzthum reported that they are working on the Hot Water Heater Replacement Project and the H&E Drive-Thru Design Build Project.

INFORMATION and TECHNOLOGY

Committee Chair Gina Manker reported that the IT Committee discussed that the RFP went out for the virtual server upgrade, the County will not be hosting its own email services due to it not being cost effective, they will be applying for a grant to update all technology in the Courthouse, replacing the jail repeater sometime in the near future, and announced the jail door electronic control system project will begin installation at the end of summer.

EXECUTIVE

Committee Vice-Chair Steven Lovell stated he was very appreciative and thanked the board for their time.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The floor was open for public comment.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Executive Session *Motion by Ritter, second by Manker to go into Executive Session pursuant to 5ILCS 120/2(c)(11) – Pending Litigation. MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE. Ayes:* John L. Vietti, Rebekah Fehr, Gina Manker, Joel J. Barickman, Linda Ambrose, Dan Myers, Mark Runyon, William Mays, Robert F. Weller, John J. Vitzthum, Jim Blackard, Gerald L. Earing, Steven J. Lovell, and Paul A. Ritter **Absent:** James A. Carley, Marty Fannin, Michael Haag and Seth L. Welch

The board took a brief break prior to Executive Session from 7:18p.m. – 7:22p.m.
Executive session began at 7:22 p.m.
Regular session resumed at 7:58 p.m.

ACTION RESULTING FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

N/A

ANNOUNCEMENTS

N/A

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:59 p.m. on motion by Mays, second by Earing. MOTION CARRIED ON VOICE VOTE.

Steven Lovell, Chair

Attest:

Jordan E. Uselding

Executive Assistant, On behalf of County Clerk, Kristy Masching