

LIVINGSTON COUNTY BOARD
MINUTES OF JUNE 15TH, 2023 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 Jan Ambrose presented the invocation. Seth Welch led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

County Clerk Kristy Masching called roll with the following members **present:** John L. Vietti, Michael Haag, Rebekah Fehr, Gina Manker, Joel J. Barickman, Linda Ambrose, Marty Fannin, 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:** Dan Myers

Also Present: Executive Director Alina Hartley, Executive Assistant Jordan Uselding, County Clerk Kristy Mashing, Human Resource Director Ginger Harris, Finance Director Diane Schwahn, Network & Computer Systems Administrator Jon Sear, Treasurer M. Nikki Meier, Sheriff Ryan Bohm, States Attorney Michael Regnier, Public Defender Marinna Metoyer, Jail Superintendent Lisa Draper, Zoning & Planning Administrator Jesse King, Assistant Planning Administrator Patricia Merlino, Highway Engineer Clay Metcalf, Attorney Nicholas Standiford (Schain, Banks, Kenny, & Schwartz LTD), Paul Bottum and Nico Galletout(Cultivate Power).

AGENDA

Chair Carley called for an amendment to the agenda requesting to move public comment to III., replacing Appearances. *Motion by Ritter, second by Fannin to approve the agenda as amended.* **MOTION CARRIED ON VOICE VOTE WITH ALL AYES.**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Carley called for approval of the meeting minutes from May 9, 2023 and May 11, 2023. *Motion by Earing, second by Vietti to approve the minutes as submitted.* **MOTION CARRIED ON VOICE VOTE WITH ALL AYES.**

PRESENTATION

N/A

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The floor was open for public comment.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of Bills
- B. Appointments
 - a) Brian Perschnick – Dwight Fire Protection District
 - b) Chris Clement – Pontiac Rural Fire Protection District

Motion by Lovell, second by Earing for approval of the Consent Agenda. **MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE. Ayes:** John L. Vietti, Michael Haag, Rebekah Fehr, Gina Manker, Joel J. Barickman, Linda Ambrose, Marty Fannin, 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 **Nays:** None **Absent:** Dan Myers

AGRICULTURE & ZONING

Resolution: Zoning Case SU-14-22 – Allium Solar – Paul Bottum reported that this is a 5MW solar project on 32-acres, located at 15550 E. 1300 North Rd., Pontiac. Bottum stated this project will provide electricity to 1100 homes, as well as a tax revenue of approximately \$651,000 for the life span of the project. Galletout was present to provide the drain tile process that takes place with this project. Bottum stated he spoke with the local land owners and addressed their concerns regarding drainage, the vegetation of the property and a preliminary emergency services plan for safety precautions. Discussion took place. *Motion by Earing, second by Haag to approve Zoning Case SU-14-22 – Allium Solar.* **MOTION FAILED ON ROLL CALL VOTE.** **Ayes:** John L. Vietti, Michael Haag, Joel J. Barickman, Robert F. Weller, Gerald L. Earing, James A. Carley and Steven J. Lovell, **Nays:** Rebekah Fehr, Gina Manker, Linda Ambrose, Marty Fannin, Mark Runyon, William Mays, John J. Vitzthum, Jim Blackard, Seth L. Welch, and Paul A. Ritter **Absent:** Dan Myers

Resolution: Zoning Case SU-15-22 – Beebalm Solar – Paul Bottum reported that this project is for a 5MW Solar Farm located at 27900 N. 1500 East Rd, Odell. This is a 142-acre parcel with 33-acres of panels. Bottum stated the solar farm will increase tax revenue, noting in the first year it is expected to generate over \$39,000 and over the life of the project \$743,000. Bottum addressed many of the community concerns and discussion took place. *Motion by Haag, second by Earing to approve Zoning Case SU-15-22 – Beebalm Solar.* **MOTION FAILED ON ROLL CALL VOTE.** **Ayes:** John L. Vietti, Michael Haag, Robert F. Weller, John J. Vitzthum, Gerald L. Earing, James A. Carley and Steven J. Lovell **Nays:** Rebekah Fehr, Gina Manker, Joel J. Barickman, Linda Ambrose, Marty Fannin, Mark Runyon, William Mays, Jim Blackard, Seth L. Welch, and Paul A. Ritter **Absent:** Dan Myers

Resolution (#2023-06-34): ZT-5-23 – Text Amendment – Camping Facility – King reported that this text amendment is to change the definition of a camping facility in Livingston County’s ordinance. King noted the former definition was too vague and restrictive, so he aligned it with the state definition to create a clearer context. *Motion by Ritter, second by Manker to approve the text amendment of a camping facility.* **MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE.** **Ayes:** John L. Vietti, Michael Haag, Rebekah Fehr, Gina Manker, Linda Ambrose, Marty Fannin, 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 **Nays:** None **Abstain:** Joel J. Barickman **Absent:** Dan Myers

HIGHWAY

- a. **Resolution (#2023-06-35): Letting Results** - June 1, 2023 Letting
- b. **Bridge Petition** - Bridge Petition & Engineering Agreement: Odell/Nevada Rd. District, Sect No. 23-18115-00-BR/23-16123-00-BR, Proposed SN 053-5537 (2700N, 2085E), – Hutchison Engineering, Inc., Federal Bridge Program FY27. Design for Replacement of Existing Bridge 053-3157.
- c. **Bridge Petition** - Nebraska Rd. District, Sect No. 23-15131-00-BR, Proposed SN 053-4240 (1675N, 500E), – Hutchison Engineering, Inc., Federal Bridge Program FY27. Design for Replacement of Existing Bridge 053-3109.

Motion by Lovell, second by Weller for approval of the highway action items with one roll call vote. **MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE.** **Ayes:** John L. Vietti, Michael Haag, Rebekah Fehr, Gina Manker, Joel J. Barickman, Linda Ambrose, Marty Fannin, 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 **Nays:** None **Absent:** Dan Myers

FINANCE

Resolution (#2023-06-36): Budget Transfer of Bookkeeping – Fannin reported that this resolution transfers the remaining appropriations of Bookkeeping from the County Clerk’s responsibility to the Finance Department. *Motion by Ritter, second by Manker to approve the resolution transferring the remaining budget of Bookkeeping.* **MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE.** **Ayes:** John L. Vietti, Michael Haag, Rebekah Fehr, Gina

Manker, Joel J. Barickman, Linda Ambrose, Marty Fannin, 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
Nays: None **Absent:** Dan Myers

Resolution (#2023-06-37): Authorizing Grant – Children’s Advocacy Center – Hartley reported that the County had funds that were allocated to other entities and these said funds were not expended at the end of the grant term nor did they request an extension, so the funds were returned. Hartley stated that the Children’s Advocacy is requesting a portion of these funds as allocated in the resolution.

Resolution: Authorizing Grant Amendment & Extension – Livingston County Mutual Aid – Hartley reported that the Livingston County Mutual Aid will utilize these funds as outlined in the resolution.

Motion by Earing, second by Ritter for approval of one resolution authorizing the grant for the Children’s Advocacy Center and authorizing the grant amendment & extension for Livingston County Mutual Aid.

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

Committee Chair Marty Fannin announced that Livingston County received a plaque from the Government Finance Officers Association for being awarded the distinguished budget presentation award for FY 2023.

PUBLIC PROPERTY

Project Agreement: Entec Hot Water System Project – Hartley reported that the proposal from Entec for the project at the Public Safety Complex Building is for the design of the overall project and to assist the County with the bidding process. *Motion by Vitzthum, second by Vietti to approve the agreement with Entec on the Hot Water System Replacement Project.* **MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE. Ayes:** John L. Vietti, Michael Haag, Rebekah Fehr, Gina Manker, Linda Ambrose, Marty Fannin, Robert F. Weller, John J. Vitzthum, Jim Blackard, Gerald L. Earing, Seth L. Welch, James A. Carley, Steven J. Lovell, and Paul A. Ritter **Nays:** Mark Runyon and William Mays **Abstain:** Joel J. Barickman **Absent:** Dan Myers

Committee Chair John Vitzthum reported that Phase II of the parking lot is moving along.

RULES, LEGISLATION, VETERANS, AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

Resolution (#2023-06-38): Relocation of Pontiac Voting Precinct #4 – Vietti reported the County Clerk is requesting to move the location of the Pontiac voting precinct from the Grace Episcopal Church to the Public Health Building. *Motion by Vietti, second by Blackard to approve the resolution relocating the Pontiac voting precinct.* **MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE. Ayes:** John L. Vietti, Michael Haag, Rebekah Fehr, Gina Manker, Joel J. Barickman, Linda Ambrose, Marty Fannin, 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 **Nays:** None **Absent:** Dan Myers

ADMINISTRATIVE

FY 2023-2024 Strategic Plan / Goals - *Motion by Lovell, second by Welch to approve the FY 2023-2024 Strategic Plan / Goals.* **MOTION CARRIED ON VOICE VOTE.**

Committee Chair James A. Carley reported that he would like to thank the general public for being respectful during public comment.

SHERIFF, JAIL & LICENSE

Committee Chair Robert F. Weller reported that Sheriff Bohm and Superintendent Draper provided their monthly reports at the Committee meeting as scheduled. Weller reported that there was a presentation from a representative from a body scan company, noting that there will be further discussion on this in the future.

INFORMATION and TECHNOLOGY

Committee Chair Gina Manker reported that the Committee discussed the replacement of cameras at the Law and Justice Center, adding an additional employee in the IT department, the virtual server has been ordered, the jail door system is projected to be installed at the end of summer and Bennett Technologies came in as the lowest proposal for the technology updates in the courtrooms but the equipment is on backorder.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

N/A

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:24 p.m. on motion by Fannin, second by Fehr. **MOTION CARRIED ON VOICE VOTE.**

James A. Carley, Chair

Attest:

Jordan E. Uselding

Executive Assistant, On behalf of County Clerk, Kristy Masching