

**LIVINGSTON COUNTY BOARD  
MINUTES OF DECEMBER 2, 2024 ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING**

**OPENING**

County Clerk Kristy Masching called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. in the Board Room at the Historic Courthouse at 112 W. Madison, Pontiac, Illinois.

Linda Ambrose led the Pledge of Allegiance

**Also Present:** County Clerk Kristy Masching, Executive Director Alina Hartley, Executive Assistant Jordan Uselding, Circuit Judge Jennifer Bauknecht, Sheriff Ryan Bohm, States Attorney Michael Regnier, Public Defender Marinna Metoyer, Human Resource Director Ginger Harris, Finance Director Diane Schwahn, and Network & Computer Systems Administrator Jon Sear.

**ROLL CALL OF HELD OVER BOARD MEMBERS**

County Clerk Masching called roll of the held over members, with the following **present:** John L. Vietti, Joel Barickman, Linda Ambrose, Robert F. Weller, Jim Blackard, Seth L. Welch, and Paul A. Ritter  
**Absent:** Dan Myers and William Mays

**NOMINATION OF TEMPORARY CHAIR**

The County Clerk called for nominations for temporary chair. Ritter nominated Weller, with a second by Blackard. *Motion by Ritter, second by Vietti to close the nominations.* **MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE. Ayes:** John L. Vietti, Joel Barickman, Linda Ambrose, Robert F. Weller, Jim Blackard, Seth L. Welch, and Paul A. Ritter **Nays:** None **Absent:** Dan Myers and William Mays

There being no further nominations, the County Clerk declared Robert F. Weller to be the duly elected Temporary Chair.

**APPOINTMENT FOR CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE**

Temporary Chair Weller appointed Jack Vietti – District #1, Joel Barickman – District #2 and Paul Ritter – District #3 for the Credentials Committee. The appointed members met with Clerk Masching from 6:08 p.m. until 6:12 p.m., to review the elected board members credentials. Paul Ritter reported that the committee examined the election results and found the credentials to be in order.

**SWEARING IN**

Temporary Chair Weller called on Circuit Judge Jennifer Bauknecht to administer the Oath of Office to the County Board Members.

New Board Member Leroy Rodriquez from District #3 was given an opportunity to briefly address the Board.

**ROLL CALL OF THE ENTIRE BOARD**

County Clerk Masching called roll of the full board, with the following **present:** Gina Manker, Gerald L. Earing, James A. Carley, Steven J. Lovell, Leroy Rodriquez, Michael Haag, Craig Monson, John L. Vietti, Joel Barickman, Linda Ambrose, Robert F. Weller, Jim Blackard, Seth L. Welch and Paul A. Ritter **Absent:** Rebekah Fehr, Marty Fannin, Dan Myers and William Mays.

**NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF PERMANENT CHAIR & VICE CHAIR**

Temporary Chair Weller called for nominations for the permanent Board Chair. Ritter nominated James A. Carley, with a second by Vietti. *Motion by Haag, second by Ritter to close nominations and elect James A. Carley as permanent Chair.* **MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes:** Gina Manker, Gerald L. Earing, James A. Carley, Steven J. Lovell, Leroy Rodriquez, Michael Haag, Craig Monson, John L. Vietti, Joel Barickman, Robert F. Weller, Jim Blackard, Seth L. Welch and Paul A. Ritter **Nays:** Linda Ambrose **Absent:** Rebekah Fehr, Marty Fannin, Dan Myers and William Mays.

Temporary Chair Weller called for nominations for the permanent Vice Chair. Haag nominated Steven J. Lovell, with a second by Earing. *Motion by Weller, second by Manker to close nominations and elect Steven J. Lovell as permanent Vice Chair.* **MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes:** Gina Manker, Gerald L. Earing, James A. Carley, Steven J. Lovell, Leroy Rodriquez, Michael Haag, Craig Monson, John L. Vietti, Joel Barickman, Linda Ambrose, Robert F. Weller, Jim Blackard, Seth L. Welch and Paul A. Ritter **Nays:** None **Absent:** Rebekah Fehr, Marty Fannin, Dan Myers and William Mays.

#### **REMARKS BY NEW CHAIRMAN**

Chair Carley offered a few comments before conducting the rest of the meeting. He thanked the Board for giving him the opportunity to serve as Chairman again for the next term. Carley stated he hopes the Board continues to function as a team, with respect for one another, and will put the citizens of Livingston County first.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The County Clerk explained that the Certificates of Election had been placed at each newly elected member's seat, as well as the Oaths of Office. County Clerk Masching asked that the members return their oaths to her after the meeting, so that Judge Bauknecht would be able to sign them. Masching reported that all per diems need to be turned in for payroll on December 27<sup>th</sup>.

Chair Carley announced that Committee assignments will be sent out with the Committee packet, noting only minimal changes will be made.

Hartley reported that there will be an abbreviated schedule of meetings this month. Committee meetings will take place on Monday, December 9, beginning at 3:30p.m., and each committee will be given 15-minute increments. Hartley reported the full board meeting will be held on Thursday, December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 6:00p.m.

*The meeting adjourned at 6:22 p.m. on motion by Vietti, second by Blackard.* **MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL EYES ON VOICE VOTE.**

**James A. Carley, Chair**

Attest:

Jordan E. Uselding

Executive Assistant

On behalf of County Clerk, Kristy Masching