

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNTY BOARD
AT A MEETING OF THE COUNTY BOARD MEMBERS OF CHRISTIAN COUNTY
ILLINOIS, BEGUN AND HELD AT THE CHRISTIAN COUNTY COURTHOUSE IN
TAYLORVILLE, ILLINOIS ON **February 21, 2023**
ATTEST: JODIE L. BADMAN, COUNTY CLERK

The following proceeding had and entered at large upon the records of said Board, which is done accordingly in the following words and figures to wit;

Chairman Bryan Sharp called the board meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. This meeting was held on the second floor of the courthouse in the County Board Room.

ROLL CALL

The roll call by County Clerk Jodie Badman showed David Buckles, Timothy Carlson, Linda Curtin, Clint Epley, Seth Foster, Ken Franklin, Vicki McMahan, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Jean Vandenberg and Clayton Walter as present. Venise McWard and Jeffrey Nolen were absent. A quorum was had to hold the meeting.

APPROVE COUNTY BOARD MINUTES

Chairman Bryan Sharp asked for any corrections and to accept the January 17, 2023 County Board minutes. Chairman Sharp called for a motion to approve the minutes. *Tim Carlson made a motion to approve the minutes seconded by Thomas Snyder, Jr. Motion carried with (14) ayes; (0) nay.*

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chairman Sharp asked if there was any comments from the public.

Greg Vasilion, representing Invenergy, was here tonight to update the board about the solar project south of the Village of Tovey. He gave a brief history of the project to the new board members before he announced they had signed new landowners in order to move the project away from the coal mining sites. He will bring before the Board at the April 2023 meeting.

Betty Asmussen, Christian County Treasurer, spoke to the board about the recent event that took place over the last weekend at the Christian County Courthouse. While a worthy cause, Treasurer Asmussen stated to the board that she wanted them to be very cautious before approving the next event. There were some disruptions to County offices when setup was started at 1:30 p.m. on the Friday before the event, not to mention that there was no correspondence sent to elected officials or department heads that enlightened them on the upcoming event. There had to be a Sheriff Deputy present after 4:00 p.m. on Friday as well as on Saturday for the event.

Nathan Nicols, Mobility Manager with the Central Illinois Public Transit, stated to the board that they are a nonprofit organization that operates through C.E.F.S. They are State and Federal Grant funded, so there are no costs to the County to operate their bus service. He stated that all of their vehicles are handicap accessible. They received a grant through Effingham County to add a medical dispatcher who would specifically handle medical trips. This will benefit Christian County residents as well.

MEALS ON WHEELS ARPA REQUEST

Chairman Sharp brought to the attention of the Board Members that the resolution O2023 CB 005 was not truly discussed at last month's board meeting. He asked if anyone wanted to bring up for discussion again tonight as he felt there was a need. The Meals on Wheels program has been hit hard in the last year because of the Emergency Declaration from the State of Illinois. They were mandated to provide meals to more people than they had in the past and they came to the board to ask for help in order to fulfill their needs. *Seth Foster made a motion to continue discussion of O2023 CB 005. Ken Franklin seconded the motion.*

Discussion was had between Ken Franklin and Bryan Sharp about what committee the resolution had been through. Vicki McMahon stated to Chairman Sharp that she noticed that the Meals on Wheels program coordinators came back to the board to ask for a revision in the original ordinance. Chairman Sharp stated they had requested money for a vehicle that kept the meals hot/cold while delivering. He said that that request is held up in committee right now and has been tabled until next month in order to provide additional information regarding the vehicle. McMahon asked what the balance is right now in the ARPA fund. Chairman Sharp responded that there was approximately \$3.4 million. *Mike Specha made a motion to approve the \$26,400.00 request that was listed in O2023 CB 005. Seth Foster seconded the motion. A roll call vote called upon the following: Timothy Carlson, Linda Curtin, Clint Epley, Seth Foster, Ken Franklin, Miranda Langen, Vicki McMahon, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Jean Vandenberg, Clayton Walter and David Buckles: ayes (14), nay (0), absent (2)*

APPOINTMENTS

Chairman Sharp stated to the board that he would like to appoint Ray Koonce to the vacant 708 Mental Health Board position for a two-year term and this position would expire February 21, 2025. He asked for a motion to approve Ray Koonce to the Christian County 708 Mental Health Board. *Vicki McMahon made the motion and Jean Vandenberg seconded it. Motion passed with all ayes (14), nay (0)*

READING OF COMMUNICATIONS

FEBRUARY 2023 COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were presented and placed on file in the Clerk's Office.

1. February 2023 Prevailing Wage Report
2. The Treasurer's Reports for period ending January 31, 2023
3. The Local Solid Waste Fees Fund report for January 2023
4. The January 2023 Public Defender's Report
5. IDOT – Motor Fuel Tax Allotment and Transactions for January 2023
6. IEPA Notice of Application for Permit to Manage Waste
7. Illinois Dept. of Natural Resources approved Reclamation Plan for Surface Mining Permit No. 2009-32

COMMITTEE REPORTS

HIGHWAY/BUILDING/GROUNDS/ENVIRONMENTAL/ZONING AND WELFARE

Thomas Snyder, Jr. highlighted the meeting of the Highway/Building/Grounds/Environmental/Welfare/Zoning Committee. He stated the meeting was called to order on Monday, February 13, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. in the Christian County Courthouse. The purpose of the meeting was County building issues, highway business and any other matters properly brought before the Committee. Roll call was taken and there was a quorum.

Thomas Snyder, Jr. stated there was a request to use the Courthouse lawn for a wedding ceremony on March 11, 2023. They did not attend the committee meeting to address. The committee decided to bring to the full board for discussion and/or approval. Snyder asked if the person who made the request was in the meeting this evening to which no one replied. Snyder moved to the next topic Committee Chair, Thomas Snyder, Jr. stated that Lee Skinner and Marcia Neal from Small Town Taylorville were there to seek the board's approval of their April 2023 through October 2023 calendar of events that will involve the use of the Courthouse lawn:

1. 1st Friday night of each month – Friday night Car Cruise Event
2. Saturday Mornings 7:30 – Farmer's Market
3. July 4th Parade – July 4, 2023
4. Halloween Parade – TBD

Motion made by Thomas Snyder, Jr and second by Mike Specha to recommend to the full Board to approve the use of the Courthouse lawn for the Small Town Taylorville events for 2023. *Thomas Snyder, Jr. made a motion to approve the use of the Courthouse lawn for the Small Town Taylorville 2023 events and Mike Specha seconded the motion. Roll call vote polled all ayes, motion passed.*

Thomas Snyder, Jr. gave an update on the elevator issue on Rt. 48 by stating that Blake Tarr provided information from the zoning code in regard to the corrective action orders. Blake recommended involving the States Attorney in providing corrective action orders in regard to the handling of the elevator issue on Rt. 48 and the need for removal. Motion by Mike Specha and seconded by Thomas Snyder, Jr. to recommend to the full Board to ask the States Attorney to review and provide recommendations for remedial action regarding the need for removal of the elevator located on Rt. 48. Roll call polled all ayes and motion carried. *Thomas Snyder, Jr. made a motion to recommend to the States Attorney to review and provide recommendations for the remedial action regarding the need for removal of the elevator located on Rt. 48 and Mike Specha seconded the motion. Roll call polled all ayes.*

Board Chairman Bryan Sharp asked Local Solid Waste Director, Shawn Hammers, to explain the intergovernmental agreement that needs signed by the board. Hammers explained that we have a delegation agreement with the IEPA and the intergovernmental agreement needs to be signed in order to receive reimbursements.

EXECUTIVE/PERSONNEL/LIQUOR

Clint Epley, Committee Chair, highlighted the meeting of the Highway/Building/Grounds/Environmental/Welfare/Zoning Committee. He stated the meeting was called to order on Tuesday, February 14, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. in the Christian County Courthouse. The purpose of the meeting was to address any agenda items, any personnel issues, policies and any other matters properly brought before the Committee. Roll call was taken and there was a quorum.

Epley highlighted areas of discussion starting with the Intergovernmental Agreement and Ordinance O2023 CB 008, CEFS Transit Program. A motion was made by Clint Epley and seconded by Clayton Walter to recommend to the full Board to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement between the counties of Fayette, Clay, Moultrie, Montgomery, Greene and Christian related to public transportation ordinance O2023 CB 008. Roll call vote polled all ayes, motion carried. *Clint Epley placed a motion to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement and Vicki McMahon seconded the motion. Roll call polled all ayes, motion passed.*

An update on the GIS Coordinator position job description was presented by Epley. The previously approved version contained information regarding salary, which was not in compliance with the starting salary policy. An updated GIS Coordinator job description was provided to the committee members for review. Motion by Clint Epley to recommend to the full Board to approve the updated GIS Coordinator job description for the Supervisor of Assessments Office and Jean Vandenberg seconded the motion. All members were in favor. *Clint Epley made a motion to approve the updated GIS Coordinator job description and David Puccetti seconded the motion. All members were in favor, motion passed.*

The committee had a residency exemption request for a new Environmental Director at the Health Department from Dr. Chad Anderson, Health Department Administrator. He advised the committee that the individual does plan to move to the County but would need a one-year residency waiver at this time. There were no qualified applicants for the position that reside in Christian County at this time. Clint Epley made a motion and David Puccetti seconded the motion to recommend to the full Board to allow a one-year residency exemption for the Environmental Director at the Christian County Health Department. *Clint Epley made a motion to allow a one-year residency exemption for the Christian County Health Department Environmental Director. David Buckles seconded the motion, all members were in favor, motion passed.*

There was another residency exemption presented to the committee. Epley stated that 911 Director, Amy Toberman had submitted a written residency exemption request on behalf of part time dispatcher, Mr. Brad Jackson. Mr. Jackson currently resides in Macon, Illinois. Chief Deputy Jim Baker spoke of the lack of applicants and the need for staff in support of the request. Motion was made by Clint Epley and seconded by Jean Vandenberg to recommend to the full Board to allow a one-year residency exemption to Brad Jackson, dispatcher at the Sheriff's office. All members were in favor, motion passed. *Clint Epley made a motion to allow a one-year exemption for Brad Jackson and Ken Franklin seconded it. Roll call polled all ayes. Motion passed.*

States Attorney John McWard spoke to the board about his recommendation on the Chairman's voting rule. He advised after reviewing statutes, it was his belief that the chair should only be voting in the event of a tiebreaker. He advised that the County Board rules needed revamping. Discussion was had leading Mike Specha to state to McWard that the chair would only vote if there were a tie. McWard responded with a yes. This would need to be gone over in the County Board rules and changes made if necessary.

There were four ordinances brought forth to the committee and States Attorney McWard asked if the ordinances could be consolidated into one ordinance as in some cases the ordinance was a word change or two. He recommended leaving them as separate ordinances.

O2023 ZB 009

Motion by Clint Epley and second by Jean Vandenberg to recommend to the full Board to approve. *Clint Epley made a motion to approve O2023 ZB 009 and was seconded by Jean Vandenberg. After no discussion, a roll call vote polled all ayes and motion carried.*

O2023 ZB 010

Motion by Clint Epley and second by Clayton Walter to recommend to the full Board to approve. *Clint Epley made a motion to approve O2023 ZB 010 and was seconded by Linda Curtin. After no discussion, a roll call vote polled all ayes and motion carried.*

O2023 ZB 011

Motion by Clint Epley and second by Jean Vandenberg to recommend to the full Board to approve. *Clint Epley made a motion to approve O2023 ZB 011 and Thomas Snyder, Jr. seconded the motion. After no discussion, a roll call vote polled all ayes and motion carried.*

O2023 ZB 012

Motion by Clint Epley and second by Jean Vandenberg to recommend to the full Board to approve. *Clint Epley made a motion to approve O2023 ZB 012 and Tim Carlson seconded the motion. After no discussion, a roll call vote polled all ayes and motion carried.*

O2011 CB 003-Amend

Motion by Clint Epley and second by Clayton Walter to recommend to the full Board that the Flood Plain Ordinance O2011 CB 003 dated April 19, 2011 be sent to the ZBA requesting it be incorporated in the Zoning Code as a text amendment. A roll call polled all ayes. Motion carried. *Clint Epley made a motion to amend ordinance O2011 CB 003 and David Puccetti seconded the motion. After no discussion, a roll call vote polled all ayes and motion carried.*

An update on the potential install of security pads at the Courthouse was given by Committee Chair Epley. He stated the Chief Deputy Baker was there to speak about the various keypad and security options but noted that in speaking with the Sheriff, he would like the Board members to discuss what options they may want to get cost estimates on. It would not be recommended to have multiple brands of systems in the building. Motion was made by Clint Epley and seconded by David Puccetti that the full Board discuss the matter of approval to obtain cost estimates for security options with any cost estimates coming back to the Executive/Personnel Committee to review. All members were in favor. Motion carried. *Clint Epley made a motion and it was seconded by Ken Franklin to discuss the matter of approval to obtain cost estimates for security options with any cost estimates coming back to the Executive/Personnel Committee. Discussion was had by Chief Deputy Jim Baker to the Board. He stated that the Sheriff maintains the building. They have had requests for a keypad to be installed in one of the offices. Before*

installing, there had been talk of rekeying the building because they do not know who may have a key to the building. Key fob entry was discussed that would allow access into the building and set parameters for accessible offices. Baker did not want to have a multiple brands of equipment installed as this would not be beneficial on the security side should an emergent situation arise. One brand of equipment would allow security to access the trouble spot more readily.

Mike Specha addressed the Chairman about why anything that has to do with the Courthouse does not go through the Highway/Building/Grounds/Environmental/Zoning/Welfare Committee. He was confused on why it went to Executive/Personnel. Clint Epley spoke up and said that is why his committee decided it needed to be presented in front of the full Board for discussion.

States Attorney McWard along with Seth Foster stated that they thought the idea of an overall key fob system would be beneficial. Also in case of a power outage, a keyed entry will still be available.

Chairman Bryan Sharp made a motion to explore the options for a security system for the Courthouse and all were in favor. Motion passed.

AUDIT/FINANCE/PURCHASING/BUDGET COMMITTEE

Venise McWard, Chairman of the Committee was absent for the meeting so Board member Vicki McMahan highlighted the Audit/Finance/Purchasing/Budget Committee that met on Wednesday, February 15, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. at the Christian County Courthouse, Taylorville, Illinois. The purpose of the meeting was to address agenda items and any other matters properly brought before the committee. Roll call was taken and there was a quorum.

- **CLAIMS**

A motion was made by Vicki McMahan and second by Ken Franklin to recommend to the full Board to approve the claims presented for February. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

Vicki McMahan made a motion to approve and pay the claims presented for February and Thomas Snyder, Jr. seconded. A roll call vote called upon the following: David Buckles, Timothy Carlson, Linda Curtin, Clint Epley, Seth Foster, Ken Franklin, Miranda Langen, Vicki McMahan, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Jean Vandenberg, Clayton Walter: ayes (14), nay (0). Motion carried.

- **O2023 CB 014**

A motion was made by Linda Curtin, second by Ken Franklin to recommend to the full Board to approve Ordinance O2023 CB 014 for expenditure of ARPA funds not to exceed \$14164.00 for the purchase of a 7x14 tandem axle trailer, a straddle stacker forklift and four thermal blankets. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

Vicki McMahan made a motion to approve O2023 CB 014 for expenditure of ARPA funds not to exceed \$14164.00 for the purchase of a 7x14 tandem axle trailer from Stephens Trailer Sales, Taylorville, a straddle stacker forklift from Pennell Forklift, Jacksonville and four thermal blankets from Midwest Foodbank, Bloomington and was seconded by Linda Curtin. A roll call vote called upon the following: Timothy Carlson, Linda Curtin, Clint Epley, Seth Foster, Ken Franklin, Miranda Langen, Vicki McMahan, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Jean Vandenberg, Clayton Walter, David Buckles,: ayes (14), nay (0). Motion carried.

- O2023 CB 013

A motion by Ken Franklin and second by Tim Carlson to recommend to the full Board to approve Ordinance O2023 CB 013 for expenditure of ARPA funds not to exceed \$14,569.00 payable to Bolash Roofing and Construction for costs to repair the roof at the Christian County Local Solid Waste & Zoning building. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

Vicki McMahon made a motion to approve O2023 CB 013 for expenditure of ARPA funds not to exceed \$14,569.00 payable to Bolash Roofing and Construction for costs to repair the roof at the Christian County Local Solid Waste & Zoning building and Jean Vandenberg seconded. A roll call vote called upon the following: Linda Curtin, Clint Epley, Seth Foster, Ken Franklin, Miranda Langen, Vicki McMahon, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Jean Vandenberg, Clayton Walter, David Buckles and Timothy Carlson: ayes (14), nay (0). Motion carried.

Vicki McMahon made a motion and Tim Carlson seconded, to recommend to the full Board that up to \$2,600.00 be paid out of the Contingency Funds to cover non-retrievable funds as a result of a direct deposit payroll email scam. A roll call vote polled all ayes, motion passed. *Vicki McMahon made a motion and a second from Linda Curtin, that up to \$2,600.00 be paid out of Contingency Fund to cover non-retrievable funds as a result of a direct deposit payroll scam email. A roll call vote called upon the following: Clint Epley, Seth Foster, Ken Franklin, Miranda Langen, Vicki McMahon, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Jean Vandenberg, Clayton Walter, David Buckles, Timothy Carlson and Linda Curtin: ayes (14), nay (0). Motion carried.*

Treasurer Betty Asmussen wanted to bring to the attention of the Board about ARPA funds. She said they are special funds and she has to log into the portal to report all of the activity from last year. The way the ordinances are done now, they are going through several committees before they are being approved. She stated that ARPA is dealing with money and normally is sent to the Finance Committee. She does not typically attend any other committee meetings and there is information falling through the cracks that is needed for her to report in the portal. She made a recommendation to the Finance Committee that when it comes to ordinances for the ARPA Funds, they need to be presented to the Finance Committee only and then go to the full Board. Chairman Sharp stated that this an issue they are working on getting cleaned up.

NEW BUSINESS

- Chairman Sharp stated that there were a few Board members that would like to start having invocation before the Board meetings. Discussion was held and the Board agreed that they should have invocation and whom they should contact. Liz Hile stated that the Ministerial Association has not provided a list, other municipalities were having Board members and Aldermen take turns. It was decided to put it on the agenda for next month.
- Jeff Stoner, EMA Director, was absent during this meeting so Chairman Sharp addressed the board on the EMA Agreement he was to present. Sharp stated that the Memorandum of Understanding was from the Laborers' Disaster Response Team (LDRT) and that these were the people that came to help with the tornado disaster in Taylorville to help clean up

and there is no charge for their response. The reason for the Memorandum of Understanding is for the LDRT's insurance purposes and protects their workers. Sharp asked if any Board member had an issue with him signing the MOU, there were no issues brought forth and he will sign.

- Chairman Sharp wants to know if the American flags at any of the County buildings are being maintained. Vicki McMahon would like to see bigger flags flown at our bigger County buildings. Sharp stated he will soon be having department meetings and will bring the subject to light during that time.
- ARPA requests were brought up and Chairman Sharp reiterated what Treasurer Asmussen stated earlier in the meeting. The requests will be slowly approved, as there are some buildings in the County that need attention for repairs. While the needs come in and the estimate of repairs have been looked over, ARPA requests will be on hold.
- Statewide siting of wind and solar facilities update from UCCI regarding HB4412. Trailer bills are coming to help local government, but for now, this is a huge detriment to the County.

Chairman Sharp entertained a motion to approve the Mileage and Per Diem Report. Clint Epley made the motion and Tim Carlson seconded. *A roll call vote called upon the following: Seth Foster, Ken Franklin, Miranda Langen, Vicki McMahon, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Jean Vandenberg, Clayton Walter, David Buckles, Timothy Carlson, Linda Curtin and Clint Epley: ayes (14), nay (0). Motion carried.*

Vicki McMahon thanked Ron Brown and the Board members who came out to the Health Department to see the emergent situation. It was fixed and she was thankful that other Board members were able to witness.

Bryan Sharp wanted to draw attention that this week is National FFA week and give praise to our FFA Chapters in the County.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Sharp called for a motion from the floor to adjourn until next meeting scheduled for March 21, 2023.

Tim Carlson made a motion to adjourn the meeting and David Buckles seconded the motion. Motion carried with (14) ayes (0) nay.