

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 **August 15, 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. Clint Epley led Invocation this evening.

ROLL CALL

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

APPROVE COUNTY BOARD MINUTES

Chairman Bryan Sharp asked if there were any corrections or amendments to the minutes from the July 18, 2023 County Board meeting. Chairman Sharp called for a motion to approve the minutes. *Jeff Nolen made a motion to have the minutes amended, Linda Curtin second. Motion carried with (14) ayes, (0) nay.* The July 18, 2023 minutes will be amended and sent for approval at the September 19, 2023 meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

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

Patrick Murphy, Superintendent of Morrisonville School District, voiced to the Board his support for the recent Hickory Point Solar project Special Use Permit that will be voted on during tonight's meeting. He stressed the outstanding economic benefits that the school will receive, should this project be passed by the Board. He urged the Board to strongly consider supporting this project.

Greg Vasilion, representing Invenergy and the Hickory Point Solar project, presented a project timeline of the project. Pending the approval of the Special Use Permit, he stated that state permits need to be sought as well as road agreements and zoning permits before construction can begin.

Jim Baker, Chief Deputy Sheriff, spoke to the Board about the new CCSO application that is available for download on smartphones. He stated that the public safety feature in this application is much more accurate than the National Weather Service. Jim said that during the most recent tornado, the CCSO was able to push out more alerts because the system is centralized and has real time information. He spoke of several different public safety features available with the app. Baker also stated that Montgomery County utilized the same type of app during the recent dust storm on I-55 and they have gotten several responses back stating that it saved several people from driving into the dust storm and accidents.

State's Attorney, John McWard, introduced the newly hired Assistant State's Attorney, Mary Barry. Mary will be focusing on working directly with the County Board.

APPOINTMENTS

Chairman Sharp stated that the 708 Mental Health Board was in need of an appointment. He recommended appointing Libby Carriker to the 708 Mental Health Board. *Bryan Sharp made the motion to appoint Libby Carriker to the 708 Mental Health Board for a 4-year term, second by Vicki McMahon. A roll call vote called upon the following: David Buckles, Linda Curtin, Clint Epley, Ken Franklin, Miranda Langen, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Jeffrey Nolen, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Jean Vandenberg and Clayton Walter. Motion carried with (14) ayes, (0) nay.*

PETITIONS, RESOLUTIONS AND/OR ORDINANCES

Chairman Sharp stated that there was nothing new to address.

READING OF COMMUNICATIONS

AUGUST 2023 COMMUNICATIONS

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

1. The Treasurer's Reports for period ending July 31, 2023
2. The Local Solid Waste Fees Fund report for July 2023
3. IDOT – Motor Fuel Tax Allotment and Transactions for July 2023
4. ROE – Expenditure Report for July 2023
5. Ameren Illinois Vegetation Management Listing July 2023

CLOSED SESSION

Chairman Sharp informed the Board that the need to go into a Closed Session, pursuant to 5ILCS 120/2 (c)(5), Real Estate Matters; the purchase or lease of real property for use of the public body including meetings held for the purpose of discussing whether a particular parcel should be acquired. This session will include the following persons to be present during all or part of this Closed Session and such other person or persons as the Chairman or the Committee may decide to bring in this meeting and or during such Closed Session: All present Board members, Mary Barry, John McWard & Jodie Badman. *Mike Specha made a motion to go into Closed Session pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(5), second by David Puccetti. A roll call vote called upon the following: Linda Curtin, Clint Epley, Ken Franklin, Miranda Langen, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Jeffrey Nolen, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Jean Vandenberg, Clayton Walter and David Buckles. Motion carried with (14) ayes, (0) nay.*

RE-OPENING OF REGULAR SESSION

The Board reconvened from Closed Session at 7:08 pm on Tuesday, August 15, 2023.

ROLL CALL

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

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, August 7, 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. presented to the Board the location of Zoning and Solid Waste Departments. There was a motion made by Mike Specha and second by Thomas Snyder, Jr. to recommend to the full Board to direct architects to draw up plans assuming the Sheriff's Department would be moving from their current location and to direct Maintenance Supervisor Ron Brown to get cost estimates to move Solid Waste and Zoning from their current location to the former ROE office located on the 1st floor of the Court House. A roll call vote polled all ayes and the motion carried. *Thomas Snyder, Jr. made a motion to direct architects to draw up plans assuming the Sheriff's Department would be moving from their current location and to direct Maintenance Supervisor Ron Brown to get cost estimates to move Solid Waste and Zoning from their current location to the former ROE office located on the 1st floor of the Courthouse, second by Ken Franklin. A roll call vote called upon the following: Clint Epley, Ken Franklin, Miranda Langen, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Jeffrey Nolen, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Jean Vandenberg, Clayton Walter, David Buckles and Linda Curtin. Motion carried with (14) ayes, (0) nay.*

Chairman Sharp encouraged the Board members to review the HVAC and Window estimates as this will be in a future discussion.

EXECUTIVE/PERSONNEL/LIQUOR

Clint Epley, Committee Chair, highlighted the meeting of the Highway/Building/Grounds/Environmental/Welfare/Zoning Committee. He advised that the meeting was called to order on Tuesday, August 8, 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.

Clint Epley stated that one of the actions brought to the full Board from the committee was a recommendation to the full Board for three residency waivers for part time individuals from Jail Administrator, Cecil Polley. Motion by David Puccetti and second by Clint Epley to recommend to the full Board to waive the residency requirement for Mr. Levi Hadley, Mr. Bronson Dotson and Ms. MayRennie Dotson until January of 2025 and then they will be reviewed. Roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried. *Clint Epley made a motion to waive the residency requirement for Mr. Levi Hadley, Mr. Bronson Dotson and Ms. MayRennie Dotson until January of 2025 and then they will be reviewed, second by David Buckles. A roll call vote polled all ayes.*

Epley then presented to the Board a draft letter of support for a bill introduced by Senator Steve McClure on the CO2 Moratorium. A motion made by Clint Epley and second by David Puccetti to recommend to the full Board to authorize Chairman Sharp to draft a letter of support for a bill that places a safety moratorium on Carbon Dioxide Pipelines Act until such time that federal safety standards for

transportation of carbon dioxide is adopted and to send such letter to all State Representatives and Senators as well as the Governor's Office after review by the States Attorney's Office. All members were in favor. Motion carried. *Clint Epley made a motion to authorize Chairman Sharp to draft a letter of support for a bill that places a safety moratorium on Carbon Dioxide Pipelines Act until such time that federal safety standards for transportation of carbon dioxide is adopted and to send such letter to all State Representatives and Senators as well as the Governor's Office after review by the States Attorney's Office, second by Miranda Langen. A roll call vote polled all ayes.*

Committee Chair, Epley brought Animal Control Ordinance Amendments before the Board. Motion by Clint Epley and second by Miranda Langen to recommend to the full Board to amend the current Animal Control and Breeders Ordinance adopting the proposals as presented except for removing the proposed Fourth and Fifth Offense fee schedules Section 4.05 pending review by the State's Attorney's Office. All members were in favor. Motion carried. Epley asked the Assistant State's Attorney, Mary Barry, if she had any updates to which Barry responded by stating she was still working on it. *Clint Epley made a motion to table this amendment until the September 19, 2023 meeting, second by Thomas Snyder, Jr. A roll call vote polled all ayes.*

AUDIT/FINANCE/PURCHASING/BUDGET COMMITTEE

Venise McWard, Chairman highlighted the Audit/Finance/Purchasing/Budget Committee that met on Wednesday, August 9, 2023, at 5:30 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.

McWard stated a motion made by Linda Curtin and second by Ken Franklin to recommend to the full Board to approve the claims presented for August. *Venise McWard made a motion to approve the claims presented for August, second by Ken Franklin. A roll call vote called upon the following: Ken Franklin, Miranda Langen, Vicki McMahan, Venise McWard, Jeffrey Nolen, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Jean Vandenberg, Clayton Walter, David Buckles, Linda Curtin and Clint Epley. Motion carried with (14) ayes, (0) nay.*

Chairman Sharp once again reminded Board members to review the HVAC and Window estimates that were discussed in the Audit/Finance/Purchasing/Budget Committee meeting this month.

NEW BUSINESS/OLD BUSINESS/OTHER

Chairman Sharp called upon Chief Deputy Sheriff, Jim Baker. Baker addressed an item that he had on his budget request for FY2023-24. He spoke of a COPS Grant that the Sheriff's office applied for last year. The grant would cover 75% of a deputy's salary. He has since found out that the County is eligible for two of those grants, but there has not been any recent information as to when these grants will be available. Baker discussed the per capita services for Taylorville, Pana and the overall County. He also reached out to other comparable counties in population size and sworn officers, about their per capita services. The Christian County Sheriff's Department has seventeen sworn officers, that includes the Sheriff, Deputy Sheriff and Court Security, and they service eighteen thousand people. In comparison, the City of Taylorville operates with twenty-three sworn officers to service ten thousand people. CCSO has not had a roster increase in twenty-two years. The increase in calls for service, court orders, disbandment of the Auxiliary Police earlier this year and the loss of coverage from local municipalities has attributed to the poor per capita services. Chief Deputy Baker asked the Board, should CCSO

fall short on the COPS Grant, if they would strongly consider the FY2023-24 budget increase to hire a roster employee as a float to cover when needed in the department.

Next, Chairman Sharp discussed the revision of the County Board rules and stated that Assistant State's Attorney, Mary Barry, is currently working through them. Sharp projected they will be reviewed soon and a class will be conducted once they are finished.

The next item on the agenda was the Zoning Ordinance O2023 ZB 029. Invenenergy Solar Development North America, LLC, applied for a special use permit application on behalf of Hickory Point Solar Center. The ZBA had approved the SUP and recommended it to the full Board. Chairman Sharp stated that the County Board has the right to place conditions on the SUP. After reviewing and discussing several questions and issues from board members and public, Sharp recommended that the Board consider amending the ordinance with the following conditions:

1. The SUP is for a 250-megawatt, 2000-acre solar energy project as documented on the maps and text within the application. The SUP does not include battery storage or any other form of energy.
2. The project shall be in substantial conformation with the plans and material submitted in the application for the SUP and presented at the public hearing. Additionally, all revised site plans shall be submitted incorporating any and all changes required for approval by the County Board and/or necessitated during the permitting process prior to the issuance of the building permit.
3. Road Use Agreements shall be established with all appropriate road authorities, including all affected townships, and reviewed by the County Board prior to issuance of the building permit.
4. The applicant shall submit the final hydrology report, the vegetation and soil management plan approved by the Solid Waste Director; the Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan approved by the Solid Waste Director and all geotechnical studies to the County Zoning Administrator and the County Board for review and approval prior to issuance of the building permit.
5. The applicant will provide an electronic copy of the executed Interconnection Agreement. Additionally, the applicant will notify the County Zoning Administrator and the County Board of any amendment to the Interconnection Agreement and provide a copy of each amendment within ten (10) days of execution.
6. The applicant shall provide market impact analysis of a 250-megawatt solar array or greater located in Illinois to determine the impact on residential and agricultural property values. The Zoning Administrator and County Board will review and approve the market impact analysis prior to the issuance of the building permit.
7. A detailed, finalized commissioning plan will have to be submitted and approved along with the appropriate financial guarantees prior to the issuance of the building permit.
8. Should the facility be transferred to another entity, all conditions and requirements shall also transfer to such other entity.

9. The applicant will obtain an updated IDNR consultation if the building permits are not sought by March 8, 2025.
10. The Special Use Permit will expire if building permits are not sought within two (2) years of the approval of the Special Use Permit.

Sharp stated that these were the conditions brought to him and approved by the Board’s counsel. Sharp asked if there was a motion to amend the ordinance. *Linda Curtin made a motion to amend the Special Use Permit to include the language and conditions as presented, second by Vicki McMahon. A roll call vote called upon the following: Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Jean Vandenberg, Clayton Walter, David Buckles, Linda Curtin, Clint Epley, Ken Franklin and Miranda Langen. Jeffrey Nolen abstained. Motion carried with (13) ayes, (0) nay and (1) abstention. Motion carried.*

Chairman Sharp then called for a motion to approve the Special Use Permit as amended. *David Buckles made a motion to approve the amended ordinance O2023 ZB 029, second by Linda Curtin. Sharp asked if there was any discussion, there was none. A roll call vote called upon the following: Venise McWard, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Jean Vandenberg, Clayton Walter, David Buckles, Linda Curtin, Clint Epley and Vicki McMahon; all ayes. Ken Franklin and Miranda Langen, nays. Jeffrey Nolen abstained. Motion carried with (11) ayes, (2) nay and (1) abstention. Motion carried.*

MILEAGE AND PER DIEM REPORT – August 2023

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

<u>Board Member</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u># of Meetings This Month</u>
David Buckles	\$100.00	\$50.00	2
Timothy Carlson	\$100.00	\$0.00	0
Linda Curtin	\$100.00	\$50.00	2
Clint Epley	\$100.00	\$50.00	2
Seth Foster	\$100.00	\$25.00	1
Ken Franklin	\$100.00	\$75.00	3
Miranda Langen	\$100.00	\$50.00	2
Vicki McMahon	\$100.00	\$75.00	3
Venise McWard	\$100.00	\$75.00	3
Jeff Nolan	\$100.00	\$50.00	2
David Puccetti	\$100.00	\$50.00	2
Thomas Snyder, Jr.	\$100.00	\$75.00	3
Mike Specha	\$100.00	\$50.00	2
Jean Vandenberg	\$100.00	\$50.00	2
Clayton Walter	\$100.00	\$50.00	2
Bryan Sharp	\$769.24		

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Sharp called for a motion from the floor to adjourn until next meeting scheduled for September 18, 2023.

Dave Puccetti made a motion to adjourn the meeting and second by Clint Epley. Motion carried with all ayes.