

EXECUTIVE/PERSONNEL/LIQUOR COMMITTEE

September 12, 2022

Present: Ray Koonce, David Puccetti, Clint Epley, Bryan Sharp
Absent: Craig Corzine, Chairman
Others present: Matt Wells, Linda Curtin, Bev Graham, Betty Asmussen, Mike Specha, Julie Mayer, Courtney Sharp, Jodie Badman, Jeff Voorhees, Jeff Stoner, Wes Poggenpohl, Josh Shallenbarger, Brandon Rarick, Craig Paulek, Chuck Smedley, Joseph Gleespen, Jeff, Nolan, Sherri Craggs, Colleen Workman, Lucas Domonwsky, and Elizabeth Hile in attendance.

The Executive, Personnel, and Liquor Committee met on Monday, September 12, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. in County Board meeting room, second floor of the Christian County Courthouse, Taylorville, Illinois. 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. Due to the absence of Committee Chairman, Craig Corzine, member Ray Koonce led the meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jeff Stoner provided updates under public comments as EMA update was not on this agenda. He passed out a handout providing updates over the last few months. Part of those updates were the weather station is installed and the inability of that equipment to provide the amount of rainfall without paying additional fees. Radios are in but are taking more time than expected. Noted that the Tailgate and Tall Boys event went well but there is talk about doubling the size next year. He recommended looking into an ordinance that provided guidelines for emergency services based on the number of expected attendance.

Acting Chairman Koonce noted that items 11, 12, and 13 would be moved up on the agenda.

REVIEW OF NON-BARGAINING POLICY

Treasurer Asmussen noted that the section of the policy that addresses the compensation for the Chief Deputy positions, which is only 3 employees, has only been updated one time since it was established and that was because the minimum salary for an exempt position was increased. Additionally an individual must complete 2 years of employment before seeing a salary increase. There is no employee in the county that waits this length of time before their salary increases. The current employees are excellent employees who can step in for the elected official at a moments notice.

Motion by Clint Epley and seconded by Bryan Sharp to recommend to the full Board to amend the salary step section of the Non-Bargaining Policy for the chief deputy positions changing after 2 years of employment to after 1 year of employment; changing after 3 years of employment to after 2 years of employment and adding a step for after 3 years of employment and referring the salary part of the policy to Finance. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

CREDIT CARD POLICY REVIEW

The Treasurer advised that outside the Sheriff's office all other offices will come to her office, get the card, make the purchase and then bring back the card and a receipt noting the expense line. The Sheriff's office have their own card. The credit card policy presented to the committee was a policy Betty developed at the recommendation of the auditor at one time when debit cards were canceled.

Animal Control, has requested to have a card because of the hardship it creates to come up get the card, do business and then return the card, etc.

Motion by Bryan Sharp and seconded by Clint Epley to table this matter to the October meeting. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

OFFICE MANAGER PAY CHANGE – ANIMAL CONTROL

The committee reviewed the timeline of when the office manager at Animal Control was given the day to day duties of the department and whether or not now that a new director is in place that pay increase given should be changed back. The committee felt that the current office manager stepped up, did a good job and expressed their appreciation.

Motion by Bryan Sharp and seconded by Clint Epley to recommend to the full Board to retain the current rate of \$16.88 per hour paid to Dwanna Kelmel. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION – R2022 CB 011

Discussion included concerns the Board doesn't have the final say as it will likely be settled by the ICC. Other comments were made opposing any action forcing something on someone's land that they don't want.

Motion by Bryan Sharp and seconded by Clint Epley to recommend to the full Board to approve Resolution R2022 CB 011. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

CHRISTIAN COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

This item was referred to the committee for decisions on whether or not the county is willing to do something and if so what incentives are they willing to do for potential new business.

Motion by Bryan Sharp and seconded by Clint Epley to table until the October 3rd meeting and ask Dick Adams to attend. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

ARPA FUND REQUESTS

Christian County Fair Board

The projects the Fair Board would like to complete are infrastructure projects. The committee in general talked about projects and where do you start drawing the line. Mike Specha noted he has looked at the approved projects, expended money and balance of the ARPA funds and feels strongly the Board needs an approval process going forward. He has asked this issue be placed on the Board agenda. He also asked if there was any new information on the Build, Back, Better funding.

Motion by David Puccetti and seconded by Bryan Sharp to recommend a draft ordinance for the use of ARPA funds for infrastructure improvements at the Christian County Fair Grounds be sent to the Finance Committee for financial approval and Board recommendation. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

Shelby Electric Boardband

Josh Shallenbarger with Shelby Electric made a presentation on their PWRnet evolution. This service is for rural customers and could service most of the county. Josh would like for grant purposes the County's support of their project as that is important in securing funding but could also provide different options

available for rural broadband in the county. The committee would like to see different options at the next meeting.

ACTS Internet

Brandon Rarick with ACTS Internet reviewed the various options to finance broadband internet to rural areas of the county. To do the entire county the cost would be \$3.4 million. There are various ways this can be set up through grants and cost sharing options.

County Clerk Request

The County Clerk was unable to attend tonight's meeting.

Extension of Staffing to Assist the Administrative Assistant with Records

Liz Hile explained that the previous ordinance for temporary staff to assist in the records management in the Board Office had a not to exceed period of 90 days. That period has expired. A lot of progress has been made with more detailed work to be done going forward. She would like to request extension of this temporary staffing through the end of the year not to exceed \$5,000.00.

Motion by Bryan Sharp and seconded by David Puccetti to recommend a draft ordinance for the use of ARPA funds not to exceed \$5,000.00 for salary and payroll expenses for temporary staff to assist the Administrative Assistant with records management in the Board Office through the end of the year be sent to the Finance Committee for financial approval and Board recommendation. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

GREEN ENERGY PROJECTS UPDATE

Bryan Sharp would like to see more discussion on who, what, when and where on these types of projects that may be coming into the county and who may be affected. Chairman Wells noted that at least in the Board Office he isn't aware of any calls that have come in. He did mention a call about the possibility of storing batteries but no specifics were provided.

GRAIN BELT LETTER

In 2015 the Board sent a letter opposing eminent domain for this project. A draft letter was provided in the committee's packets.

Motion by Bryan Sharp and seconded by Clint Epley to recommend to the full Board that a letter be sent opposing the use of eminent domain for the Grain Belt Express project. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

GRAIN BELT TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT 6 MONTH MORATORIUM

Motion by Bryan Sharp and seconded by Clint Epley to recommend to the full Board to have the States Attorney assist in writing an ordinance establishing a 6 month moratorium reference the Grain Belt Transmission Line Project. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

CITIZENS AGAINST HEARTLAND GREENWAY PIPELINE

Bryan Sharp noted a group opposing the pipeline part of the CO2 project has formed a corporation. Their plans are to follow Sangamon County in filing an injunction against the pipeline portion of the project.

The question is would there be interest for Christian County to participate with this group. The cost is \$500.00 annually.

The States Attorney will look into this but expressed some concern about using tax payer dollars for this type of effort as well as not having control of decisions made.

Motion by Bryan Sharp and seconded by David Puccetti to recommend to the full Board to join the efforts of Citizens against Heartland Greenway Pipeline at a cost of \$500.00 annually with approval of the States Attorney and/or County Treasurer. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR APPOINTMENT TERM

Chairman Wells advised that he was instructed to hire a department head. The current zoning rules indicate that the appointment term for the Zoning Administrator is 2 years. He noted that depending on many factors, election, etc. he may not be in this position in 3 months and another chairman would have his appointment for the remainder of the 21 months of the term. Does this committee want to review the appointment terms or not? No action taken.

PURCHASING PROCEDURES – RAISING CHAIRMAN’S LIMITS

The question was posed as to whether or not the committee wants to consider raising the chairman’s spending limits for an emergency situation. The boiler repair was a recent issue that prompted this agenda item.

Motion by Ray Koonce and seconded by David Puccetti to table this item to the October meeting. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

SOLID WASTE EDUCATOR

Chairman Wells noted that his hopes is that if an educator is hired that they could also be trained to do inspections so more than 1 person is available. When a new director is hired, they will make a recommendation on the need for this position.

AFSCME NEGOTIATIONS – COUNTY NEGOTIATION TEAM

Notice has been served to start negotiations with AFSCME. The County’s team will need to be determined.

Motion by Bryan Sharp and seconded by Clint Epley to recommend to the full Board to keep the County’s negotiation team for AFSCME negotiations the same – Chairman Wells, Venise McWard, Finance Chair, Craig Corzine, Personnel Chair, Betty Asmussen County Treasurer and Administrative Assistant/HR Liz Hile. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

OCTOBER MEETING DATE

The normally scheduled October meeting falls on the Columbus Day holiday. The committee will need to decide a meeting date for October. Liz noted that because of a scheduled vacation, agenda items will need to be received by September 21st.

Motion by Clint Epley and seconded by David Puccetti to recommend to the full Board to change the Personnel/Executive Committee meeting date in October to Monday, October 3, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

PERSONNEL HANDBOOK

No action taken.

OTHER MATTERS

Bryan Sharp spoke about the County Board Rules and the committee where ordinances are heard. He referenced another committee having an ordinance pop up on an agenda. Bryan reference the legislative section of the rules in regards to legislation recommendations and being the liaison between the County Board and the various county officers where county or state rules and regulations are involved. He indicated all ordinances go to this committee.

Motion by Bryan Sharp and seconded by Clint Epley that the Personnel/Executive committee in accordance with the legislative section of the County Board Rules make legislation recommendations and are the liaison between the County Board and the various county officers where county or state rules and regulations are involved and ordinances go to this committee. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

Motion by David Puccetti and seconded by Clint Epley to adjourn. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Ray Koonce, Acting Chairman
Executive/Personnel Committee
09/12/2022