

**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, AND BY TELECONFERENCE ON **February 16, 2021**  
*ATTEST: MICHAEL C. GIANASI, COUNTY CLERK*

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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;

In accordance with Executive Order 2020-07, issued by Governor JB Pritzker, this County Board meeting is being conducted by teleconference with remote participation by County Board members.

Chairman Matt Wells called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Next, Chairman Wells expressed the condolences of the board to County Clerk Gianasi on the passing of his father.

**ROLL CALL**

The roll call by County Clerk Michael Gianasi showing all members present did signify a quorum and was declared. Linda Curtin and Vicki McMahan participated remotely.

**RECOGNITION OF NEW BOARD ASSISTANT**

Chairman Wells recognized and welcomed Liz Hile as the new board assistant who will begin full-time on March 8. She is training and learning from Jan Bland prior to Jan's retirement.

**APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS**

Chairman Wells called for a motion to move appointments to this point on the agenda. *A motion was made by Craig Corzine and seconded by Tim Carlson to move appointments to this point in the agenda.* A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Tim Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahan, Venise McWard, Gene Price, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried.

Chairman Wells announced his first appointment as Jessica Franks to the Christian County Housing Authority board for a five-year term. *A motion was made by Dale Livingston and seconded by Bev Graham to approve the appointment of Jessica Franks to the Christian County Housing Authority board for a five-year term.* A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Tim Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahan, Venise McWard, Gene Price, David Puccetti, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried.

Next, Chairman Wells announced his appointments for the 708 Mental Health board. He discussed the term lengths and staggered terms as described in the by-laws. He also stated he received the minutes from their last meeting which was in either 2012 or 2014, and would be appointing all seats on the board.

The appointments are:

- Ray Koonce – 2-year term
- Steve Groll – 2-year term
- Patricia Schneider – 3-year term
- Jeff Waterman – 3-year term
- Derek Page – 4-year term
- Jason Blanchetti – 4-year term
- Angela Castle – 4-year term

Chairman Wells asked for a motion to approve the appointments. *A motion was made by Tim Carlson and seconded by Ray Koonce to approve the appointments as listed to the 708 Mental Health board.* A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Tim Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin,

Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Gene Price, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried.

The next appointment by Chairman Wells was David Hadley to a three-year term on the Nokomis Area Fire Protection District board. *A motion was made by Dale Livingston and seconded by Gene Price to approve the appointment of David Hadley to a three-year term on the Nokomis Area Fire Protection District board.* A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Tim Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Gene Price, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried.

The final appointment was Will Peabody to the Christian County Water Reclamation District board, to complete the term of Thomas Snyder, Sr., who retired. *A motion was made by Bev Graham and seconded by Ken Franklin to approve the appointment of Will Peabody to the Christian County Water Reclamation District board.* A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Tim Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Gene Price, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, (15) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; Thomas Snyder, Jr., (1) abstain; The motion carried.

### **APPROVE COUNTY BOARD MINUTES**

Chairman Matt Wells asked for any corrections and to approve the January 19, 2021, County Board minutes. *A motion was made by Tim Carlson and seconded by Dave Puccetti to approve said minutes of the County Board Meeting.* A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Matt Wells, Tim Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Gene Price, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Chairman Wells called for public comments from the room and there were none.

#### **Remote participation:**

Susan Wise expressed her sympathy to Clerk Gianasi on the loss of his father; and to Chairman Wells, she appreciated having a chairman that knows how to run a meeting.

### **CHRIS-MONT EMA UPDATE**

Greg Nimmo updated the board with the latest statistics related to the COVID-19 pandemic since the January county board meeting.

- 311 confirmed cases
- About 2,500 more people tested
- 23 additional deaths
- Region 3 has dropped from 5.3% to 2.8%
- Regional hospital ICU bed availability has increased from about 27% to 30%
- Demand for vaccine is very high with supply being low; to date, 4,650 doses have been given in Christian County
- 300-400 doses being received each week, however the supply will reduce to about 200 each week over the next few weeks; also the brand will change from Moderna to Pfizer
- First dose supplies have decreased as second doses are being delivered
- If the local delivery process is better to the county and all pharmacy partners in March, 2,400 doses could be given each week as a county

Board member Venise McWard asked if the second dose clinic was happening on Thursday and Greg confirmed it would. Board member Vicki McMahon asked about the plan to get the vaccine to everyone 65 and older. Greg said that at this time, about 34% of those people had received their vaccinations. The health department would be evaluating the progress on a regular basis. If more doses were available, many more from that age group would have the vaccine. State's Attorney Mike Havera asked about ordering the vaccine online through Walgreen's. Greg confirmed you could either use the website or call their 800 number.

## **PETITIONS, RESOLUTIONS, ORDINANCES OR PROCLAMATIONS**

O2021CB002 – Ordinance to Provide for Public Transportation in Christian County, Illinois for Fiscal year 2022, beginning on July 1, 2021 and ending on June 30, 2022. *A motion was made by Venise McWard and seconded by Dale Livingston to adopt O2021CB002 Ordinance to Provide for Public Transportation in Christian County, Illinois for Fiscal year 2022, beginning on July 1, 2021 and ending on June 30, 2022.*

### Discussion:

Nathan Nichols of the C.E.F.S. Economic Opportunity Corporation spoke about the service provided:

- A demand-response bus service; call to schedule
- Pay per trip or passes are available
- 60 and over can ride by donation for in-county trips
- All vehicles are accessible using either lifts or ramps; mini-vans, 14-passenger and 26-passenger buses
- The miles traveled in 2019 were 64,252 compared to 37,040 in 2020
- Passengers in 2019 were 5,522 compared to 3,417 in 2020.
- Even with the issues of COVID-19, they still operated every day
- Out-of-county trips are still limited but they are working to get back to normal
- Some drivers in down times are delivering Meals on Wheels
- Health departments have been contacted and free rides are available to vaccination clinics
- CDC guidelines are being followed on the buses to make sure everyone is as safe and comfortable as possible

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Tim Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Gene Price, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried.

O2021AC001 – Ordinance Amending Christian County Animal Control Ordinance – Hobby Breeders. *A motion was made by Dale Livingston and seconded by Gene Price to adopt O2021AC001 Ordinance Amending Christian County Animal Control Ordinance – Hobby Breeders.* A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Gene Price, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Tim Carlson, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried.

*A motion was made by Chuck Smedley and seconded by Bryan Sharp to extend the Emergency Disaster Declaration P2021CB002 to the date of the next county board meeting on March 16, 2021.* A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Gene Price, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Tim Carlson, Craig Corzine, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried.

O2021ZN003 – Ordinance Amending the Christian County Zoning Code – Fee Schedule. *A motion was made by Venise McWard and seconded by Thomas Snyder, Jr. to adopt O2021ZN003 Ordinance Amending the Christian County Zoning Code – Fee Schedule.* A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Gene Price, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Tim Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried.

*A motion was made by Ray Koonce and seconded by Dale Livingston to authorize the Chairman to sign the Intergovernmental Agreement with Shelby County to participate in the Public Transportation Program.* A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Gene Price, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Tim Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried.

## **READING OF COMMUNICATIONS**

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

1. The February Prevailing Wage Report has been placed on file in the Clerk's Office.
2. The January 2021, Public Defender's Report has been placed on file in the Clerk's Office.
3. The Treasurer's Reports for the period ending on January 31st, 2021, have been placed on file in the Clerk's Office.
4. The Christian County December PCOM report was received from the C.E.F.S. Economic Opportunity Corporation. The letter and report have been placed on file in the Clerk's Office.
5. The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency sent a notice titled "Notice of Application for Permit to Manage Waste" for the Five Oaks Recycling and Disposal Facility. The description of the project is "Report documenting the replacement of the southeast letdown." The notice is on file in the Clerk's office.
6. Ameren Illinois sent notification of tree trimming occurring in the southeast part of Taylorville and along Route 29 toward Pana. The included map and list of parcels are available in the Clerk's office.
7. A letter was received from Sparklight notifying the county of changes to the residential and business cable television and phone rate structures. The letter is on file in the Clerk's office.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **HIGHWAY/BUILDING/GROUNDS/ENVIRONMENTAL/WELFARE/ZONING COMMITTEE**- February 9, 2021 - Minutes read by Dale Livingston

##### **HIGHWAY BUSINESS**

###### **Vacated roadway in Rosamond**

Cliff Frye reported that all signatures had been obtained for the vacated roadway in Rosamond which has been discussed in the previous committee meetings. He presented an ordinance to vacate the platted road described as an alley, being a platted area which is 16' in width and 300' in length and lies between lots 1 thru 10 in Block 7 of the Rosamond original town subdivision. A motion was made by Thomas Snyder, Jr. and seconded by Mike Specha to recommend to the full Board to adopt the Ordinance 2021 HY 004 as described above. A roll call vote polled all ayes and the motion carried. *A motion was made by Dale Livingston and seconded by Tim Carlson to adopt O2021HY004 Ordinance to Vacate Platted Roadways in Rosamond Original Town Subdivision.* A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahan, Venise McWard, Gene Price, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Tim Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried.

###### **Assumption Mayor Request**

Mr. Frye reported that he has officially received a request from the Assumption Mayor for a flashing light as discussed at earlier meetings. It will be on the agenda next month.

##### **FARMERS MARKET**

Marcia Neal reported to the committee that in order for social distancing this upcoming season for the Farmers Market, they will be in the street in order to spread out and will not ask for the use of the lawn. However, it would be assumed that visitors would be on the grounds. The Saturday morning dates are late April through October and the Christmas Parade December 4<sup>th</sup>. No action necessary.

##### **ZONING/ANIMAL CONTROL BUSINESS**

- Vince Harris reported that the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) accepted the \$7 /1000 of the total project cost for solar projects on the fee schedule which will be submitted at the full board meeting.
- Solar panels were discussed concerning a possible addition to the classifications within the ordinance concerning personal solar generation. Recently, permits were presented for solar panels on grain bins. After consulting with Attorney Ben Jacobi, his opinion was we are currently classified correctly. However, further discussion led to a motion by Dale Livingston and seconded by Chuck Smedley to continue discussions next month to consider three different classifications for private solar panels and send a text amendment to the ZBA. A roll call vote polled all ayes and the motion carried.

- A dog found in July now has a new home and two munchkin kittens have been adopted.

#### COURTHOUSE UPDATES BY BILL KENNEDY

- A structural engineer will drop by to examine the floor under the ROE Office.
- The pipes in the basement need to be insulated.
- The chemical feed on the boiler will be replaced.
- The fountain is still on schedule to return in the spring. He believes there will not be any transportation costs.
- The TV in the board room is user ready.
- After thanking Michael Gianasi for collecting the electric bills, he used a PowerPoint on energy used at the Courthouse. [A copy is on file in the board office.] Mr. Kennedy gave some history on the HVAC systems used:
  - In 1980 a large unit was installed in the attic for the third floor.
  - In 1982 thermostatically controlled steam valves were installed on the hot water heaters in the offices.
  - In 2011 a Kentrol System was installed used for heating and ran for more than a year. It is a computer based building energy control system for large buildings for pre-programming and minimizes the energy input until the last moment to reach the determined temperature.
  - The PowerPoint is available in the Chairman's Office.
  - Recently the Chairman met with the union as they have concerns with the heating and cooling if changes are reversed.
  - Estimated cost to reinstall the Kentrol-Watch Dogs and change the heating zones is about \$5,000.

A motion was made by Mike Specha and seconded by Dale Livingston to recommend to the Board to proceed with the replacement of the Kentrol system. A roll call vote polled all ayes and the motion carried. *A motion was made by Dale Livingston and seconded by Tim Carlson to proceed with reinstating the use of the Kentrol system using \$5,000 from contingency.*

#### Discussion:

Chairman Wells explained how the Kentrol system would have temperature zones and the employees would have some control over the thermostat. He also mentioned how the building would cool at night and the system would know when to turn on to get the building back up to temperature in the morning. It would act similarly in the summer with cooling the building during the day.

Treasurer Betty Asmussen asked how the system is different now since there were issues with it in the past.

State's Attorney Havera also mentioned problems with the previous system when in the building on the weekends. Chairman Wells said that everyone would have input to make the system work better and that the goal is to save money.

Board member Craig Corzine mentioned discussing this topic with the AFSCME union and it is set for next month.

Board member Mike Specha mentioned that the projected savings was \$7,700 per year and spending \$5,000 now was worth the risk of fixing or improving the system.

Board member Thomas Snyder, Jr., said that Bill Kennedy described adding thermostats and being able to section off areas were possible with additional money, depending on what was added.

Board member Dale Livingston said thermostats for several zones were included in the \$5,000 since some were changed out in the past.

Board member Bev Graham discussed how employees in one office may have differences in what is a comfortable temperature and how it may cause problems if a window is open to cool while the heat is also running.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Gene Price, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Tim Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried.

#### JAIL TOURS

The members present who took the jail tours all agreed that it is in bad condition. One member declared there is a need, but from the appearance of the exterior, it might be hard to believe the poor condition of the interior. The members agreed the jail is a major issue that needs attention.

The penny sales tax or Public Safety Tax referendum is to build a new jail facility. Sheriff Kettelkamp stressed the need to pass the Safety Tax in order to correct the constant problems of an overused, outdated facility.

#### PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

- Board Chairman Wells informed the committee of properties that might serve the County better to be sold or farmed. There are about 10 acres of land near Roby which is wooded.
- The highway department uses a small portion to store rock where the balance could be sold as possible hunting ground. The land adjacent to the Animal Control facility is about two and one half acres and could be leased as farm land. After discussion, a motion was made by Thomas Snyder Jr. and seconded by Chuck Smedley to put the Roby parcel out for bid and to include a survey in the contract after purchase. A roll call vote polled all ayes and the motion carried.
- Members will ask area farmers if any interest in the area by Animal Control and report back.

*A motion was made by Dale Livingston and seconded by Ken Franklin to put the 10 acre parcel near Roby [10-03-23-200-009-00] out for bid and to include a survey in the contract after purchase.*

#### Discussion:

Chairman Wells had called Montgomery County and their chairman sent copies of the bid sheets and newspaper advertisements used when they sold 12 acres last year. Matt estimated about \$325 to run the ads, \$450 for title insurance, and Cliff had an estimate of about \$1,700 for the survey. There is a tile through the property that Cliff wants to protect.

County Highway Engineer Cliff Frye called in and added they could make a flag-lot for access to the highway.

Board member Gene Price asked if the process was to use sealed bids. Chairman Wells said the ads would run indicating sealed bids to be sent to the County Treasurer and the bids would be opened at the next highway committee meeting, forwarded on to the finance committee, and finally the county board would decide whether or not to accept the highest bid. Matt added there are several more county properties that might be sold if the process to sell this parcel is successful.

Board member Ken Franklin asked about the current use of the property. Chairman Wells said part was used for highway storage of rock and the rest was excess.

Board member Ray Koonce asked about the original purchase and Chairman Wells said it occurred when the blacktop road was put in between Rochester and Mt. Auburn.

Gene followed up with a question about whether the county owned another property in the area that could be used if the county were to sell the entire tract and avoid the cost of the survey. Dale said the closest property was seven miles away.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Gene Price, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Tim Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried.

#### 2.5 ACRES NORTH OF ANIMAL CONTROL

*A motion was made by Dale Livingston and seconded by Bev Graham to cash rent the 2.5 acres north of the animal control facility.*

#### Discussion:

Chairman Wells said he preferred offering it for rent rather than having the highway department mow it several times each year.

Board member Gene Price asked about limiting the use of the property and Chairman Wells said the property was located in the county. Gene continued that if the property is rented, is the county going to restrict the use, for example, prevent storage of hazardous materials. Matt said they are getting a land lease written with the details including a yearly renewal. Gene described an area in Bloomington where people can rent small plots and have their own garden.

Treasurer Betty Asmussen asked Animal Control Director Vince Harris about the property being in the county and not the city and he said it was in the county. Chairman Wells said they could put conditions on the use to comply with the county and city if they wanted. He also mentioned that Shelby County had some trouble when renting some ground and he was going to find out what happened before this ground is rented.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Venise McWard, Gene Price, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Tim Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahan, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried.

- Chairman Wells reported that earlier that week he and the Treasurer met with the Anderson Cemetery trustees. Earlier in the year, the County submitted payment for the State's certification to be an active cemetery. The trustees reported that something went wrong and the check and application were not received. Upon further investigation, the process was mailed but ended up in the wrong department.

Chairman Wells confirmed with Treasurer Asmussen that the cemetery check and new permit would be mailed on Wednesday, after approval of the claims tonight.

**EXECUTIVE/PERSONNEL/LEGISLATIVE/LIQUOR COMMITTEE-** February 9, 2021 - Minutes read by Craig Corzine

**FIVE YEAR CHRISTIAN COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN**

ESDA Director Greg Nimmo briefly reviewed the Five Year Mitigation Plan noting that this is required by FEMA in order to receive any available funding. This process started one year ago to develop the plan for the schools and villages in the County: City of Assumption, Village of Edinburg, Village of Jeisyville, Village of Kincaid, Village of Morrisonville, Village of Mount Auburn, Village of Palmer, City of Pana, Village of Stonington, City of Taylorville, and Taylorville CUSD #3. It is for weather-related (tornados, floods etc.) emergencies. A motion was made by Ray Koonce and seconded by Gene Price to approve and recommend to the full Board to adopt the resolution R2021 CB 002. A roll call vote polled all ayes. The motion carried.

*A motion was made by Craig Corzine and seconded by Gene Price to adopt R2021CB002 Resolution of Adoption of the Christian County Multi-Jurisdictional All Hazards Mitigation Plan.*

**Discussion:**

Chris-Mont EMA Director Greg Nimmo called in and explained the adoption of the mitigation plan will be provided to FEMA. This will allow the county to receive mitigation funds if they become available.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Gene Price, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Tim Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahan, Venise McWard, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried.

**PROPOSAL TO SWITCH TO LOCAL INSURANCE AS HEALTH INSURANCE BROKER**

Dan McNeely from Dimond Bros. thanked the committee for the opportunity to present. He introduced Jared Blandow and Nichole Brown as part of the team that would be working with the county employees. There are several steps necessary in order to make the broker switch with the first being the approval of the Board to do so and then to send a letter to the carrier (BCBS) with the request to change the broker. It was explained that regardless the broker, the same commission is paid to them and premium quotes are the same regardless of broker. The broker goes out for bid (compares different carriers) each year for the County to make their selection. The County offers an HRA and flexible spending to employees which would be continued by a new third party administrator. The current policy will not change until reviewed at open enrollment time. The employees will not notice any changes in their policy, HRA or flex spending. Members of the committee stated they would be pleased to keep the policy local. A meeting will be scheduled with the unions before the Board meeting to explain there is no change in their policies only the agent/broker with Dimond Bros. in Taylorville. A motion was made by Ray Koonce and seconded by Dave Puccetti to authorize the Chairman to send the letter to BCBS requesting a change of agent of record and to proceed with the conversion of the health, dental and vision policies following the steps necessary to complete the switch, A roll call vote polled all ayes, The motion carried. It should be noted that American Central has been good to the County and always worked towards consistent premium costs for over 13 years. The committee felt the proposed broker could offer the same services for the County and an

opportunity to work with a local business. *A motion was made by Craig Corzine and seconded by Thomas Snyder, Jr. to authorize the Chairman to send a letter to Blue Cross Blue Shield requesting a change of agent of record (insurance broker).*

Discussion:

Chairman Wells met with representatives from AFSCME and FOP on Friday to give them the weekend to contact board members if they wanted. It was explained that nothing would change by switching brokers. The upcoming open-enrollment is when changes could occur. The contract with the current broker ends on July 1. Matt talked with Dan McNeely and said we would not switch if any costs went up or benefits went down.

Chairman Wells asked Dan McNeely from Dimond Bros. Insurance to speak about the situation. The company already works with the City of Taylorville and the Taylorville School District. School district employees were able to enroll from their phones and county employees will be able to do the same. He introduced Nichole Brown, who will manage the account. Chairman Wells talked about making the board room available for Dimond Bros. when an employee has a problem and needs help.

Board member Ray Koonce said that when he was on the city council, Dimond Bros. was providing their services to the city and he could not recall any complaints about their service and recommends using the company.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Tim Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Gene Price, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried.

Board member Craig Corzine said we are excited have the business here and also thanked American Central Insurance for their many years of service and help with keeping premium costs low.

MENTAL HEALTH BOARD APPOINTMENTS

Chairman Wells explained that during a meeting with Brent DeMichael, Director of Christian County Mental Health, it was discovered that there had not been a meeting with that designated board since May of 2012. This is a board that the County appoints its members. By statute there are to be seven members with staggered appointment dates. By statute and resolution, the County also levies monies for mental health services. With that understanding of responsibility to the County, both political party chairmen have submitted names of members to be appointed. These names will be on the agenda for appointment at the February board meeting.

LIQUOR LICENSE RENEWALS

Liquor licenses are renewed annually effective April 1. The list was presented with five Class A, two Class D and three Class B renewals. The Sheriff and State's Attorney were contacted for known issues and none were reported. A motion was made by Gene Price and seconded by David Puccetti to approve the renewals with appropriate applications for renewal. A roll call vote polled all ayes. The motion carried.

*A motion was made by Craig Corzine and seconded by David Puccetti to approve the liquor license as presented for the period April 1, 2021 through March 31, 2022).*

**LIQUOR LICENSE HOLDERS**

for renewal during 2020-2021  
April 1, 2021 thru March 31, 2022

Licence #	Sales tax Certificate expires	Establishment	Name of Holder	Address	Date paid	Amt. Class A	New annual
2021-2022 01	9/30/2018	William J. Burton dba Burton's Tap 824-3313 or 820-2917	Joe Burton 729 Kenton Taylorville	110 W. Taylorville Rd Taylorville, IL			\$600
2021-2022 02		Tess Enterprises LTD-562-3712 or 823-0318	Brian & Michelle Lebon	2657 E. 250 North Rd 512 N Sheridan Pana, IL 62557			\$600
2021-2022 03	7/31/2019	Pana Country Club 562-2641 or Ashley-827-7078	John McDowell 119 BelHaven Dr--Tville	Cherry & 9 <sup>th</sup> Street Po box 16, Pana			\$600
2021-2022 04	3/1/2022	Thunderbird of Taylorville Inc. 824-8411 or 855-8097-tina	Carl Blazier 2266 Baker Ln Decatur, IL 62526	1405 S. Houston Taylorville, IL 62568			\$600
2021-2022 05	6-30-2016	Triple H. Inc. of Taylorville 237-4752 or 823-4147	Leroy Harris 1454N 775 E road	794 Route 104 Taylorville, IL			\$600

2021-2022 06	10/16/2017	Arpeggio Winery LLC dba Arpeggia Winery Karen 825-2015 or 827-5770	Karen D. Swiney	778 N Highway 51 Pana, IL 62557	Class D	\$600
2021-2022 07		AgPage, LLC DBA Cypress Grove Brewing	Phil Corzine 254-9374	1414 N 2400 E Rd Assumption, 62510	Class D	\$600
2021-2022 08		Paradise Gaming	Caplin Torres Hm-2700 Lincoln Trail 217-565-1927	1549 W Springfield Rd Taylorville 217 287-7084	Class B	\$300
2021-2022 9	6/30/2017	Christian County Fair Association 827-0785- ben	Jim Olive B	CC Fair Grounds PO Box 714 Taylorville, IL		\$300
2021-2022- 10		Pana Tri County Fair	Mark Craig B	PO Box 441 225 N 2500 E Road Pana, IL 62557		\$300

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Tim Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, David Puccetti, (15) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; Gene Price, (1) abstain; The motion carried.

### RESOLUTION URGING GOVERNOR TO VETO BILL 3563

Chairman Wells reported that he attended an UCCI Zoom meeting outlining the issues in HB 3563 which will have extreme negative effects on how law enforcement protects its citizens, the officers who serve, and the financial losses resulting in the new proposed laws. This house bill is awaiting the Governor's signature. A motion was made by Bryan Sharp and seconded by Gene Price to recommend to the full Board to adopt the resolution to urge the Governor to veto HB3563. A roll call vote polled all ayes and the motion carried.

*A motion was made by Craig Corzine and seconded by Chuck Smedley to adopt R2021CB001 Resolution of the County of Christian, Illinois Urging Governor Pritzker to Veto House Bill 3563 Regarding Criminal Justice Reform.* A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Tim Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Gene Price, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried.

Chairman Wells described his interpretation of part of the law with an example of a large group of people standing in the lobby of one of the governor's hotels, preventing the business from functioning. With the effect of this bill resulting in the writing of tickets and likely nothing more, he doesn't feel the Governor would sign the bill knowing this is the outcome.

### EXECUTIVE SESSION

With no public comments, Chairman Wells called to go into executive session pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2)-"The selection of a person to fill a public office including a vacancy in a public office when the public body is given the power to appoint under law or ordinance and the discipline, performance or removal of the occupant of a public office, when the public body is given power to remove the occupant under law or ordinance." The motion was made by Ray Koonce and seconded by Gene Price to go into executive session with all present remaining and the audio muted for the public. A roll call vote polled all ayes and the motion carried.

A motion to return to open session was made by Gene Price and seconded by Dave Puccetti. A roll call vote polled all ayes and the motion carried. There was no action taken.

**AUDIT/FINANCE/PURCHASING/BUDGET COMMITTEE**-February 10, 2021 – Minutes read by Venise McWard

### CLAIMS

*A motion was made by Venise McWard and seconded by Tim Carlson to approve the claims presented for February.* A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Tim Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Gene Price, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried.

### RICOH PRINTER/COPIER CONTRACT EXTENDED

Chairman Wells explained he had sent a memo out to the department heads asking for comments concerning the proposal to extend the contract with Ricoh which had begun five years ago. The

Coroner has not been pleased with the printer that was recommended to her and others noted no problems and had no problem renewing the contract. Kurt, Ricoh sales representative, explained that by extending the current contract for two more years there would be no need to bid out the project which could take months as well and the time for vendors to come and evaluate each machine, then the switching out of machines and new setups etc. He noted due to COVID many companies were participating in contract extensions. Additionally, our machines are in good condition and have 24-48 months of good service left in them. By extending the contract the County will save about \$900/month. Chairman Wells asked for techs to review the machines to eliminate the Coroner's printer from the contract. It was agreed, although techs can come at any time with issues or to train staff. Toner is included at no cost and reordering online is easy with quick shipping. A motion was made Ken Franklin and seconded by Linda Curtin to extend the Ricoh contract for two years. A roll call vote polled all ayes and the motion carried.

*A motion was made by Venise McWard and seconded by Bryan Sharp to extend the contract with Ricoh for two years. A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Tim Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Gene Price, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried.*

Vince Harris said that Ricoh service had been out to his office and his copier was repaired.

#### ANIMAL CONTROL/ZONING TRUCK

Last month Director Vince Harris spoke to the Highway/Zoning Committee about the need for a newer truck and he was referred to the Finance Committee to return with quotes. Mr. Harris presented the state bid quote for a 2021 Ford 150 basic 8' bed truck for \$23,270 and noted the reason for the request was of a lack of dependability. Although there were no spoken concerns about the price of the truck, the issue became it was not in his budget and would have to be taken out of the contingency fund and only being February that would be about one-fourth of the contingency budget. Vicki McMahon commented that it looks like Vince could 'replace the engine' as an example at \$5000 THEN report back to us. I think he needs to run ALL repairs before the Chairman to make the decision to repair OR buy new truck. Additionally, Vince should work towards placing a new truck in his budget for 2022. Vicki McMahon made a motion to wait and propose the purchase in the new budget year (beginning December 1, 2021) and monitor the repairs during the year. Discussion followed without a second and the motion died. The committee asked for monitoring to be returned back to the committee as repairs are done on the 2001 truck. No action was taken.

Chairman Wells notified the board that the trustee of a trust contacted Jan Bland regarding the truck. The money was a private donation from a trust into the animal control fund and the trustee controls the use of the funds. The amount in the fund is \$50,000. When Vince has the final amount for the truck, Treasurer Asmussen will have the trustee sign a letter releasing the funds to purchase the truck for the benefit of the animals. Vince said that he received a quote from Bob Ridings and they would take the old truck as a trade-in. Betty noted that the current truck is county property and the board would need to decide what to do with it. Matt said he would talk with some board members over the next few days and see what they want to do about the old truck.

Board member Craig Corzine mentioned a similar situation with a fire district where a donation was received but because the purchase was not in the budget, they had to wait until the next fiscal year. State's Attorney Mike Havera was asked about whether this applied since it was donated money. Betty also mentioned other donations to the Sheriff's office and the ability to use those funds as directed. Mike asked Betty about the when the funds were donated and what they could be spent on so he could research the issue.

#### STATE CANNABIS TAX DISTRIBUTION

Even though Christian County does not have a cannabis distribution center, all counties get a small portion of the revenue. This is a new law and has specific directives as to what the money can be used for to purchase. In the Sheriff's budget there is \$22,000 for a new squad car. The actual cost is closer to \$31,000. It has been requested to use \$7,160 from the cannabis fund to purchase the squad. Since this money was not recorded in the budget for expenditures but meets the requirements to use that fund, Treasurer Asmussen explained that the Board would need to vote to spend it. A motion was made by Ken Franklin and seconded by Linda Curtin to use the \$7,160.00 from the cannabis fund to purchase the car. A roll call vote polled all ayes and the motion carried.

*A motion was made by Venise McWard and seconded by Craig Corzine to approve \$7,160 from the cannabis fund to purchase the squad car.*

Discussion:

Chairman Wells had a discussion with Betty and the auditor about the fund. Because it is new it could not have been in the budget for the Sheriff to spend this year. Betty said the statute calls this a restricted fund and the money can only be spent on certain items, including a vehicle. The Sheriff's office will budget for the money starting next year.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Matt Wells, Tim Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahan, Venise McWard, Gene Price, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried.

BUDGET REVIEW

Treasurer Asmussen wanted to reiterate that once the budget has been approved by the county board, it is the responsibility of the elected officials/department heads to stay within the budget that was presented by them and approved by the board. We only have one reason to amend a budget per statute and it's for an immediate emergency. As a county, we are allowed to go over budget on revenue but not the expenses. This is an aggregate of someone's budget not per line item.

SAFETY TAX STEPS

After the penny tax is passed by referendum:

- A committee should be established for the land and building costs
- A bonding agent would review the estimated sales tax the County collects
- Before bonding would be issued a reserve must be obtained thru the tax
- After bonding the sales tax would pay the bond. In FY2018, the Department of Revenue projected \$2.3 million from the County's sales tax
- \$13 to \$15 million was an estimated cost of a sheriff's office and jail (a few years ago)
- Safety money has a specific list of qualifying expenditures.

IMRF ACCELERATED PAYMENTS

In 2012 legislation changed state pension rules pertaining to large payouts upon termination/retirement of employees. Recently, we have had several claims with larger payouts-vacation/comp time/holiday pay. IMRF sends the County Clerk a notice of money due to the payout and assessed an accelerated payment due immediately if no exemptions qualify waiving the payment. Waiving the payment just means that the unanticipated payout amount will be figured in future employer rates. Three payments have been made in addition to the exemptions which would exceed our levied amount for IMRF this budget year. One exemption was denied but the other two are being considered to be refunded to the Clerk's agency account and added into the future rates. A motion was made by Linda Curtin and seconded by Ken Franklin to approve the reimbursement of the \$8,969.04 accelerated payment to the Clerk's agency account from the IMRF fund account. A roll call vote polled all ayes and the motion carried.

*A motion was made by Venise McWard and seconded by Ken Franklin to approve the reimbursement of the \$8,969.04 accelerated payment to the Clerk's agency account from the IMRF account. A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Tim Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahan, Venise McWard, Gene Price, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried.*

CURES ALLOTMENT TRANSFER AGREEMENT

Chairman Wells spoke to Greg Nimmo this day and was asked to sign an agreement from the Health Department to accept unspent money awarded through the CURES grant given to the Health Department in the amount of \$91,872.00. This money can only be spent or reimbursed for COVID expenses incurred by the county. He will add to the Board agenda and present this information for discussion and approval.

NEW BUSINESS

Chairman Wells discussed the CURES transfer agreement between the health department and the county. Treasurer Asmussen explained the two federal grants – CURES and CARES. She also described that signing the form would transfer unspent CURES funds to the county and it can be used for salaries as was done with other grant money received. It might take six weeks to receive

the funds after applying for them. It's considered an unanticipated grant and should not be considered an extra amount of money that the county can spend. *A motion was made by Dale Livingston and seconded by Dave Puccetti to authorize the Chairman to sign the transfer agreement between the health department and the county for the unspent CURES amount of \$91,872.* A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahan, Venise McWard, Gene Price, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Tim Carlson, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried.

**ENTERPRISE ZONE EXPANSION**

Chairman Wells discussed the current enterprise zone includes the area for one solar farm and another company wants to meet with the county. A phone call discussing the matter included himself, Taylorville Mayor Bruce Barry, Mary Renner from the Christian County Economic Development Corporation, Jan Bland, Jack Hanlon and Chris Clark from the South Fork School District, a representative from the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, and representatives from the solar company. Another call was scheduled in two weeks to continue the discussion but one issue is the maximum size of the enterprise zone. The remaining area is less than what the company would need for their project.

**HEALTH DEPARTMENT FUND**

An employee of the health department contacted the Chairman asking about a fund that is available to the Montgomery County Health Department from their county board, and would like to know if it is available here. Matt directed the person to appear at the next finance committee to discuss the matter. He later attempted to contact the employee to let them know the request should come from the health board.

**MILEAGE AND PER DIEM REPORT**

*A motion was made by Tim Carlson and seconded by Thomas Snyder, Jr. to approve the mileage and per diem report for the month of February 2021.* A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahan, Venise McWard, Gene Price, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Tim Carlson, Craig Corzine, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried.

<b><u>Board Member</u></b>	<b><u>Salary</u></b>	<b><u>Rate</u></b>	<b><u># of Meetings This Month</u></b>
Timothy Carlson	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Craig Corzine	\$100.00	\$25.00	1
Linda Curtin	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Ken Franklin	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Bev Graham	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Ray Koonce	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Dale Livingston	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Vicki McMahan	\$100.00	\$25.00	3
Venise McWard	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Gene Price	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
David Puccetti	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Bryan Sharp	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Chuck Smedley	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Thomas Snyder, Jr.	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Mike Specha	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Matt Wells	\$615.38		

Board member Ray Koonce thanked Chief Deputy Scott Woods for a recent tour of the jail. Ray and Thomas toured the facility and saw there is a need for something to be done. Ray said that if the tax does not pass, we need to think of alternatives.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no other unfinished business to come before the Board, *a motion was made by Chuck Smedley and seconded by Venise McWard to adjourn until **Tuesday, March 16, 2021** for the regular County Board meeting at 6:30 p.m.* A roll call vote being called upon polled the

following: Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Gene Price, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Matt Wells, Tim Carlson, Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, (16) aye; (0) nay; (0) absent; The motion carried.