

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 **January 16, 2024**
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 Timothy Carlson, Linda Curtin, Clint Epley, Ken Franklin, Clint Gabriel, Ray Koonce, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Jean Vandenberg and Clayton Walter as present. David Buckles and Miranda Langen were absent. A quorum was had to hold the meeting.

APPROVE COUNTY BOARD MINUTES

Chairman Bryan Sharp asked for a motion to approve the minutes, as written, from the December 19, 2023 County Board meeting. *Vicki McMahon made a motion to approve the December 19, 2023 minutes, as written; Jean Vandenberg second. Motion carried with (14) ayes, (0) nay.*

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chairman Sharp asked if there was any comments from the public and reminded those who were to speak that they are allowed three (3) minute to speak and that it is not a question and answer period.

Georgia Morgan, a representative with Strata Clean Energy, gave an intro of the company to the Board. Strata came to Illinois about three (3) years ago with one of their proposed projects sited here, spanning the border of Shelby and Christian counties. She explained that she wanted to provide a high-level introduction to this early stage asset and welcome questions. She stated that after careful consideration of electricity demands in Illinois, Strata engaged with a handful of landowners along an Ameren transmission line that runs north through Assumption. In 2022, Strata began to sign land agreements and submitted the land position to the generator interconnection que for a 250-megawatt solar facility. Strata has about 1800 acres under lease option, with approximately 1000 of those acres are in Christian County with seven (7) different landowners. Strata is preparing for a Special Use Permit in Christian County that they will submit in the 3rd or 4th quarter of 2024. Morgan reiterated that she is here tonight to let everyone know that she is available for questions and feedback.

APPOINTMENTS

Chairman Sharp stated there were no appointment that needed addressed this evening.

PETITIONS, RESOLUTIONS, ORDINANCES AND/OR PROCLAMATIONS

There are no petitions, resolutions, ordinances or proclamations at this time.

READING OF COMMUNICATIONS

JANUARY 2024 COMMUNICATIONS

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

1. The Treasurer's Reports for period ending December 31, 2023
2. The Local Solid Waste Fees Fund report for December 2023
3. IDOT– Motor Fuel Tax Allotment and Transactions for December 2023
4. The Public Defender's Caseload Report for December 2023

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, January 8, 2024 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.

Committee Chair, Thomas Snyder, Jr. stated that all motions had been forwarded to the Audit & Finance Committee.

EXECUTIVE/PERSONNEL/LIQUOR

Clint Epley, Committee Chair, highlighted the meeting of the Highway/Building/Grounds/Environmental/Welfare/Zoning Committee. He advised that the meeting be called to order on Tuesday, January 9, 2024, 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.

First subject brought to the Board by Committee Chair Epley was residency waiver that presented by Public Health Director, Dr. Chad Anderson. Anderson asked for a residency waiver for his new Director of Nursing (DON). He explained the reasoning is that it is very difficult to obtain qualified applicants who reside in Christian County. His new DON comes with five (5) years of director experience. *Clint Epley made a motion to allow a residency exemption for Director of Nursing, Diana Voiles, at the Christian County Health Department until January 2025, and to be reviewed at this time, second by David Puccetti. A roll call vote called upon the following: Tim Carlson, Linda Curtin, Clint Epley, Ken Franklin, Clint Gabriel, Ray Koonce, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Jean Vandenbergh and Clayton Walter, all ayes. Motion carried with (14) ayes and (0) nays.*

AUDIT/FINANCE/PURCHASING/BUDGET COMMITTEE

Venise McWard, Chairman highlighted the Audit/Finance/Purchasing/Budget Committee that met on Wednesday, January 10, 2024, 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.

Venise McWard brought to the Board the need to approve the claims presented for January 2024. *Venise McWard made a motion to approve the claims presented for January 2024, second by Linda Curtin. No discussion. A roll call vote called upon the following: Linda Curtin, Clint Epley, Ken Franklin, Clint Gabriel, Ray Koonce, Vicki McMahan, Venise McWard, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Jean Vandenberg, Clayton Walter and Tim Carlson, all ayes. Motion carried with (14) ayes and (0) nays.*

The next item coming from Committee brought to the Board was possible funding for water testing in Christian County. *Venise McWard made a motion to approve an amount not to exceed \$2,000.00 to the Christian County Health Department for the purchase of water testing kits and test processing costs for water samples within a half mile radius of the Ameren excavation site with the money coming from Contingency Fund, second by Clint Epley. A roll call vote called upon the following: Clint Epley, Ken Franklin, Clint Gabriel, Ray Koonce, Vicki McMahan, Venise McWard, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Jean Vandenberg, Clayton Walter, Tim Carlson and Linda Curtin, all ayes. Motion carried with (14) ayes and (0) nays.*

NEW BUSINESS/OLD BUSINESS/OTHER

Chairman Sharp stated there was no new or old business to discuss.

COUNTY BOARD RULES

Chairman Sharp stated that County Clerk, Jodie Badman, brought to his attention that a few rules applied directly to election statutes that were inadvertently removed. Sharp told the Board that rules I, K and L need added back into the rules. *Vicki McMahan made a motion to add I, K and L under Legislative back into the County Board Rules, second by Thomas Snyder, Jr. There was no discussion. A roll call vote called upon the following: Ken Franklin, Clint Gabriel, Ray Koonce, Vicki McMahan, Venise McWard, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Jean Vandenberg, Clayton Walter, Tim Carlson, Linda Curtin and Clint Epley, all ayes. Motion carried with (14) ayes and (0) nays.*

ANY OTHER MATTERS OR UPDATES BROUGHT BEFORE THE BOARD

Chairman Sharp told the Board that he was contacted by Lynn Corzine, Chairman with the First United Methodist Church in Assumption and Schales Nagle, the Executive Director of Kemmerer Village in Assumption. The pair were present this evening to present some projects they have been working on.

Mr. Corzine introduced himself and thanked the Board for their time. He explained that he was approached by Schales Nagle and her committee from Kemmerer Village, in October of 2022, with the idea of starting a childcare center. Corzine stated that he feels this is something that is needed in his community as there is a new housing development being built in Assumption. He stated that the Methodist Church building was not being utilized and it would be suitable for

childcare classrooms, etc. Corzine also said that there needs to be a few renovations in order for the building to be up to code and stated that they are having a funding issue trying to make this a reality.

Schales Nagle was next to present to the Board this evening. She echoed Lynn’s appreciation to the Christian County Board. She introduced herself and did a short synopsis on Kemmerer Village, how they are a non-for-profit and are licensed by the State of Illinois. Nagle stated that she was approached by the Assumption Pride committee to see if they could use a meeting room at Kemmerer Village to meet with representatives of the Western Illinois University Mapping Team. Nagle and her staff attended those meetings as well and that is how she became aware of the need for housing and childcare in Assumption. With her experience at Kemmerer Village, Nagle was confident that she could conquer the regulations that go along with opening a childcare center. She then contacted the Methodist Church board to ask about the use of their building and their support was amazing. Fund raising immediately started, with a goal of \$250,000.00, for renovations, materials that meet licensing and fire marshal requirements, playground equipment as well as to hire and train staff. As of right now, they have raised a little over \$160,000.00. They continue hosting many fundraising activities.

Ms. Nagle and Mr. Corzine asked the Board for additional funding for their project.

MILEAGE AND PER DIEM REPORT – January 2024

Chairman Sharp entertained a motion to approve the Mileage and Per Diem Report. *Thomas Snyder, Jr. made a motion to approve the Mileage and Per Diem Report for January, second by Vicki McMahon. No discussion. A roll call vote called upon the following: Clint Gabriel, Ray Koonce, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Jean Vandenberg, Clayton Walter, Tim Carlson, Linda Curtin, Clint Epley and Ken Franklin, all ayes. Motion carried with (14) ayes and (0) nays.*

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

Board Member, Ray Koonce, recognized Christian County's former Deputy Coroner, Mike Assalley. With Mr. Assalley's sudden passing, our thoughts and prayers are with his family. The County Board acknowledges Mike's dedication to his community.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Sharp called for a motion from the floor to adjourn until next meeting scheduled for February 20, 2024.

Timothy Carlson made a motion to adjourn the meeting and second by Ken Franklin. Motion carried with all ayes.