

**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 **June 18, 2024**  
*ATTEST: JODIE L. BADMAN, 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;

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 the following: David Buckles, 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. Miranda Langen was 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 May 21, 2024 County Board meeting. *Tim Carlson made a motion to approve the May 21, 2024, minutes, as written; David Buckles second. Motion carried with (15) ayes, (0) nay.*

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Chairman Sharp asked if there was any comments from the public and there were none.

**APPOINTMENTS**

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

**PETITIONS, RESOLUTIONS, ORDINANCES AND/OR PROCLAMATIONS**

Chairman Sharp stated there were no petitions, resolutions, ordinances and/or proclamations to bring before the Board.

## **READING OF COMMUNICATIONS**

### JUNE 2024 COMMUNICATIONS

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

1. The Treasurer's Reports for period ending May 31, 2024
2. The Local Solid Waste Fees Fund report for May 2024
3. IDOT– Motor Fuel Tax Allotment and Transactions for May 2024
4. Letter from RLE Pawnee Properties, LLC stating that reclamation of portions of the coalmine site located in Sections 10, 11, 14 and 15, T13 North, R4 West has been completed.
5. Notice of Application for Permit to Manage Waste at Five Oaks Recycling and Disposal Facility for closure and post closure cost adjustments for 2024.
6. Pana Township Government Efficiency Committee Report was filed in the Clerk's office.

## **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, June 10, 2024 at 6:00 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. brought to the Board an Engineering Services Agreement between Christian County and Hutchison Engineering, Inc. from Jacksonville, Illinois in the amount not to exceed \$59,589.00. The project is a cost share project with the Township Bridge Program paying 80% and the County and Township each paying 10%. *Thomas Snyder, Jr. made a motion to approve the Engineering Services Agreement between Christian County and Hutchison Engineering, Inc. from Jacksonville, Illinois in the amount not to exceed \$59,589.00. The project is a cost share project with the Township Bridge Program paying 80% and the County and Township each paying 10%, Ray Koonce second. A roll call polled the following: Dave Buckles, Tim Carlson, Linda Curtin, Clint Epley, Ken Franklin, Clint Gabriel, Ray Koonce, Vicki McMahan, Venise McWard, Dave Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Jean Vandenberg and Clayton Walter. Motion carried with (15) ayes, (0) nay.*

### **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, June 11, 2024, at 6:00 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 a residency waiver request for Larry Landrus from 911 Director, Kim Curl. *Clint Epley made a motion to approve a residency exemption for Larry Landrus until January of 2025 at which time it, and all other waivers this past year, would be reviewed. Venise McWard second. No discussion. A roll call polled all ayes. Motion carried with (15) ayes, (0) nay.*

The next item coming from the Committee was a resolution from the Illinois United Sovereign Americans. *Clint Epley made a motion to approve to establish a subcommittee interested in meeting with members of the Illinois United Sovereign Americans group to discuss and obtain more data on how the information they provided was obtained. Dave Buckles second. Discussion about signing this document and how this would legally affect the County. County Clerk discussed how elections are governed by the State of Illinois, but offered to discuss further with any Board member who had questions. Mike Specha offered to sit on the subcommittee, as did Dave Puccetti, Vicki McMahon. Clayton Walter offered to be an alternate. A roll call polled all ayes. Motion carried with (15) ayes, (0) nay.*

Epley brought the next item before the Board. Resolution R2024 EM 004 adopting the IEMMAS Agreement conditional upon review and approval by Assistant State's Attorney, Mary Barry. *Clint Epley made a motion to adopt R2024 EM 004, IEMMAS Agreement, contingent upon review and approval from Assistant State's Attorney, Mary Barry. Thomas Snyder, Jr. second. A roll call polled all ayes. Motion carried with (15) ayes, (0) nay.*

Next item was Septic Ordinance O2024 HE 012 from the Christian County Health Department. Dr. Chad Anderson, Director at the Christian County Health Department presented the Septic Ordinance recently approved by the Health Board for County Board consideration. The main purpose of the ordinance is to allow the Health Department to have processes in place when needed related to compliance issues. Assistant State's Attorney and Assistant State's Attorney Skip DePaepe have reviewed the ordinance. Epley stated that the committee felt that Section III: Permits 3-1 number 10 in regards to the fee needed to have language added indicating "with approval of the Board of Health". *Clint Epley made a motion to approve ordinance O2024 HE 012. Vicki McMahon second. During discussion, Ken Franklin asked what was involved with the penalty phase. Dr. Anderson, Director of Public Health, advised the Board that if the Health Department goes to a septic site to inspect, they would give the owner a certain amount of days to fix before being assessed a penalty. Franklin questioned exactly how many days would be given; Dr. Anderson stated the State law is ten (10) day. Franklin then reminded the Board that trying to secure a licensed plumber in a short amount of time is nearly impossible and he did not think the extreme penalty was a good idea. Anderson stated he did not want to use the penalty but there has to be something in writing in the event that there is an issue in the future with raw sewage on the ground. A roll call polled the following: Tim Carlson and Vicki McMahon with ayes. Linda Curtin, Clint Epley, Ken Franklin, Clint Gabriel, Ray Koonce, Venise McWard, Dave Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Jean Vandenberg, Clayton Walter and Dave Buckles all voting nay. Motion failed to carry with (2) ayes, (13) nay.* After hearing discussion and possible solutions to the verbiage, it was recommended by Chairman Sharp to send back to the Executive/Personnel Committee.

*Ray Koonce made a motion to send ordinance O2024 HE 012 back to the Executive/Personnel Committee for review, Clayton Walter second. A roll call polled all ayes. Motion carried with (15) ayes, (0) nay.*

The United States Department of Labor (USDOL) implemented a new overtime rule that would have impact on three (3) employees who are salary exempt and their salary currently falls under the new weekly/salary guidelines. Those salaries are established by budget or policy, and until the matter can be reviewed with elected officials and department heads in preparation of the FY25 budget and further guidelines that take effect in January of 2025, Chairman Sharp felt the best thing to do at this time through the remainder of this fiscal year is to change the status of those employees to salary non-exempt whereby the individuals who physically are working more than 40 hours per week are paid overtime as long as the overtime has been pre-approved by the elected official or department head. *Clint Epley made a motion to approve that in light of salaries established in the FY24 budget and the new USDOL overtime rules effective as of July 1, 2024 that employees who are currently classified as salary exempt and whom are making under the weekly/salary threshold per the new overtime rule as of July 1, 2024, that such employees shall be reclassified to salary non-exempt eligible for overtime for hours physically worked over 40 per week as long as those hours are pre-approved by the applicable elected official or department head for the remainder of the FY24 budget year and that review of the USDOL new overtime rule be discussed and reviewed with applicable elected officials and department head for their input prior to establishment salaries in the FY25 budget. Linda Curtin second. Discussion by Mike Specha wanted to clarify the specifications of hours administered by the USDOL. Chairman Sharp referred to Liz Hile, Human Resource Administrator, to answer. She stated that there were three positions that would fall short of the requirement unless their salaries or their exemption changed. Since the salaries are already budgeted for 2023-2024, it is recommended to change the exemption on the position. A roll call polled the following: Linda Curtin, Clint Epley, Ken Franklin, Clint Gabriel, Ray Koonce, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Dave Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Jean Vandenberg, Clayton Walter, Dave Buckles and Tim Carlson. Motion carried with (15) ayes, (0) nay.*

Clint Epley brought to the Board several Text Amendment Proposals from Zoning Director, Blake Tarr. The first was Article XI; Section 1-11-5 of the Christian County Zoning Code as presented. *Clint Epley made a motion to approve Text Amendment to Article XI; Section 1-11-5 of the Christian County Zoning Code as presented, Thomas Snyder, Jr. second. No discussion. A roll call polled all ayes. Motion carried with (15) ayes, (0) nay.*

The second item presented by Epley was Articles of Rules and Procedures – In Article 1; Section 1.3 – notation of the new location of the Zoning office and under Article VII; Section 7.18 – deletion of Absent Members Vote and addition of Attendance in that section. *Clint Epley made a motion to approve Article VII; Section 7.18 of The Christian County Zoning Code as presented and subject to change recommendations, Jean Vandenberg second. No discussion. A roll call polled all ayes. Motion carried with (15) ayes, (0) nay.*

The next item presented by Epley from Zoning was Appendix B – amendments to Ordinance O2017 ZN 012 removing the last revised date of December 15, 2020; under definitions

amending (10) for “fence”; Screening and Fencing – (c) adding the word “mature”; Equipment – removing (c) and Hearing changing 60 days to 45 so it’s in compliance with state code. Member Jean Vandenberg questioned the use of the word “mature” in the Screening and Fencing section indicating that “mature” to one person could mean something different to another. Assistant State’s Attorney Mary Barry will likely bring back a change recommendation on that section. *Clint Epley made a motion to approve Appendix B – amendments to Ordinance O2017 ZN 012 removing the last revised date of December 15, 2020; under definitions amending (10) for “fence”; Screening and Fencing – (c) adding the word “mature”; Equipment – removing (c) and Hearing changing 60 days to 45 so it’s in compliance with state code, Venise McWard second. Discussion from Blake Tarr on an update from Assistant State’s Attorney, Mary Barry, on page 148 that reads: (c) adding the words “sufficiently matured, living buffer and to exceed the height of the solar fence”. A roll call polled the following: Clint Epley, Ken Franklin, Clint Gabriel, Ray Koonce, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Dave Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Jean Vandenberg, Clayton Walter, Dave Buckles, Tim Carlson and Linda Curtin. Motion carried with (15) ayes, (0) nay.*

The last item brought from committee to the full Board was the adoption of Appendix E to the Christian County Zoning Code. This was originally passed in 2011 but was never adopted into the Zoning Code. *Clint Epley made a motion to adopt Appendix E into the Christian County Zoning Code, Thomas Snyder, Jr. second. No discussion. A roll call polled all ayes. Motion carried with (15) ayes, (0) nay.*

#### **AUDIT/FINANCE/PURCHASING/BUDGET COMMITTEE**

Venise McWard, Chairman highlighted the Audit/Finance/Purchasing/Budget Committee that met on Wednesday, June 12, 2024, at 6:00 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 June 2024. *Venise McWard made a motion to approve the claims presented for June 2024, second by Linda Curtin. No discussion. A roll call polled the following: Ken Franklin, Clint Gabriel, Ray Koonce, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Dave Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Jean Vandenberg, Clayton Walter, Dave Buckles, Tim Carlson, Linda Curtin and Clint Epley. Motion carried with (15) ayes, (0) nay.*

#### **SECONDARY COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- **New Business/Old Business/Other**
  - Chairman Sharp asked County Treasurer, Betty Asmussen, to explain the COLA increases for the State’s Attorney, Public Defender and Sheriff. She informed the Board that she had received notice from the Illinois Department of Revenue, who mandates the salaries of the State’s Attorney, Public Defender and Sheriff, that stated an increase of 4.7% would take affect 7/1/2024 for the State’s Attorney salary. The Public Defender salary is 90% of the State’s Attorney salary and the Sheriff salary is 80% of the State’s Attorney salary. These salaries are partially reimbursed by the State. Asmussen stated that the Board would need to approve in the Board Meeting minutes.

*Mike Specha made a motion to accept the 4.7% COLA increase from the Illinois Department of Revenue. Dave Puccetti second. No discussion. A roll call polled the following: Clint Gabriel, Ray Koonce, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Dave Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Jean Vandenberg, Clayton Walter, Dave Buckles, Tim Carlson, Linda Curtin, Clint Epley and Ken Franklin. Motion carried with (15) ayes, (0) nay.*

- Treasurer Asmussen then spoke to the Board about the process of budget hearings for the FY2025. Asmussen talked about the County using the vendor Bellwether for the budget process for FY2024 and she personally felt that this was money that was not well spent. She stated that she, along with members of the Finance Committee, would hold the hearings for FY2025 and this would be a one-day meeting with each office holder to present their budget. This will tentatively be held on July 31, 2024.

**MILEAGE AND PER DIEM REPORT – June 2024**

Chairman Sharp entertained a motion to approve the Mileage and Per Diem Report for June 2024. *Thomas Snyder, Jr. made a motion to approve the Mileage and Per Diem Report for June 2024, Jean Vandenberg second. No discussion. A roll call polled the following: Ray Koonce, Vicki McMahon, Venise McWard, Dave Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Mike Specha, Jean Vandenberg, Clayton Walter, Dave Buckles, Tim Carlson, Linda Curtin, Clint Epley, Ken Franklin and Clint Gabriel. Motion carried with (15) ayes, (0) nay.*

<b><u>Board Member</u></b>	<b><u>Salary</u></b>	<b><u>Rate</u></b>	<b><u># of Meetings This Month</u></b>	<b><u>Extension of Rate</u></b>
David Buckles	\$100.00	\$25.00	2	\$50.00
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	\$100.00	\$25.00	2	\$50.00
Ray Koonce	\$100.00	\$25.00	2	\$50.00
Miranda Langen	\$100.00	\$25.00	1	\$25.00
Vicki McMahon	\$100.00	\$25.00	1	\$25.00
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	4	\$100.00
Mike Specha	\$100.00	\$25.00	2	\$50.00
Jean Vandenberg	\$100.00	\$25.00	2	\$50.00
Clayton Walter	\$100.00	\$25.00	3	\$75.00
Bryan Sharp	\$769.24			

**ADJOURNMENT**

Chairman Sharp called for a motion from the floor to adjourn until next meeting scheduled for Tuesday, July 16, 2024.

*Timothy Carlson made a motion to adjourn the meeting and second by Thomas Snyder, Jr. Motion carried with all ayes.*