

**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 21, 2022**  
*ATTEST: JACQUE WILLISON, 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 Wells called the board meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

The roll call by County Clerk Jacque Willison showing all members present with Mike Specha being absent. A quorum was had to hold the meeting.

**APPROVE COUNTY BOARD MINUTES**

Chairman Wells asked for any corrections or additions and to accept the May 17, 2022 County Board minutes to approve as printed. Chairman Wells called for a motion to approve the minutes. *Timothy Carlson made a motion to approve the minutes seconded by Venise McWard.* After no discussion, Chairman Wells asked for roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon, polled the following: (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent; the motion carried and the minutes were approved.

Chairman Wells asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the special County Board meeting of June 7, 2022 as printed with any corrections or amendments to them. *David Puccetti made a motion to approve the minutes with a second by Dale Livingston.* After no discussion, Chairman Wells asked for roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent; the motion carried and the minutes were approved.

Chairman Wells – with that, there is a letter of engagement from Rammelkamp Bradney, P.C. Mr. Poggenpohl, I believe, am I correct it was sent to you. If I am remembering right, you were going to look it over and advise us as to your thoughts on the agreement.

Wes Poggenpohl – I thought everything looked good. They sent it over to me earlier this week. I had a chance to look it over. I think it looks good. If we do not like how things are going, we can get out of it. Based on what I heard at the meeting, I think they will serve us well.

Chairman Wells – called for a motion to enter into this agreement with Rammelkamp Bradney, P.C. *Venise McWard made a motion to enter into the agreement with a second by Ken Franklin.* With no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahan, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson; Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Chairman Wells called for public comments –Let me remind anyone who wants to speak you are limited to three minutes time. This is not a question and answer session. It is a time for you to direct your thoughts and words to the county board. Any one wish to speak? Please stand up and identify yourself.

**Rebecca Hile** – My name is Rebecca Hile. I am here to speak about the recent removal of Vince Harris from CCAC. I volunteered at Animal Control from May 2011 until August 2019 under Joelynda Conrad, then Vince. I was on the founding board of “Friends of Christian County Animal Control”, where I served as trustee from July 2018 until my resignation in February 2020. Vince started at Animal Control in May 2018. He was given part time employees. The community rallied with many volunteers. Eventually one of the part time positions became full time. Animal Control highlights under Vince’s time include:

- Facility cleaned top to bottom – every inch
- We went from using Pet Finder to Face Book for higher visibility.
- Animals started getting rabbi shots, spayed/neutered, and microchipped.
- Injured or sick animals were vetted.
- More people and animals came through the doors.
- Pana animal control was pulled back to Christian County.
- Dog adoptions increased. Cat adoptions skyrocketed.
- Flex hours were added; 1 night per week plus Saturdays
- Additional fencing was installed; security cameras were installed
- Vince oversaw tornado relief including food donations and the housing of displaced animals for the families who had lost everything.
- Animal Control started checking references prior to adoption and assisted with creating and fundraising for the feral cat program.
- He removed the broken crematorium, crafted a breeder ordinance, and amended the Animal Control ordinance to add language for Animal Humane investigators.

And all of that took place in four years, one I remind you was a pandemic year. Most of that is in the meeting minutes on the Christian County Board’s website. You do not make changes without ruffling feathers or telling people no. Everyone has strengths, weaknesses and mistakes and Vince is no exception. But in case you do not know we, animal advocates are a pushy group with big hearts and big personalities. We can get ample and we do not like to be told no. During my years, I saw mistakes and overstepping by both parties advocates including. If one does not like a county ordinance or the way state laws are being written or how they are being prosecuted or sentenced then the avenue to push, then find an avenue to push for change. If the ordinance or law is not change, then plugging a different person into that seat is not going to change the issue. As you move forward in seeking a replacement for Vince, this is what I would like to say. I would like to say they can look back in their body of work and say they have accomplished as much for Christian County’s animals as Vince did. Thank you for your time.

**Patty Rykhus** – Hi, I am Patty Rykhus and I am the president of Friends of Christian County Animal Control. I recently had the opportunity to review the May 14 2019 committee meeting minutes where the Friends of Christian County Animal Control was mentioned. I usually just say Friends because it is easier that way. To clarify under the animal control section they stated Friends are doing fundraisers, which is correct. However, I had a problem with one section and I am going to quote “a separate checking account will be established with the Animal Control Administrator as the second signature. I believe that was an incorrect statement or it was implemented

incorrectly. I am aware of the TNR account at the First National Bank. However, it is not under Friends. I do not know who has signature on the account, but I wanted to make sure Friends is not responsible for record keeping or audit on that account. Same thing goes with the Pet Fund Account. From what I observed, Vince had control over the TNR Account and the Pet Fund Account. I was disheartened at our meeting with Animal Control and during the fund raiser meetings and the TNR meetings, we could not talk about financials. We did not get answers of what the current balances were and I just wanted to let you guys know Friends did not have control over those accounts. There are a couple of accounts that CCAC did have signature, second signature capabilities on. One was a capitol account that I created February 7, 2020 and our animal care account 6/29/2020 and we will make sure those funds go toward their intended use. I know what the financial institutions that I dealt with during that time for any organization to open up an account they had to have the minutes from their board meeting with a motion and a positive vote from the organization to open that account. So my question is on the TNR Account and the Pet Fund Account who were the signatures on it. What documentation was in place so they could be opened? Whose employee identification number, Fein or social security number are those accounts tied to? Anyway, I want to thank you for your time and your due diligence.

Chairman Wells asked if there was anyone else from the public who wishes to speak. This is a second call from the public – this is the third and final call, any want at all.

**Recognitions** - Jacque pointed out to me, I may pronounce Dani's last name wrong, I believe is Knecht recently completed 20 years of service with the county in her office and also, Jackie Mann, I believe tomorrow is, she celebrates 30 years of service with the county in the treasurer's office. I know we missed people. I know there are people who have dates of 30-35 years and I apologize to you but we just felt this was a little extra way to let you know – sometimes I know we seem hardheaded in here but we do appreciate your work that the employees are doing for the county. Thank you all very much.

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

- **O2022ZB023** – Chairman Wells called for a motion on the floor to approve this zoning ordinance. *Linda Curtin made a motion to approve Ordinance O2022ZB023 with a second by Dale Livingston.* With no discussion, Chairman Wells asked for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahan, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson; Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

- **O2022ZB024** – Chairman Wells called for a motion on the floor to approve this zoning ordinance. *Venise McWard made a motion to approve Ordinance O2022ZB024 with a second by Bev Graham.* With no discussion, Chairman Wells asked for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahan, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson; Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

- **O2022ZB025** - Chairman Wells called for a motion on the floor to approve this zoning ordinance. *Dale Livingston made a motion to approve Ordinance O2022ZB025 with a second by Thomas Snyder, Jr.* With no discussion, Chairman Wells asked for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp (n), Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson; Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, (14) aye; (1) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

## **READING OF COMMUNICATIONS**

### **JUNE 2022 COMMUNICATIONS**

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

1. June 2022 Prevailing Wage Report
2. The May 2022 Public Defender's Report
3. The Treasurer's Reports for period ending May 31, 2022
4. The Local Solid Waste Fees Fund report for May 2022
5. ROE – Expenditure Report for May 2022
6. C.E.F.S – April 2022 PCOM report
7. IEPA – Notice of Application for Permit to Manage Waste
8. IDOR – Notification to Maintain: 08-07115-00- BR & 08-04118-00-BR; both projects have been completed; Bridge near Owaneco/Locust Creek and Bridge east of Morrisonville over South Fork of the Sangamon River.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **HIGHWAY/BUILDING/GROUNDS/ENVIRONMENTAL/ZONING AND WELFARE COMMITTEE**

**June 14, 2022**

Present: Dale Livingston, Chuck Smedley, Bev Graham, Mike Specha, Thomas Snyder, Jr.

Absent: None

Others present: Matt Wells, Linda Curtin, Vicki McMahon, Bryan Sharp, Bill Kennedy, Cliff Frye, Ron Brown, Vince Harris, Jim Prescott, Sally Brusveen, Pat Vogel, Rhonda Wilson, Patty Rykhus, Jan Schmedeke, Lucas Domonowsky, and Elizabeth Hile in attendance.

The meeting of the Highway/Building/Grounds/Environmental/Welfare/Zoning Committee was called to order on Tuesday, June 14, 2022 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.

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ms. Patty Rykhus, President of Friends Of which is a not for profit group spoke about the Pana dog case which dates back to January of 2022. They have been told continuously to be patient. This case involved a pack of dogs in which one animal had a broken and infected leg. After pressure, four adult dogs received rabies shots, which were out of compliance. One dog has since died and was partially consumed. One dog was stolen and one dog now has 10 pups. The owner does not live at the residence and for the last two (2) weeks, the owner of the property has not been seen. Patty is asking out of concern if someone from Animal Control or the Sheriff's office can do a check on these animals.

Ms. Jan Schmedeke spoke inquiring about the status of an ordinance that ties the hands of Humane Investigators. They still have not heard anything as to whether or not the ordinance is staying or will be revised. Committee Chairman Livingston said that ordinance is still in effect.

#### COUNTY LOT MOWEAQUA PROPERTY

County Highway Engineer, Cliff Frye, presented some options as solutions for the complaints received at this stockpile lot. The complaints were related to vehicles doing doughnuts at all hours of the night.

The most expensive option is to put up a chain link fence with gates at a cost of approximately \$9,200.00 to \$10,000.00. Another option would be a solar security camera. Cliff spoke with Wareham's security and the cost of a security camera would be approximately \$2,250.00 and a pole would need to be installed. The problem with this option is that depending on location the camera might not pick up enough to be valuable. A third option would be purchase 35 concrete barrier wall blocks with gates for an estimated cost of \$2,450.00. These barrier blocks are 2' tall by 2' wide and 6' long and weigh 3500 pounds. They are made from recycled scrap concrete. Problem with this option is that currently there are not enough blocks for the project. Completing the project will depend on availability of scrap concrete to make more barrier blocks.

Motion by Mike Specha and seconded by Bev Graham to recommend to the full Board to approve installation of concrete barrier wall blocks and gates with a cost not to exceed \$2,500.00 coming out of the County Highway Fund. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Dale Livingston made a motion to approve the installation of concrete barrier wall blocks and gates with a second by Thomas Snyder, Jr. After no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call.*

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Matt Wells (n), Timothy Carlson; Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahan, (14) aye; (1) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

## COURT HOUSE LAWN REQUEST – JULY 4<sup>TH</sup>

Chairman Wells advised that Taylorville Mayor Barry had contacted him requesting permission to use the courthouse lawn during the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade.

Motion by Dale Livingston and seconded by Chuck Smedley to recommend to the full Board to allow City of Taylorville to use the courthouse lawn during the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Dale Livingston made a motion to allow City of Taylorville to use the courthouse lawn during the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade with a second by Vicki McMahon. After no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call.*

A roll call vote being called upon polled all ayes. Motion carried.

## ANIMAL CONTROL SPLIT FROM SOLID WASTE AND ZONING – BUDGETS

Committee Chairman Livingston noted that someone needs to look at the budget and separate Animal Control and Zoning.

Bev Graham asked to read a memo from Treasurer Betty Asmussen. Dale advised that this will be tabled until Betty can be here to provide the information.

## ZONING BUSINESS

### Christian County Zoning Code 1-10-1 Zoning Administrator

Committee Chairman Livingston noted that in the Zoning Code 1-10-1 it indicates that the Zoning Administrator has a two (2) year term. He asked Chairman Wells if that was changed when the position was combined. The Chairman Wells advised that he did not have the minutes in front of him and it depended on how that motion was made at the time. He believes that a prior chairman combined those positions in 2018 so depending on the motion in the minutes the appointment could be out of compliance.

Motion by Bev Graham and seconded by Mike Specha to recommend this go to the full Board.

During discussion, Mike Specha asked if the States Attorney should provide clarification. The appointment need is noted for Zoning but not the other jobs. When did appointment reference appear in the Zoning code? A revision date of December 15, 2020 was noted on the copy provided.

A question was raised by Vince Harris if Brett Rahar was reappointed and if a precedence had been set.

Bev Graham amended the motion and Mike Specha seconded to recommend to the full Board that the States Attorney give an opinion on the minutes and after speaking to the States Attorney to provide information to the Board as to when the term began and expired. Thomas Snyder, Jr.,

Mike Specha and Bev Graham all voted in favor. Dale Livingston and Chuck Smedley were opposed. Motion carried.

Chairman Wells noted that when Liz came on, it was discovered that there was not an active list of appointments and we are working on that. So in the future, everyone will know when appointments are expiring. Until such time, appointments are made as Boards notify of expirations or resignations.

#### Office Location

Committee Chairman Livingston advised that when Animal Control and Zoning were combined that Zoning was moved to Animal Control.

Motion was made by Dale Livingston and seconded by Mike Specha to move Zoning from Animal Control to Solid Waste.

During discussion, questions were raised about expenses, do we lease or own the solid waste building. It was felt this decision is not something that needs to happen in a hurry.

Motion was withdrawn.

Motion was made by Thomas Snyder, Jr. and seconded by Dale Livingston to table to next month. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

#### SOLID WASTE BUSINESS

##### Delegation with IEPA

Members asked to see the Delegation agreement in order to have a discussion. Because of the length of the document a few copies were available this evening. Liz will scan and email the document to all members.

#### HIGHWAY BUSINESS

Cliff provided an update on two (2) bridge projects.

Pana Township Bridge #66 – This project was on IDOT's April 29<sup>th</sup> bid letting. The successful bidder was from Depew & Owen Builders of Centralia at a cost of \$399,988.00.

Locust Township Bridge #3, located on Velma Road, is on IDOT's June 17<sup>th</sup> letting. Both bridge projects are federal projects.

#### ANIMAL CONTROL

##### State Statute Animal Control Act – 510 ILCS 5

Committee Chairman Livingston advised that he received an inquiry as to why monies are not placed in the Animal Control Fund as noted in 510 ILCS 5/7 Chapter 8 page 357.

Motion by Bev Graham and seconded by Mike Specha to refer this matter to Finance to give Betty time to review the statute and provide a short synopsis in regard to the question asked. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

#### Draft County Municipal Agreement for Animal Control

Dale advised that he found out that an agreement is not needed for Animal Control to go if they get a call.

Chairman Wells advised that he again has received a phone call from a city in the county inquiring about the status to provide assistance. The Committee reviewed the last change to the proposed agreement which was increasing the hourly rate to \$50.00. It was also noted better language for item #2 would be changing the working from “to at least eight (8) hours” to “not to exceed eight (8) hours”.

Motion by Thomas Snyder, Jr. and seconded by Mike Specha to send this back to the full Board for discussion with wording changes to #2 to read, “Not to exceed” eight (8) hours. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Dale Livingston made a motion to bring forward the Animal Control Agreement with the Cities and to change the wording from “to at least eight (8) hours to “not to exceed eight (8) hours with a second by Chuck Smedley.*

**Chairman Wells** – ladies and gentlemen, I know this, at the present time we may be a little short. Still waiting to get someone hired to go out there and run that daily and that individual should probably be the one who decides whether or not we have 8, 10 or 12 extra hours a week or month to go help these cities. This board, in my opinion, we should be doing what we can to help the municipalities. I do not think it is fair for us to say this town gets us for 12 hours at no cost and the other towns do not get them. But I do think, having this in place, if the Animal Control Director or Supervisor that gets hired feels they have time and a municipality ask for help, it would allow them to go help them and it would allow us to be reimbursed. I get asked about it every other month. To me, it is time for us to make a decision. If the director of animal control thinks they have time, do we want to have an agreement for them to hand to somebody and say this is what it is going to cost you and you are going to pay us on these dates. Chairman Wells called for other discussion.

**Brian Sharp** – This was not necessarily to block out; they are going to be present in the communities for 8 hours. This was I think the original intent was if they were going to respond to a call for animal control that they could respond.

**Chairman Wells** – Brian, they can respond by law at any time, but what we have been asked by, in writing by one mayor, and other mayors have approached me about it. Because they do not have animal control, they would like, if we have the time, to have someone in the municipality for a certain amount of hours to look for dogs running at large and things like that. But, I think the agreement says something about we are going to pick them up, we are going to tell you what

happened but you are going to deal with the tickets, and you are going to deal with court, that's you. We are just here to deal with the animals and get them off the street for you. So yes, I believe this agreement is, and that is why, I will let Thomas say why he changed this. Saying you have to be there 8 hours is too much and he felt it was better, I believe, to say we are not going to be there any more than 8 hours if we come. Because we could set up something to go to Morrisonville and be there for 4 hours and get called out and have problems someplace else and have to leave automatically.

**Venise McWard** – I want to put on record I am not in favor of charging the \$50. I know you are trying to make an agreement with some of these cities and villages like Mt. Auburn, Morrisonville, Palmer, Stonington that do not have animal control. I just feel like we are Christian County Animal Control and we should not charge the \$50.

**Chairman Wells** – well I agree with that. What mechanism do we use to decide which municipality gets how many hours? We were in this town for 2 hours. So now we are going to rotate and somebody has an issue and one town does not. That is my problem.

**Bev Graham** – I just have a question. If they go out and they are there the 8 hours, that town on itself is going to owe us \$400.00. What if we are there, they sign the agreement, they go back to their board they do not have the \$400.00 so then what happens. Your people are there and then we cannot be paid because they do not have the money.

**Chairman Wells** – I am guessing in that circumstances, the best we can do is say hey you didn't live up to your part of the agreement, we can't provide that service any more. That would be my thought. Again, that would be the decision this board wants.

**Bev Graham** – Dale, would you consider going back to the \$25. You were at \$25 and then you raised it to \$50.

**Dale Livingston** – You guys decide. I brought it up because you have expenses going to there and back.

**Chairman Wells** – Bev, if you think that is what is fair. If you want to make a motion to amend this that is within your rights, and someone seconds it and the majority of the board agrees it should be \$25 instead of \$50 that is what the agreement we would vote on in a little while would be. It is the board's property now not the committee. Mr. Poggenpohl do you have a comment?

**Wes Poggenpohl** – was there an original portion of this to have a mileage rate that was taken out as well.

**Chairman Wells** – yeah we were charging mileage and \$25

**Wes Poggenpohl** – there was a state rate for mileage and you got rid of that. It makes a little easier for bookkeeping to have a higher hourly rate

**Chairman Wells** – from my perspective as chairman, I do not care if the board decides \$25 or \$50. I do not care if the board really decides no we are not doing it. I would just finally like to

be able to give the mayors and answer this is how we see it and this is what we are going to do it or we are not willing to do anything.

**Dale Livingston** – right now as I understand it Mr. Chairman, if animal control is called to Stonington, Morrisonville, Palmer or wherever, they can by the Sheriff's department, they can bill for time and stuff.

**Chairman Wells** – I think that is correct. This is a matter where we were asked can we have somebody come up here and patrol for so many hours a month. What would that cost us? Again, if the board does not want to enter in to do that, that is the decision of the most, that is fine with me. But it is here and it has been back and forth and it just seems to me like we ought to be able to tell these mayors something.

**Bev Graham** – can I ask a question? Matt, how much do they charge when they bill them? If they go out and they bill them like Dale said.

**Chairman Wells** – I do not know. To be honest with you, I do not know. I am going to guess, it would be state statute, mileage. Whatever the state statute says we can bill them. Which they would have no idea where that comes from. This for the 8 hours would be much cleaner. I think they would understand it. You know, this is why we were charged some one's area \$400 and \$200 this is where the amount comes from right here in this agreement. And, I think if someone had to get called out to a town like that and they were there less than an hour that would kind of be the standard charge. Again, that is not just is not my decision it is all of ours.

**Bev Graham** – do they sign this before we give them service?

**Matt Wells** – oh yeah, they would have to agree to it, certainly.

**Linda Curtin** – If they do not agree to it they are just on their own.

**Matt Wells** – yeah. Every municipality is entitled by law to hire their own animal control. Some of them have not. Taylorville, for example, has their own animal control guy. I do not know if Assumption does. Morrisonville use to.

**Linda Curtin** – Assumption does and Stonington does.

**Bev Graham** – Pana?

**Matt Wells** – I think Pana does, but I do not know. Any other discussion? Right now, we have a motion on the floor – an agreement where we are charging – go ahead

**Linda Curtin** – *I make a motion we lower it to \$25.*

**Chairman Wells** – you are going to amend this motion to \$25, is there a second to that motion? *Bev Graham seconded the motion.* After no further discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call on the amendment.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley (n), Thomas Snyder, Jr., Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson; Craig Corzine, Linda

Curtin, Ken Franklin (n), Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston (n), Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, (12) aye; (3) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

**Chairman Wells** – so the amendment carries to the motion that now says up to 8 hours a day at \$25 an hour. Is there any discussion now on the motion as it is amended? After no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call on the amended motion

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson; Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin (n), Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston (n), Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard (n), Clint Epley, (12) aye; (3) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

#### COURT HOUSE AND BUILDING BUSINESS

Bill Kennedy addressed the Committee regarding the need for space for records from various offices. He feels the basement at the old CIPS (Solid Waste) building has the space and is a good option. He would like to continue to move on this project by talking to the applicable office holders to find out how many feet of shelving they feel will be needed. Right now, there are piles of records in various locations to include the basement of the courthouse. There are a couple of caveats to this plan. 1. The records have to be secure for the States Attorney's records and Public Defenders records. 2. Has to have 24-hour access.

Motion by Dale Livingston and seconded by Thomas Snyder, Jr. to recommend to the full Board to allow Bill Kennedy to continue looking into the records storage solution. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Dale Livingston made a motion to have Bill Kennedy continue looking for storage space with a second by Bev Graham. Chairman Wells called for Discussion.*

Ray Koonce – Mr. Chairman, I did speak to Bill about this and I do appreciate his time to look into this and there has been a lot of discussion with different office holders of potential right buildings concerning the records that we are keeping. This is something that really needs to be looked in to and taken care of. Thank you.

Chairman Wells called for other discussion. After no further discussion, he called for a roll call. A roll call vote being called upon polled (15) ayes, (1) absent. Motion carried

Bill also updated the Committee on the Window and Air ARPA fund project. They are in the “design” stage and it is coming together nicely. A combination of replacing the windows before the air conditioning may result in the units going on the existing slab instead of the need to build another slab. Bill notes this is a huge benefit.

Yet this week the boiler could be inspected along with repairing a leak. The boiler has been mistreated the last few years and while there is a new bottom on it, corrosion at the joints inside the box has reoccurred. This repair has been done the last couple of years. This time Bill has asked for an assessment to be done as to whether or not this will be a reoccurring problem and if

there should be consideration to replace the boiler versus the risk of an outage during the winter. More information will be provided.

Fountain will have water in it tomorrow.

There was a recent roof leak at the lower end of the copper valley. There was an actual gash where something went through it and it was repaired with a foam material that held up until now. Charles Samson came in right away and made the repair at a cost of \$250.00.

Bev Graham asked if the file cabinet and other issues were resolved in the States Attorney's office. Bill advised they had been.

### Tree Removal

Ron Brown, Maintenance Supervisor, advised the Committee that two (2) trees on the courthouse lawn need removed. A tree on the south side lost a large branch during a storm on May 25th and a tree on the east side that is half-dead? He received four estimates. One estimate was not valid, as they did not carry insurance. All qualifying bids include removal of two (2) trees down to the stumps with cleanup of debris. A bid from Noblet's came in at \$2500.00. Long Tree Service was \$2,400.00 and Capital Tree was \$3,300.00.

Motion by Dale Livingston and seconded by Mike Specha to refer to Finance tree removal bid from Long Tree Service for \$2,400.00. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

### OTHER MATTERS

Ron Brown, Maintenance Supervisor who has only been with the County for just over one (1) month was complimented for his quick attention when contacted for help. Additionally the large branch that fell covering most of the south entrance on May 25<sup>th</sup>, Ron came in after the 8:00 p.m. storm for cleanup and when employees arrived at 8:00 a.m. you would have never know anything even happened. The debris was totally cleaned up and not even a leaf was seen in the yard. He was also completed for all the painting that has been done.

Bev Graham asked if the Treasure could now address the budget agenda item from earlier tonight.

Betty presented and reviewed a document regarding the history of the Animal Control/Zoning budget. She was directed by a previous chairperson to combine the Animal Control and Zoning budget because only three (3) expense line items that were used by Zoning. Even then, those three (3) expense line items were maintained separately. While it appears the budgets are combined, Zoning has always maintained those three (3) separate expense line items.

Going forward with this next fiscal cycle because this has become a technicality and for transparency, Zoning will now be 001-021.

Committee Chairman Livingston asked Betty about the question he was asked regarding state statute 510 ILCS 5/7 Chapter 8 page 357 regarding to deposits in the Animal Control Fund. Betty advised that the Animal Control Fund is in the General Fund.

Motion by Thomas Snyder, Jr. and seconded by Dale Livingston to adjourn. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Dale Livingston  
Buildings/Highway/Environmental/Zoning  
Welfare Chairman  
06/14/2022

**EXECUTIVE/PERSONNEL/LIQUOR COMMITTEE**  
**June 13, 2022**

Present: Craig Corzine, Chairman, Ray Koonce, David Puccetti, Clint Epley,  
Bryan Sharp  
Absent: None  
Others present: Matt Wells, Linda Curtin, Bev Graham, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Vicki  
McMahon, Chad Coady, Betty Asmussen, Lucas Domonowsky and  
Elizabeth Hile in attendance.

The Executive, Personnel, and Liquor Committee met on Monday, June 13, 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.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

No public comments.

**EMA UPDATES**

None

**LOW INCOME HOUSING ORDINANCE**

As previously presented, the new low-income housing program is not good for small counties. Supervisor of Assessment Chad Coady obtained a sample template for opting out of the program which can be reversed should the County decide later to participate. The sample ordinance has been reviewed by the States Attorney.

Motion by Craig Corzine and seconded by Ray Koonce to recommend to the full Board to adopt Ordinance O2022 CB 026. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Craig Corzine made a motion to adopt Ordinance O2022 CB 026 with a second by Dale Livingston. After no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call.*

A roll call vote being called upon polled (15) ayes with (1) absent. Motion carried

## COUNTY BOARD RULES – LEGISLATIVE I, J AND K

Chairman Wells highlighted Legislative I, J and K in the County Board Rules.

Legislative rule I indicates that in cooperation with the County General Committee Chairperson and the County Board members to prepare a list of judges of election and a list of polling places to be presented to the Board at the May meeting every two (2) years. In review of the Board minutes, it is noted election judge lists have been approved but not a list of polling places.

Legislative rule J relates to determining each and all polling places comply with the statute. Again, in review of the minutes, nothing is found to indicate this has been done.

Legislative rule K relates to redistricting which is govern by state statute whereby the Chairman is to propose a plan and if not a Commission decides.

Motion by Ray Koonce and seconded by Bryan Sharp to recommend to the full Board to remove Legislative rules I, J and K from the County Board Rules. Craig Corzine, Clint Epley, Ray Koonce and David Puccetti were in favor with Bryan Sharp opposing. Motion carried.

*Craig Corzine made a motion to remove legislative rules I, J, K from the county board rules with a second by Ray Koonce. With no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call vote.*

A roll call vote being called upon polled (14) ayes, (1) nay, (1) absent. Motion carried.

Discussion regarding this matter, Bryan Sharp felt it is good to keep Legislative rule I and J. Rule K should be followed in accordance with state statute. Committee Chairman Corzine felt rule I and J was the responsibility of the County Clerk and the Board does not need to manage this. Legislative rule L was not on the agenda (rule relates to setting the pay for the judges of election) but felt this should be addressed by Finance.

## ARPA REQUESTS

### Annual Cybersecurity Maintenance Costs

Before ARPA funds were known to be available, the County had already begun working on upgrading cybersecurity. Some of the programs approved had annual renewal fees. The County recently received the renewal fee for ManageEngine at a cost of \$5,476.35.

Motion by Craig Corzine and seconded by Ray Koonce to recommend a draft ordinance for an amount not to exceed \$5,476.35 from ARPA funds for ManageEngine renewal fee be sent to the Finance Committee for financial approval and Board recommendation. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

Sheriff's Office

This item will be on next month's agenda.

EMA Request

This item will be on next month's agenda.

**ZBA RECOMMENDATION(S) METEOROLOGICAL TOWER TEXT AMENDMENT – FEES**

The meteorological tower text amendment was recently approved by the ZBA but not approved by the Board. Areas of concern were fees, time limits, renewals and setbacks. At the last meeting, ZBA Chairman Steve Sipes last month recommended not setting fees too high as he felt it would not pass the ZBA. Ray Koonce noted that Vince and/or Chairman Sipes were asked to research what other entities are charging in the area and asked if anyone had received any information back on this request.

Motion by Clint Epley and seconded by Bryan Sharp to recommend to the full Board to send to the ZBA a suggested annual fee of \$5,000.00 with a five (5) year limit. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

*Craig Corzine made a motion with a second by Clint Epley to recommend to send to ZBA a suggested annual fee of \$5,000.00 with a five (5) year limit. Chairman Wells called for discussion.*

**Dale Livingston** – where did we come up with the \$5,000?

**Craig Corzine** – we talked in our committee and that was the number we came up with.

**Dale Livingston** – so if a college, radio, or weather people want to put one up it is going to cost them \$5,000 a year?

**Craig Corzine** – well if it falls under that ordinance then I would say that is right. Unless the ZBA advises us of something different. And this is just a motion to send to the ZBA. So there will be a hearing and if they see that fee is wrong they will change it accordingly.

**Ray Koonce** – I have a follow up question from last month to Mr. Harris about that. Did you or Steve

**Vince Harris** – no I have not talked to Steve about this particular item. No, I have not followed up on it.

**Ray Koonce** – Okay, thank you.

Chairman Wells called for other discussion. With no discussion, there is a motion on the floor to send a recommendation to the ZBA. Chairman Wells called for a roll call vote.

A roll call vote being called upon polled (14) ayes, (1) nay, (1) absent. Motion carried.

#### OFFICE STAFF – SUPERVISOR OF ASSESSMENT

Chad Coady advised that an employee recently retired after over 30 years of service. He would like to move Brittiany Sarginson up to a GIS (geographic information system) position. He noted that his office does not have a Chief Deputy and with moving her to the GIS position, she could still do her township assessor work where that may not be possible in the Chief Deputy position. Chad was looking to start this position at the pay rate of the Chief Deputy.

Motion was made by Ray Koonce and seconded by Craig Corzine to recommend to the full Board to approve the position requested in the Supervisor of Assessment office and refer to Finance. Motion was withdrawn after discussion and the noted need for a job description for committee review, as this position does not currently exists and to review the Non-Bargaining Ordinance for compliance. The job description and Non-Bargaining Ordinance will be reviewed next month.

#### ADDITIONAL JAILER

Revenue for federal inmates has been noted on documentation provided but not related expenses. Members of the committee felt in order to make an informed decision that knowing expenses is important. This item will be on the agenda next month.

#### ANIMAL CONTROL DEPARTMENT HEAD – CB RULES

Chairman Wells noted that last month the Board approved separating Animal Control from Solid Waste and Zoning and for the Chairman to hire for Animal Control but no salary range was provided. Review of past salary and current salary was discussed.

Motion by Craig Corzine and seconded by Ray Koonce to establish the salary range for the position of Animal Control Department Head at \$39,478.00 to \$41,715.00. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

During discussion, Bryan Sharp noted that he would like to see someone from Personnel involved in the hiring process. Bryan Sharp amended the motion to include someone from Personnel being involved in the hiring process. Committee Chairman Corzine advised that the motion was out of order as this matter is related to CB rules Personnel D (salary) as well as the Board has already approved the Chairman to hire.

#### ANIMAL CONTROL STAFF

Chairman Wells noted that the office staff at Animal Control feels they are shorthanded but without a department head, he feels he has no authority to hire. Committee Chairman Corzine felt this decision should wait until a department head is hired and let that person get a good feel for what is needed and then make that decision.

#### JOB DESCRIPTION – EDUCATOR SOLID WASTE

The presented job description was reviewed. The committee discussed the need for possible changes to include items such as visiting so many schools, etc. and education requirements. The department head was not available tonight.

Motion by Ray Koonce and seconded by Clint Epley to table further discussion until the department head can be available. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Craig Corzine and seconded by Clint Epley to go into Closed Session pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (1) to discuss appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity and all subject matters relating thereto and to include the following persons to be present during all or part of such executive session namely, Craig Corzine, Clint Epley, Ray Koonce, Bryan Sharp, David Puccetti, Vicki McMahon, Matt Wells, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Linda Curtin, Betty Asmussen and Liz Hile and such other person or persons as the Chairperson or Committee may decide during this meeting and/or during such closed session.

The Committee went into Closed Session at 7:41 p.m.

The Committee returned to Open Session at 9:16 p.m.

Roll Call – Craig Corzine, Clint Epley, Ray Koonce, Bryan Sharp and David Puccetti were all present.

#### PERSONNEL HANDBOOK

Due to a lengthy agenda. This item will be placed on next month's agenda.

#### UCCI JULY CONFERENCE

Committee Chairman Corzine referenced the UCCI July conference information that had been provided to all members in the packets.

#### OTHER MATTERS

None

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

Respectfully submitted,

Craig Corzine, Chairman  
Executive/Personnel Committee  
6/13/2022

**AUDIT/FINANCE/PURCHASING/BUDGET COMMITTEE**  
**June 15, 2022**

Present: Venise McWard, Chairman, Linda Curtin, Vicki McMahon, Tim Carlson,  
Ken Franklin  
Absent: None  
Others present: Matt Wells, Betty Asmussen, Kent DeLay, Abigail Murphy, Dani Knecht, Rhonda  
Walters, Michelle Brown, Cindy Drea, Kelly Zanotti, Mary Rhodes and Elizabeth  
Hile.

The Audit/Finance/Purchasing/Budget Committee met on Wednesday, June 15, 2022 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.

**CLAIMS**

A motion was made by Vicki McMahon and seconded by Tim Carlson to recommend to the full Board to approve the claims presented for June. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Venise McWard made a motion to pay the June claims with a second by Ken Franklin. After no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call vote.*

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

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

No public comments.

**SURVEY RECORDS**

The committee asked Kent DeLay why the asking price of his father's survey records increased from \$50,000.00 to \$120,000.00. Mr. DeLay advised that it was based on an appraisal of the records that occurred 40 years ago. Mr. DeLay and his brother want the County to have Boyd Dapperts original surveyor instruments used to survey Christian County. They would also like to donate other survey tools as their parents spent a lot of time at the courthouse.

Ken Franklin noted the historical value of the records but was concerned about implementation and manpower to convert. Where the records would be stored was also a concern. The family advised the price of the records is somewhat negotiable. No action was taken.

**FLEXIBLE SPENDING – DEPENDENT CARE**

Committee Chairperson McWard asked Liz Hile to provide information on this issue. Liz advised that since the County moved over to Ameriflex as their new third party administrator for flexible spending and HRA, we have experienced a number of issues. This is one reason Ameriflex is not being retained this upcoming year. We have one particular employee who has a flexible spending dependent care account that is being denied reimbursement. We are not sure if information was

not accurately provided or provided at all to the employee but Ameriflex has denied the employee's use of their money because the daycare provider does not have a tax ID number. A compliance consult was contact who advised that the County could override the decision and direct Ameriflex to pay the claims. While the consult has never seen an audit of a dependent care account, it could be pulled for audit. The County would need to determine if they want to take that risk should this account ever be audited. If the decision is to not sign documents to allow Ameriflex to authorize reimbursement, the employee will lose \$598.00 they contributed.

Motion by Vicki McMahon and seconded by Tim Carlson to recommend to the full Board to allow Chairman Wells to sign the appropriate documents to allow the employee's DCA claim to be reimbursed by Ameriflex. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Venise McWard made a motion and seconded by Bryan Sharp to allow Chairman Wells to sign the appropriate documents to allow the employee's DCA claim to be reimbursed by Ameriflex. After no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call vote.*

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

## BUDGET HEARINGS

Treasurer Asmussen highlighted the budget process with elected officials and department heads to receive budget worksheets and information by the end of June 1 of July. She would like no later than the July meetings to schedule five dates for budget hearings starting by the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of August.

## ARPA FUNDS

Treasurer Asmussen reviewed the ARPA balance sheet that was provided to all members. She advised the second ARPA trench was deposited last week.

There was a question about the infrastructure bill that was signed by the President and how that might impact the ARPA spending. Betty noted that at a recent treasurer's conference that the Build, Back and Better, which is the infrastructure grant, could be a way to get some reimbursements to the ARPA funds for projects such as our HVAC and windows. Cliff would be in charge of this grant. She has talked to Cliff about it and he is going to get back with her. Chairman Wells asked if a consulting company like the one we used for ARPA funds might be able to assist with this grant.

Betty brought up consideration of the COVID appreciation/bonus pay that the committee wanted to delay until project spending could be reviewed. This item was referred originally from the Personnel/Executive Committee. She would like to see something to show appreciation. The committee discussed options in length.

Motion by Vicki McMahon and seconded by Ken Franklin to recommend to the full Board to approve the use of ARPA funds for appreciation pay to employees using the following criteria. A. employee would have had to have worked any time during the period of March 2020 to June 15, 2022 and is currently employed or worked and retired from the County and is drawing a pension. B. Department Heads are not eligible for appreciation pay. C. Appreciate pay will be \$3,000.00

for a full time employee and \$1,500.00 for a part time employee. A part time employee is defined as an employee who works less than 30 hours per week on a regular basis. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Venise McWard made a motion and seconded by Linda Curtin to approve appreciation pay by using ARPA Funds. Chairman Wells called for discussion.*

Chairman Wells – *there is a motion on the floor to use ARPA funds for employee appreciation pay, is there a second. I have a second by Linda. Discussion.*

**Vicki McMahon** – after reviewing the list of potential – it looks like we have forgotten some individuals or people that should have been – like we discussed the other night. It was to stimulate the economy and also to show our appreciation to our employees. So with that said, we probably need to amend and is eligible to draw a pension.

**Chairman Wells** – so in the motion where it says retired from the county and is drawing a pension you want it to say is eligible.

**Vicki McMahon** – is eligible to draw a pension

**Chairman Wells** – is eligible to draw a pension. Is everybody following that? In the minutes, you see the motion. What she is saying - the motion now, you have to be drawing a pension. And we discovered we had some people who worked, have retired and are eligible to draw the pension, but have chosen not to at this time. And we did not think it was fair to say, well you do not need the pension right now, you are not taking it, and so we are not giving you any money. Am I correct in saying that?

**Vicki McMahon** – Yes, yes.

**Chairman Wells** – so the wording on the motion that is on the floor now, the amendment is to change it from is drawing a pension to is eligible to draw a pension.

**Vicki McMahon** – I am sorry, that is A not B, so yes you are correct. And then another category of employees was contract tracers that were classified as temporary employees

**Chairman Wells** – Yes

**Vicki McMahon** – and they were in the forefront so I really think they need to be included in this also. So, I do not know how you want to word that though to include them.

**Chairman Wells** – The contract tracers that you are speaking about are the contact – I have a list here they are contact tracers – because COVID went away and I believe as Greg told us the state took over some of those duties.

**Vicki McMahon** - correct

**Chairman Wells** - People were laid off. People who worked right out in the covid doing the tracing – these are part-time people. And Liz, help me out here, those contact tracers

Liz – the ones Matt is referring to on the list they have one asterisks – there are six of them

**Chairman Wells** – what did I do with my list? Okay, so the people we are talking about, if you go to the department, Kent Delay's name is at the top. We see one, two, three, four, five, six people who have one asterisks by their name. These are the contact tracers that were part-time but had been laid off and the way the motion reads right now, even though they worked through this COVID they would not get a part-time share. And I believe Vicki is wanting to change that so I would say you would want to amend the motion to include part-time contact tracers that were laid off.

**Vicki McMahon** – Yes.

Chairman Wells – to include part-time. Anything else Vicki? Wait a second, wait a second. We are getting ahead of ourselves. Let us back up a minute. We have a motion – an amendment – to change the language to who is eligible to draw the pension. We have a second on that, I believe, by Linda and we need to vote on the amendment. Correct Ray.

**Ray Koonce**– yes

**Chairman Wells** – we should vote on that amendment before we go to the next one.

**Ray Koonce**– discussion on the amendment itself then vote

**Chairman Wells** – right. So on the first one that says who are eligible. Is there any discussion on that amendment?

**Wes Poggenpohl** – how do you determine not worked regularly? Did you have like a criteria that you were using?

**Chairman Wells** – Wes, I couldn't hear what you were saying

**Wes Poggenpohl** – whenever you decided they have not worked regularly is there like a threshold that you guys used because I feel like you probably ought to incorporate that in the language.

**Chairman Wells** – What's the threshold?

**Liz Hile**– this was reviewed by three people; Betty, myself and payroll clerk independently. So we looked to see if someone worked on a regular basis. Someone that we did not consider working on a regular basis would be somebody that worked maybe a couple times and then did not work for a month. Might have worked one time and did not work for another month. Might have worked one time only and never worked again. But if they regularly were paid there was no question, they were considered part-time. Because of the standard to work regular hours.

**Chairman Wells** – any other discussion on this amendment? Chairman Wells called for a roll call on the amendment to change the memo we are talking about now as to eligible to draw a pension from drawing a pension.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Thomas Snyder, Jr., Matt Wells, Timothy Carlson; Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston,

Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

**Chairman Wells** – so now, the motion reads to those eligible. Next up, the amendment to the motion was to include the laid off contact tracers. Language at the bottom of the motion to include the six laid off contact tracers

**Vicki McMahon**– yes

**Chairman Wells** – *is there a second to that motion? I have a second on the motion to amend by Ken Franklin.* To say directly at the bottom of this motion to include the six contact tracers as paid part-time. Any discussion? After no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call.

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

**Chairman Wells** – so now the motion pays the six laid-off contact tracers and then you asked me to remind you about the date.

**Vicki** – yes

**Chairman Wells** – seem to me like the motion, the language said if you work during the period of March 2020 to right now it says to June 15, 2022. After some consideration, I believe you want to change that date.

Vicki – I believe we had talked about January 1, 2022. When did the Governor change it? When was that made?

**Chairman Wells** – I think that was before January. Actually, I think that was last July Vicki. But what we are talking about here is

**Vicki McMahon**– that is right, you are right.

**Chairman Wells** – are we paying someone – meaning no disrespect to anyone

**Vicki McMahon** – January

**Chairman Wells** – Okay. So there is a motion on the floor to change those people who were working and/or retired and eligible to draw a pension who worked from March of 2020 until January 1, 2022.

**Vicki McMahon** – Correct

**Chairman Wells** – *I have that motion do I have a second by Mr. Epley.* Any discussion.

**Betty Asmussen** – I have a question, so we are clear as mud. So we just changed that, so you are talking any active individually individual person, is that who we are talking about?

**Chairman Wells** – we are talking about the people who we feel deserve the bonus and those people who retired and are eligible for the pension and those people who worked during those days. If they worked during those days and have retired or are still here.

**Betty Asmussen**– so you have to be actively working as of January 1, 2022 correct. I want to make sure I understand the motion.

**Chairman Wells** – Yes. Other discussion.

**Ken Franklin** – what is the reason behind the change

**Chairman Wells** – Quite honestly it was brought up – we did not feel, Vicki, I or whoever, we did not feel it was fair, that if we hired someone last week, or a department head hired someone last week, that they be treated the way the people who went through the have to work at home, come in one day, people come in with COVID. The stuff the employees went through – quite honestly, we just didn't feel like if you weren't here before January 1 after talking it over, that you deserve the same money as the people who were here before. I am all for the employees, I am not wanting to cut someone down, but I just don't think it is fair that somebody is here from day one of COVID and is still here or was eligible to retire and did gets X amount of dollars and someone who hired in quite honestly last month, gets the same money. Mr. Polley, did you want to make a comment?

**Cecil Polley** – there was some people at the Sheriff's office this applied to and there were some that left on June 1 that would not have been eligible due to that time frame as well. I know the Sheriff, he asked me to come and represent that for him.

**Chairman Wells** – Okay. I think the intent, I do not know how the motion says, the board will have to tell me this, Vickie made the motion to start with. What the intent was to give the bonus to give the pay to the people who were here during that time and are still here or retired.

**Vicki McMahon** – and who are currently employed or worked, and retired from the county and our amendment was and is eligible to draw a pension.

**Chairman Wells** – that is why the movement of the dates. Any other discussion.

**Bev Graham** – I just have a question under the Sheriff's Department why does Cecil Polley have a question mark by his name

**Chairman Wells** – yes, we will get to that. There is x's and I think I can explain all the x's as soon as Vicki gets done. What our thinking is. So, the motion the second any other discussion. After no further discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call to change the date to January 1.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Timothy Carlson; Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston, Vickie McMahon, Venise

McWard, Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Matt Wells, (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

**Chairman Wells** – Okay. I think we have everything I believe that you were concerned with Vicki.

**Vicki McMahon** – Yes

**Chairman Wells** – after I spoke with Courtney and Liz today there was some concerns about this list that I wanted to make sure it was brought before this board so the board could make those decisions. All of those concerns are denoted like you say by the marks. Okay. The first one I think we discussed denoted the contact tracers. And we have agreed they deserve the money. Then we have two stars by people and these denote once full time employees who have since retired. If you find two asterisks, there are two of them. Who are they?

**Liz Hile** – Catherine Beattie and Jeanette Sheley

**Chairman Wells** – Cathy and Jeanette have retired are eligible for pensions and have come back to work part-time. Our interpretation, my interpretation of it is they deserve the full \$3,000.00 share, but I do not believe they deserve the additional \$1,500.00. I want to make sure, that is what is happening here, that is the rule if you come out of here. If you retired, you get this and if you are part-time, you get that. But this is how I interpreted it and I want to make sure no one on this board had a question. So all we are giving those two is the full-retired share. I do not believe we should give them the extra part-time. Everyone agree with that.

Okay. Those people with three dots that answer the question. Are the individuals are retiree department heads. I believe you see three dots by Mr. Cecil's name. Is that correct? This came up after words. My interpretation. Department heads are hired by this board. Mr. Polley runs the jail for the sheriff. He is an employee. Mr. Baker is the Chief Deputy Sheriff but he is an employee. They are not elected officials. They are not appointed department heads. Yes, he is in charge of the jail but in my opinion, he is entitled to the money. I don't want somebody coming back next month – we are going to miss something somewhere I know that and I am just trying to clean up as much of it as I can while we are all in here. So if nobody is in disagreement with that. Liz is in that position. Liz is in charge of personnel that she is an administrative assistant. I do not believe she is a department head. Anybody have an argument with that. And the third person in the group is a retiree is Jan Bland. Jan retired. She is eligible for the pension. She worked during part of this. She left last March. She was not a department head. That is what three denotes.

Okay. Four stars. No supervisory staff whose salary is determined by the chief judge. Last year, we were told, by the chief judge that probation works for the courts. And we were told what the pay raise had to be. This year we were told that the department head and two supervisors had to have pay raises because they work for the courts. I do not know what this board wants to do about it. And if they work for the courts, the question is the people who they supervise who do they work for.

**Ray Koonce** –Mr. Chairman, I recommend we check into that because we might be getting into some state statute or something that would reflect – are we even allowed to give that to them if they are under some statute and since they are paid by the courts not by

**Chairman Wells** – you could be right about that. All I know is, and Venise knows it as well, we were ordered to give pay raises last year after we budgeted one thing, we had to redo the budgets because we were told by the chief judge of the circuit that supreme court had ruled that supervisors as a court employee, state employee and this year we were to give all three supervisors a pay raises.

I question whether or not these people get, if they are state employees, do they get county money.

**Ray Koonce** – I have no disagreement I just want to make sure by statute that we are allowed – we are not going to get prosecuted.

**Betty Asmussen**- I can tell you this American Rescue Funds are for county services so Ray whatever decision you guys determine right now, that is totally up to you guys. I personally the one who did this spreadsheet, I put all department heads in there. I did not know when we discussed that, I did every and all. I put every department head in there. A motion was made to exclude the department heads but when I had somebody double check it, I might have missed a few. What is defined as a department head? Are they just hired by the board? But, again, that is at your discretion. The board's discretion.

**Chairman Wells** – my whole reason for bringing all these issues out here is so that you guys know what is going on. And you can tell me how you think this should go. We all have one vote. Ray seems unsure. Let me say this, in speaking with Courtney today, these checks she cannot work on these checks while she is working on payroll. The system will not let her do it. So, she has told us, if we pass this tonight, she is sure she can have the money to the employees by the 22<sup>nd</sup> of July. Because the week she works on payroll, she cannot do anything with this. Something about turning this on, taking somebody off. I do not understand the computer part of it but that is what Courtney has told me. Liz is going to be on vacation. Courtney did say if this gets passed, she asked Liz to call her tonight or tomorrow so she can get as many of these paid this week if possible. Because if she has time she can work on them until Friday. With the election coming up may take up some of her time also. But next week is a payroll week, and she cannot do any of this ARPA stuff next week. So she did tell me, she told me she felt she could have them all done by the 22<sup>nd</sup> of July. All the employees and retirees who qualify should have their money by July 22<sup>nd</sup>. With that being said, I brought that up because maybe there is some time. I do not know. All I know about it is Chief Judge said the boss last year the employee of the court. This year we were told to give the next two people in line a pay raises. We weren't asked we were told by the courts to give them pay raises. I believe the contract says, the contract is with the courts for union employees. I do not know what you guys want to do. Ray seems to want to check into it.

**Ray Koonce** – if the treasurer seems to be fine with it then I am too.

**Chairman Wells** – Everybody fine with it?

**Bryan Sharp** – could you repeat whom that impacts?

**Chairman Wells** – Well what we have been told who that would impact what department. Probation. There are two supervisors. John Good and Alex Rodgers. Are the two supervisors but the motion tonight is not to give any of the department heads the bonus money anyway. That is not in the motion at this time. Ray says he is good with it. Are the rest of you good with giving everyone over there except the department heads this money?

**Liz Hile** - just to clarify, the department head would be Laura, John and Alex Rodgers are supervisors, just to clarify.

**Chairman Wells** – I believe those are the other two we were ordered to give pay raises to a couple months ago.

**Betty Asmussen** – are you excluding one person or three

**Chairman Wells** – That is what I am asking this board what they feel they want to do.

**Bev Graham** – who are the people again?

**Liz Hile** – the supervisors that answer to the department head is John Good and Alex Rodgers

**Matt Wells** – those are the people. John Good and Alex Rodgers and Laura are the three people the courts ordered us to give pay raises to earlier this year.

**Betty Asmussen** – the department head is clear-cut and that is Laura Cooper. We cut Laura Cooper only.

**Chairman Wells** – that is what the motion is so far. I am pointing out that I want this board to be aware of they have to tell me what their thoughts are.

**Ken Franklin** – since the discussion we had in the finance committee we realize this is not going to be a perfect program. There are going to be some people who like it and some people who do not. It is what it is. Trying to do something to show our appreciation to the employees. It is well received. You try to measure out this and that. It is their money we are giving back to them. So I would try and give it to as many people as we can.

**Chairman Wells** – so everybody is in agreement with it. Nobody has any arguments with it. Okay. So that is what we have. You understand why the asterisks were there. Here is a list of the people we believe will be getting the money.

**Liz Hile** – that will need to be amended based on your motion that passed on June 21, 2022 to date. So that will need to be amended with the list you have right now.

**Betty Asmussen** – there will be people coming off there now because they were employed - hired after that date Matt.

**Chairman Wells** – I see. That is correct.

**Betty Asmussen** – just so you know that is minimal money.

**Craig Corzine** – what does that do with all the changes that we have made. Where does that put us at, the final number? You probably do not know.

**Betty Asmussen** – Matt if you look, I don't have that in front of me right now, but that is probably going to be minimal money taken off. You are probably less than

**Matt Wells** – we probably hired – I do not know Cecil might be able to tell us how many people he has hired since the first of the year.

**Cecil Polley** – two deputies. One was a jailor before so he would still apply. And then probably three at the Jail. No four

**Liz Hile** – and there could be someone that was hired within the dates that was part-time that moved to full time so it would change from full time to part-time so it could be a combination of a couple different things.

**Betty Asmussen** – right

**Chairman Wells** – do you have a figure of the cost off this list

**Liz Hile** – as it stood in the motion but not with the amendment.

**Chairman Wells** – Okay. As it stood in the motion what was the figure?

**Liz Hile** - \$349,500.00

**Matt Wells** – before we included contact tracers, part-time those 6

**Liz Hile** – that was with them.

**Chairman Wells** – it was with them. Okay. With them, it was \$349,000.00 is what we are talking about spending of this money. That is about a fifth of the bonus money. So, everybody knows where we are. Basically what we have now, let me see if I can figure out this motion. Using the following criteria. An employee would have had to work anytime during the period of March of 2020 to January 1, 2022 and is currently employed or who have worked and is retired from the county and is eligible to draw a pension. Department heads are not eligible for appreciation pay. Appreciation pay will be \$3,000.00 for full time employees and \$1,500.00 for part-time employees. Part-time employee is defined as an employee who works less than 30 hours a week on a regular basis and we will include the six laid off contact tracers. I believe that is the motion in front of us now.

**Ken Franklin** – You said that was about a fifth of the bonus money. What were you talking about there?

**Chairman Wells** – no, I said it was about 5 percent of all the money the county received. I may have said a fifth but I meant 5 percent. So, I believe that is the motion. Any other discussion on the motion. We have a motion, we have a second, and we have the amendments, if there is no other discussion.

Jacque Willison – who was the person who second the motion.

**Chairman Wells** – I believe it was Clint Epley after Venise made it

**Betty Asmussen** – Vickie, do you know how many that would exactly take off of there. I did not know if you were looking that up.

**Vicki McMahon** – no, I was looking up something else.

**Chairman Wells** – called for a roll call vote.

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

Chairman Wells – hopefully you will have your checks by the 22<sup>nd</sup> of July.

#### REFERRALS

Highway, Building and Grounds referred the cost of \$2,400.00 to cut down two (2) trees on the courthouse lawn. Chairman Wells advised doing the job was approved. What line item it should come from is what being brought before this committee.

Motion by Venise McWard and seconded by Vicki McMahon to recommend to the full Board to take the cost of \$2,400.00 to cut down two (2) trees on the courthouse lawn from the capital improvement line item. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Venise made a motion to spend the \$2400.00 out of capital improvement fund with a second by Dale Livingston.* I do want to say this, it seems like 3 months ago whenever we had problems on the lawn or along the buildings I had to call and ask people to get bids, now when there is a problem, I am being handed bids to bring to the board and I am liking that. It is working out pretty well. After no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call.

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

Financial review for use of ARPA funds for renewal of ManageEngine cybersecurity maintenance at a cost of \$5,476.35 to CTI was referred from the Personnel/Executive committee.

Motion by Linda Curtin and seconded by Vicki McMahon to recommend to the full Board to approve Ordinance O2022 CB 027 for the use of ARPA funds for renewal of ManageEngine cybersecurity maintenance at a cost of \$5,476.35 payable to CTI. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

*Venise made a motion to approve the use of ARPA Funds for Ordinance O2022 CB 027 with a seconded by Dale Livingston.* Let me say this, I know you are all aware we spend a lot of money with CTI for cybersecurity earlier in the year. Last year when we realized there could be some cybersecurity problems we could not afford for CTI to do what we have asked them to do this year.

So, they proposed certain things for us and told us that this program is a yearly update to keep our cybersecurity in good place. That is what is going on with this. Because we have the ARPA money we opted to use that to pay for this. After no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call vote.

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

#### OTHER MATTERS

None

Motion by Tim Carlson and seconded by Vicki McMahon to adjourn. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Venise McWard  
Finance/Audit/Purchasing/Budget Committee Chairwoman  
06/15/2022

## **NEW BUSINESS/OLD BUSINESS/OTHER**

- 911 Director Agreement – Chief Bland is here and we will ask him to speak. I wanted to update the board on why this was on this agenda. Liz called me last week. Her and Courtney had prepared the payroll. The pay sheet for our 911 director came in with a big pay raise on it. Liz informed me that she by herself has no authority to change any payroll sheet. She told me that we have an agreement with the Director that is good until the 25<sup>th</sup> of June for a certain wage. The paystub was above that amount. I did not feel like I could authorize changing the amount she is paid so I contacted Venise and I contacted Betty to let them know what was going on. They told me that they agree with me that we have a contract until the 25<sup>th</sup> that she has to be paid the same amount. I tried to call Ken to thank him - time gets away from me. But I did contact the sheriff and tell him this is what we got because he is on the board and he informed me that they signed a new contract the night before and the new contract signed on I believe the 13<sup>th</sup> or 14<sup>th</sup> of June was retroactive to June 1. We did not have a copy. Liz told me they had to move on the payroll to get it all done and make sure she got her check by noon. I did not have that information so at 11:00 I called Liz and told her to alter the pay stub to pay her old wage to ensure she got a check. Now we are in a situation where Chief Bland is here to explain his side of it. I believe, and I could be wrong, I believe I sent the old contract, new contract, county board rules for department head salaries and the agreement with Shelby County sent to you, is that correct Wes?

Wes Poggenpohl – yes

Chairman Wells – Okay so Wes will tell us what his thoughts are and we will have that. In your packets, I believe you have a copy of the rules for the county board. The way our rules are right now, I can tell you this, come budget time the finance committee is obligated to cut that line item. But we have an agreement with Shelby County that has certain language in it also. That is what I know. Mr. Bland, Chief, thank you for being so patient with us and showing up to try and explain this to the board.

Chief Bland – Before I go into summarizing the director position contract, I later to learned with delay in payment, I actually talked to them and there were no documents forward to the office, I have no problem with that. To summarize that position if you are not familiar with it, there is a change over with retirement not too long ago and a new director was appointed. Initially, it was kind of streamlined to a certain individual and that got pushed back as board members and others going through the process of who was interested and ultimately a director was selected. I just want to say this, I became chairman shortly before the change in directors, so I have experienced firsthand the transition so I can give a professional opinion and it has been extremely difficult. Transition from one director to the next. I think it has been – the timing was horrendous on just the complicated upgrades of the systems, data systems, and import systems of data and operations and the consolidations. Shelby County transition went along smoothly and then all of a sudden the consolidation of all law enforcement, first responders, operating systems, operating out of one unit and then everybody tying in together and so the transition based upon which leads to the current director brings up contract discussions. I have observed it; board members have observed it and it was brought to the board's attention to review the compensation for that position. I along with other board members reached out and did some investigating contacting others, other responsibilities, other size of agency, supervision of employees, calls for service, square mileage of service of other 911 centers comparable to our center that our director manages. With that, based upon, also a major factor is the consolidation

of the new Motorola system. This position, this system is very complex but very thorough, very professional, very involved but it is a great system but it is complicated. The majority of agencies who have this system has another person, an assistant with the director who fulfills numerous responsibilities that goes with that system to keep in compliance. Before there was an employee outside of the director who helped with that responsibility so that was brought to our attention along with just the numerous things we have seen. We as a 911 board thought it was necessary to, for one, we want to provide stability with that department based upon just the uncertainties of staffing that we have seen which we have discussed in the past and it hasn't changed much unfortunately. Based upon the numerous responsibilities this director is fulfilling that the previous director did not. We felt it was necessary. We thought we did due diligence to make it a fair compensation to award the director with a raise and so those numbers were voted on and that's when the new contract was presented and that is why we are here.

**Bev Graham** – how much was the increase?

**Chief Bland** – her 2021-2022 salary was \$63,552.00. The increase starting June 1 went to \$70,000 and then \$72,000 the next year and \$74,000 for the contract to 2024.

**Chairman Wells** – The contract they have signed with her has three pay raises in it going from 63 to 74 between now and December 2024 I believe.

**Bryan Sharp** – What is Christian County's commitment to that and what is Shelby County's commitment to that?

**Chief Bland** – The funding that pays that comes in through supplement of Shelby and Christian County 911 surcharges. Funding comes into a separate account. Taxes on your cell phone bills, home bills, those fundings go into that account. If you are not familiar with the 911 system prior to the consolidation of Shelby County, I was on the board a few years prior to the consolidation and finances were very poor, barely making payroll. So the consolidation was a benefactor to both counties. The increase revenue and a tremendous responsibility. Coverage – very large county – Shelby County, very large county is bringing in the responsibilities and duties as well.

**Chairman Wells** – I have sent to the states attorney, the old contract, the new contract, board rules which I believe state when somebody new takes that position as any new department head comes in, they get 112 percent of the highest paid person plus longevity. Another words, the highest paid person seniority person there is making and there are rules. They are supposed to get that salary plus their longevity pay times 112 percent. This is going to be a long way off of that now.

**Wes Poggenpohl** – so first, the contracts, the 911 board has the authority to create contracts. The contracts are between the 911 board and the director. So they created a new contract and that one went into place and the old one was terminated early. That is what they wanted to do so they did it. There is an ordinance, state statue has a list of things they need to do and are required to do. The main thing the statue is they collect the money from the surcharges, they authorize all the distribution of payments from the surcharges and they are the ones that hire people, or implementing the program, and they are the ones that make the decision. The only concern I would see is if her pay is not coming from that fund. But if it is coming from that fund, then it is their decision to make. That is authorized by statue.

And our county board rules I do not believe have any effect on their decision with their employees. That is the whole point of the board for them to have control, not this board, the 911 board. I do not see any problems with what they have done. That was their decision to make it and as long as that money is, being spent on those purposes is coming from their fund then that is their decision.

**Chief Bland** – we as a board myself included when this discussion came up with our board, I reached out to Wes shortly after for an opinion. I knew there was adjoining responsibility, ordinances and things like that through this board. So that is why I reached out to him as well. I did not know the exact answer either.

**Wes Poggenpohl** – he reached out to me with the information. I did not talk to him about it until – I needed to find the time to look into it. I did not really have a good grasp on it until this weekend.

**Bev Graham** – does her salary come from the surcharges and everything that goes on everybody's bill? Does that go back to the treasurer before Liz and then write the check?

**Betty Asmussen** – the 911 comes from all the surcharges and it gets disbursed through the state, the state sends them down and it gets them to each county.

**Wes Poggenpohl** – the statute reads that the treasurer is the custodian of the 911 account. She makes the payments as directed.

**Ray Koonce** – Mr. Chairman, I could be wrong, and Wes can correct me. This kind of reminds me when I was on the City Council. The Library Board - Library District interacted with the City but they were basically on their own at the same time. It seems like a similar circumstance to me and that the treasurer oversees the fund. Does certain things like you just said. To me, certain things, they are on their own. Almost like a separate entity by themselves like the Library Board is.

**Venise McWard** – I just have a question. When did we join with Shelby County?

**Matt Wells** – 2016. We joined them in 16

**Betty Asmussen** – Once again, we have a department head, another department head that is making more than an elected official. I just want to throw that out there. If I had known this years ago, I think I would have gotten in to being a department head versus an elected official. I know that is out of your guys control. They get to be reviewed year after year and you guys just set ours for the next 4 years. Some of these are so inflated. But it is what it is.

**Bev Graham** – I think if Vicki figured it right she is getting about 10 percent a year. For one year. That is a lot of money. How did you guys come up with giving her \$15,000?

**Chief Bland** – by comparables of other 911 operating systems and their director. The number of employees they supervise. The calls of service. Their square mileage coverage.

**Bev Graham** – What is the size of the counties you are comparing us too?

**Chief Bland** – well all surrounding counties. We tried to grab similar, adjacent to. Anything we can compare too.

**Bev Graham** – you compare to Sangamon?

**Chief Bland** – we did not use Sangamon.

**Bev Graham** – the population is huge.

**Chief Bland** – we did not pull massive population. We tried to be comparable to population size. That one thing was considered. Sangamon came up and it wasn't utilized.

**Chairman Wells** – anything else. Here is how I see this sitting here as a chairman. We have some issues here. We have a 911 board that says she gets this pay raise and we have a state's attorney that says they have the authority to do so legally. We have a county board rule that says that is how that budget item is cut. You look at department heads it talks about am I correct on this Venise? And we have an agreement with Shelby County. I think there is a couple of options. We can ignore it and just forget it. We can change - we can take the 911 director out of the list of people on the department head rules. We can decide, and you all have a copy of our agreement with Shelby County in your packets. The board can decide we can no longer want to be a part of it. Those decisions are up to you and quite honestly, we all come here, we all just got this. To me, this is a type of thing that should be referred to the personnel policy and procedure committee for them to come back with a recommendation next month.

*Dale Livingston made a motion to send back to the Personnel Policy and Procedure committee for review with a second by Vicki McMahon. After no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call vote.*

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

- Broadband Shelby Electric – no one from Shelby Electric showed up
- ACT internet – Chairman Wells stated that Venise asked about 6 months ago to explore broadband throughout the county using ARPA money. We have been trying to get someone from Shelby Electric to come for two or three months. They have told us they will be here next month. I was contacted by ACT internet and he is here tonight.

My name is Brandon Rarick I am from ACT Internet and I live in Moweaqua. I do not know if anybody knows me or not. As you may or may not know some counties are using the ARPA funding to speed up the development of rural broadband internet. Currently the standard for rural internet is depending on who you go by. USDA is 10 mg down 1 mg up. The FCC is 25 mg down 3 mg up. The ARPA funds were set aside to phase that in the country to the same standard as in town. Depending on who you ask is 100 mg down 100 mg up or 100 mg down 20 mg up. Once again, it all depends on what federal government branch you ask. They have done two options so far for Christian County. It was federal grant approval. Singular Company 1 is out of Texas and they are doing most of their

spending of money up by Chicago. The ARPA Fund money was kind of given to the counties to spend on more local businesses for county infrastructure. That is something I do. I am a farmer in Shelby County and I also farm in Christian County as well as in the Stonington area. I started the company I have now. I started it a while ago kind of just on a whim. I did not really think it would amount to anything. It was a project in 2013. However it grew way faster than I expected. I have a brief handout that my wife made. We are a family company. Wife, my sister-in-law, friends, as well as staff and me that do a lot of the work. This is a short synopsis and a map of our current coverage area.

Currently we have over 500 customers in Christian County. Unfortunately, I cannot tell you if it is country or city. Depending on the amount the county wants to use up their funding to help build rural broadband we are multi facet. We do fiber, we do wireless. We do a few other things. Currently, as far as I am aware of, we are the fastest in the country due to the technology that we have. I do have some technology and it is faster than fiber that uses – it is kind of a hybrid to fiber. If you look at the prices on here, I actually did get approval from the state about a month ago. Technically the stuff we will be pulling is faster than anything CTI has and other fiber companies in the area. The technologies we are pushing is faster than that. Its fiber mixed so there is fiber as well. Just so, you are aware of the prices and speeds are.

Venise McWard – I think I called about a year ago to getting internet for a home in Stonington. We could not get it because of the trees around the home. Have you improved since then?

Brandon Rarick – yes, so we have expanded a lot since then. In the past year or so, we have almost doubled in size in the amount of locations that we have. That is where they hybrid stuff now that we are using comes from. We have done about 30 miles in the country and two rural homes. I actually do the work myself as well. We have already started it. It is slow because it is expensive. Obviously, the funds help speed that up. We have developed machinery and equipment to do it. Something no one around here does. As far as how we set it and install it.

**Venise McWard** – I believe I called around March of 2021

**Brandon Rarick** – we have done a lot since then.

**Ken Franklin** – so you are using fiber to your towers then or

**Brandon Rarick** – it is a mix so it is fiber to towers and homes. Like I said it is a hybrid so depends on if we have funding, we can do fiber to every single home but technically, it is actually slower than some of the other equipment we have. The people do not want that they want the hybrid speed. I do not know if you are familiar with the 2.5 gig standard. But that is what our hybrid speed is set with now. It is a mix so it depends on what the person wants.

**Chair Wells** – you are the ones who asked to bring this in. If there is an interest, I would entertain a motion to bring this to the finance committee for them to proceed with this and report back to the full board. *Vickie McMahon made a motion to forward to Finance committee with a second by Venise McWard.* After no further discussion Chairman Wells called for a roll call vote.

A roll call vote pulled all ayes (15) with (1) absent. Motion carried.

- COLA Increase – we have been told by the state the State’s Attorney and the public defender will get cola raises effective 7/1/2022. Board members you should have that in your packets. I also wanted you to know that under the new law, the new Sheriff after July 1, I think it is 80 percent of what the State’s Attorney makes and that is kind of a unique law. Should the sheriff resign and someone gets appointed in August, I believe they get the pay raise then. Even though the other positions you have to wait until the next term. If I quit today and someone else took over they can’t get a pay raise for doing that. But in this case the state has said anyone who takes the office after July 1 gets the pay raise. In our case if the sheriff stays and serves his term, the sheriff will get a big pay raise in December after the election. There is nothing we need to do about that. We were forced into this position.
- Hiring Procedure – I wanted to point out to the board members and I believe you all have this in your packet. On December 18, 2012 personnel committee come out and the county board voted the proposed policy allowing non-elected and appointed department heads to make a request to the County Board Chairman and the Finance Chairman to fill their vacancy. If any further review is needed, permission to fill the vacancy will be forwarded to the Finance Committee. That is the rules the county board adopted. Unless, there is action taken here tonight, that is why hiring procedure is on here. Those are the rules we currently operate under.

**Bryan Sharp** – that obviously does not follow what is in the rules. Why weren’t the current rules updated or amended to reflect this?

**Chair Wells** – this was from 2012

**Bryan Sharp** – so did we have – is there anything between 2012 and the current date that reflects this.

Chairman Wells – not that I am aware of. Any other discussion.

Ken Franklin – so the board rules and this are in conflict with each other?

**Chairman Wells** – I don’t know that the board rules are necessarily in conflict but personnel policy and procedures committee, it says they have the right to come up with job descriptions and make those recommendations. I believe that is what the rules say for personnel policy and procedures. If that committee decides to recommend to the board to adopt all the employees you know wear black shoes. You know if that is legal in the law, they can do that. As far as the hiring goes, this is what I have in front of me.

**Bev Graham** – can an addition be made to this, where it says it goes to the county board chairman and the finance chairman, when you do the interviews from the applications or whatever can the chairman from the personnel committee set in on the interviews whether it be one or two.

**Chairman Wells** – if this is amended. I mean this board makes these decisions.

**Bev Graham** – can a make an amended to add that. The chairman or someone from the committee set in on the interviews with the Chairman and the HR person and the finance chairman if necessary to do the interviews.

**Chairman Wells** – I guess we can Bev, but what I am telling you is when we talk about me doing the interviews, I am doing interviews for the department heads. What this is talking about is people like Cliff Frye, this says if Cliff Frye needs to hire somebody, he comes to me and I have no problem and Venise has no problem, Cliff can go hire them. That is what this is talking about for the department heads. This isn't talking about me interviewing anybody. This is talking about speeding up the process for department heads to hire people. Now when I am interviewing someone, I understand that you have requested, that someone from personnel sat in and I believe we don't have anything yet because we just passed the amount of money tonight. There has been times when I called Craig and said do you want to come in and talk to this person. Sometimes he comes in, asks questions, sometimes he doesn't. Depends on his schedule. That is how I see this but you as a sitting member on this board you are entitled to make any motion you want to make.

**Bev Graham** – just as an example, Chad came in, Chad Coady came forward and asked.

**Chairman Wells** – Chad is an elected official. This is talking about here the department head. Chad came and asked because he is wanting to rearrange stuff. As an Elected Official, take Jacque, Wes, they have money in their budget to hire someone unless it is some technicality. Wes doesn't come to us when he wants to hire a new secretary. Or if the assistant state's attorney quits, and he wants to go get somebody, he knows the salary range. He makes that decision. That is different. Any other discussion?

**Bryan Sharp** – does this fall back into personnel committee. Can we get a grasp on what this means and how it falls into place with our rules. Review that more thoroughly rather than here this evening.

Chairman Wells – well you might be right but nothing happens until a motion is made.

*Bryan Sharp made a motion to forward this to the Personnel Policy committee with a second by Ray Koonce. After no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call vote.*

A roll call vote pulled all ayes (15) with (1) absent. Motion carried.

- **Noise Ordinance** – Chief Deputy couldn't be here tonight but he asked me about the possibility of coming up with a noise ordinance. He told me he got a complaint about a party over by Kincaid and the people on the east side of Taylorville and claimed they could hear it. I had a buddy of mine call and say he could hear noise and he lives two miles north of Palmer or a mile and a half north of Palmer and claimed he could hear the noise. The police have told me right now there is no noise ordinance in this county and I asked Wes if we pass a noise ordinance can we prosecute. I believe he thinks that it can. We can ask him his opinion on it. I don't know if this is something the board wants to do. The big concern I have with it is if we do a noise ordinance is it where the noise is generated or where it can be heard. Because I assure you I live in Morrisonville on the far west edge of town, I can hear every bit of the music playing at the Morrisonville picnic which is a mile across town. And that is being generated around a municipality that makes their own rules.

But I don't know if there is any interest in this or not. But we have some events coming up and the police are getting some complaints. They can't do anything without an ordinance. Any thoughts, motions

*Ray Koonce made a motion to forward to personnel for review with a second by Bryan Sharp. With no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call.*

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston (n), Vickie McMahon (n), Venise McWard (n), Clint Epley (n), David Puccetti (n), Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley (n), Thomas Snyder, Jr., Matt Wells (n), Timothy Carlson (n), Craig Corzine (n), Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin (n), Bev Graham (n), (14) aye; (11) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

Bev Graham asked where the noise was coming from. Chairman Wells stated it was where the dirt bike riders club is.

Bev Graham – so that is the big one coming up

Chairman Wells – I think they have 3 or 4 events.

- Closed Session – Pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 © (1) to discuss appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity and all subject matters relating thereto. To include the following persons to be present at all or parts of the executive session namely all of the county board members, County Clerk Jacque Willison, Administrative Assistant Elizabeth Hile, County Treasurer Betty Asmussen, States Attorney Wes Poggenpohl.

*A motion by Craig Corzine to go into closed session with a seconded by Ray Koonce. Any discussion.*

Ray Koonce – Mr. Chairman if I can ask a question.

Chairman Wells – any discussion?

Ray Koonce - Procedure 6 that is in your email does that apply to closed session as well as far as you are concerned.

Chairman Wells – Yes. First Place you can't make motions in closed session.

*Ray Koonce – That being said Mr. Chairman I would like to make a motion to suspend Procedural Rule 6 in closed session. Vicki Mahon second that motion.*

Chairman Wells – we have a motion and a second to suspend procedural rule 6

Dale Livingston – asked what procedural 6 was

Chairman Wells – that is where everybody gets to talk twice if there is an objection. What everyone needs to understand is before we go into closed session, people are only limited to speak twice if there is an objection. But we have a motion on the floor to suspend for closed session tonight only. Any other discussion.

Chairman Wells called for roll call vote pulling all ayes (15) with (1) absent. Motion carried.

Chairman Wells asked for a motion to come out of closed session. *Ray Koonce made a motion to come out of closed session with a second by Craig Corzine.*

The roll call by County Clerk Jacque Willison showing all members present with Mike Specha being absent. A quorum was had to come back out of closed session.

Chairman Wells - we have a quorum to come back into open session. The Christian County Board has returned to open meeting on June 21, 2022 at 10:25 pm.

The roll call by County Clerk Jacque Willison showing all members present with Mike Specha being absent. A quorum was had.

- **Personnel Review** – *Ray Koonce – based on what we talked about I make a motion to terminate Vince Harris from all county appointments and responsibilities at this time with a second by Clint Epley.* After no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call vote.

A roll call vote being called upon polled the following: Clint Epley, David Puccetti, Bryan Sharp, Chuck Smedley, Thomas Snyder, Jr., Matt Wells (n), Timothy Carlson (n), Craig Corzine, Linda Curtin, Ken Franklin, Bev Graham, Ray Koonce, Dale Livingston (n), Vickie McMahon, Venise McWard, (12) aye; (3) nay; (1) absent. The motion carried.

Chairman Wells asked Mr. Harris to return his keys as soon as he could.

Ray Koonce – Subsequent motion Mr. Chairman

Chairman Wells – yes

Ray Koonce – *At this time I make a motion to direct the Chairman to contact the Illinois State Police, Attorney General's office, FBI, appropriate law enforcement agency to look into the accounts in question with a second Bryan Sharp.*

Dale Livingston – Ray, don't you want to list the accounts?

Chairman Wells – is that an amendment to the motion?

Dale Livingston – *yes. We should name the accounts.*

Chairman Wells – I have a motion on the floor to amend the motion to have the accounts listed. Betty, help me out with these accounts.

Betty Asmussen – Pet Fund, TRN and Spade and Neutered

Chairman Wells - Pet Fund, TRN and Spade and Neutered. That's the motion to amend the motion. Is there a second? Ken Franklin seconded the motion. Chairman Wells called for discussion.

Vicki McMahon – Do we want to add Animal Control Fund also. Just because of the historical picture that we have seen.

Betty Asmussen – You guys have the revenue come in and you have expenditures come out. You guys approve those.

Vicki McMahon – there has been a definite change.

Betty Asmussen – that is up to you

Chairman Wells – okay lets get this amendment passed and then we will move on. Any other discussion on the amendment to the motion. After no further discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call vote polling all ayes (15) (1) absent. Motion carried

Chairman Wells – so now Vicki you are wanting to amend the motion again to include Animal Control Funds.

*Vicki McMahon – yes, due to historical change that Betty has brought to my attention with a second by Bryan Sharp.*

Chairman Wells called for discussion.

Bev Graham – does that include you going out there and talking to them.

Chairman Wells – no. Any other questions on the amendment to include all of Animal Control Funds. If not, all those in favor say aye, all opposed same sign. Motion carried.

Now we are going to have a motion where all the Animal Control Funds looked at by an investigating agency and that is the motion that is on the floor. If there is no other discussion all those in favor say aye, (15) all opposed (0) same sign. Motion carried.

- **Appointments** – Term period for recent appointment of Gary Merker is 5 years. Here is the reason for that. ZBA rules state that when someone is appointed to the ZBA they serve a 5 year term or stay on the board until they are replaced. So everybody who gets appointed gets a 5 year term. Unlike other boards, someone gets a two year term and they quit you serve until the end of their term. But with the ZBA people serve until they are replaced. So their appointments are appointed for 5 years.

Venise McWard – does it state it has to be for 5 years. I think we would find more people willing to serve if it was for three years.

Chairman Wells – in the past they have all been for five years. I do have a **ZBA appointment to make and that is Joe Dorr**. Joe's term is up and he wants to stay on the board and I am appointing him to the board and that requires county board's approval. Dale Livingston made a motion to approve Joe Dorr to the ZBA Board with a second by

Timothy Carlson. After no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call - all those in favor say aye, (15) all opposed (0) same sign. Motion carried.

**Health Board Appointment** – Lisa Sinkorn resigned. She was put on the health board to replace Dr. Trost and that term is until July 23. I am appointing Dan Held to the health board. Dan has a master’s degree from SIU in public administration. He currently works for Wooter and Kerin and runs public works for the village of Carlinville for them. I think someone on the health board who understands how government and how they are suppose to work is just what we need. I have a motion to approve by Dale Livingston with a second by Vicki McMahon. Any discussion? If there is no discussion all those in favor say aye, (15)all opposed (0) same sign. Motion carried. Mr. Held is on the health board.

**MILEAGE AND PER DIEM REPORT – MARCH 15, 2022**

<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	3
Craig Corzine	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Linda Curtin	\$100.00	\$25.00	3
Clint Epley	\$ 50.00	\$25.00	3
Ken Franklin	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Bev Graham	\$100.00	\$25.00	3
Ray Koonce	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Dale Livingston	\$100.00	\$25.00	3
Vicki McMahon	\$100.00	\$25.00	3
Venise McWard	\$100.00	\$25.00	3
David Puccetti	\$100.00	\$25.00	3
Bryan Sharp	\$100.00	\$25.00	3
Chuck Smedley	\$100.00	\$25.00	3
Thomas Snyder, Jr.	\$100.00	\$25.00	3
Mike Specha	\$100.00	\$25.00	2
Matt Wells	\$615.38		

Chairman Wells called for a motion from the floor to approve the Mileage and Per Diem Report *A motion was made by Bev Graham and seconded by Thomas Snyder Jr. to approve the mileage and per diem report.* With no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call.

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

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Chairman Wells called for a motion from the floor to adjourn until July 19, 2022. *A motion was made by Dave Puccetti and seconded by Thomas Snyder Jr., to adjourn until the next meeting on July 19, 2022.*

With no discussion, Chairman Wells called for a roll call.

A roll call vote being called upon polled (15) aye; (0) nay; (1) absent; the motion carried.