

CLINTON COUNTY BOARD MEETING
January 21, 2020 – 7:00 p.m.

Robert Fix, Chairman

James Rakers, Vice Chairman

1. OPENING PRAYER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

2. CALL TO ORDER

Sheriff's Sergeant Dan Travous called the meeting of the Clinton County District Board to order at 7:00 p.m. on January 21, 2020.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

Present: Cain, Fix, Heinzmann, Him, Johnson, Knolhoff, Kreke, Middendorff, Netemeyer, Nordike, Rakers, Sullivan, Taylor and Wesselmann. Absent: Wessel. Let the record reflect that we have a quorum.

3. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS AND GUESTS

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion – Him made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 16, 2019 meeting. Knolhoff seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

5. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

6. PUBLIC MAY APPROACH THE BOARD

- a. Dr. Deanna Ducomb, a member of the Clinton County Health Board, gave an update on health board activities. She said the budget is in very good shape enabling the department to allocate funds for immunizations. During the board's last meeting in January, the ongoing vaping crisis was discussed. A representative of Korte & Luitjohan Construction made a presentation on the availability of a lot across from the Carlyle public library for a possible site for a new health department building. Any further discussion about that site and other possible sites was tabled until a future meeting. The board discussed retaining interim health administrator Sean Eifert. Eifert is administrator in Bond County and is assisting in Clinton County until a new administrator is hired. Ducomb said Eifert has been a real asset to the county and the health board would like to retain him for up to a year during the reorganization process but that will depend on approval by Bond County. The health board is establishing reorganizational goals for the upcoming year as well as long-range goals for the next five years.

7. REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS

8. STANDING COMMITTEES

a. Zoning/Subdivision Committee – Craig Taylor

1. Zoning Report – Jami Staser presented the annual report from the Zoning Office which shows that the county issued 44 building permits for stick-built, single-family homes. Fifty-one building permits were issued in municipalities for stick-built, single-family homes. The numbers represent a 25 percent increase across the board. Staser noted that the zoning department issues hundreds of building permits per year for various projects (pools, carports, decks, homes, etc.). The office processed eight total divisions of land in 2019. Three of these were true family splits and the remainder were either larger subdivisions or farmhouses split from farm acreage.

i. Motion to Approve – Dennis Holtmann’s First Subdivision – Lookingglass Township – Final Plat - Dennis and Cynthia Holtmann

Staser said this is a one-lot subdivision located on Winter Road, consisting of 1½ acres. The subdivision will allow Holtmann’s daughter to build next door. Netemeyer made a motion for a roll call vote. Johnson seconded the motion. Cain (Yes); Heinzmann (Yes); Him (Yes); Johnson (Yes); Knolhoff (Yes); Kreke (Yes); Middendorff (Yes); Netemeyer (Yes); Nordike (Yes); Rakers (Yes); Sullivan (Yes); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Absent); Wesselmann (Yes). Motion Carried 13-0.

ii. Motion to Approve – Haas Acres - Sugarcreek Township – Final Plat - Dave Jacober, Steve Jacober and Mary Hoelting

This plat was done in preparation for a land auction. It includes approximately 165 acres with 40 acres split off. Currently the only access is in the southwest corner ending at Clinton County Line Road. The family intends to sell this property in more than one tract. The proposed plat would give access to the back acreage. The reason it is going through the subdivision process is due to the new access/easement. It will remain zoned as agricultural.

Heinzmann made a motion for a roll call vote. Him seconded the motion. Cain (Yes); Heinzmann (Yes); Him (Yes); Johnson (Yes); Knolhoff (Yes); Kreke (Yes); Middendorff (Yes); Netemeyer (Yes); Nordike (Yes); Rakers (Yes); Sullivan (Yes); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Absent); Wesselmann (Yes). Motion Carried 13-0.

b. Economic Development/Enterprise Zone – Keith Nordike

No Report.

c. Tourism Committee – Matt Cain

No Report.

d. Environmental Concerns/Unincorporated/Solid Waste – Nelson Heinzmann

No Report.

e. Assessment Committee – Bryan Wessel (Mike Kreke)

Kreke reported that the declarations for sold properties were up 46 overall in 2019. The Board of Review has been in session approving exemptions and reviewing appeals.

- f. Insurance/ICIT – Larry Johnson
1. Johnson reported that the health insurance costs for the first month of the new fiscal year without reimbursements, were \$113,268.76, which is \$11,731.24 under budget or 9.4 percent under budget. With reimbursements, the costs were \$86,800.03, which is \$38,199.97 under budget or 30.6 percent under budget. The 025 Liability Fund has a balance of \$690,990.06 which is an increase of \$12,901.12 from last month. The 016 Worker’s Compensation Fund has a balance of \$291,607.46 which is an increase of \$4,416.85 from last month.
 2. Johnson reported that the Insurance Committee approved the two-year renewal of the vision insurance plan with VSP. The renewal includes a slight increase of 27 cents per employee per month.
- g. Facilities Committee – Brad Knolhoff
- Knolhoff said the committee met January 14 and welcomed Tim Fuehne as the county’s new head of maintenance. He replaces Tom Athmer who will be retiring soon. The committee reviewed necessary building upgrades such as replacement of some of the exterior lights, roof repairs at the courthouse annex/health department, and repairs on the south side of the jail. The committee will be seeking bids on refreshing the courthouse landscaping with the specifications to be posted in local newspapers in the near future. The committee is working on a draft proposal for upgrades at the Animal Control Shelter.
- h. Animal Control/County Farm Committee – Craig Taylor
- Taylor reported there were four bite cases last month. Twenty-two dogs were taken in with twelve reclaimed and one adopted. Fifty-eight cats were taken in with twelve going to rescue groups. There were twelve spay and neuter cases.
- i. Education Committee – Rafael Him
- No Report.
- j. Veterans Committee – Bob Netemeyer
1. Netemeyer thanked Carlyle Mayor Judy Smith and staff for honoring current and past military personnel by proposing two veteran-designated parking spaces on the courthouse square. Smith said one sign will be placed on the east side of courthouse near the veterans memorial and one will be placed on the northwest corner for close proximity to other businesses in the area.
Motion to Support Two Veteran-Designated Parking Spaces on Courthouse Square
Netemeyer made a motion to approve. Sullivan seconded the motion.
Motion Carried.
- k. Finance/Health/Revolving Loan Committee/General Services/Judiciary – Jim Rakers
1. Treasurer’s Monthly Report – Denise Trame
Trame reported that gaming collected for the month of December was \$4,918.69. The final distribution of real estate taxes was made on December 16 with the county’s share at \$178,670.79. The last mobile home tax distribution was made on January 16 with the county’s portion at \$6,577.08.
 - i. Motion - Approval of Monthly Budget and Financial Report
Taylor made a motion to approve the report. Rakers seconded the

motion. Motion Carried.

- ii. Motion to Approve the Cost/Contract for Payroll System for Highway Department

The cost is \$6,778 to implement the time-keeping system and \$775 in subsequent years for maintenance.

Rakers made a motion for a roll call vote. Taylor seconded the motion.

Cain (Yes); Heinzmann (Yes); Him (Yes); Johnson (Yes); Knolhoff (Yes); Kreke (Yes); Middendorff (Yes); Netemeyer (Yes); Nordike (Yes); Rakers (Yes); Sullivan (Yes); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Absent); Wesselmann (Yes).

Motion Carried 13-0.

- iii. Motion to Approve Payout for Travis Ripperda

Ripperda is a telecommunicator in the Sheriff's Office. Kreke said the payout is approved for no more than 473 hours. Ripperda has 411 hours on the books and anticipates accruing an additional 62 hours by the end of February.

Kreke made a motion for a roll call vote. Rakers seconded the motion.

Cain (Yes); Heinzmann (Yes); Him (Yes); Johnson (Yes); Knolhoff (Yes); Kreke (Yes); Middendorff (Yes); Netemeyer (Yes); Nordike (Yes); Rakers (Yes); Sullivan (Yes); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Absent); Wesselmann (Yes).

Motion Carried 13-0.

- l. Law Enforcement/EMA/Welfare/Safety/Liquor – Jim Sullivan

No Report.

- m. Road and Bridge Committee – Bryan Wessel

- 1. Monthly County Engineer Report – Dan Behrens

Behrens said the committee opened bids on January 9 for rock on county and various township roadways. Beelmann Truck Company submitted the low bid for 11 townships with 29 different items, KALL Trucking received three townships with four different items, Timmermann Truck Service was low bidder on two townships with two items and Zachary Farms was low bidder on one township with three items. For county roadways, Beelmann submitted the low bid for all four items.

- i. Motion to Approve – Resolution to Award Township Motor Fuel Tax Rock Bids

Sullivan made a motion for a roll call vote. Him seconded the motion.

Cain (Yes); Heinzmann (Yes); Him (Yes); Johnson (Abstain); Knolhoff (Yes); Kreke (Yes); Middendorff (Yes); Netemeyer (Yes); Nordike (Yes); Rakers (Yes); Sullivan (Yes); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Absent); Wesselmann (Yes).

Motion Carried 12-0 with 1 abstain.

- ii. Motion to Approve – Resolution to Award County Motor Fuel Tax Rock Bids.

Cain made a motion for a roll call vote. Sullivan seconded the motion.

Cain (Yes); Heinzmann (Yes); Him (Yes); Johnson (Abstain); Knolhoff (Yes); Kreke (Yes); Middendorff (Yes); Netemeyer (Yes); Nordike (Yes); Rakers (Yes); Sullivan (Yes); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Absent); Wesselmann (Yes).

Motion Carried 12-0 with 1 abstain.

iii. Motion to Approve – Resolution Appropriating Funds for the Payment of the County Engineer’s Salary.

Behrens said this resolution allows the county engineer’s salary to be paid through MFT funds versus local funds and it directs IDOT to give an additional 50 percent of the salary in MFT to the county in exchange for federal highway funds.

Knolhoff made a motion for a roll call vote. Taylor seconded the motion.

Cain (Yes); Heinzmann (Yes); Him (Yes); Johnson (Yes); Knolhoff (Yes); Kreke (Yes); Middendorff (Yes); Netemeyer (Yes); Nordike (Yes); Rakers (Yes); Sullivan (Yes); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Absent); Wesselmann (Yes).

Motion Carried 13-0.

Behrens reported that on December 27 his office was notified of a hole on the bridge deck over Prairie Creek, north of Hoffmann. County crews patched the bridge that afternoon and kept the roadway open to traffic. A more substantial patch was later completed, and the county is waiting on the bridge office to inspect and complete a load posting for the bridge. The county anticipates replacing the bridge in the future.

Wesselmann questioned who maintains the bridge on Old State Road over Shoal Creek reporting there was a driveway washed out near the bridge. Behrens said Breese Township maintains that road and he will notify the township of the problem. Nordike said he has had taxpayers question why the county highway department is out cutting dead grass. Behrens said the county has been out cutting trees and sprouts on the back slopes that didn’t get cut earlier this year.

n. Personnel/Labor Committee – Mike Kreke

i. Motion to Approve – Direct Deposit for All Employees (including County Board).

Knolhoff made a motion to approve. Him seconded the motion.

Motion Carried.

ii. Motion to Approve – Letter of Resignation for Jay Donnelly effective January 31, 2020.

Kreke made a motion to approve. Middendorff seconded the motion.

Motion Carried.

iii. Motion to Approve – Letter of Resignation for telecommunicator Travis Ripperda effective February 29, 2020.

Kreke made a motion to approve. Nordike seconded the motion.

Motion Carried.

10. SPECIAL COMMITTEES

a. 708 Mental Health Board/Area Agency on Aging – Rafael Him

No Report.

- b. County Health – Rafael Him
 - 1. Motion to Approve - Health Department Monthly Report
Him made a motion to approve the report. Cain seconded the motion.
Motion Carried.
- c. GIS Committee – Craig Taylor
Taylor reported that the county has signed an agreement with Sidwell Maps to do an assessment of the GIS system. As for future GIS duties, Zoning Administrator, Jami Staser will handle 911 addressing, the enterprise zone and the 2020 Census.
- d. 911 Committee – Mike Kreke
Kreke reported that John Skain has updated and resubmitted the grant application for aerial imagery.
- e. Technology Support – Rafael Him
No Report.
- f. UCCI – Jim Sullivan
No Report.

11. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Fix noted that in the last few months there have been board members voting “no” to approval of the monthly accounts payable. He asked that any board members voting in opposition to offer their reason for the “no” vote, so the remainder of the board can understand why there is opposition. Various board members offered explanations. Middendorff said he has voted “no” because he does not feel the county ordinance, as drafted, authorizes payment of mileage for board members to attend county board meetings. Kreke said he is opposed to automatically amending certain accounts that have exceeded the budget. He said the solution would be to keep departments spending within their budget. Nordike and Wesselmann said their opposition is due to the overabundance of overtime hours in the county highway department.

Rakers made a motion for a roll call vote for approval of accounts payable. Him seconded the motion.

Cain (Yes); Heinzmann (Yes); Him (Yes); Johnson (Yes); Knolhoff (Yes); Kreke (No); Middendorff (No); Netemeyer (Yes); Nordike (No); Rakers (Yes); Sullivan (Yes); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Absent); Wesselmann (Yes).
Motion Carried 10-3.

12. COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS

Wesselmann voiced her opinion about the Illinois Department of Transportation’s decision to cut trees along Old Route 50. She said in 2011 IDOT made the decision to cut Sycamore trees along the levy. There was a meeting with local state representatives; however, none of the board members showed up to voice concern. Recently, some motorists called to report that they could not see to enter onto the highway, and IDOT responded by marking 35 trees (some living and some dead) for removal. She said the tunnel of trees was a huge asset to our county, and she’s uncertain why the county has a Tourism Committee if they’re not going to worry about the aesthetics of the county. Also,

she said, why is there a county Environmental Committee when no one at the county level seems to care when the floodwaters push against the levy. If there was that big of a concern from motorists, Wesselmann questioned why not just lower the speed limit on the levy versus cutting down the trees. Taylor added that IDOT did a site study on that stretch of roadway and determined that the trees were a hazard and the dead trees could fall on vehicles during an ice storm or heavy wind. He said everything that was done was due to safety concerns.

13. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

14. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

Motion to Change the February Meeting from the third Monday of the Month to Tuesday, February 18, due to the Presidents' Day Holiday.

Middendorff made a motion. Him seconded the motion. Motion carried.

15. NEW BUSINESS

Middendorff said the impending reorganization of the board in 2022 (based on results of the 2020 Census) creates a unique opportunity to consider restructuring the makeup of the board in regard to the number of County Board committees, districts and board members from each district. He asked chairman Fix to assign an existing committee to look into the possible restructuring of the board. Fix said he would take the request under advisement at this time.

16. ADJOURNMENT UNTIL TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2020.

Wessel made a motion to adjourn until Tuesday, February, 2020. Heinzmann seconded the motion. Motion Carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

ATTEST:



Vicky Albers
County Clerk & Recorder