

CLINTON COUNTY BOARD MEETING
May 18, 2020 – 7:00 p.m.

Robert Fix, Chairman

James Rakers, Vice Chairman

1. OPENING PRAYER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

2. CALL TO ORDER

Sheriff Doug Maue called the meeting of the Clinton County District Board to order at 7:00 p.m. on May 18, 2020. The meeting was held through Zoom and Conference Call.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

Present: Cain (Phone), Fix, Heinzmann (Phone), Him, Johnson, Knolhoff, Kreke, Middendorff (Zoom), Netemeyer, Rakers, Sullivan, Taylor (Zoom), Wessel and Wesselmann (Zoom). Absent: Nordike

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 April 20, 2020 County Board meeting. Taylor seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

5. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

6. PUBLIC MAY APPROACH THE BOARD

7. REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS

8. STANDING COMMITTEES

a. Zoning/Subdivision Committee – Craig Taylor

1. Motion to Approve – Final Plat – Ottenschneider’s 2nd Subdivision – a one-lot subdivision located in Sugarcreek Township submitted by Marilyn and Joe Ottenschneider. This is the second split from their land and is intended for their daughter to build on.

Heinzmann made a motion for a roll call vote. Wessel seconded the motion.

Cain (Yes); Heinzmann (Yes); Him (Yes); Johnson (Yes); Knolhoff (Yes); Kreke (Yes); Middendorff (Yes); Netemeyer (Yes); Nordike (Absent); Rakers (Abstain); Sullivan (Yes); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Yes); Wesselmann (Yes). Motion Carried 12-0. (1 Abstain).

2. Staser reported that the county has received two Enterprise Zone applications for projects in Breese. One from Hillary Frost Photography & Beauty Bar to renovate her building and one for the 12th Street extension.

- 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
Wessel reported that the committee met and Supervisor of Assessments Linda Mensing provided the estimated equalized assessed valuation (EAV) by township along with the amount of exemptions that will be removed from the EAV. A final multiplier has been set at .9751. Township assessors from Lookingglass, Breese and Sugar Creek townships have turned in their assessment work. The 2015 PTAB decisions were received on eight parcels with no change in value. One parcel did have a reduction in value. The new tax software conversion started on May 6.
- f. Insurance/ICIT – Larry Johnson
Johnson reported that the health insurance costs for the fifth month of the new fiscal year without reimbursements were \$633,847.95 which is \$8,847.95 over budget or 1.4 percent over budget. With reimbursements, the costs were \$513,835.17, which is \$111,164.83 under budget or 17.8 percent under budget. The 025 Liability Fund has a balance of \$691,090.51 which is unchanged from last month. The 016 Worker's Compensation Fund has a balance of \$291,638.33 which is unchanged from last month.
- g. Facilities Committee – Brad Knolhoff
Knolhoff said the Health Department is renewing its discussion of the construction of a new building and has a meeting set for May 19 for that purpose.
- h. Animal Control/County Farm Committee – Craig Taylor
The part-time employee has resigned. The committee has advertised for a new part-time worker and is reviewing applications. Animal Control had 16 dogs reclaimed, two were adopted, ten went to rescue groups, two are available for adoption and one was put down. Two cats were reclaimed, two were adopted, 13 went to rescue groups, three are available for adoption and one was put down. There were five bite cases. Spayed and neutering services are temporarily on hold.
- i. Education Committee – Rafael Him
No Report.
- j. Veterans Committee – Bob Netemeyer
Netemeyer reminded members that next Monday is Memorial Day and we should all remember and honor those who died and were injured in active duty as well as all veterans who are currently serving.

- k. Finance/Health/Revolving Loan Committee/General Services/Judiciary – Jim Rakers
 - 1. Treasurer’s Monthly Report – Denise Trame
Motion - Approval of Monthly Budget and Financial Report
Him made a motion to approve the report. Rakers seconded the motion. Motion Carried.
 - 2. Trame reported that gaming collected for the month of April from business before the shutdown was \$3,935.23. A little over 700 mobile home tax bills have been mailed and are due the end of June.

- 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
 - i. Motion – Resolution to Approve Appropriation of \$250,000 from County Motor Fuel Tax Fund to Resurface Stollertown Road from Old US Route 50 to New US Route 50. Bid letting is anticipated for late June.
Wessel 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 (Absent); Rakers (Yes); Sullivan (Yes); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Yes); Wesselmann (Yes). Motion Carried 13-0.
 - ii. Behrens said the state is opening bids June 12 on the work between Beckemeyer and Bartelso. The Highway Department will be seeking bids for a new mowing tractor in the near future.

- n. Personnel/Labor Committee – Mike Kreke
 - 1. Motion to Approve – Letter of Resignation and Payout for Cynthia Prince who will retire Feb. 19, 2021. All payouts follow the union contract.
Kreke made a motion for a roll call vote. Middendorff seconded the motion.
Cain (Yes); Heinzmann (Yes); Him (Yes); Johnson (Yes); Knolhoff (Yes); Kreke (Yes); Middendorff (Yes); Netemeyer (Yes); Nordike (Absent); Rakers (Yes); Sullivan (Yes); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Yes); Wesselmann (Yes). Motion Carried 13-0.

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. Netemeyer seconded the motion.
Motion Carried.
 - 2. Board of Health member Dr. Deanna Ducomb reported on a special meeting held May 13 regarding recent changes for reopening the state of Illinois and how that might proceed or be expedited. Interim health administrator Sean Eifert

summarized the discussion in a letter to County Board chairman Fix. The Board of Health stated that it will not take any action at this time.

3. Fix noted that following Rafael Him's resignation, Brad Knolhoff will take over as a voting member on the Health Board.

- c. GIS Committee – Craig Taylor
No Report.
- d. 911 Committee – Mike Kreke
No Report.
- e. Technology Support – Rafael Him
No Report.
- f. UCCI – Jim Sullivan
No Report.

11. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

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

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

Motion Carried 10-3.

12. COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS

13. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

14. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

- a. Motion – Appointment of Clarence Kohlbrecher as a Trustee on St. Rose Sanitary District.
Taylor made a motion to approve the four appointments. Knolhoff seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

15. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Motion – Withdraw County's COVID-19 Disaster Declaration which was approved by the County Board on March 25, 2020. County employees would continue to rotate, work from home and reduce staff as addressed in an April 1, 2020 letter to union attorney Dave Amersen.
Rakers made a motion for a roll call vote. Knolhoff seconded the motion.
Cain (Yes); Heinzmann (Yes); Him (Yes); Johnson (Yes); Knolhoff (Yes); Kreke (Yes); Middendorff (Yes); Netemeyer (Yes); Nordike (Absent); Rakers (Yes); Sullivan (Yes); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Yes); Wesselmann (No).
Motion Carried 12-1
- b. Motion – Authorize Proclamation Asking Gov. Pritzker for a Modification of His Executive Orders, Restoration of Personal Liberties and Reduction of Business.

Middendorff said he is happy that the board leadership has recognized the limits of its authority in respect to local business operations and other restrictions. Other counties have attempted to pass ordinances that purport to allow for the early opening of businesses. This has created problems for a lot of other county boards. In reality, the board did not close the local businesses and does not have authority to reopen them. Middendorff said his main concern is allowing people to get back to work. He asked that the proclamation be amended to change the word “recommend” in the second paragraph on the second page to “suggest.” Middendorff explained that both the sheriff and the state’s attorney might be faced with a situation that is unpredictable in regard to dealing with any COVID-related matters.

Kreke said he had suggested that paragraph in an effort to stand up for the citizens of Clinton County and to state that the board recommends that any COVID-related legal matters pertaining to the governor’s order not be enforced. However, he said, if the health department, sheriff or state’s attorney decide to enforce or act upon a COVID-related issue, that’s their prerogative.

Knolhoff read a prepared statement about the effects of COVID-19 and the governor’s actions on the citizens of Clinton County. He said it is his hope that our county can move forward in a way that still promotes safety while allowing people to return to the so-called “new normal.” He said he had hoped the County Board would have taken bolder actions against what he feels is an unconstitutional order by Gov. Pritzker; however, he commends the board members who vote “yes” on this proclamation.

Hudspeth clarified that passing the proclamation is representing the feelings of the citizens, but it is without legal import. The county is advocating for the citizens, but the board cannot guarantee that they’ll have any more freedoms than they had before.

Wesselmann said she was only contacted by one citizen, so she is not convinced that the citizens or business people are worried about opening up any faster than what the state has proposed. She noted that there are only ten days until the state moves into Phase 3 and opening up sooner would be a slap in the face to the people who have lost their lives to COVID-19 and the medical professionals who are working with this every day.

Rakers made a motion for a roll call vote to send the proclamation to the governor after amending the word “recommend” to “suggest” in the second paragraph of page 2. Middendorff seconded the motion.

Cain (Yes); Heinzmann (Yes); Him (Yes); Johnson (Yes); Knolhoff (Yes); Kreke (Yes); Middendorff (Yes); Netemeyer (No); Nordike (Absent); Rakers (Yes); Sullivan (Yes); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Yes); Wesselmann (Present).
Motion Carried 11-1 (1 Present).

- c. After citing some confusion about what was actually included in the previous motion, Middendorff made a Motion to Rescind and Reconsider the Previous Vote. Knolhoff seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

- d. Second Motion – Authorize Proclamation Asking Gov. Pritzker for a Modification of His Executive Orders, Restoration of Personal Liberties and Reduction of Business. Rakers made a motion to send the proclamation to the governor after amending the word “recommend” to “suggest” in the second paragraph of page 2. Middendorff seconded the motion.
Cain (Yes); Heinzmann (Yes); Him (Yes); Johnson (Yes); Knolhoff (Yes); Kreke (Yes); Middendorff (Yes); Netemeyer (Yes); Nordike (Absent); Rakers (Yes); Sullivan (Yes); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Yes); Wesselmann (No).
Motion Carried 12-1.
- e. Motion – Accept Letter of Resignation from County Board member Rafael Him due to Compatibility Issue Related to His New Employment. Fix expressed his appreciation to Him and presented a plaque for his 6 years of service.
Rakers made a motion for a roll call vote. Wessel seconded the motion.
Cain (Yes); Heinzmann (Yes); Him (Yes); Johnson (Yes); Knolhoff (Yes); Kreke (Yes); Middendorff (Yes); Netemeyer (Yes); Nordike (Absent); Rakers (Yes); Sullivan (Yes); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Yes); Wesselmann (Yes).
Motion Carried 13-0.
- f. Motion – Appoint James White of New Baden to Fill District #5 Vacancy.
Knolhoff made a motion for a roll call vote. Sullivan seconded the motion.
Cain (Yes); Heinzmann (Yes); Johnson (Yes); Knolhoff (Yes); Kreke (Yes); Middendorff (Yes); Netemeyer (Yes); Nordike (Absent); Rakers (Yes); Sullivan (Yes); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Yes); Wesselmann (Yes).
Motion Carried 12-0.

16. ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY, June 15, 2020.

Knolhoff made a motion to adjourn until Monday, June 15, 2020. Wessel seconded the motion. Motion Carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

ATTEST:



Vicky Albers
County Clerk & Recorder