

CLINTON COUNTY BOARD MEETING
August 16, 2021 – 7:30 p.m.

Larry Johnson, Chairman

Mike Kreke, Vice Chairman

1. OPENING PRAYER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

2. CALL TO ORDER

Sheriff Dan Travous called the meeting of the Clinton County District Board to order at 7 p.m. on August 16, 2021. The meeting was held with options for Zoom and Conference Call.

3. ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

Present: Heinzmann, Johnson, B. Knolhoff, K. Knolhoff, Kreke, Middendorff, Netemeyer, Nordike, Strieker, Sullivan, Taylor, Wessel, Wesselmann, White. Rapien absent. Let the record reflect that we have a quorum.

4. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS AND GUESTS

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion – Taylor made a motion to approve the minutes from the July 20, 2021 regular meeting. Heinzmann seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

6. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

- a. Dan Imming of Imming Insurance, also representing Illinois Counties Risk Management Trust (ICRMT), gave a brief overview of ICRMT and presented Sheriff Dan Travous with a check for purchasing equipment for the county's Drug Enforcement Fund. Imming said Imming Insurance is entering its 80th year in business, while ICRMT provides property and casualty insurance for the county which consists of property, liability, law enforcement, vehicles, equipment and worker's compensation. Besides their risk management program, some of ICRMT's other added services include online training portals, regional seminars, law enforcement training, road and jail policy procedures, property appraisals, legal assistance and jail audits all free of charge. ICRMT also offers funding through grants geared toward safety and potential loss control, and the sheriff's office was recently successful in applying for such a grant.

7. PUBLIC MAY APPROACH THE BOARD

- a. Regarding action taken at the June County Board meeting in which the board failed to reappoint Dr. Deanna DuComb to the County's Board of Health, Gwen Tebbe questioned County Board member James White's previous statement that DuComb was going to raise taxes. White said he did not say DuComb was going to raise taxes but that she definitely displayed a willingness to raise taxes or possibly issue bonds. Tebbe said

that sounds like a bully statement, and she asked why White believes DuComb is not worthy to serve on the county's Board of Health. White said he has openly stated his reasons. He said he does not feel his constituents would like to see tax increases to build a new Health Department building. He noted that DuComb was up for a three-year term and during that term, the county will likely make a decision about how to fund a new facility. White said he would be happy to further discuss Tebbe's concerns after the meeting.

- b. Brian Klostermann, chairperson of the Health Board, offered his support for Dr. DuComb. Over his nearly two years on the board, Klostermann said the members have tried to navigate the greatest health crisis in the past century. During that time, he has come to know Dr. DuComb as a dedicated, compassionate advocate for the public health of this county. Although her messages can sometimes use a little polishing, Klostermann said you will not find a more qualified candidate for the vacancy on the board. He asked the County Board to rethink their support for Dr. DuComb.
- c. Klostermann read a letter of support from Health Board vice chairperson Paulette Evans who was unable to attend the meeting. Evans said DuComb brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the board, is committed to the citizens of Clinton County and is continuously looking to improve the health of the citizens and to bring additional services to the county. She asked the County Board to reconsider and reappoint Dr. DuComb to the Health Board.
- d. Dr. Deanne DuComb said there has been a DuComb practicing medicine in this county since 1905. After establishing the Department of Dermatology at St. Louis University, she came back to this county to practice. She is the only Board of Health consulting physician that resides in this county, and she is the longest serving member on the board. She trained at the Mayo Clinic and MD Anderson Cancer Center. She has been the county's delegate to the Illinois State Medical Society for over 25 years. And yet, she said, 10 members of the County Board voted against her reappointment to the Board of Health. She believes that vote was another attempt to politicize and control the Board of Health. She said the citizens can be proud of the Board of Health which is comprised of professionals with advanced degrees in health and education who bring many years of experience to the table. They are all open and dedicated to doing what's right for this county, she said. She said voting her down was a show of disrespect and was insulting to the entire Board of Health. She asked the County Board to cooperate with the board so that we can all get through this pandemic, function efficiently, and, eventually, build a suitable health department facility for all the citizens.

8. REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS

9. STANDING COMMITTEES

- a. Zoning/Subdivision Committee – Craig Taylor
 - 1. Zoning Report – Jami Staser
 - i. Motion to Approve – Final Plat – Dorothy Loepker's Second Subdivision – 1 Lot – Santa Fe Township

Staser explained that this property is southeast of Bartelso and is currently zoned Agriculture, so it involves a family-split with Gerald and Patricia Loepker requesting to split 2.51 acres to allow their son to build a home.

B. Knolhoff made a motion for a roll call vote. Nordike seconded the motion.

Heinzmann (Yes); Knolhoff, B (Yes), Knolhoff, K (Yes); Kreke (Yes); Middendorff (Yes); Netemeyer (Yes); Nordike (Yes); Rapien (Absent); Strieker (Yes); Sullivan (Yes); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Yes); Wesselmann (Yes); White (Yes).

Motion Carried 13-0.

- ii. Motion to Approve – Final Plat – Southtown Estates Addition – 5 Lots - Carlyle Township

Staser said the original subdivision was created in 1988 with five lots. In 2016, they added three more lots. This extension is located south down Cory Road and includes five lots. The property is already zoned Residential 2.

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

Heinzmann (Yes); Knolhoff, B (Yes), Knolhoff, K (Yes); Kreke (Yes); Middendorff (Yes); Netemeyer (Yes); Nordike (Yes); Rapien (Absent); Strieker (Yes); Sullivan (Yes); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Yes); Wesselmann (Yes); White (Yes).

Motion Carried 13-0.

- iii. Staser updated the board on the remaining process to approve the county's revisions to the Comprehensive Plan. The public hearing was held last month and we are currently in the 30-day public comment period which ends later this week. All public comments and correspondence will be forwarded to the full County Board. Board members will have time to review that information before bringing it to a vote at the September 20 meeting. The plan has been sent to all municipalities and townships and can be viewed on the county's website, in the Zoning Office or in the County Clerk's Office.

- b. Economic Development/Enterprise Zone – Keith Nordike

No Report.

- c. Tourism Committee – Jim Sullivan

- 1. Motion to Approve – USA Bassin, LLC Advertisement Contract with a \$1,500 contribution from the county and \$1,500 from the city of Carlyle.

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

Heinzmann (Yes); Knolhoff, B (Yes), Knolhoff, K (Yes); Kreke (Yes); Middendorff (Yes); Netemeyer (Yes); Nordike (Yes); Rapien (Absent); Strieker (Yes); Sullivan (Yes); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Yes); Wesselmann (Yes); White (Yes).

Motion Carried 13-0.

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

No Report

- e. Assessment Committee – Bryan Wessel
 - 1. Wessel reported there were 220 parcels for ownership transfers for July which was up 16 from 2020. Some of the township assessors have turned in their books for the next tax cycle while others are still seeking additional information from the Assessor’s Office.

- f. Insurance/ICIT – Nelson Heinzmann
 - 1. Heinzmann reported that the Insurance Committee met on August 9. Einstein Consulting reports show that insurance costs are down 34 percent compared to last year, pharmacy expenses were down 5 percent, claims were down 40 percent and total fees were down 26 percent. For this Fiscal Year, claims and fees are 23 percent under budget without reimbursements and 48 percent under budget with reimbursements. Dan Imming discussed the benefits of ICRMT and the cyber security coverage renewal process. The next committee meeting is 7 p.m. on September 13.

- g. Facilities Committee – Ken Knolhoff
 - 1. K. Knolhoff reported that the committee met August 9 and reviewed a bid from Elliott Data Systems, Inc., for a new secure-entry system for the courthouse. The county will be receiving a \$50,000 Rebuild Illinois grant to help finance the new system. The committee feels it would be a good idea to have an engineering firm establish specifications before seeking bids on a new HVAC system at the courthouse. Kyle Thole in the Sheriff’s Department created a form to be filled out when requesting maintenance work at one of the county buildings. This will enable the maintenance department to keep track of any pending issues and improve communications.

- h. Animal Control/County Farm Committee – Craig Taylor
 - 1. Taylor said that 48 cats and 32 strays were taken in this past month. Twenty-nine were rescued. There were 45 dogs taken in with 10 surrendered, 17 rescued, two on rabies hold and one put down. The committee reviewed plans for the proposed Animal Control building and sent a list of changes to Netemeyer Engineering. Netemeyer is reaching out to electrical, plumbing and HVAC contractors to get schematics prepared for the entire building. The project should be ready to be put out for bids by next month.

- i. Education Committee – James White
 - 1. White reported that the Illinois Extension Service has scheduled a meeting on August 30 to discuss the services they provide and the tax levy for their next Fiscal Year.

- j. Veterans Committee – Bob Netemeyer
 - No Report.

- k. Finance/Health/Revolving Loan Committee/General Services/Judiciary – Brad Knolhoff
 - 1. Treasurer’s Monthly Report – Denise Trame
 - i. Motion to Approve the Monthly Budget and Financial Report for July.

B. Knolhoff made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Monthly Report. White seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

Trame reported the county received an oil check for \$8,996.32 and \$7,223.37 was collected for video gaming last month. The first distribution of property taxes was made to the various taxing districts on August 12 for \$28,001,455.12 with the county's share being \$2,992,655.55.

- ii. Motion to Approve – Resolution to Execute Deeds of Conveyance of the County's Interest for Parcels Auctioned at the Surplus Property Sale on June 4, 2021. These are the parcels that were never purchased at a tax sale, so they revert to the county trustee. Once the required period of time for redemption has passed, the properties are sold by the tax agent to put the properties back on the tax rolls. This resolution transfers the properties from the county trustee to the individuals who bought the properties.

B. Knolhoff made a motion for a roll call vote. Strieker seconded the motion. Heinzmann (Yes); Knolhoff, B (Yes), Knolhoff, K (Yes); Kreke (Yes); Middendorff (Yes); Netemeyer (Yes); Nordike (Yes); Rapien (Absent); Strieker (Yes); Sullivan (Yes); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Yes); Wesselmann (Yes); White (Yes). Motion Carried 13-0.

- iii. Motion to Approve – Agreement with Bellwether LLC for consulting services related to the appropriate use and reporting of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding. The county is slated to receive \$7.3 million in ARPA funding with Bellwether's \$20,000 fee being paid from that money.

B. Knolhoff made a motion for a roll call vote. Taylor seconded the motion. Heinzmann (Yes); Knolhoff, B (Yes), Knolhoff, K (Yes); Kreke (Yes); Middendorff (Yes); Netemeyer (Yes); Nordike (Yes); Rapien (Absent); Strieker (Yes); Sullivan (Yes); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Yes); Wesselmann (Yes); White (Yes). Motion Carried 13-0.

- iv. Motion to Approve – Low Bid of \$55,375 from Elliott Data Systems for an Access Control & Identity Management System for Courthouse. Project will be funded by a \$50,000 grant received through the Rebuild Illinois program.

B. Knolhoff made a motion for a roll call vote. Nordike seconded the motion. Heinzmann (Yes); Knolhoff, B (Yes), Knolhoff, K (Yes); Kreke (Yes); Middendorff (No); Netemeyer (Yes); Nordike (Yes); Rapien (Absent); Strieker (Yes); Sullivan (Yes); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Yes); Wesselmann (Yes); White (Yes). Motion Carried 12-1.

- iii. Motion to Approve – Agreement with HMG Group for engineering services to oversee the replacement of the HVAC System at the courthouse. The fee for these services is \$68,000.

B. Knolhoff made a motion for a roll call vote. Strieker seconded the motion. Heinzmann (Yes); Knolhoff, B (Yes), Knolhoff, K (Yes); Kreke (Yes); Middendorff (Yes); Netemeyer (Yes); Nordike (Yes); Rapien (Absent); Strieker (Yes); Sullivan (Yes); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Yes); Wesselmann (Yes); White (Yes). Motion Carried 13-0.

B. Knolhoff noted that the committee spent a considerable amount of time discussing potential uses for the ARPA funding, including the courthouse HVAC system, the Health Department building, the radio system for the county, jail modifications, the Animal Control facility, EMA funding and a secure area at the front courthouse entry. These are proposals, Knolhoff said, but they do not yet know what will be approved through the grant program. He also noted that he recently attended Drug Court Graduation with two graduates who have been able to turn their lives around through the program. He commended the probation staff and Judge Erica Sanders who administers the court.

l. Law Enforcement/EMA/Welfare/Safety/Liquor – James White

1. White reported that the committee met August 10. They discussed the quarterly budgets, Sheriff Travous spoke about possible ways to alleviate some of the 911 overtime issues, staffing lake patrol and the new process to communicate maintenance issues. On average, the county is housing about 15-20 federal prisoners. Installation of ID Networks is moving along and they are waiting for receipt of the servers. They hope to be operational by October.

m. Road and Bridge Committee – Bryan Wessel

1. Monthly County Engineer Report – Dan Behrens

- i. Motion to Approve – Resolution for Improvement Under the Illinois Highway Code. Behrens explained that the Highway Department intends to use \$500,000 in Rebuild Illinois funds for improvements on Aviston/Albers Road. The county will be adding 6 inches of paved shoulders to about 6/10 mile of roadway. Wesselmann asked if the county has plans through the state funding to add shoulder width to other county roadways. Behrens said that there are no plans at this time. The next Rebuild Illinois project will likely be replacing the bridge north of Hoffman. Behrens said lack of shoulders on the county roads is one of the top problems in the county. They looked into doing St. Rose Road, north of St. Rose, but there is an Ameren Electric line in the way that would cost a large sum of money to move. The Rebuild Illinois money must be spent by July 2025, so widening the shoulders could eventually be funded with MFT money versus the grant funding. Taylor made a motion for a roll call vote. Wessel seconded the motion. Heinzmann (Yes); Knolhoff, B (Yes), Knolhoff, K (Yes); Kreke (Yes); Middendorff (Yes); Netemeyer (Yes); Nordike (Yes); Rapien (Absent); Strieker (Yes); Sullivan (Yes); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Yes); Wesselmann (Yes); White (Yes). Motion Carried 13-0.

Behrens commented on concerns over recent accidents at the intersection of Old Route 50 and Boulder Road. The state has records of two accidents since 2013 where the driver failed to stop at the stop sign on Boulder Road with one of these being October of 2020 and the other being last month. The stop sign is a state sign;

therefore, Behrens sent a letter to the state asking them to do something. The committee recommended that the Highway Department add rumble strips approaching the stop sign. Depew & Owen started the bridge on Pipeline Road on August 3 with a 30-working-day contract. The project should be completed in early September. Behrens said the Illinois Commerce Commission will add signals and crossing arms to the Norfolk Southern crossings on Red Fox Road in Germantown Township and Kannall Hill Road in Santa Fe Township. Behrens was also notified that signals and crossing arms would be installed on the Burlington Northern line on Brink Road in Meridian Township.

n. Personnel/Labor Committee – Mike Kreke

1. Kreke reported that negotiations are underway with a couple of the unions with one meeting set up next week.

10. SPECIAL COMMITTEES

a . 708 Mental Health Board/Area Agency on Aging – James White

1. Motion to Approve – Appointment of Dennis Perez to the 708 Board replacing Dan Travous.

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

Heinzmann (Yes); Knolhoff, B (Yes), Knolhoff, K (Yes); Kreke (Yes); Middendorff (Yes); Netemeyer (Yes); Nordike (Yes); Rapien (Absent); Strieker (Yes); Sullivan (Yes); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Yes); Wesselmann (Yes); White (Yes).

Motion Carried 13-0.

b. County Health – James White

1. White reported that the board met on August 3. Health Department Administrator Chris Leidel gave his report showing revenue of \$61,053.31 and expenses of \$84,111.27. As of July 27, the county had 15,998 residents fully vaccinated with the COVID vaccine which is 42.5 percent of the population. The county has seen an uptick in demand for the vaccine. Leidel mentioned that this may be due to the increased number of cases due to the Delta variant. There were several parents present addressing their concerns with the state mandate for indoor masking in schools. School boards throughout the county are handling this differently with some keeping masks optional. The Health Board also discussed the County Board's vote in June to remove Dr. DuComb from the board. White said he has openly stated his position on this matter, and he stands by those reasons. B. Knolhoff questioned why people are attending this month's meeting to express their support for DuComb versus attending the July meeting since the vote was actually taken at the June meeting. He said he believes DuComb has continually exceeded her authority, and he feels she routinely makes comments that are unbecoming of a public body member. He added that DuComb has been a vocal supporter of raising the tax levy, and he does not feel there is good rationale to do that. B. Knolhoff said this board has never been a proponent of maximizing tax levies just because it can. He said the county should be looking at building a modest building for

the Health Department without burdening the tax payers. B. Knolhoff said discussing this issue two months after the vote was taken is creating a spectacle, and he would have been happy to address any of these concerns via a phone call following the June meeting. DuComb responded that the Health Board did not have a regular meeting in July; therefore, the group could not discuss it. She added that she would never be a proponent of raising taxes. Wesselmann commented that she feels the County Board needs to respect the Board of Health because they are their own board made up of a group of local professionals. She said the Health Department building is still in the proposal stages, so she feels blaming anything on this issue is premature. Netemeyer clarified that Dr. DuComb remains on the Health Board until a qualified replacement is found.

2. Motion to Approve - Health Department Monthly Report

Netemeyer made a motion to approve the Health Department Monthly Report. Wesselmann seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

In a final comment, White noted that he has no “ill will” against anyone on the Board of Health, but the process is the process. The Board of Health members are an appointed body and those appointments must be approved by the County Board. He said, as County Board members, there is no accountability to the people of this county other than that process.

c. GIS Committee – Craig Taylor
No Report.

d. 911 Committee – Mike Kreke

1. Kreke reported that the components have been received for the repairs to the Trenton 911 tower. There is an issue with one of the modules which is being addressed. The tower should be operational in the near future.

e. Technology Support – James White

1. White noted that cyber security consultant James Peterson will be at the committee meeting on Thursday, August 19 at 7 p.m. to discuss his findings following the ransomware attack on the county in late January.

f. UCCI – Jim Sullivan

1. The next UCCI meeting is set for August 23 at 9:30 a.m.

g. Reorganization Committee – Mike Kreke

1. Kreke said board members should have received information regarding the committee’s recommendations for future salaries for the board members as well as committee makeup. He noted that these are suggestions that were approved by the committee; however, changes can still be made depending on the opinions of the full board. Kreke said he has seen some Census 2020 data showing that the county’s overall population is down by 2.3 percent; however, any further breakdown has not yet

been received.

11. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Sullivan made a motion for a roll call vote for approval of accounts payable. Heinzmann seconded the motion.

Heinzmann (Yes); Knolhoff, B (Yes), Knolhoff, K (Yes); Kreke (No); Middendorff (No); Netemeyer (No); Nordike (No); Rapien (Absent); Strieker (Yes); Sullivan (Yes); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Yes); Wesselmann (Yes); White (Yes). Motion Carried 9-4.

12. COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS

13. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

14. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

15. NEW BUSINESS

a. Motion to Approve – Resolution Regarding Public Defender Compensation.

Middendorff made a motion for a roll call vote. White seconded the motion.

Heinzmann (Yes); Knolhoff, B (Yes), Knolhoff, K (Yes); Kreke (Yes); Middendorff (Yes); Netemeyer (Yes); Nordike (Yes); Rapien (Absent); Strieker (Yes); Sullivan (Yes); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Yes); Wesselmann (Yes); White (Yes).

Motion Carried 13-0.

16. ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2021

Taylor made a motion to adjourn until Monday, September 20, 2021 at 7 p.m. Nordike seconded the motion. Motion Carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

ATTEST:



Vicky Albers
County Clerk & Recorder