

**CLINTON COUNTY BOARD MEETING**  
**November 15, 2021 – 7:00 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 November 15, 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, Rapien, Sullivan, Taylor, Wessel, Wesselmann, White. Absent: Nordike, Strieker. Let the record reflect that we have a quorum.

**4. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS AND GUESTS**

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion – Wessel made a motion to approve the minutes from the October 18, 2021 regular meeting. Middendorff seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

**6. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

**7. PUBLIC MAY APPROACH THE BOARD**

**8. REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS**

The board presented plaques and recognized three 911 Board members: Dan Wobbe, Brian Ripperda and the late Dennis Haake. Johnson said the three men sacrificed a considerable amount of their time to ensure the continued safety of this community. Wobbe and Ripperda retired from the board earlier this year. Wobbe, who has been a vital member of the 911 Board since it started in the mid-1980s, was recognized for more than 30 years of loyal and dedicated service. Ripperda's father, Virgil Ripperda, was an original member of the 911 Board and spent two decades serving as the 911 address coordinator. When Virgil retired from the position in 2008, Brian willingly stepped in his shoes. Brian was recognized for more than 10 years of service. Johnson said Haake sadly passed away just a little over two months ago, on Sept. 8. In addition to serving for over 15 years on the 911 Board, Haake was a member of the Hoffman Volunteer Fire Department for 47 years, serving as chief for 43 of those years. Johnson thanked Haake's wife Pam and his children for the sacrifices that Haake and their entire family made for the benefit of the county.

## 9. STANDING COMMITTEES

- a. Zoning/Subdivision Committee – Craig Taylor  
No Report
- b. Economic Development/Enterprise Zone – Keith Nordike  
No Report
- c. Tourism Committee – Jim Sullivan  
No Report
- d. Environmental Concerns/Unincorporated/Solid Waste – Nelson Heinzmann  
No Report
- e. Assessment Committee – Bryan Wessel
  1. Wessel reported that there were 102 transfer declarations for sold properties, which is an increase of 5 over the previous month. Assessment notices were mailed on Nov. 10 including 7,054 farmland assessment notices and 1,389 notices for other classifications such as residential and commercial. The Supervisor of Assessments Office is working on state reports to be filed with the Department of Revenue. The Board of Review will begin approving Homestead Exemptions on November 1.
- f. Insurance/ICIT – Nelson Heinzmann
  1. Heinzmann reported on the Nov 8 committee meeting. He said insurance agent Dan Imming explained changes with the Cyber Security renewal. The premium has increased to \$5,700 annually with the deductible at \$25,000 for \$1 million in coverage. Imming also presented the renewal for the county’s Liability and Property coverage. The annual premium decreased \$350 even though property values increased on several county parcels. Heinzmann gave the monthly Einstein Consulting report showing that total fees are down 15 percent as compared to this time last year, pharmacy expenses were up 10 percent, medical claims were down 11 percent and fixed costs were down 34 percent. The committee discussed the high costs of imaging at hospitals versus free-standing imaging facilities. Free-standing could have saved the county \$20,927 in the past year. The committee will have a proposal to consider at the December meeting. For this Fiscal Year, claims and fees are 31 percent under budget without reimbursements and 52 percent under budget with reimbursements. The Liability and Worker’s Comp funds remain the same as the previous month. The county received a reimbursement check from True RX for \$4,121.10. The committee discussed the upcoming ICIT assessment with Clinton County’s share around \$7,100.
  2. Motion to Approve – Renewal of Worker’s Compensation and Liability Insurance Plans.  
Heinzmann made a motion for a roll call vote. Netemeyer seconded the motion. Heinzmann (Yes); Knolhoff, B (Yes), Knolhoff, K (Yes); Kreke (Yes);

Middendorff (Yes); Netemeyer (Yes); Nordike (Absent); Rapien (Yes); Strieker (Absent); Sullivan (Yes); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Yes); Wesselmann (Yes); White (Yes).  
Motion Carried 12-0.

g. Facilities Committee – Ken Knolhoff

1. K. Knolhoff reported that Elliot Data Systems, which is installing the secure entry system at the courthouse, has started on installation of the door locks. Specs for the new HVAC system at the courthouse will be ready later this month. Paper shredding is expected to take place during the first two weeks of December.

h. Animal Control/County Farm Committee – Craig Taylor

1. Taylor reported that bids for the Multi-Purpose Building at the County Farm will be opened at the December 7 committee meeting. Soil samples have been taken at the County Farm and bids for renting that farm ground will be due in January. There were 36 cats and 20 stray dogs taken in this past month. A rabies vaccination clinic was held on November 13.

i. Education Committee – James White

No Report.

j. Veterans Committee – Bob Netemeyer

Netemeyer reminded board members to think of the men and women serving our country who cannot be home for Thanksgiving.

k. Finance/Health/Revolving Loan Committee/General Services/Judiciary – Brad Knolhoff

1. Treasurer’s Monthly Report – Denise Trame

Motion to Approve the Monthly Budget and Financial Report for October.

Taylor made a motion to approve the Treasurer’s Monthly Report.

Middendorff seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

Trame reported the county received an oil check for \$14,951.08 and \$6,853.30 was collected for video gaming last month. Property owners with delinquent taxes will be listed in the local newspapers during the week of November 23. The annual tax sale is slated for December 14.

2. Accountant Fred Becker said the General Fund remains in budget with a starting balance of \$3,250,000. Revenues and expenses are both estimated at \$9,308,701 with an ending estimated balance of \$3,350,000. The two largest expenditures are General and Administrative which includes the health insurance for employees, repairs and maintenance of the buildings and utilities. The other large item is the Sheriff’s budget which has increased due to salary increases. Most county offices saw slight increases due to budgeted salary increases. Under Special Revenue Funds is a new line item for ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) Funds which is \$7.2 million and will be used to help finance the health building, a new HVAC system, and other larger county projects. Becker said most of the Special Service Area (SSA)

ambulance contracts stayed the same or had minor increases. The county's estimated assessed valuation is increasing from \$695,329,738 to \$799,055,835, and the tax levy rate is decreasing this year from .8122 to .6784. Becker thanked the Finance Committee for its assistance in preparing the budget along with the department heads who provide the numbers for the budget.

B. Knolhoff thanked Becker for his hard work in making the budget process run smoothly. He said one of his goals as a board member is to work on property taxes. Many taxing bodies have consistently held truth-in-taxation hearings and increased their tax rates. This year, the county is not only reducing its tax rate but also its overall levied amount. Over the last several years, the county has continued to reduce its tax rate. B. Knolhoff said this is possible due to the hard work of the County Board as well as the department heads who do their part to keep their offices in budget. He thanked everyone in county government who is involved in the process.

Motion to Approve – 2022 Budget and Levies

B. Knolhoff 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 (Absent); Rapien (Yes); Strieker (Absent); Sullivan (Yes); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Yes); Wesselmann (Yes); White (Yes). Motion Carried 12-0.

3. Motion to Approve – 2022 SSA Contracts

B. Knolhoff 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 (Absent); Rapien (Yes); Strieker (Absent); Sullivan (Yes); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Yes); Wesselmann (Yes); White (Yes). Motion Carried 12-0.

4. Motion to Approve – Resolution for State's Attorney Appellate Prosecutor Contract.

B. Knolhoff made a motion for a roll call vote. Rapien seconded the motion. Heinzmann (Yes); Knolhoff, B (Yes), Knolhoff, K (Yes); Kreke (Yes); Middendorff (Yes); Netemeyer (Yes); Nordike (Absent); Rapien (Yes); Strieker (Absent); Sullivan (Yes); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Yes); Wesselmann (Yes); White (Yes). Motion Carried 12-0.

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

No Report.

m. Road and Bridge Committee – Bryan Wessel

1. Motion to Approve – Resolution for Maintenance under the Illinois Highway Code.

B. Knolhoff 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 (Absent); Rapien (Yes); Strieker

- (Absent); Sullivan (Yes); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Yes); Wesselmann (Yes); White (Yes). Motion Carried 12-0.
2. Motion to Approve – Installation of Light by Clinton County Electric at the Intersection of IL 127 and Slant Road. The cost to the county will be \$5.48 per month.  
Heinzmann 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 (Absent); Rapien (Yes); Strieker (Absent); Sullivan (Yes); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Yes); Wesselmann (Yes); White (Yes). Motion Carried 12-0.
  3. Behrens gave an update on the road in Fuehne Hill Subdivision, north of Aviston. The developers have two years from the time their subdivision was approved to get the road finished. That deadline is up on December 20, and Behrens said it would be impossible to get the project completed by then. Behrens said he will talk to the treasurer on Tuesday about cashing in the irrevocable letter of credit that was submitted by the developers, and the county will take over finishing up the roadway next spring. Behrens said most of the work was started two years ago; however, it was never completed. Behrens also reported on a hearing which he conducted on October 27 for an appeal of a recent decision by the Brookside Township Road Commissioner. Brookside Township had denied a request to vacate West Tenth Street, and Behrens concurred with the township’s decision.
- n. Personnel/Labor Committee – Mike Kreke
1. Kreke reported that contracts for the Health Department assistant administrator and the administrator are up for renewal.
    - i. Motion to Approve – Health Department Assistant Administrator Contract  
Kreke made a motion for a roll call vote. Middendorff seconded the motion.  
Heinzmann (Yes); Knolhoff, B (Yes), Knolhoff, K (Yes); Kreke (Yes); Middendorff (Yes); Netemeyer (Yes); Nordike (Absent); Rapien (Yes); Strieker (Absent); Sullivan (Yes); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Yes); Wesselmann (Yes); White (Yes). Motion Carried 12-0.
    - ii. Motion to Approve – Health Department Administrator Contract. Leidel’s salary increase was recommended by the Health Board.  
Kreke 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 (Absent); Rapien (Yes); Strieker (Absent); Sullivan (Yes); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Yes); Wesselmann (Yes); White (Yes). Motion Carried 12-0.
  2. Kreke reported that moving forward it will be up to department heads to give their part-time and non-union workers raises based on what the department heads have allotted in their annual budgets.
    - i. Motion to Vacate the Previous Resolution for Part-Time and Non-Union Employees.

Middendorff made a motion for a roll call vote. B. Knolhoff seconded the motion. Heinzmann (Yes); Knolhoff, B (Yes), Knolhoff, K (Yes); Kreke (Yes); Middendorff (Yes); Netemeyer (Yes); Nordike (Absent); Rapien (Yes); Strieker (Absent); Sullivan (Yes); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Yes); Wesselmann (Yes); White (Yes). Motion Carried 12-0.

## 10. SPECIAL COMMITTEES

- a. 708 Mental Health Board/Area Agency on Aging – James White  
No Report
- b. County Health – James White
  - 1. Motion to Approve - Health Department Monthly Report  
White made a motion to approve the Health Department Monthly Report. Netemeyer seconded the motion. Motion Carried.
  - 2. White reported on the November 2 Health Board meeting. All of the Health Department's normal grants have been approved for the coming year with the exception of the Contract Tracing Grant, which was related to the Covid 19 pandemic. The county had a Covid positivity rate of 1.9 percent as of early November. This compares to 2.5 percent for the region. The county has started vaccinating children ages 5-11 and has coordinated this with some of the local schools. The committee continues working on specifications for a new health department building.
- c. GIS Committee – Craig Taylor
  - 1. Taylor said the committee met to discuss fees, intergovernmental and nondisclosure agreements, road center lines, political townships and state office districts. No action is currently required on the GIS Data Release Agreement.
- d. 911 Committee – Mike Kreke
  - 1. Kreke said the three new members of the 911 Board who were appointed by the County Board in October were introduced at the 911 Committee meeting, and the committee discussed general responsibilities and requirements of the 911 Board.
- e. Technology Support – James White  
No Report
- f. UCCI – Jim Sullivan
  - 1. Sullivan said Supreme Court Justice Lloyd Karmeier attended a recent UCCI meeting to explain the court and what it does. The committee also discussed regulations for wind farms in Illinois.
- g. Reorganization Committee – Mike Kreke  
No Report.

**11. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE**

Taylor made a motion for a roll call vote for approval of accounts payable. Wessel seconded the motion.

Heinzmann (Yes); Knolhoff, B (Yes), Knolhoff, K (Yes); Kreke (No); Middendorff (No); Netemeyer (No); Nordike (Absent); Rapien (Yes); Strieker (Absent); Sullivan (Yes); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Yes); Wesselmann (Yes); White (Yes). Motion Carried 9-3.

**12. COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS**

**13. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**14. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS**

**15. NEW BUSINESS**

**16. ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2021**

Heinzmann made a motion to adjourn until Monday, December 20, 2021 at 7 p.m. White seconded the motion. Motion Carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

ATTEST:



Vicky Albers  
County Clerk & Recorder