

**CLINTON COUNTY BOARD MEETING**  
**October 18, 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 October 18, 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, Rapien, Strieker, Sullivan, Taylor, Wessel, Wesselman, White. 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 September 20, 2021 regular meeting. Taylor seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

**6. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

**7. PUBLIC MAY APPROACH THE BOARD**

- a. Jordee Koehler, county director for the University of Illinois Extension Service, along with SNAP Educator Ashley Hoffman and Horticulture Educator Chris Lueking spoke about the services and benefits of the various Extension programs. Koehler, who is also director for Bond, Jefferson, Marion and Washington counties, said one of her goals is to educate the public about what they do and receive feedback on how they can better serve the needs of the community. Extension's main mission is to extend knowledge from U of I into the communities that it serves. Some of its programs include 4-H, Master Gardener, Master Naturalist, nutrition education and food access. Koehler asked for input on what type of services Clinton County would like to see enhanced and asked that board members contact her with any suggestions. Hoffman spoke about local nutrition education programming for all ages. Extension has hosted multiple mobile food markets in southern Illinois. They will hold a food fair in Carlyle this spring and are looking for a local organization or business to help support this event. Lueking said Extension works with the Corps of Engineers to control invasive species, helps to start and support community gardens and educates the public on the protection of natural resources.

## 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 – S Buehne Subdivision – 1 Lot - Breese Township. The 3-acre lot is zoned Agricultural with 2.89 buildable acres. Due to its location, this subdivision was also reviewed and approved by the city of Breese and the village of Aviston.

Heinzmann 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 (Yes); Strieker (Yes); Sullivan (Yes); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Yes); Wesselmann (Yes); White (Yes). Motion Carried 14-0.

- ii. Staser reported that possible text amendments to the Zoning Code will be discussed at the next Zoning public hearing set for 6 p.m. on Nov. 3.

#### 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 the township assessors have completed their work. Notices for appeal dates will be sent out by November 10.

#### f. Insurance/ICIT – Nelson Heinzmann

1. Heinzmann gave the monthly Einstein Consulting report showing that total fees are down 22 percent as compared to this time last year, pharmacy expenses were up 12 percent, medical claims were down 12 percent and fixed costs were down 34 percent. The committee discussed retiree health insurance including what constitutes a retiree. Bill Schmaltz of Einstein reporting that medical imaging seems to be one of the higher expenses for the county and the committee discussed options to reduce these costs. For this Fiscal Year, claims and fees are 29.5 percent under budget without reimbursements and 51 percent under budget with reimbursements. The Liability and Worker's Comp funds remain the same as the previous month.

g. Facilities Committee – Ken Knolhoff

1. K. Knolhoff reported that Elliot Data Systems, which is installing the secure entry system at the courthouse, should be starting their work in early November. The committee approved a bid of \$1,244 from Preferred Flooring of Breese to replace the floor in the break room of the State’s Attorney’s Office. All of the department heads have marked their boxes for documents which can be shredded. The county will be coordinating a shredding day with the Corps of Engineers.
2. Motion - Approve Resolution Waiving Local Government Professional Services Selection Act Requirements for Architectural Services and Approve Hiring Gary Karasek as Architect for the Courthouse Roof.

K. Knolhoff explained that the committee is asking to waive the selection process for architectural services and approve hiring Karasek. The purpose is to make any necessary roof repairs to the courthouse roof prior to replacing the rooftop HVAC system. Specs from engineers on the HVAC system are coming back in 30 days so there is not enough time to go through the normal selection process for an architect for the roof repairs.

K. Knolhoff said Karasek has already been working with the county on the proposed new Health Department Building. His maximum fee for the roof work is \$9,700, but that could be less. After inspections are completed, he will provide a recommendation on roof repairs. Brandmeyer explained the lengthy process of seeking bids under the Local Government Professional Services Selection Act and the length of time involved. He also noted that the act allows waiver of the selection process if an emergency exists or if the contract is an amount under \$40,000. Middendorff asked why the county did not reach out to any architects in Clinton County. He feels the county had ample time to reach out to other potential firms. Johnson said he initiated the contract with Karasek because he’s already working in Carlyle, and he thought it would save some money to have him work at the courthouse while he’s already working with the health department. Middendorff said he has nothing against Karasek, he’s just not in favor of the process.

K. 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 (Yes); Strieker

(Yes); Sullivan (Yes); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Yes); Wesselmann (Yes); White (Yes).

Motion Carried 13-1.

h. Animal Control/County Farm Committee – Craig Taylor

1. Taylor said that 63 cats were taken in this past month with 34 strays, 40 rescued and 6 put down. There were 36 dogs taken in with 10 strays, 20 surrendered, 6 reclaimed, 12 adopted, 5 rescued and one on rabies hold. Two employees will be attending euthanasia training. Plans are ready to proceed with seeking bids on the Multi-Purpose Building with the bids due by early December. The county hopes to use ARPA funding to help pay for this building.
2. Motion to Approve – Seeking Bids for Multi-Purpose Building  
Taylor made a motion for a roll call vote. Wesselmann seconded the motion.

Heinzmann (Yes); Knolhoff, B (Yes), Knolhoff, K (Yes); Kreke (Yes); Middendorff (Yes); Netemeyer (Yes); Nordike (Yes); Rapien (Yes); Strieker (Yes); Sullivan (Yes); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Yes); Wesselmann (Yes); White (Yes).  
Motion Carried 14-0.

- i. Education Committee – James White  
No Report.
- j. Veterans Committee – Bob Netemeyer  
Netemeyer reminded board members that the Veterans Day Parade will be held on Nov. 11 in Carlyle. He asked the board to remember all veterans and to thank them for their service.
- 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 September.  
Taylor made a motion to approve the Treasurer’s Monthly Report.  
Sullivan seconded the motion. Motion Carried.  
B. Knolhoff reported the county received an oil check for \$14,951.08 and \$7,275.00 was collected for video gaming last month. Notices of delinquent property taxes are being sent on Oct. 27.
    - ii. The committee met October 7 and October 13 to work on the FY 2022 budget  
Accountant Fred Becker reviewed the tentative budget numbers. A budget hearing will be held at 6:30 p.m. on November 15 prior to the regular County Board meeting, and there could be some minor changes made before then. With the General Fund, the estimated revenue of \$9,178,707 is slightly higher than last year in spite of the complications of Covid. General and Administrative expenses are estimated at \$2,326,350 which includes health insurance for all of the employees, maintenance for all of the buildings, repairs, board per diems, professional expenses and more. The sheriff’s budget is the largest line item in the General Fund. It increases from \$3,369,400 to \$3,557,000 mostly due to salary increases. General Fund expenses total \$9,178,707, the same as estimated revenue; however, Becker said he estimated the revenue on the low side. With Special Revenue Funds, Becker said there is some available cash that could be used if needed for some of the larger upcoming projects, including over \$80,000 in the REA Economic Development Fund, over \$600,000 in the Building Fund; \$250,000 in the CDAP Recapture Fund; \$125,000 in the Industrial Park Fund; and \$2.2 million in the County Coal Rights Fund (which is earmarked for any building improvements). Becker said these funds may not be spent but they are available and budgeted if needed. One new Special Revenue Fund is the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Fund in which the county has already received half of its anticipated \$7.2 million allocation. These funds will help finance the health building, the new HVAC system and a portion of the proposed multi-purpose building. Highway Funds include estimated receipts and expenditures of \$6.5 million each with a starting and ending balance of \$5.5 million. The county’s 19 Special Service Area

(ambulance) contracts have been filed with the State's Attorney's Office. Becker noted that the six contracts handled by Med-Star have maintained the same budget and will not be seeking a levy increase. The 2021 estimated assessed valuation for the county is \$739,786,702, as compared to \$695,329,738 for 2020, and the county will be reducing its requested tax levy from .8122 to .7061. Overall, the county will be requesting \$6,130,559 (which includes the levies for the 19 SSAs) as compared to \$6,595,594 last year.

- iii. 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 and/or subsequently sold by the county's tax agent. The resolutions include two additional properties that the tax agent has sold for the county.

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 (Yes); Strieker (Yes); Sullivan (Yes); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Yes); Wesselmann (Yes); White (Yes). Motion Carried 14-0.

- iv. B. Knolhoff reported that the committee met with the Health Board chairman and health administrator at its Oct. 13 meeting to discuss funding options and financial responsibilities related to the construction of a new health department. The committee also discussed employee health insurance and the proposed new countywide radio emergency system.

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

- 1. White reported that the committee met Oct. 12. The sheriff's office hired a new deputy to fill the vacancy created by Dan Travous' appointment as sheriff. CCEMA director Tim Schleper said he has all of the materials needed to complete some renovation work to his facility. ID Networks is scheduled to be online by the end of the year.

m. Road and Bridge Committee – Bryan Wessel

1. Monthly County Engineer Report – Dan Behrens

- i. Motion to Approve – Local Public Agency Engineering Services Agreement with HMG Engineers for a federally funded bridge replacement project in Meridian Township. Behrens said the project will be federally funded 80 percent with the county and township each paying 10 percent. Eighty percent of the engineering costs will be paid by the State/Township Bridge Fund with the county and township splitting the remaining 20 percent.

Wessel 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 (Yes); Strieker (Yes); Sullivan (Yes); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Yes); Wesselmann (Yes); White (Yes). Motion Carried 14-0.

Behrens said he will be involved in a public hearing on Oct. 27 concerning the

vacation of a section of roadway, a low-water crossing on West Tenth Street in Brookside Township. Behrens explained that to vacate a road, it takes a minimum of 12 property owners in the township to petition the road commissioner. The road commissioner denied the request, so the petitioners then have an opportunity to appeal the decision, and the appeal is heard by the county engineer. Behrens also reported on new requirements for certain bridge inspections and gave an update on Fuehne Subdivision in Aviston.

n. Personnel/Labor Committee – Mike Kreke

1. Kreke reported that the Highway Department foreman had a previous agreement with the county and the terms of that agreement should have been incorporated in to the county's Personnel Code, regarding salary, salary increase and benefits. Kreke said when the current foreman retires, the next foreman will have to negotiate new terms.

Motion to Approve – Addition to County Personnel Code Concerning Highway Foreman's Salary and Benefits

Kreke 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 (No); Rapien (Yes); Strieker (Yes); Sullivan (Yes); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Yes); Wesselmann (Yes); White (Yes). Motion Carried 13-1.

2. Motion – Resolution Approving a Collective Bargaining Agreement and Incentive Bonus Agreement Between Clinton County and the Clinton County Sheriff and the Illinois FOP.

Kreke 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 (Yes); Strieker (Yes); Sullivan (Yes); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Yes); Wesselmann (Yes); White (Yes). Motion Carried 14-0.

## 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

Wesselmann made a motion to approve the Health Department Monthly Report.

Netemeyer seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

White reported that the Health Board met on Oct 5. All grants for the next fiscal year have been approved and signed. The county's Covid positivity rate is at 3.4 percent, which is below the regional rate of 4.3 percent. The testing site is still administering over 100 tests per day. The site is open four days a week from 9 to 11 a.m. As of Oct. 5, 48.81 percent of the county's population has been fully vaccinated

while the state average is 55 percent. The board discussed how the new health building will be funded after it is built in regard to maintenance, utilities, etc. It was agreed that members of the Health Board would attend the next Finance Committee meeting. There was some deliberation about the preliminary building plans.

c. GIS Committee – Craig Taylor

1. The committee was informed by Supervisor of Assessments Linda Mensing that the GIS processing fees are a little low. She also mentioned that reproducing some of the shape files and other GIS materials can be somewhat expensive. The committee discussed having Sidwell handle some of the GIS requests.

d. 911 Committee – Mike Kreke

No Report

e. Technology Support – James White

No Report

f. UCCI – Jim Sullivan

1. Sullivan noted that the UCCI Fall Conference is October 22 and 23.

g. Reorganization Committee – Mike Kreke

1. Motion – Ordinance Approving County Board Decennial Redistricting

Kreke explained that the two main changes are that Santa Fe Township was added to District 1 and Wheatfield Township and Wade 1 Precinct were added to District 2.

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 (Yes); Rapien (Yes); Strieker

(Yes); Sullivan (No); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Yes); Wesselmann (Yes); White (Yes).

Motion Carried 13-1.

2. Motion to Approve – Ordinance Affixing County Board Compensation

Kreke said starting December 1, 2022, County Board members' compensation will include a per diem, a flat fee and an expense allotment. He said the per diem amount has been decreased and the total cost will remain similar to the current board compensation.

Kreke 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 (Yes); Strieker

(Yes); Sullivan (Yes); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Yes); Wesselmann (Yes); White (Yes).

Motion Carried 14-0.

3. Regarding committees, Kreke said the number of standing committees was reduced to nine. All existing committees were addressed with some being combined. The Facilities, Health Department and Technology committees were combined with the Finance Committee since funding must be approved on a regular basis for these committees. Subcommittees can be formed as needed to work on special projects.

Many of the committees are reduced down to three members. Heinzmann suggested that the Insurance Committee remain five members due to the amount of liability. Nordike he believes the nine Finance Committee members should be rotated so that the entire board gets a voice on some of the larger financial decisions.

Motion to Approve – Amendment to the Proposed Committee Ordinance to Retain Five Members on the Insurance Committee

Heinzmann 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 (Yes); Rapien (Yes); Strieker (Yes); Sullivan (Yes); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Yes); Wesselmann (Yes); White (Yes).  
Motion Carried 14-0.

Motion to Approve – Ordinance Consolidating County Board Committees with the Change that the Insurance Committee Remains Five Members

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

Heinzmann (Yes); Knolhoff, B (Yes), Knolhoff, K (Yes); Kreke (Yes); Middendorff (Yes); Netemeyer (Yes); Nordike (Yes); Rapien (Yes); Strieker (Yes); Sullivan (Yes); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Yes); Wesselmann (Yes); White (Yes).  
Motion Carried 14-0.

#### **11. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE**

B. Knolhoff 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 (No); Rapien (Yes); Strieker (Yes); Sullivan (Yes); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Yes); Wesselmann (Yes); White (Yes). Motion Carried 10-4.

#### **12. COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS**

#### **13. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

#### **14. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS**

- a. Motion – Appointment – Craig Lampe – 911 Board
- b. Motion – Appointment – Jim Kniepman – 911 Board
- c. Motion – Appointment – Ryan Hughes – 911 Board

Johnson made a motion for a roll call vote to approve all three appointments. Nordike seconded the motion.

Heinzmann (Yes); Knolhoff, B (Yes), Knolhoff, K (Yes); Kreke (Yes); Middendorff (Yes); Netemeyer (Yes); Nordike (Yes); Rapien (Yes); Strieker (Yes); Sullivan (Yes); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Yes); Wesselmann (Yes); White (Yes).  
Motion Carried 14-0.

**15. NEW BUSINESS**

**16. ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2021**

Taylor made a motion to adjourn until Monday, November 15, 2021 with the Budget Hearing to begin at 6:30 p.m. following by the regular meeting at 7 p.m. Sullivan seconded the motion. Motion Carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

ATTEST:



Vicky Albers  
County Clerk & Recorder