

CLINTON COUNTY BOARD MEETING
September 20, 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 September 20, 2021. The meeting was held with options for Zoom and Conference Call.

3. ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

Present: Johnson, B. Knolhoff, K. Knolhoff, Kreke, Middendorff, Netemeyer, Rapien, Strieker, Sullivan, Taylor, Wessel, Wesselmann, White. Absent: Heinzmann and Nordike. 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 August 16, 2021 regular meeting. Sullivan seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

6. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

7. PUBLIC MAY APPROACH THE BOARD

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 – Michael Ranch – 2 Lot – Clement Township

Staser explained that this property is northeast of Huey and on the north side of Old Route 50. This is a family split with two lots that are 1 acre and 3.8 acres. Taylor made a motion for a roll call vote. Rapien seconded the motion.

Heinzmann (Absent); Knolhoff, B (Yes), Knolhoff, K (Yes); Kreke (Yes); Middendorff (Yes); Netemeyer (Yes); Nordike (Absent); Rapien (Yes); Strieker (Yes); Sullivan (Yes); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Yes); Wesselmann (Yes); White (Yes). Motion Carried 12-0.

ii. Motion to Approve – Final Plat – Jim Nehrt’s First Subdivision – 1 Lot - Carlyle Township

The property is south of Carlyle off of Route 127 on Highline Road.
Wessel made a motion for a roll call vote. Sullivan seconded the motion.
Heinzmann (Absent); Knolhoff, B (Yes), Knolhoff, K (Yes); Kreke (Yes);
Middendorff (Yes); Netemeyer (Yes); Nordike (Absent); Rapien (Yes); Strieker
(Yes); Sullivan (Yes); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Yes); Wesselmann (Yes); White (Yes).
Motion Carried 12-0.

- iii. Motion to Approve – Final Plat - Bruce Gross’ First Subdivision - 3 Lots - St. Rose Township
Lots 1 and 2 are each 3 acres and lot 3 is 7.76 acres.
Taylor made a motion for a roll call vote. Strieker seconded the motion.
Heinzmann (Absent); Knolhoff, B (Yes), Knolhoff, K (Yes); Kreke (Yes);
Middendorff (Yes); Netemeyer (Yes); Nordike (Absent); Rapien (Yes); Strieker
(Yes); Sullivan (Yes); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Yes); Wesselmann (Yes); White (Yes).
Motion Carried 12-0.
- iv. Motion to Approve – Map Amendment - Agricultural (A) to Agricultural-Residential (A-R) Carlyle Township – Larry Gent
Staser said the property includes 29 acres and is east of Carlyle on the south side of Old Route 50. Staser said the property owner has indicated that he intends to keep the back 18 acres as farm ground with his granddaughter building on the front of the property. Any future division of the property would have to go through the subdivision approval process.
Wessel made a motion for a roll call vote. Rapien seconded the motion.
Heinzmann (Absent); Knolhoff, B (No), Knolhoff, K (No); Kreke (Yes);
Middendorff (No); Netemeyer (Yes); Nordike (Absent); Rapien (Yes); Strieker
(Yes); Sullivan (No); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Yes); Wesselmann (No); White (Yes).
Motion Failed 7-5 (Need simple majority which is 8 per state’s attorney)
- v. Motion to Approve – Resolution for the Comprehensive Plan Update
A public hearing for the updated Comprehensive Plan was held on July 20 followed by a 30-day public comment period. All comments were forwarded to the board members for review.
Middendorff made a motion for a roll call vote. Wessel seconded the motion.
Heinzmann (Absent); Knolhoff, B (Yes), Knolhoff, K (Yes); Kreke (No);
Middendorff (Yes); Netemeyer (Yes); Nordike (Absent); Rapien (Yes); Strieker
(Yes); Sullivan (Yes); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Yes); Wesselmann (Yes); White (Yes).
Motion Carried 11-1.

b. Economic Development/Enterprise Zone – Keith Nordike
No Report.

c. Tourism Committee – Jim Sullivan

- 1. Wesselmann said the committee discussed the KingKat Fishing Tournament at Carlyle Lake and watched a video regarding a proposal to convert the CSX Railroad into a bike path. Wesselmann said the proposal is still in the early stages, and while the railroad

track is decommissioned, it is still being used. The committee postponed any vote of support pending more information and opinions from the local municipalities affected by the proposal.

- d. Environmental Concerns/Unincorporated/Solid Waste – Nelson Heinzmann
No Report
- e. Assessment Committee – Bryan Wessel
 - 1. Wessel reported that the ownership transfers for the past month were up 19 from 2020 and sold properties were up 7. Nearly all of the township assessors have completed their work for this year, and evidence is waiting to be heard on six appeal cases.
- f. Insurance/ICIT – Nelson Heinzmann
 - 1. Strieker gave the monthly Einstein Consulting report showing that total fees are down 29 percent as compared to this time last year, pharmacy expenses were up 7 percent, medical claims were down 33 percent and fixed costs were down 33 percent. Total costs so far in the plan year are the second lowest in 16 years. For this Fiscal Year, claims and fees are 28 percent under budget without reimbursements and 51 percent under budget with reimbursements. The committee discussed retiree health insurance and that discussion will continue at the next meeting on October 11. ICRMT Training for department heads is scheduled for Dec. 17.
- g. Facilities Committee – Ken Knolhoff
 - 1. Ken Knolhoff reported that Elliott Data Systems, Inc. is waiting on parts before installation can begin on the new secure-entry system for the courthouse. Carpeting in the break room of the State’s Attorney’s Office will be replaced with laminate. Knolhoff said the carpeting was not replaced when other renovations took place at the courthouse some years ago. With it being a small room, this will not be a large expense. The Health Department is hoping to get a grant to purchase a new generator.
- h. Animal Control/County Farm Committee – Craig Taylor
 - 1. Taylor said that 61 cats were taken in this past month. Forty-two were rescued. There were 37 dogs taken in with 2 surrendered, 7 rescued and two on rabies hold. The committee is still discussing plans for the proposed Animal Control/Multi-Purpose building.
- i. Education Committee – James White
 - 1. White said the committee met with Illinois Extension Service to discuss their tax levy for the next Fiscal Year. They had asked for over a 2 percent increase, but the committee voted on accepting a .6 percent increase.
- 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 August.

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

Wessel seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

Trame reported the county received \$6,449.97 for video gaming last month. The second installment of property taxes is due Sept. 28.

ii. Motion to Approve – Letter of Support for Aviston TIF #1 Extension.

Brad Knolhoff explained that the village has redrawn their TIF #1 district and has subsequently reduced it in size.

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

Heinzmann (Absent); Knolhoff, B (Yes), Knolhoff, K (Yes); Kreke (Yes);

Middendorff (Yes); Netemeyer (Yes); Nordike (Absent); Rapien (Yes); Strieker

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

(Yes). Motion Carried 11-1.

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.

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

Heinzmann (Absent); Knolhoff, B (Yes), Knolhoff, K (Yes); Kreke (Yes);

Middendorff (Yes); Netemeyer (Yes); Nordike (Absent); Rapien (Yes); Strieker

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

Motion Carried 12-0.

B. Knolhoff reported that the committee heard a presentation by Mazzitello

Professional Services to upgrade the county’s emergency radio communications

system. The system is outdated and the committee is trying to determine what can be

done to either repair or replace the system. The county is contracting with

Mazzitello to conduct a review of the current system and provide estimates and a

comparison of various replacement options.

The committee continues to work with accountant Fred Becker on finalizing a budget

for the next fiscal year. A special Finance Committee meeting is planned for 6 p.m.

on Oct. 7 to further review the budget.

Lastly, Knolhoff said, the committee received a preliminary report from

Bellweather, LLC concerning eligible uses for American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)

funding. The committee will use this report to further determine the best use of the

grant funds.

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

No Report

m. Road and Bridge Committee – Bryan Wessel

1. Monthly County Engineer Report – Dan Behrens

i. Motion to Approve – Resolution to Support the City of Breese’s Effort to Construct a new At-Grade Intersection on US Route 50

Behrens said the area east of the hospital along Holy Cross Lane has experienced significant growth in the last 10-12 years. The city would like to improve traffic flow by adding an access/at-grade intersection constructed at the Koch Lane/Bluff Road intersection. They have asked the county, Breese Township and surrounding businesses to provide resolutions of support for their interchange proposal. The timeframe for something like this to be accomplished could be 8 to 10 years.

Behrens said; however, that they are currently looking for support to lobby for funding. Any kind of grant would also have to include upgrades to the township roads, Behrens said.

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

Heinzmann (Absent); Knolhoff, B (Yes), Knolhoff, K (Yes); Kreke (Yes); Middendorff (Yes); Netemeyer (Abstain); Nordike (Absent); Rapien (Yes); Strieker (Yes); Sullivan (Yes); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Yes); Wesselmann (Yes); White (Yes). Motion Carried 11-0.

Behrens said rumble strips have been installed at the intersection of Boulder Road and Old Route 50. Behrens previously wrote a letter to the state since that stop sign is in under their jurisdiction. He said they had increased the size of the stop signs and placed reflective strips on the sign posts.

The contractor for the bridge in Wade Township on Pipeline Road finished the project in less than a month. The road is open to traffic; however, the approaches have not yet been chipped and oiled.

The tentative bid letting date for the Rebuild Illinois project on Aviston/Albers Road is Jan. 28. The county is still waiting on state approval of the final plans.

n. Personnel/Labor Committee – Mike Kreke

1. Kreke reported that negotiations are continuing with the PBPA for the body politic employees with no resolution to date. Negotiations with the FOP appears to be going into arbitration. The Probation Department is looking into a grant to add two employees in their office. Chief Probation Officer Carla Stalnaker will be providing the committee with more information in the future.

i. Motion to Approve – Settlement Agreement with Charlie Becherer for \$3,308.78.

Kreke explained that this stems from a grievance filed by Becherer over money that he claimed was owed to him at retirement.

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

Heinzmann (Absent); Knolhoff, B (Yes), Knolhoff, K (Yes); Kreke (Yes); Middendorff (Yes); Netemeyer (No); Nordike (Absent); Rapien (Yes); Strieker (Yes); Sullivan (Yes); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Yes); Wesselmann (Yes); White (Yes). Motion Carried 11-1.

10. SPECIAL COMMITTEES

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

White reported that the committee heard a presentation from the Community of Mental Health Authorities of Illinois regarding becoming a member. It was discussed in committee; however, members felt that the cost of membership did not align with the benefits that the county would receive so they are holding off at this time. The 708 Board welcomed Dennie Perez from the Sheriff's Office as its new member

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.

White reported that the board met on Sept. 7. Health Department Administrator Chris Leidel gave his report. As of that date, the COVID positivity rates were trending back down and 45.9 percent of county residents who are eligible to receive the COVID vaccine have been vaccinated, for a total of 17,278 people. This lags behind the state vaccination rate of 52.9 percent. The health department has secured a grant for a new generator and this equipment could be used in the new building. A previous power outage (pre-pandemic) destroyed an estimated \$10,000 in vaccines. White reported that a portion of the ARPA funding will be allocated for the construction of a new health department building. To streamline that process, the Health Board has turned over all building-related matters to the county's Facilities Committee with the Health Board serving in an advisory position.

c. GIS Committee – Craig Taylor

No Report

d. 911 Committee – Mike Kreke

1. Kreke reported that Mazzitello Professional Services spoke at their last meeting regarding the audit of the countywide emergency radio system.

e. Technology Support – James White

1. White noted that cyber security consultant James Peterson discussed his findings after reviewing the report of the January ransomware. He made some recommendations but was very pleased with the work IT manager John Skain has done to prepare the county moving forward. The committee had a lengthy discussion about assigning some of the IT responsibilities to an actual county employee.

f. UCCI – Jim Sullivan

1. The UCCI Fall Conference is Oct. 22 and 23. There was a lot of discussion among UCCI counties about employees being able to receive premium pay through the ARPA

grant funding. It was determined that elected officials cannot receive such pay increases since their salaries cannot be adjusted during their term of office.

g. Reorganization Committee – Mike Kreke

1. Kreke said County Clerk Vicky Albers provided the committee with 2020 census numbers along with a breakdown by township and voting precinct. The committee will meet to review those numbers and he hopes to have a revised map ready for approval at the October board meeting.

11. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

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

Heinzmann (Absent); Knolhoff, B (Yes), Knolhoff, K (Yes); Kreke (No); Middendorff (No); Netemeyer (No); Nordike (Absent); Rapien (Yes); Strieker (Yes); 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, OCTOBER 18, 2021

Taylor made a motion to adjourn until Monday, October 18, 2021. Wessel seconded the motion. Motion Carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

ATTEST:



Vicky Albers
County Clerk & Recorder