

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD MEETING
JANUARY 11, 2022

The reconvened and adjourned meeting of the County Board of Washington County, Illinois was held at the Washington County Courthouse Nashville, Illinois on January 11, 2022 for the purpose of transacting county business that might come before the Board.

Present and presiding were Chairman David Meyer and Shari Hempen, County Clerk and Clerk of the Board.

Others present were Matt Bierman-EMA, Sheriff Len Campbell, Ryan Wiedwilt-911 Joint Committee member, Janessa Rhymer-911 Coordinator, Debbie Stricker-Okawville Times, John Felchlia-Ambulance Administrator, Dan Janowski-State's Attorney, Kiefer Heiman-Highway Supervisor.

Following the Lord's Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance, Chairman Meyer called the meeting of the Washington County Board to order at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call was taken by Clerk Hempen with 13 members present and 2 absent. Those present were Bening, Brammeier, Hohlt, Ibendahl, Karg, Klingenberg, Lamczyk, Muentner, Shemonic, Small, Suedmeyer, Unverfehrt and Meyer. Absent were Barczewski and Todd.

Chairman Meyer asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of the Regular County Board Meeting on December 14, 2021. With no corrections, a motion was made by Shemonic and seconded by Lamczyk to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Chairman Meyer welcomed David Karg, to the Board. He also welcomed back Brian Klingenberg after being absent because of illness.

Kiefer Heiman, County Engineer, brought before the Board **(RESOLUTION #2022-1) replace a failing drainage structure on TR143, Stone Church Road, Johannsburg Road District south half of Section 13 T2S, R5W (See Exhibit A)**. Heiman asked for a single vote since they were all in the same township.

Kiefer Heiman, County Engineer, brought before the Board **(RESOLUTION #2022-2) replace a failing drainage structure TR143, Stone Church Road, Johannsburg Road District NE corner of Section 24, T2S, and R5W (See Exhibit B)**.

Kiefer Heiman, County Engineer, brought before the Board **(RESOLUTION #2022-3) Repair 4 failing drainage structures TR 141A, Old St. Louis Road, Johannsburg Road District NE corner of Section 20, and the south half of Section 17, T2S, R5W (See Exhibit C)**.

A motion was made by Brammeier and seconded by Ibendahl. Motion carried.

The Claims against the County Report was presented to the Board for approval by Ibendahl. TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE BOARD: YOUR COMMITTEE ON January 10, 2022 EXAMINED ALL CLAIMS PRESENTED AND RECOMMENDS PAYMENT TO THE FOLLOWING AND THE CLERK BE DIRECTED TO ISSUE ORDER ON THE COUNTY TREASURER TO THE CLAIMANTS FOR THE AMOUNTS ALLOWED. **(See Exhibit D)** A motion was made by Ibendahl and seconded by Small to accept the report as presented. Roll call vote was taken with 13 ayes and 0 nays. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Ibendahl and seconded by Karg to make restitution to the County Board's Per Diems. Motion carried.

The State's Attorney Monthly Report Janowski appeared before the Board to present his monthly report for approval. **(See Exhibit E)** A motion was made by Shemonic and seconded by Bening to accept the report as presented. Motion carried.

The County Clerk and Recorder's Monthly Report Clerk Hemen presented the County Clerk's report to the Board for approval. **(See Exhibit F)** A motion was made by Suedmeyer and seconded by Muentner to approve the report as presented. Motion carried.

Clerk Hemen Informed the County Board that Donna Johannes is her Chief Deputy.

Resolution #2022-4 Chairman be authorized to execute a Deed of Conveyance of the County's Interest (Permanent Parcel #07-09-13-354-001) **(See Exhibit G)**

Resolution #2022-5 Chairman be authorized to execute a Deed of Conveyance of the County's Interest (Permanent Parcel #01-14-27-256-009, 011) **(See Exhibit H)**

Resolution #2022-6 Chairman be authorized to execute a Deed of Conveyance of the County's Interest (Permanent Parcel #01-14-27-231-004) **(See Exhibit I)**

Resolution #2022-7 Chairman be authorized to execute a Deed of Conveyance of the County's Interest (Permanent Parcel #01-14-22-463-008) **(See Exhibit J)**

Resolution #2022-8 Chairman be authorized to execute a Deed of Conveyance of the County's Interest (Permanent Parcel #01-14-22-463-007) **(See Exhibit K)**

A motion was made by Shemonic and seconded by Hohlt to authorize Chairman Meyer to execute the deeds for all 5 resolutions. Motion carried.

The Sheriff's Monthly Report Sheriff Campbell presented his report to the Board for approval **(See Exhibit L)**. A motion was made by Karg and seconded by Suedmeyer to approve the report as presented. Motion carried.

The Emergency Ambulance and Rescue Service Monthly Report John Felchli Ambulance Administrator presented his report to the Board for approval. **(See Exhibit M)** A motion was made by Hohlt and seconded by Klingenberg to approve the report as presented. Motion carried.

The Treasurer's Monthly Cash Flow Statement and Budgetary status Reports for Period ending 11/30/2021 (See Exhibits N & O) & 12/31/2021 (See Exhibits P & Q), Annual Interest Earned 12/1/2020-11/30/2021 (See Exhibit R). A motion was made by Small and seconded by Brammeier to accept the report as presented subject to audit review. Motion carried.

Bighthouse Financial Inc. was an insurance program the county participated in many years ago. In order to sell the shares the County has, they will need to appoint someone to act on their behalf. A motion was made by Suedmeyer to give Treasurer Natalie Lynch and himself permission to sign for the shares the County has. Hohlt seconded the motion. Motion carried.

At this time, Chairman Meyer called for committee reports.

Finance, Claims & Economic Development- 1 meeting

County Buildings- 2 meetings.

Animal Control- No meeting

Legislative- No meeting

Personnel, Policy & Appointments:

Ibendahl presented an **Employment agreement for Washington County Clerk Shari Hempfen** for Board approval. **(See Exhibit S)** A motion was made by Ibendahl and seconded by Lamczyk to accept the agreement as presented. Motion carried.

Ibendahl told the Board that the Committee also met concerning the OSHA regulations on employee vaccinations. He handed out 2 different draft policies for the Board members to look over. Small said the County needs to come up with a plan by the February Board meeting, if we have to implement a policy. He does not know the exact dates as everything is up in the air. Small spoke with Doehring's Pharmacy and they are well equipped to take over any testing we have at no cost to the County and will try and make accommodations to the workers. They can do up to 200 tests per day. Matt Bierman EMA administrator said 35 employees have not been vaccinated out of 120 employees. Ibendahl said they are trying to do it a way that if employees don't want to get the vaccine they won't be out of a job, it's too hard to hire new people. Bierman said one of the drafts is a full on mandate and the other is offer the vaccine or get tested. Those are the two choices to pick from. Chairman Meyer wanted to add to the discussion that the Health Department only gives out the shots they have never gotten involved in the actual testing. They do not have the manpower to do that, if the question comes up.

(See Exhibit T & U)

Ibendahl said the Personnel Committee is looking to fill 1 spot on the Washington County Hospital Board. He will put an ad in the newspaper in the next few days.

Insurance- 1 meeting

Ambulance- 2 meetings. The new Ambulance is here and went into service January 10th. It is a duplicate to the one we got last year.

Environmental, EMA & Zoning- No meeting

County Health Department- No meeting

Road & Bridge-1 meeting

Communications/Drug Task-1 joint meeting with 911

Hohlt asked permission of Chairman Meyer to allow members of the committee in the audience to speak if he cannot answer the questions. Chairman Meyer said he will check with the Board members on that committee first, then if there is a question they cannot answer it will go in that direction. The Committee has met 4 times since September issues with dispatch that need to be resolved. Hohlt said it will not be an easy fix to get resolved and it will take time. Hohlt is asking the Board to let the joint committee pursue to put administrative/protocols together as far as operation of dispatch center, hiring, training and general operation. Hohlt asked permission for Ryan Wiedwilt, Joint committee member to speak. Weidwilt came up with a one page overview **(See Exhibit V)** of his observations and comments on what he feels could help our dispatch center. Wiedwilt told the board that Janessa Rhymer and he were given the opportunity to meet with Brittany Bateman in the Dispatch Center to learn more about the training efforts centered on new employees. He said they spent approximately 2 ½ hours in the dispatch center with Brittany. Wiedwilt said Brittany was very helpful in describing how a new employee is onboarded. During their visit they took the opportunity to evaluate and document areas of opportunity to help improve the dispatch program. The overview he presented are his observations and comments on what he feels will help out our dispatch center. Wiedwilt

thanked the board for their time. Chairman Meyer asked if there were any questions. He also stated that training is overwhelming compared to a year ago and even several years ago it is getting to be an expensive item. Every department is requiring more and more training. Hohlt stated it is not going to be easy and will take time to put together protocols and a training guide. They won't have anything by the February Board meeting will probably be a few months before anything is brought back to the full Board. Chairman Meyer asked Sheriff Campbell if he had any comments. The Sheriff said he thinks Ryan and Janessa did a great job in putting together and identifying the problems. He said ideally it would be good to have a trainer to separate from the duties of a dispatcher, but it is going to take a process. We do not have the resources to take a dispatcher out to make them solely a trainer. Sheriff Campbell said he agreed with everything he said and it's needed. He said since the last Joint committee meeting he has a training policy he got from Centralia to look at, and it could help with the training manual. But as far as human resources that is going to take a process. Chairman Meyer said it is time to take a step forward, it's in your hands what do you want to do he asked the County Board. Shemonic stated he would like to make a motion that the Board allows us to pursue, the Committee pursue to put together a Supervisor/Coordinator. He said he is trying to do this to proceed with putting this into effect. Chairman Meyer asked Shemonic if he was making that a motion and he said yes. Small seconded that motion. Meyer asked if there were any other comments. Unverfehrt asked on the motion shouldn't we be addressing the plan on how we go about it, the book. "I think that should be in the motion that is just as important", that is what we have discussed, that is just as important as looking for a trainer. You have to have a training policy before you can get anything else started. Shemonic then added training manual to his motion, he also asked for a roll call vote. Roll call was taken with 13 ayes and 0 nays.

Cemetery- No meeting

Planning Commission- No meeting

Education- No meeting

Claims against the County- 1 meeting

South Central IL. Growth Alliance- No meeting

Solid Waste- No meeting

Enterprise Zone (Nashville) - No meeting

Enterprise Zone (Centralia) - No meeting

911- 1 Joint meeting with Communications/Drug Task

Safety- No meeting

Chairman Meyer passed out the updated County Board Committee list he also told the Board to plan on having a busier year than normal. There is one item that needs to be done, that is a Personnel Manual. With the upcoming Negotiations this year it will get done it's going to take some time.

A motion was made by Suedmeyer and seconded by Muentner to approve payment of monthly utility expenses and payroll expenses. Motion carried.

Chairman Meyer asked for any comments from the public.

Sheriff Campbell wanted to ask a question going back to the communication committee motion. Sheriff Campbell asked; "Ms. County Clerk would you tell me, I was a little confused as to what exactly the motion was there was a lot of discussion. Could you read back to me what that motion was"? Clerk Hempen told the Sheriff she will try I'm relying on my tape. The motion she read back was; to allow the committee to pursue supervisor/coordinator for dispatch proceed with putting this into effect and to add the training manual with it. "I'll have to listen to my tape I could not write that fast. Sheriff said okay I'm still a little confused. Chairman Meyer asked if that answered his question, he said yes. Meyer asked if he would want to listen to the tape, Sheriff said he was pretty sure it wouldn't clear it up.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be February 8, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

A motion was made by Klingenberg and seconded by Ibendahl to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting of the Washington County Board adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Shari Hempen, Washington County Clerk and Clerk of the Board