

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNTY BOARD
KNOX COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

July 22, 2015

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
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COUNTY OF KNOX)

Proceedings of the Regular Meeting of the Knox County Board held at the Knox County Courthouse, Galesburg, Illinois on Wednesday, July 22, 2015, at 6:03 p.m.

The Meeting was called to order by County Board Chairman Brian Friedrich and upon roll call the following Members reported present:

District 1	Lyle Johnson
District 2	Greg “Chops” Bacon
District 3	Barbara Foster
District 4	George Knapp
District 5	Brian Friedrich
District 1	Cheryl Nache
District 2	John Hunigan
District 3	Pamela Davidson
District 5	Ricardo “Rick” Sandoval
District 1	Richard Conklin
District 2	Robert “Bob” Bondi
District 3	Trisha Hurst
District 4	Shawn Pitman
District 5	Jeff Jefferson

And those absent: District 4 David Erickson

Also present was Sheriff Dave Clague, State’s Attorney John Pepmeyer, County Treasurer Robin Davis and County Clerk Scott Erickson.

Sheriff Dave Clague delivered the proclamation. Chairman Friedrich led the Members in the pledge to the flag. Rev. Shawn Smith of Galesburg delivered the invocation.

Chairman Friedrich asked for additions or deletions to the agenda. There were none.

Chairman Friedrich asked for public comments. There were none.

Motion was made by Member Sandoval and seconded by Member Pitman to approve the following items of the consent agenda: 1) minutes of the Regular and Closed Board Meeting on June 24, 2015, 2) claims by Members for per diem and mileage for the Meeting of July 22, 2015 and other claims for per diem from meetings, and 3) sales tax and various taxes for the month of

April 2015 in the amounts of \$105,025.83 and \$28,535.45 and public safety tax in the amount of \$86,176.71. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Bacon, Foster, Knapp, Friedrich, Nache, Hunigan, Davidson, Sandoval, Conklin, Bondi, Hurst, Pitman, and Jefferson—(14). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Sandoval and seconded by Member Jefferson to approve the appointment of Melvin Rash to the Spoon Lake Sanitary District. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Bacon, Foster, Knapp, Friedrich, Nache, Hunigan, Davidson, Sandoval, Conklin, Bondi, Hurst, Pitman, and Jefferson—(14). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Bondi and seconded by Member Johnson to approve the appointment of Tom Dunker to the Knox County Housing Authority. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Bacon, Foster, Knapp, Friedrich, Nache, Hunigan, Davidson, Sandoval, Conklin, Bondi, Hurst, Pitman, and Jefferson—(14). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Jefferson and seconded by Member Bondi to approve the legal holiday schedule for 2016. County Clerk Scott Erickson read aloud the list of holidays for the coming year. Chairman Friedrich explained that the judges set the calendar. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Bacon, Foster, Knapp, Friedrich, Nache, Hunigan, Davidson, Sandoval, Conklin, Bondi, Hurst, Pitman, and Jefferson—(14). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Bacon and seconded by Member Pitman to remove from the table the resolution on the County employee position in the Regional Office of Education. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Bacon, Foster, Knapp, Friedrich, Nache, Hunigan, Davidson, Sandoval, Conklin, Bondi, Hurst, Pitman, and Jefferson—(14). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Bacon and seconded by Member Johnson to approve the resolution on the County employee position in the Regional Office of Education. A copy of this resolution is included in the packets. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Bacon, Foster, Knapp, Friedrich, Nache, Hunigan, Davidson, Sandoval, Conklin, Bondi, Hurst, Pitman, and Jefferson—(14). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

The Finance, Insurance, Treasurer, Judicial, and Clerk Committee report was presented by Committee Chairman Greg Bacon. The monthly reports and committee minutes are included in the packets.

Motion was made by Member Bacon and seconded by Member Jefferson to approve the contracts for Knox County Administrative Adjudication officers, attorneys Chad Long and Wayne Statham. Supervisor of Assessments, Chris Gray, reported that they are hoping to begin holding hearings August 28, 2105, at 10:00 a.m.

Chairman Friedrich stated that Attorneys Chad Long and Wayne Statham had gone to Tazewell County to watch a hearing to see how this system operates.

Ms. Gray stated that previously she, another hearing officer and former Board Member Paul Stewart had gone over to watch the hearing process. This last meeting these attorneys were

able to visit with these Tazewell County hearing officers and learn more about how this system functions. Tazewell County is willing to share their forms and respond to our questions. Tazewell County allows an hour per month for their hearings. The plan in Knox County would be for the office to handle the majority of the paper work.

Roll call vote to approve the contracts for Knox County Administrative Adjudication officers, attorneys Chad Long and Wayne Statham, is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Bacon, Foster, Knapp, Friedrich, Nache, Hunigan, Davidson, Sandoval, Conklin, Bondi, Hurst, Pitman, and Jefferson—(14). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Bacon and seconded by Member Sandoval to approve the contract for a compliance officer, Rev. Tyson Parks III. Member Bacon explained that this individual will be working with people to collect fines and fees that are due to the County. Recently Member Bacon, State's Attorney John Pepmeyer, Chairman Friedrich and Rev. Parks travelled to Tazewell County to learn how their system works. Tazewell County is willing to share their forms. There were discussions with their collection agency whose services are utilized when the compliance officer is unsuccessful. Tazewell County's operation seems to be very streamlined and effective. At their suggestion, Rev. Parks will begin with ordinance violations. Staff members from Tazewell County are willing to come over the first day and guide him through this process. Knox County hopes to get this program up and going and making money by the end of the year. It should make enough money to pay this salary and more. Clients are encouraged to be involved. Initially they will be given a survey to determine what they can afford to pay per month.

Member Davidson commented that she thinks that this is a wonderful idea to give people the opportunity to correct their situation and it will help the County. Her concern is that this should be through a different department instead of the State's Attorney's Office. This should be under the Circuit Clerk, Kelly Cheesman. This should be part of her position.

Member Bacon responded that the only way that the Circuit Clerk would do this would be through a judge's order.

Mr. Pepmeyer stated that he is willing to work with and supervise this program.

Chairman Friedrich stated that as he visited Tazewell County, his eyes were really opened to see how this program really works. He was very impressed and thinks that this program will succeed in Knox County. This officer will be working with these clients and setting them up to succeed in paying these fines. It can be very rewarding to the individual to finally get these fines paid.

Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Bacon, Foster, Knapp, Friedrich, Nache, Hunigan, Davidson, Sandoval, Conklin, Bondi, Hurst, Pitman, and Jefferson—(14). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Bacon and seconded by Member Knapp to approve the Resolution authorizing a loan from the Landfill for establishing a compliance officer. A copy of this resolution is included in the packets. Member Bacon stated that since the County does not yet have any revenue for this position, this loan will extend to the end of this fiscal year and the maximum loan amount is to be \$10,000. By the end of the year, there should be enough revenue to sustain this program. The collection agency in Tazewell County advised that this program really needs to be fully functional by the end of the year. The best collection time is January thru

April as people receive their income tax refunds. The collection agency receives 30% off the top of the money collected.

Rev. Parks stated that he would be fair but firm.

Roll call vote to approve the Resolution authorizing a maximum loan of \$10,000 from the Landfill for establishing a compliance officer is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Bacon, Foster, Knapp, Friedrich, Nache, Hunigan, Davidson, Sandoval, Conklin, Bondi, Hurst, Pitman, and Jefferson—(14). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

The Building Committee report was presented by Building Committee Co-Chairman George Knapp. The committee minutes and the monthly reports are included in the packets.

The Sheriff, Jail, Courthouse, Animal Control, Mary Davis Home, and Annex Committee report was presented by Committee Chairman Ricardo Sandoval. The monthly reports are in the packets.

Motion was made by Member Sandoval and seconded by Member Bondi to approve the purchase of squad cars for the Sheriff's Department.

Member Bacon inquired about the progress of the maintenance contract.

Sheriff Dave Clague responded that two bids had been received. Both bids are competitive. He is suggesting that this contract would be on an annual basis.

Roll call vote on the original motion is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Bacon, Foster, Knapp, Friedrich, Nache, Hunigan, Davidson, Sandoval, Conklin, Hurst, Pitman, and Jefferson—(13). Noes—(0). Pass—Bondi—(1). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Sandoval and seconded by Member Johnson to approve the maintenance contract for plumbing, HVAC, electrical, drain cleaning, fire protection, and sheet metal work with Mechanical Services, Inc. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Bacon, Foster, Knapp, Friedrich, Nache, Hunigan, Davidson, Sandoval, Conklin, Bondi, Hurst, Pitman, and Jefferson—(14). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

The Nursing Home, Assessor, Zoning, GIS, and Recorder Committee report was presented by Committee Chairman Jeff Jefferson. These monthly reports are included in the packets.

Motion was made by Member Jefferson and seconded by Member Bacon to approve a conditional use permit CU-01-15 for a home occupation pet grooming business submitted by Tracey Mas, Maquon, Illinois. Member Davidson asked for some explanation.

Supervisor of Assessments, Chris Gray stated that previously Tracey Mas had a pet grooming business in Yates City. As one adjoining business expanded, she lost her space. In an effort to continue providing services to her clients, she and her husband erected a pole type building in their back yard. She only grooms 1 to 3 animals per day and does not board animals on the premises. Since it is a home occupation, she cannot put up signage. There will not be a huge sign in front of her home, advertising this business. The business owner has city water and sewer as well as a septic system.

6:40 p.m. Member Bacon left the room.

Roll call vote to approve a conditional use permit CU-01-15 for a home occupation pet grooming business submitted by Tracey Mas, Maquon, Illinois, is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Foster, Knapp, Friedrich, Nache, Hunigan, Davidson, Sandoval, Conklin, Bondi, Hurst, Pitman, and Jefferson—(13). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

The Highway and Landfill Committee report was presented by Committee Chairman Shawn Pitman. This month the landfill took in 7,862.81 tons. Total revenue was \$272,182.58. After all expenses net income is recorded as \$85,846.39. After deductions of 10% to the contingency fund, and the \$2.00 per ton to the general fund, the total is \$42,942.98. This equals a grand total of \$73,938.

Member Davidson presented the monthly report from the Knox County Board of Health. She reported that there had been problems at the Health Department with the new financial software and specifically the vouchers. IT Director Andy Rowe had been working with them to resolve these problems. Since the State of Illinois still does not have a budget, there has not been State funding for some of the programs offered through the Health Department. It is sad to see some people unable to receive help from some of these programs, because of the State budget cuts.

Member Bondi presented the monthly report from the Galesburg Convention and Visitors' Bureau. The Visitors' Center was very pleased with the Railroad Days activities this year. The hotels were filled. The new hotel, Holiday Express, is on schedule. The new branding for the other hotel is about to occur. Funding is in place for the Channel 7 project. HD cameras will be placed in several areas, including the roof of his office building. Channel 7 is supposed to be live by the end of the month.

Member Knapp presented the monthly report from the 9-1-1 committee. He stated that he did not have anything to report. Sheriff Clague stated that new equipment has been purchased. He is hoping to have this in place by September. The governor did sign 9-1-1 legislation June 30.

Chairman Friedrich presented the monthly report from the Knox County Area Partnership for Economic Development. He stated that there was no monthly meeting. They did go to Galva, Illinois, to visit the Zane plant and were able to tour the facility. It was very informational. Production is to begin in another week.

Member Johnson presented the monthly report from Prairie Hills Resources Board. There was nothing to report at this time.

Member Davidson presented the monthly report from the United Council of Counties. She was not able to attend their most recent meeting in Galena, which was a golf outing.

Motion was made by Member Johnson and seconded by Member Nache to approve the opening of the budget for line item changes. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Foster, Knapp, Friedrich, Nache, Hunigan, Davidson, Sandoval, Conklin, Bondi, Hurst, Pitman, and Jefferson—(13). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Johnson and seconded by Member Nache to approve specific line item changes to the budget. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Foster, Knapp, Friedrich, Nache, Hunigan, Davidson, Sandoval, Conklin, Bondi, Hurst, Pitman, and Jefferson—(13). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Sandoval and seconded by Member Davidson to approve claims against Knox County, Illinois, for the period of June 25, 2105 through July 22, 2015 (ordering that invoices be accepted and approved and that the County Clerk and County Treasurer be authorized and directed to issue County Warrants in payment of the bills.) Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Knapp, Friedrich, Nache, Hunigan, Sandoval, Conklin, Hurst, Pitman, and Jefferson—(10). Noes—(0). Pass—Foster, Davidson and Bondi—(3). Motion carried.

STATEMENTS OF GENERAL CONCERN

Member Johnson, Member Foster, and Member Knapp had no comments at this time.

Chairman Friedrich offered his congratulations to Member Knapp for his upcoming wedding anniversary. He also thanked Board Members for working together.

Member Nache and Member Hunigan had no comments at this time.

Member Davidson thanked the Board for moving forward with the position of a compliance officer. She thinks that Rev. Tyson Parks III is a good fit for this position.

Member Sandoval had no comments at this time.

Member Conklin echoed Member Davidson's comments and added that he is glad that hearing officers have also been approved.

Member Bondi, Member Hurst, and Member Pitman had no comments at this time.

Member Jefferson thanked the Board for approving adjudication hearing officers. This is something that former Board Member Paul Stewart and the committee have worked on for some time and this had required a lot of hard work. Member Jefferson commented that this will be good for the County and he appreciates the Board's support on this matter.

The next Regular Meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 26, 2015, 6:00 p.m., at the Knox County Courthouse, Galesburg, Illinois.

Motion was made by Member Sandoval and seconded by Member Pitman to adjourn from this Meeting until the next scheduled Meeting of the Board. Voice vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—(13). Noes—(0). Open Meeting adjourned at 6:58 p.m.