

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

July 27, 2016

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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 27, 2016, at 6:00 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 4	David Erickson
District 5	Ricardo “Rick” Sandoval
District 1	Richard Conklin
District 2	Robert “Bob” Bondi
District 4	Shawn Pitman
District 5	Jeff Jefferson

And those absent: District 3 Trisha Hurst

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

Sheriff David Clague delivered the proclamation. Chairman Friedrich led the Members in the pledge to the flag. Rev. Daniel Siems of the First Baptist Church 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 Bondi and seconded by Member Jefferson to approve the following items of the consent agenda: 1) minutes of the Regular and Closed Board Meeting on June 22, 2016, 2) claims by Members for per diem and mileage for the Meeting of July 27, 2016

and other claims for per diem from meetings, and 3) sales tax and various taxes for the month of April 2016 in the amounts of \$105,562.64 and \$30,850.43 and public safety tax in the amount of \$176,842.04. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Bacon, Foster, Knapp, Friedrich, Nache, Hunigan, Davidson, Erickson, Sandoval, Conklin, Bondi, Pitman and Jefferson—(14). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Conklin and seconded by Member Pitman to approve the proposed policy for appointments by the County Board. A copy of this policy is included in the packets. Chairman Friedrich stated that Member Conklin and Member Bondi have proposed and drafted this policy.

Member Conklin stated that it seems that the Board is forced to vote on these appointments without knowing anything about these appointees. This policy would fix that. At least each entity would have to provide a statement that they recommend the candidate that they have chosen and give the Board a brief resume. Then the Board would not just be rubber stamping these appointments when they do not know anything about these appointees. The Board should know what they are voting on. The Board could then approve or disapprove these candidates.

County Clerk Scott Erickson stated that a notification letter could be sent to these entities to inform them of these changes. A sample format could be provided.

Member Conklin reiterated his concern that these appointments come to the Board with little or no information.

Member Bacon stated that most of these entities only have one person to present. They have to “beg, borrow and steal,” to get someone willing to serve on some of these entities.

Member Bondi stated that there is little information on these individuals the Board is asked to vote for. The Board should be provided some information about these people.

Chairman Friedrich commented that he did not have a problem with it. He would not vote no to an appointment just because there was no resume included. Sometimes these appointees are known to the Board Members.

Member Bacon asked if the County Board could be legally liable, for example if one these appointees steal from that entity.

State’s Attorney John Pepmeyer responded that the County is not liable.

Member Davidson spoke of her experience with the Health Department Board. They have a procedure to interview prospective board members and examine their resumes. If this entity has to do this, then everybody should have to do so.

Superintendent of Assessments Chris Gray stated that she works with the townships. There might not be qualifications on a job resume that fit these particular positions. Basically these entities ask who is willing to fill these positions, some of which are paid very little. If you are looking for qualifications on a resume, you might not see them that fit this particular job.

Member Bacon commented that these entities are looking for willing persons.

Chairman Friedrich agreed that for some of these entities it is hard to find qualified people.

Member Erickson agreed and stated that he is good with a statement from the entity seeking the appointment.

Member Conklin stated that the resume would not have to be a formal one, but reasons why they think that this person is suited for this position.

Member Nache commented that these entities should provide the candidates' names, where they are from and how long they have been interested in this. This does not have to be a formal resume. The Board is asking for more information about these appointees.

Chairman Friedrich commented that sometimes it would seem that the individual is not qualified. But they may be someone who is willing to sit on the fire district for example. He is OK with this new policy with the exception of the resume.

County Clerk Scott Erickson stated that the original motion could be modified.

Motion was made by Member Erickson and seconded by Member Bacon to amend the original motion to delete the second requirement about requiring a resume. The other two points would still be included. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Bacon, Foster, Knapp, Friedrich, Nache, Hunigan, Davidson, Erickson, Sandoval and Pitman—(11). Noes—Conklin, Bondi and Jefferson—(3). Motion to amend the original motion carried.

Roll call vote on the motion to approve the proposed policy with revisions for appointments by the County Board is recorded as follows: Ayes—Bacon, Foster, Knapp, Friedrich, Nache, Hunigan, Davidson, Erickson, Sandoval and Pitman—(10). Noes—Johnson, Conklin, Bondi and Jefferson—(4). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Pitman and seconded by Member Johnson to approve the appointment of Ken Springer to the Quad Cities Regional Economic Development Authority. Information is included in the packets.

County Clerk Scott Erickson explained that this is a step above the local economic authority. In the past a Member of the local economic board sat on that economic board. It is definitely beneficial to have a member and a voice to sit on that economic board. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Bacon, Foster, Knapp, Friedrich, Nache, Hunigan, Davidson, Erickson, Sandoval, Bondi, Pitman and Jefferson—(13). Noes—(0). Pass—Conklin—(1). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Pitman and seconded by Member Jefferson to approve the appointment of Josh Hopping to the Galva Community Fire Protection District.

Member Conklin questioned that since Galva is in Henry County, what the Board's responsibility in this really is.

County Clerk Scott Erickson responded that this fire protection district is on the edge on Knox County. Therefore, Knox County is allowed to have a resident on that Board.

Member Bondi questioned if other Board Members know this person.

Member Jefferson responded that that Board knows him. The Board is micro-managing this too much.

Member Johnson commented that the Fire Protection District would not recommend him if they do not know him. The Board should count on this entity's knowledge of who they are recommending.

Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Bacon, Foster, Knapp, Friedrich, Hunigan, Erickson, Sandoval, Pitman and Jefferson—(10). Noes—Nache and Davidson—(2). Pass—Conklin and Bondi—(2). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Pitman and seconded by Member Johnson to approve the appointment of Edward Gullstrand to the Rio Township Fire Protection District.

Member Erickson stated that he would be passing on this vote as the appointee is a family member.

Roll call vote to approve the appointment of Edward Gullstrand to the Rio Township Fire Protection District is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Bacon, Foster, Knapp, Friedrich, Nache, Hunigan, Sandoval, Pitman and Jefferson—(10). Noes—Davidson—(1). Pass—Erickson, Conklin, and Bondi—(3). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Jefferson and seconded by Member Sandoval to approve the appointment of Richard Taylor to the London Mills Community Fire Protection District. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Bacon, Foster, Knapp, Friedrich, Hunigan, Erickson, Sandoval, Conklin, Pitman and Jefferson—(11). Noes—Nache, and Davidson—(2). Pass—Bondi—(1). Motion carried.

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

Motion was made by Member Bacon and seconded by Member Bondi to approve the Holiday Schedule of Closures for 2017. A copy of this list is included in the packets. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Bacon, Foster, Knapp, Friedrich, Nache, Hunigan, Davidson, Erickson, Sandoval, Conklin, Bondi, Pitman and Jefferson—(14). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Bacon and seconded by Member Sandoval to remove from the table the policy on insurance coverage for County Projects. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Bacon, Foster, Knapp, Friedrich, Nache, Hunigan, Davidson, Erickson, Sandoval, Conklin, Bondi, Pitman and Jefferson—(14). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Bacon and seconded by Member Foster to table the policy on insurance coverage for County Projects. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Bacon, Foster, Knapp, Friedrich, Nache, Hunigan, Davidson, Erickson, Sandoval, Conklin, Bondi, Pitman and Jefferson—(14). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Member Knapp presented the monthly report for the Building Committee. Their monthly report is included in the packets.

Motion was made by Member Knapp and seconded by Member Bacon to approve the payment for engineering services to Klingner and Associates for the Courthouse repairs in the amount of \$15,000.

Member Bacon explained that they plan to repair all of the steps around the Courthouse. This will be one doorway at a time. They also plan to seal the limestone up 4-5 feet all around the building. Additionally they plan to re-calk the windows. The committee will be seeking three bids or one for each of these three projects.

Sheriff Clague stated that Courthouse employees are now to use the basement entrance. Soon the time clock, which will be installed in the basement, will be up and operational. To address safety concerns, there are surveillance cameras in that hallway and at that door. Since

construction will be going on, there will be some level of confusion. As employees utilize the basement entrance, that should help.

Roll call vote to approve the payment for engineering services to Klingner and Associates for the Courthouse repairs in the amount of \$15,000, is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Bacon, Foster, Knapp, Friedrich, Nache, Hunigan, Davidson, Erickson, Sandoval, Conklin, Bondi, Pitman and Jefferson—(14). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

The Sheriff, Jail, Courthouse, Animal Control, Mary Davis Home, and Annex Committee report was presented by Committee Chairman Ricardo Sandoval. Their monthly report is included in the packets. There are 127 inmates of the Knox County Jail and of that number 18 are federal inmates. The census of the Mary Davis Home is 24 and of the number 6 are from Knox County.

Motion was made by Member Sandoval and seconded by Member Davidson to approve the purchase of vehicles for the Sheriff's Department. Sheriff Clague stated that they would be replacing two vehicles which have over 200,000 miles on them. The County will be trading in four vehicles and purchasing two. The cost is \$12,000 and those funds will come from public safety funds. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Bacon, Foster, Knapp, Friedrich, Nache, Hunigan, Davidson, Erickson, Sandoval, Conklin, Bondi, Pitman and Jefferson—(14). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

The Nursing Home, Assessor, Zoning, GIS, and Recorder Committee report was presented by Member Jefferson. Their monthly report is included in the packets.

Motion was made by Member Jefferson and seconded by Member Nache to approve the Zoning Board of Appeals decision on Case #CU-03-16—Conditional Use Permit for Crop Production Services for constructing a building for office and seed, chemical, and fertilizer storage in the "M-2" Zoning District. The recommendation from the ZBA was to approve this request. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Bacon, Foster, Knapp, Friedrich, Nache, Hunigan, Davidson, Erickson, Sandoval, Conklin, Bondi, Pitman and Jefferson—(14). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Jefferson and seconded by Member Bondi to approve the contract for the nursing home therapy service with Functional Pathways at the rate of \$1.05 per hour. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Bacon, Foster, Knapp, Friedrich, Nache, Hunigan, Davidson, Erickson, Sandoval, Conklin, Bondi, Pitman and Jefferson—(14). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Member Jefferson reported that the current census at the nursing home is 139.

The Highway and Landfill Committee report was presented by Committee Chairman Shawn Pitman. The monthly report is in the packets.

Motion was made by Member Pitman and seconded by Member Johnson to bid and bring back for a vehicle for the highway engineer. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Bacon, Foster, Knapp, Friedrich, Nache, Hunigan, Davidson, Erickson, Sandoval, Conklin, Bondi, Pitman and Jefferson—(14). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Member Davidson presented the monthly report from the Knox County Board of Health. Administrator Michelle Gabriel recently gave that board a survey of what can be improved. Recently they had their audit. Somethings were asked to be changed and Mrs. Gabriel is looking into that. The auditors recommended that she should not be handling so much of the finance aspect. Therefore, some of these responsibilities are being reassigned. The Health Department is looking for a doctor. The Health Department did receive their grant and are educating their new employees with the grant money. Even though there was no budget, the Health Department is still doing good.

Member Bondi presented the monthly report from the Galesburg Convention and Visitors' Bureau. Jerri Wood, a longtime employee, passed away about a month ago. A granite stone has been placed in her memory. The Visitor's Center reports 133 groups and 14,000 people have visited from January 1 thru May of this year. The numbers jump quite a bit during the summer. The legislative luncheon held at the Kensington was well attended. The Taste of Galesburg is coming up. Discovery Depot and the Carl Sandburg Birthplace continue to be popular sites for people to visit. The number of hotels nights has increased due in part to the new hotel.

Member Knapp presented the monthly report from the 9-1-1 Committee. In June there were 1,881 9-1-1 calls. Of the number 1,599 calls were from a cell phone and the 282 calls were from a land line phone. Total police calls for service was 5,139. Total fire calls and EMS calls for service was 1,233. The committee did discuss finances and related matters. There is still uncertainty regarding funding.

Ken Springer presented the monthly report from the Knox County Area Partnership for Economic Development. He reported that lead activity has been good over the last 6-8 weeks, and better than earlier this year. He announced that they will be hosting their second workshop for those interested in starting a business. This will be held Aug 3, at the Bondi Building. They try to schedule these workshops throughout the year to reach out to those interested.

Chairman Friedrich added that Supervisor of Assessments Chris Gray or someone from that office will also be in attendance to help fill out paperwork.

Member Johnson presented the monthly report from the Prairie Hills Resource Board. They did have their quarterly meeting this month. They reviewed the audit and everything seems to be in order. They talked about fund raising and they are looking into purchasing two parcels to put into land preservation. They did spend some time talking about the upcoming Prairie Table fund raiser and Members were provided information concerning this. This event will be held in Galesburg.

Member Johnson presented the monthly report from the United Council of Counties. He said that there was nothing to report.

Member Bondi presented the monthly report from the Ad Hoc Committee for Technology Services. He reported that he and Member Hurst met with County Clerk Scott Erickson, Andy Rowe and his assistant Marlin Beal. They discussed bringing the Highway Department and the Landfill on line with internet connectivity. Another topic of discussion was

putting an additional generator at the Nursing Home. They reviewed the list of outstanding work orders, and those are being responded to in a timely basis. They also reviewed conference call options. It would be good if everyone could stay at their location and still have a part in these meetings.

Motion was made by Member Bacon and seconded by Member Jefferson to approve the opening of the budget for line item changes. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Bacon, Foster, Knapp, Friedrich, Nache, Hunigan, Davidson, Erickson, Sandoval, Conklin, Bondi, Pitman and Jefferson—(14). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

The proposed budget line item changes included in the packet are for from the Health Department.

Motion was made by Member Jefferson and seconded by Member Bondi to approve the proposed line item changes. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Bacon, Foster, Knapp, Friedrich, Nache, Hunigan, Davidson, Erickson, Sandoval, Conklin, Bondi, Pitman and Jefferson—(14). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Foster and seconded by Member Nache to approve the claims against Knox County, Illinois, for the period of June 23, 2016 through July 27, 2016 (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, Bacon, Foster, Knapp, Friedrich, Nache, Hunigan, Davidson, Erickson, Sandoval, Conklin, Pitman and Jefferson—(13). Noes—(0). Pass—Bondi—(1). Motion carried.

STATEMENTS OF GENERAL CONCERN

Member Johnson commented about the upcoming fund raiser for Prairie Table. He encouraged people to attend. There will be good entertainment and the food is excellent. He spoke highly of the chef that is putting this together.

Member Bacon commented that he forgot to mention in his report that they are working on the access road to the Nursing Home. They ran into a couple of snags but they are working through them.

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

Chairman Friedrich invited Board Members to share time with other department heads to learn how other departments work. It would not have to be a whole day but maybe a few hours to see how they work.

Member Nache reminded everyone to help celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Knox County Nursing Home.

Member Hunigan stated that last month on the issue of the prevailing wage, he voted incorrectly. Workers should be paid by the current wage scale according to the current standards of that area. He does support the prevailing wage.

Member Davidson extended her congratulations to Member Johnson and his wife as they are celebrating their 60th anniversary.

Member Erickson, Member Sandoval and Member Conklin had no comments at this time.

Member Bondi reminded everyone of the Taste of Galesburg to be observed the following day.

Member Pitman and Member Jefferson had no comments at this time.

The next Regular Meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 24, 2016, 6:00 p.m., at the Knox County Courthouse, Galesburg, Illinois.

Motion was made by Member Jefferson and seconded by Member Davidson to adjourn from this Meeting. Voice vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—(14). Noes—(0). Motion carried. Open session adjourned at 7:05 p.m.