

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

**June 28, 2017**

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, June 28, 2017, at 6:10 p.m.

The Meeting was called to order by County Board Chairwoman Pamela Davidson and upon roll call the following Members reported present:

District 1	Lyle Johnson
District 2	John Hunigan
District 4	Jared Hawkinson
District 1	Cheryl Nache
District 2	David Amor
District 3	Pamela Davidson
District 4	David Erickson
District 5	Brian Friedrich
District 2	Robert Bondi
District 4	Sara Varner
District 5	Todd Shreves

And those absent:	District 3	Michael Nelson
	District 5	Ricardo “Rick” Sandoval
	District 1	Richard Conklin
	District 3	Trisha Hurst

Also present were County Treasurer Robin Davis, Sheriff David Clague, and County Clerk Scott Erickson.

Sheriff David Clague delivered the proclamation. Chairwoman Pamela Davidson led the Members in the pledge to the flag. In lieu of a formal invocation a moment of silence was observed.

Chairwoman Davidson asked for additions or deletions to the agenda. There were none.

Chairwoman Davidson asked for public comment. Jerry Lack, a director of the Tri State Building Council, addressed the Board and voiced his support for the annual prevailing wage resolution which appears on this Meeting’s agenda. Prevailing wage provides a good standardized wage and benefits for the workers that do public construction projects. This has a trickledown effect in our economy. It is very important that people earn an adequate wage for

adequate work. It is also rewards contractors who perform quality work rather than those who come into town from out of town and pay substandard wages. He urged Members to support this resolution.

Motion was made by Member Johnson and seconded by Member Bondi to approve the following items of the consent agenda: 1) minutes of the Regular Board Meeting on May 24, 2017, 2) claims by Members for per diem and mileage for the meetings of June 2017 and other claims for per diem from meetings, and 3) sales tax and various taxes for the month of May 2017 in the amounts of \$109,943.28 and \$27,818.28 and public safety tax in the amount of \$181,336.23. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Hunigan, Hawkinson, Nache, Amor, Davidson, Erickson, Friedrich, Bondi, Varner, and Shreves—(11). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

An update regarding Knox County 4H achievements was presented by Lisa Fulkerson who is the University of Illinois Extension Director for Henderson, Warren, McDonough and Knox Counties. She presented handouts to the Board. Many exciting things are going on at the Extension Office. There is group of young elementary youths who are building robots out of Legos. They have been invited to a competition in West Virginia. Another group of youths will be participating at the Livestock Show in Denver, Colorado in January. The Master Gardeners are working a lot with community gardens. She thanked the Board for their continued support. They are getting a lot of support from other areas but have not had full State funding for over two years. They rely a lot on local funding and local tax dollars. This year the 4H Fair will follow the County Fair.

Chairwoman Davidson asked that the appointments to the Knox County Board of Health of Carol Scotton, Doug Gibb, and DuRae Fletcher for re-appointment and Elvith Santoyo-McNaught for replacement of the position formerly held by Kimberly DeSutter be separated and voted on individually.

Motion was made by Member Amor and seconded by Member Johnson to approve the re-appointment of Carol Scotton to the Knox County Board of Health. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Hawkinson, Amor, Davidson, Erickson, Friedrich, Bondi, Varner and Shreves—(9). Noes—Hunigan and Nache—(2). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Johnson and seconded by Member Bondi to approve the re-appointment of Doug Gibb to the Knox County Board of Health. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Hunigan, Hawkinson, Nache, Amor, Davidson, Erickson, Friedrich, Bondi, Varner, and Shreves—(11). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Johnson and seconded by Member Friedrich to approve the re-appointment of DuRae Fletcher to the Knox County Board of Health. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Hunigan, Hawkinson, Nache, Amor, Davidson, Erickson, Friedrich, Bondi, Varner, and Shreves—(11). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Amor and seconded by Member Friedrich to approve the appointment of Elvith Santoyo-McNaught for replacement of the position formerly held by

Kimberly DeSutter to the Knox County Board of Health. Member Bondi questioned if there was a resume.

Chairwoman Davidson responded that it is in the packet. The Board asks everyone to submit a resume. This candidate was also interviewed by the personnel committee because she is not a re-appointment.

Roll call vote to approve the appointment of Elvith Santoyo-McNaught for replacement of the position formerly held by Kimberly DeSutter to the Knox County Board of Health is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Hunigan, Hawkinson, Amor, Davidson, Erickson, Friedrich, Bondi, Varner, and Shreves—(10). Noes—(0). Pass—Nache—(1). Motion carried.

Member Friedrich asked that the appointments of Jared Hawkinson and Ben Burgland to the Knox County Housing Authority be separated and voted on individually. Information is included in the packets.

Motion was made by Member Friedrich and seconded by Member Varner to approve appointment to the Knox County Housing Authority of Jared Hawkinson.

Chairwoman Davidson asked if a resume was included.

Member Hawkinson responded that he had submitted it to the Housing Authority and apparently it was not forwarded to the County Clerk with the appointment requests.

County Clerk Scott Erickson stated that he did not receive it. Neither was there a resume for Mr. Burgland, just a letter of endorsement.

Member Hunigan questioned what duties are associated with this position.

Member Hawkinson responded that he would be helping to provide oversight for the low income citizens of Knox County in need of housing. There are multiple sites which serve approximately 1,750 families. This is a federally funded organization.

Chairwoman Davidson questioned Member Hawkinson if his schedule would allow him to attend these meetings as he has had problems attending the Landfill committee meetings.

Member Hawkinson responded that his schedule would allow him to attend as these meetings are held once a month in the morning.

Chairwoman Davidson questioned the missing resume as it is an ongoing issue. How can the Board move forward with this? She suggested that perhaps these appointments should be tabled until the Board gets these resumes.

Mr. Erickson responded that he can send out letters again to reiterate the need of a resume.

Member Bondi questioned if it would create a hardship to the Housing Authority to delay this appointment.

Member Hunigan asked if there is going to be a federal push to do drug testing for housing applicants. Some of the new requirements from HUD seem to be outrageous.

Member Hawkinson stated that he could not respond to that question as he did not know. The Housing Authority focusses on the current laws in place.

Member Johnson called for the question.

Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Hunigan, Erickson, Friedrich, Bondi, and Varner—(6). Noes—(0). Pass—Hawkinson, Nache, Amor, Davidson and Shreves—(5). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Johnson and seconded by Member Bondi to approve the re-appointment of Ben Burgland to the Knox County Housing Authority.

Member Hawkinson added that Mr. Burgland has served in this position for seven years. He is currently on the Knox County Housing Authority.

Chairwoman Davidson again questioned the lack of a resume. The Board wants everyone to provide a resume.

Member Erickson noted that Member Conklin was not required to provide a resume when he was appointed to the 708 Mental Health Board.

Chairwoman Davidson responded that Member Conklin was appointed because a County Board Member was required to fill a position on this Board.

Member Erickson stated that even so Member Conklin was still appointed and approved by the County Board. Member Erickson questioned the policy that requires a resume from these outside boards. These entities know their board members and recommend these individuals for reappointment. And still the County Board is requiring a resume. However, in the case of Member Conklin's appointment, no resume was required. He thinks this policy of requiring a resume is very unfair. He called for the question.

Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Hawkinson, Erickson, Friedrich, Bondi, and Varner—(6). Noes—(0). Pass—Hunigan, Nache, Amor, Davidson, and Shreves—(5). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Bondi and seconded by Member Johnson to approve the appointment to the Victoria Copley Fire Protection District of Jeffrey L. Bock, following the resignation of J. Johnson. Information is included in the packets.

Chairwoman Davidson reminded Members that this was on last month's agenda and did not include a resume so it was delayed until this month. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Hunigan, Hawkinson, Nache, Amor, Davidson, Erickson, Friedrich, Bondi, Varner, and Shreves—(11). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Erickson and seconded by Member Johnson to approve the appointment to the Rio Township Fire Protection District of Gary Holt.

Member Amor questioned if there was a resume.

County Clerk Scott Erickson stated that there was just the letter from the attorneys.

Member Erickson stated the Gary Holt is an outstanding citizen of Knox County, who has lived here all of his life. You could not ask for anyone better to fill this position.

Chairwoman Davidson asked Mr. Erickson what the policy is when these organizations send in their appointments. This has been an issue for numerous months that resumes are not included. This Board came to the conclusion that the Board policy would be to require a resume. She questioned how this problem could be corrected.

Member Bondi commented that he and Member Conklin had chaired the effort to determine this policy. This was their recommendation to require a resume but not a Board policy.

Member Johnson agreed.

Mr. Erickson reported that when he talks to these fire protection districts for example he tells them that the Board requires some sort of supporting documentation. Often their argument is that these individuals are already serving on the board and have previous experience. It is harder and harder to get people to provide a resume. They are a little more receptive when it is a matter of a new appointment. Additionally they make the point that these are not paid positions.

They are concerned that if the County Board continues to hound these appointees for these resumes that there will be fewer volunteers to fill these positions. He can send another letter out to these organizations and their attorneys.

Member Nache reminded Members that last month Mr. Moffitt sent in a resume. The Board knows this man and he still sent in his resume. If he did it, everyone else should also.

Member Johnson called for the question.

Roll call vote to approve the appointment to the Rio Township Fire Protection District of Gary Holt is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Hawkinson, Erickson, Friedrich, Bondi, and Varner—(6). Noes—(0). Pass—Hunigan, Nache, Amor, Davidson, and Shreves—(5). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Bondi and seconded by Member Johnson to approve emergency action of a contract with Grape Tree Medical Staffing for temporary staffing at the Nursing Home. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Hunigan, Hawkinson, Nache, Amor, Davidson, Erickson, Friedrich, Bondi, Varner, and Shreves—(11). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Amor and seconded by Member Nache to approve the resolution adding certain accommodations to the payroll processing policy. A copy of this resolution is included in the packets. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Hunigan, Hawkinson, Nache, Amor, Davidson, Erickson, Friedrich, Bondi, Varner, and Shreves—(11). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Bondi and seconded by Member Johnson to approve the labor contract with the Courthouse Union. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Hunigan, Hawkinson, Nache, Amor, Davidson, Erickson, Friedrich, Bondi, Varner, and Shreves—(11). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Bondi and seconded by Member Johnson to approve the union contract with the employees of State's Attorney's Office. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Hunigan, Hawkinson, Nache, Amor, Davidson, Erickson, Friedrich, Bondi, Varner, and Shreves—(11). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Member Friedrich presented the monthly report from the Finance, Insurance, Treasurer, Judicial and Clerk committee. The monthly report is in the packet. Finances were discussed. The main problem is not the money that is being paid out but rather the amount of money coming in. The County is not overspending, but revenue continues to decline.

Motion was made by Member Friedrich and seconded by Member Johnson to approve the resolution of prevailing wage. A copy of this resolution is included in the packets. Member Friedrich noted that this is something that is done every year. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Hunigan, Hawkinson, Nache, Amor, Davidson, Friedrich, Varner, and Shreves—(9). Noes—(0). Pass—Erickson and Bondi—(2). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Friedrich and seconded by Member Bondi to approve the credit card lists for certain departments. Information is included in the packets. Roll call vote is

recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Hunigan, Hawkinson, Nache, Amor, Davidson, Erickson, Friedrich, Bondi, Varner, and Shreves—(11). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Friedrich and seconded by Member Johnson to approve the resolution on liability insurance requirements. Member Friedrich explained that this is to make sure that contractors who work on County property have workman's compensation insurance and liability insurance. A copy of this resolution is included in the packets. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Hunigan, Hawkinson, Nache, Amor, Davidson, Erickson, Friedrich, Bondi, Varner, and Shreves—(11). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Friedrich and seconded by Member Hawkinson to approve the budget schedule for FY2017-2018. A copy of this schedule is included in the packets. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Hunigan, Hawkinson, Nache, Amor, Davidson, Erickson, Friedrich, Bondi, Varner, and Shreves—(11). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Member Johnson presented the monthly Building, Courthouse and Annex Committee Report. A copy of the report is included in the packets.

Motion was made by Member Johnson and seconded by Member Friedrich to approve roof repairs at the Annex. Dower's Roofing submitted a bid in the amount of \$2,389.00. Information is included in the packets. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Hunigan, Hawkinson, Nache, Amor, Davidson, Erickson, Friedrich, Bondi, Varner, and Shreves—(11). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Johnson and seconded by Member Friedrich to approve Hein Construction invoices for the Courthouse project in the amount of \$23,400. Copies of these invoices are included in the packets. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Hunigan, Hawkinson, Nache, Amor, Davidson, Erickson, Friedrich, Bondi, Varner, and Shreves—(11). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Johnson and seconded by Member Shreves to approve Otto Baum invoices for the Courthouse project in the amount of \$68,150.25. Member Johnson added that this is the amount that has been done so far. Information is included in the packets. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Hunigan, Hawkinson, Nache, Amor, Davidson, Erickson, Friedrich, Bondi, Varner, and Shreves—(11). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Johnson and seconded by Member Bondi to approve change orders for the exterior Courthouse project in the amount of \$40,697.00. Member Johnson added that this has to do with exterior stone work with water repellent to help preserve the surface of the stone. Member Friedrich commented that this was tabled in the committee meeting as they were questioning how much money remains in the building fund. They still do not have that amount. Member Johnson and Member Bondi withdrew their motion.

Member Bondi presented the monthly Sheriff, Jail, Mary Davis Home, Animal Control, and Nursing Home committee report. A copy of the report is included in the packets. The Mary Davis Home is now owed over \$717,681.67 from the State. The Nursing Home is behind just

slightly under \$1,000,000 in Medicare reimbursements and is also behind \$250,000 in insurance claims to Molina, and additional thousands of dollars to other insurance carriers. Some of these insurance companies drag their feet and it can make things very difficult. The committee also reviewed the temporary staffing service agreement. The State has been doing their inspections at the Nursing Home which has hampered union negotiations.

Motion was made by Member Bondi and seconded by Member Johnson to approve the purchase of a new bus from Southern Bus and Mobility for the Nursing Home.

Member Bondi explained that they presented a bid last month for a bus for the Nursing Home. Friends and family of the Nursing Home have raised over \$20,000 to help fund this purchase. Unfortunately they learned that Midwest Transit does not have the proper licenses to work on this bus. The committee would rather work with a company that does have the proper State licenses and qualifications. This bid is \$3,040 higher than the bid from Midwest Transit but also includes additional accessories.

Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Hunigan, Hawkinson, Nache, Amor, Davidson, Erickson, Friedrich, Bondi, Varner, and Shreves—(11). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Bondi and seconded by Member Nache to approve the union contract with AFSCME 3217 for the corrections officers at the Sheriff's Department. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Hunigan, Hawkinson, Nache, Amor, Davidson, Erickson, Friedrich, Bondi, Varner, and Shreves—(11). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Bondi and seconded by Member Hawkinson to approve to bid and bring back for two patrol units for the Sheriff's Department to include trade ins. These units have over 155,000 miles on them and are showing great signs of wear.

Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Hunigan, Hawkinson, Nache, Amor, Davidson, Erickson, Friedrich, Bondi, Varner, and Shreves—(11). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Member Hunigan presented the monthly Assessor, Zoning, GIS, Recorder's Office, Highway Department and Landfill committee reports. The minutes and reports are included in the packets. The new Landfill Administrator, Rod Clear, is jumping in and making some really impressive achievements. They have discovered that some of the Landfill contracts seem to be verbal contracts. It will be a priority of the Landfill to get these contracts on paper. This goes along with questions of liability.

Motion was made by Member Hunigan and seconded by Member Shreves to approve the intergovernmental agreement (between Knox County and the City of Galesburg) for the maintenance of traffic control devices. A copy of this agreement is included in the packets. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Hunigan, Hawkinson, Nache, Amor, Davidson, Erickson, Friedrich, Bondi, Varner, and Shreves—(11). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Hunigan and seconded by Member Bondi to approve the appointment of Sara Varner to the Knox County Board of Review for a two year term.

Information is included in the packets. The assessor is recommending Sara Varner to fill this position.

Member Johnson questioned if this is the tax review board.

Member Hunigan responded that this is the Knox County Board of Review and is comprised of three Knox County citizens. The members of the Board of Review meet to review the assessments of tax payers who file appeals each year and make their decisions. They also deal with certificates of errors. There is a concern about a possible perceived conflict since Member Varner is a real estate agent. She did submit her resume and he thinks that she is highly qualified but there is this possible conflict.

Member Amor questioned whether the Board of Review needs a County Board Member or were just looking at her personal qualifications.

Chairwoman Davidson responded that it is not necessary to be a County Board Member to fill this position.

Member Friedrich commented that Member Varner's experience as a realtor helps in this position. Former Board Member George Knapp served in this position for years.

Member Johnson stated that he would be voting against this appointment as he feels that some would view this as a conflict of interest.

Roll call vote to approve the appointment of Sara Varner to the Knox County Board of Review for a two year term is recorded as follows: Ayes—Hawkinson, Nache, Erickson, Friedrich, and Bondi—(5). Noes—Johnson, Hunigan, Amor, Davidson and Shreves—(5). Pass—Varner—(1). Motion failed for lack of a majority.

Member Erickson commented that during the committee meeting four of the committee members voted to approve this appointment and yet voted "no" in this vote. He is curious as to what changed.

Chairwoman Davidson stated that she voted in the committee to bring this appointment to the full Board for a vote. She felt the same way as she feels now.

Member Erickson stated that the vote in committee is to recommend this person for this appointment to the Board of Review.

Motion was made by Member Hunigan and seconded by Member Shreves to approve compensation for Duane Ratermann for obtaining his IEPA Landfill Operator Certification.

Member Johnson stated that he feels it is very important that Mr. Ratermann obtained this certification.

Chairwoman Davidson reported that this compensation is stated in this agreement in the annual amount of \$6,000 and those funds are to be taken from the Landfill for the next three years. And then he will have to retest.

Member Hawkinson questioned how much time is put forth for this additional compensation of \$6,000 annually.

Mr. Ratermann responded that currently those duties require approximately two hours per week.

Member Friedrich thanked Mr. Ratermann for stepping up to the plate and helping the County when he was needed. He means no disrespect to him, but he has a question with how the Board reached a decision about this amount. There are other department heads who have been asked to do more over the years and their efforts were not compensated. He does not agree with how the Board came to this amount.

Member Hunigan responded that the Landfill is more unique. The Landfill must have someone there. There is no way to work around it. The opportunities to fill this position were very limited. Realistically, the Landfill is one of the main revenue sources for the County.

Member Friedrich again stated that other department heads have not been compensated.

Member Hunigan stated that they considered that Mr. Ratermann has served the County for 29 years and should be compensated appropriately.

Chairwoman Davidson stated that if the County had entered into a contract with the now retired Landfill Administrator Jerry Reynolds, it would have been \$3,000 a month. It is better to pay Mr. Ratermann \$6,000 a year for the next three years. That is a tremendous savings.

Member Hawkinson inquired how long it would take the current Landfill Director Rod Clear to obtain his license.

Chairwoman Davidson responded that it would take some time. The Board needs to look at other options.

Member Hunigan stated that it would be advantageous for other people to also have that certification.

Roll call vote to approve compensation for Duane Ratermann for obtaining his IEPA Landfill Operator Certification is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Hunigan, Amor, Davidson, Bondi and Shreves—(6). Noes—Hawkinson, Erickson, and Friedrich—(3). Pass—Nache and Varner—(2). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Hunigan and seconded by Member Shreves to approve to confirm the emergency purchase of eight tires for a John Deere 960 tractor at the Landfill in the approximate amount of \$27,000. Information is included in the packets. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Hunigan, Hawkinson, Nache, Amor, Davidson, Erickson, Friedrich, Bondi, Varner, and Shreves—(11). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Member Hunigan reported that it seems that some of the equipment that was purchased for the Landfill does not seem to be holding up as it should be. It seems like quite a bit of money is being spent for large equipment repairs. They will be looking into the possibility that perhaps these are lemons. Chairwoman Davidson commented that a process should involve the State's Attorney.

Motion was made by Member Hunigan and seconded by Member Friedrich to approve the extension of a disposal service agreement with the City of Kewanee. A copy of this agreement is included in the packets. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Hunigan, Hawkinson, Nache, Amor, Davidson, Erickson, Friedrich, Bondi, Varner, and Shreves—(11). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Chairwoman Davidson presented the monthly report from the Knox County Board of Health. In the absence of Member Amor she attended this meeting. They are already working on their budget. They are offering a lower rate of \$35 for children's school physicals.

Member Varner presented the monthly report from the Galesburg Convention and Visitors Bureau. They talked a lot about Railroad Days. They also talked about the Railroad Award that Galesburg recently received. The next meeting will be held August 22.

Member Hawkinson presented the monthly report from the 9-1-1 committee. He was away on vacation and did not attend this meeting but did have some items to share from their packet. During the months of April and May there were 3,498 9-1-1 calls. Usually there are just two or three dispatchers at a time handling these calls. They also fielded 19,392 telephone calls.

Sheriff David Clague commented that these figures speak volumes for 9-1-1. If Governor Rauner does not sign the current 9-1-1 bill which would be effective July 1, there will no longer be 9-1-1 services. Two or three generations have grown up and been taught to call 9-1-1. Some people remember life before 9-1-1. Before that, if you wanted the fire department for one community it was a seven digit number. The police department was a different seven digit number, and ambulance still a different number. There was a recent bi-partisan press conference in Springfield with State Senators and Representatives to urge Governor Rauner to sign this bill. The main goal of this is public safety. If the 9-1-1 bill is not passed there could be major lay-offs. He thinks that Knox County could be self-sustaining for nine or ten months. However, there are counties in southern Illinois that would immediately have to close their doors. He urged everyone to get in touch with their Representatives, Senators and/or Governor to encourage the Governor to sign this 9-1-1 bill.

This bill would include a \$5.00 surcharge for cell phones in the Chicago area and \$1.50 for downstate. This would compensate for the diminishing number of land line phones. The additional funds are needed.

Ken Springer presented the monthly report from the Knox County Area Partnership for Economic Development. He reported that lead activity has dropped off in the last six to eight weeks. This usually happens in the summer. They will be hosting another free entrepreneurship workshop August 15<sup>th</sup> at the partnership offices. This is for those individuals who are interested in starting a business. The winery project will start breaking ground soon.

Member Johnson presented the monthly report from the Prairie Hills Resources Board. This month there were two meetings in Macomb. At the first meeting they discussed and did training for the process of being certified to work with land conservancies. He also met with the executive board of Prairie Hills. Their audit report came back clean. Two land conservancies were approved. These take a long time to finalize as it can take 2-4 years. Another two have shown interest. They did not get the Brownsfield Grant. In August they will be hosting their Prairie Table fund raiser. More information will be shared next month.

Member Johnson presented the monthly report from the United Council of Counties. They did not meet this month but they did send an e-mail urging everyone to phone their legislators to get a budget passed. They think it is important to contact our legislators to let them know how we feel about it and 9-1-1 as well.

Member Bondi presented the monthly report from the Ad Hoc Committee for Technology Services. They reviewed Nursing Home phone changes and that is still ongoing. They are hoping to have that project in working order in the next 30-60 days. There have been some more issues with the time clock. IT Director Andy Rowe and County Treasurer Robin Davis have been working to resolve these. For now they are working under both the old system and the new system until the bugs are worked out. Stratus is running about 60 days behind. It is a challenge to get the fiber actually into the building. Work orders are up to date. They are

working on alternative circuits for the Landfill and the Highway Department. They are hoping to increase their speed to their internet connectivity.

Chairwoman Davidson presented an update from the Personnel Committee. They are working on updates to the personnel handbook. They have scheduled another meeting to continue working on this project.

Motion was made by Member Bondi and seconded by Member Amor to approve the opening of the budget for specific line item changes. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Hunigan, Hawkinson, Nache, Amor, Davidson, Erickson, Friedrich, Bondi, Varner, and Shreves—(11). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Line items to be changed include lines from the Landfill and others as presented in the packets.

Motion was made by Member Amor and seconded by Member Nache to approve the specific proposed line item changes. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Hunigan, Hawkinson, Nache, Amor, Davidson, Erickson, Friedrich, Bondi, Varner, and Shreves—(11). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Friedrich and seconded by Member Varner to approve the claims against Knox County, Illinois, for the period of May 25, 2017 through June 28, 2017 (ordering that invoices be accepted and approved and that the County Clerk and County Treasurer be authorized and directed to issue County Warrants in payments of the bills.) Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Hunigan, Hawkinson, Nache, Amor, Davidson, Erickson, Friedrich, Varner, and Shreves—(10). Noes—(0). Pass—Bondi—(0). Motion carried.

## STATEMENTS OF GENERAL CONCERN

Member Johnson encouraged everyone to phone their congressmen regarding the budget stalemate. He also wished everyone a safe 4<sup>th</sup> of July.

Member Hunigan commented that everyone tends to take 9-1-1 services for granted. Everyone should contact the Governor and the legislators to get a budget passed.

Member Hawkinson had no comments at this time.

Member Nache wished everyone a nice 4<sup>th</sup> of July.

Member Amor commented about the potential changes in the Affordable Care Act. People should be contacting with legislators.

Chairwoman Davidson wished everyone a safe 4<sup>th</sup> of July. She also encouraged everyone to contact their legislators about the budget impasse. The State needs a budget.

Member Erickson commented that it seems some Board Members are putting their own personal agendas ahead of their responsibility to the County and its citizens. This is deeply concerning.

Member Friedrich had no comments at this time.

Member Bondi wished everyone a Happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July. He agreed that Members should contact their legislators in Springfield. He wished Andy Bonis well in his new position as Superintendent at the Mary Davis Home and thanked Rod Clear for assuming his new position at the Landfill.

Member Varner and Member Shreves had no comments at this time.

The next Regular Meeting will be held Wednesday, July 26, 2017, 6:00 p.m., at the Knox County Courthouse in Galesburg, Illinois.

Motion was made by Member Bondi and seconded by Member Friedrich to adjourn until the next regularly scheduled Meeting. Voice vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—(11). Noes—(0). Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.