

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

**February 25, 2015**

STATE OF ILLINOIS        )  
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COUNTY OF KNOX )        SS

Proceedings of the Regular Meeting of the Knox County Board held at the Knox County Courthouse, Galesburg, Illinois on Wednesday, February 25, 2015 at 6:02 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 5	Brian Friedrich
District 5	Ricardo “Rick” Sandoval
District 1	Richard Conklin
District 3	Trisha Hurst
District 4	Shawn Pitman
District 5	Jeff Jefferson

And those absent:	District 4	George Knapp
	District 1	Cheryl Nache
	District 2	Russell Nelson
	District 3	Pamela Davidson
	District 4	David Erickson
	District 2	Robert “Bob” Bondi

Also present were Sheriff Dave Clague and County Clerk Scott Erickson.

Sheriff Dave Clague delivered the proclamation. Chairman Friedrich led the Members in the pledge to the flag. Since no clergyman was present to deliver the invocation, Chairman Friedrich asked for a moment of silence.

6:05 p.m. Member Davidson entered the room.

Chairman Friedrich asked for additions or deletions to the agenda. Member Sandoval asked that agenda item 18, approve contract for HVAC, plumbing, electrical, drain cleaning, fire protection, and sheet metal fabrication for the County buildings with Mechanical Services, Inc, be removed from this agenda. Member Pitman asked that agenda item 7, approve the reappointment of Jon Vanier to the Galesburg Sanitary District be removed from this agenda.

Member Bacon asked that agenda item 13, to approve IMRF service credit purchase for Landfill Administrator Jerry Reynolds, be removed from this agenda.

Chairman Friedrich asked for public comments. There were none.

Motion was made by Member Bacon and seconded by Member Foster to approve the following items of the consent agenda: 1) minutes of the Regular Board Meeting on January 28, 2015, 2) claims by Members for per diem and mileage for the Meeting of February 25, 2015 and other claims for per diem from meetings, and 3) sales tax and various taxes for the month of November 2014 in the amounts of \$101,335.60 and \$21,683.84 and public safety tax in the amount of \$87,749.80. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Bacon, Foster, Friedrich, Davidson, Sandoval, Hurst, Pitman and Jefferson—(9). Noes—(0). Pass—Conklin—(1). Motion carried.

Chairman Friedrich asked Members to stand and observe a moment of silence in remembrance of former County Board Member Dale Parsons who recently passed away.

The Annual Report for the Knox County Health Department was presented by Erin Olson. She distributed a copy of this report to the Members. It is a State requirement that this report be annually presented to this Board. She shared some highlights with the Board. During the last year the Health Department has been working to educate and prepare for disease outbreaks such as Ebola. Also during the last year, they were awarded two achievement awards. One is the “Illinois Healthy Worksite Designation,” which is to engage employers throughout the state in worksite wellness best practices. They also worked with the Knox County Housing Authority in writing and adopting a Smoke Free Multi-Unit Housing policy. This last year the Federally Qualified Health Center implemented same day appointments.

6:10 p.m. Member Bondi and State’s Attorney John Pepmeyer entered the room.

Ms. Olson stated that this report would also be included in the Register-Mail and distributed in other venues as well.

Motion was made by Member Johnson and seconded by Member Pitman to approve this Annual Report for the Knox County Health Department. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Bacon, Foster, Friedrich, Davidson, Sandoval, Conklin, Bondi, Hurst, Pitman and Jefferson—(11). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Jefferson and seconded by Member Pitman to approve the reappointment of Gerald R. Buckman to the Elba Salem Fire Protection District. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Bacon, Foster, Friedrich, Davidson, Sandoval, Conklin, Bondi, Hurst, Pitman and Jefferson—(11). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Pitman and seconded by Member Jefferson to approve the resolution authorizing participation in the Illinois Emergency Management Mutual Aid System Agreement between the County of Knox and the Illinois Emergency Services Management Association. A copy of this resolution is included in the packets. County Clerk Scott Erickson explained that the purpose of this resolution is to reinforce the mutual aid services agreement that the County has with surrounding agencies. In case of an emergency that County can call on these agencies for help. In return if others have an emergency, they can call on Knox County to help

them. This is through IEMA (Illinois Emergency Management Agency). There will be more information later as the County works on disaster preparedness. The County needs to be prepared in case there is a disaster. Member Davidson commented about the devastating tornado that struck Washington, Illinois. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Bacon, Foster, Friedrich, Davidson, Sandoval, Conklin, Bondi, Hurst, Pitman and Jefferson—(11). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Chairman Friedrich presented the following appointments to be made to the Ad Hoc Personnel Policy Committee: Member Jeff Jefferson, Member Cheryl Nache, Member Shawn Pitman, Administrator of the Health Department Michelle Fishburn, County Treasurer Robin Davis, County Circuit Clerk Kelly Cheesman, and Landfill Administrator Jerry Reynolds.

Motion was made by Member Sandoval and seconded by Member Pitman to approve these appointments. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Bacon, Foster, Friedrich, Davidson, Sandoval, Conklin, Bondi, Hurst, Pitman and Jefferson—(11). 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 Sandoval to approve the annual animal kill claims for 2014 in the amount of \$0.00. This is a routine annual business matter. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Bacon, Foster, Friedrich, Davidson, Sandoval, Conklin, Bondi, Hurst, Pitman and Jefferson—(11). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Bacon and seconded by Member Pitman to approve the quarterly invoice from Knox County Area Partnership for Economic Development in the amount of \$5,000.00. Member Bacon explained that this organization replaces GREDA. This new organization seems to be heading in the right direction. Chairman Friedrich is also on this Board. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Bacon, Foster, Friedrich, Davidson, Sandoval, Conklin, Bondi, Hurst, Pitman and Jefferson—(10). Noes—(0). Pass—Johnson—(1). Motion carried.

The Building Committee report was presented by Building Committee Member Greg Bacon. The committee minutes and the monthly reports are included in the packets.

Motion was made by Member Bacon and seconded by Member Davidson to approve bids for renovations for the second floor courtroom to Hein Construction in the amount of \$130,000.00. Member Bacon explained that the whole courtroom will be redone. The duct work will be boxed in and the jury box will be rebuilt. There were some differences of opinion on the chairs; that will wait until a later date. The carpet will be replaced. Both the jury box and the witness stand will be handicapped accessible. There will be a new dropped ceiling to the top of the windows. This will be a complete renovation of this courtroom. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Bacon, Foster, Friedrich, Davidson, Sandoval, Conklin, Bondi, Hurst, Pitman and Jefferson—(11). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Bacon and seconded by Member Foster to approve the bid submitted by Midwest Service Group in the amount of \$39,336.00, for additional asbestos removal for the second floor courtroom. Member Bacon explained that there are asbestos tiles underneath the carpeting. Underlayment will have to be installed and the courtroom will have to be closed for about five or six weeks. Contractors will try to coordinate the schedule with the judges. Two Board Meetings may have to be held in another location. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Bacon, Foster, Friedrich, Davidson, Sandoval, Conklin, Bondi, Hurst, Pitman and Jefferson—(11). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

The Sheriff, Jail, Courthouse, Animal Control, Mary Davis Home, and Annex Committee report was presented by Committee Chairman Ricardo Sandoval. He commended Rod Clear Administrator of the Mary Davis Home for the recent positive story in the Register-Mail. This represents a lot of hard work.

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.

The Highway and Landfill Committee report was presented by Committee Chairman Shawn Pitman. The monthly reports and committee minutes are included in the packets. In the coming year three County bridges are scheduled for replacement. One bridge in Lynn Township and one bridge in Salem Township will both be funded in the same way: 80% State, 10% Township and 10% County. The Lynn Township bridge is estimated to cost \$285,697.00 and the Salem Township bridge is estimated to cost \$244,803.50. The other bridge on County Highway 11 over the Spoon River will be funded 50% Federal funds and 50% County funds. The estimated cost for that bridge is \$1,081,610.00.

The new roof is completed on the Highway Office Building which makes it look much more modern.

During the month of January the landfill took in 5,882 tons and generated revenue in the amount of \$213,021.49. The following amounts were transferred to other funds: \$11,764.84 to the General Fund, and \$21,302.15 to the Mary Davis Home for a total of \$33,066.99. Landfill Administrator Jerry Reynolds did add another new business to the landfill, Galesburg Castings. In May the final payment is due on the landfill compactor in the amount of \$199,902. In June the payment is due of the road grader in the amount of \$32,615 and in November the payment is due in the amount of \$34,537 on the dirt scraper which is pulled behind a tractor. These are significant obligations which are due this year. The landfill compactor has a lot of hours on it. The County may want to put that out for bid. With the software on these compactors, there really is a significant return on the investment. Mr. Reynolds reported in a 20 month period utilizing this software and compactor extended the life of the landfill another seven years.

Motion was made by Member Pitman and seconded by Member Hurst to approve bids for road district MFT aggregate materials—Section 15-XX000-00-GM. Information is included in the packets. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Bacon, Foster, Friedrich, Davidson, Sandoval, Conklin, Bondi, Hurst, Pitman and Jefferson—(11). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Pitman and seconded by Member Davidson to approve to bid and bring back for replacement trailers for the Kewanee Project for the landfill. Member Pitman reported that currently the landfill has six trailers and two of those are getting aged. Landfill Administrator Jerry Reynolds stated that these are 2004 trailers purchased in 2008 and are 11 years old. Member Pitman commented that this is a really busy season and these trailers are needed. Voice vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—(11). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Pitman and seconded by Member Johnson to approve to bid and bring back for replacement of tile floor in the landfill administration building. Landfill Administrator Jerry Reynolds reported that this building was completed in 2007 and they moved into it in 2008. This flooring is deteriorating quite rapidly. Photos were shown to the Members. Chairman Friedrich commented that a lot of dirt gets tracked through this office. Voice vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—(11). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

In the absence of Member Nelson, Michelle Fishburn Administrator of the Health Department presented a report from the Knox County Board of Health in reference to their recent Board Meeting. Ms. Fishburn reported that the State is putting out a vaccine for adults program which is similar to the vaccines for children program. A number of adult vaccines will be able to be offered to uninsured or underinsured adults such the shingles vaccine and pneumonia vaccine. They do not yet have the specifics regarding this program but are excited about it.

Member Bondi presented a report from the Galesburg Convention and Visitors Bureau. He reported that although there was a meeting in February, he was not notified. He did later meet with Bill Morris and learned that they are working on the possibilities of having a couple of cameras in the Galesburg area that would identify some weather activity. This would highlight the Galesburg area and draw in some added revenue.

Member Knapp was absent and could not present his report from the 9-1-1 Committee.

Chairman Friedrich presented a report from the Knox County Area Partnership for Economic Development. Ken Springer the Director of this organization had stated his willingness to address different organizations in the community. They are looking at creating a new logo which would be similar to a brand. A lot of new things are happening.

Member Johnson presented a report from the Prairie Hills Resources Board. They had their annual meeting last month. He was elected Board Chairman. Exciting news is that the Director of Prairie Hills, David Hills, wrote a grant for mine reclamation funds. With that money they were able to purchase 560 acres of land next to the Banner Marsh area which will be made into a nature preserve. Approximately 100 acres of this is a lowland area will be flooded and turned into a refuge for waterfowl and fish. They also plan to plant some trees to improve the forest area and get rid of some scrub trees. This will put that mine reclamation money to work.

Member Davidson presented a report from the United Council of Counties. There were recent elections to vote in a new president and vice-president. Last month the Governor spoke and shared his vision of Illinois. This vision will involve changes that must be approved by the State legislature. UCCI is an organization that promotes education and tries to keep their

members informed of what is going on in Springfield. All the money that the County pays into the United Council of Counties will be returned to the County.

Motion was made by Member Bacon and seconded by Member Pitman to approve the opening of the budget of line item changes. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Bacon, Foster, Friedrich, Davidson, Sandoval, Conklin, Bondi, Hurst, Pitman and Jefferson—(11). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Bondi and seconded by Member Sandoval to approve specific budget line item changes to the budget. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Bacon, Foster, Friedrich, Davidson, Sandoval, Conklin, Bondi, Hurst, Pitman and Jefferson—(11). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Pitman and seconded by Member Foster to approve claims against Knox County, Illinois, for the period of January 29, 2015 through February 25, 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 follow: Ayes—Johnson, Bacon, Foster, Davidson, Sandoval, Conklin, Hurst, and Jefferson—(8). Noes—(0). Pass—Friedrich, Bondi, and Pitman—(3). Motion carried.

## STATEMENTS OF GENERAL CONCERN

Member Johnson had no comments at this time.

Member Bacon commented that former Board Member Dale Parsons was an outstanding Board Member who served the Board for a long time. He was an all around good guy who did great things with Stone Hays. Member Bacon was proud to know him.

Member Foster had no comments at this time.

Chairman Friedrich thanked Board Members and Department heads for their helpfulness as he transitions to this position as Board Chairman. He also asked that the Board Members keep the family of Cole Steele in their thoughts and prayers.

Member Davidson wished everyone to be safe on their way home. They should drive slowly and enjoy the new snow.

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

The next Regular Meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 25, 2015, 6:00 p.m., at the Knox County Courthouse, Galesburg, Illinois.

Motion was made by Member Bondi and seconded by Member Foster to adjourn from this Meeting. Voice vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—(11). Noes—(0). Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:42 p.m.