

# CLINTON COUNTY BOARD MEETING

April 17, 2023 – 7 p.m.

Bradley Knolhoff, Chairman

Nelson Heinzmann, Vice Chairman

## 1. OPENING PRAYER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

## 2. CALL TO ORDER

Sheriff Dan Travous called the meeting of the Clinton County District Board to order at 7 p.m. on April 17, 2023.

## 3. REMOTE ATTENDANCE

## 4. ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

Present: Arentsen, Clark, Haselhorst, Heinzmann, Hilmes, B. Knolhoff, K. Knolhoff, Kuhl, Rakers, Riechman, Schroeder, Veizer. Absent: Jansen, Rapien, Strieker. The record reflected that there was a quorum.

## 5. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS AND GUESTS

## 6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to Approve – Haselhorst made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 20, 2023 regular meeting. Veizer seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

## 7. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

## 8. PUBLIC MAY APPROACH THE BOARD

## 9. REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS

- a. Riechman thanked the Clinton County Farm Bureau for recently hosting a joint meeting with the County Board and Elected/Appointed County Officials.

## 10. STANDING COMMITTEES

- a. Zoning and Subdivision Committee – Ann Schroeder

1. Zoning Report – Jami Staser

Staser explained the proposed ordinance which is a text amendment to add a new zoning district Agricultural-Residential (A-R) 10. The county currently has an Agricultural-Residential District which is a 10 acre district that can be split to build several single-family homes. The new district came to fruition through multiple meetings where property owners were proposing A-R zoning for a single-family dwelling. A-R 10 will be a 10-acre tract that can be rezoned for just a single-family dwelling. B. Knolhoff said this gives the Zoning Board of Appeals the ability to approve a request based on what is intended by the current property owner versus what could happen with the property in the future.

- i. Motion – Ordinance Amending Chapter 40 (Zoning Code) of the Revised Code of Ordinances of the County of Clinton Approving a Text Amendment Regarding Adding District Agricultural-Residential (A-R) 10 District.  
Haselhorst made a motion for a roll call vote to approve the new district. Rakers seconded the motion.  
Arentsen (Yes), Clark (Yes), Haselhorst (Yes), Heinzmann (Yes), Hilmes (Yes), Jansen (Absent), B. Knolhoff (Yes), K. Knolhoff (Yes), Kuhl (Yes), Rakers (Yes), Rapien (Absent), Riechman (Yes), Schroeder (Yes), Strieker (Absent), Veizer (Yes). Motion Carried 12-0.
  - ii. Motion – Final Plat – 1 Lot – Karl Abert’s First Subdivision – Breese Township  
Staser stated that the city of Breese has reviewed and approved this subdivision. Rakers made a motion for a roll call vote to approve. Arentsen seconded the motion.  
Arentsen (Yes), Clark (Yes), Haselhorst (Yes), Heinzmann (Yes), Hilmes (Yes), Jansen (Absent), B. Knolhoff (Yes), K. Knolhoff (Yes), Kuhl (Yes), Rakers (Yes), Rapien (Absent), Riechman (Yes), Schroeder (Yes), Strieker (Absent), Veizer (Yes). Motion Carried 12-0.
- b. Economic Development, Tourism and Clinton County Enterprise Zone – Mike Rakers
- 1. Rakers reported that the committee is looking into ways to generate more tourism in the county. He spoke briefly about pending state legislation, and amendment to Senate Bill 1213, which would amend the Illinois Vehicle Code to reduce restrictions for all-terrain vehicles on certain roadways. He explained that once these bills are in committee, you can visit the General Assembly website to comment “for” or “against” this bill.
- c. Insurance/ICIT – Nelson Heinzmann
- 1. Heinzmann said the committee met April 10 with Dan Imming from Imming Insurance, Bill Schmalz of Einstein Consulting and Lori Breiner from the Highway Department also in attendance. Imming presented the renewal of the dental coverage for the employees with a very minimal increase. Rates are locked in for two years. Schmalz gave a health insurance update. Total costs, compared to last year, were up about 10 percent; however, the total costs were down about 36 percent as compared to 2014 and 2015 when the county switched over to the current health carrier. Medical utilization is up 13 percent, pharmacy is up 22 percent and fixed costs were down slightly. Schmalz reported on the health renewal with the third party administrator, Consociate, which is being offered at a very similar rate. There will be no premium increase for employees. Expenses for the fourth month of the Fiscal Year, without reimbursements, were 19 percent over budget. With reimbursements, the expenses were under budget about 21 percent. There was very little change in worker’s compensation and other insurance expenses.
    - i. Motion – Delta Dental Renewal  
Heinzmann made a motion for a roll call vote. Riechman seconded the motion.  
Arentsen (Yes), Clark (Yes), Haselhorst (Yes), Heinzmann (Yes), Hilmes (Yes), Jansen (Absent), B. Knolhoff (Yes), K. Knolhoff (Yes), Kuhl (Yes), Rakers (Yes), Rapien (Absent), Riechman (Yes), Schroeder (Yes), Strieker (Absent), Veizer (Yes). Motion Carried 12-0.

- ii. Motion – Renew Health Insurance Coverage with Consociate  
Heinzmann made a motion for a roll call vote. Arentsen seconded the motion. Arentsen (Yes), Clark (Yes), Haselhorst (Yes), Heinzmann (Yes), Hilmes (Yes), Jansen (Absent), B. Knolhoff (Yes), K. Knolhoff (Yes), Kuhl (Yes), Rakers (Yes), Rapien (Absent), Riechman (Yes), Schroeder (Yes), Strieker (Absent), Veizer (Yes). Motion Carried 12-0.
  
- d. Facilities Committee – Gary Arentsen
  - 1. Arentsen said there has been some cleanup and painting of the former Animal Control facility with a goal to have the building completed for use as the Coroner’s new office and morgue by June 1.
  
- e. Animal Control – Ann Schroeder
  - 1. Schroeder said the first Animal Control Committee meeting was held April 10. The new administrator, Kenny Brown, DVM, has been very busy reviewing current practices. He has proposed several changes, but it will take a little time to implement these changes. Brown has been reviewing current costs and will make recommendations to update the fee schedule. The Treasurer’s Office will resume handling the Rabies Tag collection. Current information shows that less than 50 percent of the county is in compliance with paying for the Rabies Tags after having the vaccinations issued. Doc Brown plans to have a Rabies Clinic at the Animal Control facility in June with more information to follow. There are currently nine dogs and no cats housed at the facility. B. Knolhoff pointed out that the Animal Control Committee was recently established with Schroeder as chairperson and members Hilmes and Jansen.
  
- f. Finance – David Veizer
  - 1. Veizer reported that the committee met and all bills were approved.
  - 2. Treasurer’s Monthly Report – Denise Trame  
Trame reported that all of the monthly reports were in the packets, and the county’s share of video gaming proceeds for March was \$9,950.28.
    - i. Motion to Approve – Monthly Budget and Financial Report  
Heinzmann made a motion to approve the report. Arentsen seconded the motion. Motion Carried.
  
- g. Budget – Nelson Heinzmann  
No Report
  
- h. Law Enforcement, EMA, Welfare, Safety and Liquor Control – Mike Strieker
  - 1. Clark reported that the committee discussed Clinton County Emergency Management’s role in any potential county emergencies. Specifically, the committee discussed railroad derailments since that has happened recently. She noted that the derailment between Albers and New Baden was well coordinated by the railroad company, which is experienced in handling and responding to these types of accidents. Clark noted that CCEMA has an incident response RV called IRMA, which is Incident Response Mobile Asset, and it’s available to have onsite at any area emergency.

i. Road and Bridge – Ken Knolhoff

1. Monthly County Engineer’s Report – Dan Behrens

Behrens said there were several bid openings in the past month. There were two resolutions to award oil products for the townships and the county roadways. The price for emulsion oil, which is spread on the road before they oil and chip, is up slightly from last year, but the big jump in price took place last year. The department also bid hot mix along with another oil that they use to make their own cold mix, and those items have increased quite a bit since last year. Behrens said there were several bidders and he believes what they have received is market price. Illiana Construction was the low bidder for all of the oil that gets spread on the road for the county and the townships, except for Carlyle Township, who falls under a quantity threshold for oil and is not required to seek bids. Don Anderson will supply the oil for Carlyle. Don Anderson is also the low bidder for everyone who is mixing the oil on site. Howell Paving was the low bidder on the binder mix, and Christ Brothers Asphalt was the low bidder on the surface mix

i. Motion – Resolution to Award Low Oil Bids for Townships

K. Knolhoff made a motion for a roll call vote to approve the bids. Haselhorst seconded the motion.

Arentsen (Yes), Clark (Yes), Haselhorst (Yes), Heinzmann (Yes), Hilmes (Yes), Jansen (Absent), B. Knolhoff (Yes), K. Knolhoff (Yes), Kuhl (Yes), Rakers (Yes), Rapien (Absent), Riechman (Yes), Schroeder (Yes), Strieker (Absent), Veizer (Yes). Motion Carried 12-0.

ii. Motion – Resolution to Award Low Oil and Hot Asphalt Bids for the County.

K. Knolhoff made a motion for a roll call vote to approve the bids. Riechman seconded the motion.

Arentsen (Yes), Clark (Yes), Haselhorst (Yes), Heinzmann (Yes), Hilmes (Yes), Jansen (Absent), B. Knolhoff (Yes), K. Knolhoff (Yes), Kuhl (Yes), Rakers (Yes), Rapien (Absent), Riechman (Yes), Schroeder (Yes), Strieker (Absent), Veizer (Yes). Motion Carried 12-0.

2. Behrens said bids were also received on a bridge on End Road in Meridian Township.

The funding will be 80 percent State-Township Bridge Program with the remaining split between the county and Meridian Township. Lake Contracting of Addieville was the low bidder at \$349,647. A second bid came in from C-Hill Civil Contractors (formerly Depew & Owen) at \$367,163.80.

iii. Motion – Resolution to Award the Low Bid for a Bridge Replacement on End Road in Meridian Township to Lake Contracting.

K. Knolhoff made a motion for a roll call vote to approve the bid. Schroeder seconded the motion.

Arentsen (Yes), Clark (Yes), Haselhorst (Yes), Heinzmann (Yes), Hilmes (Yes), Jansen (Absent), B. Knolhoff (Yes), K. Knolhoff (Yes), Kuhl (Yes), Rakers (Yes), Rapien (Absent), Riechman (Yes), Schroeder (Yes), Strieker (Absent), Veizer (Yes). Motion Carried 12-0.

3. The Highway Department sought bids on a new ½ -ton pickup truck for one of the technicians. They are trading in a 2011 Ford F150. K&J Automotive Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram submitted the low bid for \$33,575 which included \$4,000 for the trade-in.

- iv. Motion – Resolution to Award the Low Bid for a New ½ Town Pickup Truck to K&J Automotive CDJR.

Hilmes made a motion for a roll call vote to approve the bid. Heinzmann seconded the motion.

Arentsen (Yes), Clark (Yes), Haselhorst (Yes), Heinzmann (Yes), Hilmes (Yes), Jansen (Absent), B. Knolhoff (Yes), K. Knolhoff (Yes), Kuhl (Yes), Rakers (Yes), Rapien (Absent), Riechman (Yes), Schroeder (Yes), Strieker (Absent), Veizer (Yes). Motion Carried 12-0.

- 4. Behrens reported that he has not received a response from IDOT concerning the poor condition of Illinois Route 161 between Bartelso and Germantown. However, B. Knolhoff said a local citizen had reached out State Rep. Charlie Meier regarding the roadway, and Meier made contact with the secretary of IDOT. Subsequently, B. Knolhoff also wrote a letter to the IDOT secretary describing the hazardous condition of the roadway. He said Joe Monroe of IDOT will be meeting with county representatives on April 28 in Germantown. The county engineer had also contacted IDOT regarding the poor condition of U.S. Route 50, east of Carlyle. He has been notified that repairs to that roadway are part of the multi-year program period which runs from 2023 through 2028. There are three different sections of Route 50 slated for improvement: resurfacing from Eleventh Street in Carlyle to McNair Campground Road; resurfacing from Huey Road to Shattuc Road with a culvert replacement on Prairie Branch; and a rebuilding/reconstruction of Route 50 from McNair Campground Road to Huey. Behrens also reported that mowing will start soon. Since the grass grows so fast, they will make one 8-foot pass along the roadways. They will not mow the ditches until the fall.

- j. Personnel, Labor and Grievance – Mike Hilmes and Gary Arentsen

- 1. Arentsen said Irma Kohrmann of the Treasurer’s Office is retiring and has submitted a letter of resignation effective Jan. 19, 2024. Her maximum payout claim for unused sick leave, comp time, etc. is \$23,312.80. Denise Trame is asking for an additional employee to replace Kohrmann. The new employee would be a deputy collector and would also handle the Animal Control Rabies Tag program. Fifty percent of the new employee’s salary will come from Animal Control. Arentsen said the committee also received a letter of resignation from Miranda Campbell of the Sheriff’s Department effective April 1. Her maximum payout claim is \$6,097.39.

- i. Motion – Resignation and Payout for Irma Kohrmann

Arentsen made a motion for a roll call vote to approve the resignation and payout. Veizer seconded the motion.

Arentsen (Yes), Clark (Yes), Haselhorst (Yes), Heinzmann (Yes), Hilmes (Yes), Jansen (Absent), B. Knolhoff (Yes), K. Knolhoff (Yes), Kuhl (Yes), Rakers (Yes), Rapien (Absent), Riechman (Yes), Schroeder (Yes), Strieker (Absent), Veizer (Yes). Motion Carried 12-0.

- ii. Motion – Early Hire of Deputy Collector for Treasurer’s Office with 50 percent of Salary Contributed from Animal Control.

Arentsen made a motion to approve the hire. Schroeder seconded the motion. Motion Carried

- iii. Motion – Resignation and Payout for Miranda Campbell

Arentsen made a motion for a roll call vote to approve the resignation and payout.

Kuhl seconded the motion.

Arentsen (Yes), Clark (Yes), Haselhorst (Yes), Heinzmann (Yes), Hilmes (Yes), Jansen (Absent), B. Knolhoff (Yes), K. Knolhoff (Yes), Kuhl (Yes), Rakers (Yes), Rapien (Absent), Riechman (Yes), Schroeder (Yes), Strieker (Absent), Veizer (Yes). Motion Carried 12-0.

k. Executive – Nelson Heinzmann

1. Heinzmann reported that the committee met April 14 with most of the county's department heads in attendance. The committee is trying to meet quarterly with all department heads and each gave an update of the recent activity in their office.
2. County Clerk Vicky Albers explained two ordinances: the first is asking that all documents that are submitted for recording include a parcel identification number and common mailing address, when possible. This is a requirement that county clerks across the state are implementing to improve future property searches. The second is a mandated increase to the Rental Housing Support Program (RHSP) Fund. State legislators passed House Bill 3078 last year which doubles the fee collected for RHSP. The statewide County's Clerk's Association tried to fight this for many years due to the huge disparity in the disbursement of the funding.
  - i. Motion – Ordinance Requiring the Parcel Identification Number and Common Mailing Addresses on All Documents Recorded  
Heinzmann made a motion to approve the ordinance. Clark seconded the motion. Motion Carried
  - ii. Motion – Ordinance Increasing the Rental Housing Support Program (RHSP) Fee.  
Heinzmann made a motion to approve the ordinance. Schroeder seconded the motion. Motion Carried
3. Mark Litteken, president of the Clinton County Farm Bureau, which represents over 1,200 farmers and farm family members in the county, spoke briefly about the importance of agriculture. He said the passage of the resolution shows the significance of agriculture in our county and it shows support to the industry. Agriculture is one of the oldest industries in the county and provides fuel and food to local communities, our nation and the world. In total there are more than 71,000 farms in Illinois and 831 of those are located in this county. There are 1,648 jobs supported by agriculture in Clinton County, which is an estimated 10 percent of the jobs. Agriculture and related industries generate total sales of \$310.5 million. Farm properties provide 17.3 percent of the taxable value of this county. Litteken said the resolution shows support and recognizes the contributions of agriculture to this county. Ron Holevoet, legislative chairman of the Farm Bureau Board, spoke about recent meetings he has attended in the state and wanted to stress how important this resolution is to the county and the entire state. He stressed that the County Board should keep an open door with the Farm Bureau and reach out to them with any questions or issues that may arise.
  - i. Motion – Resolution in Support of Clinton County Agriculture.  
Riechman made a motion to approve the resolution. Arentsen seconded the motion. Motion Carried
4. B. Knolhoff explained the ordinance amending the Personnel Code regarding the solicitation of donations. He said the board wants to ensure that any donations that are solicited on behalf of the county are first approved by the County Board.



- i. Motion – Ordinance Amending Personnel Code Regarding Solicitation of Donations. Heinzmann made a motion to approve the ordinance. Arentsen seconded the motion. Motion Carried
- 5. Heinzmann said the committee is recommending that the county pay up to \$4,500 for the application of lime at the County Farm. It is recommended that the lime be applied at a variable rate as needed.
  - i. Motion – Variable Rate Application of Lime to County Farm Not to Exceed \$4,500. Heinzmann made a motion for a roll call vote to approve. Kuhl seconded the motion. Arentsen (Yes), Clark (Yes), Haselhorst (Yes), Heinzmann (Yes), Hilmes (Yes), Jansen (Absent), B. Knolhoff (Yes), K. Knolhoff (Yes), Kuhl (Yes), Rakers (Yes), Rapien (Absent), Riechman (Yes), Schroeder (Yes), Strieker (Absent), Veizer (Yes). Motion Carried 12-0.

## 11. SPECIAL COMMITTEES

- a. Radio – Curt Haselhorst  
No Report
- b. SSA/Ambulance – Greg Riechman  
Riechman said there was a proposition on the April ballot to create a separate Special Service Area for ambulance service in Lookingglass Township (excluding the incorporated areas of Albers, Damiansville and New Baden). The final results from that election will be available on April 18. He intends to reach out to Lookingglass Township after getting the final results.
- c. Health Building – Ken Knolhoff
  - 1. K. Knolhoff reported that the committee approved a payment of \$110,651.40 per the contract with Johannes Construction. The basement walls have been poured and waterproofed except for a small portion which was left open to move equipment in and out. The elevator pit has also been poured. Johannes anticipates starting on floor joists in the next 3-4 weeks. When the board signed the contract with Johannes on Oct. 20, there was an option for a metal roof versus a shingle roof. At that time, the county opted for the shingle roof with the option to change to metal roof after the basement was completed. The original bid stated that a metal roof would be \$73,000 extra; however, Johannes has since offered a quote for a thinner gauge metal for \$49,916. The committee has agreed to pursue the thinner gauge metal roof contingent on the price remaining relatively the same.
    - i. Motion – Change Order to Install Metal Roof on the new Health Department building in lieu of Shingle Roof for an amount not to exceed \$51,000. K. Knolhoff made a motion for a roll call vote to approve the change order. Rakers seconded the motion. Arentsen (No), Clark (Yes), Haselhorst (Yes), Heinzmann (Yes), Hilmes (Yes), Jansen (Absent), B. Knolhoff (Yes), K. Knolhoff (Yes), Kuhl (Yes), Rakers (Yes), Rapien (Absent), Riechman (Yes), Schroeder (Yes), Strieker (Absent), Veizer (Yes). Motion Carried 11-1.

## **12. OUTSIDE COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS**

### **a. Board of Health – Mike Kuhl**

Health Department Administrator Chris Leidel provided the monthly financial report. Since the new vaccination grant has been approved, the department will start hosting Covid vaccine clinics on Thursdays until 6 p.m. with the first clinic on May 4. Flu vaccines will also be available during flu season. A health advisory was issued in March for Invasive Group A Strep, which was going around schools. The recommendation was for providers to test throat cultures versus rapid testing. Leidel reported that IDPH opened up its Narcan program to all health departments last year. Narcan is a naloxone nasal spray that rapidly reverses an opioid overdose. Last year, the health department was able to provide a large quantity of Narcan to the Sheriff's Department at no cost. This year, the department provided about \$1,000 worth of Narcan for first responders in local fire departments. Leidel said that if any municipalities are in need of a supply of Narcan, they should contact the health department.

#### **1. Motion to Approve - Health Department Monthly Report**

Kuhl made a motion to approve the Health Department Monthly Report.

Arentsen seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

### **b. 708 Mental Health Board – Holly Clark**

1. Clark reported that the board is continuing to work on its strategic planning. She said there was a very good response to a recent survey to assess the mental health needs of the county, and a committee has been formed to review the survey results.

### **c. 911 ETSB Board – Bruce Rapien**

1. Kuhl said the committee discussed the countywide paging system and will move forward with an upgrade through GTSI. This temporary paging system can be used as a backup following the implementation of the new countywide radio system.

### **d. Discover Downstate Illinois (Ann Schroeder), SILEC (Mike Kuhl), SCIGA (Greg Riechman), Greater Centralia Enterprise Zone (Holly Clerk/Greg Riechman), Southern Illinois Workforce Investment Board (Mike Rakers), SWIDA (Ann Schroeder), SIMAPC (Greg Riechman), UCCI.**

1. Rakers said the Workforce Investment Board met via Zoom last week and they are experiencing the same problems as local businesses with a lack of people willing to work.

## **13. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE**

Veizer made a motion for a roll call vote for approval of Accounts Payable. Arentsen seconded the motion.

Arentsen (Yes), Clark (Yes), Haselhorst (Yes), Heinzmann (Yes), Hilmes (Yes), Jansen (Absent), B. Knolhoff (Yes), K. Knolhoff (Yes), Kuhl (Yes), Rakers (Yes), Rapien (Absent), Riechman (Yes), Schroeder (Yes), Strieker (Absent), Veizer (Yes). Motion Carried 12-0.

## **14. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**



**15. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS**

- a. Motion – Reappoint Richard Stumpf - Trustee – New Baden Fire Protection District
  - b. Motion – Reappoint Rodney LaCaze - Trustee – New Baden Fire Protection District
  - c. Motion – Reappoint Mike Hohmeyer – Trustee – Huey Ferrin Boulder Fire Protection District
  - d. Motion – Reappoint Mark Pingsterhaus – Trustee – Carlyle Fire Protection District
  - e. Motion – Reappoint Wayne Kiefer – Clinton County Board of Review
  - f. Motion – Appoint Matt Cain – Clinton County Board of Review
- Heinzmann made a motion to approve appointments/reappointments “a-f.” Riechman seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

**16. NEW BUSINESS**

- 1. B. Knolhoff announced that a Veterans Committee has been reorganized with Riechman named as chairman and members Clark and Hilmes.

**17. ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY, MAY 15, 2023**

Arentsen made a motion to adjourn until Monday, May 15, 2023 at 7 p.m.  
Veizer seconded the motion. Motion Carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

ATTEST:



Vicky Albers  
County Clerk & Recorder