

CLINTON COUNTY BOARD MEETING
February 27, 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 February 27, 2023.

3. REMOTE ATTENDANCE

Motion to Approve – Kuhl made a motion to allow board member Gary Arentsen to attend the meeting remotely via telephone conference call. Haselhorst seconded the motion.
Motion Carried.

4. ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

Present: Arentsen, Clark, Haselhorst, Heinzmann, Hilmes, Jansen, B. Knolhoff, K. Knolhoff, Kuhl, Rakers, Rapien, Riechman, Schroeder, Strieker, Veizer. Let the record reflect that we have a quorum.

5. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS AND GUESTS

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to Approve – Heinzmann made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 17, 2023 regular meeting. Veizer seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

7. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

- a. B. Knolhoff recognized the achievement of outstanding citizen, Tyson Waughtel, a Carlyle High School Wrestler who recently won the state championship for his weight class division. This is Waughtel's second state championship.
- b. Sheriff Travous administered the oath of office for two new deputies, Andrew Brandt and Taylor Davis. Davis came to the department in a part-time capacity last year and filled in when they had a part-time vacancy from October 2022 through February. Travous said she is well-deserving of being named full-time. Brandt comes to the county from the Centralia Police Department and has previously been employed by the county in telecommunications.

8. PUBLIC MAY APPROACH THE BOARD

- a. Kyle Anderson, executive director of the Leadership Council of Southwestern Illinois, explained the council is an economic development agency representing a nine-county area on the Illinois side of the St. Louis Metropolitan Statistical Area. The SWIL Leadership Council includes about 250 businesses who have come together to advocate for the entire region. Among members are Kaskaskia College of Centralia and The Maschhoffs of

Carlyle, and Anderson hopes to increase the agency's outreach beyond Madison and St. Clair counties. Anderson said his agency's goal is to help existing businesses with retention and expansion and to build a brand for Southwestern Illinois. The agency may be reaching out to county leaders to acquire data throughout this process.

9. REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS

No Report

10. STANDING COMMITTEES

a. Zoning and Subdivision Committee – Ann Schroeder

1. Zoning Report – Jami Staser

- i. Motion to Approve – Map Amendment - Martin Seebach and Donna Fuehne - Rezone from Agricultural (A) – Agricultural-Residential (A-R) – Germantown Township

Staser explained they are only requesting to rezone 10 acres of a 24-acre tract from Agricultural (A) to Agricultural Residential (AR). The property is located in Germantown Township on Woodlane Road. The Zoning Board granted approval with the condition that a new zoning sketch be submitted.

Rakers made a motion for a roll call vote to concur with the Zoning Board's decision. Haselhorst seconded the motion.

Arentsen (Yes), Clark (Yes), Haselhorst (Yes), Heinzmann (Yes), Hilmes (Yes), Jansen (Yes), B. Knolhoff (Yes), K. Knolhoff (Yes), Kuhl (Yes), Rakers (Yes), Rapien (Yes), Riechman (Yes), Schroeder (Yes), Strieker (Yes), Veizer (Yes).
Motion Carried 15-0.

- ii. Motion to Approve – Special Use Permit - Cal and Shelby Loepker - Single Family Dwelling on Agricultural Lot of 3 Acres - Santa Fe Township

The lot is being split from a 40-acre tract which is owned by Shelby's grandmother. The property will be deeded from grandmother to son and from father to daughter. Schroeder made a motion for a roll call vote to approve the Special Use Permit.

Jansen seconded the motion.

Arentsen (Yes), Clark (Yes), Haselhorst (Yes), Heinzmann (Yes), Hilmes (Yes), Jansen (Yes), B. Knolhoff (Yes), K. Knolhoff (Yes), Kuhl (Yes), Rakers (Yes), Rapien (Yes), Riechman (Yes), Schroeder (Yes), Strieker (Yes), Veizer (Yes).
Motion Carried 15-0.

- iii. Motion to Approve – Map Amendment - Karl Abert - Rezone from Agricultural (A) to Agricultural – Residential (A-R) Breese Township

Abert is rezoning 10.7 acres to build a home.

Rakers made a motion for a roll call vote to approve the Map Amendment.

Kuhl seconded the motion.

Arentsen (Yes), Clark (Yes), Haselhorst (Yes), Heinzmann (Yes), Hilmes (Yes), Jansen (Yes), B. Knolhoff (Yes), K. Knolhoff (Yes), Kuhl (Yes), Rakers (Yes), Rapien (Yes), Riechman (Yes), Schroeder (Yes), Strieker (Yes), Veizer (Yes).
Motion Carried 15-0.

- iv. Motion to Approve – Increasing the Meeting per diem for Members of the Zoning Board of Appeals from \$70 to \$90 per meeting.

The per diem was last increased in 2011.

Strieker made a motion for a roll call vote to approve the per diem increase.
Heinzmann seconded the motion.

Arentsen (Yes), Clark (Yes), Haselhorst (Yes), Heinzmann (Yes), Hilmes (Yes), Jansen (Yes), B. Knolhoff (Yes), K. Knolhoff (Yes), Kuhl (Yes), Rakers (Yes), Rapien (Yes), Riechman (Yes), Schroeder (Yes), Strieker (Yes), Veizer (Yes).
Motion Carried 15-0.

- b. Economic Development, Tourism and Clinton County Enterprise Zone – Mike Rakers
Rakers said the committee discussed several topics. Members were asked to draft a resolution in opposition to Ameren’s Sursee-Aviston Transmission Project; however, at this time, it was decided not to write a letter since the committee has little knowledge about what they would be opposing.

- i. Motion to Approve – Authorizing a Letter to Recognize Discover Downstate Illinois as a Certified Tourism Bureau

Veizer made a motion to authorize the letter. Jansen seconded the motion.
Motion Carried.

- ii. Motion to Approve – Cheryl Brinkmann as the County’s Representative for the Broadband Initiative

Rakers said the county has been involved in the Broadband Initiative to approve Internet services throughout the region. Cheryl Brinkmann has been the county’s liaison making sure that the county is represented in the effort. The committee is recommending Brinkmann continue as the county’s representative with a stipend not to exceed \$3,000 plus \$50 per diem and travel expenses.

Riechman made a motion to approve Brinkmann. Schroeder seconded the motion.
Motion Carried.

- c. Insurance/ICIT – Nelson Heinzmann

Heinzmann said the committee met Feb. 13. Bill Schmalz of Einstein Consulting gave a health insurance update. Total costs, compared to last year, were up 8.1 percent, medical claims were up \$60,000, pharmacy claims were up \$14,000; and fixed costs were down \$3,300. Expenses for the second month of the Fiscal Year, without reimbursements, were 60.49 percent over budget. With reimbursements, the expenses were under budget 45.1 percent.

- d. Facilities Committee – Gary Arentsen

Arentsen thanked everyone who attended the open house for the new Animal Control/Multi-Purpose Facility on Saturday, Feb. 18.

- e. Finance – David Veizer

Veizer said the committee met and approved all bills.

1. Treasurer’s Monthly Report – Denise Trame

- i. Motion to Approve – Monthly Budget and Financial Report

K. Knolhoff made a motion to approve the report. Schroeder seconded the motion.
Motion Carried.

f. Budget – Nelson Heinzmann
No Report

g. Law Enforcement, EMA, Welfare, Safety and Liquor Control – Mike Strieker
Strieker said the committee had a brief meeting on Feb. 14. The committee heard from Sheriff's Sergeant Dennis Perez who gave an update on the Safety Act. He also recognized that the Animal Welfare Act is in place and has the support of the Animal Control warden. CCEMA Director Tim Schleper was also in attendance.

h. Road and Bridge – Ken Knolhoff

1. Monthly County Engineer's Report – Dan Behrens

Behrens said he has sent the letter to the Illinois Department of Transportation concerning the condition of Illinois Route 161 from Germantown through Bartelso; however, he has not received a response. Behrens explained the law by which a township can petition the County Bridge Fund for a 50 percent county match to replace a culvert. The township must meet two criteria: it's at least 102 percent of their assessed valuation and they have taxed the maximum rate for their Road and Bridge fund for the previous two years. Behrens said there are five townships who do not do this, so they are not eligible.

The Highway Department will be reviewing bids for two new dump trucks (cab and chassis) next month. The department has not yet received the dump truck that was bid in the spring of 2021, but it should be delivered in the next couple of weeks. The city of Breese is requesting a turn lane on Twelfth Street, near the entrance to McDonalds, and the county is looking into this request.

i. Motion to Approve – Direct the County Engineer to Contact the Illinois Department of Transportation Concerning the Condition of US Route 50 from Carlyle and East to the County Line

K. Knolhoff made a motion to approve. Heinzmann seconded the motion.
Motion Carried.

i. Personnel, Labor and Grievance – Mike Hilmes and Gary Arentsen

1. Hilmes said the committee met Feb. 14 and has one item for the board to consider.

i. Motion to Approve – Payout for Retiring Sheriff's Deputy Jeffrey Vernatti for \$21,702.88, which is based on his collective bargaining agreement

Veizer made a motion for a roll call vote. Clark seconded the motion.

Arentsen (Yes), Clark (Yes), Haselhorst (Yes), Heinzmann (Yes), Hilmes (Yes), Jansen (Yes), B. Knolhoff (Yes), K. Knolhoff (Yes), Kuhl (Yes), Rakers (Yes), Rapien (Yes), Riechman (Yes), Schroeder (Yes), Strieker (Yes), Veizer (Yes).

Motion Carried 15-0.

j. Executive – Nelson Heinzmann

Schroeder reported that the committee met Feb. 24 to review and approve the agenda.

10. SPECIAL COMMITTEES

a. Radio – Curt Haselhorst

Haselhorst said the committee met Feb. 9. The State's Attorney is still reviewing the

pending contracts with Tait Communications, for the proposed countywide radio system, and Mike Mazzitello from Mazzitello Professional Services, a consultant on the project. The two motions regarding these agenda items were tabled. B. Knolhoff advised that a special County Board meeting will likely be called to approve the contracts. Knolhoff said he sent everyone information on how the radio project could potentially be funded with the county's existing reserves. Accountant Fred Becker has concurred that adequate funding is available. There is an option to seek financing for the project and that will be discussed in the future.

b. SSA/Ambulance – Greg Riechman

Riechman reported that a committee meeting was held Feb. 2 to discuss the ongoing issues with financing and staffing the county's ambulance services. There were 48 community members in attendance, including mayors, trustees, first responders and emergency personnel. They shared that there are tremendous issues to deal with in terms of finding and paying qualified staff and increasing costs across the board.

11. OUTSIDE COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS

a. Board of Health – Mike Kuhl

Health Department Administrator Chris Leidel reported revenues of \$165,099 with expenditures of \$114,114. Part of that revenue is due to the receipt of a Local Health Protection Grant which finances food inspections, private well inspections and private sewage inspections. Revenue also included some reimbursements from Covid grants which ended at the end of the month. The Covid-related Mass Vaccination and Response grants have ended; however, receipt of another Mass Vaccination grant is anticipated.

1. Motion to Approve - Health Department Monthly Report

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

Jansen seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

b. 708 Mental Health Board – Holly Clark

No Report.

c. 911 ETSB Board – Bruce Rapien

Rapien said the 911 ETSB Board met Feb. 8 and appointed Jim Kniepmann of the Sugar Creek Ambulance Service as the committee chair. The committee spoke extensively about issues and repairs to the existing radio tower and paging systems.

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. Schroeder said Illinois South Tourism Board met Jan. 24 where they announced Discover Downstate Illinois as the new name for the organization.

2. Hilmes reported that he attended the UCCI meeting that morning. In addition, he and Rakers attended the UCCI County Board training in January, which was very educational. He said UCCI is a good resource for board members and department heads.

3. Riechman said he and Clark attended the Greater Centralia Enterprise Zone meeting on Feb. 16; however, there were not enough members in attendance for a quorum.

12. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Rakers made a motion for a roll call vote for approval of Accounts Payable. Clark seconded the motion.

Arentsen (Yes), Clark (Yes), Haselhorst (Yes), Heinzmann (Yes), Hilmes (Yes), Jansen (Yes), B. Knolhoff (Yes), K. Knolhoff (Yes), Kuhl (Yes), Rakers (Yes), Rapien (Yes), Riechman (Yes), Schroeder (Yes), Strieker (Yes), Veizer (Yes).

Motion Carried 15-0.

13. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

14. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

- a. Motion to Appoint – David Vandeloo and Bernard Varel as trustees on the Carlyle Southwest Public Water District.

Riechman made a motion to approve the appointments. Heinzmann seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

- b. Motion to Approve – Adjournment of the 2022 Board of Review

Hilmes made a motion to approve the adjournment. Veizer seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

15. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- a. B. Knolhoff explained that the board would be entering Executive Session to discuss

- 1) The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees, specific individuals who serve as independent contractors in a park, recreational, or educational setting, or specific volunteers of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee, a specific individual who serves as an independent contractor in a park, recreational, or educational setting, or a volunteer of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity. However, a meeting to consider an increase in compensation to a specific employee of a public body that is subject to the Local Government Wage Increase Transparency Act may not be closed and shall be open to the public and posted and held in accordance with this Act. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1).

- 11) Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11)

Riechman made a motion for a roll call vote to enter Executive Session at 7:47 p.m. Heinzmann seconded the motion.

Arentsen (Yes), Clark (Yes), Haselhorst (Yes), Heinzmann (Yes), Hilmes (Yes), Jansen (Yes), B. Knolhoff (Yes), K. Knolhoff (Yes), Kuhl (Yes), Rakers (Yes), Rapien (Yes), Riechman (Yes), Schroeder (Yes), Strieker (Yes), Veizer (Yes).

Motion Carried 15-0.

16. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Heinzmann made a motion to return to open session at 11:51 p.m. Rapien seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

17. NEW BUSINESS

No action was taken following the Executive Session.

18. ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY, MARCH 20, 2023

Haselhorst made a motion to adjourn until Monday, March 20, 2023 at 7 p.m. Veizer seconded the motion. Motion Carried. Meeting adjourned at 11:56 p.m.

ATTEST:



Vicky Albers
County Clerk & Recorder