

CLINTON COUNTY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

February 18, 2025 – 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 18, 2025.

3. ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

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

4. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS AND GUESTS

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion – Veizer made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 21, 2025 regular meeting. Arentsen seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

6. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS

7. PUBLIC MAY APPROACH THE BOARD

8. REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS

9. STANDING COMMITTEES

a. Zoning and Subdivision Committee – Ann Schroeder

1. Zoning Report – Jami Staser - No Report

b. Economic Development, Tourism and Clinton County Enterprise Zone – Mike Rakers

1. Motion – Authorize Letter to Recognize Discover Downstate Illinois as a Certified Tourism Bureau. Riechman made a motion to approve the letter. Rapien second the motion. Motion carried.

Schroeder handed out copies of Tourism Bureau publications which include listings for many Clinton County attractions. She said the bureau also recently started a Tribute Trail which showcases veterans memorials around the state.

c. Insurance/ICIT – Nelson Heinzmann
No Report.

- d. Facilities Committee – Gary Arentsen
 - 1. Arentsen reported that the committee met February 6 and interviewed four very qualified candidates for Director of Maintenance. The committee unanimously agreed to hire Mike Meskil for the new position. Meskil introduced himself noting that he worked with the city of Carlyle for eight years with four years in the water department and four years in the street and alley department. Prior to that he worked for 21 years as a carpenter.
 - i. Motion – Hire Mike Meskil as Director of Maintenance
Arentsen made a motion for a roll call vote to approve the hiring of Meskil. Riechmann seconded the motion.
Arentsen (Yes), Clark (Absent), Haselhorst (Yes), Heinzmann (Absent), Hilmes (Yes), Jansen (Yes), B. Knolhoff (Yes), K. Knolhoff (Yes), Rakers (Absent), Rapien (Yes), Riechman (Yes), Schmitz (Yes), Schroeder (Yes), Strieker (Yes), Veizer (Yes). Motion Carried 12-0.
- e. Animal Control – Ann Schroeder - No Report.
- f. Finance – Kurt Schmitz
Schmitz reported the committee met February 12 and all bills were approved.
 - 1. Treasurer’s Monthly Report – Denise Trame
 - i. Motion – Monthly Budget and Financial Report
Schmitz made a motion to approve the report. Hilmes seconded the motion. Motion Carried.
- g. Budget – Nelson Heinzmann - No Report.
- h. Law Enforcement, EMA, Welfare, Safety and Liquor Control – Mike Strieker
No Report.
- i. Road and Bridge – Ken Knolhoff
 - 1. Monthly County Engineer’s Report – Dan Behrens
Behrens said his crews have completed safety inspections for around 130 county and township bridges. The state intends to begin conducting the inspections in July 2026. He brought two items to the full board for approval.
 - i. Motion – Local Public Agency Engineering Services Agreement with HMG Engineers for design services for a bridge on Meridian Road. The project cost will be paid from township bridge funds and split by Clinton and Marion counties. K. Knolhoff made a motion for a roll call vote to approve the agreement. Arentsen seconded the motion.
Arentsen (Yes), Clark (Absent), Haselhorst (Yes), Heinzmann (Absent), Hilmes (Yes), Jansen (Yes), B. Knolhoff (Yes), K. Knolhoff (Yes), Rakers (Absent), Rapien (Yes), Riechman (Yes), Schmitz (Yes), Schroeder (Yes), Strieker (Yes), Veizer (Yes). Motion Carried 12-0.
 - ii. Motion – Joint Funding Agreement for Federally Funded Construction for the Aviston/Albers Road Resurfacing Project. The estimated cost is \$2.5 million, and

the project cost is split 80 percent federal and 20 percent local.

Schroeder made a motion for a roll call vote to approve the agreement. Strieker seconded the motion.

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

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

1. Hilmes said the committee met February 11 and approved the January 2025 committee meeting minutes.

i. Motion – Resignation and Payout Claim, not to exceed \$6,200.38, for Supervisor of Assessments Linda Mensing. Hilmes noted that Mensing will be retiring on May 31, 2025 after 32 years of dedicated service to the county. K. Knolhoff thanked Mensing for her hard work throughout the years. He said she has done a fantastic job and the county will miss her very much.

Hilmes made a motion for a roll call vote to approve the resignation and payout. Strieker seconded the motion.

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

k. Executive – Nelson Heinzmann

1. K. Knolhoff reported the committee reviewed the items from the agenda with two items for board approval.

i. Motion – Resolution Regarding Release Agreement with Buehne Farms for the County Farm. Buehne Farms had requested release from the agreement.

Arentsen made a motion to approve the release agreement. Veizer seconded the motion. Motion carried.

ii. Motion – Accept the Second Highest Bid for County Farm Rental, as submitted by Roy Schmitt.

Arentsen made a motion for a roll call vote to approve the bid. Veizer seconded the motion. Motion carried.

10. SPECIAL COMMITTEES

a. Radio – Curt Haselhorst - No Report

11. OUTSIDE COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS

a. Board of Health – Kurt Schmitz

1. Motion - Health Department Monthly Report.

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

Haselhorst seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

b. 708 Mental Health Board – Greg Riechman - No Report

- c. 911 ETSB Board – Bruce Rapien - No Report
- d. Discover Downstate Illinois (Ann Schroeder), SILEC (Mike Hilmes), SCIGA (Holly Clark), Greater Centralia Enterprise Zone (Holly Clerk/Greg Riechman), Southern Illinois Workforce Investment Board (Mike Rakers), SWIDA (Ann Schroeder), SIMAPC (Ann Schroeder/Mike Rakers), UCCI - No Report

12. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Schroeder made a motion for a roll call vote for approval of Accounts Payable. Riechman seconded the motion.

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

Motion carried 12-0.

13. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

14. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

- a. Motion – Reappoint Gary Schwend to the Sugar Creek Fire District Board effective May 1, 2025.
- b. Motion – Reappoint John Nowak to the Sugar Creek Fire District Board effective May 1, 2025.
- c. Motion – Reappoint Don Williams to the Sugar Creek Fire District Board effective May 1, 2025.
Haselhorst made a motion to approve the appointments. Arentsen seconded the motion.
Motion carried.

15. NEW BUSINESS

16. ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY, MARCH 17, 2025

Riechman made a motion to adjourn until Monday, March 17, 2025 at 7 p.m. Strieker seconded the motion. Motion Carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

ATTEST:



Vicky Albers
County Clerk & Recorder