

# CLINTON COUNTY BOARD MEETING

July 22, 2024 – 7 p.m.

Bradley Knolhoff, Chairman

Nelson Heinzmann, Vice Chairman

## 1. OPENING PRAYER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

## 2. CALL TO ORDER

Sheriff's Sergeant Dennis Perez called the meeting of the Clinton County District Board to order at 7 p.m. on July 22, 2024.

## 3. ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

Present: Arentsen, Clark, Haselhorst, Heinzmann, Hilmes, Jansen, B. Knolhoff, K. Knolhoff, Kuhl, Rakers, Rapien, Riechman, Schroeder, Veizer. Absent: Strieker.  
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 June 17, 2024 regular meeting. Arentsen seconded the motion. Motion carried.

## 6. REPORTS, COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS

## 7. PUBLIC MAY APPROACH THE BOARD

- a. Allen Huelsmann spoke to the board about vicious dogs in his neighborhood and in public locations in Breese. He said he is getting no assistance from local law enforcement officers, so he is seeking help from the county. He said his concerns are prompted by a recent incident in which his granddaughters were nearly attacked by his neighbor's dog. He also asked the board to look into the number of people receiving veteran disability exemptions on their property tax.

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

- a. Motion – Approval of Election Judge List for 2024-2026. County Clerk Vicky Albers said the list of potential election judges for the next two years has been sent to everyone and board approval is required by statute.  
Rakers made a motion for a roll call vote to approve the list. 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 (Absent), Veizer (Yes). Motion Carried 14-0.

## 9. STANDING COMMITTEES

### a. Zoning and Subdivision Committee – Ann Schroeder

1. Zoning Report – Jami Staser said the Zoning Board of Appeals heard 11 cases on July 3, and four of these items along with two subdivisions are on the agenda for the County Board’s consideration.

i. Motion – Map Amendment – Residential (R-2) to Commercial (C) - Nathan & Emily Gall – St Rose

Staser said the property is located on Main Street in St. Rose on the west side of the four-way intersection. The Galls currently rent a facility for their fitness studio and are planning to build on Main Street. There were a couple of neighbors who had concerns. The village president stated that the village is in favor of the rezoning request.

Veizer made a motion for a roll call vote to approve the map amendment.

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 (Absent), Veizer (Yes). Motion Carried 14-0.

ii. Motion - Special Use Family Split – Bradley Maschhoff – Breese Township

Staser said Maschhoff is requesting a family split to build a single-family home on three acres of agricultural property. The land is located on the south side of Old Route 50 on Little Prairie Road between Beckemeyer and Breese.

Hilmes made a motion for a roll call vote to approve the special use. Rapien 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 (Absent), Veizer (Yes). Motion Carried 14-0.

iii. Motion – Special Use Family Split – Henry Huelsmann – Breese Township

Staser said Huelsmann is requesting a family split to build a single-family home on three acres of agricultural ground. The land is located north of Aviston on Strieker Road.

Haselhorst made a motion for a roll call vote to approve the special use with restrictions. Arentsen 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 (Absent), Veizer (Yes). Motion Carried 14-0.

iv. Motion – Map Amendment – Agricultural (A) to Agricultural – Residential 10 (AR-10) – Mattew Ratermann – Breese Township

Staser said Ratermann will be able to build a one single-family home on the 10-acre tract, which is located on the north side of Old Route 50.

Jansen made a motion for a roll call vote to approve the map amendment.

Kuhl seconded the motion.

Arentsen (Abstain), Clark (Yes), Haselhorst (Yes), Heinzmann (Yes), Hilmes (Abstain), Jansen (Yes), B. Knolhoff (Yes), K. Knolhoff (Yes), Kuhl (Yes),

- Rakers (Yes), Rapien (Yes), Riechman (Yes), Schroeder (Yes), Strieker (Absent), Veizer (Yes). Motion Carried 12-0 with two members abstaining.
- v. Motion – Albers Hickory Estates Subdivision -1 Lot – Germantown Township  
 Staser said the subdivision was submitted by Dale and Geryl Albers on Ammons Road, south of Route 161 between Germantown and Bartelso. The three-acre lot is part of a 12-acre tract that was rezoned last month. Riechman made a motion for a roll call vote to approve the subdivision. Schroeder 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 (Absent), Veizer (Yes). Motion Carried 14-0.
  - vi. Motion – Betty Grawe’s Second Subdivision – 1 Lot – Wheatfield Township  
 Staser said the property is located on Stolletown Road and is north of Beckemeyer. The existing home with three acres will be split from the rest of the adjacent farm ground.  
 Haselhorst made a motion for a roll call vote to approve the subdivision. Schroeder seconded the motion.  
 Arentsen (Yes), Clark (Yes), Haselhorst (Yes), Heinzmann (Yes), Hilmes (Yes), Jansen (Yes), B. Knolhoff (Yes), K. Knolhoff (Yes), Kuhl (Yes), Rakers (Abstain), Rapien (Yes), Riechman (Yes), Schroeder (Yes), Strieker (Absent), Veizer (Yes). Motion Carried 13-0 with one member abstaining.
- b. Economic Development, Tourism and Clinton County Enterprise Zone – Mike Rakers  
 No Report.
  - c. Insurance/ICIT – Nelson Heinzmann
    - 1. Heinzmann reported the committee met July 9. Total insurance costs, medical claims and pharmacy costs are all down as compared to one year ago. The county received a check in early July for \$26,799 from the dissolution of a consortium that the insurance was carried by in 2013. Members of the Personnel Committee were also in attendance and had an extensive discussion about the definition of a retiree for potential policy regarding retiree insurance. No further action was taken on that topic.
  - d. Facilities Committee – Gary Arentsen
    - 1. Arentsen said there has been some leaking at the courthouse following the recent heavy rains. A contractor is coming in to inspect the windows and other potential problems.
  - e. Animal Control – Ann Schroeder  
 No Report.
  - f. Finance – David Veizer
    - 1. Treasurer’s Monthly Report – Denise Trame
      - i. Motion – Monthly Budget and Financial Report

Trame reported that no oil money was received this past month. Gaming proceeds totaled \$8,578. The Treasurer's Office mailed tax bills on July 12. Arentsen made a motion to approve the report. Heinzmann seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

g. Budget – Nelson Heinzmann

1. It was noted that the committee will begin meeting in August or September.

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 the contractor for the Huey Road Bridge at Hoffman is still working in the creek, so he lost a couple weeks of working days due to the heavy rains. Hopefully, after this week, the work on the piers will be completed and high waters will not slow progress. The county is now in the queue for railroad flaggers to get the Albers Road resurfacing project underway. The project was bid in January for an anticipated completion date of late May. Now, Behrens said, it's uncertain if the project will even get started this year. Years ago it was decided which counties would be responsible for inspecting certain bridges that are located on county line roads. Previously, a bridge was closed in East Fork. Marion County recently contacted the highway department reporting that a bridge over Lost Creek, a mile north of Route 50, has been closed pending inspection from the state bridge office. The bridge over Lost Creek will likely have to be rebuilt or replaced. Behrens met with IDOT, the sheriff's department and other entities regarding repairs to the damage on Route 161, west of Albers, caused by mine subsidence. IDOT requested using Albers Road as part of its detour route while the work is underway. Road resurfacing from Aviston to Albers is scheduled for next year. Behrens said one of the issues they have run into is sidewalk ramps that do not meet ADA requirements. Those ramps will be corrected before the resurfacing project takes place. County crews finished oiling and chipping today on Noltings Road and on all the roads north of Carlyle between the lake and Route 127. The department is selling three trucks via sealed bids: a 2009 single-axle, International dump truck; a 2012 tandem-axle dump truck; and a 1990 bucket truck.

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

1. Hilmes said the committee met July 9 with all members being present. At the meeting they approved the June minutes and have two items that need to come before the full board.

- i. Motion – Resignation and Payout for Sheriff's Department Employee Kevin Davis. His resignation took effect June 27, and he had 500 hours of unused leave benefits for a payout of \$18,625.

Hilmes 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 (Yes), B. Knolhoff (Yes), K. Knolhoff (Yes), Kuhl (Yes), Rakers (Yes), Rapien (Yes), Riechman (Yes), Schroeder (Yes), Strieker (Absent), Veizer (Yes). Motion Carried 14-0.

- ii. Motion – Resignation and Payout for Sheriff’s Department Employee Scott Voss. His resignation took effect July 14. Voss had 523.5 hours of unused leave benefits for a payout of \$19,500.38.

Hilmes made a motion for a roll call vote to approve the resignation and payout. Rapien 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 (Absent), Veizer (Yes). Motion Carried 14-0.

Knolhoff expressed his appreciation to deputies Davis and Voss who each served the county for over 20 years.

k. Executive – Nelson Heinzmann

1. B. Knolhoff said the committee met July 19 and reviewed the County Board agenda. The Executive Committee voted to bring the Illinois Separation Referendum to the full board for a vote. Knolhoff said that while the board is tasked with making decisions on behalf of county residents, the board should not be an authority on what questions can be voted on in an election. He feels voters should have the opportunity to voice their opinion in November. Voters will be asked whether the County Board should enter into conversations with other counties about separating from Cook County. He noted that the referendum is simply advisory and approval in November is no guarantee that the separation would occur. Knolhoff added that it is evident that many citizens are frustrated by the operation of our state. He feels that the vote on separation will not solve the problem, and he stressed that citizens have a duty to make sure they are voting for state leaders who are putting southern Illinois’ values first.

- i. Motion – Illinois Separation Referendum

Clark made a motion for a roll call vote to place the question on the ballot. Schroeder 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 (Absent), Veizer (Yes). Motion Carried 14-0.

- ii. Motion – Resolution for Public Defender Compensation

Kuhl made a motion to approve the compensation resolution. Veizer seconded the motion. Motion carried.

- iii. Motion – Resolution for Sheriff’s Compensation

Riechman made a motion to approve the compensation resolution. Rapien seconded the motion. Motion carried.

## 10. SPECIAL COMMITTEES

- a. Radio – Curt Haselhorst

1. Haselhorst said the committee met July 10 and is still awaiting the judge's decision regarding the temporary restraining order for the construction of a telecommunications tower west of Germantown. The committee approved a bid of \$22,050 for the propane tanks at the tower sites. The shelters have been constructed and will be delivered to the tower sites when ready. The Zetron dispatch system equipment has been delivered and is in storage until it can be installed.
- b. Health Building – Ken Knolhoff
  1. K. Knolhoff said the committee met in June and approved a pay request from Johannes for \$194,797.06. There are a few things that still need to be completed at the new health department, so \$20,000 was held back for a total payment of \$174,797.06.
- c. Veterans – Greg Riechman
  1. Riechman said the committee met June 20 and continues to have good attendance. The committee is promoting and continuing to support the Wreaths Across America project in December and the Honor Flight with veterans traveling to Washington D.C. in August and October.

## **11. OUTSIDE COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS**

- a. Board of Health – Mike Kuhl
  1. Health Department Administrator Chris Leidel gave the financial report for the past month noting that all large expenses for relocating to the new building have been paid. Leidel said he may have some agencies renting space in the Health Building in the coming months.
    - i. Motion – Health Department Monthly Report  
Kuhl made a motion to approve the monthly report. Arentsen seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- b. 708 Mental Health Board – Holly Clark  
No Report.
- c. 911 ETSB Board – Bruce Rapien  
No Report.
- 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  
No Report.

## **12. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE**

Heinzmann made a motion for a roll call vote for approval of Accounts Payable. Veizer 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 (Absent), Veizer (Yes). Motion Carried 14-0.

**13. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**14. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS**

B. Knolhoff expressed his appreciation to the board and county staff for their support and kindness following the recent passing of his brother. He said the general support of Clinton County has been overwhelming.

**15. NEW BUSINESS**

**16. ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY, AUGUST 19, 2024**

Arentsen made a motion to adjourn until Monday, August 19, 2024 at 7 p.m. Clark seconded the motion. Motion Carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

ATTEST:



Vicky Albers  
County Clerk & Recorder