

# CLINTON COUNTY BOARD MEETING

May 20, 2024 – 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 May 20, 2024.

## 3. ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

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

## 4. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS AND GUESTS

## 5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion – Riechman made a motion to approve the minutes from the April 15, 2024 regular meeting. Schroeder seconded the motion. Motion carried.

## 6. REPORTS, COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS

## 7. PUBLIC MAY APPROACH THE BOARD

- a. Corbin Whitney and Charlie Todd, students at Bartelso Elementary School, spoke to the board to raise awareness about the Wreaths Across America project they're helping to promote in Bartelso. Assisting with the project are Charlie's dad, Stan Todd, who is the location coordinator, and Corbin's dad, Tyler Whitney, the assistant location coordinator. Wreaths Across America, a nationwide effort to remember, honor and teach about veterans and their service by placing a wreath on the graves of deceased veterans, will be observed Saturday, Dec. 14. The Bartelso group hopes to raise enough money to place wreaths on the graves of the 115 veterans buried in St. Cecilia Cemetery in addition to two commemorative wreaths that will be placed to honor two Bartelso soldiers who died in World War II but are buried in Springfield, IL and Italy. The group would like to see other Clinton County communities participate to make this a countywide event.

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

## 9. STANDING COMMITTEES

- a. Zoning and Subdivision Committee – Ann Schroeder

1. Zoning Report – Jami Staser
  - i. Motion – Map Amendment from Residential (R-1) to Agricultural (A) for Roger and Tina Kampwerth. Staser noted that the property includes 8.7 acres and is northeast of Carlyle in East Fork Township. Haselhorst made a motion for a roll call vote to approve the map amendment. Schroeder seconded the motion. Arentsen (Yes), Clark (Yes), Haselhorst (Yes), Heinzmann (Absent), Hilmes (Yes), Jansen (Yes), B. Knolhoff (Yes), K. Knolhoff (Yes), Kuhl (Absent), Rakers (Yes), Rapien (Yes), Riechman (Yes), Schroeder (Yes), Strieker (Yes), Veizer (Yes). Motion Carried 13-0.
  - ii. Motion – Dan Maue’s First Subdivision. Staser explained that this is a one-lot subdivision on Sportsman Road in Sugar Creek Township. The Maues are splitting off three acres from a 15-acre tract to allow their child to build a home. Rapien made a motion for a roll call vote to approve the subdivision. Riechman seconded the motion. Arentsen (Yes), Clark (Yes), Haselhorst (Yes), Heinzmann (Absent), Hilmes (Yes), Jansen (Yes), B. Knolhoff (Yes), K. Knolhoff (Yes), Kuhl (Absent), Rakers (Yes), Rapien (Yes), Riechman (Yes), Schroeder (Yes), Strieker (Yes), Veizer (Yes). Motion Carried 13-0.
  
- b. Economic Development, Tourism and Clinton County Enterprise Zone – Mike Rakers
  1. Rakers said the committee met and reviewed events for Fiscal Year 2025. The county Tourism Board has contracted with Right Click Digital to design and host its tourism website. The site is currently hosted by Acorn Marketing. The committee opted to be a \$700 Silver Member of Discover Downstate Illinois. Clinton County will once again co-sponsor with the city of Carlyle three fishing tournaments on Carlyle Lake: the annual KingKat Fishing Tournament, a two-day crappie tournament in early May and a two- or three-day bass tournament in the fall. The crappie tournament that will be open to local fishermen along with professionals. The Broadband Internet Initiative Committee is interviewing potential internet providers and is working with Bond County to coordinate efforts in the northern portion of the county.
  
- c. Insurance/ICIT – Nelson Heinzmann  
No Report.
  
- d. Facilities Committee – Gary Arentsen  
No Report
  
- e. Animal Control – Ann Schroeder
  1. Schroeder reported that Dr. Kenny Brown has been busy with the clinics for spaying/neutering with one or two clinics scheduled every month. The county is still waiting for its Drug Enforcement Agency number, which it applied for last fall. This will allow the county to order its own medications for Animal Control.

- f. Finance – David Veizer
    - 1. Treasurer’s Monthly Report – Denise Trame
 

Trame said the county is in the process of moving many of its main bank accounts from U.S. Bank to Bank of Hillsboro, which is offering significantly higher interest rates with no service fees. Video gaming collected for the past month was \$7,307.91.

      - i. Motion – Monthly Budget and Financial Report
 

Arentsen made a motion to approve the report. Hilmes seconded the motion.  
Motion Carried.
      - ii. Motion - Allowing the Treasurer’s Office to Conduct Business with All Banks in Clinton County to Collect Property Taxes. Trame explained that Scott Credit Union is excluded from the list since they do not accept property tax payments.  
Rapien made a motion to allow the request. Veizer 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 the motion before the board extends the limits of an existing storm sewer and sidewalk agreement that the county already has with the village of St. Rose. The agreement gives the village full responsibility for the sidewalk. The county is paying half of the village’s engineering costs on the project, up to \$10,000.

    - i. Motion – Resolution to approve a Storm Sewer and Sidewalk Agreement with the Village of St. Rose.
 

Veizer made a motion for a roll call vote to approve the agreement. Jansen seconded the motion.  
Arentsen (Yes), Clark (Yes), Haselhorst (Yes), Heinzmann (Absent), Hilmes (Yes), Jansen (Yes), B. Knolhoff (Yes), K. Knolhoff (Yes), Kuhl (Absent), Rakers (Yes), Rapien (Yes), Riechman (Yes), Schroeder (Yes), Strieker (Yes), Veizer (Yes). Motion Carried 13-0.
    - ii. Motion – Resolution Requesting Consent to the Reappointment of the Incumbent as County Engineer. Behrens said presenting his name to IDOT is the first step in his reappointment as County Engineer with the actual reappointment coming in the next few months.  
Haselhorst made a motion for a roll call vote to approve the agreement.  
K. Knolhoff seconded the motion.  
Arentsen (Yes), Clark (Yes), Haselhorst (Yes), Heinzmann (Absent), Hilmes (Yes), Jansen (Yes), B. Knolhoff (Yes), K. Knolhoff (Yes), Kuhl (Absent), Rakers (No), Rapien (Yes), Riechman (Yes), Schroeder (Yes), Strieker (Yes), Veizer (Yes). Motion Carried 12-1.

Behrens said county maintenance crews will be putting down hot mix sometime in June and will be leveling out Emerald Road from east of Hopewell Road and around the curve to the north. Oil and chipping of multiple roads will follow. Work on Albers Road is still on hold until railroad flaggers are available. The contractor for the Huey-Hoffman Road bridge replacement is planning to start next Tuesday. That road will be closed completely during construction with detour routes set up. Rakers asked if the Highway Department has received any complaints about the rough railroad crossing, west of Albers on Route 161, following recent repairs of the crossing. Although the Route 161 is not a county road, Rakers asked if the Highway Department could issue a complaint. Behrens said he has not received any complaints but has been in contact with the Commerce Commission regarding rough conditions following repairs made to a crossing on Shattuc Road. Behrens said they have worked on that crossing three times and it continues to get worse. Behrens said he mentioned the Albers crossing to the commission, but he does not know what the state intends to do with it. Behrens will relay another message to IDOT and the Commerce Commission.

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

1. Hilmes said the committee has several items to bring before the board. The three-year contract for 911 Telecommunicators mirrors the recent contract approved for the FOP. It includes a pay increase of 3.6 percent, retroactive to Dec. 1, 2023, with future increases of 3.6 percent in the second and third years plus a \$1,000 retention bonus each year (minus any applicable withholdings), and 3 percent in the fourth year. The committee agreed to offer additional pay of 48 cents per hour in place of the Education Incentive, which has been removed from the contract. On days when the Sheriff has to close the courthouse for inclement weather or another emergency, any 911 employee who works during that calendar day will receive time and a half comp pay for the hours worked. The contract also includes a Memorandum of Understanding to allow the Sheriff to hire new employees with experience and be paid for that experience. This MOU does not include any seniority privileges.

- i. Motion – Collective Bargaining Agreement and Lateral Transfer MOU for 911 Telecommunicators.

Hilmes made a motion for a roll call vote to approve the collective bargaining agreement and MOU. Rapien seconded the motion.

Arentsen (Yes), Clark (Yes), Haselhorst (Yes), Heinzmann (Absent), Hilmes (Yes), Jansen (Yes), B. Knolhoff (Yes), K. Knolhoff (Yes), Kuhl (Absent), Rakers (Yes), Rapien (Yes), Riechman (Yes), Schroeder (Yes), Strieker (Yes), Veizer (Yes). Motion Carried 13-0.

- ii. Motion – Ordinance to Set Future Compensation for Appointed and Elected Officials.

B. Knolhoff explained that compensation for Appointed and Elected Officials must be set at least 180 days before the officials, who are elected in November, take office.

Hilmes made a motion for a roll call vote to approve the ordinance. Arentsen seconded the motion.

Arentsen (Yes), Clark (Yes), Haselhorst (Yes), Heinzmann (Absent), Hilmes

(Yes), Jansen (Yes), B. Knolhoff (Yes), K. Knolhoff (Yes), Kuhl (Absent), Rakers (Yes), Rapien (Yes), Riechman (Yes), Schroeder (Yes), Strieker (Yes), Veizer (Yes). Motion Carried 13-0.

- iii. Motion – Ordinance to Set Health Insurance Benefits for Appointed and Elected Officials, effective Dec. 1, 2024.

Hilmes made a motion for a roll call vote to approve the ordinance. Veizer seconded the motion.

Arentsen (Yes), Clark (No), Haselhorst (No), Heinzmann (Absent), Hilmes (Yes), Jansen (Yes), B. Knolhoff (Yes), K. Knolhoff (Yes), Kuhl (Absent), Rakers (Yes), Rapien (Yes), Riechman (Yes), Schroeder (Yes), Strieker (Yes), Veizer (Yes). Motion Carried 11-2.

- iv. Motion – Resignation and Payout for Sheriff’s Department Employee Logan Decker to include 329.75 hours for up to \$11,702.83, effective June 14, 2024. Hilmes made a motion for a roll call vote to approve the resignation and payout. Jansen seconded the motion.

Arentsen (Yes), Clark (Yes), Haselhorst (Yes), Heinzmann (Absent), Hilmes (Yes), Jansen (Yes), B. Knolhoff (Yes), K. Knolhoff (Yes), Kuhl (Absent), Rakers (Yes), Rapien (Yes), Riechman (Yes), Schroeder (Yes), Strieker (Yes), Veizer (Yes). Motion Carried 13-0.

- v. Motion – Resignation and Payout for Sheriff’s Department Employee Tyler Whitney to include 270.5 hours for up to \$9,600.05. This took effect in April 2024. Hilmes made a motion for a roll call vote to approve the resignation and payout. Clark seconded the motion.

Arentsen (Yes), Clark (Yes), Haselhorst (Yes), Heinzmann (Absent), Hilmes (Yes), Jansen (Yes), B. Knolhoff (Yes), K. Knolhoff (Yes), Kuhl (Absent), Rakers (Yes), Rapien (Yes), Riechman (Yes), Schroeder (Yes), Strieker (Yes), Veizer (Yes). Motion Carried 13-0.

- vi. Motion – MOU for COBRA Reimbursement

B. Knolhoff explained that this would allow him to enter into an MOU with the Collective Bargaining Units in the Sheriff’s Department (the FOP and the Telecommunicators). This would provide a COBRA reimbursement (minus what their employee premium costs would be in the county) for certain new employees who need to go on COBRA during the 60-day waiting period to enroll in the county’s health insurance. In return for the reimbursement, the employee must agree to stay with the county for at least two years. Sheriff Travous said the county is trying to do what it can do to hire the best officers possible.

Hilmes made a motion for a roll call vote to approve the MOU. Arentsen seconded the motion.

Arentsen (Yes), Clark (Yes), Haselhorst (Yes), Heinzmann (Absent), Hilmes (Yes), Jansen (Yes), B. Knolhoff (Yes), K. Knolhoff (Yes), Kuhl (Absent), Rakers (Yes), Rapien (Yes), Riechman (Yes), Schroeder (Yes), Strieker (Yes), Veizer (Yes). Motion Carried 13-0.

- vii. Motion – Lateral Transfer Agreement with Trevor Wuebbels and Josh Black. Travous said Wuebbels is a Carlyle native who is currently employed by Pinckneyville Police Department, and Black is from Centralia and has been employed by the Central City Police Department.

Riechman made a motion to approve the lateral transfers. Schroeder seconded the motion. Motion carried.

k. Executive – Nelson Heinzmann

1. B. Knolhoff said the committee met May 17, heard reports from various department heads and reviewed the County Board agenda.
  - i. Motion – Dismissal of the 2023 Board of Review  
Veizer made a motion to approve the dismissal. Rakers seconded the motion. Motion carried.
  - ii. Motion – Resolution Increasing the Eligible Number of Sheriff’s Law Enforcement Personnel (SLEP) Members  
Travous said a prior board reduced the number of eligible slots available in SLEP down to the exact number of employees on staff. This causes a problem for Travous to start retirement benefits for new employees when there is some overlap of old and new employees in the hiring process.  
Rapien made a motion to approve the resolution. Riechman seconded the motion. Motion carried.
  - iii. Motion – Sale of 1204 Mary Irene Street in New Baden to Delmar Hagen, as proxy for Robin Hagen, for \$8,000.  
Hilmes made a motion for a roll call vote to approve the sale. Veizer seconded the motion.  
Arentsen (Yes), Clark (Yes), Haselhorst (Yes), Heinzmann (Absent), Hilmes (Yes), Jansen (Yes), B. Knolhoff (Yes), K. Knolhoff (Yes), Kuhl (Absent), Rakers (Yes), Rapien (Yes), Riechman (Yes), Schroeder (Yes), Strieker (Yes), Veizer (Yes). Motion Carried 13-0.

**10. SPECIAL COMMITTEES**

a. Radio – Curt Haselhorst

1. Haselhorst said the committee met May 8 and Kyle Markus provided an update on the Radio Communication Project. Everything had been moving along as scheduled; however, on May 13, the county received a temporary restraining order for one of the proposed radio towers which stopped the project. Haselhorst said he feels the complaints are not factual since the county filed all the necessary permits and studies. The minimum delay will be three weeks, but even if the case is decided in that timeframe, the delay will create additional expenses making the project more costly. Haselhorst said he feels that once all the facts have been presented, the judge’s decision will be reversed and the county will be able to move forward with the radio project. Haselhorst said this delay is a big disappointment for all the emergency personnel and first responders in the county who are in dire need of an updated system, as well as the citizens of Clinton County whose safety is at stake. Riechman asked if there is any possibility of looking at an alternative site. State’s Attorney Brandmeyer interjected that due to the pending litigation, he would caution board members from speaking openly about the project. Rakers asked if the lawsuit is deemed frivolous and ruled in the county’s favor, can the county counter sue for the

expenses incurred from delaying the project? Brandmeyer said this should be discussed in a future closed session.

- b. Health Building – Ken Knolhoff
  - 1. K. Knolhoff said the standby generator has been installed at the new Health Building, and a meeting will be held Thursday morning to demonstrate how to use the generator.
- c. Veterans – Greg Riechman
  - 1. Riechman said the committee met May 16 and continues to have great participation. The Clinton County War Memorial has been upgraded with a new flagpole, two new flags and new landscaping. Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter #269 and the Carlyle VFW are partnering to have a Memorial Day Service this Monday at 10 a.m. There will also be an event at Whispering Pines with tours starting at 11 a.m. VVA Chapter #269 is hosting a golf tournament on June 8 if anyone is interested in participating. He also gave an update on the Clinton County Honor Flight. He commended the two young men for initiating the Wreaths Across America program in Bartelso.

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

- a. Board of Health – Mike Kuhl
  - 1. Health Department Administrator Chris Leidel said for the month of March the department had losses of \$62,072.49 which was mostly due to expenses from moving into the new building and new furniture. The numbers improved greatly in April. Leidel thanked Custom Camera Solutions for installing the camera system, Security Alarm for the alarm system and Peak Signs for the new signage.
    - i. Motion – Health Department Monthly Report
      - Arentsen made a motion to approve the monthly report. K. Knolhoff seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- b. 708 Mental Health Board – Holly Clark
  - No Report
- c. 911 ETSB Board – Bruce Rapien
  - 1. Rapien said 911 administrator John Skain has been in touch with Rural Med which is taking over ambulance service for St. Rose Township. The committee discussed what types of equipment can be purchased through 911 funds.
- 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 reported that Discover Downstate Illinois Tourism Board met April 24 and she disbursed some of the visitor and tourism guides created by the agency.
  - 2. Hilmes attended UCCI this morning where updates on the requirements of Paid Leave for All were provided.

**12. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE**

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

Arentsen (Yes), Clark (Yes), Haselhorst (Yes), Heinzmann (Absent), Hilmes (Yes), Jansen (Yes), B. Knolhoff (Yes), K. Knolhoff (Yes), Kuhl (Absent), Rakers (Yes), Rapien (Yes), Riechman (Yes), Schroeder (Yes), Strieker (Yes), Veizer (Yes). Motion Carried 13-0.

**13. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**14. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS**

- a. Motion – Reappoint Brian Krausz to the Zoning Board of Appeals  
B. Knolhoff made a motion to reappoint Krausz. Rakers seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- b. Motion – Reappoint Travis Hemker to the Zoning Board of Appeals  
B. Knolhoff made a motion to reappoint Hemker. Arentsen seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- c. Motion – Reappoint Robert Kehrer to the New Memphis Public Water District
- d. Motion – Reappoint Steve Kehrer to the New Memphis Public Water District
- e. Motion – Reappoint David Albers to the New Memphis Public Water District  
B. Knolhoff made a motion to reappoint the three men to the water district. Riechman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**15. NEW BUSINESS**

**16. ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY, JUNE 17, 2024**

Veizer made a motion to adjourn until Monday, June 17 at 7 p.m. Arentsen seconded the motion. Motion Carried. Meeting adjourned at 8 p.m.

ATTEST:



Vicky Albers  
County Clerk & Recorder