

**Public Hearing Regarding 2023 Budget**  
**November 21, 2022 6:45 p.m.**

The Board called a Public Hearing at 6:45 p.m. so that the Public could approach the Board and ask questions on the new 2023 upcoming budget. No one approached the Board to ask questions. Motion by Brad Knolhoff and a second by Bryan Wessel to close the hearing at 6:55 p.m. All board members present were in favor.

ATTEST:



Vicky Albers  
County Clerk & Recorder

**CLINTON COUNTY BOARD MEETING**  
**November 21, 2022 – 7 p.m.**

Larry Johnson, Chairman

Mike Kreke, 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 November 21, 2022. The meeting was held with options for Zoom and Conference Call.

**3. ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS**

Present: Heinzmann, Johnson, B. Knolhoff, K. Knolhoff, Kreke, Middendorff, Netemeyer, Nordike, Rapien, Strieker, Sullivan, Taylor, Wessel, Wesselmann, White. Let the record reflect that we have a quorum.

**4. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS AND GUESTS**

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion – Wessel made a motion to approve the minutes from the October 17, 2022 regular meeting. Taylor seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

**6. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

**7. PUBLIC MAY APPROACH THE BOARD**

a. Dr. Brian Klostermann, spoke on behalf of the Board of Health, asking board members to move forward with the construction of the proposed Health building. He said the current location is cramped, outdated, limits services and is unfit for healthcare in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. He added that through countless hours of hard work and planning by the Health Board's Building Committee and the County Board's Finance and Facilities committees, a plan has been chosen which is fiscally responsible, meets the needs of the board's constituents and is a plan that every resident of this county can be proud of. He asked board members to vote "yes" and move forward with the plan as presented so that the Health Department and the Health Board can continue to provide quality services for the residents of this county.

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

a. Johnson presented plaques to retiring board members for their dedicated service to the county. Plaques were presented as follows: Craig Taylor for 26 years of service; Jim Sullivan for 22 years; Bryan Wessel for 14 years; Mike Kreke and Keith Nordike, each for 8 years; Bob Netemeyer for 6 years; Deb Wesselmann and Dennis Middendorff, each for 4 years; and James White for 3 years. County Clerk Vicky Albers presented chairman Larry Johnson with a plaque for 7 years of service.

## 9. STANDING COMMITTEES

### a. Zoning/Subdivision Committee – Craig Taylor

1. Jami Staser said there is one subdivision on the agenda for the board's consideration.

#### i. Motion to Approve - Final Plat – 1 Lot - Leon Albers' First Subdivision – Germantown Township

The property is on Shoal Creek Road and is zoned Agricultural. The owners are splitting the house and shed (1.31 acres) from the remaining farm ground.

Wessel made a motion for a roll call vote. Taylor seconded the motion.

Heinzmann (Yes); Knolhoff, B (Yes), Knolhoff, K (Yes); Kreke (Yes);

Middendorff (Yes); Netemeyer (Yes); Nordike (Yes); Rapien (Yes); Strieker (Yes);

Sullivan (Yes); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Yes); Wesselmann (Yes); White (Yes).

Motion Carried 14-0.

### b. Economic Development/Enterprise Zone – Keith Nordike

No Report

### c. Tourism Committee – Jim Sullivan

No Report

### d. Environmental Concerns/Unincorporated/Solid Waste – Nelson Heinzmann

No Report

### e. Assessment Committee – Bryan Wessel

Wessel said the number of 2022 sold properties were down 37 from a year ago. A total of 8,302 Notices of Assessment Change were sent out on Nov. 9. Of these, 7,085 were for farmland. The Board of Review started approving exemption requests on Nov. 7. Wessel said the Assessor's Office invested in a new software program in June called True Roll which helps verify that the owner-occupied property is entitled to the exemption which is associated with the property. The initial cost of the software was \$11,200, but with 27,743 parcels to review, the cost is only about 4 cents per parcel. The office is about half way through its review of all properties and has already put \$27,976 back on the tax rolls due to unqualified Homestead Exemptions.

### f. Insurance/ICIT – Nelson Heinzmann

Heinzmann said the monthly insurance report shows that the total costs are down 2 percent as compared to last year, medical claims are down 3.5 percent, pharmacy claims are up 20 percent and total fixed costs were down 2.2 percent. For this Fiscal Year, expenses, without reimbursements, were under budget by 24.74 percent. With reimbursements, the expenses were under budget by 58.12 percent. Dan Imming presented facts and figures for the ICRMT renewal for 2023. Committee members reviewed the numbers and unanimously approved the renewal.

#### 1. Motion to Approve – Renewal of Workman's Comp and Liability Insurance Plans

Heinzmann made a motion for a roll call vote. Netemeyer seconded the motion.

Heinzmann (Yes); Knolhoff, B (Yes), Knolhoff, K (Yes); Kreke (Yes);

Middendorff (Yes); Netemeyer (Yes); Nordike (Yes); Rapien (Yes); Strieker (Yes);

Sullivan (Yes); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Yes); Wesselmann (Yes); White (Yes).  
Motion Carried 14-0.

2. Heinzmann said there was extensive discussion regarding the Retirement Ordinance which defines a retiree for employees of the county in regard to their health insurance and how long they can remain on the plan. Heinzmann said the ordinance was reviewed by the Insurance, Finance and Personnel committees.

Motion to Approve – Ordinance defining Retiree Health Insurance

Heinzmann made a motion for a roll call vote. Strieker seconded the motion.

Heinzmann (Yes); Knolhoff, B (Yes), Knolhoff, K (Yes); Kreke (Yes);

Middendorff (Yes); Netemeyer (Yes); Nordike (Yes); Rapien (Yes); Strieker (Yes);

Sullivan (Yes); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Yes); Wesselmann (Yes); White (Yes).

Motion Carried 14-0.

- g. Facilities Committee – Ken Knolhoff

K. Knolhoff reported that work on the new offices for the Probation Department is close to completion.

- h. Animal Control/County Farm Committee – Craig Taylor

Taylor said that for the past month there were 14 dogs taken in with 9 reclaimed and 5 rescued. There were 25 cats taken in with 16 rescued and 1 adopted. They are still experiencing some supply issues with the new Multi-Purpose Building which will house Animal Control. The second set of kennels should be in around mid-December.

- i. Education Committee – James White

No Report

- j. Veterans Committee – Bob Netemeyer

Netemeyer reminded everyone to take a moment over the holidays to remember all service members who are away from their families this season.

- k. Finance/Health/Revolving Loan Committee/General Services/Judiciary – Brad Knolhoff

1. Treasurer’s Monthly Report – Denise Trame

Video gaming revenue for the past month was \$8,739.73, and the county received an oil check for \$14,988.33. The county tax sale was held Nov. 14 involving 198 delinquent properties.

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

B. Knolhoff made a motion to approve the report. White seconded the motion.  
Motion Carried.

- ii. Motion to Approve – 2023 Budget and Levies

B. Knolhoff thanked Accountant Fred Becker for his time and expertise in working with the county to complete the budget. The county’s tax rate will decrease from .6784 to .6233 with the levy reduced from \$5,420,995 to \$5,402,064. This is the second year in a row that tax rates for county operations have decreased.

B. Knolhoff made a motion for a roll call vote. Heinzmann seconded the motion.

Heinzmann (Yes); Knolhoff, B (Yes), Knolhoff, K (Yes); Kreke (Yes);

Middendorff (Yes); Netemeyer (Yes); Nordike (Yes); Rapien (Yes); Strieker (Yes);

Sullivan (Yes); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Yes); Wesselmann (Yes); White (Yes).  
Motion Carried 14-0.

iii. Motion – Approve 2023 SSA Contracts

There are 19 different ambulance districts represented in the contracts and several held Truth-In-Taxation hearings since they exceeded a 5 percent increase as compared to last year.

B. Knolhoff made a motion for a roll call vote. Sullivan seconded the motion. Heinzmann (Yes); Knolhoff, B (Yes), Knolhoff, K (Yes); Kreke (Yes); Middendorff (Yes); Netemeyer (Yes); Nordike (Yes); Rapien (Yes); Strieker (Yes); Sullivan (Yes); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Yes); Wesselmann (Yes); White (Yes).  
Motion Carried 14-0.

iv. Motion – Approve a Resolution for the State’s Attorney Appellate Prosecutor Contract.

The Appellate Prosecutor is called to handle cases if there is a case on appeal or if the State’s Attorney has a conflict with a case.

B. Knolhoff made a motion for a roll call vote. Middendorff seconded the motion. Heinzmann (Yes); Knolhoff, B (Yes), Knolhoff, K (Yes); Kreke (Yes); Middendorff (Yes); Netemeyer (Yes); Nordike (Yes); Rapien (Yes); Strieker (Yes); Sullivan (Yes); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Yes); Wesselmann (Yes); White (Yes).  
Motion Carried 14-0.

v. Motion – Approve a Resolution to Execute Deeds of Conveyance of the County’s Interest for Parcels Auctioned at the Surplus Property Sale on Sept. 2, 2022 and/or Subsequently Sold by the County’s Tax Agent.

B. Knolhoff made a motion for a roll call vote. White seconded the motion. Heinzmann (Yes); Knolhoff, B (Yes), Knolhoff, K (Yes); Kreke (Yes); Middendorff (Yes); Netemeyer (Yes); Nordike (Yes); Rapien (Yes); Strieker (Yes); Sullivan (Yes); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Yes); Wesselmann (Yes); White (Yes).  
Motion Carried 14-0.

vi. Motion – Approval of Health Department Bid for \$2,887,706.07 as submitted by Johannes Construction of Centralia.

B. Knolhoff said that the County Board originally agreed to pay up to \$2.5 million with the Health Board contributing \$470,000. Any contingencies would be paid out of this funding with any additional costs to be discussed between the County Board and the Health Board. Heinzmann commented that the current proposal reflects multiple plans over the past 8-plus years. The committees finally settled on the current plan and revised it to get it within the allocated budget. He said considerable time has been spent by the architect, the Health Board and the county’s Finance and Facilities committees. He said he hopes all of these efforts, time and money are not wasted by not moving forward. He asked if the current plan is defeated, how much taxpayer money is going to be spent on purchasing and drawing plans to renovate an older building. He urged the board to proceed.

B. Knolhoff made a motion for a roll call vote to approve the construction agreement between Clinton County and Johannes Construction as presented. Sullivan seconded the motion.

Heinzmann (Yes); Knolhoff, B (Yes), Knolhoff, K (Yes); Kreke (Yes);

Middendorff (Yes); Netemeyer (Yes); Nordike (No); Rapien (Yes); Strieker (Abstain); Sullivan (Yes); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Yes); Wesselmann (Yes); White (No). Motion Carried 11-2; 1 Abstain.

1. Law Enforcement/EMA/Welfare/Safety/Liquor – James White  
Sheriff Dan Travous reported that implementation of the new ID Networks computer system is almost a year behind but should be operational early next year. Travous said the computer tablets in the squad cars are all about eight years old and needed to be replaced with the implementation of ID Networks. He spent \$69,000 for new tablets and mounting hardware and accessories which came out of the sheriff’s budget. The sheriff also reported on a homicide which was handled by his department this past month. While it was a terrible event in the county, he commended his patrol officers, detectives and 911 dispatchers who did an incredible job handling the incident and had a suspect, who was located in another state, in custody within 48 hours.
  
- m. Road and Bridge Committee – Bryan Wessel
  1. Monthly County Engineer’s Report – Dan Behrens  
Behrens reported that Sugar Creek Township has accepted the road in Fuehne Hills Subdivision. Christ Brothers has completed work on the Germantown Road resurfacing, and Behrens said it’s probably the best road the county has ever had a contractor do.
    - i. Motion – Approval of a Petition from Santa Fe Township for 50% County Match for a Culvert Replacement on Wells Road  
Taylor made a motion for a roll call vote. Wessel seconded the motion.  
Heinzmann (Yes); Knolhoff, B (Yes), Knolhoff, K (Yes); Kreke (Yes); Middendorff (Yes); Netemeyer (Yes); Nordike (Yes); Rapien (Yes); Strieker (Yes); Sullivan (Yes); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Yes); Wesselmann (Yes); White (Yes).  
Motion Carried 14-0.
  
- n. Personnel/Labor Committee – Mike Kreke  
No Report

## 10. SPECIAL COMMITTEES

- a. 708 Mental Health Board/Area Agency on Aging – James White  
No Report
  
- b. County Health – James White
  1. Motion to Approve - Health Department Monthly Report  
Netemeyer made a motion to approve the Health Department Monthly Report. Wessel seconded the motion. Motion Carried.
  2. Health Department Administrator Chris Leidel thanked board members for their vote to move forward with the new Health building. He looks forward to working with the returning and new board members to ensure that everyone remains fiscally responsible with the new construction. He also looks forward to working with the county to expand services to put the new facility to good use. After Dec. 8, Covid vaccines will be available two days a week or by appointment, which will be

announced on the department's website and Facebook page. Flu shots are still available. A final COVID grant will end in June.

- c. GIS Committee – Craig Taylor  
No Report
- d. 911 Committee – Mike Kreke  
Kreke reported that John Skain was successful in applying for a grant for 911 which exceeded \$43,000.
- e. Technology Support – James White  
No Report
- f. UCCI – Jim Sullivan  
No Report

**11. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE**

Taylor made a motion for a roll call vote for approval of Accounts Payable. Wessel seconded the motion.

Heinzmann (Yes); Knolhoff, B (Yes), Knolhoff, K (Yes); Kreke (No); Middendorff (Yes); Netemeyer (No); Nordike (No); Rapien (Yes); Strieker (Yes); Sullivan (Yes); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Yes); Wesselmann (Yes); White (Yes). Motion Carried 11-3.

**12. COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS**

**13. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**14. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS**

- a. Motion to Approve – Appointment of Susan Robbins to the BCMW Community Services Board

Wesselmann made a motion for a roll call vote. B. Knolhoff seconded the motion.

Heinzmann (Yes); Knolhoff, B (Yes), Knolhoff, K (Yes); Kreke (Yes); Middendorff (Yes); Netemeyer (Yes); Nordike (Yes); Rapien (Yes); Strieker (Yes); Sullivan (Yes); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Yes); Wesselmann (Yes); White (Yes).  
Motion Carried 14-0.

**15. NEW BUSINESS**

**16. ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2022**

White made a motion to adjourn until Monday, December 5, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.  
Nordike seconded the motion. Motion Carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

ATTEST:



Vicky Albers  
County Clerk & Recorder