

CLINTON COUNTY BOARD MEETING
October 17, 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 October 17, 2022. The meeting was held with options for Zoom and Conference Call.

3. ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

Present: Heinzmann, B. Knolhoff, K. Knolhoff, Kreke, Middendorff, Netemeyer, Nordike, Rapien, Strieker, Taylor, Wessel, Wesselman, White. Absent: Johnson and Sullivan. Let the record reflect that we have a quorum. Vice Chairman Kreke served as chairman pro tem in the absence of Johnson.

4. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS AND GUESTS

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion – Taylor made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 19, 2022 regular meeting. Netemeyer seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

6. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

7. PUBLIC MAY APPROACH THE BOARD

- a. Keith Nordike spoke about concerns with the county Highway Department that were brought to his attention when he started on the board 7-1/2 years ago. A police report was filed at that time regarding stolen material and labor and the information was turned over to the State's Attorney's Office; however, no charges were filed. The former State's Attorney had said there was not enough evidence to pursue the case, and that the alleged stolen material should be returned. Nordike said he has been looking into this case and many other activities at the Highway Department while he has been on the board. He spoke about issues with the past board chairman, and he said that he hopes that the new board will be mindful when they appoint their next chairman.
- b. Kaskaskia College President George Evans gave a presentation on the broadband initiative. Its mission is to provide accessible and affordable high-speed internet and cellular infrastructure that serves and supports the evolving educational, agricultural, healthcare, emergency services and economic needs of the residents in the Kaskaskia College region, while also incorporating and respecting the proud rural commitment to agricultural preservation in the district. Evans said 47.3 percent of buildings in the region do not have access to minimum standard wireline broadband, and the majority of the underserved are in Marion, Clinton and Washington counties. He stressed that the lack of connectivity should serve as a strong call to action, and he urged board members to be

proactive in this effort. He strongly suggested creating an office of broadband/cellular connectivity to coordinate the needs of towns and townships within Clinton County. Kreke recommended that any future work on the broadband initiative be turned over to the Finance Committee who will continue to work with Evans and the county's broadband initiative designee, Cheryl Brinkmann.

8. REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS

- a. B. Knolhoff made a motion to approve the 2022-2024 Election Judge List as presented by the County Clerk's Office. Rapien seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

9. STANDING COMMITTEES

- a. Zoning/Subdivision Committee – Craig Taylor

1. Jami Staser said there is one subdivision and a zoning code amendment on the agenda for the board's consideration.

- i. Motion to Approve - Final Plat for Ballystokes Subdivision, a 1-lot subdivision in Wheatfield Township owned by Edward and Helen Monken. They are splitting 2.17 acres with an existing home and shed from a 75-acre tract.

B. Knolhoff 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 (Absent); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Yes); Wesselmann (Yes); White (Yes).
Motion Carried 13-0.

- ii. Motion to Approve – Ordinance Amending Chapter 40 (Zoning Code) of the Revised Code of Ordinances of the County of Clinton Approving a Text Amendment Regarding Detached Single-Family Dwellings.

Staser explained that the ordinance was tabled last month due to concerns with the language conflicting with state statute. After review the Zoning Board decided to submit to the County Board for approval although an amendment to the language may be required in the future. The ordinance affects only agricultural ground involved in a family split. Currently, it is a permitted use to split off a minimum of one acre of agricultural ground for mother, father, son, daughter, brother or sister. The new language will require a land owner to request a special use permit for a family split which triggers a hearing before the Zoning Board. The minimum acreage is increased from 1 acre to 3 acres, the qualifying family members will only be mother, father, son or daughter, and the parcel can only be split one time for a qualifying person.

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

Heinzmann (Yes); Knolhoff, B (Yes), Knolhoff, K (Yes); Kreke (No); Middendorff (Yes); Netemeyer (No); Nordike (Yes); Rapien (No); Strieker (Yes); Sullivan (Absent); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Yes); Wesselmann (Yes); White (No).
Motion Carried 9-4.

- 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 parcels with ownership transfers were up 16 from a year ago and sold properties were up 4. All township assessors' work is complete. The committee discussed new aerial imagery of the county being completed in the spring of 2024.
- f. Insurance/ICIT – Nelson Heinzmann
Heinzmann said the monthly insurance report shows that the total costs are down 10 percent, medical claims are down 33.5 percent, pharmacy claims are up 63 percent and total fixed costs were down \$2,100. Bill Schmalz of Einstein Consulting said part of the American CARES Act may allow employees to be refunded a portion of their hospital bill from nonprofit hospitals if they meet certain financial criteria. For this Fiscal Year, expenses, without reimbursements, were under budget by 30.76 percent. With reimbursements, the expenses were under budget by 64.69 percent.
- g. Facilities Committee – Ken Knolhoff
K. Knolhoff reported that Kohnen Air Conditioning & Heating will be working on the rooftop HVAC units at the courthouse next week, and work continues on the new office space for the Probation Department.
- h. Animal Control/County Farm Committee – Craig Taylor
Taylor said that for the past month there were 15 dogs taken in, 2 surrendered, 2 bite cases and 5 dogs reclaimed. There were 30 cats taken in with 8 surrenders and 9 dropped off. Taylor urged people to contact Animal Control before dropping off unwanted animals. Part-time employees are still being sought. Nordike added that Animal Control is operating under a very tight budget and this should be addressed by the new board in the future.
- i. Education Committee – James White
No Report
- j. Veterans Committee – Bob Netemeyer
Netemeyer reminded everyone to remember all veterans this Veterans Day, Nov. 11. The countywide Veterans Day program and parade will be hosted by Beckemeyer this year. Nordike commended Carl's Four Wheel Drive in Bartelso which has created an impressive "Standin' Proud" veterans' tribute and museum.
- 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 \$7,534.77, and the county received an oil

check for \$13,245.93. Letters for delinquent property taxes were mailed Oct. 3 and the tax sale is Nov. 14.

- 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 – Invoice from HMG Engineers for Engineering Work for the Courthouse HVAC System.
B. Knolhoff 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 (Absent); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Yes); Wesselmann (Yes); White (Yes).
Motion Carried 13-0.
- iii. Accountant Fred Becker reviewed the tentative budget for 2022-2023. Final approval of the budget and tax levies will be on the Nov. 21 agenda. Becker reminded board members that a public hearing will be held prior to the regular meeting at 6:45 p.m. Becker said the two largest expenditures in the General Fund are General and Administrative costs at \$2,622,300 as compared to \$2,486,377 last year and the Sheriff's budget which will increase from \$3,523,700 to \$3,808,603. Most of the increases are due to payroll. Becker said the budget is balanced with anticipated revenue and budgeted expenses each at \$9,961,967; however, there could be some minor changes to the budget prior to final approval next month. As for Special Revenue Funds, Becker pointed out the American Rescue Plan Act funding from Covid which has an estimated year-end balance of \$6.9 million and will be utilized for planned improvements. The Building Fund has budgeted expenditures of \$1.3 million that will be used, if needed, for the new Health Department. There is \$2.5 million in the County Coal Rights Fund, which is earmarked for capital improvements when needed. The balance in the Special Revenue Funds at the start of the fiscal year is \$20 million with an ending balance of \$7.1 million due to several special projects have been funded in this budget. The county tax levy for the new fiscal year is \$5,399,064 which is down slightly from last year's \$5,420,995. Based on the estimated assessed valuation, the tax rate will be slightly lower at .6683 as compared to .6784. The projected ambulance service levies have increased quite a bit from \$907,091 to \$1,178,934. Some districts are still having truth-in-taxation hearings so these levies may change before final approval. Becker thanked the Finance Committee and several county offices for their assistance in gathering information and estimating budgets.
- iv. B. Knolhoff reported that radio bids were received from four major bidders ranging from \$3.5 to \$4 million. There are many variables in the bids which do not include towers or property for the towers; however, leased tower space may be an option. Mazitello Consulting is currently analyzing the bids, and it's still very early in the process.
- v. Motion to Approve – Resolution to Amend Current Resolution 2015-03-08 for Fees for Drug Testing and Electronic Monitoring.
B. Knolhoff 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 (Absent); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Yes); Wesselmann (Yes); White (Yes).
Motion Carried 13-0.

- v. Motion to Approve – The Expenditure of up to \$35,000 in ARPA Funding for the Purchase of Drug Testing Equipment. B. Knolhoff clarified that the Probation Department will need to seek competitive bids if the purchase exceeds the \$30,000 bid threshold as set by state statute.
B. Knolhoff made a motion for a roll call vote. Nordike seconded the motion.
Heinzmann (Yes); Knolhoff, B (Yes), Knolhoff, K (Yes); Kreke (Yes); Middendorff (Yes); Netemeyer (Yes); Nordike (Yes); Rapien (Yes); Strieker (Yes); Sullivan (Absent); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Yes); Wesselmann (Yes); White (Yes).
Motion Carried 13-0.
- vi. Motion to Approve – 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. 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 (Absent); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Yes); Wesselmann (Yes); White (Yes).
Motion Carried 13-0.

l. Law Enforcement/EMA/Welfare/Safety/Liquor – James White
No Report

m. Road and Bridge Committee – Bryan Wessel

1. Monthly County Engineer’s Report – Dan Behrens

Behrens reported that the contractor on the Breese-Germantown Road resurfacing project has finished all of the paving and side roads with shoulder work and striping to be completed by next week. The road in Fuehne Hills Subdivision has been oiled for the last time and will be turned over to Sugar Creek Township. The rumble strips that the board approved last month have been cut into the pavement on Hoyleton-Hoffman Road.

n. Personnel/Labor Committee – Mike Kreke

1. Kreke reported that Todd Timmermann of the Sheriff’s Department will be retiring May 12, 2023 and all of his required paperwork is in order.

i. Motion to Approve – Resignation of Todd Timmermann

Kreke made a motion for a roll call vote. Rapien seconded the motion.

Heinzmann (Yes); Knolhoff, B (Yes), Knolhoff, K (Yes); Kreke (Yes); Middendorff (Yes); Netemeyer (Yes); Nordike (Yes); Rapien (Yes); Strieker (Yes); Sullivan (Absent); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Yes); Wesselmann (Yes); White (Yes).
Motion Carried 13-0.

ii. Motion to Approve – Payout for Todd Timmermann not to exceed \$32,715.84, which is in compliance with the union contract 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 (Absent); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Yes); Wesselmann (Yes); White (Yes).

Motion Carried 13-0.

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
White made a motion to approve the Health Department Monthly Report.
Rapien seconded the motion. Motion Carried.
 - 2. Health Department Administrator Chris Leidel gave a financial report for the Health Department. A new breast-feeding counselor has been hired, so those services are once again available. The department continues to offer Covid booster shots.
- c. GIS Committee – Craig Taylor
No Report
- d. 911 Committee – Mike Kreke
Kreke reported that 911 grants have been awarded; however, the state has not yet announced the award recipients. Bond County sent a letter of appreciation to the Clinton County 911 Dispatch Center which handled Bond County calls for about two weeks while their 911 system was down.
- 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 (Yes); Middendorff (Yes); Netemeyer (No); Nordike (Yes); Rapien (Yes); Strieker (Yes); Sullivan (Absent); Taylor (Yes); Wessel (Yes); Wessermann (Yes); White (Yes). Motion Carried 12-1.

12. COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS

13. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

14. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

- a. Motion to Approve – Appointment of Tracie Foster to replace Cindy Kues on the Clinton County Health Board. The term for this position started this past June.
Kreke made a motion to approve the appointment of Tracie Foster. Strieker seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

15. NEW BUSINESS

Nordike said he did some research regarding the costs that the county has incurred by hiring an outside labor law attorney to handle union negotiations. From 2009 through November of 2020, the county spent \$547,066 on a contracted labor law attorney instead of the former State’s Attorney doing the work within his office. He thanked current State’s Attorney J.D. Brandmeyer for handling the most recent labor negotiations himself.

16. ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2022

Strieker made a motion to adjourn until Monday, November 21, 2022 at 7 p.m. with a Budget Hearing at 6:45 p.m. Wessel seconded the motion. Motion Carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

ATTEST:



Vicky Albers
County Clerk & Recorder