

CLINTON COUNTY BOARD MEETING
September 18, 2023 – 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 September 18, 2023.

3. ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

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

4. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS AND GUESTS

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion – Heinzmann made a motion to approve the minutes from the August 21, 2023 regular meeting. Haselhorst seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

6. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS

7. PUBLIC MAY APPROACH THE BOARD

- a. Carlyle Mayor Judy Smith thanked the board for letting the city use the courthouse property during its recent street fair which was a huge success. City Administrator Brad Myers said he and the mayor are also wanting to express an issue that the city has with recent work at the new Clinton County Health Building. On July 14, Myers said he sent a proposal to Johannes Construction and county representatives for a drainage system near the building. Myers said he has received numerous complaints about the amount of water that ran from the sump pump on the property. He previously spoke with Brad Knolhoff about this issue and both agreed that the water which was inundating the street could not continue. Smith said the city also met with the contractor onsite to determine the best solution for the drainage issue. Myers said the city recommended underground, 10-inch conduit, with a couple of box culverts which would take the water to a drain at the corner of Fairfax and Tenth streets. Myers said the drainage project did not get done that way, but there was no communication from the county about what the plans for drainage would be. As it is, Myers said all of the water from the sump pump and the gutters will be flowing to the street and the city will have the same problems as it did before. This winter, Myers said, the water will pool up and cause a problem on Fairfax. Myers said the disappointment is that there was no communication from the county about how the drainage would be handled. Myers anticipates there will be problems in the future, and he asked if there was anything, jointly, that could be done. Smith said the city already has problems at the intersection of Fairfax

and Tenth streets in the winter when it snows. Smith said the biggest problem is the lack of communication. Brad Knolhoff explained that the county met with the architect after receiving the proposal from the city in July. The county did not hear any more about the drainage proposal until August 21 – the same day as the last full board meeting - when they received two change orders from the architect totaling nearly \$70,000. B. Knolhoff said the change orders did not include enough detail for the board to make any kind of a decision in such a short timeframe. A decision was tabled and was referred to the Health Building Committee for more consideration. B. Knolhoff said the county was up against the clock due to concrete that was being poured. The pipe that was installed is for drainage for the gutters and was put in place to allow the concrete to continue being poured; however, the county does not anticipate this to be a long-term solution. Ken Knolhoff noted that the sump pump was sitting at a lower level last winter causing it to run continuously. The pump is currently situated at 24 inches below the basement floor and has not been running for some time. Smith said the city had also talked to Johannes about the city buying and installing a drain for the entrance to the alley, so that the water from the alley could run into that drain and flow to Fairfax and Tenth streets. This proposal was never conveyed to the county. Brad Knolhoff admitted that communication could have been better; however, the board agreed that the nearly \$70,000 proposal wasn't the answer. Knolhoff said the county is also not pleased with the communication it has received from its architect and contractor, but that is what the county is up against right now.

8. REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS

9. STANDING COMMITTEES

- a. Zoning and Subdivision Committee – Ann Schroeder
Zoning Report – Schroeder noted that there will be subdivision and special use permit requests for the board's consideration in October.
- b. Economic Development, Tourism and Clinton County Enterprise Zone – Mike Rakers
No Report.
- c. Insurance/ICIT – Nelson Heinzmann
Heinzmann gave a monthly health insurance update. Expenses to date, without reimbursements, are 17.5 percent over budget. With reimbursements, expenses are 21 percent under budget. All other costs were in line with other months.
- d. Facilities Committee – Gary Arentsen
No Report.
- e. Animal Control – Ann Schroeder
Schroeder said three part-time employees were recently hired at Animal Control. The county is all set up to have Rabies Tags distributed by local veterinarian offices, and this practice will begin Oct. 1. There will be a Drive-Thru Rabies Vaccination Clinic from 8 a.m. to noon on Saturday, Oct. 14 at the Animal Control facility. There will be a low-cost Spay and Neuter Clinic on Saturday, Oct. 28. Animal Control will now be utilizing Square payment processing as a form of payment in addition to accepting cash and checks.

f. Finance – David Veizer

Veizer reported the committee met and all bills were approved.

1. Treasurer’s Monthly Report – Denise Trame

Trame said the monthly reports were in the packets, and the county’s share of video gaming proceeds for the month of August was \$6,786.69. The first distribution of taxes to the various taxing districts was made on August 25 for \$30,755,431.58 with the county’s portion being \$2,790,494.26.

i. Motion – Monthly Budget and Financial Report

Riechman made a motion to approve the report. Arentsen seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

g. Budget – Nelson Heinzmann

Heinzmann said the committee will be meeting the first or second week in October.

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 anticipates having the joint agreement from IDOT next month for resurfacing Albers Road from Route 161 to Interstate 64. The project should be bid in January with work taking place next spring. The project is funded 80 percent federal and 20 percent local, and the estimated project cost is \$1.1 million. The county anticipates getting Huey Road Bridge over Prairie Creek, just north of Hoffman, built next summer. The plans should be completed this winter. He noted that it took 3.5 years to get the environmental paperwork approved. The county is also awaiting environmental approval on the bridge south of Albers. Both bridge projects are funded by Rebuild Illinois funding which must be allocated by July 1, 2025. As noted before, Behrens said the state has quadrupled the township bridge funding. A meeting was held with local township officials to prioritize bridge projects. Behrens said there is a bridge on County Line Road in Meridian Township which has been closed due to failing pilings, so that bridge may take precedence.

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

1. Hilmes said the committee met Sept. 12 and proposed elimination of the Highway Department E Employee Contract. B. Knolhoff explained that this contract was in place for any employees who were not covered by the union. The board since realized that everything listed in the contract is already covered by the County Code; therefore, there is no need to maintain this contract.

i. Motion – Eliminate Highway Department E Employee Contract

Arentsen made a motion to approve eliminating the contract. K. Knolhoff seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

k. Executive – Nelson Heinzmann

1. Heinzmann reported that the committee met Sept. 15 and discussed the agenda and some other items that are being handled at this meeting by other committees.

10. SPECIAL COMMITTEES

a. Radio – Curt Haselhorst

1. Haselhorst said the committee met Sept. 7 to discuss the pursuit of tower sites. Kyle Markus provided an update that geotechnical drilling is underway at the proposed tower sites. The next meeting is planned for Oct. 5. Committee members met with Sugar Creek Township who committed to enter into a 40-year lease to allow a tower site to be located on township property for \$1 per year.

i. Motion – Ratify Sugar Creek Township Contract for Tower Site

Haselhorst made a motion for a roll call vote to approve the contract. Riechman seconded the motion.

Arentsen (Yes), Clark (Yes), Haselhorst (Yes), Heinzmann (Yes), Hilmes (Yes), Jansen (Absent), B. Knolhoff (Yes), K. Knolhoff (Yes), Kuhl (Absent), Rakers (Absent), Rapien (Absent), Riechman (Yes), Schroeder (Yes), Strieker (Yes), Veizer (Yes). Motion Carried 11-0.

b. SSA/Ambulance – Greg Riechman

No Report.

c. Health Building – Ken Knolhoff

1. K. Knolhoff reported that the committee met and approved a payment of \$182,286.48 to Johannes Construction. The contractor has started the drive apron and grading for pavement. Johannes had charged for site work, finishing rough carpentry, metal roof on the canopy and sheet metal work. Drywall is in progress and electrical, mechanical and plumbing rough-in work is close to completion. Joe Jansen reached out to Koerkenmeier Excavating who saved the county a great deal of money by installing the piping around the building for the drain. The installation of the internet connection from the courthouse to the health building is underway.

d. Veterans – Greg Riechman

1. Riechman said Aviston American Legion is hosting the Countywide Veterans Day this year. A planning meeting will be held Aug. 26 at the Legion. The next meeting of the Veterans Committee will be Monday, Oct. 2 at 7 p.m. B. Knolhoff said the Executive Committee is recommending a \$250 donation to the Countywide Veterans Day Program to be paid from Tourism funding.

i. Motion – \$250 Donation to Countywide Veterans Day Program

Riechman made a motion for a roll call vote to approve the donation.

Heinzmann seconded the motion.

Arentsen (Yes), Clark (Yes), Haselhorst (Yes), Heinzmann (Yes), Hilmes (Yes), Jansen (Absent), B. Knolhoff (Yes), K. Knolhoff (Yes), Kuhl (Absent), Rakers (Absent), Rapien (Absent), Riechman (Yes), Schroeder (Yes), Strieker (Yes), Veizer (Yes). Motion Carried 11-0.

11. OUTSIDE COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS

a. Board of Health – Mike Kuhl

Health Department Administrator Chris Leidel gave a monthly financial report. The

contract has been signed for the five-year Workforce Development Grant which will provide funding for hiring, training and retention of the public-health workforce. For budgeting purposes, the money will be placed in a separate fund. The first Flu/Covid Vaccine Clinic will be held Thursday, Sept. 28. Vaccine clinics will take place every Thursday until 6 p.m. with walk-ins or appointments welcome.

1. Motion - Health Department Monthly Report.

Veizer made a motion to approve the Health Department Monthly Report. Arentsen seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

b. 708 Mental Health Board – Holly Clark

Clark said the budget and annual report for the 708 Mental Health Board have been completed. All grants have been finalized. Clark reminded board members that a Celebrate Life event to highlight the mental health resources available in Clinton County is planned for Sunday, Sept. 24, at Northside Park in Breese.

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.

Riechman said the next Greater Centralia Enterprise Zone meeting is Nov. 9.

12. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

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

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

Motion Carried 11-0.

13. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

14. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

15. NEW BUSINESS

16. EXECUTIVE SESSION

B. Knolhoff said the board would be entering Executive Session to discuss the following (He noted that no action would take place after the closed session):

- 1) The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees, specific individuals who serve as independent contractors in a park, recreational, or educational setting, or specific volunteers of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee, a specific individual who serves as an independent contractor in a park, recreational, or educational setting, or a volunteer of the public

body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity. However, a meeting to consider an increase in compensation to a specific employee of a public body that is subject to the Local Government Wage Increase Transparency Act may not be closed and shall be open to the public and posted and held in accordance with this Act. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1).

- 2) Collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees.
- 5) The purchase or lease of real property for the use of the public body, including meetings held for the purpose of discussing whether a particular parcel should be acquired.
- 6) The setting of a price for sale or lease of property owned by the public body.

Veizer made a motion for a roll call vote to enter Executive Session at 7:43 p.m. Hilmes seconded the motion.

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

Motion Carried 11-0.

17. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Riechman made a motion to return to open session at 9:16 p.m. Heinzmann seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

18. ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2023

Riechman made a motion to adjourn until Monday, October 16, 2023 at 7 p.m.

Heinzmann seconded the motion. Motion Carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:17 p.m.

ATTEST:



Vicky Albers
County Clerk & Recorder