

Proceedings of the Regular Meeting

Clark County

May 20, 2022

The regular meeting of the County Board met May 20, 2022 at 8:00 A.M. and was called to Order by Chairman Rex Goble. County Clerk Laura Lee led the pledge of allegiance. Sheriff Bill Brown led the meeting with a prayer.

ROLL CALL

8:00 A.M.

Rex Goble

District #1

Brandon Burkybile

District #2

Jim Bolin

District #3

Randal Stephens

District #4

Susan Guinnip

District #5

Todd Kuhn

District #6

Mike Parsons

District #7

Motion by Mike Parsons and second by Randy Stephens to approve the minutes of the April 15, 2022 regular Board Meeting. The Chairman put the question and upon the roll being taken all members present voted "aye". Whereupon the Chairman declared the motion adopted.

Motion by Jim Bolin and second by Mike Parsons to approve the General Claims. The Chairman put the question and upon the roll being taken all members present voted "aye". Whereupon the Chairman declared the motion adopted.

Motion by Susan Guinnip and second by Mike Parsons to approve the County Highway Claims. The Chairman put the question and upon the roll being taken all members present voted "aye" with the exception of Jim Bolin who abstained. Whereupon the Chairman declared the motion adopted.

County Highway Engineer, Dallas Richardson, proceeded through his agenda. The first item is the HSIP Clarksville Rd / Angling Rd. Everything final has been submittal to IDOT. Half was submitted on February 9, 2022 and the remaining was submitted 2 weeks ago. Dallas has been sending emails to IDOT checking on the status. Richardson has been told that IDOT is getting everything ready for the June Letting. Richardson is trying to get us to the top of the list to get reviewed and is hopeful to get reviewed, approved and moving on this project later on this summer. The Hogue Town 400th Rd Project; we are still waiting on the biological clearance before they will approve our Project Development Report. Once that gets done, they will move forward. Next on the agenda is the 2022 Oil Letting. Richardson is asking for a resolution to accept bids on it. He explained what the difference in price will mean for the County. Oil price for the oil used in oil and chipping last year was \$2.46 per gallon. This year we are paying \$3.10 per gallon. That is @ \$2,300 more per mile just for oil. With rock and everything it was probably about \$10,500 a mile on an 18-foot road, which are most of our township roads to \$13,500. This is an increase of \$3,000, or a 25 to 30 % increase. Richardson said they are going to have to cut back on some of the miles planned.

Motion by Todd Kuhn and second by Mike Parsons to approve the Resolution to accept low bid for Oil Letting for 2022 Maintenance. The Chairman put the question and upon the roll being taken all members present voted "aye". Whereupon the Chairman declared the motion adopted. (See Attached)

Highway Discussion Continued: The Livingston Box Culvert Project Engineer estimate was approximately \$250,000 but came in at \$325,000. Two things are impacting the cost. One is the price of everything is going up and two is that not a lot of companies bid jobs for actual poured in place box culverts. The bidders that they did have shut down and moved on and the company that took over their projects is in Murphysboro. They are far enough away that they won't travel this distance for work if they have enough work in their area. White Construction was the only bidder. Dallas is asking to approve this contract with White Construction.

Motion by Jim Bolin and second by Brandon Burkybile to approve the Resolution to execute Formal Contract with White Construction for Wabash Township Sec. #21-13125-00-BR. The Chairman put the question and upon the roll being taken all members present voted "aye". Whereupon the Chairman declared the motion adopted. (See Attached)

Highway Discussion Continued: Richardson hopes to start mowing next week but the rain has negatively impacted it getting started. He said that he had no new business or old business. Board Member Bolin asked Engineer Richardson about the completion of the road by Stutesman's and he explained that he is waiting on the biological clearance. Richardson does not want to get his ROWs until he has the clearance.

Motion by Randy Stephens and second by Susan Guinnip to accept all Office Reports for April 2022. Circuit Clerk's Office has March and April Reports. The Chairman put the question and upon the roll being taken all members present voted "aye". Whereupon the Chairman declared the motion adopted. (See attached).

New Business:

Motion by Mike Parsons and second by Susan Guinnip to approve the Resolution to Authorize Kim Kannmacher, Clark County Treasurer, to be the Principal Account Authority for the Deposit Accounts Held by Clark County with Illinois State Funds and Also to Authorize Jennifer Beard, Deputy Treasurer, to be the Alternate Account Authority For the County of Clark's Deposit Account with Illinois State Funds. The Chairman put the question and upon the roll being taken all members present voted "aye". Whereupon the Chairman declared the motion adopted.

Motion by Mike Parsons and second by Randy Stephens to approve County Liquor Licenses for Blagyasbree LLC dba West Union Food Mart and Gary Williams dba Earl's Supper Club. The Chairman put the question and upon the roll being taken all members present voted "aye". Whereupon the Chairman declared the motion adopted.

Tony Trimble – Farm Bureau voiced his concerns regarding the Grain Belt Express Electric Transmission Line. Trimble stated that the State of Illinois has passed legislation to allow private company eminent domain rights to take a power line from one end of the state thru Clark County and to go into Indiana to put energy into a grid that does not even feed the state. His concern is not so much the power, but the infringement on the rights of the land owners. There are already 2 landowner groups that have hired attorneys. Clark County Farm Bureau is opposed to this project. It is taking rights away from land owners here in Clark County by a private company. This Resolution is a statement saying that this County does not like you taking the rights from the landowners. They have to file with Illinois Commerce Commission by the end of this month or next. Then there will be a public comment and this can be added to the public comments at the hearing.

Brad Pnazek – Vice President of Development for Invenergy gave a short presentation on how the Grain Belt Express Electric Transmission Line will affect Clark County. Currently the project does not have eminent domain authority. However, Invenergy does not expect to get all land owners to

voluntarily participate in this project. There are rules in legislation that does allow the project to proceed down that road. That is the last case and worse case scenario to do. So far in Kansas and Missouri which are the two other States in this project, they have 75 percent of landowners along the line have entered into voluntary negotiated agreements. The hope is to do that here as well. Invenergy held 3 meetings in February, March and April in Martinsville to solicit feedback from the affected land owners. The land owners were told that the next step would be to submit an application to the Illinois Commerce Commission in June. This is the entity that reviews and makes decisions regarding transmission lines for the State. The decision could take up to 200 plus days. This project delivers power generated in Kansas, transmitting across Kansas to Missouri, dropping off at a convertor station in Missouri that is serving the grid there. It continues on to Illinois and drops off power in Illinois. Farm Bureau Manager Trimble stated that the drop off of energy was not in the original statement. Pnazek stated that in 2015, Clean Line was going to do the project and there wasn't any energy dropped off in Illinois. Invenergy picked up the project in 2020 and they have been doing some message correcting. Clerk Lee asked if the electric poles are going to be the steel frame or a single pole. Pnazek stated the electric will be using a high voltage direct current line. It is a 5000 megawatt capacity, it is a big one. It is 600 kilovolts. The towers will either be a lattice tower or solid or mass type pole. They are working with the Department of Agriculture to outline all the impacts the project is going to make and what kind of structure type will be allowed to be used. Board member Kuhn asked what the benefits would be to the residents of Clark County. Pnazek replied that there will be a couple of different types of benefits. Obviously there will be the supply of reliable/ affordable electricity and there are state rules on property taxes that come along with transmission lines. There is a state mandate that when a transmission line gets built, \$20,000 per line mile is given to the taxing authorities for those areas. That would be at the start of construction, for the miles coming thru here. Then it would be an annual ongoing that is above and beyond required of Invenergy for the County to decide on. County resident Don Guinnip asked the board to support this resolution. Joe Riley from Labors International Union, Local 159 supports the project because they are committed to hiring men and women right here in Clark County for their projects. Big hours with insurance paid and benefits are paid. Warren LeFever would like the board to oppose this project.

Motion by Mike Parsons and second by Randy Stephens to approve Resolution to Oppose the Grain Belt Express Electric Transmission Line. The Chairman put the question and upon the roll being taken all members present voted "aye". Whereupon the Chairman declared the motion adopted.

Public Comments: Sheriff Bill Brown told the board that the State is going to be closing Route 40 West of Marshall and will be closed for 2 or 3 months for bridge replacement at the bottom of Baystown Road. Bill has tried to get a date on when the closure will happen, but cannot get one at this time. It is really going to be a traffic headache. The County is responsible for re-routing traffic. The State can only re-route onto state roads. Warren LeFever asked Dallas to put no semis on the Arbuckle Road. Dallas said that he can put up whatever sign you want him to, but they will not care.

Don Guinnip would like to address the board on behalf of Farm Bureau. This is just an alert that has to do with solar panels. Solar fields are coming into Illinois and taking large areas of farm ground out. The Farm Bureau, based on experiences in other counties; need to address resolutions here, especially where it affects drainage. Guinnip wants to alert the board to be on how it affects the County with drainage and the structure of township roads. Chairman Goble would appreciate it, if he could have information ahead of time so if he gets a phone call from the company, he knows what is going on.

Old Business:

Discussion regarding moving forward with a full-time ambulance. Chairman Rex Goble asked Ben Lueken to share his thoughts on moving forward on the full-time ambulance. Ben Lueken reported

that about 2 weeks ago the CFO of Horizon gave Ben a final answer and said that at this point they were not interested in expanding into the entire County. They would only be interested in taking over Marshall's District because of the cost effectiveness of running the ambulance. At this point there is no further interest of them doing a contract with the County. They said that this could potentially change in the future. They are currently spread thin with staff and are afraid to expand into the second county. Lueken said that without change or resolution for sales tax or real estate taxes, we would be looking at potentially a \$200,000 annual loss and without any changes over a 4 to 5 year period, the reserves could potentially be gone. Chairman Goble would like to earmark \$250,000 of Public Safety funds to cover that because it looks like our Public Safety funds are over and looking at what the Sheriff Department actually spent last year above what the budget was, they did come close to what the budget was. Goble stated that looking at the increase in the Public Safety funds, we should have enough based on what was spent in the Sheriff's budget spent last year. If that does not happen, then we will have to look into increasing the public safety or increase on property taxes. Ben said this would give the County the opportunity to maintain control of the ambulance until you get a better opportunity if there is one out there. Effingham County just went through this same process as well. Ben spoke to Effingham County and they ended up taking a contract. The advantage for them is that there is a hospital in Effingham. Mike Parsons said he does not have a problem with going full time. He does not think we should go into it thinking the County is going to do it for sure. We need to go through a process of having it bid out, and have everything on the table of what the cost would be. We might not even get a bid, but at least put it out there and to make an educated decision. Parsons continued saying that this increase in public safety funds will not last if the economy would happen to get better and prices go down, revenue will go down too. We could be looking at a short fall. It could get ugly for us. Randy Stephens said it is not just a matter of raising taxes. You are going to have to sacrifice something in order to get the service. Brandon Burkybile said it will be a process trying to go out for bid.

Motion by Brandon Burkybile and second by Todd Kuhn to Vote on Moving Forward with Full-Time Ambulance. Brandon Burkybile asked for a roll call vote to be taken. All board members voted "Aye" in order to move forward with the full-time ambulance. The Chairman put the question and upon the roll being taken all members present voted "aye". Whereupon the Chairman declared the motion adopted.

Motion by Randy Stephens and second by Susan Guinnip to Vote on Resolutions Regarding Compensation for Sheriff, County Clerk and Treasurer. The Chairman put the question and upon the roll being taken all members present voted "aye". Whereupon the Chairman declared the motion adopted.

Appointments:

Motion by Jim Bolin and second by Mike Parsons to re-appoint Steve Jenkins and Dave Yocom to the Board of Review. This is a 2-year term and will expire on 5/31/2024. The Chairman put the question and upon the roll being taken all members present voted "aye". Whereupon the Chairman declared the motion adopted.

Motion by Randy Stephens and second by Brandon Burkybile to re-appoint Robert Maxwell and to appoint John T. Hammond to the Martinsville Fire Protection District Board. This is a 3-year term and will expire on 6/1/2025. The Chairman put the question and upon the roll being taken all members present voted "aye". Whereupon the Chairman declared the motion adopted.

Executive Session:

Motion by Mike Parsons and second by Susan Guinnip to go into Executive Session at 8:42 A.M. The

Chairman put the question and upon the roll being taken all members present voted "aye". Whereupon the Chairman declared the meeting to go into executive session for provision 5ILCS 120/2 © (1), Personnel – Ambulance.

CLOSED MEETING CERTIFICATION: CLARK COUNTY

I certify that I understand Section 2 of the Illinois Open Meeting Act and that to the best of my knowledge and belief, no other topic was discussed during the closed meeting, or closed portion of the meeting, in violation of the Illinois Open Meetings Act.

/s/ Rex Goble, Presiding Officer

Motion by Mike Parsons and second by Randy Stephens to come out of Executive Session at 8:57 A.M. The Chairman put the question and upon the roll being taken all members present voted "aye". Whereupon the Chairman declared the motion adopted.

Motion by Mike Parsons and second by Susan Guinnip to go into Executive Session at 8:59 A.M. The Chairman put the question and upon the roll being taken all members present voted "aye". Whereupon the Chairman declared the meeting to go into executive session for provision 5ILCS 120/2 © (1). Personnel

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/s/ Rex Goble, Presiding Officer

Motion by Mike Parsons and second by Susan Guinnip to come out of Executive Session at 9:08 A.M. The Chairman put the question and upon the roll being taken all members present voted "aye". Whereupon the Chairman declared the motion adopted.

Committee Reports:

State's Attorney Hutson stated that Tony Trimble sent him three sample resolutions regarding solar farms. One was from Champaign County and they have zoning, so that one would not apply. The sample Edgar County one has not been adopted yet. Edwards County is the other one and Hutson wasn't sure if that one has passed. Hutson's issue with these is the enforcement. These are similar to the wind farm resolution but there was a statute passed to help with the authority. Basically, needs more investigating before passing.

Board Member Stephens attended the last Health Board meeting and they are having discussions regarding salaries there.

Board Member Parsons attended a SIEDA meeting in Southern Illinois and a resolution was passed to help with down payment assistance up to 6% and it is forgiven in seven years, if the homeowner still lives in the same property. It is done as a second mortgage on the property.

Board Member Bolin updated the Board on the 911 union negotiations. He feels that the union will come in status quo where they are at now. Bolin is waiting on a paper with all the changes in it but he hasn't received it yet.

Board Member Kuhn stated that at the 911 meeting, Kelsey Bailey, 911 Coordinator, felt that things were going smoothly even with being short-staffed right now.

Motion by Jim Bolin and second by Mike Parsons to approve Preceding Bills. The Chairman put the question and upon the roll being taken all members present voted "aye" with the exception of Todd Kuhn who abstained. Whereupon the Chairman declared the motion adopted.

Motion by Brandon Burkybile and second by Mike Parsons to approve One Day and Mileage Claims. The Chairman put the question and upon the roll being taken all members present voted "aye". Whereupon the Chairman declared the motion adopted.

Motion by Susan Guinnip and second by Mike Parsons that the meeting be adjourned until June 17, 2022 at 8:00 a.m. The Chairman put the question and upon the roll being taken all members present voted "aye". Whereupon the Chairman declared the motion adopted. The meeting adjourned at 9:20 a.m.

IN ATTENDANCE: Jason Wimbley - Clark County Ambulance; Dallas Richardson - County Engineer; Ami Shaw - Circuit Clerk; Laurie Lee -County Clerk; Kim Kannmacher – Treasurer; Lisa Richey – Supervisor of Assessments; Michelle Blankenship – Probation; Eddie McFarland – Clark County Health Dept; Warren LeFever—Marshall City Alderman; Gary Strohm – Marshall Advocate; Dave Taylor; Tony Trimble – Farm Bureau; Don Guinnip – Farm Bureau; Ben Lueken – Dimond Financial; Jonathan Burns – HRC; Brad Pnazek – Invenergy; Joe Riley – Labor Local 159 rep.