

Proceedings of the Regular Meeting
Clark County November 17, 2023

The regular meeting of the County Board met November 17, 2023, at 8:00 A.M. and was called to Order by Chairman Rex Goble. County Clerk Laura Lee led the pledge of allegiance. Jim Bolin 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 absent
Todd Kuhn	District #6
Mike Parsons	District #7 by phone non-voting

Motion by Brandon Burkybile and second by Randy Stephens to approve the minutes of the October 20, 2023, 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.

Public Comments: None

Motion by Todd Kuhn and second by Jim Bolin to approve the General Claims. The Chairman put the question and upon the roll being taken all members present voted "aye" except for Jim Bolin who abstained. Whereupon the Chairman declared the motion adopted.

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

Highway Discussion:

County Highway Engineer, Dallas Richardson, reported on the HSIP Clarksville Angling Road Project and stated that most of the big projects on that road are complete. It has been seeded and strawed, waiting on guard rails for a couple of locations at Westfield which should arrive after Thanksgiving. There are 2 locations where they have ditch and pipe work to do. Richardson stated that it was quite an accomplishment to get all that the Highway Department had completed this year. Several of the Board Members complimented the Department. Not much was done on Angling Road this year. There is probably a couple of weeks of mowing yet to do on the south end of the County. Also, Richardson received a Road Use Agreement back from RWE Solar Farm which their representative, Natalie Gerber, spoke to the Board at an earlier meeting. It is the one located south of Westfield and North of Casey around the Blue Mound area. This is just a standard Road Use Agreement with a couple of modifications. The permit fee was increased from \$10,000 to \$12,000 and instead of a \$1,000,000 bond, changed to a \$1,000,000 letter of credit. Richardson said that he has heard that it can be a mess when calling in the bond and stated that the letter of credit is more tangible thing to use.

Motion by Todd Kuhn and second by Jim Bolin to approve Resolution to approve Resolution for Road Use Agreement for the "County Run Solar Energy Project". The Chairman put the question and upon the roll being taken all members present voted "aye". Whereupon the Chairman declared the motion adopted.

Highway discussion continued:

Dallas reported that the Resolution is for Ameren Road Use Agreement. Richardson sent back to them with revision requests and has not received it back yet. He will be meeting with them on the Tuesday after Thanksgiving to go over things and to drive the roads. Chairman Goble stated that he received a phone call from a new Grain Belt representative. He wanted to introduce himself and let the County know that he will come in person at some point. Dallas reported that the Fox Road Agreement, which is in conjunction with damage done to the road due to highway 40 bridge road closure has been signed by Marshall Township and the County. IDOT will be reimbursing the County \$16,700 in oil and chip damages on Fox Road and Marshall Township will be receiving approximately \$269,000 to repair Arbuckle Road.

Motion by Jim Bolin and second by Randy Stephens to approve Resolution for Road Use Agreement with IDOT for Fox Road. 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 Brandon Burkybile and second by Randy Stephens to accept all Office Reports for October 2023. 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).

Motion by Jim Bolin and second by Todd Kuhn to adopt the Fiscal Period of December 1, 2023, to November 30, 2024, County Budget as displayed in the County Clerk's Office. 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 Rex Goble and second Randal Stephens to adopt the General Tax Levy in the amount of \$585,000. 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 Randal Stephens and second by Brandon Burkybile to adopt the County Highway Tax Levy in the amount of \$245,000. 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 Brandon Burkybile and second by Jim Bolin to adopt the Aid to Township Bridges Tax Levy at the maximum rate of .05%. 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 Todd Kuhn to adopt the County Aid to Federal Roads Tax Levy at the maximum rate of .05%. 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 Todd Kuhn and second by Rex Goble to adopt the Federal Social Security Insurance Program Tax Levy in the amount of \$244,000. 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 Rex Goble and second by Randal Stephens to adopt the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund Tax Levy in the amount of \$487,500. 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 Randal Stephens and second by Brandon Burkybile to adopt the Board of Health Fund Tax Levy in the amount of \$125,500. 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 Brandon Burkybile and second by Jim Bolin to adopt the Extension Education Program Tax Levy in the amount of \$99,000. 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 Todd Kuhn to adopt the Community Mental Health Fund Tax Levy in the amount of \$284,500. 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 Todd Kuhn and second by Rex Goble to adopt the County Ambulance Fund Tax Levy in the amount of \$239,500. 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 Rex Goble and second by Randal Stephens to adopt the Liability Insurance Fund Tax Levy in the amount of \$97,500. The Chairman put the question and upon the roll being taken all members present voted "aye". Whereupon the Chairman declared the motion adopted.

New Business:

Motion by Randal Stephens and second by Brandon Burkybile to approve Michelle Blankenship – Probation for a County Credit Card. The Chairman put the question and upon the roll being taken all members present voted “aye”. Whereupon the Chairman declared the motion adopted.

TextMyGov is a program for county residents to sign up to receive and send texts to the County Clerk’s office. The County had just signed a one year contract with another company for emergencies and decided to table the discussion and approval until next year.

Next on the agenda is to discuss broadband options and possible grant application with John Kaye, Cumberland County Board Member and Hillary Rains, with the newly formed IL Office of Broadband. Her office administers the grants from Federal and State. The office’s job is to connect everyone in Illinois to robust, reliable and affordable internet. They want everyone to be higher than 100 download, 20 upload speed. Their goal is to have community anchor institutions, such as government buildings, libraries, etc, the goal is 100 download and 100 upload speed which is called “gig symmetrical”. The Federal Government is going all in with fiber optic cable and want internet to be affordable for everyone. Research was done on the needs to make this goal achievable and found that for internet providers, it was not financially feasible to lay fiber optic cable to rural areas. Broadband Breakthrough is a grant that is a partnership with IL Soybean Association and the Benton Institute for Broadband Society. This provides 4 months of strategic planning. Cumberland, Crawford, and Jasper got in as a triple county applicant. Clark could apply in the spring. Next is the big Federal grant. There is \$42 billion that was set aside federally for broadband expansion and Illinois is to receive \$1,040,000,000. The Illinois Office of Broadband has a webpage with lots of information and interactive maps to help find where areas are under-served and reliable internet is needed. The goal is for everyone to have reliable internet by 2030. There is also a weekly newsletter that anyone can sign up for. There was also some discussion regarding right of ways and the laying of the fiber optics. December 13th, there is a meeting with the Benton Institute and Hillary and John would help to sign up. John Kaye explained that fiber optic is like having a thousand T1 lines coming into your house.

Next on the agenda is to discuss the possible sale of 2 ambulances. It was decided that we need to advertise before selling. Board Member Bolin asked if the County could get a minimum bid amount from Fitch and make that the County’s minimum bid.

Motion by Jim Bolin and second by Randy Stephens to approve the sale of two ambulances. The Chairman put the question and upon the roll being taken all members present voted "aye". Whereupon the Chairman declared the motion adopted.

Discussion was had regarding the sale of the West Union Ambulance Building. Due to Bill Crumrin retiring, they can't have a crew down there most of the time. Ronnie Poorman now has a "chase" vehicle. The Fire Department might possibly be interested in the building. Will wait until January before pursuing and further.

Next on the agenda is discussion regarding a strategic plan for Clark County. The consulting company would look at the County and help with a vision for the future. After some discussion, it was decided to table until next month.

Motion by Jim Bolin and second by Brandon Burkybile to approve Resolution and Payment for the States's Attorney's Appellate Prosecutor Services for Fiscal Year 2024. The Chairman put the question and upon the roll being taken all members present voted "aye". Whereupon the Chairman declared the motion adopted.

Chairman Goble talked about a webinar that he sat in regarding Product Surplus. This company has signed an agreement with the Illinois Association of Counties and will charge a lesser amount for their commission and then take 10% of what they collect and donate back to the Illinois Association of Counties. It costs nothing to sign up.

Old Business:

Next was discussion on setting the salaries for the Circuit Clerk, Coroner and Assessor since they are up for election in 2024. Beginning December 1, 2024, the Circuit Clerk and the Assessor will have a salary of \$57,000 and the Coroner will receive \$25,000.

Motion by Jim Bolin and second by Randy Stephens to approve the setting of salaries for the Circuit Clerk, Assessor and the Coroner. The Chairman put the question and upon the roll being taken all members present voted "aye". Whereupon the Chairman declared the motion adopted.

Discussion was held regarding Animal control fees with cities. There was discussion about local police officers bringing the dogs to the pound. A couple of ideas were to have an outside receiving pin or arrangements are to be made to meet Tammy See at the facility. Also, decisions need to be made on how much and at what point to charge the cities for the dogs that are brought to the facility. There was no approval vote. It was decided for Jim Bolin to talk to Casey police and for Rex to talk to Marshall and Martinsville and be able to approve amounts at the December 2023 meeting.

Appointments:

Motion by Randal Stephens and second by Todd Kuhn to Appoint Amy Hannig and Ellen Lake to 708 Mental Board. This is a 3-year term and will expire on 12/31/2026. 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 Todd Kuhn and second by Jim Bolin to re-appoint Denise Pine-Mattis and Tiffany Macke to 708 Board. This is a 4-year term and will expire on 12/31/2027. 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 Randal Stephens and second by Jim Bolin to re-appoint John Farrell to Mill Creek Conservancy District. This is a 5-year term and will expire on 12/3/2028. 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: None

Committee Reports:

Board Member Kuhn stated that 911 was very thankful for the ARPA funds that were received. The parking lot and the roof have both been fixed and the other projects are moving forward.

Chairman Goble said that the Ambulance Service seems to be running smoothly so far. Board Member Burkybile said that they have had status 0 on ambulances at times but have covered every call. The call volume has been more than projected and the remodeling of the Martinsville Ambulance building looks very nice.

Board Member Stephens went to the Health Department Board meeting and said that they are giving out lots of shots, etc.

Board Member Bolin went to a Clark County Development Organization meeting and we need to bolster the organization or find another avenue to help with funding projects. Bolin also stated that negotiations with the Iron Workers has come to an agreement and he said that 3% across the board for the next four years. There was some clean up language and the union rep was nice to work with.

Motion by Brandon Burkybile and second by Todd Kuhn to approve Preceding Bills. 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 Randal Stephens 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 Brandon Burkybile and second by Todd Kuhn that the meeting be adjourned until December 15, 2023, at 8 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 9:27 a.m.

IN ATTENDANCE: Kim Kannmacher – Treasurer; Dallas Richardson- County Engineer; Lisa Richey – Supervisor of Assessments; Kyle Hutson – State’s Attorney; Gary Strohm - Marshall Advocate; Ami Shaw – Circuit Clerk; Michelle Blankenship – Probation; Jeff Pearce – Coroner; Tammy See – Animal Control; Hillary Rains – Office of Broadland; Jonathan Kaye – Cumberland County Board; Adam Morgan, Jack Pearce, John Donham, Liam Davis, Sophia Elliott, Ali Martin, Brielle Duke.