

**Montgomery County Board
Minutes**

For Tuesday, September 9th, 2008 – 8:30 AM

The following are minutes of a regular meeting of the Montgomery County Board held at 8:30 AM on Tuesday, September 9th, 2008 in the County Board Chambers of the Historic Courthouse, Hillsboro, Illinois.

The meeting was called to order by County Board Chairman Mike Plunkett at 8:30 AM.

Roll call was taken. 20 members present, 1 member absent.

Members Present: Nelson Aumann, Mary Bathurst, Connie Beck, George Blankenship, Terry Bone, Bonnie Branum, Ronald Deabenderfer, Toby Dean, John Downs, Robert Durbin, Ed Helgen, Frank Komor, Sharon Kuchar, Joyce Matthews, Gene Miles, Roger Myers, Dale Ogden, Mike Plunkett, Bill Sielschott, Richard Wendel.

Members Absent: Dennis Jagodzinski.

Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was given.

Mileage and Per Diem Approval:

Motion by Aumann, second by Durbin to approve the mileage and per diem. All in favor, motion carried.

Approval of Minutes of Previous County Board Meeting:

Motion by Myers, second by Matthews to approve the Minutes of the Previously Adjourned County Board Meeting held on Tuesday, August 12th, 2008. All in favor, motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. **Circuit Clerk's Report** – submitted.
2. **County Treasurer's Report** – Ron Jenkins was present for questions.
3. **County Clerk and Recorder's Report** – Sandy Leitheiser was present for questions and stated that due to the HAVA (Help America Vote Act) grant funds, the county's voting system is now fully state and federally funded. Final grant funding for the system was received in August, 2008.
4. **Sheriff's Report** – Jim Vazzi was present for questions and reported that the jail is full and overflowing.
5. **Health Department Report** – submitted.
6. **T.B. Department Report** – Sally Adams was present for questions.
7. **Public Defender's Report** – submitted.
8. **Probation Office Report** – submitted.
9. **911 Report** – submitted.
10. **S.O.A.** – submitted.
11. **G.I.S.** – submitted.

APPROVAL OF 11 ITEMS ON THE CONSENT AGENDA:

Motion by Blankenship, second by Bathurst to approve the 11 office reports on the Consent Agenda. All in favor, motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

COORDINATING COMMITTEE REPORT: Chairman Plunkett stated that all topics discussed at the Coordinating Committee will be reported on in the other committees.

ROAD AND BRIDGE COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Chairman Bonnie Branum as follows:

1. **Approval- Hazard Mitigation Plan Consultant Agreement:** Branum deferred to Highway Engineer Ruben Boehler who stated that the County Board would need to pass the Hazard Mitigation Plan Consultant Agreement in order to pay for engineering costs. The grant that was sent to FEMA for approval in the amount of \$35,593. **Motion by Branum, second by Downs to approve the Hazard Mitigation Plan Consultant Agreement. All in favor, motion carried. (See Resolution Book 8, pages 176-179).**

2. **Approval- Resolution #12-08:** Branum stated that the Committee discussed a resolution that would need to be approved each year to appropriate money from Motor Fuel Tax Funds for the purpose of paying of the County Engineer's salary for the period beginning January 1, 2009 and ending December 31, 2009. **Motion by Branum, second by Dean to approve Resolution #12-08. All in favor, motion carried. (See Resolution Book 8, page 180).**
3. **Update- Road Use Agreements:** Boehler reported that he met with Hillsboro Energy regarding a few truck routes to the proposed coal mine site. At this time, Hillsboro Energy is developing a Road Use Agreement with East Fork Township. Boehler is also checking with Ameren for slag and is actively pursuing agreements with them. Boehler is looking into measures of either 1) making upgrades to or 2) keeping heavy traffic off of the Irving/Coffeen Road and Red Ball Trail.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Chairman Bill Sielschott as follows:

1. **Update- Treasurer Map Cost from GIS to the General Fund:** Sielschott reported on mapping costs for GIS. **Motion by Sielschott, second by Kuchar to move the map cost expenditure from GIS to the General Fund. All in favor, motion carried.**
2. **Update- Hardware Purchase – Information Systems:** Sielschott reported that Bill Purcell informed the committee of computer hardware expenses that have been a strain to his budget this year.
3. **Update- County Real Estate Tax Cycle:** Sielschott reported on the timeline for the County Real Estate Tax, and stated that tax bills should be going out at the end of September.
4. **Update- Payments by Credit Card Public Hearing:** Sielschott stated that a Public Hearing was held on September 8th, at 8:30 AM in the County Board room of the Historic Courthouse for the purpose of discussing payments by credit card for Montgomery County services. No one appeared at the hearing so Sielschott is recommending that the credit card payment be implemented. He stated that the County will pay nothing extra, and that the tax payer who uses the credit card service will incur a 1.75% interest rate. Sielschott also stated that with the new DevNet system, tax bills have changed in their format and the Treasurer's Office will get press release information to the public about this change.
5. **Approval- Resolution #08-18 to Accept Payment by Credit Card:** A Resolution is required to accept payments by credit card. **Motion by Sielschott, second by Aumann to approve the Resolution to accept payment by Credit Cards. All in favor, motion carried. (See Resolution Book 8, page 181).**
6. **Update- FY '09 Levy:** The levy will be approved at the full board meeting in October, 2008, and reports show the Fiscal Year 2009 Levy in the amount of 4.9994%. Since the County will stay below the 5% levy, there will be no need for a Truth in Taxation Hearing. Sielschott reported that they do not know the 2008 taxable value as of yet.
7. **Approval- Trustee Property in Farmersville:** Discussion took place on the Opera House property in Farmersville acquired by the County through tax deed, and the Village of Farmersville will tear down the house using T.I.F. funds. **Motion by Sielschott, second by Beck to approve the transfer of all County rights to the Opera House property to the Village of Farmersville. All in favor, motion carried.**
8. **Update- GIS Fee Proposals:** Sielschott stated that Mary Purcell has revised some of the proposed GIS mapping fees that were submitted last month, and she has turned over a draft of proposed fees to the State's Attorney Office for review with no information received as of last Friday. Purcell will not be selling updates without a signed contract to help increase revenues, and the Finance Committee will look to approve the fee schedule next month.
9. **Update- FY09 Budget Modifications:** Discussion took place on modifying the 2009 budget. Sielschott reported that revenues have been decreasing at the Highway Department and the Highway Engineer's salary will now come out of the Motor Fuel Tax fund. Office 340, which is the reserve for the Capital Improvement Fund, will have \$2,720,000 in expenses proposed for the Fiscal Year 2009 Budget including the following items: Property Restoration will be expensed at \$1,926,000.00, other Expenses will be at \$20,000.00, the Animal Control Facility will be at \$274,000.00 and the Real Estate Purchase line item will be at \$500,000. Discussion continued on expenses for the building improvements for the county. Fuel costs are up, which is hitting the Highway Department and Sheriff's

Department hard. There will be a part-time staff person added to Animal Control and a part-time staff person added to Recycling. Sielschott stated that Recycling continues to grow and the facility is bringing in a lot more material.

10. **Update- Meeting Date Change for October:** The Committee meeting for next month will be on Monday October 6th, 2008 at 8:30 AM in the County Board room due to the Columbus Day Holiday.
11. **Update- Ambulance Levies:** Sielschott stated that the procedure to approve the Ambulance Levies will be changed from taking this action at this September meeting to the October Full Board meeting where other levies are submitted for approval, so the board will not have to Recess their meeting until the next month.

HWE COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Chairman Bob Durbin as follows:

1. **Update- Elections:** Durbin reported that County Clerk Sandy Leitheiser shared a list of important dates for the November 4th, 2008 General Election and that the County Clerk's Office is on schedule for Absentee Voting. In Person Early Voting begins on October 14th, 2008 and ends October 30th, 2008. **Update- Litchfield Recycling Center cleanup:** Bernie Leitschuh met with the EPA on August 27th, and has filed the necessary paperwork for the 10 day notification to the State EPA, which is required when tearing down commercial or public use structures. Leitschuh will begin tearing off the metal on the building on September 10th, but will not begin demolition on the main structure until September 11th, 2008.
2. **Approval- Animal Control Building:** Durbin reported that in October they will be putting out bids on the water and septic hook ups for the new Animal Control Facility. Hillsboro Township will install a culvert for \$180.00 and the USDA will do soil samples for \$250.00. Durbin recommended the bid from Morton Builders for the Animal Control Facility, with the estimated costs for the building at approximately \$274,000. **Motion by Durbin, second by Helgen to accept a bid from Morton Builders for the Animal Control facility for an amount not to exceed \$274,000. All in favor, motion carried.**
3. **Update- Workers Compensation Insurance:** Durbin reported that the Workers Compensation Insurance was going up 10% to 12%.
4. **Update- County Property Assessments:** Durbin stated that the committee discussed having all county buildings appraised every 5 years for insurance purposes and that the county buildings were last appraised in 2004. The HWE Committee will get a quote to appraise all the County Buildings for the Fiscal Year 2009 Budget. Durbin reported that he had County Treasurer Ron Jenkins add \$1,000 in the Fiscal Year 2009 budget for the appraisals. Durbin also asked that all offices make sure they get their inventory lists to the County Treasurer's Office.
5. **Update- UCCI Dinner:** Durbin stated that there will be a lecture and dinner on October 17th and 18th hosted by UCCI at the Abraham Lincoln Memorial Museum in Springfield, Illinois. The dinner will be on Friday, October 17th at 6:00 PM. Any board member wishing to attend should let Chris Daniels know so that she may get the R.S.V.P.'s in before the deadline on October 3rd. Durbin also stated that member Mary Bathurst will also be graduating from the UCCI Academy this fall.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Chairman John Downs as follows:

1. **Update- Local 773 Montgomery County Sheriff's Department Contract:** Chairman Downs reported that he has been in contact with the union representative for the Jailer's/Dispatcher's Union to begin union negotiations.
2. **Update- Highway Department Personnel Issues:** Downs reported that he attended a special Road and Bridge Committee meeting on August 31st, 2008. Discussion took place on a 4 day work week for the Highway Department during Daylight Saving Time to see if there are cost savings on fuel. Boehler reported that he has drafted an addendum to the union contract to reflect this change on a 1 year trial basis.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Chairman Terry Bone as follows:

1. **Update- Air Conditioning System for Courthouse Complex:** Bone stated that on August 28th he met with Johnson Controls, County Board Chairman Plunkett, Sheriff Vazzi, Coordinator Daniels, and Maintenance staff regarding the problems experienced with the air conditioning system at the New Courthouse starting in July. The committee reviewed a report of the timeline regarding the problems with the 80 ton air conditioning unit. Johnson Controls stated that there were some problems with safety relay switches and a motor due to lightning damage. The committee agrees to approve the payment of the current invoices totaling \$32,290.58, which includes the replacement of two compressors. Everything will be turned over to the insurance company for lightning damage.
2. **Update- Phone System:** Bone reported that some of the issues surrounding the phone system problems were due to two storms that produced substantial lightning. Gene Dinardo with Americall Communications addressed the Committee on the current issues with the phone system and gave a proposal to upgrade the County's current phone system. Dinardo stated that a PRI (Primary Rate Interface) system would be more stable and could be installed in the Historic Courthouse and in the other two buildings. The system would include a new box for each building with new voicemail, however, the analog and digital phones would remain the same. Bone stated that this will be very expensive, but the committee will look into this at a future date.
3. **Update- Building Needs Assessment - Maintenance Issues:** Bone stated that the committee has received two proposals for the air conditioning unit in the data/phone system room at the Historic Courthouse. The door will be coming off, but there will be no air conditioning installed. The new guttering was installed at the Historic Courthouse this week and the work is complete. Lloyd Meyer reported to the committee that there is water coming in through a crack or joint in the tunnel. Meyer will call Western Water Proofing to start the repairs on the Historic Courthouse basement walls and also have them look at the leak in the tunnel.
4. **Update- Proposal to Assess Courts Complex for Grounding Against Lightning:** Bone stated that the committee is looking into getting information to address and evaluate the county's lightning protection issues at the Courthouse Complex.

EMA/AMBULANCE COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Vice Chairman George Blankenship as follows:

1. **Ambulance Call Reports:** A summary of monthly operations for **July 2008** is as follows: **Total calls:** 390, **Total amounts billed:** \$202,661.00 **Total amounts collected:** \$90,205.72. A summary of monthly operations for **August 2008** is as follows: **Total calls:** 349, **Total amounts billed:** \$192,989.00, **Total amounts collected:** \$150,994.38.
2. **Director Holmes Report:**
 - **Pandemic Flu Exercise:** Blankenship reported that on September 23rd IEMA and IDPH (Illinois Department of Public Health) will host a Pandemic Flu Table Top Exercise in Collinsville at the Holiday Inn. EMA Coordinators and Public Health Official's are asked to attend.
 - **Earthquake Table Top Exercise:** On September 24th Montgomery County Health Department, Montgomery County EMA and LEPC members, will be able to attend the Earthquake Table Top Exercise that is for the County Planning Committee. This will be held at the Taylor Springs Community Building and will be by invitation only.
 - **EMS Command Kit will go in EMA Truck:** Blankenship reported that an EMS Command Kit was given to the County by MABAS and will be kept in the EMA truck.
 - **Fast EMC Program:** Blankenship stated that the County has upgraded their Ambulance Billing system to the Fast EMC program, but there are some problems with the program. Bill Purcell, Director Holmes and the office secretaries are being trained on how to operate the new software.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Chairman Ron Deabenderfer as follows:

1. **Update- Ordinance Regulating the Siting of Wind Energy:** Deabenderfer reported that the committee reviewed and discussed a draft of an ordinance regulating the siting of wind energy. A copy of the ordinance has been sent to State's Attorney Chris Matoush and Highway Engineer Ruben Boehler to review and a copy will also be sent to the Farm Bureau for their review. The committee will look at the fee structure and discuss further next month.
2. **Update- Walshville Township Hog Confinement Facility – Larry Marburger:** Deabenderfer stated that some citizens from the Walshville area were at the Committee meeting to voice concerns regarding a proposed Hog Confinement Facility. Deabenderfer stated that due to State Laws, the county's hands are tied and plans for the Hog Confinement Facility can proceed. Deabenderfer reported that Engineer Boehler will be checking on the structure of the roads in that area.
3. **Approval- GIS Intergovernmental Agreements for Fillmore and Schram City:** Deabenderfer stated that Amanda Cole gave the committee a copy of signed GIS Intergovernmental Agreements for the Villages of Fillmore and Schram City. Both villages have also signed the GIS Licensing Agreements and Waiver of Fees. **Motion by Deabenderfer, second by Kuchar to approve the GIS Intergovernmental Agreements, Licensing Agreements and Waiver of Fees with the Village of Fillmore. All in favor, motion carried. (See Book 8, pages 182-186). Motion by Deabenderfer, second by Matthews to approve the GIS Intergovernmental Agreements, Licensing Agreements and Waiver of Fees with the Village of Schram City. All in favor, motion carried. (See Book 8, pages 187-191).**
4. **Update- EZ Request by Hillsboro Energy, LLC:** Deabenderfer reported that the committee reviewed a letter from Hillsboro Energy, LLC regarding a request for approximately 1 square mile of Enterprise Zone territory. The Enterprise Zone Mayors and Presidents will need to meet to approve the request.
5. **Update- Abandoned Rail Line Property:** Deabenderfer reported that he had spoken with Judge Joy regarding the abandoned rail line property's title. Joy reported to Deabenderfer that he feels title for the rail line will be insurable and the paperwork will be sent to State's Attorney Matoush by next week.

APPROVAL OF 8 COMMITTEE REPORTS & MINUTES:

Motion by Bathurst, second by Beck to approve the 8 committee reports. All in favor, motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Plunkett reported that UCCI will be hosting their annual Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum Education Seminar on October 17th and 18th. Anyone wishing to attend, please see Chris Daniels after the Full Board meeting.

SCHEDULE CHANGES: Plunkett reminded members that the regularly scheduled Finance Committee meeting for October will be on Monday, October 6th, 2008 at 8:30 AM in the County Board Room. This was changed due to the observance of Columbus Day on October 13th.

PAY BILLS:

Motion by Sielschott, second Kuchar to pay all approved bills. All in favor, motion carried. For itemized listing of bills paid, refer to Accounts Payable Book for FY 2008.

ADJOURN: Until the Full Board Meeting on **Tuesday, October 14th, 2008 at 8:30 AM** in the County Board Room, Historic Courthouse, Hillsboro, Illinois.

Motion by Myers, second by Branum to adjourn the Full Board Meeting. All in favor, motion carried.
Meeting adjourned at 9:20 AM.

Minutes respectfully submitted and recorded by Montgomery County Clerk and Recorder Sandy Leitheiser.