

**Montgomery County Board
Minutes**

For Tuesday, January 12th, 2010 – 8:30 AM

The following are minutes of a regular meeting of the Montgomery County Board held at 8:30 AM on Tuesday, January 12th, 2010 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. 17 members present, 3 members absent, 1 vacancy.

Members Present: Nelson Aumann, Mary Bathurst, Connie Beck, Terry Bone, Bonnie Branum, Ronald Deabenderfer, John Downs, Robert Durbin, Ed Helgen, Roy Hertel, Jarod Hitchings, Frank Komor, Sharon Kuchar, Gene Miles, Jim Moore, Mike Plunkett, Richard Wendel.

Members Absent: George Blankenship, Dale Ogden, Bill Sielschott

Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was given.

Mileage and Per Diem Approval:

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

Approval of Minutes of Previous County Board Meeting:

Motion by Helgen, second by Kuchar to approve the Minutes of the Previously Adjourned County Board Meeting held on Tuesday, December 8th, 2009. All in favor, motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. **911 Coordinator's Report** – submitted
2. **Chief Assessment Officer's Report** – submitted
3. **Circuit Clerk's Report** – Holly Lemons was present for questions.
4. **County Clerk and Recorder's Report** – Sandy Leitheiser was present for questions.
5. **County Treasurer's Report** – Ron Jenkins was present for questions.
6. **G.I.S. Coordinator's Report** – Mary Purcell was present for questions.
7. **Health Department Report** – submitted
8. **Probation Office Report** – submitted
9. **Public Defender's Report** – submitted
10. **Sheriff's Report** – Jim Vazzi was present for questions.
11. **T.B. Department's Report & Annual Report** – Sally Adams was present for questions.
12. **V.A.C. Report** – Dave Strowmatt was present for questions.

APPROVAL OF 12 ITEMS ON THE CONSENT AGENDA:

Motion by Bone, second by Durbin to approve the 12 office reports on the Consent Agenda. All in favor, motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

COORDINATING COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Chairman Mike Plunkett as follows:

A presentation was made to Joyce Matthews who resigned at the November, 2009 meeting in appreciation of her 7 years of service on the County Board. Plunkett stated that she was very active on the Building & Grounds Committee, the Senior Citizens Liaison, as well as on the Economic Development Committee. Matthews stated that resigning was a hard decision to make and that Montgomery County is very fortunate to have such good elected officers and county board members. She challenged board members to be proactive as they look at the future of Montgomery County.

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

- 1. Telephone System Update:** The committee discussed the progress on the new phone system implementation, and Bone stated that Tech Electronics has ordered the new equipment. Issues with the voice logger system in the Sheriff's Dept. have been resolved. The project to bore to the annex building has been delayed due to cold weather. The contractor can bore when the temperature reaches 30 degrees and above. The cut over date for the new phone system is scheduled for February 18th, 2010. Consolidated Telephone Company will install the new PRI line at the Sheriff's Office in 3 weeks. Purcell reported that the portable A/C unit is working in the current telephone data closet, so we should be getting a credit from Tech Electronics for not needing their labor to move data lines.
- 2. Annex Building Project Update:** A meeting was held on Thursday, January 7th, 2010 at 2:30 pm with Hurst-Rosche and Korte Luitjohan regarding the pay request for the annex building. They went over the invoice and compared it to the work that has been completed. Interior work will start moving along quickly in the next couple of weeks, and Hurst-Rosche representative Lance stated that the project should finish on schedule. The tin ceilings were in very poor shape in the north half of the building and can't be saved. The ramp at the back of the building will need to be extended by about 6 feet with a sidewalk and curb. Lance is currently getting prices for these revisions. A credit will be issued for cutting out the fancy lighting in the north side to help offset the cost of the drop ceiling that will replace the tin ceilings. Windows are scheduled to be delivered in 7 to 10 days.
- 3. Maintenance Issues & Maintenance Report:** Lloyd Meyer reported that one boiler system was repaired. The wallpaper in the Circuit Clerk's Office is complete. Meyer will check with Judge Long on when the courtroom wallpaper can be removed. The next project is Court Room #1.
- 4. Historic Courthouse Renovations:** Lance reported that plans will be designed to renovate the 2nd floor of the courthouse in order to move the Supervisor of Assessments from the 3rd floor down to the 2nd floor of the Historic Courthouse. Phase I would be 2nd floor renovations which include the County Board Room, the Coordinating Office, SOA, elevator replacement, and exploring a means of egress for the 3rd floor. The committee gave Lance some guidelines to draw up a proposal to do the design work for the 2nd floor renovations. The committee discussed scheduling a special meeting in the next week or two to approve change orders for the Annex Building and to review the proposal for 2nd floor renovations. Hertel asked if the price for the proposal will be negotiated for the Historic Courthouse renovations like the Annex Building was. Plunkett answered affirmatively that Hurst-Rosche will give a proposal first.

EMA/AMBULANCE COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Vice Chairman Jim Moore as follows:

Ambulance Call Reports:

A summary of monthly operations for **November 2009** are as follows:

Total calls: 293 Total amount billed: \$158,529.00 Amount collected: \$123,513.29

AMBULANCE REPORT:

- 1. Collections:** Holmes reported that collections for the month of November were \$123,513.29
- 2. Ambulance Calls:** Following is a summary per district for 2008 and 2009:
 - Hillsboro Calls: 2008 1602 - 2009 1644 (+2.6%)**
 - Litchfield Calls: 2008 1438 - 2009 1663 (+15.6%)**
 - Nokomis Calls: 2008 635 - 2009 534 (-15.9%)**
 - Farmersville Calls: 2008 169 - 2009 169 (Equal)**
 - Raymond Calls: 2008 137 - 2009 144 (+5.1%)**
- 3. Small Claims Court Date:** The court date for small claims will be Feb. 3rd, 2010, with the assistance of Assistant State's Attorney Betsy Wilson.

EMA:

- 1. HazMat Spill Checks Update:** We have received full payment of \$33,509.85 for the HazMat spill last year on January 6th, 2009. We will be sending checks out on January 8th, 2010 to all agencies and HazMat members that assisted with that call.
- 1. Collection Agencies:** Attorney Wilson checked on Transworld/Green Flag Collection Bureau and does not recommend them for collections. The committee discussed finding out other agencies collect on delinquent accounts. Moore stated that we still need to decide how to get payment from people who live out of the county or state.
- 2. Ambulance Districts Reports:** Reports for the Ambulance Districts and the Litchfield area being refined. Member Blankenship told CPA Osborne to contact the Ortivus software company for the type of reconciliation reports requested by the Litchfield City Council. They also need an aging summary for the end of November. The committee discussed writing off very old accounts receivables, and also discussed aging receivables on the old card system. Chief Matt Weber will get with Director Holmes to work on the older accounts system. Moore stated that we are working with Litchfield to get them the reports they require.

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

- 1. County Comprehensive Plan Update:** The next meeting will be Thursday, January 14th, 2010 at 6pm to compile a survey to be sent out to the public for feedback. Amanda Cole reported that the Comprehensive Plan Presentations can be added to the County Web Site per Pat Curry. The committee discussed and approved posting the Planning Commission information on the County Web Site. Deabenderfer encouraged those who receive a survey to complete it, and he explained that posting information on the web site will allow people to find out more information about the Comprehensive Planning process.
- 2. NAGS Intergovernmental Agreement:** Mr. Deabenderfer will check with State's Attorney Matoush to draw up an Intergovernmental Agreement that is similar to the Blooming Grove cemetery agreement.
- 3. MCEDC:** Amanda Cole reported that the MCEDC met on Dec. 21, 2009, and the annual meeting was postponed until March 2010. Discussion took place on the Central Illinois Economic Development Authority, which was created with the help of Senator Deanna Demuzio to have the ability to issue bonds for large scale business funding, and meetings of that group will start soon.

Deabenderfer commended Heather Hampton+Knodle for working at the MCEDC at half-salary for October-December, 2009 due to budget constraints and thanked Joyce Matthews for her years of service and stated she will be greatly missed.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by acting Chairman John Downs as follows:

- 1. SOA Report:** Gene Stuard of Forrestal Group reported that he had received some questions from CAO Ray Durston regarding the Walmart assessment, an appeal from the Hillsboro Golf Course, assessments on hotels and motels, and the process to assess the new coal mine and coal rights parcels. The committee discussed and approved that Gene Stuard review and evaluate the Walmart appraisal and report on it at next month's meeting. The committee discussed having the Forrestal Group put together a proposal to appraise and evaluate the 5 hotels and motels. Gene Stuard stated that he will also work with Ray Durston to check into how the coal rights can be properly assessed along with undeveloped coal and also check on when and how the surface structures will be assessed. The committee also discussed looking into the Rock Quarry assessment.

2. **GIS Report update:** Mary Purcell reported that she is busy working on Kilton Farm Parcel divisions.

3. **IMRF Classification and Changes Approval:** Treasurer Jenkins reported that IMRF audit findings stated documentation is needed to show that County Board Members work 600 hours a year in order to qualify for IMRF benefits. IMRF informed Jenkins that the position of a County Board Member qualifies that each meeting could be attended by any board member, so the position qualifies for the 600 hour criteria, and if one Board Member qualifies, then all Board Members would qualify. However, if the County Board passed a resolution to increase the IMRF qualifying hours to 1000 hours, then future County Board Members would not qualify for IMRF, but Board Members currently participating in IMRF would still qualify. Assistant State's Attorney Wilson stated that she agrees with the information that Treasurer Ron Jenkins provided. Hitchings asked if increasing the IMRF qualifications to 1000 hours would save the county money, and Jenkins answered that the savings would be found with future County Board members only be paid out when reaching 1000 hours instead of 600, which is unlikely to occur due to County Board meeting schedules, so no future member would qualify. Member Bathurst stated that to be fair, she feels she does not qualify since she does not work 600 hours as a County Board member, and asked about removing herself from IMRF affiliation. Jenkins explained that once an employee is in IMRF they must stay in IMRF unless they quit their position, in which case, their money is refunded. IMRF Members are vested after 8 years, and currently, 16 County Board members are also members of IMRF with 8 members vested. **Motion by Downs, second by Deabenderfer to Raise the IMRF Qualifying Hours to 1000 Per Year Effective Immediately. All in favor, motion carried.**

4. **MCSO Vehicle Bid Award Approval:** Under Sheriff Rick Robbins reported he reviewed the bids that were opened at the Personnel Committee and recommends purchasing the 2010 Ford Expedition from Victory Lane Automotive in the amount of \$11,500.00 with a Trade in of the 2007 Ford F-150 pick up truck. **Motion by Downs, Second by Kuchar to Accept the Low Bid from Victory Lane Ford to Purchase the 2010 Ford Expedition in the amount of \$11,500. All in favor, motion carried.**

5. **Local 773 Employee Health Insurance Premiums Update:** The Finance Committee discussed an issue where Health Insurance Premiums were not being taken out of employee checks when the Jailers/Dispatchers union contract was settled. Treasurer Jenkins shared a report to show the amount due to the County from each employee that is affected and how the amounts can be paid back within a 3 year time frame. The committee discussed taking steps to correct this problem currently and in the future once a union contract is negotiated. Under sheriff Robbins checked with the Union's Representative to see if a meeting can take place to explain the adjusted insurance premium rates, and a meeting of all parties will take place this morning after the board meeting. Treasurer Jenkins will have payroll start deducting the correct insurance premium amount as of this Friday's payroll.

6. **911 & Sheriff Union Consolidation Update:** Rick Robbins reported that the 911 Board will meet on January 19th, 2010 at 7:00 pm to officially vote on the 911 and Sheriff Department's consolidation. Robbins reported that Greg Nimmo will be a non union employee and receive a 2% salary increase for his new position as a Captain of Communications. Downs reported that the Sheriff's Dept. has a telecommunicator who will retire at the end of February, and a new person will need to be hired to train and help alleviate overtime expenses. The committee discussed and approved filling the vacancy before the employee is off the payroll.

7. **Update ATM Machine at New Courthouse:** Downs reported that he was contacted by First Community Bank to see if the county would put an ATM Bank Machine in the lobby of the Courthouse Complex, which would require a dedicated phone line. Circuit Clerk Lemons reported

that bank fee costs would be reduced for people wanting to pay with their ATM card. The committee asked Lemons to contact all county banks to see if they have an interest in installing an ATM Machine in the Courthouse Complex lobby at no cost to the County. Lemons will send out letters and report back to Finance Committee next month.

- 8. Trustee Property Transfers Approval:** The committee discussed and reviewed a list of parcels for County Trustee Transfers. Treasurer Jenkins also reported that he has explained the transfer of all these properties to Finance Chairman Bill Sielschott, who was absent from the meeting.
Motion by Downs, Second by Beck to Transfer Parcels ID 03-21-381-03 and ID 03-21-455-04 and ID 03-21-457-002 to the Village of Waggoner. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Downs, Second by Hitchings to Transfer Parcel ID 04-33-282-004 to the Village of Harvel. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Downs, Second by Kuchar to Transfer Parcel ID 15-04-401-013 to the Litchfield Community Unit School District. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Downs, Second by Bone to Transfer Parcel ID 16-24-300-019 to Dwain Fenton of Hillsboro Township. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Downs, Second by Aumann to Transfer Parcel ID 20-22-333-015 to the Village of Panama. All in favor, motion carried.

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

- 1. Recycling Program and Events:** Recycling Coordinator Lutz reported she met with Waggoner Mayor Durston to see where the recycling trailer can be placed after moving it out of Farmersville, and it was agreed to move it onto county property south of the depot in Waggoner. Lutz is also working with Graham Correctional Center in Hillsboro to increase the number of materials being collected there, and is also working with several hotels in Litchfield to collect their recycling. Prices for recycling materials have gone up in December for the first time since 1994. The sump pump in the baler pit will need to be addressed in the spring. Durbin reported there may be another Electronics recycling drive in April, weather permitting, and stated that the last recycling drive collected about 100,000 lbs. of electronics.
- 2. EPA Report:** Gonet reported on the county open dumps for the 2nd quarter, and Durbin reported that he hasn't heard from Bond County concerning inspecting their landfill yet, and stated Bond County's funds may instead be used to start recycling in Greenville.
- 3. Elections Update:** County Clerk Leitheiser reported that the Election Judge School was held on January 6th, and she shared information regarding the Undervote issue and ballots. Voters will be given phone numbers for Senate President Cullerton and House Speaker Madigan to voice concerns regarding the new Undervote Notification Law. The Champaign County law suit was filed with no results to allow an injunction preventing this law from going into affect at the February, 2010 election. Counties with similar voting equipment are complying with the new law, as is Montgomery County.
- 4. Animal Control Facility and Program:** Animal Control Officer Nancy Richardson reported that we currently have 7 cats and 11 dogs at the facility. Out of the intake of 147 animals to the facility since its opening in August 2009, 19 animals have been adopted, 20 claimed, 102 went to a rescue, and only 3 were euthanized. Adoptions are picking up due to pictures added on Pet Finder. Richardson discussed looking at a pressure washer and a walk on scale for the correct weight of the animals.

5. **County Property/Casualty and Workers Compensation Insurance:** Member Kuchar asked Durbin about the status of requesting proposals from other companies for this insurance, and Durbin stated he will be handling this process.

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

1. **Circuit Clerk Personnel:** Kirby Joyce was hired to replace Barb Grosenheider in the Circuit Clerk's Office. A revised letter from Circuit Clerk Union Representative Dan Sweet was received also.
2. **MCSO 911 Merger:** As was reported earlier, Downs stated that the MCSO/911 merger will recommend a 2% raise for Greg Nimmo after the consolidation. The timeline for the merger will begin with the development of a contract and budget, and changes may start to occur in April, 2010. Training of all affected staff should be complete in about 1.5 years. The contract is now being viewed by all parties as well as the State's Attorney's Office.

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

1. **Fuel Letting:** The Fuel Letting will be held at the next regular Road and Bridge Meeting on February 3rd, 2010.
2. **Irving/Coffeen Road Maintenance:** Dale White of Irving was present at the Road and Bridge Committee meeting to ask if the county would maintain the Irving/Coffeen Road ½ mile out of Irving toward Rt.16 due to the increase of over 50 semi trucks per day loaded with lime going to Ameren. According to Engineer Boehler, the road will be posted with a 72,000 lb. weight limit and he stated that the county doesn't have the funds to maintain what we have now, and the county would not receive any additional funding to maintain this road. Boehler stated that the Township will get MFT funds, however they can't take jurisdiction either because the city owns the road. Engineer Boehler also stated that this is an expensive section due to culverts, sewer, and utility lines in this area. After consideration, the committee denied White's proposal.
3. **Red Ball Trail Project:** Engineer Boehler sent his comments regarding the Ameren Agreement and submitted them back to Ameren. The Red Ball Trail Project should begin sometime this summer.
4. **Walton Park Bridge Project:** The Progress schedule from Ted LaBelle, CMT shows the consultant is back on schedule and plans to submit Pre-Final Plans, Specifications and Estimates to IDOT and IDNR on January 15, 2010. Boehler stated another meeting is scheduled for next week to review everything before paperwork is submitted. The Walton Park Bridge Project is planned to be completed by next fall.
5. **Page Subdivision Plat Approval:** Engineer Boehler stated that Timothy Alverson of Alverson Surveying submitted a Plat for the Page Subdivision for review and approval to break out two 2 acre sections from a 9.65 acre parcel. Developer Charles Page has requested a variance as the subdivision does not satisfy all the requirements of the county's ordinance. There are neither utilities planned nor easements shown. The proposed roadway "Page Lane" does not meet the minimum criteria for a public road as defined by the county's subdivision ordinance. As shown on the plat, Page Lane is labeled as private and all maintenance would be the responsibility of the lot owners. The county's Health Department and 911 Coordinator's Office have reviewed and approved the preliminary plat, and Boehler's comments are minor: 1) to revise Funk Road to Funk Lane and 2) to reimburse the county for 911 and "Private Lane" signs and posts at the north end of Page Lane. **Motion by Branum, Second by Komar to Approve the Preliminary Plat for the Page Subdivision with the Above Variances from Engineer Boehler. All in favor, motion carried.** Deabenderfer asked if this would set precedence. Engineer Boehler stated it

would, and the process of review and approval has worked well. Parcels seeking division like this should attain committee approval. Hertel asked if a landowner could have divided land without notice to Boehler and being subject to the subdivision requirements. Boehler stated that due to the procedure now in place with GIS mapping prior to recordation, it is unlikely that this would occur, and County Clerk/Recorder Leitheiser commended Boehler, GIS Coordinator Purcell and Chief Assessing Officer Durston in their agreement to implement this new procedure for Plat approval which helps the county enforce our subdivision ordinance as well as the Illinois Plat Act Law.

- 6. Walshville Township Rock Letting:** Dean DeVries from Walshville Township came to the Committee Meeting to address concerns regarding a Rock Letting and Oil Letting at Walshville Township held January 3rd, 2010. Dresslers got the bid for the Township Rock Letting, and now he doesn't have the equipment to spread the rock. DeVries stated that he made several attempts with no success to contact Dresslers to resolve this issue, and if Dresslers is unsuccessful in getting the proper equipment to spread the rock then their bid could be disqualified. Walshville and Grisham Townships need rock hauled and spread on the roads. Engineer Boehler checked with IDOT, and two items from the letting were rejected and will have to be put up for bid again at the February, 2010 Road and Bridge meeting.

APPROVAL OF 8 COMMITTEE REPORTS & MINUTES: Motion by Miles, second by Durbin to approve the 8 committee reports. All in favor, motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Brian Niemann from Farm Bureau announced that they were hosting a Meet the Candidates Night for State Candidates for the 98th and 49th Districts at the KC Hall on January 27th, 2010 at 7:00pm.

Terry Bone informed members to check out the newly installed Handicapped Entrance Door on the west side of the Historic Courthouse, and thanked County Clerk Leitheiser for making the Help America Vote Act Grant available for this use. Bone also announced that County Board members could look at the progress of the Annex Building after this morning's meeting.

PAY BILLS:

- 1. Approval to Pay Any Invoices from Adams & Wilson, PCC and Books and Moore: Motion by Hertel second by Aumann to pay any invoices for Adams & Wilson, PCC and Books and Moore. Voice Vote: In favor – 16, Against – 0, Present -1 (Jim Moore), Absent – 3 (Blankenship, Ogden, Sielschott) Vacancy - 1. Motion carried.**
- 2. Motion by Downs, second by Hitchings to pay all other approved bills. All in favor, motion carried.** For itemized listing of bills paid, refer to Accounts Payable Book for FY 2010.

ADJOURN: Until the Full Board Meeting on Tuesday, February 9th, 2010 at 8:30 AM in the County Board Room, Historic Courthouse, Hillsboro, Illinois.

Motion by Hitchings, second by Branum to adjourn the Full Board Meeting. All in favor, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:35AM.

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