

**Montgomery County Board
Minutes**

For Tuesday, August 10th, 2010 – 8:30 AM

The following are minutes of a regular meeting of the Montgomery County Board held at 8:30 AM on Tuesday, August 10th, 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. 21 members present, 0 members absent.

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

Members Absent: None

Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was given.

Mileage and Per Diem Approval:

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

Approval of Minutes of Previous County Board Meeting:

Motion by Downs, second by Hertel to approve the Minutes of the Previously Adjourned County Board Meeting held on Tuesday, July 13th, 2010. 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 Reports** – Ron Jenkins was present for questions and reminded everyone that real estate taxes are due September 1st, 2010.
6. **G.I.S. Coordinator's Report** – submitted
7. **Health Department Report** – Hugh Satterlee was present for questions.
8. **Probation Office Report** – 3 reports were submitted for the past and present months.
9. **Public Defender's Report** – submitted
10. **Sheriff's Report** – Sheriff Vazzi was present for questions.
11. **T.B. Department's Report** – Sally Adams was present for questions.
12. **V.A.C. Report** – Dave Strowmatt was present for questions and stated that an error was made in his report – it should read were 24 new clients instead of 1 new client. He also reported that donations of 26 cell phones were sent to soldiers through their donation program. Chairman Plunkett stated that the correction would be made to his report.

APPROVAL OF 11 ITEMS ON THE CONSENT AGENDA:

Motion by Hitchings, second by Bathurst to approve the 12 office reports on the Consent Agenda. All in favor, motion carried. (Probation handed in 3 reports this month.)

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

COORDINATING COMMITTEE REPORT: Chairman Mike Plunkett stated all action from the Coordinating Committee will be made within the other committee reports.

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

- 1. Property at 141 N. Main, Hillsboro -Update:** Dr. John Mekala addressed the committee regarding the property he is purchasing at 141 N. Main St. adjacent to his building in Hillsboro. Dr. Mekala would like to expand his current business by building an indoor therapy pool on this property. Dr. Mekala will check for costs to demolish the building at 141 N. Main and draw a diagram of how his current building would be expanded and advise the committee next month.

Maintenance Issues & Maintenance Report -Update: Lloyd Meyer reported that everything is running OK with the air conditioning in the Courthouse Complex. The committee discussed the air conditioning concerns there and Meyer reported that Judge Long's office was very cold. Meyer has been turning the boiler off when the outside temperature gets in the 100 degree heat index. The committee reminded Meyer that at last month's meeting Johnson Controls said that the boiler needs to be on at all times when the air conditioning is on. Meyer will have Luther with Johnson Controls check the set point of the air conditioning system and check the thermostats. Meyer reported that has had the trim for the basement handicap door and needs to install it.
- 2. Historic Courthouse Renovations -Approval:** Brent Lance from Hurst-Rosche presented some options for the ceiling in the board room. Lance showed pictures of different types of suspended ceilings that range from \$10,000 to \$50,000. There is about \$200,000 in the budget to renovate the County Board Room, and Lance reported that he met with Otis Elevator last Tuesday and stated that the current traction elevator with weights and cables would be replaced with a hydraulic elevator. The entire elevator cab would be replaced and can be made larger because the weights and cables would be gone. The floors in north part of the second floor would be raised to the level of the board room. Lance stated that the mezzanine level above would need to be closed off for fire code. Lance was asked to check the codes again to see if the mezzanine could be opened up so we would see the top of the windows on the west wall. Lance was also asked to check into trying to take some paint off of a section of the wood molding to see the condition of the wood underneath the paint. The committee also learned that the project won't be ready to bid out until the October Board meeting. The committee discussed removing the original medallions on the original Board room ceiling so that the plaster didn't start deteriorating in the coming years and fall on the new drop ceiling. Lance talked about doing some asbestos testing in the next 30 days with Hurst-Rosche staff for about \$3,000. **Motion by Bone, second by Moore to have Hurst-Rosche Engineers do the Engineering Work to Test Asbestos in the Historic Courthouse at a cost not to exceed \$3,000. All in favor, motion carried.**
- 3. Energy Grant -Update:** The Committee had a Special Building & Grounds Committee meeting on July 26th, 2010 to discuss the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant offer of \$143,483.00. The original request was \$441,375.00 and the county portion would have been 147,125.00 for the 75%-25% Energy Grant. Eight applications were submitted. Two counties with larger requests are offered \$143,483.00. Small requests will be offered 50% funding of the project. If some other counties cannot participate, then the offer could increase, and money should be available in two months. The committee discussed and approved that the mechanical system (heating and air conditioning) would be replaced as the project is submitted for the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant funding for the Historic Courthouse. Member Hertel asked Bone if funds are included in the plans to replace the boiler in the Historic Courthouse, and Bone responded affirmatively.
- 4. Proposal by Hurst-Rosche for Energy Grant Work -Update:** The committee discussed the proposal for the energy grant from Hurst-Rosche Engineers for \$21,000 and questioned Lance about it. The committee discussed getting an itemized explanation for the \$21,000 engineering fees. The committee approved to table Hurst-Rosche Engineer's proposal until we get further explanation.

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

Ambulance Call Reports:

A summary of monthly operations for **June 2010** are as follows (these were unavailable at the July meeting):

Total calls: 330 Total amount billed: \$197,750.00 Amount collected: \$116,109.78

A summary of monthly operations for **July 2010** are as follows:

Total calls: 365 Total amount billed: \$201,537.00 Amount collected: \$114,262.38

AMBULANCE REPORT:

- 1. Sheriff Summons' Service -Update:** Blankenship reported that Sheriff Vazzi came to the last committee meeting with concerns that the deputies are having a hard time finding the individuals who owe money on 2-4 year old ambulance claims. Sheriff Vazzi also shared the concern that his Department is wasting time and gas trying to find those who still owe on the old claims. Committee discussed having the Sheriff's department work on newer claims only, and the older ones would be given to the collection agency.
- 2. Transport Audit-ProMed -Update:** Jack Pitcock with ProMed Consultants will be here August 12th and 13th to review the software program and make sure we are taking advantage of all the features offered with the Ortivus Program. The funds for these services are in the budget.
- 3. Small Claims-Update:** Small Claims Court was held on July 30th, 2010 and the results were: one paid in full, three had default judgments, four agreed on payments of \$25 per month, nine were dismissed and will go to collections, one had a medical card but can not be resubmitted, two who couldn't be located will be sent to the Credit Bureau, and one is now deceased. Holmes reported that the Sheriff's Office is having problems finding some of the individuals we have filed against.

EMA:

- 1. September EMA Time Change -Update:** The committee approved changing the September EMA Committee meeting time from 3:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.
- 2. IEMA Conference -Update:** The IEMA Conference will be September 7th – 9th in Springfield, and this year there will not be a charge for the conference, but everyone must pay their own hotel bill. Holmes is on the list for Montgomery County LEPC and IEMA will pay.
- 3. Hazmat Team -Update:** The Hazmat Team will go for validation on October 4th, 5th, and 6th at IL Fire & Safety Institute (IFSI).
- 4. Vacation -Update:** Holmes will be on vacation from August 4th to August 11th and will be back in the office on the 12th. She will still be available for calls.
- 5. Regional Meeting -Update:** The Regional Meeting will be August 17th in Fairview Heights.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1. Narrow Banding of Radios -Update:** By 2012, all emergency radios (police, fire, weather) will change over from broadband to narrowband. The Federal government is mandating the change of radios and sirens going to the narrowband. Holmes will be checking to see what we will need to do to update. Director Holmes asked Matt Weber if he would coordinate the effort on the county's behalf to put the team together regarding the narrow band width change for communications.
- 2. Weather Radios -Update:** All weather radios that we received from IESMA (Illinois Emergency Services Management Association) will need to be returned. Several communities

had radios that did not work, and they will let Holmes know how to ship the non-working radios back to the company at no cost to the County.

Bone asked Blankenship if 911 radios are already updated for narrowband. Blankenship replied that some newer radios can be changed while the older ones will have to be replaced when the mandate requires it.

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

- 1. County Comprehensive Plan -Update:** The next Comprehensive Planning meeting will be Thursday, August 12th, 2010 at the U of I Extension office in Hillsboro. The final two public hearings were held in Nokomis and Raymond. Deabenderfer discussed the editorial from C.F. Marley where Marley stated he was not given a fair hearing at the Nokomis public hearing, and explained that Marley was told at the hearing that his position paper he asked to read could be presented at the end of the meeting. At that time, Marley was given a chance to speak and read his position paper, but he declined. Marley announced a meeting to be held on August 20th in Ohlman to present his position.
- 2. NAGS -Update:** Deabenderfer attended a meeting with NAGS regarding the trail maintenance and found out there was still some ground work for the contractor to do before NAGS could start mowing. A couple of large rains made problems for the ground work to get done with bulldozers. The sewer project contractor was to come back to smooth out the area. The sewer line from Butler to Hillsboro is complete and did not need a lift station and a push station was installed near the Butler fairgrounds.
- 3. Businesses using Revolving County Revolving Loan -Update:** Two businesses using Revolving Loan funding recently opened: Sorellas' Restaurant opened Monday, August 2nd and KK Gifts opened on Monday, August 9th. Open houses will be planned and board members will be invited.
- 4. Broadband Initiative -Update:** Equipment has been purchased and towers for Broadband are being put up at sites around the County. Heather Hampton+Knodle attended a meeting in Farmersville and received good cooperation to put broadband equipment on their water tower.

Deabenderfer stated that on Tuesday, August 3rd he attended a seminar in Springfield entitled "A Forum For Fiscal Integrity" and shared his review with members.

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

- 1. GIS Report -Update:** Chairman Sielschott reported that GIS Coordinator Purcell is currently working with County Clerk/Recorder Leitheiser and Assistant State's Attorney Wilson to research requiring the recordation of Plat Surveys.
- 2. Real Estate Taxes -Update:** Sielschott reported that all assessor books are back in to the Supervisor of Assessment's office and they are getting ready to publish in the newspapers.
- 3. Revolving Loan -Update:** Sielschott reported that Amanda Cole presented the Revolving Loan status reports and stated that Sorellas' Restaurant is officially open and a grand opening will be planned. The third loan has not received the County funding yet but KK Gifts opened August 9th, 2010. There is about \$150,000 remaining in the Revolving Loan Fund.
- 4. FY 2011 Budget and Levy Discussion –Salary Approval:** Sielschott reported that an estimate levy needs to go to the Full Board in September. The committee reviewed and discussed the FY 2011 Real Estate Tax Levy/Extension Summary and the tentative FY 2011 estimate is 4.9778 %. Sielschott shared a revised FY 2011 Revenue and Expenses report for the Recycling program. The committee also discussed raising the full time county non-union starting salary. The current entry level salary is \$18,250. **Motion by Sielschott, second by Beck to make the Starting Full Time Salary at \$18,500 Effective December 1st, 2010 and Part Time Starting Salary will Remain at \$10 per hour unless previously employed in the same position within the last year. These seasonal part time employees will get the same approved annual increase that other**

non-union employees receive. Voice Vote: In favor – 20, Against – 1 (Roy Hertel). Motion carried.

Sielschott thanked the Department Heads for being prepared at the budget hearings. A copy of the budget will be presented next month with a copy of the estimated levy.

- 5. Retirees Health Insurance Cash Buy Out -Approval:** Chairman Sielschott reported that his committee discussed and reviewed the Retirees Health Insurance Cash Buy Out Program and that they feel this program has accomplished what it set out to do. There are currently three employees left on the program, one will get out of the program this September and the other two will get out of the program in May and November of 2011. The committee discussed ending the Retiree Health Insurance Cash Buy Out Program as of November 30th, 2010. **Motion by Sielschott, second by Wendel to End the Retiree Health Insurance Cash Buy Out Program as of November 30th, 2010. All in favor, motion carried.**
- 6. Veribanc -Update:** Committee approved that Treasurer Jenkins purchase Veribanc, a National database for financial information on CD and Money Market Rates in the amount of \$400.00.

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

- 1. Elections -Update:** Chairman Durbin reported that County Clerk Leitheiser gave the committee an update on the important dates for the November 2nd, 2010 General Election. The committee discussed concern with the Absentee Application law changes and the Special Election to be held for U.S. Senate as a result of a court order and the Governor's declaration.
- 2. Recycling Program and Events:**
 - **Small Box Truck -Update:** The air compressor went out and had to be replaced.
 - **Lightning Strikes and Storms -Update:** On Saturday, July 24th, there were some major storms in the area that caused some problems with rain water flooding areas by the scales and problems with the phone and fax machine at the Recycling center.
 - **Glass Recycling -Update:** Lutz is getting information for a glass recycling drive in Montgomery County to be held possibly near the end of September.
 - **Budget -Update:** Committee discussed building an office at the Recycling center for about \$25,000. Lutz contacted Surplus and they assured her that we can do whatever we want with the trailer. Stipulations on how long purchases from Surplus must be kept are only on purchases over \$5,000 and vehicles. They have to be put into use within 12 months of purchase and can not be sold, traded, etc... for another 12 to 18 months. The recycling trailer was purchased in January 2008 and set in December 2008 for an amount of \$3,020.00.
 - **County Cell Phone Issue -Update:** The Recycling county cell phone was stolen at the Recycling center by a probation community service worker and has been missing since April 9th, 2010. The cell phone cost is now removed from the FY 2011 budget and information regarding the theft was turned over to the Sheriff's Department.
- 3. EPA Report -Update:** Durbin reported that EPA Inspector Gonet received a call from U.S. EPA regarding a community outreach meeting regarding Eagle Zinc to be held the week of August 23rd, 2010. Gonet also reported that he checked out to see if municipalities were paying host fees on city wide cleanups. The committee approved sending a letter to the Landfill stating that the Landfill will pay Host Fees to the County on all Municipal Waste starting October 1st, 2010.
- 4. Animal Control Facility and Program:** Durbin reported that there were 66 animals taken to the Animal Control Facility in July. There were a total of 76 animals that left the facility, with 8 animals claimed, 13 animals adopted, 49 animals sent to rescue, 5 animals euthanized and 1 died. On a daily average, there were 23 dogs and 8 cats at the facility for a total daily average of 31 animals. There were over 140 volunteer hours logged in for the month of July. Animal control staff responded to 33 calls and quarterly invoicing was mailed out to the municipalities.

- **Seeding/Roundup -Update:** Member Wendel will check to see if roundup needs sprayed at the facility before the area around it is tilled and seeded.
 - **Citations -Update:** Richardson and Daniels met with Circuit Clerk Lemons and Assistant State's Attorney Wilson in regards to a procedure for getting animal control citations through the court system. The citations will be revised and sent to Wilson and Lemons for final review before they are printed.
 - **City of Hillsboro -Update:** The Committee discussed a request from the City of Hillsboro to get them a price to take care of their animal control services once their animal control person retires later this month. Coordinator Daniels will provide prices to Hillsboro for them to present to their council next Tuesday.
 - **Offsite Adoption -Update:** The first county offsite adoption was held at Rural King in Litchfield on Saturday from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm and was very successful.
- 5. Property & Casualty Liability Insurance -Update:** Durbin reported that Tom Couch of Gentry Couch Incorporated gave a presentation regarding the insurance and risk services that his business can provide to the County for consulting services. The committee discussed hiring a professional insurance consultant to assess the current County insurance coverage for property casualty and risk management. Mr. Couch would check out liability issues with pollution control problems like underground gas tanks. Mr. Couch stated that he would need to collect information from the County and bid specs could be presented for approval in about two weeks. The insurance companies should be given a six week time period to bid on the insurance bid specs. Mr. Couch will send a proposal on Monday for his fee to do the bid specs, and he feels that entities should put their insurance out for bid every five years, which lets taxpayers see that board members are making good decisions with public funds. Sam Valeo & Mr. Ghents will be here next month to give a presentation on what their services would entail to make up bid specs for the county property and casualty insurance.

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

- 1. Review Plan Document & Summary Plan Description for Group Health Insurance -Update:** Downs stated that the four amendments/changes made to the plan since 2006 are now incorporated into the Plan Document & Summary Plan Description for Group Health Insurance. The committee approved the Plan Document & Summary Plan Description for Group Health Insurance and the Treasurer's office gave employees copies with their paycheck two weeks ago. Employees were required to sign that they received the new documents.
- 2. Grievance in Circuit Clerk's Office and Drug Testing Policy -Update:** Union Representative Dan Sweet had a prior commitment and could not the last meeting, and the committee feels we should not wait another month so a special meeting will be scheduled in the next week or two to discuss the Employee Union Grievance and the Drug Testing Policy. Downs stated that he has not received the special meeting date yet.

ROAD AND BRIDGE COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Vice Chairman George Blankenship as follows:

- 1. CDBG Ike Program -Update:** Engineer Smith invited Deputy Director of the West Central Development Council Mike Cavanaugh to speak before the committee and explain the Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery 'Ike' Program. Cavanaugh explained that there are only 41 counties that are eligible for this grant money and there is about \$48,000,000 that is available, and encouraged Montgomery County to participate.
- 2. Walton Park Bridge Project -Update:** Engineer Smith informed the committee that IDOT District-6 originally stated that the County could use its STR Funds to help fund this project, but he was informed by IDOT District 6 last week that IDOT's Central Office does not feel that the Federal Government would allow these "additional" funds to be added to a new Agreement. Engineer Smith informed IDOT District 6 that unless the county was allowed to use these funds,

the county wouldn't be able to afford its portion of the project. IDOT D-6 has not received final word whether or not we can use our STR funds. Helgen asked Engineer Smith how long we have to award the bid, and Smith replied the contractor has options after 45 days. Helgen stated we are into the third harvest season since the bridge has been closed and the Walton Park Bridge closure has been very difficult on the area farmers and residents, and he stated that the county should look for funds elsewhere if the IDOT funds are not available. Kuchar, who is also South Litchfield Township Supervisor, stated her concerns about South Litchfield Township roads not being able to handle the extra traffic for a third harvest season. Chairman Plunkett spoke of two possible alternatives for money – the Special Aid to Bridge Fund or the IKE grant funding. Bone stated that the IKE grant could reimburse a project, but it could be a long process at twelve months or more. Bathurst expressed her concerns as she has already told citizens of Litchfield that the project was proceeding, and encouraged contact be made with IDOT Director Hannig, who is also a Litchfield resident. Engineer Smith stated that the County and the City of Litchfield would each need \$170,000 additional dollars if we can't use STR and STU funds, and he has not received a response from IDOT about using STR and STU funds. Bathurst suggested the County Board send a letter to IDOT Director Hannig or have a face to face meeting to find resolution to using STR funds. Hertel suggested a meeting with the IDOT Director, Chairman Plunkett, Road and Bridge Chairman Branum and Engineer Smith be held to find out if we can use STR funds. Plunkett directed Engineer Smith to set up a meeting with IDOT.

3. **Red Ball Trail -Update:** Allen Henderson & Associates and Alverson Surveying are currently updating the plans to incorporate the R.O.W. issues that have been corrected concerning the Red Ball Trail. At its last month's council meeting, the City of Coffeen approved the corrected R.O.W. documents for its portion of the road within the City limits, and this project should start next year. No funds from Ameren have been received to date.
4. **Nokomis Golf Cart Ordinance -Update:** Committee discussed the Nokomis Golf Cart Ordinance, which is on hold until we see if the State of Illinois will allow their use on Route 16, which runs through Nokomis.
5. **Walshville Trail Speed Study-Update:** Engineer Smith stated that the State's Attorney's office informed him that statute allows 30 mph speed limit signs to be erected without performing a speed study, so "slow down" warning signs and the 30 mph speed limit signs will be posted by the county highway department soon.
6. **Down's Bridge -Update:** Construction began on Monday, August 8th, 2010, and the bridge is now closed until it is complete.
7. **Rossi Railroad Project -Approval:** Smith informed the committee that the Rossi Railroad project was approved by the committee last month at a special meeting, however it was not on last month's County Board agenda for approval. Therefore, it is now before the full board for approval. The committee recommends to the County Board to award the contract to Yamnitz and Associates for the Rossi Avenue Railroad Project Section 08-19119-00-BR in the amount of \$109,665.00. **Motion by Branum, second by Miles to Award the Contract to Yamnitz and Associates for the Rossi Avenue Railroad Project Section 08-19119-00-BR in the amount of \$109,665.00. All in favor, motion carried.**
8. **2011 Road & Bridge Committee Meeting Dates -Update:** The committee approved the 2011 Road & Bridge Committee Meeting Dates.
9. **Purchase New Tandem Truck -Update:** Smith informed the committee that their department's 1996 Ford tandem truck has 195,000 miles and has some major mechanical issues. He will be looking at new tandem prices on the State Bid when they become available to replace one tandem truck. Smith will also check with Amanda Cole for grant assistance from Rural Development.
10. **Road Damage South of Kink's Korner -Update:** Engineer Smith reported that there was no road agreement with the Coal company prior to the mine's construction, and he informed the committee that he and Assistant Engineer Sefton recently met with mine president Dwayne Francisco about the damage on the county road just south of Kink's Korner. Francisco told Smith

that the coal mine will help the county to repair the damages caused to the road by his company. Smith stated there will be about 2-3 more months of heavy traffic and once traffic stops, the Highway Department will get the road built back up to an 80,000 lb. road. The mine should open their south entrance once the City of Hillsboro gets utilities installed.

APPROVAL OF 8 COMMITTEE REPORTS & MINUTES: Motion by Kuchar, second by Downs to approve the 8 committee reports and minutes. All in favor, motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: NONE

SCHEDULE CHANGES: The EMA committee meeting time will be changed in September, 2010 to 2:00 p.m. instead of 3:00 p.m.

APPOINTMENTS: Chairman Plunkett reported that Member Aumann has resigned from the C.E.F.S. Board of Directors after 17 years, and he read a letter from C.E.F.S. thanking Aumann for his service. Plunkett then announced the appointment of Mary Bathurst to that position. **Motion by Aumann, second by Kuchar to approve the appointment of Mary Bathurst to the C.E.F.S. Board of Directors as public sector representative from Montgomery County. All in favor, motion carried.**

PAY BILLS:

- 1. Approval to Pay Any Invoices from Adams & Wilson, PCC and Books and Moore: Motion by Bone, Second by Voils to pay any invoices for Adams & Wilson, PCC and Books and Moore. Voice Vote: In favor – 20, Against – 0, Present -1 (Jim Moore). Motion carried.**
- 2. Motion by Sielschott, second by Wendel 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, September 14th, 2010 at 8:30 a.m. in the County Board Room, Historic Courthouse, Hillsboro, Illinois.

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

Meeting adjourned at 9:35 a.m.

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