

COUNTY BOARD MINUTES FEBRUARY 8TH, 2000

The following are minutes of an adjourned meeting of the Montgomery County Board held at 9:00 AM on Tuesday, February 8th, 2000 in the County Board Chambers in the Historic Courthouse, Hillsboro, Illinois.

The meeting was called to order by County Board Chairman Joe Cordani.

Roll call was taken.

Present were Nelson Aumann, Sid Blankenship, Bonnie Branum, Joe Cordani, Bob Durbin, Steve Gartner, Charles Hampton, Mike Havera, Ed Helgen, Steve Heyen, David Jackson, Dennis Jagodzinski, Eugene Johnson, Pat Marley, Roger Myers, Dale Ogden, Glen Painter, Ed Roach and Dale White.

Absent were Loren Niemeyer and David Webb.

Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was given.

Mileage and per diem were read.

Motion by Aumann, seconded by Ogden to approve the mileage and per diem.

Motion carried.

Motion by Painter, seconded by Branum to approve the County Board Minutes of the January 11th, 2000 meeting.

Motion carried.

Chairman Cordani made a recommendation to approve the settlement agreement which was approved at the special meeting on January 26th, 2000, and which is set out in Paragraphs one through nine in the minutes of the January 26th, 2000 meeting. Based on the legal opinion of Appellate Prosecutor Chuck Zalar, who represented the County in the Petition for Removal Hearing, in a statement issued February 3rd, 2000, it can be publicly stated that the amount paid to Mr. Fehrenbacher pursuant to this agreement is \$26,000.00.

Motion by Myers, seconded by Painter to approve the settlement agreement of January 26th, 2000. A roll call vote was taken.

Voting yes 17.

Voting no 1.

Voting present 1.

Voting yes were Aumann, Blankenship, Branum, Cordani, Durbin, Gartner, Hampton, Havera, Helgen, Heyen, Jagodzinski, Johnson, Marley, Myers, Ogden, Painter and White.

Voting no was Roach.

Voting present was Jackson.

Absent were Niemeyer and Webb.

Motion carried.

Chairman Cordani asked that the minutes of the January 26, 1999 special meeting be corrected to add the settlement amount of \$26,000.00.

Motion by Hampton, seconded by Helgen to approve the minutes as corrected.

Motion carried.

Circuit Clerk Dan Billington resigned as of January 31st, 2000. His letter of resignation was read by County Board Chairman Cordani. (See Resolution Book 1, page 176).

Cordani explained that in accordance with law, both political parties were notified about the Circuit Clerk's resignation. The replacement Circuit Clerk must represent the same political party as the Circuit Clerk who is resigning.

Mr. Cordani then read a letter from Republican Central Committee Chairman Paul Tomazzoli recommending Mary Webb of Donnellson to replace resigning Circuit Clerk Billington. (See Resolution Book 1, page 177).

Chairman Cordani then appointed Mary Webb as Circuit Clerk.

Motion by Myers, seconded by Blankenship to accept the appointment of Mary Webb as Circuit Clerk.

Motion carried.

Copies of the reports on the Consent Agenda were received for the following County Offices:

Circuit Clerk

County Treasurer

County Clerk and Recorder

Sheriff

Health Department

TB Department

Public Defender

Probation

911 Report

Motion by Havera, seconded by Jackson to approve the Consent Agenda.

Motion carried.

Road and Bridge Committee Chairman Roger Myers read a Resolution requesting consent of the Illinois Department of Transportation to the Appointment of Don Hamby as Acting County Engineer.

Motion by Painter, seconded by White to approve the above named Resolution . (See Resolution Book 1, page 179).

Motion carried.

Acting County Engineer Don Hamby then presented the following :

Resolution #01-00, A Resolution to appropriate a total of \$5,200.00 for a 50%-50% Project in Harvel Township, with Montgomery County's Share = .5 (\$2,600.00).

Motion by White, seconded by Myers to approve Resolution #01-00.

Motion carried. (See Resolution Book 1, page 180).

Resolution #02-00, A Resolution to appropriate a total of \$22,400.00 for a Federal-Aid Matching Project for Black Diamond Bridge. Preliminary Engineering (\$14,000) and Construction (\$8,400.00).

Motion by Marley, seconded by Ogden to approve Resolution #02-00. (See Resolution Book 1, page 181).

Motion carried.

Resolution # 03-00, A Resolution to authorize purchase of a 90 P.T.O. Horsepower Tractor through the Illinois State bidding process, said purchase to take place prior to June 1st, 2000.

Motion by Johnson, seconded by White to approve Resolution #03-00. (See Resolution Book 1, page 182).

Motion carried.

The Road and Bridge Report was given by Don Hamby as follows:

Montgomery County Forces have been replacing, repairing and checking signs, premix patching, replacing pipes, hauling CA-6, salting ice, mixing salt, plowing snow, cutting brush and picking up trash.

Finance Committee Chairman Gartner gave the report of the Finance Committee. Committee discussed upcoming projects and approved all bills to be paid.

HWE Committee Chairman Helgen gave the report of the HWE Committee. Mr. Helgen reported that Health Department Director Mark Dugger was meeting with State Representative Gary Hannig this morning about legislation which could impact Food Sanitation Licensing procedures in Montgomery County. He also reported that the HWE Committee and Mr. Dugger are looking into programs to alleviate the high teen pregnancy rate in Montgomery County.

Helgen asked Don Gregg to report on the survey from UCCI for the deregulation of electric utility bills. Mr. Gregg told members that the County Clerk's office Accounts Payable staff is gathering all 1999 Illinois Power utility bills for county buildings and he will report the collected data to UCCI.

Helgen reported that the letter of registration to attend the UCCI meeting on February 28th and 29th, 2000 should be turned in to County Clerk Sandy Leitheiser as soon as possible and he encouraged all County Board members to attend.

Helgen gave an update on the McCord Cemetery and referred members to a picture display in the corner of the room showing the cemetery before and after the project was completed.

Helgen informed members that the HWE Committee would like for the County Board to send a letter to the Commerce Commission asking them to enforce the repair of rough and dangerous conditions at Montgomery County Railroad crossings.

A motion was made by Helgen, seconded by Durbin to send a letter to the Commerce Commission regarding this issue.

Motion carried.

Economic Development Committee Chairman Havera gave the report of the Economic Development Committee.

Havera discussed the upcoming meeting on February 21, 2000 with local officials to be held at Diana's Restaurant in Nokomis. Invited are officials from Nokomis, Coalton, Wenonah, Ohlman, Fillmore and Witt. The meeting will start at 5:30 PM. and conclude by 8:00 P.M. The committee's goal is to eventually meet with officials from every city in the county to discuss economic development for their areas. The other communities were divided into regions for the purpose of conducting additional meetings.

Building and Grounds Committee Chairman Blankenship gave the report of the Building and Grounds Committee.

Blankenship reported that the Building and Grounds Committee has chosen the bid from Ushman Communications for the amount of \$59,507.00. After discussion about details of the bid and the reasons the committee selected the bid, a motion was made by Blankenship and seconded by Painter to accept the bid, awarding the contract to Ushman Communications. Motion carried.

Blankenship also discussed the heating situation in the Historic Courthouse and told of a committee decision to install separate thermostats for individual radiators in key locations at a cost not to exceed \$1500.00.

ESDA/Ambulance Committee Chairman Jackson gave the report of the ESDA/Ambulance Committee. Mr. Jackson reported to the committee that the Nokomis/Witt Ambulance Service would like a motion approved to give them permission to pursue the necessary steps to raise the Nokomis/Witt tax levy from \$.15 to up to \$.30 per \$100 assessed valuation. This increase will be in gradual increments. The first step is for the full board to approve of the process that will be used to increase the tax levy, and allow the Nokomis/Witt Ambulance Service District to proceed and set a date and site for a public hearing that will be held. Residents within the Nokomis/Witt Ambulance Service District will be informed throughout this process and have the opportunity to petition against the tax rate increase.

Motion by Jackson, seconded by Jagodzinski to give the Nokomis/Witt Ambulance Service District permission to proceed with the steps necessary to raise the Nokomis/Witt tax levy.

Motion carried.

Motion by Jagodzinski, seconded by Myers to approve the six committee reports.
Motion carried.

Chairman Cordani reported about his work with the Workforce Investment Board. With transition changes underway to implement the new job training program, the Summer Youth Employment and Training Program that has traditionally employed over 100 Montgomery County low-income and handicapped youth may be eliminated this summer. Cordani will be contacting Senators Durbin and Fitzgerald and Congressman Shimkus to request their assistance in contacting the Department of Labor for a waiver which will allow the Summer Youth Employment and Training Program to be implemented this summer.

Chairman Cordani announced the following meeting changes:

The regular meeting of the Economic Development Committee has been changed to March 1st, 2000 from March 8th, 2000.

The Road and Bridge Committee will hold a special meeting on February 23rd, 2000 at the Montgomery County Highway Department for the purpose of bidletting for pipe culvert materials.

Motion by Myers, seconded by Havera to pay all bills. (For itemized listing of bills paid, refer to Accts. Payable Reports Book for FY 2000.)

Motion carried.

Motion by Branum, seconded by Aumann to go into Executive Session at 9:56 AM.

Motion carried.

Motion by Johnson, seconded by Branum to resume the regular County Board Meeting at 10:10 AM.

Motion carried.

Personnel Committee Chairman Aumann gave the report of the Personnel Committee. He presented the Union Contract from the Circuit Clerk's Union.

Motion by Aumann, seconded by Painter to approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement between Co-employers Montgomery County and the Circuit Clerk and the International Union of Operating Engineers, AFL-CIO, Local 148 on behalf of the employees in the Circuit Clerk's office. (See Resolution Book 1, pages 183-200).

Motion carried.

Aumann reported that the Insurance Advisory Committee has formed and will be holding an organizational meeting soon.

Motion by Painter, seconded by Havera at 10:14 am to adjourn until March 14th, 2000.

Motion carried.