

**Montgomery County Board
Minutes**

For Tuesday, April 8th, 2008 – 8:30 AM

The following are minutes of a regular meeting of the Montgomery County Board held at 8:30 AM on Tuesday, April 8th, 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 Helgen, second by Kuchar 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, March 11th, 2008. All in favor, motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. **Circuit Clerk's Report** – submitted.
2. **County Treasurer's Report** – Treasurer Ron Jenkins was present for questions and called the members' attention to the picture of the Historic Courthouse's cannon on the front of the budget books, which were provided by Health Department.
3. **County Clerk and Recorder's Report** – County Clerk/Recorder Leitheiser was present for questions and stated that Monday, April 7th, 2008 was the last day for county candidates to file for the November 4th, 2008 General Election when no established party candidate was nominated at the February 5th, 2008 General Primary Election, and no additional candidates filed. Leitheiser also informed members that the State's Attorney's office has authorized her to mail Grantors and Grantees who record Quit Claim Deeds with her office a "Mortgage Fraud Alert Notice" postcard in an effort to prevent mortgage fraud.
4. **Sheriff's Report** – submitted.
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. Report** – submitted.
11. **G.I.S. Report** - submitted

APPROVAL OF 11 ITEMS ON THE CONSENT AGENDA:

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

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

1. **Regional Office of Education Quarterly Report:** Plunkett stated that a copy of the quarterly report of the Regional Office of Education that was submitted by Greg Springer will be put on file in the County Clerk's Office.

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

1. **Approval of Used Equipment Ordinance #08-06:** Branum stated that a Used Equipment Ordinance will allow the purchase of used equipment or material in excess of \$20,000 which is not suitable for the competitive bidding procedures. **Motion by Branum, second by Komor to approve the Used Equipment Ordinance. All in favor, motion carried. (See Resolution Book 8, page 59).**
2. **Approval of Resolution #07-08 to Designate County Highway 25 (N. 18th Avenue) as a Class III Truck Route:** Discussion took place on designating County Highway 25 as a Class III Truck Route. **Motion by Branum, second by Helgen to approve the Resolution to designate County Highway 25 as a Class III Truck Route. All in favor, motion carried. (See Resolution Book 8, page 60).**
3. **Approval of Resolution #08-07 to Designate the North Road as the Ryan Buckley Memorial Highway:** Discussion took place on designating the North Road as the Corporal Ryan J. Buckley Memorial Road. **Motion by Myers, second by Bone to approve Resolution #08-07 to designate the North Road as the Corporal Ryan J. Buckley Memorial Road. All in favor, motion carried. (See Resolution Book 8, page 61).** A dedication ceremony will be planned and announced when the signs have arrived.
4. **Approval of Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan Resolution #08-08:** Boehler explained that a Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan Resolution is needed as the first step towards applying for federal funding for emergency preparedness grants that could help with much needed county bridge and infrastructure work. The Finance Committee will review and approve the estimated cost for preparing this plan, which is between \$7,000 and \$8,000, with the funds to come from the General Fund. After the plan is developed, it would then be sent to IEMA for approval. **Motion by Branum, second by Kuchar to approve Resolution #08-08 to prepare a Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan. All in favor, motion carried. (Resolution Book 8, page 62).**

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

1. **Approval of 2007 Annual Audit Presentation:** County Auditor Whitey Patton presented the Fiscal Year 2007 Budget to Board members, and reported that the County's Equalized Assessed Valuation for 2006 was \$325,357,955 and the General Fund balance as of November 30th, 2007 was at \$2,439,897 and that the County is in great financial condition, but may have problems in staying there in the future. Approximately \$2.5 million of this General Fund balance is due to receiving two coal payments last year, and Patton recommends spending coal revenue on county Capital Improvements and not increasing day to day expenses, and stressed crosstraining employees. **Motion by Sielschott, second by Myers to approve the 2007 Annual Audit. All in favor, motion carried.**
2. **Update on 2007 Tax Cycle:** Sielschott reported that parcel inquiries and address changes are being input into the DEVNET system with an average of 20 hours per week overtime. GIS Coordinator Durston is working with Bruce Harris and Associates on a couple of issues with farmland assessments, and there are 9 townships that are balanced to date. Sielschott stated that DEVNET does not have self mailers for reassessment notices, so Chief Assessment Officer Kiefer contacted a vendor to get them printed and mailed. Sielschott stated that the Assessments Office will not wait on the Sales Ratio to compute Township Multipliers (Factors) and will receive a State Multiplier, which is best to speed up the process and get tax bills out on time this year. The committee gave Kiefer permission to hire a part-time temporary staffperson to do data entry for 30 hours per week.
3. **Update on Forrester Group Appraisals of Golf Courses and Landfill:** Sielschott stated that Gene Stuard with Forrester Group is waiting for additional information on the landfill assessment and is communicating with golf course owners to complete the appraisals of those properties. Stuard should have more information on these appraisals at the May 2008 Finance Committee meeting.
4. **Update on Ameren – Proposed Assessment Agreement Terms:** Sielschott reported that a tentative assessment agreement was reached with Ameren. State's Attorney Matoush is reviewing the Letter of

Intent that will be presented for approval by the taxing bodies and filed in court. Sielschott was pleased with the appraisal work from Forrestal Group.

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

1. **Polling Place Change Approval:** County Clerk Leitheiser and Chairman Durbin reviewed the Fillmore Township Hall as a polling location due to issues with the old school building which is now the Fillmore Village Hall. A total of 624 South Fillmore and Fillmore Precincts voters vote in one polling place. The Fillmore Township building is handicap accessible and parking issues were addressed. **Motion by Durbin, second by Beck to change polling place in Fillmore to the Fillmore Township Building. All in favor, motion carried.**
2. **Update on Elections Costs:** Clerk Leitheiser explained the Election cost per vote for the February 5th, 2008 Primary Election, at a total cost of \$58,199.84 for 6,170 ballots cast cost of \$9.43 per vote. Leitheiser stated that with the new voting system in place, she and her staff are looking for ways to bring election costs down while increasing voter turnout.
3. **Update on Animal Control Program:**
 - **Facility:** Durbin stated that the committee discussed having Engineer Boehler work on the building bid specs for the Animal Control Facility, and Boehler plans to present completed bid specs at the May committee meeting.
 - **Officer:** Durbin reported that interviews were conducted last Friday for a new Animal Control Officer due to the recent resignation of Tina Christy.
4. **Update on Recycling Program:**
 - **Scale:** Durbin stated that discussion took place on the malfunctioning floor scale at the Recycling Center. The committee reviewed possibilities to repair or replace the scale unit. The price to repair a load cell can range from \$300 to \$400 per cell plus shipping. Coordinator Daniels reported that she has gathered a couple of prices for a new scale and additional information will be obtained for next month's meeting.
 - **Education Opportunities:** Durbin reported that there are several tours and educational events scheduled for the Recycling Center.
 - Friday, April 4th, 2008: Four Hillsboro High School students and their teachers toured the County Recycling Facility in Hillsboro on Friday.
 - Thursday, April 10th, 2008 A presentation will be given to the Litchfield High School Student Council on Recycling at 3:00 PM.
 - Wednesday, April 23rd, 2008: A Tour of the Nokomis Drop off Center will be given to 40 Pre-K Students at 9:00 AM & 9:30 AM.
 - Thursday, April 24th, 2008: There will be a tour at the County Recycling Facility in Hillsboro for 40 Pre-K and Headstart students from Hillsboro. The tours will be at 9:30 AM and 12:45 PM.
 - Tuesday, May 20th, 2008: Daniels will give a presentation on Recycling to the Sertoma Club at the Hillsboro Moose beginning at 7:00 AM.Chairman Plunkett stated that the goal of the County Recycling Program is to increase participation, and these outreach events are an excellent way to accomplish that goal.
 - **Recycling Bins Grant:** Daniels reported that she has applied for a grant for recycling bins.
5. **Update on Tire Collection:** Montgomery County and ILEPA will be hosting a Used Tire Collection on Friday, August 8th and Saturday, August 9th, 2008 at the Montgomery County Fairgrounds in Butler. More information and details will be distributed to inform County Residents.
6. **Approval of New Copy Machine Purchase for Coordinated Services Office:** The committee approved the purchase of a new copier from Tom Day Business Machines for the Coordinating Office for \$8,348.00. **Motion by Durbin, second by Matthews to purchase a new copier from Tom Day Business Machines in the amount of \$8,348.00 for the Coordinating Office. All in favor, motion carried.**

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

1. **Update on Consociates Insurance – Discussion of County Employee Insurance Renewal:**
Chairman Downs reported that Travis Schmidt from Consociate/Dansig provided information for the proposed insurance renewal options and showed the comparisons of fully insured programs. The current insurance plan was reviewed and compared to the proposed renewal options, and the final underwriting for insurance premium rates will be ready in May. The committee will need to decide between two insurance carrier proposals when the final numbers are completed. Travis Schmidt will come to the April 24th, 2008 Personnel committee meeting with the final proposal renewal rates. The committee also decided to remain as a partially self insurance client with Consociate/Dansig at this time.
2. **Update on Highway Department Union Contract:** The committee met with Union Representatives to discuss a couple of issues with the Highway Dept. Union Contract, and also discussed a letter sent to the union regarding “Addendum A” on insurance premiums, which addresses the event when an employee terminates employment at the beginning of the month. Downs stated that he has not heard anything back on the contract as of yet.
3. **Update of Personal Property, County Vehicle and IRS Regulations:** Downs reported that discussion took place on a policy concerning personal use of Montgomery County property which will be added to the Employee Personnel Manual. Adequate record keeping will need to be turned into the Payroll Dept. and the benefit will be put on employees W-2’s each year. The committee and board members will review this policy for one month and approve it at the May Full Board meeting.

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

1. **Update on Historic Courthouse Ceiling Plaster Issues:** Bone stated that Hurst-Rosche Engineering will be finalizing the bid specs for the plaster ceiling removal in the Historic Courthouse. Bid Specs will be complete and put out for advertised in the next two weeks. Contractors will need to respond no later than Thursday, May 8th, 2008 by 2:00 PM. Bids will be opened on Friday, May 9th, 2008 at 8:30 AM at the regular Building and Grounds Committee Meeting. The remaining plaster ceilings will be replaced in 3 phases. The second floor ceiling issues will be addressed first.
2. **Update of Northwest Basement wall issues:** Bone stated that the committee discussed four remedies to deal with the basement wall issues at the Historic Courthouse.
 - **Approval of wider gutter installation on roof to prevent overflow:** Bone stated that Denny Hiller was present at the committee meeting to explain the installation of a wider gutter to catch the overflow of rain water at the North and West corner of the Historic Courthouse roof. Hiller submitted a proposal of \$5,845.35 to construct and install new guttering. Young’s Roofing and Taylor Guttering was also contacted, however no bids were received. A lift will have to be rented and the guttering will have to be fabricated and then installed. **Motion by Bone, second by Downs to approve the proposal from Hiller Construction to fabricate and install the wider guttering for \$5,845.35. All in favor, motion carried.**
 - **Weep Tile:** Bone stated that the Maintenance staff will install new weep tile about 1 foot below the ground, which will allow water to drain out to the street.
 - **Dig up ground around wall and install a waterproofing barrier:** Bone stated that the committee reviewed a proposal from Western Waterproofing Company to waterproof the outside basement walls on the northwest corner of the Historic Courthouse and to plug the old electrical outlets inside the basement office. **Motion by Bone, second by Beck to approve the proposal from Western Waterproofing for \$9,900 to waterproof the Northwest area of the outside wall of the Historic Courthouse. All in favor, motion carried.**
3. **Update on Parking Lot & Garage:** The electrical service has been installed at the storage garage and the gas powered equipment has been moved from the basement of the Courthouse Complex over to the

garage located on the recently acquired property, and the garage will be scraped and painted by the maintenance staff when weather permits.

4. **Update on Flower Bed in front of Historic Courthouse:** Bone stated that there was a request from the Hillsboro 2000 and Beyond Committee to help with the purchase and maintenance of the flower bed on the south side of the Historic Courthouse. The committee discussed and approved purchasing the flowers for approximately \$365.00 and to let Hillsboro's 2000 and Beyond Committee be responsible for planting them, and then the county custodian staff will water the planted area this summer. The committee also discussed displaying a larger American Flag for the front of the Historic Courthouse and will order it when the flag is replaced in the upcoming months.
5. **Approval of Sale of Maintenance Truck:** Bone reported that the 1985 blue Dodge maintenance truck was put out for bid, and only one bid was received from Greg Reuther in the amount of \$675.00. **Motion by Bone, second by Miles to approve the sale of the 1985 Dodge Maintenance Truck to Greg Reuther in the amount of \$675.00. All in favor, motion carried.**

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

1. **Ambulance Call Report:** A summary of monthly operations for **March 2008** is as follows: **Total calls:** 344, **Total amounts billed:** \$183,413.00 **Total amounts collected:** \$141,178.42.
2. **Director Holmes Report:**
 - **County Exercise:** Vice Chairman Blankenship reported that the final briefing for the County Exercise will be Wednesday, April 30th, 2008 at 7:00 PM. The actual exercise will be held on May 1st starting at 5:30 PM.
 - **ARES Radio Club:** Blankenship stated that the committee approved to upgrade the HAM radio in the EMA Office at an estimated cost of \$400.00.
 - **HSEEP Class:** The Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP) class has been reset for May 29th and 30th at the Hillsboro Moose Lodge from 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM.
 - **AMEREN CIPS Meeting:** There was a meeting held on March 18th with Ameren /CIPS for an Emergency Action Plan. The meeting was attended by a number of agencies that would need to be notified in case of emergency. The plan involves AMEREN's 2 existing dams and a "Gypsum Stack Dam" to be built at a later date.
3. **Update of Litchfield Ambulance Billing Issues:** The EMA Committee held a special meeting to discuss issues with the Litchfield Ambulance billing.

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

1. **Update on Abandoned Rail Line:** Chairman Deabenderfer stated that State's Attorney Chris Matoush shared a legal opinion regarding the purchase and possible future lease of the abandoned rail line property near Butler. Matoush recommends getting the sewer line installed before doing anything with the property, and the closing on the property will be later this month.
2. **Update on Comprehensive Planning and Zoning:** Deabenderfer stated that U of I Zoning expert Pat Curry will be at the May 7th committee meeting to follow up on how to get started on a Comprehensive Plan. Farm Bureau representatives Bob Lentz and Brian Niemann were present at the Economic Development Committee meeting to share a handout regarding County Zoning and Agriculture friendly considerations.
3. **Update on Hog Confinement Presentation:** Deabenderfer stated that President of the Illinois Pork Producers Association Phil Borgic gave a presentation to the committee regarding Hog Confinement facilities and the economic impact they have in Illinois. Borgic stated that there is potential for this type of economic development growth in Montgomery County, but the county needs to be sensitive to residential areas by not locating a facility too close to them.
4. **Update on Renewables & Technologies Workshop:** There will be a Renewables and Technologies Workshop sponsored by ILACMB and Johnson Controls on Thursday, April 17th, 2008 in Collinsville. The workshop will be held from 8:30 AM until 3:00 PM.

APPROVAL OF 8 COMMITTEE REPORTS & MINUTES:

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

APPOINTMENTS:

Motion by Bone, second by Downs to approve the re-appointment of Charles Wilkinson to the Shoal Creek Fire Protection District as Trustee for a three-year term. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Deabenderfer, second by Myers to approve the re-appointment of Stanley Hughes to the Three County Public Water District as Trustee for a five-year term. All in favor, motion carried.

PAY BILLS:

Motion by Kuchar, second by Sielschott 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, May 13th, 2008 at 8:30 AM* in the County Board Room, Historic Courthouse, Hillsboro, Illinois.

Motion by Myers, second by Beck to adjourn the Full Board Meeting. All in favor, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:48 AM.

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