

Montgomery County Board

Minutes

For Tuesday, January 14th, 2014 – 8:30 AM

The following are minutes of a regular meeting of the Montgomery County Board held at 8:30 AM on Tuesday, January 14th, 2014 in the County Board Room, 2nd floor of the Historic Courthouse, Hillsboro, Illinois.

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

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

Members Present: Mary Bathurst, Megan Beeler, Nikki Bishop, Bonnie Branum, Ronald Deabenderfer, Joe Gasparich, Chuck Graden, Heather Hampton+Knodle, Roy Hertel, Sharon Kuchar, Jay Martin, Gene Miles, Jim Moore, Mike Plunkett, Earlene Robinson, David Ronen, Glenn Savage, Bob Sneed, Mike Webb, Richard Wendel.

Members Absent: Connie Beck – Absence due to a death in her family.

Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was led by member David Ronen.

Mileage and Per Diem Approval: Motion by Bishop, second by Wendel to approve the mileage and per diem. All in favor, motion carried.

Approval of Minutes of Previous County Board Meeting:

Motion by Bathurst, second by Ronen to approve the Minutes of the Previous County Board Meeting held on Tuesday, December 10th, 2013. All in favor, motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- 1. Chief Assessment Officer's Report** – Ray Durston was present for questions and stated the Board of Review will meet tomorrow on Tuesday, January 15th for hearings.
- 2. Circuit Clerk's Report** – Chief Deputy Stephanie Keiser was present for questions.
- 3. County Clerk and Recorder's Report** – Sandy Leitheiser was present for questions.
- 4. County Treasurer's Report** – Ron Jenkins was present for questions.
- 5. G.I.S. Coordinator's Report** – Mary Purcell was present for questions.
- 6. Health Department Report** – Hugh Satterlee was present for questions.
- 7. Probation Officer's Report** – was submitted.
- 8. Public Defender's Report** – was submitted.
- 9. Sheriff's Report** – was submitted.
- 10. T.B. Department Report** – was submitted.
- 11. V.A.C. Report** – Dave Strowmatt was present for questions.

APPROVAL OF 11 ITEMS ON THE CONSENT AGENDA: Motion by Miles, second by Webb to approve the 11 items on the Consent Agenda. All in favor, motion carried.

Chairman Hertel announced that the Building & Grounds Committee considered a sound system for the Board room, but instead of making that purchase, asked that Board members adhere to the County Board Rules of Order and stand to speak.

LIAISON REPORTS:

- **911 Board** - Webb reported meeting will be one week from today.
- **CEFS Board** – Robinson said that CIPT Representatives are here today.
- **CIEDA** – Hampton+Knodle reported she has not received a confirmation on the Housing Project in Sangamon County, but it will probably not go through CIEDA.
- **Health Dept.** – Martin reported the meeting will be next month.
- **IL Assoc. of Co. Officials** – Plunkett and Kuchar reported the meeting will be next month.

- **MCEDC** – Ronen reported MCEDC is working with Hillsboro to clean up the Eagle Zinc site. Letters have been obtained from Senator Manar and also from US Senator Durbin. The annual MCEDC meeting will be held Thursday, March 13th around 6:00 p.m. at the Church Street Pub. Also, Ronen stated that the Sierra Club is suing Dynergy. Ronen reported the Weatherization Grant class begins on February 3rd with ten people signed up, but they need fifteen. With the County’s high unemployment rate, Ronen wondered why more people aren’t signed up for this free training.
- **MCWC** – Branum reported they did not meet.
- **Planning Commission** – Beeler reported they did not meet.
- **Senior Citizens Board** – Bishop had nothing to report.
- **UCCI** – Miles and Beck reported no meeting was held. Chairman Hertel stated the UCCI County Board Education Seminar will be on Saturday, February 1st and members can ride together to save county expense.
- **U of I** – Graden reported the next meeting will be in March.
- **VAC** – Sneed reported they did not meet.
- **WCDC** – Wendel reported the next meeting will be in February.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

COORDINATING COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Chairman Roy Hertel as follows:

1. **CEFS Central Illinois Public Transit Monthly Progress Report & Representatives -Update:** The CIPT Report was included in Board packets. CIPT Mobility Manager Lisa Casterline and Director of Transportation Dennis Shiley presented an update to the County Board on public transit services. Shiley reported he met with Montgomery County representatives in October to discuss establishing a B-line Route in Litchfield that makes regular stops every day. CIPT had decided that they would not be able to provide that service with their current vehicles, but Moultrie County has a bus in the repair shop that they are willing to sell, but it needs a new engine and IDOT would have to approve it. They have decided to assume title of the 22-passenger class CDL bus. CEFS Board has approved the repairs and hopefully as it comes into the fleet will be able to start the B-line route. Shiley explained this is a circular route that stops throughout the city and will feed the system with the other buses. He stated it is better if we do the door-to door system, which will have a deviated route service where a citizen can jump back on the bus after shopping or a medical appointment, for example. Shiley stated the route length is 45 minutes long and will be a good addition to Montgomery County. Deabenderfer asked if residents from Nokomis could take CIPT to classes at LLCC and Shiley replied affirmatively. The B-line should be implemented in one month, and transit service will still exist in the County. Leitheiser asked about a marketing strategy and Casterline stated local media and radio will be notified and hopes Litchfield will install signs and also word of mouth. Leitheiser stated when the map is finalized with the City of Litchfield; it could be put on the County website. Casterline said CIPT has a Facebook site and a CIPT website, and they would be glad to share their map with the county. Graden hopes that since the City of Litchfield will benefit that they will also help financially and Shiley replied he hopes they will be supportive of the signs since their service provides economic development. Chairman Hertel stated that the B-line route was to help with increased ridership for CIPT. Deabenderfer asked how many people would need to ride each day to make the B-line worthwhile and Shiley replied it costs \$280 per day to run a bus and at \$1 a ride would need 280 riders each day, but their program also has grant funding. A preliminary B-line map was distributed to Board members.
2. **Snow Report -Update:** Chairman Hertel stated that during the severe recent snow storm there were a couple of life saving events that took place where our Sheriff and Highway Department gave great assistance. One incident was in rural Raymond/Harvel where a family with very small children was stranded and another was where a vehicle in rural Walshville was stranded. Chairman Hertel stated that he is very proud of the County Employees who assisted with getting these people out of a very dangerous situation in the middle of the night on Sunday. Chairman Hertel stated that all County Employees who served did a good job during this storm.
3. **Executive Session:** An Executive Session was not held.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Chairman Mary Bathurst:

1. **Workplace Wellness Program -Update:** Hillsboro Area Hospital CEO Rex Brown and Fusion Executive Director Jessica Chappellear and Consociates Insurance Company representative Jolie Burris were here to give an update and answer any questions about the Wellness Program. Bathurst stated Hillsboro Area Hospital has a wonderful partnership with Fusion and they have implemented their wellness program for their staff and asked him to explain what they have done. She also asked Chappellear to speak on what Fusion has to offer the County and Burris to explain what we can do within our insurance program. Bathurst stated if the Board thinks this Wellness Program is a good idea then we will move forward, and that it is now in the developmental stage. The County can define the parameter of the \$1,000 preventative care benefit that we already provide for employees on the Health Insurance and Fusion Membership would fall into that category. Bathurst further stated that this wellness incentive would have to be offered to all employees, including ones not on health insurance. Brown presented Board members with a handout entitled "Hillsboro Area Hospital Staff Health & Wellness Timeline." He stated the Wellness Program has been an element to our success and we've seen improved health. There has been a 14% savings in health insurance costs this last year and an increase in employee satisfaction. Hampton+Knodle asked if insurance savings could solely be contributed to the Wellness Program and he replied it is hard to assess, but they feel it plays a part. Chappellear reported that Fusion meets the needs of the community through the CATCH program for kids after school, a free summer lunch program, and the MOVE program and has worked with the hospital for the last five years. At this time, 95 out of 145 employed at the hospital participate in their point-based program. These points help earn membership to Fusion, discounts on health insurance and other benefits. Chappellear said that Fusion can offer a wellness program to County employees at several levels. Hampton+Knodle asked out of the 95 hospital employees, how many are active and Chappellear replied about one-third are close to the incentive for savings in health insurance. Burris stated the Wellness program can be offered through Consociates with details worked out, and said that less than five percent of County employees use the insurance wellness benefits at the present time. Bathurst stated the County will probably offer a matching program where we will help subsidize the Wellness Program.
2. **Personnel Manual -Approval:** Bathurst reported that the Committee will start reviewing the Personnel Manual for further revisions. The definition of Exempt salary personnel section was reviewed by the full board for one month, and action is ready to be taken. **Motion by Bathurst, second by Martin to approve the language presented last month in the Personnel Manual under Classification of Personnel as follows: "with the work week defined, for the purposes of IMRF, as 40 hours." All in favor, motion carried.**
3. **Other Business -Update:**
Union Grievance in the Circuit Clerk's office still needs to be addressed.
Bathurst reported the Committee reviewed the FOP Final Contract submitted for signature and Personnel members need to stay after today's meeting to sign.
4. **Committee Accomplishment(s) -Update:** Bathurst reported Union contracts have been finished.

BUILDING & GROUNDS COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Chairman Bob Sneed as follows:

1. **HVAC at Courts Complex -Update:** Sneed reported the Contractor is working on the project. County Maintenance worker Meyer reported that the pipes outside the chiller unit are welded together, the new coils and new motors have been installed and the motors are larger than the older ones and have variable speeds.
2. **Maintenance Issues and Report -Update:** Sneed reported that the new generator tank was installed. The Highway Department brought their front end loader to help lift the equipment, so we didn't need to rent a small crane for \$1,500. Meyer will check for any leaking in the Annex building.

3. **Sheriff's Vehicle Accident/Replacement -Approval:** Sneed reported that one of the new Sheriff's Vehicles was totaled in an accident and needs to be replaced as soon as possible. The Sheriff received a quote from Roger Jennings in the amount of \$30,860.60 and our insurance will pay \$28,213. The other driver's insurance will pay \$2,500 and it will cost about \$1,000 to move the radios and equipment. Sneed also reported that the County generated in excess of \$23,000 in the vehicle surplus sale. **Motion by Sneed, second by Graden to purchase a new 2014 Chevy Tahoe PPV Police Interceptor for \$30,870.60 from Roger Jennings. All in favor, motion carried.** Chairman Hertel thanked Tom Franzen of Scheller Insurance who helped with this.
4. **Snow Removal -Update:** Sneed thanked the courthouse staff for snow removal after the winter blizzard. He reported that the Sheriff hired a new person for snow removal at County parking lots and is working well.
5. **Parking Lot Across from Courts Complex -Update:** Miles reported to the committee that the Road and Bridge Committee discussed and approved for the Highway Department to just charge for materials when they work on County owned parking lots and property. The committee approved to proceed with the work on the parking lot across from the Courthouse Complex. Drainage issues and a few tree stumps will need to be addressed. Sneed reported when the Highway Department gets caught up they will start on the parking lot.
6. **Advertise for Part Time Employee-Cleaning at Courts Complex -Update:** Sneed reported the Committee reviewed and approved the advertisement and job description for the part time custodian position and it will be published in the county newspapers. The position will be \$10/hour and will start on March 1st, 2014. This will replace the Courts Complex full time cleaning service and will save some money.
7. **Annex Building -Update:** Sneed reported we have not heard of any leaking issues with the snow storm.
8. **Sound System for County Board Room -Update:** Sneed reported that the Committee reviewed a sound system quote with two options, but they don't want to spend the money, and as Chairman Hertel stated committee chairmen giving their reports could speak louder into the microphone and other board members could stand when speaking. Sneed reported the sound system was one of the things that was taken out of renovations of the Historic Courthouse and stated if speaking up and standing doesn't work out, we will look into a sound system. He also asked Board members to please speak loudly as they speak.
9. **Generator for Animal Control -Update:** Sneed reported the committee discussed the recommendation that the generator for animal control be advertised for bids. The committee approved to seek two bids for the generator at the Animal Control Facility to keep things competitive.
10. **Other Business -Update:** Hugh Satterlee reported to the committee that the Health Department's building on School Street is in need of some repairs, including a new roof, furnace and basement walls. Satterlee would like to see what the County Board thought about the School Street building vs. adding on at the facility on Route 185. If adding on to the facility is an option, they are looking at a building that would be about 40' long by 30' wide with a restroom, utility room, and small kitchen area. The committee didn't show any interest in the property on School Street and thought it could be sold to help pay for the new building addition at the Health Department. Sneed reported the committee stated that they didn't need another building to take care of. Hampton+Knodle asked why the new addition needs a kitchen and Chairman Hertel stated he believes the Environmental Health program teaches adults with disabilities life skills, which includes cooking.
11. **Committee Accomplishment(s) -Update:** None was given.

ROAD AND BRIDGE COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Chairman Gene Miles as follows:

1. **Red Ball Trail -Update:** Miles reported that Surety Bond Company will look into the claim more thoroughly because about to lose bond.
2. **2014 Fuel Letting -Approval:** Miles stated the county received one bid from M & M Service for the Fuel prices. Option 1: Gas = M & M's cost plus \$.10 per gallon. Diesel – M & M's cost plus \$.10 per gallon. Option 2: Gas = fixed price for the year of \$3.151 per gallon and Diesel = fixed price for the year of \$3.426 per gallon. The committee discussed the two options. Miles reported we had a good price last year so we will go with the fixed price. **Motion by Miles, second by Branum to approve Option #2 the fixed costs from M & M Service of \$3.151 per gallon for gas and \$3.426 per gallon for diesel. All in favor, motion carried.**
3. **2014 Rock Letting Reminder -Update:** Miles reported that the Rock Letting will be held on Wednesday, January 22nd, 2014 at 9:00 AM at the County Highway Department.
4. **Montgomery County Highway Department 15-year plan -Update:** The Committee reviewed and discussed the 15-Year plan that was presented by Engineer Smith. The Committee will review the report for one month and discuss it further at the February committee meeting. They also discussed a few projects listed on the report like straightening out a road going into Nokomis and black topping the Nokomis-Fillmore Road, Taylorville Road and the Black Diamond Road. Miles reported the 15-year plan was sent out to Board members to review and get back to the committee with questions.
5. **New Pick Up Truck Purchase –Approval:** Miles reported that Engineer Smith does not have a County 4 wheel drive pickup truck and that the committee should consider purchasing one. The truck Engineer Smith currently uses is a 2008 rear wheel drive. The maintenance crew drives the oldest pickup truck, and when new trucks are purchased, vehicles are then passed down so that the oldest vehicle in inventory would be traded or sold off. Miles stated that the committee approved to seek bids for a 4 wheel drive pickup truck with a crew cab. The bids will be opened at the next Road & Bridge committee meeting on February 5th. Graden asked if a plow is needed and Miles replied no it isn't. Ronen asked if we are replacing an existing truck and Engineer Smith replied the oldest pickup will be offered out for bid. Plunkett asked which truck will be traded and Smith replied it would be the truck he uses. **Motion by Miles, second by Kuchar to advertise for bids for a 4 wheel drive pickup truck with a crew cab. All in favor, motion carried.**
6. **New Tandem Truck -Update:** Miles reported that the full board approved the purchase of a new tandem truck at last month's meeting and Assistant State's Attorney Betsy Wilson has checked out the Resolution for purchasing equipment on a State Bid and confirmed that the Highway Department can pursue the over \$30,000 purchase without putting this out on the formal bid process. Miles reported we will get the new truck in about 60 days.
7. **Committee Accomplishment(s):** Miles reported they are happy about the bridges that have been replaced and also doing our own work rather than bidding out this year.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Chairman Heather Hampton+Knodle as follows:

1. **MCEDC -Update:** Hampton+Knodle reported Ronen covered MCEDC during Liaison reports. The MCEDC annual meeting has been scheduled for Thursday, March 13, 2014 and will be held at the Church Street Pub in Hillsboro tentatively at 6:00 p.m.
2. **Revolving Loan Fund Report -Update:** Committee Chairman Hampton+Knodle and Lindsay Wagahoff worked on the Revolving Loan Fund Policy and Procedure Manual and shared the language changes with the committee. The committee reviewed the revisions and had a language change in Section 3.7 on page 5. These changes will be presented to the RLF Board tonight at 5:00 PM in the Annex Conference Room. Hampton+Knodle stated these revisions will give more clarity to bankers and protection for the County and hopefully there will be favorable feedback at tonight's meeting. Hampton+Knodle reported that both RLF participants have been current on their payments.

3. **Economic Development Fund in the Future -Update:** Board members will review Hampton+Knodle's "thought paper" on the Use of Coal Funds discussed at Finance.
4. **Central Illinois Economic Development Authority -Update:** A potential Housing redevelopment project in Sangamon County may not go through.
5. **Planning Commission -Update:** Hampton+Knodle stated that the Planning Commission will be looking at some recommendations for the Structural Notification permit. She will contact Assistant State's Attorney Wilson to see if anything is needed for a structural notification permit.
6. **West Central Annual Report -Update:** The committee discussed the West Central Planning Committee Annual Document revisions that need to be sent to us. Hampton+Knodle will follow up and see if she has received any emails from them.
7. **EZ Quarterly Mayors Meeting -Update:** This meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 5th at 5:30 p.m. There will be several things on the agenda and refreshments will be served. Hampton+Knodle stated this meeting is also serving as a Mayoral roundtable so encourage your mayor to come.
5. **Other Business -Update:**
 - Clean Line Energy Grain Belt Transmission contacted Hampton+Knodle, and she stated there is a revised memorandum that was forwarded to Betsy Wilson to review. On January 20th, 2014 at 1:00 PM there will be a meeting hosted by the Montgomery County Farm Bureau regarding proposed land easements for the Clean Line Energy Grain Belt Transmission and Ameren projects.
 - Hampton+Knodle responded to a reporter with the State Journal Register who did a news article regarding the population decrease in rural areas.
6. **Committee Accomplishment(s):** Hampton+Knodle stated that MCEDC's current status is a great accomplishment.

Chairman Hertel thanked Farm Bureau for hosting a breakfast on March 11th, 2014 at 7:00 a.m. inviting Board members and Legislators. Also, after the March Full Board meeting there will be a tour of Deer Run Mine with lunch served.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Chairman Joe Gasparich as follows:

1. **GIS Work Group Report -Approval:** Member Megan Beeler has been working with the GIS work group. The Finance Committee discussed and recommends the new flyover from Pictometry and the Beacon-Schneider Web Design System. The full board was given information at last month's meeting so they could review it for one month and take action at this Meeting. Deabenderfer is very much in favor of the flyovers because the Board committed to it years ago. He encourages private businesses to help chip in to pay for the cost. Graden asked whether there will be any interest charged because we are paying this over a six year period, and Gasparich answered there would not be. Moore is against the idea because he stated that offering GIS services is not required by law. He stated the assessors are hired to do this function, and he has talked to his constituents and they don't want it. He believes the people who will benefit won't pay for it and we need them to pay a subscription. Kuchar stated even though the money is in the budget, the money still comes from somewhere and we were told not to dip into coal reserves. She asked that we wait two years to see if the coal money is still coming in and we have built up a nest egg. Gasparich stated our GIS data is outdated and causing additional time to shore up software and hardware. He said he doesn't like to spend money on the old system either as trying to update current software is time consuming and costly and the new system will have more benefits for our citizens. Chairman Hertel asked if people can pay to advertise on our GIS/webpage, and asked the State's Attorney's office to investigate this after someone brought this idea up to him. Beeler stated that the advertising would be called sponsorship. Leitheiser reported that Cass and Winnebago County are exploring this type of website advertisement as well. Martin reported that the people he has talked to are not against paying subscriptions for this service and Ronen replied he has heard the same. Beeler stated the assessors have seen this presentation and are willing to work with it, and it will change the way we do business on different levels. IS Manager Purcell stated that subscriptions will have to be monitored by an

employee and most counties around us are not having people pay for it but giving this information away. Plunkett explained that Purcell is saying if we choose subscriptions, it will cost more. Hampton+Knodle asked about the sponsorship on this software and Purcell stated this would apply and it could be easily implemented and managed. Beeler will work with Purcell for sponsorships. **Motion by Gasparich, second by Beeler to enter into an agreement with Pictometry for 2 flyovers (with an opt out for the 2nd flyover in year 4) with the 6''/9'' resolution for \$187,782 over a six year period. ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes – 17, Nays – 3 Those voting Aye:** Mary Bathurst, Megan Beeler, Nikki Bishop, Bonnie Branum, Ronald Deabenderfer, Joe Gasparich, Chuck Graden, Heather Hampton+Knodle, Roy Hertel, Jay Martin, Gene Miles, Mike Plunkett, Earlene Robinson, David Ronen, Glenn Savage, Bob Sneed, Mike Webb. **Those voting Nay:** Sharon Kuchar, Jim Moore, Richard Wendel. (Beck absent). **Motion carried. Motion by Gasparich, second by Bathurst to enter into an agreement with Beacon-Schneider for Web Design work in the amount of \$39,740 over a four year period. ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes – 17, Nays – 3 Those voting Aye:** Mary Bathurst, Megan Beeler, Nikki Bishop, Bonnie Branum, Ronald Deabenderfer, Joe Gasparich, Chuck Graden, Heather Hampton+Knodle, Roy Hertel, Jay Martin, Gene Miles, Mike Plunkett, Earlene Robinson, David Ronen, Glenn Savage, Bob Sneed, Mike Webb. **Those voting Nay:** Sharon Kuchar, Jim Moore, Richard Wendel. (Beck absent). **Motion carried.**

2. **Monthly Coal Revenue Report and Revenue, Expense & Bank Balance Report -Update:** Reports were provided to Board members.
3. **Coal Fund Reserves -Approval:** Gasparich reminded Board members of the \$3.5 Million figure that he wants to have set aside, but asked members if we want to wait or want to do something now with the coal reserves. Hampton+Knodle presented and explained her handout entitled “Long-Term County Improvement Fund.” She stated to members that the question is what could we invest funds in for a better future. She stated the money is not for employee salaries, pensions, insurance, etc. These funds need to be applied to capital investments not operational services. She has ideas for the Board to review which would be pillars or standards to invest in over time. Gasparich stated the committee has approved to put 33% of coal reserves from January on to this fund to be used for these improvements, which could include loaning money to municipalities to help demolish bad properties to make their communities look better. Beeler stated in 2014, coal royalties should be about \$2 Million and 33% is \$600,000, which would be going to that fund each year. She stated the remaining \$1.7 Million is more than enough to provide cushion to General Fund for operations. Graden asked if we can put the money in an interest earning fund and Gasparich replied affirmatively – that it currently is earning .5%, but investments should not include anything risky with citizen’s money. Gasparich publically acknowledged all the Board members who worked hard on this issue. **Motion by Gasparich, second by Beeler to set aside 33% from this point (January) forward into a long term County Improvement fund. ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes – 20, Nays – 0. Motion carried.**
4. **Letter from Chairman Opposing the Adoption of House Bill 924 Amending the Prevailing Wage Act -Approval:** Gasparich stated the Committee reviewed the Illinois Compiled Statute regarding an amendment to the Prevailing Wage Act that would require contractors bidding for Public works projects to be “responsible bidders.” We already have the PLA in place for projects over \$100,000, and we would have to jump through hoops to do this program and would also have to have an apprentice program, and such a program limits our ability to hire contractors. Gasparich stated he talked to Representative Rosenthal and he didn’t vote for the House Bill. Deabenderfer asked why this even came to the floor. Kuchar stated she learned this is not part of the minimum wage bill. Chairman Hertel stated it is making a blanket statement and also deals with minority contracts. We set the Project Labor Agreement over \$100,000 and this would run it down to the bottom with the State enforcing this law on everyone. Gasparich stated “Responsible Bidders” is the substance of the bill. Beeler had a concern on Responsible Bidder language versus our PLA and said it would need for many to be minority or women owned, etc. She stated someone has drafted this without thinking of rural areas with limited bidders. Ronen commented this would make us go out of County for contractors and that most of the bidders would be from the Metro-East area. He stated we need to use County bidders. Sneed stated this will handcuff us to get anything done. The majority of the work is

work that needs to be done around the County buildings so contractors need to be local. The PLA takes care of the big stuff, Sneed said. Deabenderfer reported HB924 has passed the House 60-50 and there could be a change of influence on the Senate. Moore stated Senator Manar will be at a meeting in Coffeen this evening and he will talk to him about this. Chairman Hertel stated Manar is a key voter right now. The committee approved to have the Chairman write a letter of opposition to HB 924 and sent to Senator Manar and Representative Rosenthal. **Motion by Gasparich, second by Martin to have Chairman Hertel write a letter of opposition to HB 924 and sent to Senator Manar and Representative Rosenthal. All in favor, motion carried.**

5. **2014 Business Mileage Allowance -Update:** Gasparich reported the County is currently reimbursing employee mileage at \$.55 per mile and the new IRS rate is \$.56 for mileage reimbursement. The committee decided to keep the mileage reimbursement at \$.55 per mile for FY 2014.
6. **Committee Accomplishment(s):** Gasparich reported we saw money saved in consolidating contracts such as copiers, cell phones, etc. Department Heads and managers came in with lower budgets than previous years. We are trying to maximize the dollars we have.
7. **Emergency on I-55:** Gasparich stated with the recent snow storm and emergencies on I-55, we need a plan in place as we are responsible for the people who pass through our county on the Interstate. A planning meeting is set for Thursday, January 30th and other emergency responders will be invited to attend.

E.M.A./AMBULANCE COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Chairman Glenn Savage as follows:

Ambulance Call Reports: A summary of monthly operations for December 2013: 367 calls

Collections: \$98,930.05 (New System \$98,836.73 Old System \$93.32)

1. **CMS Resolution #14-1(renewal) –Approval:** Savage reported this gives us access to surplus property at Springfield such as vehicle, generators, clothing and snow removal. This doesn't cost anything. **Motion by Savage, second by Webb to Approve the Resolution for Participation in the State of Illinois Federal Surplus Property Program. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy of Resolution, See Resolution Book 13, page 274).**
2. **Illinois Public Works Mutual Aid Network (IPWMAN) -Update:** Gasparich recommends that the County join this Organization for a \$250.00 per year membership. He has seen this organization in action in Washington, IL during the recent tornado disaster. They were denied Federal assistance and IPWMAN went in and helped clean up the debris. Membership will allow the County to get mutual aid assistance from other counties who belong to this organization. We can't join during a disaster. There are many counties around us who subscribe to this organization. If we join this organization and something serious happens, there is a point where we can say that we can't participate due to costs. You can only send the help and resources that you can afford to send. To belong to this organization, we must be NIMS compliant and pass a resolution. Miles stated this will cost us to send our people to other counties. Engineer Smith stated if we help Macoupin County in the Disaster Belt we could piggyback to get reimbursed. Savage stated it will be up to us to extend ourselves elsewhere. The committee approved the resolution to join IPWMAN pending review and recommendation from the States Attorney's Office.
3. **LEPC (Local Emergency Planning Committee) Meeting -Update:** Savage reported that an LEPC organizational meeting will be held on Monday, January 27th, 2014 at the Montgomery County Health Department. Food will be served at 6:00 pm and the meeting will start at 6:30 pm.
4. **AED/CPR Class -Update:** Savage reported that this is for Employees and Board members only and is scheduled for February 13th, 2014. All departments should turn in their sheets by the end of this week.
5. **Meetings with Local officials –Update:** Mike Webb will work with Joe Gasparich to get information on the MABAS program to present to the local officials. The goal is to show the local officials what MABAS is about and what it can do for them. Savage reported the Mutual Aid Box System is hardware that is useful in an emergency. Webb stated that we need to re-think this and finalize an agenda, and that he, Savage, Gasparich and Holmes need to meet.
6. **Regional Meeting -January 17, 2014 -Update:** Savage reported Holmes and Cathy Ulrici will attend the Regional meeting in Fairview Heights.

7. **Emergency Plans for COOP -Update:** (Continuity of Operations Plan for the 4th Judicial District) Savage reported that there is a plan in place concerning an alternative building in our county for Court in an emergency, and input will be received from all counties in that district with final approval made by Judge Schwarm. If Montgomery County Courthouse is not operational, they could work out agreements with another County for court services instead of finding an alternative building in our County. Holmes stated that State's Attorney Matoush has Judge Schwarm's plan and she hasn't received a copy yet. Holmes attended five meetings regarding an emergency location to hold court if there was a disaster and our Courthouse was severely damaged.

- Savage reported the Material Safety Data Sheets have to be kept where the chemicals areas stored, so each department has to keep their own and a copy will need to be sent to Lloyd Meyer.
- Latter Rain ministries: Savage reported that in 2012 Latter Rain was asked to become an emergency shelter. The State of Illinois asked Director Holmes for a location to house emergency responders, equipment and for food. IEMA Stan Krushas checked Latter Rain's facility and it has sleeping rooms, parking, a big kitchen and conference room and a fuel station nearby. Holmes sent the list to Latter Rain ministries so that if we ever needed a big place to hold a meeting, could they accommodate us and they said yes if they get a special waiver from the City of Litchfield. The City of Litchfield has agreed to give them the variance to house people/volunteers in case of a major event.

H.W.E. COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Vice Chairman Chuck Graden as follows:

1. **Elections -Update:** County Clerk Leitheiser reported that to date, the office has received one write-in candidate, which is a candidate running for United States Senator (Rep). She is currently taking care of voter registration services with county High Schools to register their eligible students to vote. The early voting room is almost ready and just needs computers, which are to be installed this month.

2. **ICRMT Update -Agent Tom Franzen -Update:** Graden stated that Franzen informed the committee the following information:

- Every person who does work for the County should have liability insurance and if they have employees, then they must have Workman's Compensation. Any Contractor who does business with the County will need to file the proper certificates before work can be performed. They also need to sign a waiver holding the County Harmless and Assistant State's Attorney Betsy Wilson will draw up a simple contract for these vendors to sign to agree to hold the County harmless when they perform work here.
- Need some way to administer this program. All certificates need to be held in one location on a spreadsheet that is assessable by all department of the County. When a certificate expires, Vendors will be contacted to send their new verifications. In doing this we will make sure the risk transfer is not coming to the County. What office will be responsible for retaining all the documents. Webb stated that a spreadsheet could be set up and put in a shared file so that departments can access the documents to hire vendors. Chairman Hertel stated that the Chairman's Office will put together the spreadsheet and track the certificates. A letter will be sent to the vendors requesting the certificates be filed. Vendors can't be paid until the certificates are on file. All County Offices will be encouraged to review the Vendor File before hiring contractors.
- Vendors that are self-proprietors will need to file liability certificates but do not have to register Workman's Comp certificates unless they use other employees.
- Someone from Tom Franzen's office will be present at all of our County Board meetings for informational purposes and will advise us if any of our decisions could expose us to liability issues.

3. **Recycling Program and Events -Update:** Graden reported the following:
 - A sheared pin on the baler has been fixed and a pressure switch was replaced. The conveyer belt had a motor replaced. The baler was down for five straight days of processing.
4. **EPA Report -Update:** Graden reported Bill Gonet gave his report and shared his quarterly County Open Dump report. Committee discussed the County Pickup truck and it is a 2008 rear wheel drive that just had a new battery and brakes installed. The committee will look at putting a new 4 wheel drive truck purchase in the budget next year.
5. **Mason County Animal Control -Update:** Graden reported there is a proposal on whether to continue to manage or staff the Animal Control Facility. Deabenderfer asked if the other Board members will have a voice in this decision. Chairman Hertel stated the Committee will visit Mason County Shelter when the weather is warmer in March or April and then share that information with the Full Board. Richardson, Daniels and Betsy Wilson will also go. Graden reported that if change occurs, we will still oversee the County Animal Control Facility so that it is done correctly. The committee had a conference call with Mason County Administrator Bill Blessman, who shared some information about their program and stated that before 2007 they had one full time animal control warden and their euthanization rate was at 80 – 85%. Ten years ago a volunteer group, Pets Without Parents (PWP) was created who specialized in adoptions and helping the animals. The County was getting bad PR and they sat down and talked with the group to see what could be done. The committee and others asked Mr. Blessman several questions, which are included in HWE committee minutes.
 - Chairman Hertel further explained that we made the decision not to kill adoptable animals. If a volunteer can't take an animal on transport like to Effingham, then Richardson or a staff member will take the animal to the rescue group with the County Vehicle and gas. Exploring this change is no reflection on how the facility is run right now, we just need to explore options to better serve the citizens and be more fiscally responsible.
 - Mike Webb stated that he would like to see us look at this option with the committee going to Mason County to see how the facility is operated, and how the warden's position is operated. The committee could come back and look at this as an opportunity to go forward. We don't have to do just like Mason County, but as stewards of the county money, we need to look at this to run it efficiently and look at this as a business opportunity and to see if this is better for the citizens of Montgomery County. This doesn't mean anything is wrong with the shelter, we are just looking to improve it and the services.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Chairman Hertel announced the following:

1. **UCCI County Board Education Seminar is Saturday, February 1st, 2014 in Springfield. Breakfast is at 8:15 a.m. and seminar begins at 9:00 a.m. Need signups ASAP with Chris Daniels.**
2. **There are some Coal Age magazines and County Newspapers on the center table for Board members to take if they wish.**
3. **Full Board is invited to Farm Bureau on March 11th, 2014 for breakfast.**
4. **Coal Mine tour will be after Full Board meeting on March 11th, 2014.**
5. **Mayor's meeting is February 5th at 5:30 p.m. in the County Board Room of the Historic Courthouse.**
6. **Code Red was activated and did work for the Snow Storm Alert.**

SCHEDULE CHANGES: None

APPOINTMENTS: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Bill Schroeder from the audience made the following statements. 1.) He stated that taxpayers hate to hear “we have it in the budget.” 2.) He asked when are we going to get the Red Ball Trail done and Chairman Hertel replied attorneys are involved at this point, so no public information is available at the present time. 3.) He stated we have a cultural problem with video gaming increasing and unemployment going up. 4.) He asked about our coal money for reserve and if there is a law that says we have to put it in a CD or is there a way to invest in a higher fund? Chairman Hertel replied we will have to check with the auditor and check out the risk involved.

PAY BILLS:

1. **Approval to Pay Any Invoices to Adams, PC or Books & Moore and to A&D Electrical Supply:** Motion by Gasparich, second by Plunkett to pay any invoices for Adams, PC or Books & Moore and to A&D Electrical Supply. Voice Vote: In favor – 18, Against – 0, Absent – 1, Abstain -2 (Moore) (Ronen). Motion carried.
2. **Motion by Bishop, second by Ronen to pay all other approved bills. All in favor, motion carried.** For itemized listing of bills paid, refer to Accounts Payable Book for FY 2013.

ADJOURN: Until the Full Board Meeting on Tuesday, February 11th, 2014 at 8:30 a.m. in the County Board Room, Hillsboro, Illinois. Motion by Robinson, second by Branum to adjourn the Full Board Meeting. All in favor, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 11:03 a.m. Minutes respectfully submitted and recorded by Montgomery County Clerk and Recorder Sandy Leitheiser.