

Montgomery County Board Minutes

For Tuesday, February 14th, 2023 – 5:30 PM

The following are minutes of a regular meeting of the Montgomery County Board held at 5:30 PM on Tuesday, February 14th, 2023.

The meeting was called to order by County Board Chairman Doug Donaldson at 5:33 PM.

Roll call was taken – 12 members present, 2 members absent.

Members Present: Russell Beason (via telephone), Connie Beck, Bill Bergen, Doug Donaldson, Ken Folkerts, Mark Hughes, Jeremy Jones, Gene Miles, Andy Ritchie (arrived at 5:45 p.m.), Bob Sneed, Patty Whitworth and Evan Young

Members Absent: David Loucks and Ethan Murzynski

Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was led by County Board Member Ken Folkerts.

Mileage and Per Diem Approval: Motion by Young and second by Folkerts to approve the Mileage and Per Diem. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Beason, Beck, Bergen, Donaldson, Folkerts, Hughes, Jones, Miles, Sneed, Whitworth and Young. All in favor, motion carried.

Approval of Minutes of Previous County Board Meeting: Motion by Beck and second by Whitworth to approve the Minutes of the Previous Regular County Board Meeting held on Tuesday, January 10th, 2023. All in favor, motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- 1. Animal Control Report** – No report was submitted. Gerl was present for questions, and she stated they transferred 22 cats to rescue in January and currently have 22 dogs in custody at the facility.
- 2. Circuit Clerk's Report** – Report was submitted. Daniel Robbins was present for questions. He reported he received a technology grant for approximately \$151,000, which will cover the cost of software and multiple types of technology equipment.
- 3. Coroner's Report** – Randy Leatham – Report was submitted.
- 4. County Clerk and Recorder's Report** – Report was submitted. Sandy Leitheiser was present for questions. She reported the Governor recently signed legislation doubling the recording fee currently collected for the Illinois Rental Housing Surcharge program from \$10 to \$20. She stated most rural counties don't see much of the funds collected from this program.
- 5. Health & TB Department Report** – No report was submitted. Hugh Satterlee was present for questions.
- 6. Highway Department Report** – Report was submitted. Cody Greenwood was present for questions.
- 7. Probation Office Report** – Report was submitted. Bane Ulrici was present for questions.
- 8. Public Defender's Report** – Erin Mattson — No report was submitted.
- 9. ROE – Monthly, Quarterly & Annual Reports** – Julie Wollerman – Report was submitted.
- 10. Sheriff's Report** – Report was submitted. Rick Robbins was present for questions. He reported there are currently no vacancies at the jail. He also stated he recently hired a telecommunicator, which leaves them with one telecommunicator position vacant.
- 11. SOA Report** – Cindy Laurent – Report was submitted.

12. **State's Attorney Report** – Report was submitted. Andrew Affrunti was present for questions.
13. **Treasurer's Report** – Report was submitted. Nikki Lohman was present for questions.
14. **V.A.C. Report** – No report was submitted. Cassandra Hampton was present for questions.

APPROVAL OF 10 REPORTS ON THE CONSENT AGENDA: Motion by Hughes and second by Young to approve the 10 reports on the Consent Agenda. All in favor, motion carried.

LIAISON REPORTS:

- **708 Board** – Murzynski was absent, so nothing new was reported.
- **CEFS Board** – Beason stated there is nothing new to report, and he is waiting on clarification from Macoupin County regarding their proposal for public transportation.
- **911 Board** – Bergen stated there is nothing new to report.
- **Health Department** – Whitworth reported the Health Department recently purchased property in Litchfield for a satellite center.
- **IL Association of County Officials** – Bergen stated there is nothing new to report.
- **MCEDC** – Hughes stated the last MCEDC meeting took place in November, and there may be plans to meet in February.
- **Planning Commission** – Ritchie was absent during this portion of the meeting, so nothing new was reported.
- **Senior Citizens Board** – Folkerts reported they will meet in person Monday, which will be their first meeting since the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic.
- **UCCI** – Miles stated there is nothing new to report.
- **U of I** – Beck reported they will meet Thursday, February 16th, 2023, in Macoupin County.
- **WCDC** – Jones reported their next meeting is scheduled for March 16th at 6 p.m.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

COORDINATING COMMITTEE: Given by Chairman Doug Donaldson:

1. **Information Systems Report Update:** Donaldson stated there is nothing new to report.
2. **EMA Report and Hazard Mitigation Plan Update:** Donaldson commended all agencies who responded to the debacle at Graham Correctional Facility in January. Donaldson deferred to EMA Director Schott, who reported his office hosted a Hazard Mitigation plan meeting on February 8th. Assistant EMA Director Joe Gasparich stated now is a crucial time for the mitigation plan as they are currently looking at projects; if anyone is interested in submitting or discussing a project, he/she should contact EMA.
3. **Committee Structure Update:** Donaldson stated this will be discussed during the Rules Committee briefing.
4. **EPA Report and Amendment to the Delegation Agreement Approval:** EPA Administrator Chris Daniels reported her office has been working on investigations. She also reported an amendment was made to the County's delegation agreement with the State EPA, and the board needs to vote on it. **Motion by Whitworth and second by Beck to approve the amendment to the IL EPA delegation agreement.** Young asked

if there were any updates to the three properties currently under EPA investigation in Witt, Nokomis and Irving. Daniels reported there haven't been many improvements and they may be contacting the State's Attorney's office to work towards bringing the sites into compliance. **All in favor, motion carried. (For a copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 260-264).**

5. **Rules Committee Meeting Update:** Donaldson reported the Rules Committee met January 18th, 24th, 31st and February 7th, and more information will be given during the Rules Committee briefing.
6. **West Central Development Council/Job Center Board/CEO Board Update:** Donaldson reported he will remain on the CEO board, and Whitworth and Jones will serve on the West Central Development Council.
7. **DCEO Energy Transition Community Grant Update:** Donaldson said there is nothing new to report on our grant status.

RULES COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Chairwoman Connie Beck:

1. **Increase/Decrease Number of Committees of the County Board Approval:** Beck reported the Rules Committee met four times and had lengthy but profitable discussions. She stated after meeting at length, the committee came to the recommendation to split the Infrastructure Committee back into the Buildings and Grounds and Roads and Bridges Committees. She said Miles and Sneed feel combining the committees is too much work for one person. **Motion by Beck and second by Miles to increase the number of committees of the County Board to five (5) standing committees by splitting up the Infrastructure Committee into the Buildings and Grounds and Roads and Bridges Committees.** Hughes stated the board has never tried the combined Infrastructure Committee because even when it was combined, there were always two chairs. He said the Finance and Budget and Development and Personnel Committee meetings last week both lasted around three hours, while the Infrastructure meeting lasted an hour and 50 minutes. Whitworth stated she and Hughes were the dissenting votes on the Rules Committee when it came to the issue of splitting up the Infrastructure Committee. She said she feels Buildings and Grounds and Roads and Bridges overlap significantly. She also stated the list of duties on the proposed committee assignments sheet is much longer for the Finance and Budget and Development and Personnel Committees than they are for the Buildings and Grounds and Roads and Bridges Committee. Donaldson stated the assignment sheet needs to be adjusted, and it will have to be voted on during the next meeting. Miles stated he feels Hughes's and Whitworth's comments are out of order because the committee is supposed to report based on the recommendation made at the committee level. Whitworth said board members still have a right to a discussion in committees. **ROLL CALL VOTE: Voting YES: Beason, Beck, Bergen, Donaldson, Folkerts, Miles, Ritchie, Sneed and Young. Voting NO: Hughes, Jones and Whitworth. Vote is 9-3 in favor, Motion carried.**
2. **Approve Committee Structure Approval:** Donaldson said the next few items cannot be discussed until corrections are made to the committee structure sheet, so they need to be tabled. **Motion by Beck and second by Whitworth to table items regarding the Animal Control Administrator and adopting the Rules of Order. All in favor, motion carried.**

DEVELOPMENT & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Chairman Mark Hughes:

1. **MCEDC Update:** Hughes stated there was nothing additional to report.
2. **Central Illinois Public Transportation and Intergovernmental Agreement Update:** Hughes reported this topic will be addressed during the Finance and Budget Committee briefing.
3. **Heartland Greenway Carbon Sequestration Project and Development Agreement Update:** Hughes reported he attended a meeting in Nokomis in January. He said there was a lot of good information given during the meeting, and there is no new action at this time.
4. **Ambulance Billing Office and Funding Distribution for Ambulance Services Update:** Hughes reported representatives from some of the local ambulance services attended the committee meeting last week to discuss what to do about distributing funds still in the ambulance billing bank account. He said Assistant County Board Administrator David Jenkins and Treasurer Lohman wanted to make sure they have accurate numbers before distributing checks. Young said the ambulance billing office usually operated a year behind, which could be why there is still money in the accounts. Jenkins said he did not pay the ambulance districts their November payments, and hasn't paid them from their automatic deposits yet either, but he will work on getting the checks distributed.
5. **Tourism Grants Approval:** Hughes reported the committee discussed the applications, and the only changes made to them were to update them to current dates. **Motion by Hughes and second by Young to approve the Tourism Grant Application as presented. All in favor, motion carried.**
6. **DCEO Energy Transition Community Grant Update:** Hughes said there is nothing new to report about our grant status.
7. **Ad Hoc Committee for DCEO Energy Transition Community Grant Approval:** Hughes reported the committee discussed creating an ad hoc committee to work with grant writer Dan Rogers on the next phase of the grant application. He said the committee will be made up of County Board representatives and members of the taxing bodies included on the county application. **Motion by Hughes and second by Jones to approve the creation of the DCEO Energy Transition Community Grant Ad Hoc Committee with members Patty Whitworth, Mark Hughes, Andy Ritchie, Lynn Fugate, Dan Hough, Michelle Pulse-Flynn and Nancy Slepicka.** Leitheiser asked if East Fork Township, Road District or MTA submitted any names for consideration. Jenkins said he never received a name; but the meetings would be open to the public, and they can attend if they wish. **All in favor, motion carried.**
8. **Resolution for Support of the Great Rivers and Routes Tourism Bureau Approval:** **Motion by Hughes and second by Bergen to approve Resolution 2023-3, a Resolution of support for the Great Rivers and Routes Tourism Bureau. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, page 265).**
9. **Human Resources Support Request Update:** Hughes stated Sheriff Robbins had an H.R. issue discussed during the Committee meeting, but there is nothing new to report.
10. **Other Business:** Hughes reported there is an Airbnb campground in Butler advertised as cannabis-friendly. He said some concerned residents have approached board members

and other county officials asking what can be done about this site, but nothing can be done.

FINANCE & BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Chairman Andy Ritchie:

1. **CIPT Intergovernmental Agreement and Ordinance Approval:** Ritchie reported this agreement is associated with CEFS out of Effingham. CEFS representative Beth Beck-Marts was in attendance and stated she would love to have the opportunity to discuss the benefits of staying with CIPT beyond this year because she had heard the board is considering changing affiliation to Macoupin County Transit. Hughes said it is too late to make a change to Macoupin County this year, but the matter will be discussed further at a future meeting of the Development and Personnel Committee. **Motion by Ritchie and second by Hughes to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement with Central Illinois Public Transit as presented. All in favor, motion carried. Motion by Ritchie and second by Whitworth to approve Ordinance 2023-4 to provide public transportation in Montgomery County. All in favor, motion carried. (For copies see Resolution Book 19, pages 266-268).**
2. **SOA Report Update:** Ritchie reported SOA Office Manager Cindy Laurent continues to supervise the SOA office. SOA staff member Kendra Niehaus will take her state exam again on February 27th in Edwardsville. He also reported Laurent has requested representatives from the company TrueRoll attend the March Full Board meeting to give a 20-minute presentation on their software for Proactive Homestead Monitoring.
3. **Capital Improvement Fund Reports Update:** Ritchie reported the reserve balance is currently \$6,853,880. Treasurer Lohman stated after receiving a coal royalty check of \$75,000 in November, the County received checks of \$180,000 in December, and \$300,000 in January. She said the \$300,000 check will be reflected in the March report.
4. **IMRF Update:** Ritchie reported Treasurer Lohman received year-end balances for IMRF during the committee meeting Friday, and the results were not good. Lohman stated the balances took a hit as quite a few retirees were paid out last year, including nine from the regular retiree account and two from SLEP. She said she spoke with IMRF, and they did not recommend any extra payments be made at this time. She said they recommended waiting and letting the market fluctuate. Young asked how much of a hit we took. Lohman said regular retirement downturn amount was approximately \$8 million.
5. **FY 2022 Audit Update:** Ritchie stated there is nothing new to report.
6. **Approve Salary Increase for Supervisor of Assessments Office Manager for March 2023 Approval:** Ritchie reported Cindy Laurent will remain the office manager through at least the beginning of March and will still need to provide training for Niehaus even if she passes her exam February 27th. **Motion by Ritchie and second by Young to approve extending the temporary salary increase for Supervisor of Assessments Office Manager Cindy Laurent through March 2023. All in favor, motion carried.**
7. **Approve Purchase of Vehicle for Sheriff's Department Approval:** Ritchie reported the Sheriff's department totaled a vehicle, and we received only \$5,500 from the insurance company. Sheriff Robbins has requested the board approve moving a purchase of a sheriff's vehicle from next year's budget to this fiscal year. Robbins stated after including the amount from the insurance company, the total cost of the new vehicle is

\$42,132.00. **Motion by Ritchie and second by Jones to approve purchasing a vehicle for the sheriff's department in Fiscal Year 2023.** Robbins stated he was hopeful the Finance and Budget Committee would decide where the money would come from. Lohman said there is approximately \$288,071 in ARPA's other expenses fund, but the Sheriff's office also has ARPA Lost Revenue money from the previous year still not utilized. She asked if the purchase could be taken from this fund and be reimbursed. Robbins said as long as it happens quickly because the other vehicles they ordered a while ago should be coming soon. **All in favor, motion carried.**

8. **Sheriff's Department Organizational Structure Approval:** Ritchie reported the Sheriff's Office used to deploy an organizational structure including an elected Sheriff, an Undersheriff and a Chief Deputy. He said approximately five years ago they did away with the Undersheriff position; however, in order to better supervise patrol and administrative areas, they would like to re-establish the Undersheriff position. Ritchie stated Chief Deputy Tyson Holshouser would assume the role of Undersheriff and a patrol deputy would be promoted from within the ranks to assume the role of Chief Deputy. Robbins said he has saved the county money over the last five years by cutting the Undersheriff position, and the Chief Deputy would be in charge of patrol and investigations while the Undersheriff would be in charge of the jail and telecommunications. Robbins stated the cost would be an increase in salary of approximately \$15,000 combined for both positions, but they are salaried positions with no overtime. He said he has the money in his budget this year to pay it, but next year would be a different consideration. Young asked what this action would do to his overtime budget. Robbins said it should not affect it at all. **Motion by Ritchie and second by Whitworth to re-establish the Undersheriff position in the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office. All in favor, motion carried.**
9. **Approve Maintenance Contract for Generators for EMA Approval:** Ritchie reported EMA purchased two generators, and they would like to sign a maintenance contract to service them. The cost is \$2,590 per year for both. Ritchie stated EMA Director Schott said he could budget for the cost of the maintenance contract. Bergen said he doesn't like warranties. Schott said this maintenance contract includes oil changes, batteries and other things. **Motion by Ritchie and second by Folkerts to approve signing the maintenance contract for the EMA generators. All in favor, motion carried.**
10. **Approve Resolution for Electronic Monitoring Fees Approval:** Ritchie reported Probation Office Manager Banee Ulrici informed the Finance and Budget Committee they would like to charge clients \$250 for the use of electronic monitoring bracelets, with the option to refund \$225 back to the county if the bracelets are returned undamaged and reusable. He said these battery-charged bracelets are not given out to every parolee, but are given to those who must travel for work. Ulrici stated some clients travel 2 to 3 hours away for work. **Motion by Ritchie and second by Jones to approve Resolution 2023-5 establishing electronic monitoring fees. All in favor, motion carried.**
11. **Intergovernmental Agreement with City of Nokomis for Police Radio and Telephone Services Approval:** State's Attorney Affrunti stated this item needs to be tabled. **Motion by Ritchie and second by Beck to table approving the Intergovernmental Agreement with the city of Nokomis for Police Radio and Telephone Services. All in favor, motion carried.**

- 12. Contract for Temporary Custodian Approval:** Ritchie reported Sheriff Robbins has requested hiring the cleaning service from the Courthouse Complex temporarily in order to keep up with cleaning at the Historic Courthouse. Robbins said the cost would be \$21.50 per hour for up to 24 hours per week. He said he is hopeful the County won't need to hire anyone, but this needs to be addressed just in case. Sneed said only one person would be working in the Historic Courthouse. Lohman asked Sneed if the money to pay for it could be taken from the Buildings and Grounds coal line. Sneed said it could right now, but if it goes on too long it will need to be addressed. **Motion by Ritchie and second by Jones to approve using the contract with National Maintenance and Cleaning for temporary custodial services at the Historic Courthouse. All in favor, motion carried.**
- 13. Bellwether ARPA Reporting and Budgeting Process Approval:** Ritchie reported Dustin Harmon and Jake Johnson with Bellwether, LLC, gave a presentation during the last Finance and Budget Committee outlining their budget process for local governments. Additionally, Bellwether representative Bruce DeLashmit attended remotely. Ritchie stated Bellwether would work with the County throughout the budget process and will always keep the Finance and Budget Committee and County Board involved. He said the cost of hiring Bellwether is \$6,000 up front, and then another \$6,000 when the process is finished. Lohman said the company would have some of the hard conversations with department heads and include a few members from the board during those conversations. **Motion by Ritchie and second by Beck to hire Bellwether, LLC, for the Montgomery County budget process for two payments of \$6,000 each.** Lohman said the initial payment could come from ARPA expenses, and then the County could budget the second payment during the Fiscal Year 2024 budget process. **All in favor, motion carried.**
- 14. Notification of Non-County ARPA Project Recipients Update:** Ritchie reported he has drafted a letter to be distributed to all of the non-county ARPA award recipients outlining the process for how their money will be distributed. He said the letter 1) announces the entities have been awarded based on their application, 2) notifies them an Intergovernmental Agreement will be distributed with a signed copy returned to the County before distribution takes place, and 3) notifies the entity the board must approve an ordinance transferring the ARPA money into an escrow account before distribution. Affrunti stated the County has a responsibility to the federal government to report how ARPA money is being spent, and some counties have had issues tracking money after it was distributed. Affrunti said hopefully between this and the next meeting the Intergovernmental Agreements will be completed.
- 15. Intergovernmental Agreement for ARPA Distribution Update:** Ritchie said there is nothing additional to report.
- 16. Approve Intergovernmental Agreement with Nokomis-Witt Ambulance Service for ARPA Distribution Approval:** Young reported the Nokomis-Witt Ambulance Service found two used ambulances they would like to purchase with the ARPA money they have been awarded. He said it is his opinion choosing to buy used rigs instead of new should take the place of paying the 40 percent match requested of non-county entities. Whitworth stated other entities are paying a 40 percent match, and the board was led to believe Nokomis-Witt Ambulance could do the same. Young said he doesn't know who led them to believe this. Affrunti said this item, as well as items 17 through 26 on the

agenda; need to be tabled anyway because the Intergovernmental Agreements are not finished. **Motion by Ritchie and second by Jones to table agenda items 16 through 26 for one month. All in favor, motion carried.**

17. **Approve Intergovernmental Agreement with Raymond-Harvel Ambulance Service for ARPA Distribution Update:** This item was tabled during previous discussion.
18. **Approve Intergovernmental Agreement with Farmersville-Waggoner Ambulance Service for ARPA Distribution Update:** This item was tabled during previous discussion.
19. **Approve Intergovernmental Agreement with City of Nokomis for ARPA Distribution Update:** This item was tabled during previous discussion.
20. **Approve Intergovernmental Agreement with Fillmore Police Department for ARPA Distribution Update:** This item was tabled during previous discussion.
21. **Approve Ordinance Authorizing the Use of ARPA Funds to Purchase Ambulance(s) for Nokomis-Witt Ambulance Service Update:** This item was tabled during previous discussion.
22. **Approve Ordinance Authorizing the Use of ARPA Funds to Purchase Ambulance(s) for Raymond-Harvel Ambulance Service Update:** This item was tabled during previous discussion.
23. **Approve Ordinance Authorizing the Use of ARPA Funds to Purchase Ambulance(s) for Farmersville-Waggoner Ambulance Service Update:** This item was tabled during previous discussion.
24. **Approve Ordinance Authorizing the Use of ARPA Funds to Purchase a Warning Siren for the City of Nokomis Update:** This item was tabled during previous discussion.
25. **Approve Ordinance Authorizing the Use of ARPA Funds to Purchase a Police Squad Car for the Fillmore Police Department Update:** This item was tabled during previous discussion.
26. **Approve Ordinance Authorizing the Use of ARPA Funds to Purchase Pagers for Montgomery County First Responders Update:** This item was tabled during previous discussion.
27. **Approve Ordinance Authorizing the Use of ARPA Funds to Purchase Radios/Communications systems for EMA Approval:** Ritchie reported this is the first ordinance of two the Board will pass in purchasing radios and communications equipment for Montgomery County EMA. This amount was approved by the Full Board in October 2022. **Motion by Ritchie and second by Young to approve Ordinance 2023-6 authorizing the use of ARPA funds to purchase radios/communications systems for Montgomery County EMA in the amount of \$2,200. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, page 270).**
28. **Starting Salary and Wage Increases for Non-Union County Employees Update:** Ritchie reported this item was initially put on the agenda to start the conversations to prepare for budget time; however, by hiring Bellwether to take over the budget process, this item no longer needs to be addressed at the moment.
29. **DCEO Energy Community Reinvestment Act Grant and Vistra Energy Update:** Ritchie stated there is nothing additional to report.
30. **Revolving Loan Fund Approval:** Ritchie reported the last outstanding loan has been paid off and the board needs to decide what to do with the Revolving Loan Fund. He

stated the Finance and Budget Committee, pending the approval of the State's Attorney, voted to recommend dissolving the Revolving Loan Fund and returning the money to the Capital Improvement Fund since it was taken from Coal money to begin with. **Motion by Ritchie and second by Beck to dissolve the Revolving Loan Fund, pending approval from the State's Attorney, and to return the money to the Capital Improvement Fund.** Affrunti stated he has no problem with the board dissolving the Revolving Loan Fund. Young asked if the board is going to be done with it completely. Affrunti said the County does not have power to loan money, but there are other avenues to fund many of the same projects. **All in favor, motion carried.**

INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Chairman Gene Miles and Committee Member Bob Sneed:

1. **2023 Township MFT Rock Letting Results Approval:** Miles reported the price of quite a few items increased. **Motion by Miles and second by Young to approve the low bidders for the 2023 Township MFT Rock Letting. All in favor, motion carried.**
2. **2023 County MFT Rock Letting Results Approval:** **Motion by Miles and second by Jones to approve the low bidders for the 2023 County MFT Rock Letting. All in favor, motion carried.**
3. **Boom Mower/Ditcher Letting Results Approval:** Miles reported Highway Engineer Greenwood received a price for the boom mower/ditcher from Woody's Municipal Supply in the amount of \$89,396.80. **Motion by Miles and second by Jones to approve the purchase of a boom mower/ditcher from Woody's Municipal Supply in the amount of \$89,396.80. ROLL CALL VOTE: VOTING YES: Beason, Beck, Bergen, Donaldson, Folkerts, Hughes, Jones, Miles, Ritchie, Sneed, Whitworth and Young. VOTING NO: None. ABSENT: Loucks and Murzynski. All in favor, motion carried.**
4. **Walshville Bypass Road Intergovernmental Agreement Update:** Miles reported Greenwood spoke recently with Walshville Village Board President Joy McDonald and she is going to see if the board can pass the Intergovernmental Agreement at their March meeting. Miles said until the village approves the agreement, the board will take no action.
5. **Highway Resolution 2023-02 to appropriate funds for 100% County culvert replacement on Niemanville Trail Approval:** Miles reported the cost of this project will be \$20,000 and it will come from the County Aid to Bridge Fund. **Motion by Miles and second by Whitworth to approve Resolution 2023-02 to appropriate funds for 100% County culvert replacement on Niemanville Trail. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, pages 271-272).**
6. **Old Highway Department Building Update:** Miles reported the Infrastructure Committee gave Greenwood approval to get the old Highway Department building tested for asbestos. Greenwood stated he has not received a formal report yet, but several spots came back hot. Whitworth asked if the County discloses the building has asbestos, would we be able to sell the property "as is," with the intent of having the buyer pay for the abatement at their own expense. Affrunti said it can be done and that language would have to be worked into the agreement.
7. **Maintenance and Cleaning Issues and Report Update:** Sneed reported maintenance superintendent Phil Ernst has been busy working around the courthouse buildings. He said Ernst and Maintenance Assistant Roger Cassidy have been pulling double duty

because they've been doing some of the custodial work around the Historic Courthouse while the regular custodian is off sick. Sneed also reported the VAC building was recently broken into, but the broken door used for entry has since been repaired. He also reported the Animal Control facility should be receiving a new door soon.

8. **Sidewalks at Historic Courthouse Update:** Sneed reported he met with Hillsboro city officials recently, and they are going to partner with the County to repair and replace the sidewalks around the Historic Courthouse. He said they are waiting to hear back about the cost of the project.
9. **Interior Door Project for County Clerk's Office Update:** Sneed said there is nothing new to report.
10. **Bidding out the County Farm Approval:** Sneed reported Affrunti briefed the committee on the legalities of leasing out the county farm. Sneed said the board needs to determine whether or not there is public purpose for the land, and if there isn't, it can be leased. Hughes asked if the County would be in any legal trouble if we lease the farm. Affrunti said if the board decides leasing it would be in the best interest of the County, we should be fine. **Motion by Sneed and second by Miles stating it is in the best interest of the County to continue leasing the County farm. All in favor, motion carried.**
11. **Approve Ordinance Bidding Out County Farm Approval:** Affrunti reported the board needs to pass an ordinance to lease the farm, and if they choose to lease it for longer than two years, they must agree to do so by at least a three-fifths majority vote. **Motion by Sneed and second by Bergen to approve Ordinance 2023-7 leasing out the County Farm. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 19, page 273).**
12. **EMA Storage Shed Update:** Schott stated he is working on getting things out of the old highway department property.
13. **Window Kits for Probation Office Doors Update:** Sneed reported Probation Office Manager Bane Ulrici received a quote for window kits for their office doors. She will be getting in touch with Gardener Glass to see how much installing the glass will be as well.
14. **Additional Office Space for Probation Update:** Sneed reported Ulrici also informed the Infrastructure Committee she received a grant for mental health court to hire three new employees and she is in need of space to put them. Ulrici said she has been in contact with EMA Director Schott and Sheriff Robbins about using the old ambulance billing office.
15. **Elections Update:** County Clerk Leitheiser reported 1,120 registered voters have requested vote-by-mail ballots for the upcoming April 4, 2023 Consolidated Election to date. She stated February 23rd is when early voting begins and is also the date when her office can begin mailing out ballots.
16. **Animal Control Facility Update:** Gerl reported she has been in contact with Affrunti about asking Probst Veterinarian Clinic to print their own rabies certificates. She said a state statute says the County has to supply the rabies tags, but not the forms. Gerl also said she is working with local Veterinarians with rabies tags.
17. **Animal Control Municipal Contracts Update:** Gerl reported she recently received a contract from the village of Coalton for animal control services. She said she currently has six signed contracts from municipalities and plans to work with representatives from each of the other municipalities to get their agreements signed. Gerl said she is currently

working with an outstanding amount of owner surrendered animals, and she has been too busy to reach out. Affrunti stated in the past we reached out to the mayors at Mayors' meetings to share information about the municipal contracts and why we need to have them approve it, and he suggested a Mayors' meeting be scheduled in the near future. Whitworth asked how many contracts were signed before Gerl took over. Gerl said one contract for Coffeen was previously signed. Whitworth asked if the contract had changed at all since she took over, or if they were the same contracts. Affrunti said there was one small change where some language was accidentally left in, but it has since been removed.

18. Policy Regarding Treatment of Injured/Sick Animals at County Animal Control

Facility Update: Sneed reported Gerl told the committee she would take the recommendation of the Veterinarian in regards to injured animals. Gerl asked if she needed to provide this recommendation in written form. Whitworth replied they thought it would be good to have a policy in writing if an animal comes in sick or injured or if someone relinquishes their pet to the county. Whitworth stated the policy would protect the County; especially if a Veterinarian says a pet should be euthanized. Whitworth said it is not our purpose or roll to take in someone's sick or injured pet. Gerl said she is working on creating a document outlining a policy for how long an injured animal should be treated, including a limit of how much to spend on animal medical care for pets dropped off at the facility. Donaldson asked Gerl to work with State's Attorney Affrunti on this policy. Affrunti said he needs to research if the medical recommendation can come from any Veterinarian or if it has to come from the County Veterinarian. Hughes asked if there was a County Veterinarian and Young responded no. State's Attorney Affrunti said Dr. Alan Probst is our County Veterinarian. He said because the Animal Control Administrator is not a licensed Veterinarian, according to State Statute there must be a County Veterinarian. Gerl asked about the appointments of the County Veterinarian and says the statute says something about the county being required to supply equipment and compensation for the position. Gerl asked if we compensate Dr. Probst, and Affrunti replied he will speak with her about this at a later time. Bergen asked when the County Veterinarian was appointed, and State's Attorney Affrunti replied it was done by County Board approval in August of 2009. After the approval of the committee reports and minutes, Bergen asked if the issue of the County Veterinarian could be put on the committee agenda because Probst was appointed a long time ago. Chairman Donaldson responded it can be placed on an upcoming committee agenda.

APPROVAL OF THE COMMITTEE REPORTS & MINUTES:

Motion by Jones and second by Whitworth to approve the five committee reports and minutes. All in favor, motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None.

SCHEDULE CHANGES: Donaldson reported the only schedule changes are for the Buildings and Grounds and Roads and Bridges Committees' meeting dates and locations. He said Buildings and Grounds Committee will meet the Tuesday before full board meetings at 8:30 a.m. in the County Board room, and Roads and Bridges Committee will meet the Wednesday before full board meetings at 8:30 a.m. at the Highway Department.

APPOINTMENTS: Motion by Whitworth and second by Folkerts to approve the appointment of Dr. Brian Cady to the Montgomery County Board of Health through June 30, 2025. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Sneed and second by Whitworth to approve the appointment of Dr. Dennis Billiter to the Montgomery County Board of Health through June 30, 2025. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Whitworth and second by Hughes to approve the appointment of Pam Myers to the Montgomery County Board of Health through June 30, 2023. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Hughes and second by Jones to approve the appointment of Dan Hough to the Montgomery County Community Mental Health/708 Board through November 30, 2026. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Young and second by Bergen to approve the appointment of James Holliday to the 911/Emergency Telephone System Board. Hughes asked why there was no expiration date attached to this appointment like the ones prior. Affrunti said the ETSB bylaws state when elections of officers occur and when terms take effect, and the County Board needs to look at when those terms will take effect for the future, but for now they just need to appoint the board members. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Whitworth and second by Bergen to approve the appointment of David Beal to the 911/Emergency Telephone System Board. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Young and second by Bergen to approve the appointment of Mike Smalley to the 911/Emergency Telephone System Board. All in favor, motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: County resident Bill Schroeder asked where the County Board stands on implementing zoning. Donaldson said there is currently no movement on it, but there will be board discussion about it. Schroeder also urged board members to check their emails.

PAY BILLS AND PAYROLL: Motion by Ritchie and second by Beck to pay all approved bills and Payroll. All in favor, motion carried.

ADJOURN: The next regular full board meeting will be on Tuesday, March 14th, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. in the County Board Room, Hillsboro, Illinois. Motion by Sneed and second by Young to adjourn the Full Board Meeting. All in favor, motion carried.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:53 p.m. Minutes respectfully recorded and submitted by Montgomery County Clerk and Recorder Sandy Leitheiser.