

**COUNTY BOARD MINUTES – MOULTRIE COUNTY, ILLINOIS
FEBRUARY 9, 2023**

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
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COUNTY OF MOULTRIE)

The Moultrie County Board met on Thursday, February 9, 2023, in the Board Room, Second Floor, Moultrie County Courthouse. Chairman Billy Voyles called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Opening prayer was given by Board Member Aaron Wilhelm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance being recited by all in attendance.

Roll Call was taken, with the following Board members present Billy Voyles, Marsha Kirby, Tyler Graven, John Vander Burgh, Travis Phelps, Scott Buxton, Aaron Wilhelm, Kenny Graven, and Joshua Roe

There were 10 people in attendance which included nine board members and County Clerk Linda Qualls.

Mission Statement was read by John Vander Burgh.

Correspondence: Mr. Voyles reported he had been given information for the Illinois Association of County Officials (IACO) Scholarships and Application. Mr. Voyles asked Stephanie Helmuth to elaborate. Ms. Helmuth stated the scholarships are for any elected or appointed official who has a child or grandchild graduating this year, who is going to a two-year tech school, two year or four-year college. There are two \$500.00 for two-year tech school, two \$500.00 two-year college, and two \$1,000.00 for four-year college.

Minutes: Mr. Tyler Graven moved to approve the January 12, 2023, meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Roe, which passed by roll call vote. (9 yes, 0 no)

Guest Speaker: Nathan Nichols with Central Illinois Public Transportation (CIPT) shared data about riders of the CIPT vans, the ridership increase, and some of the places the riders go which now includes special events. Mr. Nichols thanked the board for their continued support of the program. Mr. Nichols mentioned during questions that CIPT now takes some children to school for a fee.

Mr. Voyles moved to approve an Ordinance to Provide for Public Transportation and Intergovernmental Agreement for fiscal year 2024. The motion was seconded by Ms. Kirby, which passed by roll call vote. (9 yes, 0 no)

Unfinished Business: Mr. Voyles moved to allow the Supervisor of Assessment Office to pay current full-time employees at the rate of time and a half when they work 36 hours or more in a week beginning February 14, 2023, for fiscal year 2023 or until the open full-time deputy position is filled. The motion was seconded by Mr. Wilhelm, which passed by roll call vote. (9 yes, 0 no)

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Appointments by Chair: none.

NEW BUSINESS:

Update on Sheriff's Deputy contract negotiations, Mr. Voyles called on Sheriff Carroll for the update. Sheriff Carroll stated the contract talks started in January this year instead of August to give the Linda's office time to figure things caught up and get things figured out in October or November (before the beginning of the fiscal year). The intent is to increase pay 12% the first year and 8% in the second and third years. 4% of the 12% is to catch deputies up with the \$1.00 minimum wage increase and inflation. Sheriff Carroll explained he has expanded the residency requirements from 10 miles to 35-mile radius from the courthouse for a lot more area in hopes that will help in the application process. Deputies are giving up all their holiday time for 8% of their salary, so they will have no more bonus hours to take off throughout the year.

Deputies wanted a minimum amount of training time, which Sheriff Carroll explained they can have all the training time they want to and able to. There was no contention there.

Deputies clothing allowance will not be paid to the deputies, but to the vendor from whom the clothing is ordered.

STANDING COMMITTEES

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE (Chair: Vander Burgh)

Meeting held February 6, 2023.

Mr. Vander Burgh moved to approve the January 2023 Treasurer's Report. The motion was seconded by Ms. Kirby, which passed by roll call vote. (9 yes, 0 no)

Mr. Vander Burgh moved to approve all claims as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Tyler Graven. Mr. Buxton asked a question about Ms. England working in the Clerk's office (for his own information) to which Ms. Qualls explained Ms. England is helping with tax extensions since this is her first election cycle along with emails alone keeping her busy. The motion to approve all claims as presented passed by roll call vote. (9 yes, 0 no)

Mr. Vander Burgh moved to amend/increase line item 505.35, Computer Support under the Supervisor of Assessment's Budget from \$25,658.00 to \$32,798.00. The motion was seconded by Ms. Kirby, which passed by roll call vote. (9 yes, 0 no)

Mr. Vander Burgh moved to increase account 001-001-40913 General Fund Interest Income to \$100,000.00 from \$10,000.00. The motion was seconded by Mr. Roe. Mr. Wilhelm asked if this motion was to correct a clerical error in the budget to which Mr. Vander Burgh said, yes. The motion to increase account 001-001-40913 passed by roll call vote. (9 yes, 0 no)

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Mr. Vander Burgh moved to increase account 001-008-50812, Bargaining Deputies' Salary from \$496,579.00 to \$516,627.00 to set amount to contracted and full staff. The motion was seconded by Mr. Voyles, which passed by roll call vote. (9 yes, 0 no)

Mr. Vander Burgh moved to increase account 001-008-50816 Bargaining Jailers' Salaries from \$292,785.00 to \$458,350.00. The motion was seconded by Mr. Roe. Mr. Buxton asked if this is part of the bargaining. Mr. Voyles explained there are unfilled positions at the jail so if the positions were to be filled, we would have enough money. The motion to increase account 001-008-50816 passed by roll call vote. (9 yes, 0 no)

Mr. Vander Burgh updated the board on the RFP (request for proposal) for the audit. The committee is still struggling to find qualified providers of that service. We have to have that within six months of our year-end, so far, we can get anyone to submit a proposal. The committee is on their second round of soliciting proposals and have broadened the net. This is not specific to Moultrie County; the industry does not have enough qualified people to do what needs to be done. Mr. Phelps asked if we can file an extension, Mr. Vander Burgh mentioned we can file for a 60-day extension, then after that, it's just late at which time the comptroller's office may assess fines and they may understand the problems and not assess fines.

BUILDING AND PROPERTY (Chair: Graven)

Meeting held February 1, 2023.

Mr. Tyler Graven stated the committee did meet but has no motions.

ROAD AND BRIDGE (Chair: Voyles)

Meeting held February 2, 2023.

Mr. Voyles moved to approve C-Hill Civil Contractors for Section 04-03128-00-BR bridge project. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kenny Graven. After a short discussion, the motion passed by roll call vote. (9 yes, 0 no)

PLANNING, ZONING and LAND USE (Chair: Phelps)

Meeting held February 3, 2023.

Mr. Phelps moved on the Rezoning Application from AG to I-1 by Marcus Graber on PIN 06-06-10-000-136, 1881 Jonathan Creek Rd, Sullivan, for a building to complete construction of prefab wall panels for his business and warehouse storage. The motion was seconded by Ms. Kirby. Ms. Hart explained the location of the request, that Mr. Graber has built the building but it is not approved in the AG district to have any kind of woodworking. So, in order to do that, he needs the re-zoning to I-1, which is allowed in that district. The motion then passed by roll call vote. (8 yes, 0 no, 1 abstain) with Mr. Vander Burgh abstaining.

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Mr. Phelps moved on a variance request to build 44 feet from the front property line by Marcus Graber on PIN 06-06-10-000-136, 1881 Jonathan Creek Rd, Sullivan. The motion was seconded by Mr. Tyler Graven. Ms. Hart explained this is an office in a portable building which has no electricity or plumbing. The motion then passed by roll call vote. (8 yes, 0 no, 1 abstain) with Mr. Vander Burgh abstaining.

Mr. Phelps moved on the Rezoning Application from AG to I-1 by Roger Herschberger on part of PIN 06-06-03-000-412, Cadwell for a woodworking shop and warehouse. The motion was seconded by Mr. Wilhelm. Ms. Hart explained, again in AG no woodworking shop can be in the AG zone. The motion then passed by roll call vote. (9 yes, 0 no)

PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY, AND WELFARE (Chair: Phelps)

No meeting held. No motions.

Mr. Phelps shared with the board the department heads would like to take CPR and AED classes and offer the same to any employee who would like to take them as well. Angie Hogan is currently setting that up, so there should be no cost to the County.

AS NEEDED COMMITTEES

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE (Chair: Kirby)

Committee did not meet.

Ms. Kirby moved to re-appoint David W. Fathauer as Commissioner to Union Drainage District No. 1 of Mt. Zion and Dora Townships, term to expire September 2025. The motion was seconded by Mr. Tyler Graven, which passed by roll call vote. (9 yes, 0 no)

INSURANCE COMMITTEE (Chair: Roe)

Committee did not meet.

PERSONNEL (Chair: Kirby)

Meeting scheduled for February 6, 2023, had to be canceled by Ms. Kirby. She will reschedule promptly.

GIS STEERING (Chair: Kirby)

Meeting held February 2, 2023

Ms. Kirby moved to trade GIS Ownership Layer for 3 wall maps and 10 plat books with FHP. The motion was seconded by Mr. Tyler Graven, which passed by roll call vote. (9 yes, 0 no)

Ms. Kirby moved to table the purchasing of TrueRoll software until next fiscal year (2024). The motion was seconded by Mr. Roe. After discussion and explanation by Ms.

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Kirby and Mr. Wilhelm that it is believed this software will gain money for the County because it will aid in assessing properties properly and for the Treasurer updating addresses for real estate tax mailings. The motion then passed by roll call vote. (9 yes, 0 no)

LIQUOR COMMISSION (Chair: Voyles)

Mr. Voyles moved to approve letter to the Illinois Liquor Control Commission approving the removal of Carol A. Wade, deceased, as an owner of the JEDE LLC d/b/a/ Timberlake Golf Course. The motion was seconded by Ms. Kirby, which passed by roll call vote. (9 yes, 0 no)

AD HOC COMMITTEES

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) (Chair: Stephanie Helmuth)

No meeting. The Treasurer stated there is reporting coming up so she will be running numbers and calculations and getting receipts so she will be able to update the board next month.

COUNTY EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK

Committee did not meet.

DIVE TEAM (Chair: T. Graven)

Committee did not meet.

WIND ENERGY CONVERSION SYSTEM (WECS) (Chair: Voyles)

Committee did not meet.

OTHER BUSINESS

None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION 5 ILCS 120/2

No executive session held.

COMMENTS

BOARD

Mr. Buxton stated he would like to see about the chairman on the Election Committee. Going to classes, he believes that's the best way to handle that. That it should be the board's responsibility to do those jobs.

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Mr. Phelps shared that the department head meeting was held and the elephant in the room is still wages and trying to fill open jobs. Mr. Phelps discussed the possibility of increasing the minimum starting wage in the courthouse. Transparency concerning wages is a top priority. Discussion followed.

OFFICE HOLDERS/DEPARTMENT HEADS

Treasurer Helmuth mentioned mobile home taxes will be going out before the next meeting then the tax cycle will start over.

PUBLIC - None.

Ms. Kirby moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Tyler Graven seconded said motion, which passed by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Linda S. Qualls,
Moultrie County Clerk