

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNTY BOARD
KNOX COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

May 22, 2019

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COUNTY OF KNOX)

Proceedings of the Regular Meeting of the Knox County Board held at the Galesburg City Hall, Galesburg, Illinois on Wednesday, May 22, 2019 at 6:04 p.m.

The Meeting was called to order by County Board Chairwoman Pamela Davidson and upon roll call the following Members reported present:

District 1	Lyle Johnson
District 2	David Amor
District 3	Pamela Davidson
District 5	Ricardo “Rick” Sandoval
District 1	Cheryl Nache
District 2	Robert Bondi
District 3	Tara Wilder
District 4	Todd Olinger
District 5	Brian Friedrich
District 2	John Hunigan
District 4	Sara Varner
District 5	Todd Shreves

And those absent:

District 4	Jared Hawkinson
District 1	Patrick Harlan
District 3	Kyle Rohweder

Also present was County Treasurer Robin Davis, County Circuit Clerk Kelly Cheesman and County Clerk Scott Erickson.

County Clerk Scott Erickson delivered the Proclamation. Chairwoman Pamela Davidson led the Members in the pledge to the flag. In lieu of a formal invocation Chairwoman Davidson asked that a moment of silence be observed.

Chairwoman Davidson asked for additions or deletions to the agenda. There were none.

Chairwoman Davidson asked for public comments. She reminded those in attendance that public comments will be limited to three minutes. Connie Main from Altona again addressed the Board regarding stray dogs that repeatedly visit her property. She commented that existing laws are not enforced concerning some civil matters. This has been going on for three years. She and her family members have been portrayed as the bad guys and been the targets of verbal abuse.

She continually hears of the financial problems of the County; they are struggling to pay the bills. If these stray dogs would have been caught there would have been additional revenue generated. She feels that she has been lied to about these dogs' inoculations and registrations. For some reason the Sheriff's Department and the State's Attorney Office continue to turn a blind eye to this situation. These laws are not upheld. She wants answers and justice.

Motion was made by Member Sandoval and seconded by Member Bondi to approve the following items of the consent agenda: 1) minutes of the Regular and Closed Board Meetings on April 24, 2019, 2) claims by Members for per diem and mileage for the meetings of May 2019 and other claims for per diem from meetings, and 3) sales tax and various taxes for the month of February 2019 in the amounts of \$93,416.26 and \$15,982.52 and public safety tax in the amount of \$150,815.66. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Amor, Davidson, Sandoval, Nache, Bondi, Wilder, Olinger, Friedrich, Hunigan, Varner and Shreves—(12). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Sandoval and seconded by Member Varner to approve the proclamation of support for the Blessings in a Backpack Program in Knox County. Chairwoman Davidson asked representatives of this organization to come forward. She read aloud a portion of this proclamation, a copy of which is included in the packets. This organization fills backpacks with food for needy children to eat during holidays or over the weekend. Some members of this organization are Knox College students who care about the children in our community. Member Wilder voiced her support of this program. Voice vote to approve this proclamation is recorded as follows: Ayes—(12). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Amor and seconded by Member Nache to accept the annual County audit report for fiscal year ending November 30, 2018. Matt Schueler, Senior Manager of Wipfli, LLP of Sterling, Illinois, presented an overview of the auditor's report a copy of which had been provided to the Board Members.

Mr. Schueler reported that they had already met with the County Treasurer and the County Clerk to go over the details in this report. Boards Members had been provided a copy of the Federal award. Since the FQHC part of the Health Department receives federal funds there had to be a special audit, regarding those funds. They did have a finding for the Federal Health Clinic regarding how the Health Department is applying their sliding fee scale to pay for services. They have a plan in place to correct that moving forward. There was also another special audit for the Circuit Clerk's Office and there were no findings to report.

Regarding the annual financial report, the County does get a passing grade. Of the County's major funds, not including the Nursing Home and the Landfill, there is a balance of \$22,500,000. Of the amount, \$19,300,000 is in restricted funds that must be used for specific designated purposes. The unassigned balance is \$1,600,000. For the income statement not including the Nursing Home and the Landfill, the fund balance is \$1,655,000. For the Landfill and the Nursing Home, those funds decreased \$295,000. Part of that amount includes depreciation amounts, including equipment and buildings. All of the County's deposits are secure as they are covered either through FDIC or pledged collateral.

Regarding pensions, this year was a particularly good year for the IMRF pension plan. The County has two plans. One is the regular plan and the other is the Sheriff's plan. The regular

plan is funded at 104% and the other plan at 101%. Overall there is \$81,000,000 in assets to pay this liability.

Each year he presents a five year comparison sheet of specific funds. This is summarized information. From 2014 to 2018, the number of days in the general fund balance has increased to 51 days. Last year it was 25.84 days.

Chairwoman Davidson asked what things the County needs to look into correcting.

Mr. Schueler responded that a letter had been included in the packet which lists suggestions for improvements. He has reviewed these recommendations with the County Treasurer and the County Clerk. It is important for policies and procedures to be followed throughout the County, not just certain departments.

Roll call vote to accept the annual County audit report for fiscal year ending November 30, 2018 is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Amor, Davidson, Sandoval, Nache, Wilder, Olinger, Friedrich, Hunigan, Varner and Shreves—(11). Noes—(0). Pass—Bondi—(1). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Friedrich and seconded by Member Sandoval to approve the new appointment to Knoxville Fire Protection District of trustee Jeff Jefferson. Information is included in the packets. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Amor, Davidson, Sandoval, Nache, Bondi, Wilder, Olinger, Friedrich, Hunigan, Varner and Shreves—(12). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Friedrich and seconded by Member Sandoval to approve the new appointment to the Knox County Mental Health 708 Board of Debra Goodwin. Information is included in the packets. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Amor, Davidson, Sandoval, Nache, Bondi, Wilder, Olinger, Friedrich, Hunigan, Varner and Shreves—(12). Noes—(0). Motion carried. (** Note – This appointment was not approved by the Mental Health Board as it was to be an application for the position only. The Mental Health Board will return at a later date with the recommendation)

Motion was made by Member Amor and seconded by Member Bondi to approve the intergovernmental agreement between Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services and the State's Attorney. A copy of this agreement is included in the packets. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Amor, Davidson, Sandoval, Nache, Bondi, Wilder, Olinger, Friedrich, Hunigan, Varner and Shreves—(12). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Member Amor presented the monthly report from the Finance, Insurance, Treasurer, Judicial and Clerk Committee. The monthly report is in the packets.

Motion was made by Member Amor and seconded by Member Bondi to approve the schedule on Civil Clerk Fees from the Circuit Clerk. Member Amor added that this is additional information that the Board previously approved. A copy of this fee schedule is included in the packets. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Amor, Davidson, Sandoval, Nache, Bondi, Wilder, Olinger, Friedrich, Hunigan, Varner and Shreves—(12). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Amor and seconded by Member Bondi to approve the resolution on criminal and traffic fees from the Circuit Clerk. Member Amor stated that this is similar to the action that was taken for Civil Clerk fees. This resolution repeals all of the previous resolutions regarding the handling of criminal and traffic court fees and replaces them with a resolution which creates a series of funds both local and state wide which will receive a portion of those fees laid down by State legislation which was adopted earlier this year. Information is included in the packets. Roll call vote to approve the resolution on criminal and traffic fees from the Circuit Clerk's Office is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Amor, Davidson, Sandoval, Nache, Bondi, Wilder, Olinger, Friedrich, Hunigan, Varner and Shreves—(12). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Amor and seconded by Member Nache to approve the resolution regarding the Health Savings Account Contribution for Plan Year July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020. Member Amor stated that according to this resolution the County will contribute \$500 for an individual employee and \$1,000 for a family to their HSA Account for employees who are participating in Knox County Health Insurance. It is anticipated that there will be an increase in the insurance deductible and this contribution to the employees' HSA is intended to offset that deductible. Information is included in the packets. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Amor, Davidson, Sandoval, Nache, Bondi, Wilder, Olinger, Hunigan and Shreves—(10). Noes—Friedrich—(1). Pass—Varner—(1). Motion carried

Member Wilder presented the monthly report from the Nursing Home Committee. This meeting was held May 16th. A copy of this report is included in the packets. She reported that recently the Nursing Home had their annual survey. They did get two minor tags. They also had their life safety survey, which also went well.

Motion was made by Member Wilder and seconded by Member Amor to approve the payment for Klingner & Associates for engineering services for the Nursing Home roof and sewer projects. Member Wilder reported that Klingner & Associates will be preparing the bid materials to send out to the contractors at a cost of \$4,500. This is for roof repairs and there is a pipe that needs to be fixed on one of the wings.

Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Amor, Davidson, Sandoval, Nache, Bondi, Wilder, Olinger, Friedrich, Hunigan, Varner and Shreves—(12). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Member Johnson presented the monthly Sheriff, Jail, Mary Davis Home, Animal Control, and Building Committee report. This meeting was held May 13th. The report is included in the packets.

Motion was made by Member Johnson and seconded by Member Friedrich to approve to bid and bring back for weather protection for the Courthouse HVAC system. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Amor, Davidson, Sandoval, Nache, Bondi, Wilder, Olinger, Friedrich, Hunigan, Varner and Shreves—(12). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Johnson and seconded by Member Friedrich to approve to bid and bring back for climate control updates to the storage facility at the Mary Davis Home.

Chairwoman Davidson commented that this is something that had been talked about in the past. This needs to be climate controlled as there is so much documentation that is stored on the fourth floor of the Courthouse and needs to be moved to this storage facility. Some of these documents are old and need to be in a climate controlled environment.

Roll call vote to approve to bid and bring back for climate control updates to the storage facility at the Mary Davis Home is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Amor, Davidson, Sandoval, Nache, Bondi, Wilder, Olinger, Friedrich, Hunigan, Varner and Shreves—(12). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Johnson and seconded by Member Shreves to approve a taser replacement 5 year plan for the Sheriff's Office. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Amor, Davidson, Sandoval, Nache, Bondi, Wilder, Olinger, Friedrich, Hunigan, Varner and Shreves—(12). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Member Friedrich presented the monthly Assessor, Zoning, GIS, Highway Department, Veteran's, and Landfill Committee report. The monthly report is included in the packets. He commented that this was a short twenty minute meeting. One thing that a lot of these departments have in common is that a lot of them have been affected by this rainy weather, especially the Highway Department and Landfill.

Member Bondi presented the monthly report from the Knox County Board of Health. This meeting was held May 9th. The final draft in their upcoming budget was handed out. They discussed making some repairs to the parking lot. They also discussed some equipment upgrades.

Member Varner presented the monthly report from the Galesburg Convention and Visitor's Bureau. She reported that she was not able to attend this meeting. She did report that their director, Michelle Kim, has left that position. They will be looking for a new director.

Member Hawkinson was not in attendance to present the monthly report from the 9-1-1 committee.

Ken Springer presented the monthly report from the Knox County Area Partnership for Economic Development. He announced that Marshall's opened May 16th. KCAP will be holding their next luncheon July 30th. They are partnering with the Illinois Manufacturing Association. Recently KCAP partnered with Delabar CTE Systems and the Galesburg Educational Center to take 52 high school students to John Deere for a tour. There were hands-on activities and things like welding simulators. They did get some excellent feedback from those who took part in this tour. KCAP seeks to highlight careers that are growing in this area. They will be doing more tours like that in the fall. Recently KCAP held a Meet and Greet Entrepreneurship Event in Monmouth. This is an occasion for them to get together and network with other entrepreneurs to share their experiences and get feedback about some challenges that they are facing. KCAP also received positive feedback about this event.

Member Johnson presented the monthly report from the Prairie Hills Resources Board. He reported that there was no meeting this month.

Member Johnson presented the monthly report from the United Council of Counties. He attended that meeting May 20th. One interesting thing from this meeting was a workshop on prevailing wage. A lot of counties had questions as to what is covered under the prevailing wage. The answer to that question is that almost anything that is done for a city or a county is covered under the prevailing wage. It is a State law to follow the prevailing wage requirements. Another interesting note is that McHenry County is seeking to disband some townships to reduce the number of boards. The follow up question is if the townships are disbanded than who assumes this responsibility?

Member Amor presented the monthly report from the Western Illinois Regional Council. There was no meeting this month.

Member Rohweder was not in attendance to present the monthly report from the Knox County Mental Health 708 Board.

Motion was made by Member Amor and seconded by Member Bondi to approve the opening of the budget for line item changes. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Amor, Davidson, Sandoval, Nache, Bondi, Wilder, Olinger, Friedrich, Hunigan, Varner and Shreves—(12). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Proposed line item transfers are presented in the packets and include CAC, the Health Department and FQHC.

Motion was made by Member Bondi and seconded by Member Amor to approve the proposed line item changes. Voice vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—(12). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Olinger and seconded by Member Nache to approve the claims against Knox County, Illinois, for the period of April 25, 2019 through Mary 22, 2019 (ordering that invoices be accepted and approved and that the County Clerk and County Treasurer be authorized and directed to issue County Warrants in payment of the bills.) Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Amor, Davidson, Nache, Bondi, Wilder, Olinger, Friedrich, Hunigan, Varner and Shreves—(11). Noes—(0). Pass—Sandoval—(1). Motion carried.

STATEMENTS OF GENERAL CONCERN

Member Johnson congratulated Member Wilder about her article on the front page of the newspaper.

Member Amor, Member Davidson, and Member Sandoval had no comments at this time.

Member Nache also congratulated Member Wilder.

Member Bondi wished everyone a safe Memorial Day holiday.

Member Wilder, Member Olinger and Member Friedrich had no comments at this time.

Member Hunigan expressed his thanks to Member Friedrich for filling in for him.

Member Varner and Member Shreves had no comments at this time.

The next Regular Meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 26, 2019, 6:00 p.m., at the Galesburg City Hall Council Chambers, Galesburg, Illinois.

Motion was made by Member Friedrich and seconded by Member Varner to adjourn from this Open Meeting. Voice vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—(12). Noes—(0). Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:59 p.m.