

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

July 24, 2019

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
) SS
COUNTY OF KNOX)

Proceedings of the Regular Meeting of the Knox County Board held at the Galesburg City Hall, Galesburg, Illinois on Wednesday, July 24, 2019 at 6:10 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 4	Jared Hawkinson
District 1	Cheryl Nache
District 2	Robert Bondi
District 3	Tara Wilder
District 4	Todd Olinger
District 5	Brian Friedrich
District 3	Kyle Rohweder
District 4	Sara Varner

And those absent:

District 5	Ricardo “Rick” Sandoval
District 1	Patrick Harlan
District 2	John Hunigan
District 5	Todd Shreves

Also present was County Treasurer Robin Davis and County Clerk Scott Erickson.

County Clerk Scott Erickson delivered the Proclamation. Chairwoman Pamela Davidson led the Members in the pledge of allegiance 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. Member Hawkinson asked for an addition to the agenda at 20A, for a special presentation award to the Board, from the American Public Works Association for Historic Work and Preservation. Chairwoman Davidson added another item to the agenda at 4A, for a special presentation from the Mental Health 708 Board. Regarding deletions from the agenda, Chairwoman Davidson stated that every person who is to be appointed and does not have a resume attached, that appointment will be deleted from the agenda. There are two such appointments on this agenda. One is agenda item 5, appointment of trustee Emil Johnson to the Abingdon Fire Protection

District and agenda item 6, appointment of Dustin Courson as trustee to the Williamsfield Fire Protection District. These appointments can be presented to the Board when they have the proper documentation. Member Friedrich asked that agenda item 22, approve change order for the concrete pad project at the Landfill, be removed from this agenda. There was no committee meeting this month for lack of a quorum.

Chairwoman Davidson asked for public comments.

Attorney Bill Butts addressed the Board on the behalf of his client, Linda Ledbetter. Mr. Butts stated that he had contacted Chairwoman Davidson and she did go out and take a look at this property. He spoke of an intolerable situation. Ms. Ledbetter lives in the County in a rural area and there is a barn next to a fence line on her property. Mr. Butts brought several pictures to better illustrate the problem. The neighboring farmer has piled hay all along her fence. They have tried to resolve this problem in different ways and such efforts have been unsuccessful. He did some extensive research and discovered that the County Board has the authority to issue specific ordinances to establish a space between one neighbor's residence and the other neighbor's farm equipment. Some of this hay is piled up against this neighbor's house. Mr. Butts understands that the Board does not want to take on this project tonight. Perhaps it could be referred to the Zoning Committee and let them take a look at this intolerable situation. The more that Ms. Ledbetter has asked this neighbor to do something about this problem, the more he piles on. Mr. Butts is asking for an ordinance that would be applicable to all County residents. This ordinance would require some technical work but would benefit all of Knox County. This would especially benefit residents such as this property owner whose property exists in an unincorporated area of the County and has no options available except to appeal to the Board. This neighbor has other options available when it comes to relocating his junk and things. Ms. Ledbetter added that some of these things have been sitting there for twenty years. Mr. Butts commented that it really wasn't too bad until he began piling stuff right along the fence line which borders her house and her driveway. Some of this stuff is actually hanging over the fence. The Board really needs to work on an appropriate zoning ordinance. He would be willing to offer his own technical assistance to the Board.

Motion was made by Member Bondi and seconded by Member Amor to approve the following items of the consent agenda: 1) minutes of the Regular and Closed Board Meetings on June 26, 2019, 2) claims by Members for per diem and mileage for the meetings of July 2019 and other claims for per diem from meetings, and 3) sales tax and various taxes for the month of April 2019 in the amounts of \$111,467.13 and \$20,292.13 and public safety tax in the amount of \$181,823.91. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Amor, Davidson, Hawkinson, Nache, Bondi, Wilder, Olinger, Friedrich, Rohweder and Varner—(11). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Chairwoman Davidson presented the Proclamation of August as “Back to School Month”. A copy of this resolution is included in the packets. She reminded everyone not to forget about watching out for the children as they start the school year.

Greg Bacon, chairman of the Knox County Mental Health (708) Board, presented the annual report to the Board. They have completed going through the funding requests for the year.

Member Rohweder has been a great help. Mr. Bacon presented copies of disbursement report to the Board Members.(A copy of this report is attached to the Board Minutes.) This year's disbursements total \$1,178, 064 that will be made to various organizations. Each year they do not disburse all of their funds that they have available, but rather hold some money back for the possibility of an organization that needs matching funds for a grant or an emergency situation.

Chairwoman Davidson questioned if they can give funds to Bridgeway and KCCDD for a projects such as a roof.

Mr. Bacon responded that they had checked the State statute and that is allowed. In the case of KCCDD that is a matching grant. The Sheriff's Department is still working on their application for funds. In the last two years the Mental Health Board has disbursed almost \$2,500,000. He thanked the tax payers of Knox County for giving the funds to the Mental Health 708 Board.

Motion was made by Member Hawkinson and seconded by Member Friedrich to approve the new appointment of Dan Dunn as trustee to the Spoon Valley Lake Sanitary District. Information is included in the packets. Chairwoman Davidson added that this resume was in the Members' packets. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Amor, Davidson, Hawkinson, Nache, Bondi, Wilder, Olinger, Friedrich, Rohweder and Varner—(11). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Friedrich and seconded by Member Bondi to approve the reappointment of Ken Springer to the Quad Cities Regional Economic Development Authority. Information is included in the packets. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Amor, Davidson, Hawkinson, Nache, Bondi, Wilder, Olinger, Friedrich, Rohweder and Varner—(11). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Amor and seconded by Member Nache to remove from the table—the appointments to the Municipal and Rural Knox Mass Transit District. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Amor, Davidson, Hawkinson, Nache, Bondi, Wilder, Olinger, Friedrich, Rohweder and Varner—(11). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Rohweder and seconded by Member Johnson to approve the appointments to the Municipal and Rural Mass Transit District. Member Hawkinson reported that in the Members' packets there are six resumes and last month there were none. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Amor, Davidson, Hawkinson, Nache, Bondi, Wilder, Olinger, Friedrich, Rohweder and Varner—(11). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Nache and seconded by Member Rodweder to approve the resolution for consolidation of the County Recorder's Office. Information is included in the packets.

Chairwoman Davidson reported that according to State statute, Illinois counties with a total population of less than 60,000, that county can consolidate the County Recorder's Office with the County Clerk's Office. The current population of Knox County is approximately 52,000.

Member Friedrich inquired regarding a pay increase for County Clerk Scott Erickson as this would create extra responsibilities for him.

Chairwoman Davidson responded that the current County Recorder's term will continue until December 2020. After that date, the staff will continue in much the same way, except that Mr. Erickson will be their boss. He will not be receiving any additional pay.

Member Hawkinson had the same question about the salary for the County Clerk. However, that pay cannot be adjusted until later when those salaries are set for the 2022 election schedule.

Member Friedrich agreed that they cannot change that salary right now.

Member Varner questioned the duties of each office as these offices are combined.

Mr. Erickson responded that staff members would be performing their duties as assigned. During an election, the employees in the Recorder's Office could help out in the County Clerk's Office. Employees would be cross-trained. Employees in the County Clerk's Office could then assist when they are really busy in the County Recorder's Office.

Chairwoman Davidson reported that she has visited with the current County Recorder Carol Hallam who said that she is totally fine with this as it is not the first time for this consolidation to be suggested. This subject came up three Recorders ago.

Member Amor inquired if there is special knowledge that someone managing that office would need to acquire.

Mr. Erickson responded that it would require a training process. The County Clerk's association and other similar organizations do offer appropriate training for this position. He also has a circle of friends to call on to get information.

Member Hawkinson asked if the County Clerk is OK with this consolidation.

Mr. Erickson responded that he was not actively searching for this. This will result in a cost savings for the County and streamline operations.

Member Varner noted that the software in the County Recorder's Office is similar to the software in the County Clerk's Office so that helps.

Mr. Erickson responded that there is a different vendor now. There will be cross training and they will make it work. There will be a learning curve.

Chairwoman Davidson stated that this consolidation would result in true cost savings for the County and streamline the process.

Roll call vote to approve the resolution for consolidation of the County Recorder's Office with the County Clerk's Office is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Amor, Davidson, Hawkinson, Nache, Bondi, Wilder, Olinger, Rohweder and Varner—(10). Noes—Friedrich—(1). Motion carried.

Member Amor presented the monthly report from the Finance, Insurance, Treasurer, Judicial and Clerk Committee. The meeting was held July 17th. A copy of the minutes is included in the packets. A major part of the discussion had to do with the changes in the Recorder's Office regarding their new policy of not recording documents that same business day, if they are brought to the office after 3:30 p.m. There has been negative feedback from real estate agents and attorneys regarding this policy. This was extensive discussion. The State's Attorney came and was able to suggest a way to resolve these difficulties.

Motion was made by Member Amor and seconded by Member Bondi to approve the resolution on the deed of conveyance for PIN 99-14-129-005. Information is included in the packets. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Amor, Davidson, Hawkinson,

Nache, Bondi, Wilder, Olinger, Friedrich, Rohweder and Varner—(11). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Amor and seconded by Member Bondi to approve the wage increase for the Public Defender (per Statute). Member Amor explained that this is something that the County is required by the State to do. The State's Attorney salary is set by Statute and the Public Defender's salary is required to be 90% of the salary of the State's Attorney. The Public Defender's salary will go from the current amount of \$153,155.00 to \$154,453.58

Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Amor, Davidson, Hawkinson, Nache, Bondi, Wilder, Olinger, Friedrich, Rohweder and Varner—(11). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Amor and seconded by Member Friedrich to approve budget changes for the Public Defender and State's Attorney salary increases. Information is included in the packets. A revised handout had been provided to the Board Members. Member Amor explained that this budget change is because the salary change takes place July 1, 2019 and the County Budget turns over December 1, 2019. This is a mid-year budget change. The State's Attorney's Salary will increase from the current rate of \$170,172.00 to \$171,614.43.

Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Amor, Davidson, Hawkinson, Nache, Bondi, Wilder, Olinger, Friedrich, Rohweder and Varner—(11). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Hawkinson and seconded by Member Johnson to approve the purchase of two Sheriff squad cars. Member Amor reported that these are the final two of the six updates to the squad car fleet. These cars are 2019 Ford Taurus Police Interceptor Sedans to be purchased from Morrowbrothers Ford in Greenfield, Illinois, at the State price of \$28,840.00 each. This was already budgeted.

Member Hawkinson explained that this request was submitted after the Sheriff's Committee had met but this was presented to the Finance Committee. These vehicles must be purchased as this opportunity to purchase vehicles at the State price happens, or you wait until next year. There aren't any local dealers that can offer vehicles at the State price.

Member Bondi commented that he would like to see the County investigate buying vehicles locally.

Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Amor, Davidson, Hawkinson, Nache, Bondi, Wilder, Olinger, Friedrich, Rohweder and Varner—(11). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Amor and seconded by Member Friedrich to approve Human Resources Consulting/Training for County Departments. Information is included in the packets. This is something that came up while visiting with the County's Labor attorney. It is their recommendation that several of the County Offices could use some updates and training in how to handle relations with employee and union contracts. The Finance Committee voted to approve this at a fee of up to \$5,000.

Chairwoman Davidson stated that this fee was adjusted as they added additional departments. There might have to be additional research to make this applicable to other department heads.

Roll call vote to approve Human Resources Consulting/Training for County Departments is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Amor, Davidson, Hawkinson, Nache, Bondi, Wilder, Olinger, Friedrich, Rohweder and Varner—(11). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Member Wilder presented the monthly report from the Nursing Home Committee. This meeting was held July 18th. The minutes are in the packets. They discussed the problem of lawn care at the Nursing Home. They are trying to figure out if it would be better to hire a lawn care company versus hiring an employee of the Nursing Home. They will be doing additional research.

Motion was made by Member Wilder and seconded by Member Bondi to approve the membership in the Illinois Healthcare Association. Member Wilder explained that this is an association that the Nursing Home would like to join. This association provides advice and consulting services as well as providing discounts on educational services. The fee would be \$929.50 per month. This is much needed for the Nursing Home.

Chairwoman Davidson added that a previous Nursing Home Administrator had recommended that the Nursing Home become a member of this association. This group can also help find staff members.

Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Amor, Davidson, Wilder, Olinger, Friedrich, Rohweder and Varner—(8). Noes—Hawkinson and Nache—(2). Pass—Bondi—(1). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Wilder and seconded by Member Friedrich to approve the addition of an Analytic Program from PCC. This program will help to maximize the level of care for the residents and be able to handle the billing for that care. The monthly cost is \$584.78.

Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Amor, Davidson, Hawkinson, Nache, Wilder, Olinger, Friedrich, Rohweder and Varner—(10). Noes—(0). Pass—Bondi—(1). Motion carried.

Member Hawkinson presented the monthly Sheriff, Jail, Mary Davis Home, Animal Control, and Building Committee report. This meeting was held July 15th. The minutes will be revised and presented for approval at the next committee meeting. He presented some highlights from that meeting. Regarding the Mary Davis Home, the good news is that the State has finally paid everything that was owed in full. For the fiscal year of 2018-2019 the State has paid \$796,735. The anticipated State revenue for the next fiscal year is approximately \$1,190,635, which will assist in putting the Mary Davis Home in a better fiscal condition. Last month there was a power outage in the City of Galesburg which caused the power to go out for several hours in the night at the Mary Davis Home and caused their generator to fail. The automatic switch to that generator failed. The switch to turn on that generator manually also failed. They are working with the insurance company and looking for a generator with a different automatic switch system.

Regarding the Sheriff's Department, the Sheriff reported a recent arrest. There was an individual who was firing weapons at vehicles. He threatened that if police tried to arrest him,

this would be another Fulton County incident. The Sheriff's Department was able to arrest this person. This was a positive result from what could have been a disaster.

The representative from Smart Watt presented an update on their project. Information was provided to the Members. The next step is working with contractors. There will be additional meetings to evaluate available options and establish priorities, before any final decisions are made.

The circular staircase in the Circuit Clerk's Office is still not completed. He has tried calling the contractor on that project and they have not returned his calls. The next step might be to consult State's Attorney John Pepmeyer. Previously Member Hawkinson was told that the fabrication has been completed. It just hasn't been installed, possibly due to jury trials.

Motion was made by Member Hawkinson and seconded by Member Friedrich to approve the emergency purchase of a vehicle for the Sheriff's Department. Information is included in the packets. Member Hawkinson reported that this was discussed in the committee meeting. Their current vehicle has 175,000-176,000 miles on it. It has some major mechanical issues such as brake lines. This vehicle would cost more to fix it than it is worth. This was approved at the committee level for the emergency expenditure. The cost is \$22,300 from Wight's Chevrolet, Williamsfield, Illinois. They are going to apply three junk cars toward the purchase. This new vehicle will replace an investigative truck and will be funded through Drug Forfeiture and Drug 36 Funds.

Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Amor, Davidson, Hawkinson, Nache, Bondi, Wilder, Olinger, Friedrich, Rohweder and Varner—(11). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Hawkinson and seconded by Member Johnson to approve the purchase of a maintenance truck and plow for the Sheriff's Department. Member Hawkinson reported that this was discussed and approved in the June committee meeting. This will replace a 2006 truck with 121,000 miles on it. Information is included in the packet.

Member Wilder asked where the funds are coming from.

Member Hawkinson responded that he did not attend that meeting. He would guess the line item for vehicles from drug forfeiture funds. The County can only use drug forfeiture funds for specific things.

Chairwoman Davidson stated that she also wants to know where these funds are coming from.

Member Bondi suggested that Member Hawkinson phone the Sheriff and ask him about this funding.

County Clerk Scott Erickson commented that the Board could skip this and return to it later in the meeting. Perhaps by then, more information about funding will be available.

Cody Basham, on behalf of the American Public Works Association presented an award to the County for their historic work and preservation of the Courthouse.

Member Friedrich presented the monthly Assessor, Zoning, GIS, Highway Department, Veteran's, and Landfill Committee report. He stated that there was no meeting for lack of a quorum. Therefore agenda item 22, approve change order for the concrete pad project for the Landfill was removed from this agenda, as it was not discussed in the committee meeting.

Motion was made by Member Olinger and seconded by Member Bondi to approve the complete certified rebuild of the Cat 826H Compactor by Altorfer, for the Landfill at an estimated cost of \$440,000. Member Friedrich reported that this was discussed the previous month. Landfill Administrator Rod Clair has decided it would be best to get the compactor rebuilt. In the end of this rebuild process it will be a totally new machine with a warranty. This is approximately one half the price of purchasing a new one.

Mr. Clair stated that of the options available this is the cheapest. The life cycle for a trash compactor is approximately 10, 000 hours. Currently their unit has 13, 000 hours. A new compactor is estimated to cost \$775,000. To get a used one that has been rebuilt the cost would be \$475,000. The estimated cost to get this one rebuilt in \$440,000. This will have a warranty like it is brand new. This compactor is a little smaller than the ones that they produce now. The size of their current compactor fits their needs better.

Roll call vote to approve the complete certified rebuild of the Cat 826H Compactor by Altorfer, for the Landfill at an estimated cost of \$440,000 is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Amor, Davidson, Hawkinson, Nache, Bondi, Wilder, Olinger, Rohweder and Varner—(10). Noes—(0). Pass—Friedrich—(1). Motion carried.

Member Friedrich expressed his thanks to the Finance Committee for their assistance.

Member Bondi presented the monthly report from the Knox County Board of Health. This meeting was held July 11th. Dan Harris chaired this meeting. The Board bills are in the amount of \$99,610.00. National Health Center Week will be observed from August 4-10. They are conducting surveys to enhance the Dental Health program.

Chairwoman Davidson reported that there continues to be a difference of opinion regarding the County Board Member's seat on the Knox County Board of Health. Sometimes the appointed County Board Member cannot attend and another Board Member attends in his place. The Health Department is saying that that substitute cannot vote. The County Board will be asking for a decision from State's Attorney John Pepmeyer, whether this is a seat for the County Board or an individual.

Member Varner presented the monthly report from the Galesburg Convention and Visitor's Bureau. The meeting was held July 15th. They have rolled out their new website. This includes different pages and is really informative. There is really good information for everyone, for visitors and for locals.

Member Hawkinson presented the monthly 9-1-1 Committee Report. The meeting was held June 27th. They discussed the Smart 9-1-1 system. This system allows residents to log into the system and enter their personal and medical information so that in the event of an emergency that information would then be available to emergency responders. The City of Galesburg sent out Smart 9-1-1 information with their water bills. The committee also discussed a recording system to capture 9-1-1 text messages and also discussed software replacement.

Ken Springer presented the monthly report from the Knox County Area Partnership for Economic Development. He thanked the Board for reappointing him to the Quad Cities Regional Economic Development Authority. He added that this organization is comprised of a group of

counties that unite together for purposes of developing a bonding authority. Examples are the Build America Bonds. This is a regional bonding authority that is able to pool funds together to be used for specific projects within the region.

Locally in the last eight weeks lead activity has picked up. The first quarter of this year was pretty slow. He anticipates a strong end to the year.

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

Member Johnson presented the monthly report from the United Council of Counties. The first item has to do with a workshop that he attended concerning Senate Bill #1. This has to do with the minimum wage for Illinois. This will impact the County. January 1, 2020, the hourly minimum wage will increase to \$9.25 compared to the current wage of \$8.25. July 1, 2020 that minimum wage increases to \$10.00. After that it will increase on January 1 for each year at the rate of \$1.00 per year until the wage is \$15.00. This is for employees who are over age 18. However, if an employee, who is under age 18 and works over 650 hours in the year, they move up to the adult wage schedule. Department heads need to know about this as it could make a large difference in their budget.

Member Johnson also spoke of Senate Bill # 1236. This one the Board needs to respond to the Governor and legislators. As it is currently written it states that if you want to remove the County Board Chair, all it takes is an 80% majority vote to approve. The big catch to this is that no cause is required. This doesn't make a lot of sense.

He also spoke of GATA, the Grants Accountability and Transparency Act. As regards grants, there are specific steps that must be followed. County Treasurer Robin Davis was also in attendance.

Another proposed piece of legislation would make it mandatory to conduct an audit when newly elected officials take over. This would be expensive.

There was also a discussion about the Electoral College. Of course this last election there was much talk comparing the popular vote and the electoral vote. Some states are allowing their electoral votes to be divided between the candidates. This is something to be watching.

Chairwoman Davidson added that since the County is a member of UCCI, the County does get reimbursed for County representatives to attend these conferences. UCCI pays for the hotel bills and everything.

Member Amor presented the monthly report from the Western Illinois Regional Council. They held their meeting July 11th. He was not able to attend that meeting in person. However, he did get all of the materials for it. He also had a long conversation with the executive director. WIRC is getting much more interested and involved in Knox County. They have taken over the Carver Community Center and are working on a memorandum of understanding with the FISH food pantry. They plan to make some large food purchases available to the FISH food pantry during this next cycle. They are also working with the Loving Bottoms Diaper Organization. Additionally they are working with the United Way as regards the Touch a Truck Program. They also have scholarships available to trade schools and colleges. They are also working on some housing issues with HUD funding. They also participated in the lead abatement project. They are busy with various projects in Knox County.

Member Rohweder presented the monthly report from the Knox County Mental Health 708 Board. Earlier in this meeting Knox County Mental Health 708 Board Chairman Greg Bacon and representative Steve Watts presented the annual financial disbursement report. Member Rohweder commented that this has been a really cool experience to work with these organizations and be a part of what they do. Of course, they work with Bridgeway and KCCDD to provide funding as well as other organizations such as School District #205, the Regional Office of Education and others. This is a really important board.

Chairwoman Davidson added that there will be an extra meeting and she asked Member Varner and Member Wilder to attend a meeting about the City Mass Transit System. They will be paying \$13,000 for someone to come in and advise them. There is also a meeting scheduled with IDOT July 26th.

The City will also be making a huge effort to get an accurate count on the census. It is important to get everyone counted.

Member Hawkinson reintroduced the motion to approve the purchase of a maintenance truck and plow for the Sheriff's Department. He reported that he had not heard back from the Sheriff. The Sheriff's committee met July 15th. According to those committee minutes these funds are allocated in the budget. He pointed out that the two action items on this agenda for the Nursing Home certainly did not have a specific line item in the budget for their cost. Where are those funds going to come from? Board Members have had thirty-seven days to review this information about this purchase and now there is a problem. If the Board wants to question every single line item purchase that the Board approves, he is OK with that.

Member Amor commented that he understands that this is already included in the Sheriff's budget. He noted that Public Safety Funds cannot be used for this purpose.

Member Friedrich called for the question.

Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Amor, Davidson, Hawkinson, Nache, Bondi, Wilder, Friedrich, Rohweder and Varner—(10). Noes—Olinger—(1). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Hawkinson and seconded by Member Bondi to approve opening the budget for line item changes. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Amor, Davidson, Hawkinson, Nache, Bondi, Wilder, Olinger, Friedrich, Rohweder and Varner—(11). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Line item changes were presented in the Board packets for the Sheriff's Department.

Motion was made by Member Johnson and seconded by Member Friedrich to approve the proposed budget line items as presented. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Amor, Davidson, Hawkinson, Bondi, Wilder, Olinger, Friedrich, Rohweder and Varner—(10). Noes—Nache—(1). Motion carried.

Chairwoman Davidson reported that in the Finance Committee Meeting some bills were pulled and she questioned the clarification of those bills. She was informed that those questions were resolved.

Motion was made by Member Johnson and seconded by Member Bondi to approve the claims against Knox County, Illinois, for the period of June 27, 2019 through July 24, 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, Hawkinson, Nache, Bondi, Wilder, Olinger, Friedrich, Rohweder and Varner—(11). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

STATEMENTS OF GENERAL CONCERN

Member Johnson reminded Member to contact the Governor and legislators about that bill.

Member Amor urged members of the Zoning and Assessment Committee to take seriously the request by Mr. Butts and Ms. Ledbetter. She came to him about a year ago and he came to the same conclusion as Mr. Butts, that there is not anything that he could do. He did talk to the Sheriff about it. It was suggested that she look into legal counsel. This is a difficult situation for her. She is concerned that this is a health hazard not only for herself but for her children. If Members have looked at the pictures, this is right across the driveway from her house. He would hope that the Board would take this seriously and look into creating an ordinance that would specify some setbacks. This would be a good thing for the County.

Chairwoman Davidson commented that she did drive out there and looked at the property. This is a true issue. She did talk to former Board Member Paulsgrove. He found some State wide information. The Board needs to check into things like that. Additionally she asked that they write a letter to the Governor regarding pending legislation about the County Board Seat, and legislation about mandatory audits when newly elected officials take over. This would be very expensive. She also commented about that those who have run for public office and been elected to serve on the County Board and are absent from Board Meetings and committee meetings. Tax payers have a right to question why they are not in attendance. They are supposed to be a part of this Board.

Member Hawkinson commented about school starting in a couple of weeks. Motorists should review the school bus by-laws, specifically the school bus arm laws. The priority should be for the safety of the children.

Member Nache agreed that motorists should be mindful of school kids. On another subject she addressed the auditors' advice about so many line item changes. They should be approved only as necessary. These are not to be routine. During the budgeting process make sure funds are budgeted properly.

Member Bondi commented that Galesburg City Engineer and Director of Public Works, Wayne Carl has been attending some County meetings. Member Bondi appreciates his attendance.

Member Wilder had no comments at this time.

Member Olinger commented about Mr. Butt's public comments. The Board needs to do some research on this and figure out how to proceed. He also thanked Member Rohweder and the 708 Mental Health Board for their contribution to the Child Advocacy Center. It is important to law enforcement to give abused children a voice. It is necessary to have a Child Advocacy Center. These funds are necessary to allow them to continue to serve the children. They do an outstanding job.

Member Friedrich expressed his displeasure with this Board regarding the attendance that they have. There is a lack of respect to the Chairperson of this Board. When Board Members are not going to attend the Meeting, they should inform her. Members were elected to do this job. When a Member cannot attend a meeting, or if they are running a few minutes late, they should inform the Board Chairperson or the Chairperson of that committee. Perhaps that Member could be moved to another meeting. It is irresponsible not to call. If they are unwilling to serve, they should move on and let someone else do it.

Member Rohweder offered his personal gratitude for all of the incredible and hardworking people serving on this Board. It has been a pleasure to serve on this Board and it has been a fantastic learning experience. He also gave a shout out to County Clerk Scott Erickson for being the hardest working man in Knox County.

Member Varner commented that other Members said it all.

The next Regular Meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 28, 2019, 6:00 p.m., at the Galesburg City Hall Council Chambers, Galesburg, Illinois.

Motion was made by Member Friedrich and seconded by Member Bondi to adjourn from this Open Meeting until the next scheduled Meeting of the Board. Voice vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—(11). Noes—(0). Motion carried. Open Meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.