

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

November 26, 2019

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
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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 Tuesday, November 26, 2019 at 6:10 p.m.

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

District 2	David Amor
District 3	Pamela Davidson
District 4	Jared Hawkinson
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 3	Kyle Rohweder
District 4	Sara Varner

And those absent:	District 1	Lyle Johnson
	District 1	Patrick Harlan
	District 5	Todd Shreves

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

County Clerk Scott Erickson delivered the Proclamation. Chairwoman 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 Amor asked that agenda item 19, approve extension of the current alternate public defender contracts for one month, be removed from this agenda.

Chairwoman Davidson asked for public comments. There were none.

Motion was made by Member Bondi and seconded by Member Friedrich to approve the following items of the consent agenda: 1) minutes of the Regular and Closed Board Meeting on October 23, 2019, 2) claims by Members for per diem and mileage for the meetings of November 2019 and other claims for per diem from meetings, and 3) sales tax and various taxes for the month of August 2019 in the amounts of \$111,447.93 and \$21,031.11 and public safety tax in the amount of \$180,606.90.

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

Motion was made by Member Nache and seconded by Member Bondi to approve the Proclamation of Support of December as National Safe Toy and Gift Month. A copy of this resolution is included in the packets. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Amor, Davidson, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Nache, Bondi, Wilder, Olinger, Friedrich, Hunigan, Rohweder and Varner—(12). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Friedrich and seconded by Member Sandoval to approve the new appointment of Sherry McCoy as trustee to the Maquon Fire Protection District. Member Bondi commented that he would still like to see a formal resume of these individuals. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Amor, Davidson, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Bondi, Wilder, Olinger, Friedrich, Hunigan, Rohweder and Varner—(11). Noes—(0). Pass—Nache—(1). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Friedrich and seconded by Member Bondi to approve the acceptance of the resignation of County Board Member Patrick Harlan. County Clerk Scott Erickson commented that hopefully they will have a new Board Member to present next month.

Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Amor, Davidson, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Nache, Bondi, Wilder, Olinger, Friedrich, Hunigan, and Varner—(11). Noes—Rohweder—(1). Motion carried.

Member Amor presented the monthly report from the Finance, Insurance, Treasurer, Judicial, Recorder and Clerk Committee. The meeting was held November 20th. The monthly report is included in the packets. Most of the items that were discussed in this meeting, appear as action items on this agenda. Additionally, they have learned that Knox County will be awarded a grant of approximately \$10,000 - \$12,000 to be used to promote an accurate census count. They will be establishing a County level census committee. During the March Election they hope to have promotional materials available at the polling places. These materials will explain the importance of an accurate census count and encourage everyone to participate. There will be a coordinator for the region.

Motion was made by Member Amor and seconded by Member Hawkinson to approve the release and settlement agreement regarding liability. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Amor, Davidson, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Nache, Bondi, Wilder, Olinger, Friedrich, Hunigan, Rohweder and Varner—(12). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Amor and seconded by Member Sandoval to approve the following thirty-three Resolutions on deeds of conveyance: PIN-99-15-227-005, PIN-99-12-101-012, PIN-99-15-15-227-006, PIN-99-15-331-015, PIN-99-11-380-009, PIN-99-14-328-003, PIN-99-14-178-027, PIN-07-34-451-006, PIN-10-19-477-021, PIN-11-01-327-005, PIN-11-02-101-008, PIN-11-03-326-004, PIN-11-03-453-023, PIN-11-24-153-005, PIN-13-33-302-018, PIN-17-04-106-011, PIN-17-04-130-010, PIN-17-11-300-002, PIN=19-33-477-020, PIN-20-07-228-003, PIN-99-02-401-008, PIN-99-11-307-007, PIN-99-11-487-007, PIN-99-11-480-007, PIN-99-13-106-004, PIN-99-14-176-031, PIN-99-14-302-013, PIN-99-14-402-011, PIN-99-15-202-021, PIN-99-15-326-002, PIN-99-15-454-007, PIN-99-16-402-;007, and PIN-99-09-404-005. Member Amor explained that this will put these properties back on the tax rolls. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Amor, Davidson, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Nache, Bondi, Wilder, Olinger, Friedrich, Hunigan, Rohweder and Varner—(12). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Amor and seconded by Member Bondi to approve the restoration of two cemeteries pending successful completion of due diligence. Information is included in the packets.

Member Amor reported that the State's Attorney was approached by an attorney representing the DAR. They are looking to restore two abandoned cemeteries in the Williamsfield area. Some photos were enclosed in the packets. On a State level there is legislation as to the procedure to allow this happen. There has to be a 30 day notice published in the newspaper to advise the public of this action and allow someone to come forward and say that this cemetery is not abandoned. After due diligence this project could begin.

Member Nache commented that she is glad that they are doing this as it is important to all of them. This really needs to be fixed up.

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

Motion was made by Member Amor and seconded by Member Bondi to approve the annual dues in the amount of \$1,500 to the Illinois Association of County Board Members. A copy of the invoice is included in the packets. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Amor, Davidson, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Nache, Bondi, Wilder, Olinger, Friedrich, Hunigan, Rohweder and Varner—(12). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Amor and seconded by Member Bondi to approve the Resolution on the State's Attorney Appellate Prosecutor. A copy of this resolution is included in the packets. Member Amor reported that this is something that they do every year. This cost has increased approximately \$4,000 from last year. The total amount is \$22,000.

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

Motion was made by Member Amor and seconded by Member Friedrich to approve the Resolution Authorizing the County Clerk and County Treasurer to issue County Warrants for certain claims during the period the County Board is not in session. A copy of this resolution is

included in the packets. Member Amor reminded Members that this is a resolution that they do every year.

Roll call vote to approve the Resolution Authorizing the County Clerk and County Treasurer to issue County Warrants for certain claims during the period the County Board is not in session is recorded as follows: Ayes—Amor, Davidson, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Nache, Bondi, Wilder, Olinger, Friedrich, Hunigan, Rohweder and Varner—(12). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Amor and seconded by Member Bondi to approve the monthly recurring check list. Members had been provided with a copy of this list. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Amor, Davidson, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Nache, Bondi, Wilder, Olinger, Friedrich, Hunigan, Rohweder and Varner—(12). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Amor and seconded by Member Hawkinson to approve the Resolution to restrict building expenditures during fiscal year 2019-2020 to emergency projects. A copy of this resolution is included in the packets. Member Amor stated that this is a continuation of the resolution that the Board has approved in previous years.

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

Motion was made by Member Amor and seconded by Member Sandoval to approve the Resolution to transfer funds from the Nursing Home Referendum Fund to the Nursing Home Fund. A copy of this resolution is included in the packets. Member Amor added that this would give the County Treasurer the authority to transfer up to \$400,000 if necessary.

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

Motion was made by Member Amor and seconded by Member Bondi to approve the additional services addendum #1 with PayPointHR with restriction of prior approval. This has to do with the people who did the wage compensation study and would allow County representatives to consult with them at an hourly rate. Only the Board Chair or her appointee could initiate this conversation, to insure that this does not get out of hand.

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

Motion was made by Member Amor and seconded by Member Bondi to approve the changes to the County Budget to be on display FY 2019-2020. These changes happened last month after the budget was placed on display. These changes are presented in the packets. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Amor, Davidson, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Nache, Bondi, Wilder, Olinger, Friedrich, Hunigan, Rohweder and Varner—(12). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Amor and seconded by Member Sandoval to approve the County Tax Levy FY 2019-2020 (with approved modifications if necessary). Member Amor

reported that the total amount is \$11,147,748, which is \$300,000 more than last year. The tax rate decreased .0015%.

Roll call vote to approve the County Tax Levy FY 2019-2020 (with approved modifications if necessary) is recorded as follows: Ayes—Amor, Davidson, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Nache, Wilder, Olinger, Friedrich, Hunigan, Rohweder and Varner—(11). Noes—(0). Pass—Bondi—(1). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Amor and seconded by Member Friedrich to approve the County Budget FY 2019-2020 with approved modifications. Member Hawkinson noted that there is a surplus of \$63.00.

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

Member Wilder presented the monthly report from the Nursing Home Committee. This meeting was held November 21. The report is included in the packets.

Motion was made by Member Wilder and seconded by Member Hunigan to approve to bid and bring back for an engine software upgrade for the HVAC System at the Nursing Home. Member Wilder explained that this has to do with the upgrade to Windows 10. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Amor, Davidson, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Nache, Bondi, Wilder, Olinger, Friedrich, Hunigan, Rohweder and Varner—(12). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Wilder and seconded by Member Nache to approve to bid and bring back for updates on Wing 2 at the Nursing Home. Member Nache commented that this will be very nice.

Member Wilder reported that the carpet has been soaked in urine in the past and carpet in that area makes no sense. Tony Perez from the Courthouse will be helping out with some of the labor involved.

Chairwoman Davidson reported that the Friends of the Nursing Home will be donating up to \$1,000 to be used for the paint for this project. Additionally money has been raised to have a beauty shop in the Alzheimer's wing, which will be convenient as this is a locked unit. This is a huge improvement as well as a marketing tool. It is heartwarming to know that some of these funds are from the memorial funds of previous residents. These funds were earmarked to the Nursing Home. They will be saving money by using some of the existing maintenance staff at the Nursing Home. One of the biggest expenses is the floors, especially the removal of asbestos. This project is overdue, as this carpet was placed there sixteen years ago.

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

Motion was made by Member Wilder and seconded by Member Sandoval to approve the bad debt write off for the Nursing Home in the amount of \$31,080. 80. Member Hawkinson reported that last year's amount was \$862,000.00. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Amor, Davidson, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Nache, Bondi, Wilder, Olinger, Friedrich, Hunigan, Rohweder and Varner—(12). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Member Hawkinson presented the monthly Sheriff, Jail, Mary Davis Home, Animal Control, and Building Committee report. This meeting was held November 14th. The report is in the packets. There are no action items this month.

Member Hunigan presented the monthly Assessor, Zoning, GIS, Highway Department, Veteran's, and Landfill Committee report. This meeting was held November 19th. The report is in the packets. This month they were happy to welcome the Veteran's Assistance group that attended this meeting. The committee spoke to them about how the committee and the Board could be of assistance with their efforts. They have almost \$400,000.00 in unused funds. There may be people in the community that are unaware of these available funds and the services that this group provides. The committee and this group need to be working together. It was suggested that they could update their brochures and the committee and the Board would happily distribute these brochures as they can. This month the Assessment Office has no action items. Also no action items from the Zoning Office. Ken Springer with KCAP has been helping out with the text amendment on recreational marijuana. He is a point person with the City of Galesburg on this subject. This month there were no inquiries from businesses for recreational marijuana. The Landfill is still waiting for the communication tower to be completed. Stratus reports multiple delays on the delivery of the necessary parts. The Highway Department is looking at some staff restructuring. No final decisions have been made.

Motion was made by Member Hunigan and seconded by Member Friedrich to approve the solid waste director's contract for the Knox County Landfill. Member Hunigan added that this contract would be in effect from December 1, 2019-November 30, 2023. Details are in the packets. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Amor, Davidson, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Nache, Bondi, Wilder, Olinger, Friedrich, Hunigan, Rohweder and Varner—(12). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Hunigan and seconded by Member Wilder to approve the collective bargaining agreement with Local 538 AFL-CIO for the Highway Department. Member Hunigan stated that the Member's packets should contain a copy of the previous contract as well as the changes to this contract.

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

Member Hunigan added his thanks to Chairwoman Davidson and Member Amor and other people who helped out with these discussions as he was out of town.

Motion was made by Member Hunigan and seconded by Member Friedrich to approve the Resolution on Motor Fuel Tax Salary. (Highway). Member Hunigan added that this is a required resolution that the County has to pass every year to pay the County Highway Engineer's Salary. This resolution extends from December 1, 2019-November 30, 2020.

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

Motion was made by Member Hunigan and seconded by Member Friedrich to approve to bid and bring back for a pressure washer for the Highway Department. Member Hunigan reported that the existing washer is thirteen years old and needs to be replaced. The estimated cost to replace it is approximately \$7,000.00.

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

Chairwoman Davidson asked that those who attend these external committees submit a written report of that meeting to be submitted in the packets. This would allow people to read it beforehand. This would reduce these presentations to a minimum of two minutes or less.

Member Amor presented the monthly report from the Knox County Board of Health. This meeting was held November 14th. Officers were elected for the coming year. They voted to approve moving funds to the FQHC. There were several year-end budget line transfers. They will again be administering the IHEAP program.

Chairwoman Davidson reported that currently Member Varner is unable to attend the monthly meeting of the Galesburg Convention and Visitors Bureau and they are looking for a replacement. Member Hunigan has been temporarily assigned to attend these meetings. He reported that the next scheduled meeting will be held December 16th.

Member Hawkinson had no report from the 9-1-1 Committee.

Ken Springer was not in attendance to present the monthly report from the Knox County Area Partnership for Economic Development. Chairwoman Davidson commented that this organization is doing great things in our community.

Member Johnson was not in attendance to present the monthly report from the Prairie Hills Resources Board.

Member Hunigan presented the monthly report from the United Council of Counties. He stated that he was privileged to attend this year's conference which was very informative. The Governor was there and spoke to this year's graduates of the program. One subject that was on everyone's mind is the soon to be legalized use of recreational marijuana and how that will affect Illinois Counties, especially in terms of tax revenues. They also discussed employment issues. One of the changes in the coming year is that employers can no longer ask about previous salary. This was a very informative conference.

Member Amor presented the monthly report from the Western Illinois Regional Council. There was no meeting this month. The next meeting will be December 12th. He reported that there has been a change in leadership as the executive director resigned due to a medical situation. There will be a report next month.

Member Rohweder presented the monthly report from the Knox County Mental Health 708 Board. This meeting was held November 8th. They discussed funding a research project with

Galesburg School District # 205. They have received positive feedback from those who are using the special bicycles that the 708 Board helped to purchase. These are for those in the community that have special needs.

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

The proposed budget line item changes are presented in the packets.

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

Motion was made by Member Bondi and seconded by Member Friedrich to approve the claims against Knox County, Illinois, for the period of October 24, 2019 through November 26, 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—Amor, Davidson, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Nache, Bondi, Wilder, Olinger, Friedrich, Hunigan, Rohweder and Varner—(12). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

STATEMENTS OF GENERAL CONCERN

Member Amor wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Chairwoman Davidson thanked all of the Board Members for all of their hard work and attending these meetings for this County Budget. She wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Member Hawkinson wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and safe travels.

Member Sandoval wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Member Nache thanked everybody who helped with the budget process. She offered a special thanks to County Treasurer Robin Davis who spent hours and hours on this budget. She also wished everyone a Happy Safe Thanksgiving.

Member Bondi asked for special prayers for Member Johnson.

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

Member Friedrich wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Member Hunigan wished everyone safe travels and sent his thoughts to Member Johnson and his family.

Member Rohweder remembered as a child spending Thanksgivings with his grandmother. He encouraged everyone to take inventory of all their blessings. We need to continue to work together both as Members of this Board but also members of the community.

Member Varner wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

The next Regular Meeting will be held on Monday, December 30, 2019, 6:00 p.m., at the Galesburg City Hall Council Chambers, Galesburg, Illinois.

Motion was made by Member Sandoval and seconded by Member Olinger to adjourn from this meeting. Voice vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—(12). Noes—(0). Motion carried. Open Meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.