

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

January 27, 2021

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
) SS
COUNTY OF KNOX)

Proceedings of the Regular Meeting of the Knox County Board held via telephone conference on Wednesday, January 27, 2021, at 6:10 p.m. Due to the coronavirus pandemic and rules for social distancing, this action was necessary.

The Meeting was called to order by County Board Chair Jared Hawkinson and upon roll call the following Members reported present:

District 1	Roland Paulsgrove
District 2	Robert Bondi
District 3	Tara Wilder
District 4	Jared Hawkinson
District 5	Ricardo “Rick” Sandoval
District 1	Darla Krejci
District 2	David Amor
District 3	Pamela Davidson
District 4	Todd Olinger
District 5	Brian Friedrich
District 1	Cheryl Nache
District 2	John Hunigan
District 3	Kyle Rohweder
District 4	Sara Varner
District 5	Jeff Link

And those absent: None

Also present was Sheriff David Clague, County Clerk Scott Erickson and County Treasurer Robin Davis.

Sheriff Clague delivered the Proclamation. Chair Hawkinson led the Members in the pledge of allegiance to the flag. In lieu of a formal invocation, Chair Hawkinson asked that a moment of silence be observed.

Chair Hawkinson asked for additions or deletions to the agenda. Member Hunigan asked to remove Item #25 regarding Nursing Home write-offs. Chair Hawkinson asked remove Item #6 for creation of Director of Technology Services position.

Chairwoman Hawkinson asked for public comments. There was no public comment at this time.

Motion was made by Member Sandoval and seconded by Member Friedrich to approve the following items of the consent agenda: 1) minutes of the Regular Board Meetings for December 23, 2020, 2) claims for Members for per diem and mileage for the meetings of January 2021 and other claims for per diem from meetings, and 3) sales tax and various taxes for the month of October 2020 in the amount of \$112,704.43 and \$20,229.52 and public safety tax in the amount of \$186,186.34. Member Davidson asked some questions about the minutes regarding the HVAC cost listed different then she recalled. There was also a section of the discussion about the minutes of the Committees due the prior week to be put in Webdavnnav system. Clerk Erickson will look into the issue. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Paulsgrove, Bondi, Wilder, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Olinger, Friedrich, Nache, Hunigan, Rohweder, Varner, and Link—(15). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Rohweder and seconded by Member Varner to approve the Proclamation in recognition of Black History Month. Member Rohweder stated that he wants everyone to remember that Black History is American history. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: AYES—Paulsgrove, Bondi, Wilder, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Olinger, Friedrich, Nache, Hunigan, Rohweder, Varner, and Link—(15). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Sandoval and seconded by Member Bondi to approve the hazard mitigation plan from AEC. Chair Hawkinson stated that was bid last month at the request of Chief Hovind. This plan is necessary for Knox County for use in the case of a natural disaster. This is also necessary for the application for grant money and empowers the Emergency Management Director certain powers and authority. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Paulsgrove, Bondi, Wilder, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Olinger, Friedrich, Nache, Hunigan, Rohweder, Varner, and Link—(15). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion made by Member Sandoval and seconded by Member Friedrich to approve the extension of authorization for Spoon River Daughters of the American Revolution for cemetery restoration at Fink Cemetery. Chair Hawkinson stated that this missed the Finance meeting agenda this month. Last year they made the request to be allowed to work on the Fink Cemetery renovations. This cemetery has been in bad shape and they are offering to fix and repair these items. They will not be compensated for this work. Member Amor asked about insurance liability if they are injured. Member Davidson stated that there is no liability to the County. Chair Hawkinson asked that we receive a copy of their insurance. . Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Paulsgrove, Bondi, Wilder, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Olinger, Friedrich, Nache, Hunigan, Rohweder, Varner, and Link—(15). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Member Friedrich presented the monthly report from the Finance, Insurance, Treasurer, Judicial, Recorder, and Clerk Committee. A copy of the report is included in the packet. This first month is always a bit slow but it will pick up steam fast.

Motion was made by Member Friedrich and seconded by Member Amor to approve the Resolution on Deeds of Conveyance. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Paulsgrove, Bondi, Wilder, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Olinger, Friedrich, Nache, Hunigan, Rohweder, Varner, and Link—(15). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Friedrich and seconded by Member Sandoval to approve the membership dues for the Prairie Hills Resource Conservation and Development. The dues are \$300 per year and will actually be paid for now only this year and last year as they did not get paid last year. Member Krejci stated that this was the organization that Member Lyle Johnson attended and was Chair. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Paulsgrove, Bondi, Wilder, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Olinger, Friedrich, Nache, Hunigan, Rohweder, Varner, and Link—(15). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Friedrich and seconded by Member Amor to approve the bid for the Knox County farmland. Member Friedrich stated that there were 2 bids filed. We are recommending accepting the highest bid which came from our current renter. He did ask if the County could remove some trees that have fallen into the field that are too large for him to remove on his own. Member Friedrich will check with the Highway Department to see if they can remove those trees. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Paulsgrove, Bondi, Wilder, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Olinger, Friedrich, Nache, Hunigan, Rohweder, Varner, and Link—(15). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Friedrich and seconded by Member Bondi to approve the Resolution to abate the levy for debt service on Series 2020 refunded General Obligation Alternate Revenue Bonds Series 2010A and Series 2010B. Member Friedrich stated that this is an annual resolution so that the amount is not charged to the tax payers. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Paulsgrove, Bondi, Wilder, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Olinger, Friedrich, Nache, Hunigan, Rohweder, Varner, and Link—(15). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Friedrich and seconded by Member Paulsgrove to approve the bid for the loan for the HVAC piping replacement at the Courthouse. Member Friedrich stated that the bids went out to all County banks and the lowest rate was selected. The loan term will be for five (5) years at a rate of 1.48%. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Paulsgrove, Bondi, Wilder, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Olinger, Friedrich, Rohweder, Varner, and Link—(12). Noes—Davidson, Nache, and Hunigan--(3). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Friedrich and seconded by Member Amor to approve the procedural changes for payment of vouchers. Member Davidson expressed concerns that the Board Members are not able to see the bills as only the Committee Chairs are looking at them. Chair Hawkinson stated that any Member can come in and review the bills. We are still working on getting CIC access for the Board. Clerk Erickson reported that the proposed changes will designate the full amount that will be expended on claims against the County each month. The Chair will sign stating that the dollar amount was approved by the Board, the County Clerk will sign stating that there is documentation and signatures present, and the Treasurer will sign stating

that the funds are available to pay the bills. Department Heads will need to make sure that they submit all their vouchers in a timely matter with proper documentation. Treasurer Davis stated that this is a procedural change. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Paulsgrove, Bondi, Wilder, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Olinger, Friedrich, Nache, Hunigan, Rohweder, Varner, and Link—(15). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Member Paulsgrove presented the monthly report for the Sheriff, Jail, Mary Davis Home, Animal Control, and Building Committee. He reported that the Mary Davis Home census was at 14 with 1 from Knox County. They also have a new liaison for the construction project. Chair Hawkinson stated that the State just sent a salary reimbursement which is helping their bottom line. The Sheriff's Department reported 121 inmates.

Member Bondi presented the monthly report from the Assessor, Zoning, GIS, Highway, IT, and Landfill Committee. The report is included in the packet from each department.

Motion by Member Bondi and seconded by Member Sandoval to approve the bid for mowing and bailing contract at the Landfill. The winning bid was from Trowbridge in the amount of \$6,250 per year. It is a three year contract. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Paulsgrove, Bondi, Wilder, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Olinger, Friedrich, Nache, Hunigan, Rohweder, Varner, and Link—(15). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion by Member Bondi and seconded by Member Paulsgrove to approve the purchase of two 15-yard roll off containers from Gregory Containers. Member Bondi stated that this is the same vendor we have used in the past. The amount of the purchase is \$9,150. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Paulsgrove, Bondi, Wilder, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Olinger, Friedrich, Nache, Hunigan, Rohweder, Varner, and Link—(15). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion by Member Bondi and seconded by Member Davidson to approve the bid and bring back for two generators for the Landfill. Member Bondi reported that when the power goes out at the Landfill, this generator will allow them to keep the equipment running and the scales going. It will also allow for the shop doors to open and the fuel pumps to work.. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Paulsgrove, Bondi, Wilder, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Olinger, Friedrich, Nache, Hunigan, Rohweder, Varner, and Link—(15). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion by Member Bondi and seconded by Member Friedrich to approve the appointment of Sam Serven to the Knox County Zoning Board of Appeals. Member Bondi stated that Mr. Serven has served several terms on this board. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Paulsgrove, Bondi, Wilder, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Olinger, Friedrich, Nache, Hunigan, Rohweder, Varner, and Link—(15). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion by Member Bondi and seconded by Member Friedrich to approve the tabling of the appointment of Andrew Bowman to the Knox County Zoning Board of Appeals. Member Bondi would like to have some additional time to review the candidate and return it next month. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Paulsgrove, Bondi, Wilder, Hawkinson, Sandoval,

Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Olinger, Friedrich, Nache, Hunigan, Rohweder, Varner, and Link—(15). Noes—(0). Motion tabled.

Motion by Member Bondi and seconded by Member Sandoval to approve the local agency agreement for Federal participation Section 07-0081-08-BR. Member Bondi stated this is 9 miles south of Knoxville on County Highway 8. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Paulsgrove, Bondi, Wilder, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Olinger, Friedrich, Nache, Hunigan, Rohweder, Varner, and Link—(15). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion by Member Bondi and seconded by Member Davidson to approve the Resolution on local agency appropriation, Section 07-00081-08-BR. This is part of the project approved earlier. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Paulsgrove, Bondi, Wilder, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Olinger, Friedrich, Nache, Hunigan, Rohweder, Varner, and Link—(15). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion by Member Bondi and seconded by Member Davidson to approve the Resolution on County Motor Fuel Maintenance for 2021, Section 21-00000-00-GM. Member Bondi stated that this is the annual approval of the expenditure of motor fuel tax funds. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Paulsgrove, Bondi, Wilder, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Olinger, Friedrich, Nache, Hunigan, Rohweder, Varner, and Link—(15). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Member Hunigan presented the report from the Nursing Home Committee. The report is in the packet. He reported that he has met with the new Nursing Home Administrator and that he is pleased with how things are going. There was also some stimulus money that was received by the Health Department that should have gone to the Nursing Home. They are in the process of getting those funds redirected. Donna Motz has also stepped in to work as the acting Director of Nursing. They will be working on recruitment and interviews. We need to look at the financial structure at the facility. They are not allowing visitors in to the facility yet, but they have started bringing back some of the professional services.

Motion by Member Hunigan and seconded by Member Amor to approve the infectious disease specialists services for the Nursing Home from APIC. This will be a consultation service bid. Chair Hawkinson stated that he signed this agreement on January 20 as it is necessary as part of the State mandates for the facility. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Paulsgrove, Bondi, Wilder, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Olinger, Friedrich, Nache, Hunigan, Rohweder, Varner, and Link—(15). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Member Bondi presented the draft minutes from the Board of Health meeting. He reported that Dr. Garland has joined their Board. The Annual report will be coming out in the next 90 days. They are preparing for the auditors as well. Member Nache asked about the Phase 4 restrictions on patrons in restaurants. Phase 3 was limited to 25% but she is not sure on Phase 4. Member Bondi said he would look into it. Member Nache also asked about the COVID-19 vaccinations stating that both Hy-Vee stores are distributing shots. Member Bondi stated that Hy-Vee along with Walgreens and CVS Pharmacy are providing shots. Member Nache said that even though a person gets a COVID-19 vaccination they still need to wear their masks.

Member Bondi agreed and that they need to keep social distancing guidelines as well. Member Amor expressed concern about the appointments for the shots being scheduled via computer. It is harder for those without internet access to get these scheduled.

Member Sandoval was not able to make the meeting and asked for a different person to be assigned to that Committee.

Member Hawkinson reported on the 9-1-1 Committee meeting. He stated that there was no meeting this month.

Ken Springer reported on the Knox County Area Partnership for Economic Development. The Federal Paycheck Protection Program has been funded again and businesses that have not gotten a PPP loan should contact their bank for details. There will be a webinar with Congresswoman Bustos on January 29 from 10:00AM till 11:00AM about the program.

Member Krejci reported on the Prairie Hills Resources meeting. This meeting was their annual meeting and they conducted a finance and budget review. She will be meeting with the Executive Director soon for more details.

Member Davidson reported that United Council of Counties did not have a meeting. They do send out updates on legislation quarterly and she would like these added to the Board packet.

Member Amor reported on the Western Illinois Regional Council. They will be having a meeting on February 2nd.

Member Rohweder reported on the Knox County mental Health 708 Board. He reported they held their meeting but there is not much news.

Motion by Member Bondi and seconded by Member Amor to open the budget for line item changes. Chair Hawkinson reported that there are a few changes for the Nursing Home due to contractual laundry service issues. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Paulsgrove, Bondi, Wilder, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Olinger, Friedrich, Nache, Hunigan, Rohweder, Varner, and Link—(15). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion by Member Amor and seconded by Member Varner to approve the budget changes as presented. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Paulsgrove, Bondi, Wilder, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Olinger, Friedrich, Nache, Hunigan, Rohweder, Varner, and Link—(15). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Friedrich and seconded by Member Sandoval to approve the claims against Knox County, Illinois, for the period of December 24, 2020 through January 27, 2021 (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—Paulsgrove, Bondi, Wilder, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci,

Amor, Olinger, Friedrich, Varner, and Link—(11). Noes—Davidson and Nache--(2). Abstain – Hunigan and Rohweder—(2). Motion carried.

STATEMENTS OF GENERAL CONCERN

Member Paulsgrove had no comment.

Member Bondi wants everyone to stay safe and use masks. Also wants everyone to have a happy Valentine’s Day.

Member Wilder and Chair Hawkinson had no comment at this time.

Member Sandoval stated that this Board needs to pull together. We are one team for the County. Please stay safe and social distance.

Member Krejci said stay happy.

Member Amor had no comment.

Member Davidson asked everyone to be safe. She will continue to vote No on the approval of the bills until the Board can see all the bills. Her work schedule limits her access to be able to get to the Courthouse to see the bills. It is our responsibility and due diligence to review the bills. She commends the Health Department in all that they are doing even with the cold weather.

Member Olinger and Member Friedrich had no comment.

Member Nache said for everyone to be safe. Stay happy and enjoy your Valentine’s Day. As the restaurants and things start to open up more, please be respectful and wear your masks. We need to care about ourselves and others.

Member Hunigan echoed the remarks from earlier about the Nursing Home. Their dedication to safety is commendable. With the high emotions of this last Election, we all need to pull together as one..

Member Rohweder said in the immortal words of Bruce Springsteen “Nobody wins unless everybody wins” from his Born to Run album from 1985. He loves being on this Board and misses everyone.

Member Varner and Member Link had no comment.

The next Regular Meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 24, 2021, 6:00 p.m., via Zoom teleconference and in person at the council chambers at Galesburg City Hall.

Motion was made by Member Friedrich and seconded by Member Nache to adjourn the meeting. . Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Paulsgrove, Bondi, Wilder, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Olinger, Friedrich, Nache, Hunigan, Rohweder, Varner, and Link—(15). Noes—(0). Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 7:43PM.