

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

July 26, 2022

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COUNTY OF KNOX)

Proceedings of the Regular Meeting of the Knox County Board held in person at the Galesburg City Council chambers on Tuesday, July 26, 2022 at 6:02 p.m. Due to the coronavirus precautions, this meeting was presented via teleconference in order to alleviate the need for the public to be in person at the meeting and still participate. The zoom code used tonight will stay the same for future meetings and can be found on the County website.

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

District 2	Robert Bondi
District 4	Jared Hawkinson
District 5	Ricardo “Rick” Sandoval
District 1	Darla Krejci
District 2	David Amor
District 3	Pamela Davidson
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:	District 1	Roland Paulsgrove
	District 3	Tara Wilder
	District 4	Todd Olinger

Also present was County Clerk Scott Erickson, State’s Attorney Jeremy Karlin, and County Treasurer Robin Davis. Department Heads present were Nursing Home Administrator Jodi Mines, Highway Administrator Duane Ratermann, Landfill Administrator Rod Clair, Mary Davis Home Administrator Wendi Steck, and Supervisor of Assessments Sonia Hochstettler.

Clerk Erickson delivered the Proclamation and 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 Bondi asked to remove items 17-22. Chair Hawkinson stated since these items are pretty in depth they need ample time to review. No items were added.

Chair Hawkinson asked for public comments. There was no public comment in person or via zoom.

Motion was made by Member Friedrich and seconded by Member Varner to approve the following items of the consent agenda: 1) minutes of the Regular Board Meeting for June 22, 2022, 2) claims for Members for per diem and mileage for the meetings of July 2022 and other claims for per diem from meetings, and 3) sales tax and various taxes for the month of April 2022 in the amount of \$143,833.05 and \$36,984.11 and public safety tax in the amount of \$244,162.80. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Bondi, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Friedrich, Nache, Hunigan, Rohweder, Varner, and Link—(12). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Chair Hawkinson introduced Greg “Chopps” Bacon to speak on behalf of the Knox County 708 Mental Health Board about the Annual Report. A total of \$1,403,008.02 was awarded to 12 organizations. They awarded funds to Crossroads Counseling and Life Coaching LLC, Bridgeway Inc., Knox County Child Advocacy Center, Rainbow Riders Therapeutic Horseback Riding Center, Achievement Unlimited Inc., Why Not Now? Inc. d/b/a Camp Big Sky, Knox YMCA, Regional Office of Education #33, Galesburg Community Unit District #205, Triumph Services Inc. (Camp Kidz), KCCDD Inc., and Knox County State’s Attorney. Two applicants were denied funding and two applicants funding requests were reduced but funded. They would like to have more mom and pop organizations asking for grants in the future. Mr. Bacon spoke about what a few of the grants were for. He said that District 205 is for a mental health professional, Achievement Unlimited is for a dental program since the closest dentists that accept Medicare are in Chicago. This money will help them work with a local dentist. Bridgeway partnered with the Sherriff’s office and Galesburg Police Department for a mental health professional to ride along on mental health calls. Member Davidson said that year after year the same people are asking and for the same amounts. Marketing needs to be done to make these so-called mom and pop places aware these funds are available. Mr. Bacon said that the information is on the Knox County website, directions, and limits. Member Varner donated her employees time to help with marketing to get the information out to the community. Member Rohweder wanted to add that Rainbow Riders has a horse named 708 that all visitors love to pet.

Motion was made by Member Friedrich and seconded by Member Rohweder for the Acceptance of Resignation of County Board Member Rollie Paulsgrove. Chair Hawkinson stated that this was due to personal issues and would become effective July 31, 2022. His health is not good and please text message him wishing him well. He has done a tremendous job for District One. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Bondi, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Friedrich, Nache, Hunigan, Rohweder, Varner, and Link—(12). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Amor and seconded by Member Bondi for the Acceptance of Resignation of County Board Member John Hunigan. Chair Hawkinson said that it will become effective at 11:59 pm July 26th, 2022. He appreciates all of Member Hunigan's time while working hand and hand with Administrator Mines as committee chair for the nursing home. Member Hunigan stated that it has been an honor. Also, it has been a difficult decision to resign but, he feels like the district needs someone that will be in the district for the full term. He said he feels that the nursing home is in good hands with Administrator Mines. He also wanted to thank everyone he worked with on other committees during his time on the Board. Member Amor said thank you for all your support with renewable energy, solar, and the wind farms. Member Rohweder said that he feels if Member Hunigan was a comic book character he would be Juggernaut. County Clerk Erickson said thank you from the County Clerk's Office. Member Hunigan said that the County Clerk's office has always been very helpful and friendly. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Bondi, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Friedrich, Nache, Rohweder, Varner, and Link—(11). Noes—(0). Abstain—Hunigan—(1). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Friedrich and seconded by Member Davidson for the Acceptance of Resignation of County Board Member Tara Wilder. Chair Hawkinson said that it will become effective July 26th, 2022. He said that she is resigning due to personal issues. We wish her the best and thank you for her service on the Board for the last several years. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Bondi, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Friedrich, Nache, Hunigan, Rohweder, Varner, and Link—(12). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Member Friedrich presented the monthly report for the Finance, Insurance, Treasurer, Judicial, Veterans, and Clerk/Recorder Committee. The reports are included in the packet.

Motion was made by Member Friedrich and seconded by Member Sandoval to approve the Resolutions on Deed of Conveyance. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Bondi, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Friedrich, Nache, Hunigan, Rohweder, Varner, and Link—(12). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Friedrich and seconded by Member Bondi to approve the Bid and Bring Back for Workman's Comp/Liability/Vehicle Insurance. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Bondi, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Friedrich, Nache, Hunigan, Rohweder, Varner, and Link—(12). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Friedrich and seconded by Member Bondi to approve the Addendum to Illinois FOP and Knox County/Knox County Sheriff Corrections Collective Bargaining Agreement. Member Friedrich said that this was an oversight that left out one individual. Member Amor said that this was for the signing bonus for that individual. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Bondi, Hawkinson, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Friedrich, Nache, Hunigan, Rohweder, Varner, and Link—(11). Noes—(0). Abstain—Sandoval—(1). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Friedrich and seconded by Member Amor to approve the Resolution of Clarification on Salary Continuation for Fallen Officer. Member Friedrich stated that it is a clarification so funds can be paid out properly and not interfere with money coming from other entities. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Bondi, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Friedrich, Nache, Hunigan, Rohweder, Varner, and Link—(12). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Friedrich and seconded by Member Amor to approve the Illinois FOP Knox County/Knox County Sheriff Sergeants and Lieutenants Collective Bargaining Agreement. Member Friedrich thanked Member Amor for his time he put in to get things settled. Member Amor said things were very positive with the FOP a new union for them to work with, so they had to start from scratch. It will be a 3-year contract with a 3 percent increase for the 2nd and 3rd years. He said the details are in the packet. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Bondi, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Friedrich, Nache, Hunigan, Rohweder, Varner, and Link—(12). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Member Sandoval presented that the monthly report from the Sheriff, Jail, Mary Davis Home, Animal Control, and Building Committee. He stated the reports are in the packet.

Motion was made by Member Sandoval and seconded by Member Friedrich to approve appointments to the Sheriff Merit Commission of James Nelson and Darin Pitchford. Member Sandoval said that these are both reappointments. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Bondi, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Friedrich, Nache, Hunigan, Rohweder, Varner, and Link—(12). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Member Bondi presented the monthly report for the Assessor, Zoning, GIS, Highway, IT, and Landfill Committee. He stated that the reports are in the packet.

Motion made by Member Bondi and seconded by Member Friedrich to approve the bid for Miscellaneous Pipe Culverts, Section 22-00000-00-CB. Member Bondi said that the Highway Department has to replace culverts every year and this is for corrugated culvert. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Bondi, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Friedrich, Nache, Hunigan, Rohweder, Varner, and Link—(12). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion made by Member Bondi and seconded by Member Hunigan to approve the bid for Pavement Striping, Section 22-00000-00-KC. Member Bondi said the bid was for \$97,043.08 which is 8.5 cents per foot and planned to be completed by October 31, 2022. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Bondi, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Friedrich, Nache, Hunigan, Rohweder, Varner, and Link—(12). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Member Hunigan presented the report from the Nursing Home committee. The report is in the packet. Hunigan said that the census is increasing. He said there is one action item for the parking lot. We had tabled wing 3 issues due to being during Covid but need to readdress standards due to bed space becoming an issue. It is in the packet that no agency was used last month. The cost of agency had been an achillea's heal at the nursing home. Administrator Mines has provided proper staffing and gotten the six-figure cost down to zero. Which is a remarkable turnaround. Administrator Mines and Treasurer Davis worked together and got the citations to no fines. I want to thank you for all your support.

Motion made by Member Nache and seconded by Member Rohweder to Bid and Bring Back for Nursing Home Parking Lot Repairs. Member Hunigan said that the parking lot needs repaired to avoid potential hazards. The nursing home is going to do more outside marketing. Knox County Nursing home is the premier nursing home in Knox County and we want to keep it looking nice. Member Amor said they decided to use County ARPA dollars for part of the project to offset the economic impact. Chair Hawkinson said that this is only a Bid and Bring Back. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Bondi, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Friedrich, Nache, Hunigan, Rohweder, Varner, and Link—(12). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Administrator Mines wanted to add that the census update is 74 which is up 12 and they have 6 pending. They plan on being up to 80 by the weekend. Chair Hawkinson said that Agency cost was \$112,000 and now down to zero. He said Kudos to the group.

Chair Hawkinson stated that the reports from the outside committee assignments are on the Google drive and in the packet. If anyone has a question in regards to an outside committee or their report, they should contact the Board Member that is serving on that committee and ask them directly.

Motion made by Member Sandoval and seconded by Member Varner to approve Opening of Budget for Line Item Changes. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Bondi, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Friedrich, Nache, Hunigan, Rohweder, Varner, and Link—(12). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion made by Member Friedrich and seconded by Member Amor for the approval of Proposed Line Item Changes. Chair Hawkinson said that the Proposed Budget Line Item Changes are in the packet. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Bondi, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Friedrich, Nache, Hunigan, Rohweder, Varner, and Link—(12). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Chair Hawkinson said that there was nothing out of the ordinary for bills this month.

Motion made by Member Friedrich and seconded by Member Varner to approve the claims against Knox County, Illinois for the period of June 23, 2022 through July 26, 2022 (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 in the aggregate amount approved by the County Board). Treasurer Davis reported that the vouchers submitted amounted to \$2,151,908.71. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Bondi, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Friedrich, Nache, Hunigan, Rohweder, Varner, and Link—(12). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

The next Regular Meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 24, 2022 at 6:00 p.m., at Galesburg City Hall Council Chambers. The Zoom option will be available to the viewing public only. Board Members will be present in person for this meeting.

Motion was made by Member Hunigan and seconded by Member Sandoval to adjourn the meeting. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Bondi, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Friedrich, Nache, Hunigan, Rohweder, Varner, and Link—(12). Noes—(0). Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 6:51 p.m.