

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

August 24, 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 Wednesday, August 24, 2022 at 6:00 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 4	Todd Olinger
District 5	Brian Friedrich
District 1	Cheryl Nache
District 4	Sara Varner
District 5	Jeff Link

And those absent: District 3 Kyle Rohweder

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, Landfill Administrator Rod Clair, Mary Davis Home Administrator Wendi Steck, Supervisor of Assessments Sonia Hochstettler, Knox County Health Department Public Health Administrator Michele Gabriel and Assistant Administrator Will Hayes.

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. No items were deleted or 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 Bondi to approve the following items of the consent agenda: 1) minutes of the Regular Board Meeting for July 27, 2022, and 2) claims for Members for per diem and mileage for the meetings of August 2022 and other claims for per diem from meetings, and 3) sales tax and various taxes for the month of May 2022 in the amount of \$145,360.91 and \$36,395.78 and public safety tax in the amount of \$252,741.36. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Bondi, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Olinger, Friedrich, Nache, Varner, and Link—(11). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Sandoval and seconded by Member Friedrich to approve the Proclamation on National Hispanic Heritage Month. Chair Hawkinson said that we urge all residents of Knox County to celebrate and honor the contributions made to Knox County our State, and our Country. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Bondi, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Olinger, Friedrich, Nache, Varner, and Link—(11). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Varner and seconded by Member Link to approve the Proclamation in Recognition of September 11th as National Patriot Day. Chair Hawkinson said that we urge all residents of Knox County to use the 21st anniversary as a time to reflect on their own service to others and the sacrifices that have been made by many to protect the freedom that we hold so dear. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Bondi, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Olinger, Friedrich, Nache, Varner, and Link—(11). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Davidson and seconded by Member Friedrich to approve appointment to Knox County Board of Health of Dan Harris. Chair Hawkinson said that this is a reappointment for another three-year term. Member Davidson said that Dan has done a fabulous job as Chairing the Health Department Board. Thank you for volunteering and we need more people like you. Member Amor said that he seconds that. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Bondi, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Olinger, Friedrich, Nache, Varner, and Link—(11). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Friedrich and seconded by Member Varner to approve appointments to the Knox County Metro, Expro, Auditorium & Office Building Authority Board. Chair Hawkinson said that information about the members are in the packet and on the G-drive. There are new members and president so Ken Springer is cleaning up the document trail to perform business properly. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Bondi, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Olinger, Friedrich, Nache, Varner, and Link—(11). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Sandoval and seconded by Member Varner to approve the acceptance of the retirement of County Circuit Clerk Kelly Cheesman. Chair Hawkinson said that this would be effective September 30, 2022. He read the letter for the public to hear from Kelly Templeton Cheesman. She has worked in the Circuit Clerk's office for nearly 42 years and been the Circuit Clerk for the past 22 years. Chair Hawkinson stated that they have sixty days to file for a replacement and thanked her for her service. Member Davidson said that Kelly has done a fine job for the county and after 42 years she deserves to be able to retire. Member Nache said that her and Kelly have been friends since they were little kids. She has done a great job and will miss her but will always be friends. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Bondi, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Olinger, Friedrich, Nache, Varner, and Link—(11). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Varner and seconded by Member Friedrich to approve the Resolution Approving the Purchase of Body Cameras, In-Car Camera Systems, In-Car Computer Systems, and Camera Storage Systems. Chair Hawkinson said the final quote was uploaded to the G-drive. Originally the money was coming from ARPA funding but with the State reimbursing the money and ARPA funds cannot be reimbursed. Instead it will come from the general fund or something else to make it easier on the Treasurer office. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Bondi, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Olinger, Friedrich, Nache, Varner, and Link—(11). 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 Bondi to approve the Resolutions on Deed of Conveyance. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Bondi, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Olinger, Friedrich, Nache, Varner, and Link—(11). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Friedrich and seconded by Member Link to approve the Authorization for County Treasurer to Pursue Wrap Around Bonding Funding up to \$10,000,000. Member Friedrich said that they will check to see what the best rates are. Member Nache said doesn't this take 2-3 months to go through and get bids back on the going rate. Chair

Hawkinson said that it just needs the Treasurer's authorization. Then go before the Finance Board and then on to the Full Board. This will take 2-3 months to complete the documentation. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Bondi, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Olinger, Friedrich, Nache, Varner, and Link—(11). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Friedrich and seconded by Member Amor to approve the Resolution on Funding of ARPA Task Force Recommendations for Community Grants. Member Friedrich asked Member Amor to take over and thanked him for all his hard work along with the others involved. Member Amor thanked everyone on the ARPA Task Force for all their time and hard work on going through the applications and helping to interview the applicants. He said that the County received ARPA Funding. The Board set aside funds to be used for the community and there were 30 applications. Total recommended for funding at this time is \$1,188,200. They have not made it through the entire list but are hoping to by next month. They felt that they wanted to announce what they have approved so far. The Elba-Salem Park District \$3,200 for lost revenue, River Bend Food Bank \$100,000 cooler/freezer equipment, Knox County Fairgrounds \$275,000 for construction of a rural community center, Abingdon Fire Department \$225,000 for construction of additions to the fire department, Knoxville Fire Department \$35,000 for a new fire/EMS vehicle, Galesburg Public Library \$50,000 for new work-skills development program, City of Galesburg: Lake Storey \$25,000 for improvements to Lake Storey multipurpose path, CASA \$15,000 for volunteer recruitment, Family Planning Services \$100,000 for clinic renovations and expansion of services, First United Methodist Church Pre-school \$5,000 to help get proper architectural plans to be able to restart preschool, Discovery Depot \$100,000 for recouping lost revenue/funding for travel exhibits, Galesburg Tourism & Visitors Bureau asked for three grants but allocating only one grant for \$30,000 for Market Research, Habitat for Humanity \$100,000 for land/home purchases for rehab, Oneida Telephone Exchange \$100,000 for gigabit fiber broadband to Foxtown/rural Wataga, BB Wave LLC \$25,000 for broadband speed and distance upgrade. All these grants are conditional by Treasury contracts or intergovernmental agreements between the parties. The Treasurer will set the funds aside until agreements are met with the parties. The State's Attorney's office will draw up the contracts and agreements. Member Nache asked if they are voting on money or just putting the money aside. Member Amor said it is for the distribution of funds once in place. They still have other proposals and those will first go to finance in September then to the Board also in September. They have 1.18 million dollars to distribute as quickly as possible. Chair Hawkinson said that next month will be the second phase and then they will work that cycle. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Olinger, Friedrich, Varner, and Link—(9). Noes—Nache--(1). Abstain—Bondi—(1). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Friedrich and seconded by Member Bondi to approve Repeal and Revision of Knox County Health Ordinance; Article III, Potable Water Wells and Closed Loop Wells. Assistant Administrator Will Hayes spoke about the reason for the repeal and revision was due to a change in State Statutes. He said that the last legislation change was back in 2012 or 2014. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Bondi, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Olinger, Friedrich, Nache, Varner, and Link—(11). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Member Friedrich said the budget meetings are hard discussions yet to come. They will meet Tuesday and Wednesday at the Annex. They will then take a week off for the Treasurer to be able to catch up on paperwork then crunch numbers so they can then move on.

Member Link 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 Link and seconded by Member Friedrich to approve Resolution of Declaration of Emergency for Facility Repair/Replacement at the Law Enforcement Center. Chair Hawkinson said the State's Attorney information was added to the packet in the G-drive. Member Davidson said in March there were several emergencies. We need to be transparent to tax payers. These are not emergencies and things that should have already been done. She said emergencies are hot water issues or a tornado. On going issues are not emergencies. We need to Bid and Bring Back so she is voting no. Member Amor said that with respect to Member Davidson we have got to this point since these issues have not been taken care of. We have now backed ourselves into an emergency situation due to water going through the roof which is hazardous. If we do not fix this would not look good with State. Member Nache said she agrees with many of what Member Davidson said. She said she will also be voting no. Yes, the jail needs help but we approved this new roof years ago. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Bondi, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Olinger, Friedrich, Varner, and Link—(9). Noes—Davidson and Nache--(2). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Link and seconded by Member Friedrich to approve Resolution Approving Use of Funding for Down Payment of the Emergency Phase of the Performance Contracting Under Emergency Procurement Rules of the CFR. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Bondi, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Olinger, Friedrich, Varner, and Link—(9). Noes—Davidson and Nache--(2). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Link and seconded by Member Friedrich to approve Resolution of Approval of Projects for Phase 1 Under the Performance Contracting Agreement. Member Bondi said that he thought the task force to review these sub-contractors and general contractors were voted on months ago along with the roof contractor. Chair Hawkinson said that the general contractor would be a flat fee and all work under a scope and not to exceed that. All bills would be reviewed. Member Bondi asked who would be overseeing the contractors for the duct work and equipment side. Some of the materials that will be used were bought a while ago and just want to make sure we get the best price for our buck. Chair Hawkinson said they ask contractor for review going forward. Member Bondi said ok. Member Amor asked that Member Bondi's question be responded to about building materials. Bob Ferguson was introduced he is Lead for performance contracting for 30 plus years. Chair Hawkinson said he is well versed and transparent. He and Trent Benedict answered the questions asked. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Bondi, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Olinger, Friedrich, Varner, and Link—(9). Noes—Davidson and Nache--(2). 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 Amor to approve the Bid and Bring Back for New 2022/2023 Crawler Type Tracker/Bulldozer. Member Bondi said the current tractor is 8 years old and has 9,000 hours on it. The new tractor will be the same payment. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Bondi, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Olinger, Friedrich, Nache, Varner, and Link—(11). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Member Bondi said that he was going to have the Knox County Assessor Hochstettler speak about the next six items on the agenda. The States Attorney's office had helped adjust some of the language.

Motion made by Member Bondi and seconded by Member Amor to approve Case # AM-04-22, Under Article 3, Definitions, Section 3.1.01.1. Assessor Hochstettler said that this would allow for a principle dwelling and an accessory for family members only. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Bondi, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Olinger, Friedrich, Nache, Varner, and Link—(11). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion made by Member Bondi and seconded by Member Amor to approve Case # AM-06-22, Under Article 11, Construction and Occupancy Permits, Section 11.1. Assessor Hochstettler said that this is common practice for new construction. It is also to make sure the water and septic is good with the Health Department to be able to handle a second residence. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Bondi, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Olinger, Friedrich, Nache, Varner, and Link—(11). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion made by Member Bondi and seconded by Member Varner to approve Case # AM-07-22, Under Article 15, Enforcement and Legal Procedure, Section 15.2. Assessor Hochstettler said that this is updating the zoning ordinance on permit restrictions and being able to revoke the permit if procedures are not followed. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Bondi, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Olinger, Friedrich, Nache, Varner, and Link—(11). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion made by Member Bondi and seconded by Member Varner to approve Case # AM-08-22, Under Article 15, Enforcement and Legal Procedure, Section 15.3. Assessor Hochstettler said that if they do not comply this will give them the ability to post a stop work order. It would be a \$400-\$500 fee penalty. She said they would first do lots of work to try to get them to comply before it would come to this. Member Davidson asked if she would go to the site

alone or with the Sheriff. She was concerned that this would be a liability. Assessor Hochstettler said that she would go alone if no concern but if there was a concern then with the Sheriff. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Bondi, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Olinger, Friedrich, Varner, and Link—(9). Noes—(0) Abstain---Davidson and Nache--(2). Motion carried.

Motion made by Member Bondi and seconded by Member Amor to approve Case # AM-09-22, Under Article 15, Enforcement and Legal Procedures, Section 15.4. Assessor Hochstettler said that the State's Attorney Karlin rewrote and cleared up the wording. She said this states that if she cannot see what she needs from the road due to a long lane or woods then she can enter. This is after they have given notification by mail. They would send the letter by regular mail. Member Davidson said thank you to State's Attorney Karlin for clearing up the wording. She still feels this is another safety issue. If they are not welcome then she would reach out to the State's Attorney Karlin for permission to visit this property. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes— Bondi, Hawkinson, Krejci, Amor and Olinger—(5). Noes— Sandoval, Davidson, Friedrich, Nache and Link --(5). Abstain— Varner —(1). Motion fails.

Motion made by Member Bondi and seconded by Member Varner to approve Case # AM-10-22, Under Article 10, Board of Appeals, Section 10.4.04. Assessor Hochstettler said that this would reword it to saying 0-10 acres \$500 fee for any conditional use and 10.1 or more acres \$500 fee plus \$15/acre. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes— Bondi, Hawkinson, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Olinger and Varner—(7). Noes— Sandoval, Friedrich, Nache and Link --(4). Motion carried.

Chair Hawkinson presented the report from the Nursing Home committee. The report is in the packet. Hawkinson said that positive things are happening. For Wing 3 a banknote for \$229,405 was taken out last year. This will be used for flooring. If they go over it will come from the referendum. Wing 4 is now open and they are getting positive feedback.

Motion made by Member Amor and seconded by Member Varner to approve Renovations for Wing 3. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Bondi, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Olinger, Friedrich, Nache, Varner, and Link—(11). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion made by Member Friedrich and seconded by Member Amor to approve Relias Training. Chair Hawkinson said the information is in the packet. There is a one-time fee for \$2,500 and the fee for a 60-month term is the better price. Nursing Home Administrator Mines said that this mandated training. Promedic used to provide the training but no longer does so this is the next best option. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Bondi, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Olinger, Friedrich, Nache, Varner, and Link—(11). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Administrator Mines wanted to thank the Highway department for cutting down several dead pine trees. They were able to complete the process in less than 2 days with the new tree shearer. They saved the County between \$7,000-\$8,000 by removing those dead pine trees.

Chair Hawkinson stated that the reports from the outside committee assignments are 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 Friedrich and seconded by Member Amor to approve Opening of Budget for Line Item Changes. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Bondi, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Olinger, Friedrich, Nache, Varner, and Link—(11). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion made by Member Friedrich and seconded by Member Bondi for the approval of Proposed Line Item Changes. Chair Hawkinson said that the Proposed Budget Line Item Changes are in the packet and that there are several. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Bondi, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Olinger, Friedrich, Nache, Varner, and Link—(11). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Chair Hawkinson said that Jury Trial checks were paid so they did not have to wait the full cycle. Just like they did for the Election Judges

Motion made by Member Nache and seconded by Member Varner to approve the claims against Knox County, Illinois for the period of July 27, 2022 through August 24, 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 \$2,084,434.29. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Bondi, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Olinger, Friedrich, Nache, Varner, and Link—(11). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

The next Regular Meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 28, 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 Friedrich 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 7:22 p.m.