

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

November 23, 2022

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
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COUNTY OF KNOX) SS

Proceedings of the Regular Meeting of the Knox County Board held in person at the Galesburg City Council chambers on Wednesday, October 26, 2022 at 6:06 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 1	Mary McGunnigal
District 3	Kimberly Thierry
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	Erin Pugh
District 3	Kyle Rohweder
District 4	Sara Varner
District 5	Jeff Link

And those absent:	District 2	Robert Bondi
	District 4	Todd Olinger

Also present was County Clerk Scott Erickson, County Sheriff David Clauge, and County Treasurer Robin Davis. Department Heads present were Nursing Home Administrator Jodi Mines and Landfill Administrator Rod Clair.

Sheriff Clague 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 comment. 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 October 26, 2022, and 2) claims for Members for per diem and mileage for the meetings of November 2022 and other claims for per diem from meetings, and 3) sales tax and various taxes for the month of August 2022 in the amount of \$140,077.56 and \$31,537.85 and public safety tax in the amount of \$235,134.96. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—McGunnigal, Thierry, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Friedrich, Nache, Pugh, Rohweder, Varner, and Link—(13). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Chair Hawkinson had a Special Recognition for retiring Sheriff David Clague, and County Board Members Mary McGunnigal, Darla Krejci, Kyle Rohweder, Sara Varner, Jeff Link, and David Amor. He wanted to thank everyone for their service, time, dedication and all they have done for the County. He wished he would have thought of this sooner so he could have also recognized Kelly Cheesman for her 33 years of service.

Motion was made by Member Friedrich and seconded by Member Sandoval to approve the appointment of Trustee to Knoxville Fire Protection District of Joshua Rickabaugh. Chair Hawkinson said that his resume is in the packet and this is a new appointment. He is very knowledgeable and retired Battalion Chief from City of North Chicago. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—McGunnigal, Thierry, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Friedrich, Nache, Pugh, Rohweder, Varner, and Link—(13). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Friedrich and seconded by Member Amor to approve the appointment to 708 Mental Health Board of Steve Watts, John Schlaf, and Kyle Rohweder. Chair Hawkinson said that Rohweder if approved would start on December 5th and that Greg Bacon is leaving December 5th due to now having an elected position. Member Rohweder hopes that the Board will all consider him as a consultation for Bacon's position. He said he would be honored to serve for Bacon. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—McGunnigal, Thierry, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Friedrich, Nache, Pugh, Rohweder, Varner, and Link—(13). 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. He said that he is going to make this smooth and quick to get out for the Holiday. Unlike the finance meeting that was long and lasted until 9pm. He said that some action items are reoccurring and some are new.

Motion was made by Member Friedrich and seconded by Member Amor to approve ARPA Health and Human Services Grant to Galesburg Community Foundation for Hunger Collaborative Project. Member Amor spoke about what the ARPA Funds Task Force had asked to be set aside and the percentages. He then spoke about the Galesburg Community Foundation and what the goal is for the Hunger Collaborative and the proposal is in the packet. Also, he spoke of how important he thinks this is for the Knox County community. Member Friedrich said that he met with Josh Gibb the Executive Director of the Galesburg Community Foundation and wanted to thank him. He said he learned a lot. He encourages anyone wanting to know what the Foundation does to go learn. It is very interesting and he said it is a good time. Member Friedrich said he had one concern with the amount of the administrative fee. He feels that this should be lowered to \$15,000 and the extra dollar amount should be used somewhere else. Member Amor said that the resolution if approved does not offer accurate dollar amounts and can be adjusted. Member Davidson said she is voting no because she feels \$75,000 for management fee is too much and this money should all be allocated for Health. We as Knox County need to be prepared if a pandemic comes back again and spend this 9 million in ARPA funds wisely. The State has lots of programs for poverty already and putting millions if not billions in the next while on even more programs to help. We have until 2026 to help people and places outside of just going through the Community Foundation. She then encouraged everyone to vote no. Member Nache said that she had two things that were brought to her. One of them Member Davidson already explained. Member Nache said she received FISH to help raise her 10 kids. FISH food doesn't have to come out of a fancy building. It came out of people's homes. She doesn't like the hoops people have to jump through and that poor people should not have to jump through hoops. Chair Hawkinson explained the amounts again that were set aside and on March 23 the vote passed unanimously by this Board. He said that this would make a substantial and immediate impact and now is the time since we have the money. He said that the Riverbend Food Bank is going to be a great space provided to feed the hungry and increase the area that is able to be helped. He is glad that millions and billions from State may be coming down the line but this is immediate. This will help combat food, housing, community grant services, and also health and human services. This can not wait and this is so they will not have to wait 6 months to jump through hoops so he is voting yes. Member Thierry said that she does not have enough information and agrees with Member Davidson that ARPA can better prepare us for the next pandemic. She is well aware of hunger. She stated that Randy Hovind, Ground Zero and infrastructure were not prepared and as a County are we prepared now. She said that she does not feel comfortable. Member Amor said on respect to Member Nache with the new facility they can now serve multiple counties and we are closer then having to go to the Quad Cities which FISH are delighted about. That is separate from what we are talking about. He believes that passing this would make a profound difference for our community. Member Bondi asked by are we rushing this. We will have a whole new Board and they should have a voice in this too. We could table this for more information. Member Krejci said that this will eliminate those hoops that Member Nache is talking about. That is why she is voting yes and everyone should. She said that the ARPA Task Force set aside for this. Josh Gibbs answered questions and explained that hoops would be eliminated. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—McGunnigal, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Friedrich, Rohweder, Varner, and Link—(9). Noes—Davidson, Nache and Pugh---(3). Abstain---Thierry---(1). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Friedrich and seconded by Member Amor to approve ARPA Grant Proposals Not Recommended for Funding. Member Amor said that this is for bookkeeping essentially. He said these were applicants that were not recommended for funding and so we can let them know they are not receiving funding. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—McGunnigal, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Friedrich, Rohweder, Varner, and Link—(9). Noes— (0). Abstain---Thierry, Davidson, Nache and Pugh ---(4). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Friedrich and seconded by Member Sandoval to approve the Resolution for Use of State’s Attorney Appellate Prosecutor. Member Friedrich said that the information is in the packet. Chair Hawkinson asked what the cost was associated with it. Treasurer Davis said it was \$17,000. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—McGunnigal, Thierry, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Friedrich, Nache, Pugh, Rohweder, Varner, and Link—(13). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Friedrich and seconded by Member Amor to approve the Engagement Letters for County Auditor. Member Friedrich said that this is the Auditor used every year and this is to get started on the audit. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—McGunnigal, Thierry, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Friedrich, Nache, Pugh, Rohweder, Varner, and Link—(13). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Friedrich and seconded by Member Sandoval to approve the Resolution Authorizing the County Clerk and County Treasurer to Issue Warrants for Certain Claims During the Period the County Board is Not in Session. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—McGunnigal, Thierry, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Friedrich, Nache, Pugh, Rohweder, Varner, and Link—(13). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Friedrich and seconded by Member Varner to approve the Recurring Monthly manual Check List. Member Friedrich said that certain vendors require payment. Chair Hawkinson said such as jurors and election judges. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—McGunnigal, Thierry, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Friedrich, Nache, Pugh, Rohweder, Varner, and Link—(13). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Friedrich and seconded by Member Sandoval to approve Inclement Weather Policy. Member Friedrich said that there was issues last year of what to do and who could can do the emergency closing. This would cover what to do. The department heads were meet with about this. Member Pugh asked if the Union was ok with it. Chair Hawkinson said that they are the ones that have been asking for it for a couple of months. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—McGunnigal, Thierry, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Friedrich, Nache, Pugh, Rohweder, Varner, and Link—(13). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Friedrich and seconded by Member Amor to approve the Membership Dues for Illinois Association of County Board Members. Member Friedrich said the cost is \$1500. They get a lot of good information out of them and do this every year. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—McGunnigal, Thierry, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Friedrich, Nache, Pugh, Rohweder, Varner, and Link—(13). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Friedrich and seconded by Member Varner to approve the Resolutions of Deeds of Conveyance. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—McGunnigal, Thierry, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Friedrich, Nache, Pugh, Rohweder, Varner, and Link—(13). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Friedrich and seconded by Member Amor to approve the Ordinance Authorizing the Issuance of Not to Exceed \$9,000,000 General Obligation Bonds (Alternative Revenue Source), Series 2022, of the County of Knox, Illinois. Treasurer Davis said that this is approving the Ordinance and final step to be able to sell the Bond and know the rate. Chair Hawkinson said that this is the final reading to be in effect. Member Davidson wondered if everyone knew that the interest could be 5 or 6 million on the 9-million-dollar Bond. She also asked how much has been allocated. Chair Hawkinson said that law enforcement has been in the Board packets for months. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—McGunnigal, Thierry, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Friedrich, Nache, Pugh, Rohweder, Varner, and Link—(13). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Friedrich and seconded by Member Rohweder to approve the Purchase of Board Management Software. Member Friedrich said that this is to help the Board packets to be more uniform and not rushed on Friday to get done. There would be a standardized form for the committees to use. Chair Hawkinson said that this Board packet program would make things a thousand times easier to view and understand. He said that it also has the ability to do electronic voting. County Clerk Erickson said this will allow for electronic submittal of documents for Board packet. This will also make the public packet at the same time for better transparency. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—McGunnigal, Thierry, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Friedrich, Nache, Pugh, Rohweder, Varner, and Link—(13). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Friedrich and seconded by Member Nache to approve the Resolution Establishing Salary for Circuit Clerk. Member Friedrich explained that this is to bring the Circuit Clerk salary up to the same as the Treasurer and County Clerk. Certain positions that are all elected have to be changed 120 days prior to primary or December 1st only on yearly change over. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—McGunnigal, Thierry, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Friedrich, Nache, Pugh, Rohweder, Varner, and Link—(13). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Friedrich and seconded by Member Varner to approve Budget Changes for FY2022-2023. Member Friedrich said that the changes are in the packet. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—McGunnigal, Thierry, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Friedrich, Nache, Pugh, Rohweder, Varner, and Link—(13). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Friedrich and seconded by Member Amor to approve County Levy for FY2022-2023. Member Friedrich said that this is the same and did not change. This is just the final approval and push to get done. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—McGunnigal, Thierry, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Friedrich, Nache, Pugh, Rohweder, Varner, and Link—(13). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Friedrich and seconded by Member Nache to approve County Budget for FY2022-2023 with Changes. Member Friedrich said that the Budget with changes are in front of you. Chair Hawkinson said pat everyone on the back. The Treasurer and Clerk were level for each department and there is an estimated surplus of 2.1 million dollars. He said kudos to everyone. Member Friedrich said than you Chair and everyone. He said that Member Amor was a rock star. Member Amor said that this is 6 years of balanced finances. They could not do this without the participation of the Department Heads and the knowledge of the Treasurer. Member Nache said she echoes elected officials help. She said once again echo Robin pulled a rabbit out of her hat and most would fail. Member Davidson said that it is just showing how this is not our money and this is the taxpayers' dollars. We worked diligently for Knox County and are here for the taxpayers. Member Friedrich said thank you for taking time out of your schedules. Chair Hawkinson said Knox County we did it again. In your pack includes the final total of \$87,455,544. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—McGunnigal, Thierry, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Friedrich, Nache, Pugh, Rohweder, Varner, and Link—(13). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

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 Sandoval to approve the approve State Bid for Sheriff Transport Vehicle Funded through ARPA Funds. Member Link said that the current vehicle has 260,000 miles and has broke down twice in the dame day. He said the van with State Bid could take up to a year to get and is much needed. We need to get it on the book to get it ordered and Resolution to use ARPA. Member Davidson said we cannot use ARPA money without having a Resolution. Chair Hawkinson said on page 306 the Resolution is in the packet, if you read the packet. Member Thierry asked the process with the Resolution in packed if it was approved at the committee level. Chair Hawkinson said yes at committee level. Member Amor said that they might be able to pay this out of another source. He said January 1st we do not know what will happen at the Jail. Member Friedrich said they just need to get it ordered. Chair Hawkinson said that it was unanimously agreed on that three vehicles would

come out of ARPA Money. Member Davidson asked first of all what is this \$150,000 for cars coming out of ARPA money used for. Chair Hawkinson said \$150,000 last November for this year which was approved this year for a transport van. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—McGunnigal, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Friedrich, Rohweder, Varner, and Link—(8). Noes— Davidson and Nache---(2). Abstain---Thierry, Amor and Pugh ---(3). Motion carried.

Motion made by Member Link and seconded by Member Friedrich to approve Motion to Reject Bid Packages 1 and 2 for Jail work. Member Link said that it was recommended by the Project Manager since they came in high and feels we can get better a better price. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—McGunnigal, Thierry, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Friedrich, Nache, Pugh, Rohweder, Varner, and Link—(13). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion made by Member Link and seconded by Member Friedrich to approve Bid and Bring Back for Bid Packages 1 and 2 for Jail Work with Revised Specifications. Bid opening would be December 15th and then go on to the Building Committee. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—McGunnigal, Thierry, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Friedrich, Nache, Pugh, Rohweder, Varner, and Link—(13). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Chair Hawkinson said he is presenting the monthly report for the Assessor, Zoning, GIS, Highway, IT, and Landfill Committee for Member Bondi since he is out of town on business. He stated that the reports are in the packet.

Motion made by Member Friedrich and seconded by Member Rohweder to approve the Resolution on Motor Fuel Tax Salary, Section 23-00000-00-CS. Chair Hawkinson said for Illinois the County is required to do this Resolution appropriating Motor Fuel Tax Fund for the purpose of paying the County Engineer's Salary of \$140,500. He said that this is done every year. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—McGunnigal, Thierry, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Friedrich, Nache, Pugh, Rohweder, Varner, and Link—(13). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Member Rohweder presented the report from the Nursing Home committee. The report is in the packet. He said his dad bod needs the potluck that is waiting for him.

Administrator Mines said that they are up to 82 clients, 16 in rehab and 11 Medicare.

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—McGunnigal, Thierry, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Friedrich, Nache, Pugh, Rohweder, Varner, and Link—(13). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion made by Member Friedrich and seconded by Member Sandoval for the approval of Proposed Line Item Changes. Chair Hawkinson stated that the Proposed Line Item Changes are in the packet along with what was distributed before the Board Meeting and are open for inspection. He stated that line items were zeroed out and there are quite a few less than last year. He asked if anyone from the general public would like a copy to review. Member Davidson said that during Finance there was a charge on the card and they cancelled the trip along with Board Member Hunigan. They just found out on November 23rd that UCCI would be reimbursing that \$979.04. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—McGunnigal, Thierry, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Friedrich, Nache, Pugh, Rohweder, Varner, and Link—(13). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Chair Hawkinson said that there were no manual checks out of the ordinary.

Motion made by Member Link and seconded by Member Varner to approve the claims against Knox County, Illinois for the period of October 27, 2022 through November 23, 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). Chair Hawkinson reported that the vouchers submitted were in the amount of \$1,856,320.74 this total includes the Veterans Assistance bills that if not paid would violate non-payment agreement and would reduce services. Also, the Sheriff's bills that were already approved in finance and the omitted \$75 on an election judge. This is minus the \$979.04 for airfare that Member Davidson had talked about in the Finance committee and was voted not to pay. Chair Hawkinson said that we should hold this until we get the reimbursement to pay it. Member Davidson asked if the \$1,856,320.74 excludes the \$146 for forks and plates that was removed during committee and she feels UCCI is faithful and has paid on numerous occasions. Treasurer Davis said that she would like to get the credit card cleared out and UCCI said they would pay by the 30th. Member Amor said that he feels that this amount should be paid.

Sub-Motion made by Member Amor and seconded by Member Thierry to do an amendment to include the bill of \$979.04 for airfare. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—McGunnigal, Thierry, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Nache, Pugh, and Rohweder—(9). Noes—Hawkinson, Friedrich, Varner, and Link—(4). Sub-Motion carried.

The new amended total was \$1,857,299.78 with the added credit card bill of \$979.04. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—McGunnigal, Thierry, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Nache, Pugh, and Rohweder—(9). Noes— Hawkinson, Friedrich, Varner, and Link--(4). Motion carried.

***(Note, \$1,857,299.78 minus \$11,310 that Sheriff Dept. said not to pay =\$1,845,989.78 Total paid)

The next Regular Meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 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.

Chair Hawkinson said that December 5th will be the swearing in at the Courthouse at 6pm on the 2nd floor.

Motion was made by Member Sandoval and seconded by Member Friedrich to adjourn the meeting. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—McGunnigal, Thierry, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Krejci, Amor, Davidson, Friedrich, Nache, Pugh, Rohweder, Varner, and Link—(13). Noes—(0). Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.