

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

March 29, 2023

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
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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, March 29th, 2023 at 6:07 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	Cheryl Nache
District 2	Greg Bacon
District 3	Pamela Davidson
District 4	Jared Hawkinson
District 5	Ricardo “Rick” Sandoval
District 1	Anthony Weiss
District 2	Erin Pugh
District 3	Kimberly Thierry
District 4	Joshua Kramer
District 5	Brian Friedrich
District 1	Amanda Smith
District 2	Robert Bondi
District 3	Samuel Cohen
District 4	Todd Olinger
District 5	Patty Boone

All Members present

Also present were County Clerk Scott Erickson, Sheriff Jack Harlan, State’s Attorney Jeremy Karlin, and Treasurer Robin Davis. Department Heads present were Nursing Home Administrator Jodi Mines, Highway Administrator Duane Ratermann, Landfill Administrator Rod Clear, Knox County Public Health Administrator Michele Gabriel and Mary Davis Home Administrator Wendi Steck.

Sheriff Harlan 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. There were no additions or deletions to the agenda just a slight modification of combining Item 29 and 30.

Chair Hawkinson asked for public comment.

Ken Springer the President of Knox County Area Partnership for Economic Development spoke about the second round of back to business grant opportunity for local businesses. The first round of grants was in the fall of 2021 that helped bars and restaurants. He said that the information is on their Facebook. He said they can also reach out to him for information and the staff at Western Illinois University can help businesses apply.

Chair Hawkinson said thank you to Mr. Springer. There was no public comment via zoom.

Motion was made by Member Friedrich and seconded by Member Sandoval to approve the following items of the consent agenda: 1) minutes of the Regular Board Meeting on February 22, 2023 and 2) claims for Members for per diem and mileage for the meetings of March 2023 and other claims for per diem from meetings, and 3) sales tax and various taxes for the month of December 2022 in the amounts of \$155,259.80 and \$37,689.01 and public safety tax in the amount of \$274,887.77. Member Davidson said she wanted a correction to the minutes that for public comment on zoom Chair Hawkinson said that there were no emails sent to Clerk Erickson. She also wanted to make a comment that there were two sheets for public comment. On the second page Mr. Robinson had signed and was not called to speak. Via zoom they have to email ahead of time. She asked that be noted for the record. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Nache, Bacon, Davidson, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Weiss, Pugh, Thierry, Kramer, Friedrich, Smith, Bondi, Cohen, Olinger and Boone—(15). Noes— (0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Bondi and seconded by Member Kramer to approve the Proclamation for National County Government Month. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Nache, Bacon, Davidson, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Weiss, Pugh, Thierry, Kramer, Friedrich, Smith, Bondi, Cohen, Olinger and Boone—(15). Noes— (0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Smith and seconded by Member Nache to approve the Proclamation for Earth Day in Knox County. There is a clean-up day scheduled for Saturday April 29th from 1-3pm meeting at Bridgeway. They will provide the gloves and trash bags. This will work for community hours.

Member Nache said that she remembers when this was a big deal and would be an all day event. The schools were involved and would also sell t-shirts for the kids to wear for the event. She said let's make this a big deal again. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Nache, Bacon, Davidson, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Weiss, Pugh, Thierry, Kramer, Friedrich, Smith, Bondi, Cohen, Olinger and Boone—(15). Noes— (0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Kramer and seconded by Member Friedrich to approve the Knox County Multi-Jurisdictional All Hazards Mitigation Plan for 2023. Chair Hawkinson said that if anyone has questions that Fire Chief Randy Hovind is here to answer any questions.

Member Bondi asked if it is available in PDF form.

Chief Hovind said that they have two paper copies right now and one is on file in the County Clerks office.

Member Chops asked if it will be put in PDF form later.

Chair Hawkinson said yes, the State will put the final version out. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Nache, Bacon, Davidson, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Weiss, Pugh, Thierry, Kramer, Friedrich, Smith, Bondi, Cohen, Olinger and Boone—(15). Noes— (0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Kramer and seconded by Member Bacon to approve the appointment of Trustee for Knoxville Fire Protection District for David Zimmerman. Chair Hawkinson said that this is a new appointment and the proper documentation is in the packet. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Nache, Bacon, Davidson, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Weiss, Pugh, Thierry, Kramer, Friedrich, Smith, Bondi, Cohen, Olinger and Boone—(15). Noes— (0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Kramer and seconded by Member Pugh to approve the appointment to Galva Fire Protection District of Josh Hopping. Chair Hawkinson said that this is a reappointment and the information is in the packet.

Member Bondi asked about his resume

Chair Hawkinson said that the resume is on file from the original appointment but can add that. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Nache, Bacon, Davidson, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Weiss, Pugh, Thierry, Kramer, Friedrich, Smith, Bondi, Cohen, Olinger and Boone—(15). Noes— (0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Bacon and seconded by Member Davidson to approve appointment of Richard D. Allen. Chair Hawkinson said that Mr. Allen does an amazing job.

Member Nache said that Mr. Chairman knows how I feel about him. I know he is not on the Board anymore but he will always be Chairman to me. Things are running smoothly under his leadership for water and sanitation.

Member Davidson said that she is honored to vote yes and encouraged everyone that has not taken a tour of the plant to do so. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Nache,

Bacon, Davidson, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Weiss, Pugh, Thierry, Kramer, Friedrich, Smith, Bondi, Cohen, Olinger and Boone—(15). Noes— (0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Kramer and seconded by Member Cohen to approve the appointment to Knox County Merit Commission of John Kennedy. Chair Hawkinson said that his information is in the packet and he is no stranger to Knox County and the Community. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Nache, Bacon, Davidson, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Weiss, Pugh, Thierry, Kramer, Friedrich, Smith, Bondi, Cohen, Olinger and Boone—(15). Noes— (0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Kramer and seconded by Member Weiss to approve the Construction Mediation Settlement for Mary Davis Home. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Nache, Bacon, Davidson, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Weiss, Pugh, Thierry, Kramer, Friedrich, Smith, Bondi, Cohen, Olinger and Boone—(15). Noes— (0). Motion carried.

Member Friedrich said that the monthly report from the Ways and Means Committees are in the packet.

Motion was made by Member Friedrich and seconded by Member Sandoval to approve revisions to Knox County Raffle Ordinance. Member Friedrich said that this is just to clean it up and so Chair Hawkinson does not have to sign only the County Clerk.

Member Bacon asked Clerk Erickson if this was for a year.

Clerk Erickson said yes.

Chair Hawkinson said this way they could do more than one raffle in the year and instead of a sliding fee scale it would be a flat \$25.

Member Davidson said so if this is for one year then the Abate could do several raffles.

Member Hawkinson said yes still covered and easier to keep track of.

Clerk Erickson said this would be easier and cleaner. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Nache, Bacon, Davidson, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Weiss, Pugh, Thierry, Kramer, Friedrich, Smith, Bondi, Cohen, Olinger and Boone—(15). Noes— (0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Friedrich and seconded by Member Kramer to approve Budget Schedule for 2023. Member Friedrich said that just like last year they are starting early. So, be on the lookout for meetings that will be coming up.

Chair Hawkinson said that it has to be completed by June 16th by 4pm.

Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Nache, Bacon, Davidson, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Weiss, Pugh, Thierry, Kramer, Friedrich, Smith, Bondi, Cohen, Olinger and Boone—(15). Noes— (0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Friedrich and seconded by Member Kramer to approve purchase of ClearGov Budgeting Software. Member Friedrich said that it would cost \$16,275 for the first year and would be a 3-year contract. He said that Treasurer Davis researched several and this one works with our system.

Member Bacon asked if there would be enough time to be able to use it this year.

Treasurer Davis said that it would take them 60-90 days to get up and working and could get it done in time for this cycle of Budget.

Chair Hawkinson said that the City of Peoria is the closest that is using it. It is very much user friendly. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Nache, Bacon, Davidson, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Weiss, Pugh, Thierry, Kramer, Friedrich, Smith, Bondi, Cohen, Olinger and Boone—(15). Noes— (0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Friedrich and seconded by Member Cohen to approve ARPA Matching Grant Commitment for Broadband Project with Oneida Telephone Exchange. Member Friedrich said that this will help 212 homes get connected.

David Amor gave a little background about the project and how much it would help the community and upgrade 212 underserved or not served from 100MB to 1 GB.

Chair Hawkinson thanked Mr. Amor and Oneida Telephone for getting this together.

Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Nache, Davidson, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Weiss, Pugh, Thierry, Kramer, Friedrich, Smith, Bondi, Cohen, Olinger and Boone—(14). Noes— (0). Abstain---Bacon---(1). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Friedrich and seconded by Member Kramer to approve ARPA Expenditure from Lost Revenue for Sheriff's Department. Member Friedrich said that \$153,129 is the cost of everything.

Chair Hawkinson said this \$153,129 is the total out the door vendor package purchase price. He said that he spoke to the Treasurer with regards to the Budget that had \$150,000-line item that was reduced to \$1. During Budget time it was decided to reduce the line item to \$1 and purchase the vehicle through lost revenue.

Member Davidson said she remembers putting a zero in place of the \$150,000. She spoke about concern of purchasing 2 cars, then 3 more and if we have another pandemic we need a building and now have under \$100,000 to use. She asked if those cars were included in the \$150,000.

Chair Hawkinson said no. He is only aware of a transport van that we purchased this year.

Member Kramer said that the breakdown is all in the packet.

Member Davidson said that there are 15 pages of quotes and pages that we have never had before.

Chair Hawkinson said the quotes are for each one.

Member Kramer said it lists the information of radio, brush guard, decals and all the details are all in there.

Member Cohen asked if it is being paid from Lost Revenue.

Chair Hawkinson said Lost Revenue of ARPA

Member Nache asked if this was the end of budgeted.

Chair Hawkinson said I hope so.

Member Davidson asked if it was the one with picture on it with standard equipment.

Chair Hawkinson said that the information is straight from the dealership.

Member Davidson asked if it was the Ram 1500 with Hemi.

Chair Hawkinson said police package yes.

Member Davidson spoke about having to go through 1000 pages due to her laptop not working.

Member Sandoval asked for call for vote. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Nache, Bacon, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Weiss, Pugh, Thierry, Kramer, Friedrich, Smith, Bondi, Cohen, Olinger and Boone—(14). Noes—Davidson---(1). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Friedrich and seconded by Member Kramer to approve ARPA Expenditure from Lost Revenue for Knox County IT Department. Member Friedrich said that this had already been approved by the Board but this is from the Bid and Bring Back to have a Resolution for bookkeeping purposes recommended by the State's Attorney for the ARPA funds of \$209,983. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Nache, Bacon, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Weiss, Pugh, Thierry, Kramer, Friedrich, Smith, Bondi, Cohen, Olinger and Boone—(14). Noes— (0). Abstain--- Davidson---(1). Motion carried.

Member Kramer said that the monthly report from the Public Safety and Justice Committees are in the packet.

Member Bondi presented the monthly report from the Infrastructure Committee. He stated that the reports are in the packet.

Motion made by Member Bondi and seconded by Member Weiss to approve Option Agreement with Ameresco Solar Land Holding. Member Bondi said that this would be for solar panels at the landfill 1 & 2 area that is 42 plus or minus acres. He said Dawn Fischer is prepared and ready to give a presentation if needed.

Chair Hawkinson said that the presentation is in the packet. We have the land and room to expand. This would be done in three phases.

Member Bondi said that this land could not usually be used for centuries.

Member Bacon asked about the old Stegall Landfill.

Landfill Administrator Cleair said that landfill is on County and City property. Which makes it a super fun site and the State is super involved.

Member Davidson said that this is a fabulous idea for green energy. She just wanted to know if we still have to mow it.

Ms. Fischer said that they would take care of the mowing and maintenance.

Chair Hawkinson said that the information in the packet is very thorough.

Member Bondi said that they would have a Decommissioning Bond to have funds to remove it after 20 years or have the option to extend the lease. He said a new lease agreement and signatures would be in order. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Nache, Bacon,

Davidson, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Weiss, Pugh, Thierry, Kramer, Friedrich, Smith, Bondi, Cohen, Olinger and Boone—(15). Noes— (0). Motion carried.

Motion made by Member Bondi and seconded by Member Weiss to approve reduction of Emergency Air Space from 10% Capacity to 3% Capacity. Member Bondi said that 3% is more than enough for emergency requirements needed and the information is in the packet. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Nache, Bacon, Davidson, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Weiss, Pugh, Thierry, Kramer, Friedrich, Smith, Bondi, Cohen, Olinger and Boone—(15). Noes— (0). Motion carried.

Motion made by Member Bondi and seconded by Member Friedrich to approve Bid for purchase and application of Lignin Sulfonate (Tree Sap) in Both Spring and Fall, for Approximately 1.5 Miles of Oversized Dirt/Gravel Road. Member Bondi said that the cost of the Tree Sap is \$16,800 from ERS LLC and is for both applications. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Nache, Bacon, Davidson, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Weiss, Pugh, Thierry, Kramer, Friedrich, Smith, Bondi, Cohen, Olinger and Boone—(15). Noes— (0). Motion carried.

Motion made by Member Bondi and seconded by Member Weiss to approve Financing of John Deere 850L Bulldozer. Member Bondi said that the lowest financing bid for the \$447,434.00 was from F&M Bank for 4.25% for 5 years or 4.50% for 10 years. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Nache, Bacon, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Weiss, Pugh, Thierry, Kramer, Friedrich, Smith, Bondi, Cohen, Olinger and Boone—(14). Noes— (0). Abstain---Davidson---(1). Motion carried.

Motion made by Member Bondi and seconded by Member Sandoval to approve the Bid and Bring Back for Leachate Management System. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Nache, Bacon, Davidson, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Weiss, Pugh, Thierry, Kramer, Friedrich, Smith, Bondi, Cohen, Olinger and Boone—(15). Noes— (0). Motion carried.

Motion made by Member Bondi and seconded by Member Kramer to approve Draw #6 for Emergency Work for Jail. Chair Hawkinson said that this payment is for \$114,196.13.

Member Bondi said that the balance would be \$313,506.35.

Chair Hawkinson said that they are having weekly meetings with the vendors and contractors. They are one month ahead of schedule. They used the extra leftover rock from the roof to fix the sink hole that was in the parking lot.

Member Bacon asked when it would be completed.

Chair Hawkinson said that it takes about one month to complete each Pod. They are hoping for the end of July for completion. They have to relocate the prisoners, to do chuck tray installation, repaint, and reseal. They have before and after pictures that show the progress. You would be amazed of what it looks like.

Member Davidson asked if this is the same emergency.

Chair Hawkinson said it is the same. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Nache, Bacon, Davidson, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Weiss, Pugh, Thierry, Kramer, Friedrich, Smith, Bondi, Cohen, Olinger and Boone—(15). Noes— (0). Motion carried.

Motion made by Member Bondi and seconded by Member Kramer to approve payment of Jail Phase 2 Payment Request #3. Member Bondi said that the current payment due is \$296,431.80. The contract is for \$2,962,719.42 The balance left would be \$1,291,978.82. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Nache, Bacon, Davidson, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Weiss, Pugh, Thierry, Kramer, Friedrich, Smith, Bondi, Cohen, Olinger and Boone—(15). Noes— (0). Motion carried.

Motion made by Member Bondi and seconded by Member Kramer to approve Phase 2A General Trades Draw for \$35,878.79. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Nache, Bacon, Davidson, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Weiss, Pugh, Thierry, Kramer, Friedrich, Smith, Bondi, Cohen, Olinger and Boone—(15). Noes— (0). Motion carried.

Motion made by Member Bondi and seconded by Member Cohen to approve the request for information from Broadband Steering Committee and publication of request for information for Broadband Steering Committee. Member Bondi said the information is in the packet and has been reviewed by State's Attorney Karlin, Chair Hawkinson, and Clerk Erickson. He said that it is very well prepared. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Nache, Bacon, Davidson, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Weiss, Pugh, Thierry, Kramer, Friedrich, Smith, Bondi, Cohen, Olinger and Boone—(15). Noes— (0). Motion carried.

Motion made by Member Bondi and seconded by Member Friedrich to approve Professional Services Agreement, Chestnut Township Bridge, Section 21-02105-01-BR. Member Bondi said that this is located midway between Abingdon and Maquon, just south of County Highway 20, on 900E. It was built in 1967, is a 108-foot-long, 3 span bridge carrying traffic over Herman Creek. There are approximately 125 vehicles per day crossing the bridge. The projected cost of replacing this bridge is at 2 million to 2 1/2 million. The feasibility study is not to exceed \$35,000.

Member Davidson asked if IDOT will give us anything.

Highway Administrator Ratermann said not for the general study. We can use IDOT money but that gives us less to use on construction. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Nache, Bacon, Davidson, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Weiss, Pugh, Thierry, Kramer, Friedrich, Smith, Bondi, Cohen, Olinger and Boone—(15). Noes— (0). Motion carried.

Motion made by Member Bondi and seconded by Member Friedrich to approve Letter of Support for Statewide Planning and Research Grant. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Nache, Bacon, Davidson, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Weiss, Pugh, Thierry, Kramer, Friedrich, Smith, Bondi, Cohen, Olinger and Boone—(15). Noes— (0). Motion carried.

Chair Hawkinson asked Highway Administrator Ratermann for an update on the County Highway 10 Bridge.

Highway Administrator Ratermann said that they are working on the bridge every day. The condition of the bridge got much worse since the study four years ago. He said we are bleeding. He joked asking if there was any ARPA money left.

Member Davidson said no.

Member Bacon presented the report from the Health and Human Services committee. The report is in the packet.

Motion made by Member Bacon and seconded by Member Kramer to approve Bid and Bring Back for Nursing Home Website. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Nache, Bacon, Davidson, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Weiss, Pugh, Thierry, Kramer, Friedrich, Smith, Bondi, Cohen, Olinger and Boone—(15). Noes— (0). Motion carried.

Member Bacon said that the Nursing Home operated in the black again last month.

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 Bacon and seconded by Member Sandoval to approve Opening of Budget for Line Item Changes. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Nache, Bacon, Davidson, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Weiss, Pugh, Thierry, Kramer, Friedrich, Smith, Bondi, Cohen, Olinger and Boone—(15). Noes— (0). Motion carried.

Motion made by Member Friedrich and seconded by Member Kramer for the approval of Proposed Line Item Changes. Chair Hawkinson stated that there were a couple Proposed Line Item Changes in the packet. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Nache, Bacon, Davidson, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Weiss, Pugh, Thierry, Kramer, Friedrich, Smith, Bondi, Cohen, Olinger and Boone—(15). Noes— (0). Motion carried.

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

Motion made by Member Olinger and seconded by Member Friedrich to approve the claims against Knox County, Illinois for the period of February 23, 2023 through March 29, 2023 (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 \$2,152,676.10. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Nache, Bacon, Davidson, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Weiss, Pugh, Thierry, Kramer, Friedrich, Smith, Bondi, Cohen, Olinger and Boone—(15). Noes— (0). Motion carried.

The next Regular Meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 26, 2023 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—Nache, Bacon, Davidson, Hawkinson, Sandoval, Weiss, Pugh, Thierry, Kramer, Friedrich, Smith, Bondi, Cohen, Olinger and Boone—(15). Noes— (0). Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 7:23 p.m.

****Amended at County Board meeting on April 29, 2023.**

****Member Davidson said she wanted a correction to the minutes that there were two sheets for public comment. On the second page Mr. Robinson had signed and was not called to speak.**