

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNTY BOARD  
KNOX COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
September 24, 2003**

STATE OF ILLINOIS    )  
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COUNTY OF KNOX    )

Proceedings of the regular meeting of the Knox County Board, held at the Courthouse, Galesburg, Illinois, on Wednesday, September 24, 2003, at 6:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Sally Keener and on roll call the following members of the Board reported present:

- District 2     Gayle Keiser
- District 3     Dale Parsons
- District 4     Sally Keener
- District 5     Ricardo Sandoval
- District 1     Allen Pickrel
- District 2     Dana Shallenberger
- District 3     Paul Hevland
- District 4     Lowell Mannhardt
- District 5     Gerald Link
- District 1     Linda Roberts
- District 2     William Abel
- District 3     Janet Occhi
- District 4     Wayne Saline
- District 5     Stephen Johnson

Sheriff Thompson delivered the proclamation, Chairman Keener led the members in the Pledge to the Flag and Rev. Dan Siems gave the invocation.

Chairman Keener asked if there were any changes or additions to the agenda. There were none.

Chairman Keener opened the floor to public comment. David Serven, Knox County Farm Bureau, addressed the Board in regard to opposition to relocation of railroad tracks citing the following: 1) cost of proposed project is too extreme, 2) taking 1,200 acres of prime farm land, 3) railroad closings cause more time to and from destinations, 4) too ambitious and too costly. Tom Hoben lives on a centennial farm and is opposed because the proposed plan will have the railroad going through the center of his farm.

Chairman Keener presented the following consent agenda for approval: 1) Minutes of the Board Meeting held August 27, 2003; 2) Claims against Knox County, Illinois, for the period of August 28-September 24, 2003, 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; 3) Claims by Members for per diem and mileage for the Meeting of September 24, 2003; 4) Financial reports of Marc C. Wong, County Clerk; Robin E. Davis,

Treasurer; Nancy J. McCune, Recorder; Kelly Cheesman, Circuit Clerk; and James K. Thompson, Sheriff for the month of August 2003 filed with the County Clerk; 5) Sales tax and various taxes for the month of June, 2003 in the amounts of \$88,702.09 and \$22,970.48 and public safety tax in the amount of \$72,001.85; 6) Statements of Condition of the Banks for the Quarter Ending June 30, 2003, filed with the Clerk; 6.5) Appointment of Hon. Bill Kendall as a member of the Knox County Civic Center Authority. Motion to approve consent agenda by Dale Parsons seconded by Jan Occhi. Steve Johnson requested Item 2 be removed and vote by roll call on items 1, 3-6.5 as follows: Ayes - Keiser, Parsons, Keener, Sandoval, Pickrel, Shallenberger, Hevland, Mannhardt, Link, Roberts, Abel, Occhi, Saline, Johnson - (14); Noes - (0). Motion carried. Motion to approve item 2 by Wayne Saline seconded by Jan Occhi and vote by roll call as follows: Ayes - Keiser, Parsons, Keener, Sandoval, Pickrel, Shallenberger, Hevland, Mannhardt, Link, Roberts, Abel, Occhi, Saline - (13); Noes - (0); Abstain - Johnson - (1). Motion carried.

Chairman Keener presented Kimla Sheetz as replacement for District 1. Motion by William Abel seconded by Lowell Mannhardt to approve and vote by roll call as follows: Ayes - Keiser, Keener, Sandoval, Pickrel, Hevland, Mannhardt, Link, Roberts, Abel, Saline, Johnson - (11); Noes - Parsons, Shallenberger, Occhi - (3). Motion carried. The Oath of Office was administered by Chairman Keener.

Chairman Keener presented the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION 2003-0039  
REVIEW OF EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES, 2000-PRESENT**

**WHEREAS**, the Board of the County of Knox, State of Illinois has met from time to time in executive session for purposes authorized by the Illinois Open Meetings Act; and

**WHEREAS**, as required by the Act, the County Clerk has kept written minutes of all such executive sessions; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the requirements of Illinois Compiled Statutes, 5 ILCS 120/2.06, the Board has met in closed session to review all closed session minutes; and

**WHEREAS**, they have determined that a need for confidentiality still exists as to the executive session minutes set forth on Schedule "A" attached hereto.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF THE COUNTY OF KNOX, STATE OF ILLINOIS**, as follows:

SECTION 1:           The Executive Session Minutes from those meetings set forth on Schedule "A" attached hereto are hereby confidential, Schedule "B" are no longer confidential.

SECTION 2:           This Resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage.

**Executive Session Minutes  
Confidential - Schedule A**

February 16, 2000	Litigation (Item 3)
August 15, 2001	Litigation (Item 1)
September 19, 2001	Litigation (Item 1)
June 25, 2003	Litigation (Item 1)
August 27, 2003	Litigation (Item 1); Review of Executive Session Minutes, 1995-1999 (Item 2); Contract Negotiations (Item 3); Personnel (Item 4)

**Executive Session Minutes  
No Longer Confidential - Schedule B**

February 16, 2000	Personnel (Item 1); Litigation (Item 2); Personnel (Item 4)
March 15, 1999	Litigation (Item 1); Litigation (Item 2)
May 17, 2000	Litigation (Item 1); Litigation (Item 2)
August 16, 2000	Litigation (Item 1)
February 21, 2001	Personnel (Item 1)
March 21, 2001	Personnel (Item 1)
April 18, 2001	Personnel (Item 1); Personnel (Item 2); Litigation (Item 3); Litigation (Item 4)
June 20, 2001	Litigation (Item 1)
July 18, 2001	Personnel (Item 1); Personnel Contract Negotiations (Item 2)
December 19, 2001	Personnel (Item 1); Personnel Contract Negotiations (Item 2)
January 16, 2002	Litigation (Item 1); Litigation (Item 2); Litigation (Item 3)
June 19, 2002	Personnel (Item 1); Litigation (Item 2)
October 16, 2002	Litigation (Item 1)
January 15, 2003	Personnel (Item 1); Litigation (Item 2); Personnel Contract Negotiations (Item 3)
February 19, 2003	Litigation (Item 1)
March 19, 2003	Land and Property Acquisition (Item 1)
April 16, 2003	Land and Property Acquisition (Item 1)
May 7, 2003	Land and Property Acquisition (Item 1)
May 28, 2003	Land and Property Acquisition (Item 1)
June 25, 2003	Personnel Contract Negotiations (Item 2)

Motion by Dale Parsons seconded by Gerald Link to approve resolution and vote by roll call as follows: Ayes - Sheetz, Keiser, Parsons, Keener, Sandoval, Pickrel, Shallenberger, Hevland, Mannhardt, Link, Roberts, Abel, Occhi, Johnson - (14); Noes - (0). Motion carried.

Paul Mangieri, State's Attorney, reported all construction is completed on the Knox County Law Enforcement Center. There were four final payouts made and four other contractors need to submit pay requests. Dismissal with prejudice was granted on the wall between the Knox County Law Enforcement Center and Hope Headstart.

Amy Kelso and Mark Blackburn addressed the Board on Knox County Civic Center Authority financial statement thru June 30, 2003.

Wayne Saline, Finance/Insurance Committee, reported general fund balance of \$1,006,000 with \$540,000 in liquid funds. The budget should be at 75% and revenue is 71% and expenses 78% (due to three payrolls in August). Wayne Saline presented Resolutions Authorizing the Reconveyance of Real Property on the following: PIN (Permanent Index Number) 99-10-402-006ETC to City of Galesburg; PIN 99-15-129-011 to the City of Galesburg; PIN 03-16-177-003 to Rolland E. Main et al; PIN 09-30-100-00 to John W. Curry; PIN 10-18-277-007 to Daniel E. Tuthill; PIN 12-22-153-001 to Richard E. LaFollette; PIN 17-04-152-030 to Ronald E. and Karen K. Quinn; PIN 99-10-451-009 to Roger and Kimla Sheetz; PIN 9-11-277-020 to Esther Moore and PIN 99-15-301-007 to Full Gospel Church. Motion by Wayne Saline to approve seconded by Steve Johnson and vote by roll call as follows: Ayes - Keiser, Parsons, Keener, Sandoval, Pickrel, Shallenberger, Hevland, Mannhardt, Link, Roberts, Abel, Occhi, Saline, Johnson - (14); Noes - (0); Abstain - Sheetz - (1). Motion carried.

Wayne Saline, Finance/Insurance Committee, presented a proposal by Blucker, Kneer and Assoc., Ltd. to be the County's auditing firm for fiscal year 2002-2003 (ending 11-30-2003). Motion to approve contract by Wayne Saline seconded by Rick Sandoval and vote by roll call as follows: Ayes - Sheetz, Keiser, Parsons, Keener, Sandoval, Pickrel, Shallenberger, Hevland, Mannhardt, Link, Roberts, Abel, Occhi, Saline, Johnson - (15); Noes - (0). Motion carried.

Wayne Saline, Finance/Insurance Committee, presented a proposal by Blue Cross/Blue Shield for Knox County employee's health and life insurance provider, premiums to go into effect October 1st. EBC will cover all outstanding claims through October 31st and employees are asked to be sure all claims for that period are submitted. Motion by Wayne Saline seconded by Lowell Mannhardt to approve Blue Cross/Blue Shield for Knox County employee's health and life insurance plan and vote by roll call as follows: Ayes - Sheetz, Keiser, Parsons, Keener, Sandoval, Pickrel, Shallenberger, Hevland, Mannhardt, Link, Roberts, Abel, Occhi, Saline, Johnson - (15); Noes - (0). Motion carried.

Motion by Wayne Saline, seconded by Jan Occhi to place a county employee on case management for malignant neoplasm of the occipital lobe/brain and vote by roll call as follows: Ayes - Sheetz, Keiser, Parsons, Keener, Sandoval, Pickrel, Shallenberger, Hevland, Mannhardt, Link, Roberts, Abel, Occhi, Saline, Johnson - (15); Noes - (0). Motion carried.

Motion by Wayne Saline seconded by Steve Johnson to go into closed session and vote by roll call as follows: Ayes - Sheetz, Keiser, Parsons, Keener, Sandoval, Pickrel, Shallenberger, Hevland, Mannhardt, Link, Roberts, Abel, Occhi, Saline, Johnson - (15); Noes - (0). Motion carried.

6:50 p.m. - return to open session.

Chairman Keener reported there was no action taken in closed session.

William Abel, Social Services Committee, reported Nursing Home cash basis is \$248,558 and has no outstanding balance with the Landfill. The adult day care has been approved; handicapped bathrooms are completed. Census is 175 residents. As of September

1st all 204 rooms at the Nursing Home were certified for Medicare. T. J. Wilson has been retained as attorney for wage reopening discussions with the union. John Miller, ad hoc Committee chairman addressed the Board in regard to \$5,000,000 bond issuance for improvements at the Nursing Home. The ad hoc committee is proposing new wings for Alzheimer's patients, physical therapy and adult day care to be taken from tax referendum monies. It is recommended all board members tour the Nursing Home prior to making any decision on bond issue next month.

Allen Pickrel, Public Safety Committee, reported 7,000 cats and dogs were vaccinated this year. Mary Davis Home is at capacity with 12 from Knox County. Assets at the Home are just under \$1,000,000. The Knox County Law Enforcement Center has 84 inmates with 22 Federal inmates housed. Allen Pickrel presented the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION 2003-0042**  
**MAINTAINING ARCHITECTURAL INTEGRITY OF THE KNOX COUNTY COURTHOUSE**

**WHEREAS**, Knox County has built, has maintained, and has provided governmental services within the Knox County Courthouse for approximately 120 years, and

**WHEREAS**, many architectural details and decorating amenities presently found in the Knox County Courthouse have been part of same for that 120 years, and

**WHEREAS**, it is the intent and purpose of the Knox County Board to maintain the historical integrity of the Knox County Courthouse and,

**WHEREAS**, the Knox County Board specifically desires to preserve the original architectural details and decorating amenities for future citizens of the County and,

**WHEREAS**, the Knox County Board also desires to provide adequate facilities for the Court system and the elected/administrative offices presently functioning within the Knox County Courthouse,

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND DETERMINED** that it is and shall be, until further Resolution, the policy of the Knox County Board that no permanent walls hereafter be erected, and that no permanent walls hereafter be destroyed or modified within the Knox County Courthouse, but that temporary walls and room dividers may be erected without further Resolution, it being, more specifically, the policy of this Knox County Board that any temporary walls, room dividers, or other dividers, facilities, or fixtures not be attached in any way to the following:

- Any wainscoting, door or door frame, window frame, or any other original piece or section of wood, or replica thereof; or
  
- Any portion or piece of flooring consisting of the original one foot by one foot marble tiles;

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED AND DETERMINED** that it is and shall be, until further Resolution, the policy of the Knox County Board that no redecoration or remodeling be conducted unless and until the Courthouse Committee of the Board, or another designated committee, shall have been informed of the nature and extent of said decoration or remodeling

approved same.

Motion by Allen Pickrel to approve resolution seconded by Rick Sandoval. Motion carried.

Allen Pickrel reported the company providing air exchangers in the Courthouse basement for radon control is implementing a 30 day test due to changes made in offices.

Gerald Link, Highway, Landfill and Zoning Committee, reported the Landfill is preparing the last cell and is ready to lay liner and finish testing. The Highway and Landfill are sharing equipment. The Landfill had one warning from EPA on cell 3. The problem was corrected and there was no fine. The Highway has completed seal coating for the year except for CH-4 intersection with most of the crew working on that project. The next meeting will be Tuesday, October 7th at 5:30 p.m., at the Landfill Administrator's office. The Committee received five bids on Knox Township bridge replacement project with low bid from Gunther Construction Company at \$173,486.22. Motion to accept bid from Gunther Construction by Gerald Link seconded by Rick Sandoval and vote by roll call as follows: Ayes - Sheetz, Keiser, Parsons, Keener, Sandoval, Pickrel, Shallenberger, Hevland, Mannhardt, Link, Roberts, Abel, Occhi, Saline, Johnson - (15); Noes - (0). Motion carried.

Jan Occhi, Planning and Space Allocation Committee, reported the Committee is reviewing County licenses especially fireworks due to new laws since September 11, 2001. This will be reviewed by State's Attorney and presented next month.

Sally Keener declared the September 24th meeting of the Knox County Board recessed until October 22, 2003.