

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

**February 25, 2009**

STATE OF ILLINOIS        )  
                                  )        SS  
COUNTY OF KNOX        )

Proceedings of the regular meeting of the Knox County Board held at the Knox County Courthouse, Galesburg, Illinois on February 25, 2009 at 6:10 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Greg Bacon and upon roll call the following members reported present:

|            |                         |
|------------|-------------------------|
| District 1 | Allen Pickrel           |
| District 2 | Greg “Chops” Bacon      |
| District 3 | Barbara Foster          |
| District 4 | Lowell Mannhardt        |
| District 5 | Jeff Jefferson          |
| District 1 | C. B. “Bernie” Damm     |
| District 2 | Paul Stewart            |
| District 3 | Dale Parsons            |
| District 4 | George Knapp            |
| District 5 | Ricardo “Rick” Sandoval |
| District 1 | Lyle Johnson            |
| District 2 | William Abel            |
| District 3 | Janet Occhi             |
| District 4 | Wayne Saline            |
| District 5 | David Serven            |

Also present were Sheriff Dave Clague, Treasurer Robin Davis, Recorder Paula Monzo, State’s Attorney John Pepmeyer, and County Clerk Scott Erickson.

Sheriff Dave Clague delivered the proclamation. Chairman Bacon led the Members in the pledge to the flag. Mrs. Bonnie Ericson of the First Church of God, Galesburg, delivered the invocation.

Chairman Bacon asked for additions to the agenda. County Clerk Scott Erickson asked for an addition at agenda item 7 A, to accept the Annual Health Department Report.

Motion was made by Member Johnson and seconded by Member Jefferson to approve the following items of the consent agenda: 1) minutes of the Regular and Closed Board Meeting on January 28, 2009, 2) claims by Members for per diem and mileage for the Meeting of February 25, 2009 and other claims for per diem from meetings, 3) sales

tax and various taxes for the month of November, 2008 in the amounts of \$93,592.80 and \$21,426.77 and public safety tax in the amount of \$83,648.90. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Pickrel, Bacon, Foster, Mannhardt, Jefferson, Damm, Stewart, Parsons, Knapp, Sandoval, Johnson, Abel, Occhi, Saline, and Serven—(15). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Pickrel and seconded by Member Sandoval to approve the Proclamation on Entrepreneurship Week 2009, to be observed from February 21-28. Chairman Bacon read aloud this proclamation. Voice vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—(15). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

An official copy of this proclamation was presented to Sal Garza from the Entrepreneurship Center. He thanked the Board for their support. The Entrepreneurship Center seeks to encourage small businesses to develop their new ideas. He stated that we have the freedom, the resources, and the desire to be an entrepreneurial committee.

Chairman Bacon asked for public comments. He apologized for omitting them earlier. He is trying to get used to viewing the agenda on the new laptop. It will take awhile for everyone to get used to this new format. There were no public comments.

Motion was made by Member Occhi and seconded by Member Sandoval to approve the appointment of Jerry Link to the Knox County Zoning Board of Appeals. This appointment will fill the vacancy that was created when Joe Krupps resigned in November, 2008. Chairman Bacon commented that Mr. Link will be a great asset in that position, as he has a wealth of knowledge. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Pickrel, Bacon, Foster, Mannhardt, Jefferson, Damm, Stewart, Parsons, Knapp, Sandoval, Johnson, Abel, Occhi, Saline, and Serven—(15). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Saline and seconded by Member Damm to approve the appointment of Ken Hutchenrider to the Orpheum Theater Board. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Pickrel, Bacon, Foster, Mannhardt, Jefferson, Damm, Stewart, Parsons, Knapp, Sandoval, Johnson, Abel, Saline, and Serven—(14). Noes—(0). Pass—Occhi—(1). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Stewart and seconded by Member Damm to approve the moving of polling locations in the County. County Clerk Scott Erickson explained that they are required by State statute to conduct polling place audits. During that visit to the polls, things such as accessibility issues are checked and other criteria as well. During that visit a representative from the special needs community usually accompanies us on these inspections and offers their input and suggestions regarding their accessibility concerns for these polling locations. There has been a continual concern at a couple of these polling locations.

The one concern in Cedar Township involves the clubhouse at Lake Bracken. For awhile the polling location was moved from the clubhouse to the fire station. It would be better to move this poll back to the clubhouse instead of the fire station. The smell of smoke on the firemen's jackets can be a problem for some asthmatics.

The other concern involves four polling places in Knoxville. Currently three precincts vote at the old County courthouse and another precinct votes in the concession area of the gym at the high school. That area of the high school can be extremely crowded. There have been questions and concerns from voters, and election judges as well as city personnel requesting that some of these polling places be moved, particularly the ones in the old courthouse. Concerns have been expressed about some of the old artifacts in that building. Elections also have increased the wear and tear on this old building.

This year as they conducted their polling tour, they had the option to visit the Knox County Fairgrounds Munson Building which could be a new location for some of these polls. The west side of this building which contains the main access doors and the restrooms could be used. This option would relocate all four of these polls within the City of Knoxville to this location at the fairgrounds. This facility would be less crowded. There would be better access for parking and restroom facilities. Some election judges have requested to move out of their present location. It is Mr. Erickson's request that the Board approves this request to move these polling places for these precincts in Knox and Cedar Townships.

Member Mannhardt stated his opposition to this request to relocate the polling places in Knoxville. He is the only Board Member that is directly involved. He does not think that this move would better serve the voters. He had contacted eight people who are also against moving this polling location outside of Knoxville. This move would mean that everyone would have to drive to the poll. Right now since the old courthouse is in the center of town, it provides easy access. Citizens have voted in this building for 169 years. He questioned why all of sudden this building is too small. The Munson Building at the fairgrounds is cold and not lit properly. Although auctions are regularly held there, in his opinion these polling locations should remain in the old courthouse. Right now people can walk to these polls. If these polls are relocated, walking will not be an option.

Mr. Erickson responded that by sectioning off a portion of that building and using heaters, a comfortable temperature should be maintained.

Member Mannhardt insisted that none of the election judges that work in the old courthouse want to move.

Mr. Erickson respectfully requested the names of those judges as he has assigned 15 judges to work in the old courthouse and the majority of them every year want to know when they are moving. He votes at that location too and it is a crowded and congested operation. He had also received a letter from Charles Allen, an advocate from Stone-Hays Center for Independent Living, stating that the Munson Building would be a better fit for polling places than the current facility at the old courthouse.

Mr. Erickson understands that it has been the polling place for years. However, today's elections require more space than used to be required when only a small voting booth was all that was needed. Modern electronic and touch screen voting machines do need more space. Because of the crowded conditions, there are also ballot privacy concerns. In order to provide privacy, security, and convenience, it will mean that voters will have to drive to a better location. This is the best solution. As they conducted the tour of the old courthouse, it is obvious that the restrooms are not only small but there is no way to make them handicapped accessible. The fairgrounds facility does have accessible restrooms available. Previously there was not running water available, but that

has changed. Handicapped accessible restrooms are not required but it is beneficial to have them.

Member Mannhardt stated that sometimes the fairgrounds use port-a-potties and it is cold.

Member Serven commented that he had attended a wedding reception at the fairgrounds during the winter and it was heated just fine.

Mr. Erickson reported that restrooms have been guaranteed. Valves have been installed to make it possible to turn on the water to selected areas at the fairgrounds.

Member Stewart commented that since voters are in the building only a short amount of time, the issue of handicapped accessible restrooms would only apply to the election judges.

Mr. Erickson mentioned that the “Help America Vote Act” is to encourage voters with special needs to come into the polling place and vote. It is an additional bonus to have handicapped accessible restrooms. Currently the handicapped entrance to the old courthouse is located at the back of the building. Those doors are old and heavy and there really is not a way to change that. There is also a slight ridge at the entrance, which makes it very awkward for wheelchairs. This is an attempt to move the polling place to make it better for all of the Knoxville voters.

Member Stewart questioned an earlier reference to artifacts in the building.

Mr. Erickson responded that one room does have a lot of Abingdon pottery. During elections that room is closed to the public. For numerous years some of the City officials have expressed their concerns.

Member Mannhardt stated that currently those pottery items are in locked cases. With the opening of the new museum, most of these old artifacts will be moved within the next two months. That would make that room available. Then all four precincts could vote in that one building.

Mr. Erickson stated that as this matter was discussed with the Knoxville City Clerk earlier in the day, they are not planning on clearing out that room. The Abingdon pottery would remain in that room. He has not been given access to that room. That would still leave three polling places in that one long room.

Member Stewart inquired if these two polling locations could be voted on separately. Chairman Bacon responded that they are on the agenda as one item.

Member Mannhardt stated that he would like to see this put off for a month to get public input.

Mr. Erickson responded that although the agenda item can be moved to next month, elections in April are quickly approaching and there is not enough time. This decision needs to be made during this meeting.

Member Saline called for the question. Roll call vote for the call of the question is recorded as follows: Ayes—Pickrel, Bacon, Foster, Mannhardt, Jefferson, Damm, Stewart, Parsons, Knapp, Sandoval, Johnson, Abel, Occhi, Saline, and Serven—(15). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Roll call on the original motion to approve the moving of polling locations in the County is recorded as follows: Ayes—Pickrel, Bacon, Foster, Damm, Parsons, Sandoval, Johnson, Occhi and Serven—(9). Noes—Mannhardt, Jefferson, Stewart, Knapp, Abel, and Saline—(6). Motion carried.

Greg Chance from the Knox County Health Department presented the Annual Report. State statute requires that this report be accepted by the Board and placed on file. Motion was made by Member Stewart and seconded by Member Johnson to accept this report and place it on file.

Mr. Chance explained that this report presents a brief overview of the financial status of the Health Department and itemizes department activities during the past 12 months. This report was distributed with the Register-Mail over the previous weekend. The financial report is presented on the last page. The Health Department did complete the fiscal year in a positive fashion even considering that the State of Illinois has been very deficient in paying their bills to a number of different vendors including the Health Department. Immediately after the close of the fiscal year in December, the Health Department did receive approximately \$300,000 in payments of various grants from the State which helped the cash balance into the new fiscal year. Knowingly the Board of Health did spend down some of their reserve cash balance during the last year to help offset the costs relating to the construction of the new addition to the building to accommodate the expansion of the dental clinic. This project was also funded with approximately \$300,000 of cash balance that they had from the previous fiscal year. The Board of Health is still in very good standing in terms of finances especially considering that 30% of their grants come from State and Federal grants.

Member Stewart commented that he is sorry to see that Mr. Chance decided to take a job in Peoria. It is nice to have someone of his caliber in a County administrative position.

Mr. Chance responded that it was not an easy decision but he felt that it was the right decision for him for professionally. He also feels it will be good for the organization. He has been there 16 years. It will be good to get a fresh perspective from a new executive director.

Member Abel commented that Mr. Chance has done a good job.

Member Stewart stated that it is of value to have an experienced administrator.

Member Abel questioned if the Health Department has considered putting up a flag pole and a flag out in front of the Health Department.

Mr. Chance responded that they are more than willing to consider that. In fact there is pending legislation for the spring session that would mandate all local governmental entities have a flag pole with a flag.

Chairman Bacon suggested that this could be brought to the Board of Health for their next meeting.

Mr. Chance stated that he will be attending the April Board of Health meeting and would be starting his new job the May 4th.

Member Abel expressed his concerns about the published reports of the dentist leaving the Health Department. He recalled that it took nearly two years to recruit a dentist for this position and questioned the prospects of recruiting another dentist.

Mr. Chance responded that prospects are actually very good. It is a difficult recruitment to convince a dentist to come to rural Illinois and even more so to convince him to come to a public clinic such as ours. However, there is a recruitment tool in that the County is included in a dental professional shortage area. There is the opportunity for a dentist, who works in our dental clinic, to receive federal loan repayment on their student loans, which can amount to approximately \$50,000 over two years. In order to

qualify, a dentist would have to make a two year commitment. They have already begun interviewing candidates. He anticipates having a dentist on board before the current dentist leaves. It does look promising.

Member Abel questioned what Mr. Chance considers to be the biggest challenge facing the Knox County Health Department for the next three or four years.

Mr. Chance responded that access to medical care remains a significant challenge to some residents who cannot afford health insurance. The working poor often cannot afford the \$80 - \$100 fee for a routine office visit. The vision for the future is to apply for federal funding to become a federally qualified health center. That would mean that federal dollars would help defray the costs. Another problem has to do with State funding. They are asking everyone to do more with less. They will be asking health clinics to provide more services because the State cannot do so. We need to stand firm and make sure that the State of Illinois pays the appropriate premium for those services.

Voice vote to accept and place on file the Annual Health Department Report is recorded as follows: Ayes—(15). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Chairman Bacon commented that he has served three years on the Board of Health and has learned that Mr. Chance runs a great health department. Chairman Bacon has done everything that he can do to encourage Mr. Chance to stay.

The Finance, Insurance, Treasurer, Judicial, and Clerk Committee report was presented by Committee Chairman Wayne Saline. Reports are included in the packets.

Motion was made by Member Pickrel and seconded by Member Sandoval to approve the two year energy agreement with Integrys for a unit price per Kw/Hour of \$.0647. Member Saline repeated what he had said during the finance committee meeting, that these bids can change on a daily basis and must be approved within 24 hours. The finance committee could not approve that bid that night. Actually the rates have dropped since that finance meeting and that will save the County even more money.

Member Pickrel asked if this should have been put out for bid.

Member Saline responded that this is a professional service. He introduced Dave Ruppert, from Integrys who distributed updated information to the Board Members.

Mr. Ruppert thanked the Board for their time to consider this proposal. He had also attended the finance committee meeting. The Register-Mail has reported that Ameren IP is looking at raising their rates. In all probability, that increase will be approved. Over the course of a year, the price for electricity is fluctuating up and down. He expects that trend to continue. Realistically the price is not expected to decrease. This proposal should save the County an additional amount of \$8,000 - \$9,000 a year or approximately \$20,000 for two years above the amount that was discussed during last week's committee meeting. The anticipated total savings over the course of the two year agreement should be approximately \$135,000. This comparison is based on each individual department's previous use during the last 12 months. Actual use may vary according to weather conditions. Billing statements will be mailed to each department as they are now. If this agreement is approved, this rate would be locked in. The start date would be reflected on the next bill.

Member Pickrel asked if this agreement contained an early out clause, such as 30 days.

Mr. Ruppert responded that such a provision is included. If in fact the County did opt out of this contract with the 30 day notice, the County would have the option to sell back the unused amount at that day's price.

6:55 p.m. Member Parsons left the room.

Member Saline stated that his recommendation is for a 24 month term. Personally he signed a 24 month contract for his farm that day. Therefore, he will abstain from this vote. He believes that Ameren IP will continue to increase their rates. It is hard to guess what the price will be in three years. Perhaps the price will go lower.

Mr. Ruppert reported that energy experts predict that electricity prices will climb 30%- 40% over the next 5 years.

Member Stewart asked if an annual report showing actual savings could be provided, similar to what is currently provided.

Mr. Ruppert responded that it could be arranged. Hy-Vee stores have a similar arrangement.

Member Saline explained that every County facility is included in this bid. Yet it will be billed separately to each individual department as it is done now. That will allow us to budget accordingly. Roll call vote to approve the two year energy agreement with Integrys for a unit price per Kw/hour of \$.0647 is recorded as follows: Ayes—Pickrel, Bacon, Foster, Mannhardt, Jefferson, Damm, Stewart, Knapp, Sandoval, Johnson, Abel, Occhi, and Serven—(13). Noes—(0). Pass—Saline—(1). Motion carried.

The Building Committee Report was presented by Co-chairman George Knapp. The minutes of the last meeting are included in the packet.

The Sheriff, Jail, Courthouse, Animal Control, Mary Davis Home, and Annex Committee report was presented by Committee Chairman Rick Sandoval. The monthly reports and committee minutes are included in the packets.

Motion was made by Member Sandoval and seconded by Member Damm to approve the resolution of support for second amendment rights, including the right to keep and bear arms. Member Damm explained that this resolution supports the second amendment. As Board Members we have sworn to uphold the constitution of the United States of America and the State of Illinois. There may come a time when we must defend our country from an invader.

Member Pickrel commented that he disapproves of putting a gun in someone's hand. He fears for police officers who might encounter someone with a gun in their hand. Who knows how people will behave? The person might be drunk or high on drugs.

Member Saline stated that this resolution does not deal with the issue of concealment of weapons.

Chairman Bacon explained that this resolution is to reaffirm our rights under the second amendment. He asked the Sheriff to share his opinion on this matter.

Sheriff Dave Clague commented that he would have to approach this more from the right to conceal. That really does not have to do with the subject at hand.

Chairman Bacon reiterated that this is not about concealed carrying but rather is intended to reaffirm our rights as law abiding citizens under the second amendment.

Member Johnson questioned why we need this resolution.

Member Damm responded that the Board should address this matter. There is a state map included in the packet. Of the 102 counties in the state, Knox County stands by itself as one of the few counties that have not passed a similar support resolution.

Member Stewart questioned a reference in paragraph 5 in this resolution about “proposed legislation under consideration by the Illinois State Legislature would infringe the right to keep and bear arms...” He questioned the specifics of that legislation. At this point we do not know what the specifics of the legislation would be. He would have difficulty agreeing to such a resolution.

Member Occhi responded that she had an entire packet listing the legislation that is to be considered during the spring term.

Member Stewart commented that still that legislation has not been finalized.

Member Damm reported that there constantly are anti-gun bills proposed from the Chicago area.

Chairman Bacon emphasized that he would have to support this resolution. A lot of people went to bat to support these rights. He is a responsible hunter who has taken the safety course and who exercises due diligence. He has rights under the Constitution’s second amendment to possess guns. We need to protect the rights that we were given at the start from our forefathers. At some point we must stand up and support what our forefathers did for us.

Member Johnson stated that he has no problem with the Constitution. We have already sworn that we are going to uphold the Constitution. However, he cannot support this resolution. Although it makes references to legislation to be considered, it contains no specific information. Therefore, he will be voting against this resolution.

Member Pickrel agreed. The Constitution is already in place.

Member Saline disagreed. Even though the Constitution is in place, laws are passed on a regular basis to circumvent the Constitution. This does not have to do with concealed carrying. The City of Chicago is trying to pass laws that would limit the ability of a person to carry a gun. This is all about defending the Constitution and supporting it. We need to support this because it is our right to do so.

Member Stewart expressed his concern. There are a certain amount of restrictions already in place. He commented about the recent tragic news of an 11 year boy who shot a rifle and killed someone in his home. That gun should have been locked and concealed so the child could not gain access to it. There are reasonable restrictions in place relating to gun possession. As the Illinois State Legislature is considering further restrictions, we should wait and see what they are, before he would support a resolution carte blanche.

Chairman Bacon interjected that by that time it would be too late.

Member Damm offered one final comment. He read aloud a few lines from a speech by Adolph Hitler in 1935 limiting gun rights.

Chairman Bacon read aloud this resolution.

Member Pickrel stated that although he does support guns for recreation and hunting, this is too broad. There is no way that he could support this resolution.

Roll call vote to approve the resolution of support for second amendment rights, including the right to keep and bear arms is recorded as follows: Ayes—Bacon, Foster, Mannhardt, Jefferson, Damm, Knapp, Sandoval, Abel, Occhi, Saline, and Serven—(11). Noes—Pickrel, Stewart, and Johnson—(3). Motion carried.

The Highway, Assessor, Zoning, GIS, and Recorder Committee report was presented by Committee Chairman George Knapp. Reports are included in the packets. Chris Gray reported that she had recently held the Annual Assessors meeting. There were 50 Board of Review Hearings. The P-Tab meeting regarding the assessment for the former Maytag building for assessment years 2004 and 2005 was cancelled due to a tentative compromise agreement. Chris Gray, Kathy Wedell, and Mary Christie recently attended the Wind Energy Seminary held in Peoria. They reported that it was a very informational meeting.

The State's Attorney Office has assigned Matt Kwacala to the Zoning Department as their legal counsel. In the past the Zoning Department has asked for legal representation. There still are two zoning violations and one of those has been forwarded to the State's Attorney's Office.

Motion was made by Member Knapp and seconded by Member Johnson to approve the resolution on real estate document recording requirements. This would require that any document requiring a legal description being recorded in the Knox County Recorder's Office pertaining to real estate require the following: 1) a property identification number (PIN number), 2) an address of the real estate property, and 3) a full legal description of the property. This is the recommendation from Recorder Paula Monzo and the committee. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Pickrel, Bacon, Foster, Mannhardt, Jefferson, Damm, Stewart, Knapp, Sandoval, Johnson, Abel, Occhi, Saline, and Serven—(14). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Knapp and seconded by Member Serven to approve the only bid received in the amount of \$28,200.00 submitted by ARI-Hetra for a new mobile column lift system for the highway department. Member Knapp explained that this purchase was rebid since last month with revised bid specifications. This is the same company as was previously discussed. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Pickrel, Bacon, Foster, Mannhardt, Jefferson, Damm, Stewart, Knapp, Sandoval, Johnson, Abel, Occhi, Saline, and Serven—(14). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Knapp and seconded by Member Abel to approve the 2009 County Motor Fuel Tax Maintenance Resolution in the amount of \$1,045,719.00. This is a routine procedure that is required to be done every year. This resolution appropriates funds to be used for the purchase of materials to be used in the maintenance of County Highways in 2009. Voice vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—(14). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

The Landfill and Nursing Home Committee report was presented by Committee Chairman Lyle Johnson. The committee minutes and reports are included in the packets. Congratulations go to Marianne Wiesen for submitting two grants in the total amount of \$700,000. He also congratulated the nursing home's dietary department as they recently received a nutrition award from the Health Department.

Motion was made by Member Johnson and seconded by Member Mannhardt to approve to bid and bring back for the drilling of a new well at the landfill. Member Saline asked if this is a recommendation from Foth.

Jerry Reynolds responded that actually this is his recommendation as currently their water well is about dry and does not have enough water pressure to use the pressure washer. Currently that well produces less than two gallons per minute and they need 10 gallons per minute to keep up with the pressure washer. This is not a monitoring well nor will it be for drinking water. Voice vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—(14). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Johnson and seconded by Member Stewart to approve to bid and bring back for a skid loader with auger for the landfill. Member Johnson explained that this is needed to install fencing for EPA standards. Mr. Reynolds stated that later the skid loader and auger would be used for other things. For now it is very necessary to drill for the fence lines.

Member Saline questioned if this piece of equipment would be able to traverse the slopes.

Mr. Reynolds responded that most of the planned fencing will be installed on pretty level ground. This fencing will not be on any of the side slopes of the landfill. Member Saline stated that this type of machinery does not handle very well in the mud. Mr. Reynolds responded that they hope to get the fence installed during the summer, when conditions are not so muddy. Voice vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—(14). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Member Pickrel noted a correction that needed to be made to the minutes of the committee meeting. He stated that he had voted against tabling the John Deere dozer contract.

Motion was made by Member Johnson and seconded by Member Mannhardt to approve the low bid in the amount of \$61,316.00 submitted by Tri-City Electric for a generator for the nursing home. Member Johnson reported that three bids were submitted. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Pickrel, Bacon, Foster, Mannhardt, Jefferson, Damm, Stewart, Knapp, Sandoval, Johnson, Abel, Occhi, Saline, and Serven—(14). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Johnson and seconded by Member Abel to approve the contract extension to December 1, 2010, with nursing home administrator Marianne Wiesen, with no increase in salary or other benefits. Chairman Bacon expressed his thanks to Ms. Wiesen and stated that the County does appreciate it. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Pickrel, Bacon, Foster, Mannhardt, Jefferson, Damm, Stewart, Knapp, Sandoval, Johnson, Abel, Occhi, Saline, and Serven—(14). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Member Pickrel commented about the declining revenues at the landfill at the rate of 21% - 41%, in part because the landfill lost two contracts. In the past the County has borrowed money from the landfill. Before long we will no longer have that option.

Motion was made by Member Johnson and seconded by Member Mannhardt to approve the opening of the budget for line item adjustments. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Pickrel, Bacon, Foster, Mannhardt, Jefferson, Damm, Stewart, Knapp, Sandoval, Johnson, Abel, Occhi, Saline, and Serven—(14). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Mannhardt and seconded by Member Serven to approve line item adjustments in the budget. Chairman Bacon stated that there are three different ones. Member Johnson explained that one transfer for the landfill has to do with the expenditure to purchase equipment. Since they are not hauling as much, they are not using as much fuel. Therefore this adjustment will transfer funds from fuel expense to equipment purchases. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Pickrel, Bacon, Foster, Mannhardt, Jefferson, Damm, Stewart, Knapp, Sandoval, Johnson, Abel, Occhi, Saline, and Serven—(14). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Damm and seconded by Member Occhi to approve the claims against Knox County, Illinois, for the period of January 29 through February 25, 2009 (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.) Member Stewart commented that some of the summary sheets do not contain budgetary information. Therefore, he will be voting no for approval.

Chairman Bacon asked if he had contacted appropriate department heads. Member Stewart responded that he had contacted Mr. Erickson. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Pickrel, Foster, Mannhardt, Jefferson, Damm, Knapp, Johnson, Abel, Occhi, Saline, and Serven—(11). Noes—Stewart—(1). Pass—Bacon and Sandoval—(2). Motion carried.

## STATEMENTS OF GENERAL CONCERN

Member Pickrel had no comments at this time.

Chairman Bacon commented that he wished to apologize for the choppiness of this meeting. It will take awhile to get used to the new format on the laptops and that has slowed the rhythm down a little bit. The plan is to provide paper Board packets for one more month. Then the packets will be only available on the CD format.

Member Foster had no comments at this time.

Member Mannhardt commented that for the next meeting he would like to see a written copy of the agenda on his laptop computer. He would like to see the agenda items come up as needed rather than search back and forth.

Mr. Erickson responded that they will work it out. It is a work in progress.

Member Jefferson thanked Andy Rowe for his patience and instruction on the laptops.

Member Damm, Member Stewart, Member Knapp, and Member Sandoval had no comments at this time.

Member Johnson commented that he would like to congratulate Greg Chance. He is sorry to see him go. Member Johnson was on the committee that worked very hard to get the Health Department established and Mr. Chance was the first director. Member Johnson appreciates the work that Mr. Chance has done.

Member Abel had no comments at this time.

Member Occhi also expressed her thanks to Greg Chance.

Member Saline and Member Serven had no comments at this time.

The next regular meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 25, 2009, 6:00 p.m., at the Knox County Courthouse, Galesburg, Illinois.

Motion was made by Member Saline and seconded by Member Sandoval to adjourn until the next scheduled Meeting of the Board. Voice vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—(14). Noes—(0). Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.