

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

**October 29, 2008**

STATE OF ILLINOIS     )  
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COUNTY OF KNOX     )     SS

Proceedings of the regular meeting of the Knox County Board held at the Knox County Courthouse, Galesburg, Illinois on Wednesday, October 29, 2008 at 6:33 p.m.

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

District 1	Caroline Porter
District 2	Greg Bacon
District 3	Tim Hasten
District 4	Lowell Mannhardt
District 5	Gerald "Jerry" Link
District 1	Allen Pickrel
District 2	Paul Stewart
District 3	Dale Parsons
District 4	George Knapp
District 5	Ricardo "Rick" Sandoval
District 1	Lyle Johnson
District 2	William "Bill" Abel
District 3	Janet Occhi
District 4	Wayne Saline
District 5	Stephen "Steve" Johnson

Also present were State's Attorney John Pepmeyer, Sheriff Dave Clague, Treasurer Robin Davis, Circuit Clerk Kelly Cheesman, County Recorder Nancy McCune, and County Clerk Scott Erickson.

Sheriff Dave Clague delivered the proclamation. Chairman Pickrel led the Members in the pledge to the flag. Rev. Daniel Siems, of First Baptist Church of Galesburg, delivered the invocation.

Chairman Pickrel asked for additions to the agenda. There were none.

As Chairman Pickrel asked for public comments, he requested that comments for and against a particular issue be limited to ten minutes. He anticipated several individuals would be addressing the Board about different issues.

Mr. Bob Potts introduced himself as an attorney from Elmwood representing Jim Graves, whose petition to seek a conditional use permit under the conservation zoning

district to operate a boat and recreational storage facility, is on this agenda. The Zoning Board of Appeals denied this request. This property is located within one mile of the west entrance to Oak Run. For some time this property has been used for boat storage. Eighteen months ago as Mr. Graves applied for a commercial permit; he was told that it might be best to petition for a zoning ordinance change from the County, so that this use could be permitted in a conservation district. The conditional use permit would limit it to only this particular use. There is no question that there is a need for a facility to store these boats and recreational vehicles. The County Board had changed the zoning ordinance to allow for boat storage including the area surrounding Oak Run. Throughout this process, Mr. Graves was not aware of any objections. During the hearing before the Zoning Board of Appeals, he was not allowed to cross examine witnesses. As a matter of courtesy the Zoning Board of Appeals should have given Mr. Graves some notice of these objections. As Mr. Potts researched the state statutes regarding the reasons why a special use can be denied, he learned that denial must be due to public health, safety, moral or general welfare concerns. Having a business like this in an agricultural community does not cause problems with any of these issues. It is a compatible use for this area.

Member Saline asked for a point of order that the five minutes had expired.

Mr. Potts added one more quick comment. Others have stated that this is Oak Run's problem and they should take care of it. He distributed to Members a map of that area that shows that most of that area is zoned residential and therefore storage facilities would not be allowed. It makes sense to allow this non-invasive conditional use at this location.

Tom Mosher addressed the Board on this same matter. His property is located to the south and east of this property which has not been in compliance with the original zoning classification. The Oak Run Property Owner's Association does not allow boat or vehicle storage on residential lots and will not permit a storage facility at Oak Run. Mr. Mosher is opposed to this unsightly storage facility at this location, within view of his residence.

Blanche Mummey also spoke against granting this request. Her property adjoins this property. They have watched as ten years ago this request was denied and yet Mr. Graves has continued to rent storage space. He is using a barn on that property as a storage facility and even put up a port-a-potty. She questioned what would be next. This is Oak Run's problem and they should deal with it. While a storage facility is needed, she asked that it not be located in a farming community. She is also concerned that such a business would increase traffic.

Greg Mummey also spoke against granting this request. He and his wife own 10 acres which adjoin this property. They do not want this storage facility in their backyard. He is planning to build a home on this acreage and may not do so if this request is approved. Personally he has nothing against Oak Run. When they needed a club house for their golf course, they built one within that community. There is a need for this storage facility within Oak Run, and it should be located there. He is adamantly opposed to this request.

Bob Fulton, GREDA chairman, addressed the Board concerning continued funding. Several others from GREDA were also in attendance. The performance contract was negotiated and presented to the finance committee and included in the packets. He

asked the Board for their continued financial support. Over the last four years this money has been well spent. They have 25 ongoing business prospects. GREDA can document significant job improvement in the Knox County area. The County Board does receive a quarterly investment report as well as monthly reports. GREDA's efforts have proven successful for promoting job growth in Knox County.

Jim Graves spoke regarding his petition for a conditional use permit for a boat and recreational vehicle storage facility. His property is not offensive. There are approximately 1,800 watercraft registered to Oak Run residents and yet they are prohibited from storing them on their property. A need does exist for a suitable storage facility. He provides that service to the community. Originally when he asked for a conditional use permit, he was advised that it would be better to ask the County to change that zoning ordinance to allow for boat storage on private property. The County did approve that ordinance to reflect this change. His property was rezoned to commercial and his taxes increased dramatically. Although previously he had not charged for this service, after that tax increase he had no choice but to do so.

Kit Wilcox, from GREDA, distributed a short note to each of the Members asking for the County's continued financial support of GREDA.

Motion was made by Member Steve Johnson and seconded by Member Porter to approve the following items of the consent agenda: 1) minutes of the Regular and Closed Board Meeting on September 24, 2008, 2) claims by Members for per diem and mileage for the Meeting of October 29, 2008 and other claims for per diem from meetings, and 3) sales tax and various taxes for the month of July 2008 in the amounts of \$103,152.56 and \$20,329.16 and public safety tax in the amount of \$88,058.75. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Porter, Bacon, Hasten, Mannhardt, Link, Pickrel, Stewart, Parsons, Knapp, Sandoval, Lyle Johnson, Abel, Occhi, Saline, and Steve Johnson—(15). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

In recognition of "4H Month", a presentation was given by local 4H members who presented cookies and water bottles to Board Members and those in attendance. Matt Geitner, Greg Beardsley, Logan Bowman, and Cheryl Giegner all spoke of the merits of 4-H. They pointed out that 4-H has taught them leadership and communication skills. They thanked the County Board for their continued support.

Motion was made by Member Mannhardt and seconded by Member Occhi to approve moving the November Board Meeting date to Tuesday, November 25, 2008. Voice vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—(15). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Chairman Pickrel explained the need to approve appointments to the Public Aid Committee. There may be more of this that will need the attention of the Board. State's Attorney John Pepmeyer and Chairman Pickrel have been working on this matter. The case that is pending involves someone who allegedly is taking money from the system that they may not deserve. The law states that the County Board Chairman and township supervisors are to be appointed as a committee. Basically a hearing is convened to render a judgment in this case. The State's Attorney acts as the judge. By law the Board must approve appointing to such a committee the Chairman of the County Board and all the

township supervisors with the exception of the township supervisor representing the township where the individual resides. In this case Chris Winick would be the township supervisor that would be excluded.

Motion was made by Member Occhi and seconded by Member Parsons to approve appointing the appropriate township supervisors and Chairman Pickrel to the Public Aid Committee. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Porter, Bacon, Hasten, Mannhardt, Link, Pickrel, Stewart, Parsons, Knapp, Sandoval, Lyle Johnson, Abel, Occhi, Saline, and Steve Johnson—(15). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Stewart and seconded by Member Porter to approve including in the 2008-2009 budget a County Administrator position. Member Steve Johnson clarified that this motion states that we will include it in the budget, not “we will try to find the funding to do so.” Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Porter, Link, Stewart, and Lyle Johnson—(4). Noes—Bacon, Hasten, Mannhardt, Pickrel, Parsons, Knapp, Sandoval, Abel, Occhi, Saline, and Steve Johnson—(11). Motion failed.

Motion was made by Member Porter and seconded by Member Steve Johnson to approve revisions to the Knox County Personnel Policy Handbook. Member Porter reported that the committee has met several times with Bliss & McKnight who have reviewed this policy and made some suggestions which are incorporated into this policy. Additionally she had distributed a sheet of corrections that were omitted from the packet. The original motion was amended to include these corrections. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Porter, Bacon, Hasten, Mannhardt, Link, Pickrel, Parsons, Knapp, Sandoval, Lyle Johnson, Abel, Occhi, Saline, and Steve Johnson—(14). Noes—Stewart—(1). Motion carried.

Chairman Pickrel expressed his thanks to the committee as they really worked hard on this project.

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

Motion was made by Member Saline and seconded by Member Occhi to approve the low bid in the total amount of \$9,015.00 submitted by R-Cubed Technologies for lap top computers for the use of County Board Members. This bid would include a one year parts/labor warranty. County Clerk Scott Erickson explained that this was rebid with modified bid specifications as the initial bids were too high. In order to lessen the cost, the processing speed was decreased but still should be sufficient for this use. This expenditure is included in next year’s budget. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Porter, Bacon, Hasten, Mannhardt, Link, Pickrel, Parsons, Knapp, Lyle Johnson, Abel, Occhi and Saline—(12). Noes—Stewart, Sandoval, and Steve Johnson—(3). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Saline and seconded by Member Occhi to approve the resolution appointing Marcia Bullis as the agent of record for the health, life, dental, and vision insurance. This is the recommendation from the finance committee. Roll call

vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Porter, Bacon, Hasten, Mannhardt, Link, Pickrel, Stewart, Parsons, Knapp, Sandoval, Lyle Johnson, Abel, Occhi, Saline, and Steve Johnson—(15). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Saline and seconded by Member Occhi to approve a 2.8% increase in health insurance premiums. Treasurer Robin Davis explained that the proposed single premium would be \$66.00 and the proposed family premium would be \$493.86. The industry trend is for even larger increases. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Porter, Bacon, Hasten, Mannhardt, Link, Pickrel, Stewart, Parsons, Knapp, Sandoval, Lyle Johnson, Abel, Occhi, Saline, and Steve Johnson—(15). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Saline and seconded by Member Sandoval to approve property, liability, auto, crime, and excess Workman's Compensation Insurance with ICMRT. Member Saline explained that previously the County was working with another carrier. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Bacon, Hasten, Mannhardt, Link, Pickrel, Stewart, Parsons, Knapp, Sandoval, Lyle Johnson, Abel, Occhi, Saline, and Steve Johnson—(14). Noes—Porter—(1). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Saline and seconded by Member Parsons to approve the transfer of Workman's Compensation claims from Alternative Service Concepts to ICMRT. Member Saline stated that this step is necessary to grant permission to transfer claims to the new carrier. This could not be done with one motion. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Bacon, Hasten, Mannhardt, Link, Pickrel, Stewart, Parsons, Knapp, Sandoval, Lyle Johnson, Abel, Occhi, Saline, and Steve Johnson—(14). Noes—(0). Pass—Porter—(1). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Saline and seconded by Member Lyle Johnson to approve the three year GREDA service agreement. GREDA is proposing a performance contract with public bodies. A copy of this contract was included in the packets. Member Steve Johnson reported that this matter was discussed in the finance committee meeting. The vote was 4-3 to recommend this service agreement to the full Board for approval with the stipulation that it would include a 60 day out clause. As he had reviewed the revisions to this service agreement, he is not happy. As he understands it, the 60 day out clause does not become effective until 2010. He has had numerous phone calls from the public who question how the Board can approve a three year contract with GREDA during these difficult economic times. Board Members have also received letters from GREDA board members in support of this agreement. Personally he cannot approve this three year contract.

Member Porter disagreed and stated that she is for this contract. In this contract, GREDA lists the services that they have always provided and plan to provide in the future. Particularly in these difficult economic times, Knox County needs to be doing something to encourage economic development. She would vote in favor of continuing to financially support GREDA at the same level as previous years. With a three year agreement, the Board would not have to deal with this every year.

Member Hasten reported that he had received numerous phone calls objecting to a three year contract. Since the 60 day out clause does not become effective until 2010, the County would be stuck with them for two years at this same level of funding. He will not be voting to approve this agreement.

Member Parsons stated that in the past he had always supported GREDA. But he had received seven phone calls against this agreement. All of them questioned how the County can afford paying this much money in these difficult economic times.

Member Occhi commented that as they are looking at this service contract, 2010 refers to the next year, not this year. She does support this agreement because the County needs someone to do this and County Board Members cannot do it themselves.

Member Lyle Johnson voiced his support of this agreement. Particularly in hard times we need somebody out there promoting us. He thinks that GREDA is doing a good job and the County Board should support their efforts.

Member Link agreed that the County needs GREDA. The County needs economic development. However, he would not support a three year contract.

Member Abel read aloud a prepared statement. This was the hardest decision that he has faced since he become a Board Member. Personally he has much respect for the individuals involved with GREDA. During the last few weeks he has received many phone calls regarding the County's continued funding of GREDA. The overwhelming opinion has been that the County should not donate any more money to GREDA at this time. He feels strongly about his position on the County Board to represent the citizens of the County. He will be voting against this contract. The County is in a tough economic situation right now. During hard times, there should be more saving and less spending. It cannot be business as usual. The County cannot operate as a private business. Financial responsibility must be exercised. We also must consider the costs of remedying the problems at the Courthouse. In the past the County has not received the economic return that they had hoped for in economic development from GREDA. We should think about each and every dollar that we spend. He would be disappointed with automatic giving and thinks that this agreement would be financially irresponsible. There are good folks at GREDA but this is bad timing.

Member Stewart reminded Members of his previous concerns that he has expressed on this matter. The consensus that he has heard in the community is that concern about all of the trips to China. We should be focusing on our own country. We should not be importing so many inferior products from China. Nor should we be outsourcing so many jobs. That is the wrong approach.

Member Bacon stated that he would be voting against this contract. A three year contract is not appropriate. As he has reviewed this contract, it contains nothing new. There is no performance clause; there is not a lot of goal setting. For some time, communication has been lacking. If they want the County's money, they should be personally contacting Board Members. Letters are not going to do it; he would prefer face to face communication. He does respect the people who are involved with GREDA. The County does need economic development. However, he cannot vote to approve a three year contract.

Member Occhi questioned if the Board does not approve the contract with GREDA, than who or what is the alternative? To pass a tax referendum for economic development would be even more costly.

Member Porter asked about the possibility of amending the motion to approve a one year contract.

Chairman Pickrel responded that the Board should vote on the current motion.

Member Steve Johnson reiterated that the finance committee did discuss this service agreement. There was a presentation from GREDA. By state statute the County has a responsibility for economic development. Since the County was unhappy with GREDA's past performances, it was his suggestion to cut GREDA's funding by one half to \$15,000 annually. However, during the committee meeting, the motion died for lack of a second. The question before the Board tonight is a three year \$90,000 investment in GREDA.

Chairman Pickrel agreed that he also has much respect for the individuals who are involved with GREDA. But he cannot support a three year contract. For that reason, he will be voting against this contract. Tonight it is an all or nothing vote.

Member Porter stated that it is not just up to GREDA to communicate. It is also up to this Board. The County Board has been provided a place on that board, and it is up to that representative on that board to communicate with the fellow Board Members. No one has been doing that. It is not just up to GREDA; it is up to the County Board too. Roll call vote to approve the three year GREDA service agreement is recorded as follows: Ayes—Porter, Knapp, Lyle Johnson, and Occhi—(4). Noes—Bacon, Hasten, Mannhardt, Link, Pickrel, Stewart, Parsons, Sandoval, Abel, Saline, and Steve Johnson—(11). Motion failed.

Member Steve Johnson stated that since it was on the agenda to discuss the GREDA contract he would like to move that \$15,000 be donated to GREDA for one year. County Clerk Scott Erickson expressed concern that this could be done. Motion was made by Member Steve Johnson and seconded by Member Hasten to suspend the rules to allow a vote for a one year contract with GREDA. Mr. Erickson again expressed concern that this should be handled in this way. State's Attorney John Pepmeyer also expressed doubts since this would involve spending money. Treasurer Robin Davis stated that the money is in the new budget. Member Saline confirmed that \$30,000 is included in that budget. We will have until next month to make any changes or corrections to the budget for the coming year. We can wait to address this matter at next month's meeting. The motion to suspend the rules was withdrawn with the request that this be included on next month's agenda.

Motion was made by Member Saline and seconded by Member Steve Johnson to approve the coverage attorney contracts for the coming year. Member Saline explained that these contracts are with the same people that the County has had before: Thomas L. Pepmeyer, Dana M. Kelly, and Bill Butts. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Porter, Bacon, Hasten, Mannhardt, Link, Pickrel, Stewart, Parsons, Knapp, Sandoval, Lyle Johnson, Abel, Occhi, Saline, and Steve Johnson—(15). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Saline and seconded by Member Occhi to approve the alternate defender contract with Karl Johnson for the coming year. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Porter, Bacon, Hasten, Mannhardt, Link, Pickrel, Stewart,

Parsons, Knapp, Sandoval, Lyle Johnson, Abel, Occhi, Saline, and Steve Johnson—(15). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Occhi and seconded by Member Bacon to table the alternate public defender contract with Daniel O'Brien for the coming year. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Porter, Bacon, Hasten, Mannhardt, Link, Pickrel, Stewart, Parsons, Knapp, Sandoval, Abel, Occhi, and Saline—(13). Noes—Lyle Johnson and Steve Johnson—(2). Motion carried.

The proposed fiscal year 2008-2009 County Budget was presented. This will be on display in the County Clerk's Office prior to final approval at the November Meeting.

The Ad Hoc Building Committee reported was presented by Committee Chairman, Steve Johnson. Since the last Meeting, a public forum was held at the Courthouse. This forum was well attended. The committee received quite a few good comments. The majority of the comments were that we should find another location for the Courthouse. The building committee continues to work on this diligently and is investigating other options.

Chairman Pickrel thanked the committee for presenting this public forum. They were very well prepared.

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

Motion was made by Member Steve Johnson and seconded by Member Link to approve the purchase of five squad cars including a police package as per the lowest bid submitted by Yemm Chevrolet, Inc., in the amount of \$19,187.24 per unit. This will be funded through the public safety tax. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Porter, Bacon, Hasten, Mannhardt, Link, Pickrel, Stewart, Parsons, Knapp, Lyle Johnson, Abel, Occhi, Saline, and Steve Johnson—(14). Noes—(0). Pass—Sandoval—(1). Motion carried.

Member Steve Johnson added that since the Board approved the purchase of vehicles for the Mary Davis Home, one of the old units will be transferred for the use of the Courthouse. The old Courthouse car will go to the auto auction. The Sheriff has asked for one of the old vehicles from the Mary Davis Home for the chaplains at the jail to use. Currently the chaplains are using a vehicle that has over 200,000 miles on it. That vehicle will also go to the auto auction.

The Highway, Assessor, Zoning, GIS, and Recorder Committee report was presented by Committee Chairman Jerry Link. The monthly reports and committee minutes are included in the packets. All of the departments have been busy. Regrettably, the bridge on County Highway 20 is still closed as the steel has not yet arrived. The highway department continues to work on culvert replacement and seal coating projects. The Army Corps of Engineers is dredging the river near Oquawka and giving the sand

away. The highway department has been hauling the free sand and plans to mix it with the salt during the coming winter.

Motion was made by Member Link and seconded by Member Sandoval to bid and bring back for a new portable vehicle lift system for the highway department. Their existing system is well over 40 years old and lacks safety features. The budgeted amount for this purchase is \$45,000.00 and is included in the 2008-2009 budget. Voice vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—(15). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Link and seconded by Member Sandoval to approve the decision of the Zoning Board of Appeals which denies the request filed by James Graves, Dahinda, Illinois in reference to case # CU-05-08. Member Link explained that this petition is for a conditional use permit to allow for boat and recreational vehicle storage at 1440 Knox Rd 1760N, Dahinda. During the lengthy hearing, adjoining property owners spoke in opposition to this request. There was discussion on both sides of this issue. It is the recommendation from the Zoning Board of Appeals that the Board deny this request.

Member Porter stated the Board needs to look at the whole situation. The Board is not doing much for economic development. This seems to be a successful business that has been paying commercial taxes to the County for several years. She does not think that this business is such a terrible thing in that area. Nor does she think that the Zoning Board of Appeals has enough reasons to deny this request. Originally as Mr. Graves asked for a zoning change, he was told that if he did everything that they suggested, everything would be fine. Although she usually agrees with the Zoning Board of Appeals, in this case she does not. This is a narrow minded approach to this situation. There is nothing wrong with wanting to add to one's income and operate a successful business. She will vote against approving this recommendation.

Member Occhi questioned the length of time for a conditional use permit, whether it is applicable only with the current property owner or would continue if the property were to be sold.

Joe Krupps, Chairman of the Zoning Board of Appeals, responded it is for one owner and one specific use.

Member Bacon stated that he has listened to all of the arguments regarding this case. It seems that the only persons opposed to this are those adjoining or adjacent property owners. He respects the opinions of those neighboring property owners. Apparently that is the basis for the decision from the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Member Lyle Johnson reported that he had received three phone calls supporting the continuation of this business. He agrees with Member Porter that the County is looking for economic development. This business is being taxed commercially. He will be voting against accepting the recommendation from the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Member Sandoval asked that Board Members put themselves in the position of these neighboring property owners. What if this business was located in your backyard?

Member Lyle Johnson responded that would not change his opinion.

Member Stewart stated that he had read through this information as thoroughly as possible. He understands the situation of prohibiting boat and recreational vehicle storage on residential property at Oak Run. This particular facility has been in business for nearly

ten years. He thought that the whole purpose of changing the zoning ordinance was to allow this type of business. He also disagrees with this recommendation. There is not sufficient reasoning to disallow this request.

Chairman Pickrel stated that he would be passing on this motion. He and Attorney Bob Potts are related. It would be best to avoid any perceived conflict of interest.

Roll call vote to approve the decision of the Zoning Board of Appeals which denies the request filed by James Graves, Dahinda, Illinois in reference to case # CU-05-08, to operate a boat and recreational vehicle storage facility on his property is recorded as follows: Ayes—Bacon, Link, Parsons, Knapp, Sandoval, and Occhi—(6). Noes—Porter, Hasten, Mannhardt, Stewart, Lyle Johnson, Abel, and Saline—(7). Pass—Pickrel and Steve Johnson—(2). Motion failed.

Motion was made by Member Link and seconded by Member Stewart to approve the decision of the Zoning Board of Appeals which unanimously approves the request filed by Chris and Lisa Mallery of 1464 Knox Hwy 9, Galesburg, Illinois, in reference to case # CU-06-08. This petition is for a conditional use permit to allow for the petitioners to move their business, previously known as Wade's Greenhouse of Galesburg, to that location. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Porter, Bacon, Hasten, Mannhardt, Link, Pickrel, Stewart, Parsons, Knapp, Sandoval, Lyle Johnson, Abel, Occhi, Saline, and Steve Johnson—(15). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Link and seconded by Member Stewart to approve the decision of the Zoning Board of Appeals which unanimously approves the request filed by Joe Nichols, Galesburg, Illinois, in reference to case # CU-07-08. This petition is for a conditional use permit to allow the petitioner to operate a greenhouse/nursery at 1861 Knox Hwy 9, Galesburg, Illinois. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Porter, Bacon, Hasten, Mannhardt, Link, Pickrel, Stewart, Parsons, Knapp, Sandoval, Lyle Johnson, Abel, Occhi, Saline, and Steve Johnson—(15). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

The Landfill Committee report was presented by Committee Chairman Lowell Mannhardt. The Committee minutes and landfill report are included in the packets.

Motion was made by Member Mannhardt and seconded by Member Porter to approve the truck lease with Centre State International. Member Mannhardt explained that the committee recommends approving a 4 year lease with a 3 year buyback option of a 2009 International Pro Star Day Cab tractor to be financed through Navistar Financial. This lease would include a maintenance agreement and the trade in of an old Volvo unit. Considering the trade-in and the buy back option, the cost would be \$79,000 to lease and maintain a new truck for three years. A new truck would cost slightly over \$100,000.

Member Steve Johnson questioned this lease option. Since we have our own mechanic it should be less expensive to purchase and maintain our own truck.

Member Link commented that the maintenance in house has not been that good. Although this program will be more expensive, the truck will be routinely serviced and maintained.

Member Steve Johnson responded that if there is a problem in the maintenance department, then management needs to address it. It seems that with a lease agreement, you always wind up paying more than you would if you just purchased the unit.

Member Porter stated that the committee has researched this matter for about five months. It seems to be good idea which might work out. Mr. Reynolds is also willing to give it a try. The committee is hoping that in the long run, it will be a less expensive option.

Member Bacon agreed that the Board should try this option with the maintenance agreement to see if it works.

Roll call vote to approve the 3 year truck lease with a maintenance agreement with Centre State International is recorded as follows: Ayes—Porter, Bacon, Hasten, Mannhardt, Link, Pickrel, Stewart, Parsons, Knapp, Sandoval, Lyle Johnson, Abel, Occhi, and Saline—(14). Noes—Steve Johnson—(1). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Occhi and seconded by Member Lyle Johnson to approve the low bid for a John Deere bulldozer for the landfill submitted by Martin Equipment in the amount of \$261,705 less \$130,000 trade-in allowance with a net cost of \$131,705 with a 5,000 hours buy back option. The 5,000 hours would represent about a two and half year time period. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Porter, Bacon, Hasten, Mannhardt, Link, Pickrel, Stewart, Parsons, Knapp, Sandoval, Lyle Johnson, Abel, Occhi, Saline, and Steve Johnson—(15). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Mannhardt and seconded by Member Stewart to approve the low bid for (2) 10,000 gallon leachate storage tanks submitted from Otto Baum in the amount of \$170,180.00. Each tank will be plastic lined steel. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Porter, Bacon, Hasten, Mannhardt, Link, Pickrel, Stewart, Parsons, Knapp, Sandoval, Lyle Johnson, Abel, Occhi, and Steve Johnson—(14). Noes—Saline—(1). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Stewart and seconded by Member Occhi to approve funding in the amount of \$10,400.00 to Tri-County Regional Collection Facility for collection and recycling of residential paint and e-cycleables. The City of Galesburg also funds that same amount. Chairman Pickrel stated that he had met with officials from Tri-County and he has also met with City officials. As this expense is shared, it is a good deal. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Porter, Bacon, Hasten, Mannhardt, Link, Pickrel, Stewart, Parsons, Knapp, Sandoval, Lyle Johnson, Abel, Occhi, Saline, and Steve Johnson—(15). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Parsons and seconded by Member Occhi to approve the purchase of a landfill software package in the estimated cost of \$10,000.00 with a \$400 per year maintenance fee. Member Mannhardt explained that there is only one company who supplies this product. Since this is a sole source product, the State's Attorney's Office has no problem with not bidding it out. Currently the landfill is using very old inadequate DOS style software, while the Treasurer's Office uses QuickBooks. At times that causes some misunderstandings. This purchase would include the cost of training employees how to use this software.

Member Steve Johnson questioned if the software would be compatible with existing computers. Mr. Reynolds responded that is compatible with a few changes. Chairman Pickrel stated that this software would allow the landfill to also monitor their bills. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Porter, Bacon, Hasten, Mannhardt, Link, Pickrel, Stewart, Parsons, Knapp, Sandoval, Lyle Johnson, Abel, Occhi, Saline, and Steve Johnson—(15). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Mannhardt and seconded by Member Parsons to approve the purchase of a used 6,000 gallon leachate tanker for the landfill in the authorized amount of up to \$25,000.00. Member Mannhardt explained that since these tankers do not sit around for a long time, the committee is asking for the authority to purchase one, as it becomes available. If the Board does the standard practice of bid and bring back, they will never get a unit purchased. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Porter, Bacon, Hasten, Mannhardt, Pickrel, Stewart, Parsons, Knapp, Lyle Johnson, Abel, Occhi, Saline, and Steve Johnson—(13). Noes—Link and Sandoval—(2). Motion carried.

The Nursing Home Committee report was presented by Committee Chairman Lowell Mannhardt. The Committee minutes and Nursing Home report are included in the packets.

Motion was made by Member Stewart and seconded by Member Hasten to increase the room rates at the Nursing Home by \$3.00 per day effective December 1, 2008. Simi-private rooms would increase from \$125 to \$128 and private rooms would increase from \$157 to \$160. Marianne Wiesen commented that even with this increase, the fee is still lower than others in the area. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Porter, Bacon, Hasten, Mannhardt, Link, Pickrel, Stewart, Parsons, Knapp, Sandoval, Lyle Johnson, Abel, Occhi, Saline, and Steve Johnson—(15). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Member Mannhardt commented that Oktoberfest held recently at the Nursing Home went well.

Motion was made by Member Occhi and seconded by Member Parsons to approve opening the budget for line item adjustments. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Porter, Bacon, Hasten, Mannhardt, Link, Pickrel, Stewart, Parsons, Knapp, Sandoval, Abel, Occhi, and Saline—(13). Noes—Lyle Johnson and Steve Johnson—(2). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Occhi and seconded by Member Stewart to approve specific line item adjustments in the budget. Member Bacon repeated that he would hope that with the new budget, adjustments would be made so this practice would not be so common. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Porter, Bacon, Hasten, Mannhardt, Link, Pickrel, Stewart, Parsons, Knapp, Sandoval, Lyle Johnson, Abel, Occhi, Saline, and Steve Johnson—(15). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Occhi and seconded by Member Saline to approve the claims against Knox County, Illinois, for the period of September 25, 2008 – October

29, 2008 (ordering that invoices be accepted and approved and that the County Clerk and Treasurer be authorized and directed to issue County Warrants in payment of the bills.) Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Porter, Hasten, Mannhardt, Link, Pickrel, Parsons, Knapp, Lyle Johnson, Abel, Occhi, and Saline—(11). Noes—Stewart—(1). Pass—Bacon, Sandoval, and Steve Johnson—(3). Motion carried.

## STATEMENTS OF GENERAL CONCERN

Member Porter, Member Bacon, Member Hasten, Member Mannhardt, and Member Link had no comments at this time.

Chairman Pickrel commented that the date for next month's Board Meeting will also have to be moved. Otherwise the Board will be meeting Christmas Eve. Mr. Erickson stated that date could also be discussed during December's Organizational Meeting.

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

Lyle Johnson commented about his disappointment concerning the vote taken for GREDA. This shows that the Board is being very short sided. He would hope that the finance committee could make some adjustments to this situation.

Member Abel, Member Occhi, Member Saline and Member Steve Johnson had no comments at this time.

The next regular Meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 25, 2008, 6:00 p.m., at the Knox County Courthouse, Galesburg, Illinois.

The Board recessed at 8:29 p.m.