

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

August 24, 2011

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 Wednesday August 24, 2011 at 6:12 p.m.

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

| | |
|------------|-------------------------|
| District 1 | Lyle Johnson |
| District 2 | Greg "Chops" Bacon |
| District 3 | Barbara Foster |
| District 4 | George Knapp |
| District 5 | Jeff Jefferson |
| District 1 | Allen Pickrel |
| District 2 | Paul Stewart |
| District 3 | Pamela Davidson |
| District 5 | Ricardo "Rick" Sandoval |
| District 1 | Cheryl Nache |
| District 2 | William Abel |
| District 3 | Tim Hasten |
| District 4 | Shawn Pitman |
| District 5 | David Serven |

Also present were Eric Gibson, Assistant State's Attorney, Treasurer Robin Davis, Sheriff Dave Clague, and County Clerk Scott Erickson.

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

Chairman Bacon asked for additions or deletions to the agenda. Member Knapp requested that item # 17, approve bid for asbestos abatement for the courthouse basement and boiler room, be removed from the agenda. Member Abel announced that a special Board Meeting will be held September 12 to discuss insurance matters.

Chairman Bacon asked for public comments. There were none.

Motion was made by Member Jefferson and seconded by Member Hasten to approve the following items of the consent agenda: 1) minutes of the Regular and Closed Board Meeting on

July 27, 2011, 2) claims by Members for per diem and mileage for the Meeting of August 24, 2011, and other claims for per diem from meetings, and 3) sales tax and various taxes for the month of May 2011 in the amounts of \$102,053.77 and \$27,314.35 and public safety tax in the amount of \$91,702.27. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Bacon, Foster, Knapp, Jefferson, Pickrel, Stewart, Davidson, Sandoval, Nache, Abel, Hasten, Pitman, and Serven—(14). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Chairman Bacon read aloud the 2011 Labor Day Proclamation. Motion was made by Member Davidson and seconded by Member Johnson to approve this proclamation. Voice vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—(14) Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Stewart and seconded by Member Sandoval to approve the creation of an Ad Hoc bill review committee. Chairman Bacon explained that he had received calls from Board Members and the Treasurer's Office about establishing such a committee. These meetings would be held monthly the Monday preceding the Wednesday Board Meetings. Members who attend will receive a per diem. Preferably the committee chairman would either be in attendance or available to respond to questions. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Bacon, Foster, Knapp, Jefferson, Pickrel, Stewart, Davidson, Sandoval, Nache, Abel, Hasten, Pitman, and Serven—(14). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Gary Asay from Osco, Illinois, representing the National Pork Board Speaker Bureau delivered a presentation to the Board. He noted several changes in the pork industry during the last 50 years. Pork production today results in much leaner animals. The pork industry consumes approximately 10% of the corn crop and approximately 10% of the soybean crop. Illinois ranks 4th in US pork production. Knox County ranks 6th in pork production in the state. The most consumed meat in the world is pork. A growing percentage of US pork is exported.

Motion was made by Member Johnson and seconded by Member Hasten to approve the resolution to merge Knox County Drug Court with Warren and Henderson Counties. Chairman Bacon read aloud this resolution which is included in the packets. Eric Gibson, Assistant State's Attorney, explained that the biggest issue is an economic one. Warren and Henderson Counties are just starting their own drug courts. The State has mandated that each county establish their own drug court. Knox County began their drug court before it became a requirement. Warren and Henderson Counties will not have very many people. To make it more cost efficient to the circuit, it was suggested that these three counties be merged together by way of an inter-governmental agreement. The actual drug court will remain in Knox County until the other two counties establish their independent drug courts. The purpose is more to accommodate these court services of the other two counties. Appropriate fees will still remain in Knox County. Currently Judge Scott Shipplett is the one assigned to drug court as he is the one who has knowledge of drug court laws and procedures. The continuity of the judge overseeing drug court will also be an advantage. The actual physical location of drug court will remain in Knox County. Henderson and Warren Counties have already approved their own resolutions accepting this intergovernmental agreement. This drug court merger will impose no additional costs on Knox County.

Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Bacon, Foster, Knapp, Jefferson, Pickrel, Stewart, Davidson, Sandoval, Nache, Abel, Hasten, Pitman, and Serven—(14). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

The Finance, Insurance, Treasurer, Judicial, and Clerk Committee report was presented by Committee Vice Chairman William Abel. The monthly reports and committee minutes are included in the packets.

Motion was made by Member Abel and seconded by Member Pickrel to approve the following resolutions on deeds of conveyance for the following four parcel numbers: 20-11-401-012, 99-13-376-014, 99-10-455-012, and 99-10-403-044. These are properties that were sold through the Trustee Silent Bid Program. If approved, this action will restore these properties to the tax rolls. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Bacon, Foster, Knapp, Jefferson, Pickrel, Stewart, Davidson, Sandoval, Nache, Abel, Hasten, Pitman, and Serven—(14). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Abel and seconded by Member Serven to approve the resolution amending the resolution authorizing additional fines for use by the Child Advocacy Center. The State's Attorney has forwarded this resolution to the Board for approval. Specific information and a copy of this resolution are included in the packets. Eric Gibson, Assistant State's Attorney explained that he had drafted this resolution. He prepared this resolution at the request of the director of the Child Advocacy Center who asked that the fees be amended. State law does allow for the County to collect up to \$30.00 per court case and those funds to go to CAC. Funding for the CAC from donations and grants has decreased and their case load has increased. They have received contributions from Henderson and Warren Counties. Warren County is already operating under this fee schedule as outlined in this resolution. Those fees include \$30.00 for a felony, \$20.00 for a misdemeanor, and \$10.00 for a petty business offense. This will allow the additional fees to be applied toward court costs and the CAC.

Member Stewart asked who determines the salary of the director of the CAC. Specifically he inquired if there has been a change in her salary as so far this year she has already collected 82% of her salary for this budget year. He questioned if there had been a change in this salary.

Mr. Gibson responded that the salary is determined by their Advisory Board.

Treasurer Robin Davis stated that she did not believe that there has been a change in this salary.

Member Stewart wondered aloud if these increases in fines would go to the executive director's salary as opposed to services.

Mrs. Davis stated that this is a grant funded position. These additional fees will be used to help offset the reimbursement that they are not receiving from the State. These fees will not be used for wages. Currently the director is performing many services by herself.

Member Stewart asked that the salary information be provided before the next Meeting.

Mr. Gibson stated that the grant funds this position. The fines and fees are to be used in their general budget to supplement the budget for the CAC. It is his understanding that these funds will not be applied to a salary increase.

Mrs. Davis noted that the budget for the coming year for CAC has been turned in and there is no increase in the director's salary.

Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Bacon, Foster, Knapp, Jefferson, Pickrel, Stewart, Davidson, Sandoval, Nache, Abel, Hasten, Pitman, and Serven—(14). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Stewart and seconded by Member Davidson to approve the appointment of Greg Bacon as finance committee chairman. This would fill the vacancy that resulted when former finance committee chairman Wayne Saline resigned from the Board in July. Current Vice-Chairman Bill Abel has stated that he is very busy and cannot devote the proper time to serve as Chairman. Voice vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—(14). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Member Pickrel noted that three offices have not yet turned in their budgets for the coming year.

Member Stewart also noted that the time for the finance committee meetings has been changed to 6:30 p.m.

The Building Committee report was presented by Building Committee Co-Chairman George Knapp. The committee minutes and the monthly report are included in the packets. Storage racks have been purchased to be utilized in the storage facility adjacent to the Mary Davis Home. Work is progressing to clean out the fourth floor storage area in the courthouse.

Chairman Bacon stated that he had recently visited that fourth floor area and agreed that Kelly Cheesman and staff have been doing serious cleaning. Additionally, County Recorder Carol Hallam has tagged lots of books that can be moved to storage off site. After the Sheley trial is concluded, the plan is to bring in a dumpster to remove additional items from that fourth floor.

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. The census of the jail is 110 and 30 of those are federal prisoners. The Mary Davis Home has a lower population of 27 which is down from 33. There are 5 youths from Knox County.

Member Abel questioned Sheriff Clague regarding the additional need for security during President Obama's visit.

Sheriff Clague responded that they used every available person and it was not enough. They also used volunteers from the Yates City Fire Department.

The Highway, Assessor, Zoning, GIS, and Recorder Committee report was presented by Committee Chairman Jeff Jefferson. Monthly reports are included in the packets. Committee minutes were distributed to the Members.

Motion was made by Member Jefferson and seconded by Member Sandoval to approve the low bid submitted by Varsity Striping for annual pavement striping for Knox County in the amount of \$45,000. Bid information is included in the packets. This bid is let out together with Marshall and Putnam Counties. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Bacon, Foster, Knapp, Jefferson, Pickrel, Stewart, Davidson, Sandoval, Nache, Abel, Hasten, Pitman, and Serven—(14). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

The Landfill and Nursing Home Committee report was presented by Committee Chairman Lyle Johnson. Committee reports and committee minutes are been provided to the Members.

Motion was made by Member Johnson and seconded by Member Hasten to approve the resolution authorizing the transfer of funds from the Nursing Home Levy Account to the Nursing Home General Fund. The State's payment for July Medicaid reimbursement is not expected to be received until October. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Bacon, Foster, Knapp, Jefferson, Pickrel, Stewart, Davidson, Sandoval, Nache, Abel, Hasten, Pitman, and Serven—(14). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

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

Motion was made by Member Jefferson and seconded by Member Johnson to approve specific line items adjustments in the budget for the following departments or funds: Sheriff's Office, Animal Control Office, Nursing Home, and Highway Department. Member Stewart noted that he had discovered a problem regarding an adjustment in a line item for the Regional Office of Education. Treasurer Robin Davis responded that she is looking into it. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Bacon, Foster, Knapp, Jefferson, Pickrel, Stewart, Davidson, Sandoval, Nache, Abel, Hasten, Pitman, and Serven—(14). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Nache and seconded by Member Knapp to approve the claims against Knox County, Illinois, for the period of July 28, 2011 through August 24, 2011, (ordering that invoices by accepted and approved and that the County Clerk and County Treasurer be authorized and directed to issue County Warrants in payment of the bills.) Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Johnson, Bacon, Foster, Knapp, Jefferson, Pickrel, Stewart, Davidson, Sandoval, Nache, Abel, Hasten, Pitman, and Serven—(14). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

STATEMENTS OF GENERAL CONCERN

Member Johnson commented that the Nursing Home has just received clearance from the Public Health Department regarding the actual structure itself. They are looking forward to hosting an open house September 8, to invite others to see this facility.

Chairman Bacon reiterated that September 12, 6:30 p.m. at the Annex, there will be a Special Board Meeting and representatives from the County's insurance carriers will be in attendance. Chairman Bacon greeted former Board Member Jerry Link who was present for this Meeting. It is good to see him again.

Member Foster wished everyone a safe and Happy Labor Day Weekend.

Member Knapp had no comments at this time.

Member Jefferson expressed his appreciation to the fine people that are on the committee for the Highway, Assessment, Zoning, GIS and Recorder's Offices. Chris Gray, Duane Ratermann, and Carol Hallam are all very professional people and great to work with. They have helped him out a lot and he is thankful.

Member Pickrel had no comments at this time.

Member Stewart reiterated that for anyone who has some concerns about the County's insurance carrier, this special Board Meeting will provide an opportunity to get those questions answered. He encouraged all Board Members to attend.

Member Davidson thanked Sheriff Clague for doing such a great job handling security during the President's visit. She wished everyone a wonderful Labor Day weekend.

Member Sandoval and Member Nache had no comments at this time.

Member Abel thanked Sheriff Clague for doing such a good job.

Member Hasten also stated that Sheriff Clague had done a good job.

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

The next regular Meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 28, 2011, 6:00 p.m. at the Knox County Courthouse, Galesburg, Illinois.

Motion was made by Member Pickrel and seconded by Member Sandoval to adjourn until the next regularly scheduled Meeting. Voice vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—(14). Noes—(0). Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:59 p.m.