

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

December 1, 2008

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
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COUNTY OF KNOX) SS

Proceedings of the Organizational meeting of the Knox County Board held at the Knox County Courthouse, Galesburg, Illinois on Monday, December 1, 2008 at 6:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by County Clerk Scott Erickson 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	Stephen “Steve” Johnson

Also present were State’s Attorney John Pepmeyer, Treasurer Robin Davis, and County Clerk Scott Erickson.

County Clerk Scott Erickson led the Members in the pledge to the flag, followed by a moment of silence.

County Clerk Scott Erickson administered the oath of office to the following Board Members who were elected in November: Barbara Foster, C.B. “Bernie” Damm, and Jeff Jefferson, along with returning Board Members: Allen Pickrel, Greg Bacon, George Knapp, and Wayne Saline.

Mr. Erickson reviewed the rules for the County Board for the organizational meeting. As established by the County Board, an organizational meeting is held every

two years following the election of new Members for the purposes of electing a County Board Chairman and Vice-Chairman.

Mr. Erickson asked for nominations for appointment of Chairman Pro-Tem. Chairman Pickrel nominated Member Steve Johnson. There being no further nominations, the County Clerk declared the nominations closed. Voice vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—(15). Noes—(0). Motion carried. Member Steve Johnson assumed the chair.

Chairman Pro-Tem Steve Johnson asked for nominations for Chairman. Motion was made by Member Pickrel and seconded by Member Sandoval to nominate Member Saline as Chairman. Motion was made by Member Occhi and seconded by Member Parsons to nominate Member Bacon as Chairman. Motion was made by Member Knapp to nominate Member Lyle Johnson as Chairman. That motion died for lack of a second. Chairman Pro-Tem Steve Johnson asked if there were any additional nominations. Since there were none, he declared the nominations to be closed. County Clerk Scott Erickson asked that as he called the roll, Members declare the candidate that they are voting for. Those voting for Member Saline are recorded as follows: Pickrel, Mannhardt, Sandoval, Abel, Saline, and Steve Johnson—(6). Those voting for Member Bacon are recorded as follows: Bacon, Foster, Jefferson, Damm, Stewart, Parsons, Knapp, Lyle Johnson, and Occhi—(9). The nomination of Member Bacon for Chairman carried.

Motion was made by Member Pickrel and seconded by Member Saline to make this nomination a unanimous vote. Voice vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—(15). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Chairman Bacon assumed the chair and thanked the Members for this nomination. He then asked for nominations for Vice-Chairman. Motion was made by Member Stewart and seconded by Member Parsons to nominate Member Lyle Johnson. Motion was made by Member Saline and seconded by Member Steve Johnson to nominate Member Abel. Since there were no additional nominations, Chairman Bacon declared the nominations for Vice-Chairman to be closed. County Clerk Scott Erickson asked that as he called the roll, Members declare the candidate that they are voting for. Those voting for Member Lyle Johnson are recorded as follows: Bacon, Foster, Jefferson, Damm, Stewart, Parsons, Knapp, Lyle Johnson, and Occhi—(9). Those voting for Member Abel are recorded as follows: Pickrel, Mannhardt, Sandoval, Abel, Saline, and Steve Johnson—(6). The nomination of Member Lyle Johnson for Vice-Chairman carried.

Chairman Bacon introduced discussion regarding the appointment of a parliamentarian for the County Board. Motion was made by Member Parsons and seconded by Member Sandoval to nominate County Clerk Scott Erickson for parliamentarian, as he has previously served in this capacity. There were no other nominations. Motion was made by Member Johnson and seconded by Member Occhi to make this a unanimous vote. Voice vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—(15). Noes—(0). Motion carried.

Chairman Bacon introduced for discussion and approval the decision on Board and committee structure. Previously the Board had met as a committee of the whole, but currently is meeting under the committee system. Motion was made by Member Lyle Johnson and seconded by Member Parsons to continue to meet under the committee system.

Member Steve Johnson stated that during his years on this Board, he had been involved in both forms. Under the committee of the whole, the Board met twice each month. This system would work if there was a County Administrator. Since the County does not have one, the committee system is the way to go. The one disadvantage with the committee system is that half of the Board Members do not know what is going on in the other committees, unless they really take the time to read those monthly reports or attend those other meetings. He strongly supports the committee system. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—Pickrel, Bacon, Foster, Mannhardt, Jefferson, Damm, Stewart, Parsons, Knapp, Sandoval, Lyle Johnson, Abel, Occhi, Saline, and Steve Johnson—(15). Noes—(0). Motion to continue with the committee system carried.

Chairman Bacon stated that he does not yet have committee assignments and suggested that the Board continue working with the present committee schedule and assignments through the month of December. During the December Meeting, he plans to announce those assignments. Since Steve Johnson has resigned, Member Abel will be appointed to be the Chairman of the Sheriff/Jail committee and the Ad Hoc Building Committee. The new Board Members should soon receive their committee assignments for the month of December.

The next regular Meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 23, 2008, 6:00 p.m., at the Knox County Courthouse, Galesburg, Illinois.

Chairman Bacon commented that this will be a learning experience for him as well as the new Board Members.

Motion was made by Member Steve Johnson and seconded by Member Occhi to adjourn. Voice vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—(15). Noes—(0). Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:18 p.m.