

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNTY BOARD  
KNOX COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
February 19, 2003**

STATE OF ILLINOIS    )  
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COUNTY OF KNOX    )

Proceedings of the regular meeting of the Knox County Board, held at the Courthouse, Galesburg, Illinois on Wednesday, February 19, 2003 at 6:00 p.m.

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

District 1	Carol Simpson
District 3	Dale Parsons
District 4	Sally Keener
District 5	Ricardo Sandoval
District 2	Dana Shallenberger
District 3	Jennifer Brown
District 4	Lowell Mannhardt
District 5	Gerald Link
District 1	Linda Roberts
District 2	William Abel
District 3	Janet Occhi
District 4	Wayne Saline
District 5	Stephen Johnson

and those absent:           District 2     Gayle Keiser  
                                  District 1     Allen Pickrel

Deputy Sheriff Elaine Sturgeon delivered the proclamation, Chairman Keener led the members in the Pledge to the Flag and in absence of clergy, a moment of silence was held in memory of former Knox County Board member Burdette Stegall.

Chairman Keener asked if there were any changes or additions to the agenda and made note any additions, unless of emergency basis, will not be an action item for that month in the future. The Nursing Home Committee would remove approval of bid for laundry service from the agenda.

Chairman Keener presented the following items on consent agenda: 1) Minutes of the County Board Meeting held January 15, 2003; 2) Claims against Knox County, Illinois, for the period of January 15 - February 19, 2003 (ordering that invoices be accepted and approved and that the County Clerk and County Treasurer be authorized and directed to issue County Warrants in payment of the bills); 3) Claims by members for mileage for the meeting held February 19, 2003; 4) Financial Report of Marc C. Wong, County Clerk, for the month of January, 2003 (filed with County Clerk); 5) Financial Report of Robin E. Davis, Treasurer, for the month of January 2003 (filed with County Clerk); 6) Financial Report of Nancy J. McCune, Recorder, for the month of January, 2003 (filed with County Clerk); 7) Financial Report of Kelly Cheesman, Circuit Clerk, for the month of January, 2003 (filed with County Clerk); 8) Financial Report of James K. Thompson, Sheriff, for the month of January, 2003 (filed with County Clerk); 9) Appointment of Mr. Vern Stisser of East Galesburg, Illinois, as a member of the Knox County Metropolitan

Exposition, Auditorium, and Office Building Authority; 10) Appointment of Hon. Stephen E. Johnson as the Board's representative on the Knox County Teen Court Board of Directors; 11) Appointment of Hon. Janet K. Occhi as the Board's representative on the Knox County Board of Health; 12) Appointment of Hon. Dale Parsons as the Board's representative on the Western Illinois Regional Council; 13) Appointment of Hon. Gerald Link, Hon. Linda Roberts and Hon. Sally Keener as the Board's representatives on the Knox County University of Illinois Extension Board of Directors; 14) Authority to bid and bring back proposals for the "Plan to Relocate Offices from the Basement of the Knox County Courthouse". Motion by J. Occhi seconded by W. Saline to approve consent agenda. S. Johnson requested Item 2 be voted on separately. Roll call on consent agenda, Item 1, Items 3-14 as follows: Ayes - Simpson, Parsons, Keener, Sandoval, Shallenberger, Brown, Mannhardt, Link, Roberts, Abel, Occhi, Saline, Johnson - (13); Noes - (0). Motion by J. Occhi seconded by L. Mannhardt to approve Item 2 and roll call as follows: Ayes - Simpson, Parsons, Keener, Sandoval, Shallenberger, Brown, Mannhardt, Link, Roberts, Abel, Occhi, Saline - (12); Noes - (0); Pass - Johnson - (1). Motion carried.

Eric Voyles, GREDA, distributed copies of the Galesburg Regional Economic Development Association 2002 Annual Investor Report. A presentation was given on land acquisition for new industrial park.

G. Chance, Health Department Administrator, distributed copies of the Annual Report which will be published in the Register Mail February 23<sup>rd</sup>. Motion by J. Occhi seconded by R. Sandoval to place the report on file in the County Clerk's office. Motion carried.

P. Mangieri, State's Attorney, reported the committee will only be meeting one or two more months. All construction has been completed except for the wall between the Knox County Law Enforcement Center and Head Start facility which is required to be erected within ninety days of February 14<sup>th</sup>. The bid price came in at \$33,915.00. A variance has been received from the City of Galesburg regarding the height of the wall, which was approved unanimously. The pump has been installed and working and the Building Committee will look at cost responsibility at the March meeting. Signage has been approved and the sign will be on the front of the building. The parking lot where the construction trailer was located will be available for Annex employees and the parking lot to the East of the jail facility will be adequate for jail employees. A suggestion was made by W. Abel that Illinois Power be asked to help analyze ways to lower utility costs.

S. Keener reported the sales tax and various taxes for the month of November, 2002 were \$86,989.66 and \$18,356.87 and the public safety tax was in the amount of \$73,422.30.

S. Keener reported on the labor agreement between Knox County and AFSCME Local No. 3217 which is for a period of three years covering employees in the offices of County Clerk, Treasurer, Recorder, Public Defender, Zoning and Assessor. Motion by S. Johnson to approve the contract seconded by J. Brown and vote by roll call as follows: Ayes - Simpson, Parsons, Keener, Sandoval, Shallenberger, Brown, Mannhardt, Link, Roberts, Abel, Occhi, Saline, Johnson - (13); Noes - (0). Motion carried.

Kevin McCanna, President of Speer Financial addressed the Board concerning re-funding a portion of general obligation bonds. The bonds were sold in 1999 and average outstanding coupon is 5.35%. The rates are down 1-1/2% and we would save 2-1/2% of the size of the issue with \$160,000 savings being a reasonable target. If this were done today only half of the target would be realized. If chosen to proceed, Speer Financial would begin the sale and if the target is attainable, next month they would bring the bid to the Board. If the target is not yet attainable, Speer Financial would propose the bond ordinance so when the target is met, the sale could occur and be ratified by the Board. Motion to approve authorizing Speer Financial to execute move if it so happens at 2-1/2% of the size of issue by W. Saline seconded by L. Roberts. Motion carried.

W. Saline reviewed the County Financial status with the Board. The following resolutions were presented

(abbreviated version):

**RESOLUTION**

A resolution abating the tax heretofore levied for the year 2002 to pay debt service on \$8,000,000.00 General Obligation Bonds (Sales Tax Alternate Revenue Source, Series 1999 of the Public Safety Building, Knox County, Illinois;

and,

**RESOLUTION**

A resolution abating the tax heretofore levied for the year 2002 to pay debt service on \$1,905,000 General Obligation Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2001 of the Mary Davis Home, Knox County, Illinois.

Motion by W. Saline seconded by D. Parsons to approve. Motion carried.

The following resolution was presented:

**RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, the County of Knox has undertaken a program to collect delinquent taxes and to perfect titles to real property in cases where the taxes on the same have not been paid pursuant to 35 ILCS 200/21-90; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to this program the County of Knox, as trustee for the taxing districts involved, has acquired an interest in the real estate described on the attachment to this resolution; and

WHEREAS, it appears to the Knox County Board that it would be to the best interest of the taxing districts of Knox County to dispose of this interest in said property.

THEREFORE, the Knox County Board recommends the adoption of the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNTY BOARD OF KNOX COUNTY, ILLINOIS, that the Chairman of the Board of Knox County, Illinois, is hereby authorized to execute a deed of conveyance of the County's interest or authorize the cancellation of the appropriate certificate of purchase, as the case may be on the following described real estate for the sums shown on the attachment and to be disbursed as shown and according to law.

Motion by W. Saline seconded by S. Johnson to approve resolution and vote by roll call as follows: Ayes - Simpson, Parsons, Keener, Sandoval, Shallenberger, Brown, Mannhardt, Link, Roberts, Abel, Occhi, Saline, Johnson - (13); Noes - (0). Motion carried.

The following resolution was presented:

**SUPPLEMENTAL RESOLUTION TO KNOX COUNTY BOARD'S  
RESOLUTION OF AUGUST 21, 1996, CONCERNING  
CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT FUND**

WHEREAS, on August 21, 1996, the Knox County Board did adopt the following Resolution:

“Whereas the Property Tax Code of the State of Illinois provides for the creation of an indemnity fund for payment of certain claims made by owners of property sold for taxes; and

Whereas said Code provides by formula for the minimum amount of money to be maintained in said indemnity fund; and

Whereas monies deposited in said indemnity fund above the minimum amount may be paid into the general fund of Knox County; and

Whereas, Knox County is in dire need of a fund to pay for future capital improvements, including building to house offices and departments;

Now, therefore be it resolved by the County of Knox that monies paid into the general fund from the indemnity fund be designated solely for capital development purposes. Capital development means buildings and structures whose purpose is to house county offices and departments;

and,

WHEREAS, on January 15, 2003, the Knox County Board did adopt a resolution entitled, “Resolution Adopting A Plan to Relocate Offices From the Basement of the Knox County Courthouse”; and

WHEREAS, the County of Knox has applied for a Member Initiative Capital Improvement Grant from the State of Illinois to defray the costs associated with the implementation of the Knox County Board’s Resolution Adopting A Plan to Relocate Offices From the Basement of the Knox County Courthouse; which grant would provide monies for the reconstruction or installation of structural or interior walls, floors, ceilings, interiors, finishes, carpeting, furnishings and equipment;

WHEREAS, due to the depressed economic status of the State of Illinois finances, the Office of the Governor of the State of Illinois has placed a moratorium upon all member initiative grants; and

WHEREAS, the County of Knox still desires to implement its January 15, 2003 resolution entitled, “Resolution Adopting A Plan to Relocate Offices From the Basement of the Knox County Courthouse” and hereby finds that the term “Capital Development” as contained within the Knox County Board’s August 21, 1996 resolution should also include, the reconstruction or installation of structural or interior walls, floors, ceilings, interiors, finishes, carpeting, furnishings and equipment, and additional expenses associated with implementation of the January 15, 2003 resolution entitled, “Resolution Adopting A Plan to Relocate Offices From the Basement of the Knox County Courthouse”.

NOW THEREFORE, it is hereby resolved by the Knox County Board that:

1. “Capital Development” as contained within the Knox County Board’s August 21, 1996

resolution includes, the reconstruction or installation of structural or interior walls, floors, ceilings, interiors, finishes, carpeting, furnishings and equipment, and additional expenses associated with implementation of the January 15, 2003 resolution entitled, "Resolution Adopting a Plan to Relocate Offices From the Basement of the Knox County Courthouse".

2. If the Member Initiative Capital Improvement Grant from the State of Illinois is ultimately received by the County of Knox, which was applied for to defray the costs associated with the implementation of the Knox County Board's Resolution Adopting a Plan to Relocate Offices From the Basement of the Knox County Courthouse, then said grant monies should be paid into the County's Capital Development Fund.

Motion to approve resolution by W. Saline seconded by C. Simpson. Motion carried.

The following resolution was presented:

**RESOLUTION REQUESTING COUNTY OFFICIALS GIVE PRIOR  
NOTICE OF EXPENDITURES IN EXCESS OF \$2,000.00**

WHEREAS, THE Knox County Board is ultimately responsible to the public for all expenditures of public funds in the operation of county government; and

WHEREAS, through the budgetary process the Knox County Board ultimately determines the total amount of county funds to be allocated to each public official to accomplish their statutory duties; and

WHEREAS, each elected official in turn has the statutory duty and authority to exercise internal control over the inner workings of his or her office; and

WHEREAS, the County of Knox, like all counties statewide is now experiencing a shortfall in its anticipated revenues and based upon the reduction in revenues the County of Knox is concerned with the possibility of difficulty in meeting and paying its payroll, bills, and expenses as they become due; and

WHEREAS, the Knox County Board is interested in keeping itself fully apprised of the current financial conditions of the County;

NOW THEREFORE, it is hereby resolved by the Knox County Board that:

1. All County officials are respectfully requested to notify the Finance Committee of the Knox County Board before engaging in any expenditure in excess of the sum of \$2,000.00, excluding four county enterprise accounts.

Motion by W. Saline seconded by W. Abel to approve. Motion carried with one dissenting vote.

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TRANSFER OF FUNDS  
FROM KNOX COUNTY'S LANDFILL FUND TO KNOX COUNTY NURSING HOME**

WHEREAS, the County of Knox operates that enterprise known as the Knox County Landfill;  
and

WHEREAS, the County of Knox operates that enterprise known as the Knox County Nursing Home;

WHEREAS, the Knox County Landfill is generating sufficient revenues to meet and pay its payroll, bills, expenses, and other obligations as they become due; and further has in reserve a sum of money in excess of 1.5 million dollars.

WHEREAS, the Knox County Nursing Home is now experiencing a shortfall in its revenues, due in large part to the non-receipt of payments due from the State of Illinois for the Nursing Home's care of public aid recipients; and

WHEREAS, based upon the non-timely receipt of payments from the State of Illinois, the Nursing Home has insufficient revenues to meet and pay its payroll, bills and expenses as they become due; and

WHEREAS, it is anticipated that upon receipt of the monies due and owing from the Illinois Department of Public Aid, and the State of Illinois, the Nursing Home Fund will have sufficient income to repay the monies borrowed from the Knox County Landfill Fund; and

WHEREAS, the Knox County Landfill Committee, the Knox County Nursing Home Committee, and the Knox County Finance Committee have recommended the transfer of funds from the Knox County Landfill Fund to that of the Knox County Nursing Fund on a revolving basis.

NOW, THEREFORE, it is hereby resolved by the Knox County Board that:

1. Monies, on a revolving basis, however, not to exceed in the aggregate an outstanding indebtedness of \$560,000.00, is authorized to be transferred from time to time from the Knox County Landfill Fund to that of the Knox County Nursing Home Fund to meet current expenses.

2. The Knox County Treasurer is hereby authorized to make such transfers as required to effect the intent of this Resolution.

3. Upon the passage of this resolution, the Knox County Treasurer is hereby directed to transfer a sum of money from the Knox County Landfill Fund to the Knox County Nursing Home Fund and then from the Knox County Nursing Home Fund to the Knox County General fund equal to the outstanding indebtedness owed by the Knox County Nursing Home to the Knox County General Fund.

4. Any interest earned, however, on any monies loaned to the Knox County Nursing Home Fund, that become invested by the Nursing Home prior to expenditure and earn interest, shall be credited and allocated to the Knox County Landfill Fund.

5. All monies transferred to and borrowed by the Knox County Nursing Home Fund from the Knox County Landfill Fund shall be repaid at the earliest opportunity, but in any event all monies so borrowed shall be paid no later than November 30, 2003.

Motion by W. Saline to approve seconded by J. Occhi and vote by roll call as follows: Ayes - Simpson, Parsons,

Keener, Sandoval, Shallenberger, Brown, Mannhardt, Link, Roberts, Abel, Occhi, Saline, Johnson - (13); Noes - (0). Motion carried.

Motion by W. Saline to go into executive session to discuss payment of worker's compensation claim seconded by R. Sandoval and vote by roll call as follows: Ayes - Simpson, Parsons, Keener, Sandoval, Shallenberger, Brown, Mannhardt, Link, Roberts, Abel, Occhi, Saline, Johnson - (13); Noes - (0). Motion carried.

7:05 p.m. - Gayle Keiser entered Executive Session.

7:10 p.m. - Return to open session.

Motion by W. Saline to pay Methodist Medical Center for knee replacement of Robert Hoskins in the amount of \$33,027.12 seconded by D. Parsons and vote by roll call as follows: Ayes - Simpson, Keiser, Parsons, Keener, Sandoval, Shallenberger, Brown, Mannhardt, Link, Roberts, Abel, Occhi, Saline, Johnson - (14); Noes - (0). Motion carried.

W. Abel addressed the Board concerning ideas to reduce County Budget.

R. Sandoval, Public Safety Committee, reported the Mary Davis Home has 12 juveniles from Knox County. The Home has \$1,000,000.00 in assets at the present time.

G. Link, Highway, Landfill, Zoning Committee, reported Corby Schmidt has been touring the county looking at properties in violation of ordinances. Corby Schmidt will be conducting meetings in March and April on Thursday mornings with all participants that are officials in the County's review class which includes utilities, County Road Commissioners, other County officials, etc. hoping to bring a set of amendments to the Board in June.

G. Link, Highway, Landfill, Zoning Committee, reported the Highway Dept. is busy cutting brush and picking up trash, etc. The next Committee meeting will be at the Highway Department Thursday March 13<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. and there will be a walking tour of the facility at 5:00 p.m. The Committee opened bids for a new bridge in Chestnut Township. Four bids were received and the low bid was from Gunther Construction in the amount of \$71,762.34 which was \$10,500.00 under the engineer's estimate. Motion by G. Link to approve bid seconded by R. Sandoval and vote by roll call as follows: Ayes - Simpson, Keiser, Parsons, Keener, Sandoval, Shallenberger, Brown, Mannhardt, Link, Roberts, Abel, Occhi, Saline, Johnson - (14); Noes - (0). Motion carried.

G. Link, Highway, Landfill, Zoning Committee, reported five bids were received for cab and chassis for tandem dump truck with the low bid from Dave Gill Trucks in the amount of \$62,843.00. Motion by G. Link seconded by R. Sandoval to approve bid and vote by roll call as follows: Ayes - Simpson, Keiser, Parsons, Keener, Sandoval, Shallenberger, Brown, Mannhardt, Link, Roberts, Abel, Occhi, Saline, Johnson - (14); Noes - (0). Motion carried. Duane Ratermann, Highway Superintendent, has a new Knox County Snow and Ice Policy which the Committee will review and bring back next month for approval.

G. Link, Highway, Landfill, Zoning Committee, reported gate receipts continue to be high at the Landfill. The Committee approved a loan to Knox County Nursing Home.

S. Johnson, Planning Committee, asked if anyone had any input on grants, please inform the Planning Committee. The Committee is looking at Committee structure, County Board alignment for next year, e-government and is pursuing the possibility the Board Meetings will be held on the fourth Wednesday of the month and Executive Committee on the third Wednesday.

W. Abel, Social Service Committee, reported the State owes \$660,000 to date. The Nursing Home paid

\$225,000.00 back to the General Fund on February 6<sup>th</sup> but still owes \$113,000.00. A check was received from IDPA in February for October but is still owed November, December and January. The boiler is expected to be installed in March. The Committee approved alcohol use by residents. There are 175 residents at the Home as present. The farm lease was renewed. Physical, occupational and speech therapy service bid from Azer Clinic was approved. The Committee approved purchase of Heartland Cable TV equipment. The Committee approved an internal working budget which includes implementation of adult day care.

A. Hallberg, County Administrator, reported the GIS pilot project was installed at the Annex and the City last Friday. The County has fifteen days to view and on March 7<sup>th</sup> he will meet with the City and Sidwell together over the pilot project. If it is approved, Sidwell will work on Galesburg as a whole. The auction program to dispose of old equipment is being worked out with Hannam's Auction Service. Motion to give County Administrator authority to proceed with this program by S. Johnson seconded by J. Brown. Motion carried.

A. Hallberg, County Administrator, reported the lease on the Leibovitz building expires August 15, 2003. The rent is currently being paid out of \$.0025 sales tax from the jail and the money will no longer be available after August 15<sup>th</sup>. A. Hallberg will meet with the owners to see if they will extend the lease. In regard to office moves, after reviewing the bidding process the higher priced items will be bid out and it is hoped the bids will be in by March 7<sup>th</sup> at which time they will be reviewed and by next Board Meeting the final price of what the moves will cost should be available. Motion by S. Johnson that A. Hallberg be directly responsible for this move and cost be limited to no more than \$80,000. Motion died for lack of second.

Motion to adjourn by C. Simpson seconded by L. Roberts. Motion carried.