

CARROLL COUNTY BOARD MEETING

301 N. MAIN ST., MT. CARROLL, IL

IN SMALL COURTROOM

SEPTEMBER 19, 2024 AT 9:30 A.M.

CALL TO ORDER - Chair Payette called the Board meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL - Roll call shows Mr. Payette, Mr. Preston, Mr. Flikkema, Ms. Jacobs, Mr. Iske, Mrs. Bickelhaupt, Mr. Rieck and Mr. Soldat present. Mr. Vandermyde was absent

PUBLIC COMMENTS-Kenneth Preston, Shannon, IL voiced his concerns on how the Melissa Trumpy and Jackson Kradle cases are being handled by the County.

CONSENT AGENDA – Chair Payette presented the consent agenda for approval.

1. Approval of the September 5, 2024 Board Meeting minutes
2. Approval of Bills Paid in Vacation
3. Approval of Committee on Claims
4. Approval of Board Member Services
5. Approval of Transfers

Motion by Mr. Preston, second by Ms. Jacobs to approve the consent agenda. Roll call vote shows Mr. Preston, Mr. Iske, Mr. Payette, Mr. Rieck, Mr. Flikkema, Mr. Soldat, Mrs. Bickelhaupt and Ms. Jacobs all voting aye. Motion carried.

TABLED ITEMS - None

DEPARTMENT REPORTS –

Animal Control- Animal Control Officer Lisa Ashby reported the fencing has been installed. Currently there are 11 dogs in the Animal Facility. She is hoping to have a Fall Adoption Event.

Assessor- Deputy Assessor Koltin Dimmick reported that Deputy Assessor, Amy Veith, has obtained her certification for Assessing.

Deputy Assessor Dimmick reported the estimated taxable EAV for the County for 2024/2025 tax year is \$560,000,000. This is a 14 % increase from last year which is based on sales for 2021, 2022 and 2023. He reported farmland is up 9% and at this time \$3.4 million in new construction.

Circuit Clerk- Circuit Clerk Patty Hiher was present. She informed the Board that her union negotiations start today.

County Clerk- County Clerk Amy Buss updated the Board that early voting starts next week.

Her office will be mailing out approximately 1,500 Vote by Mail ballots on Thursday, September 26th. She informed the Board she will not be able to use the Not-for-Profit Mailing Permit due to the ballot mailing envelopes do not conform to U.S. Postal requirements.

Emergency Management- Emergency Management Director Jim Klinefelter reported that the renovation of the EOC building is going well. The flooring and ceiling are almost complete and the furniture will be delivered mid-October. He has an IT meeting this weekend.

GIS- Deputy Assessor Dimmick was present advised no report.

Highway – A monthly report was submitted and County Engineer Sara Renkes discussed her monthly report.

She updated the Board that her department will be closing Loran Road on September 23rd from 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The closure will be from Elizabeth Road to Meyers Road. They will be working on a culvert.

She reported that the flooring for the Shannon Route culvert will begin at 11 a.m. today. The ending date of this project is the end of October. Mr. Iske asked if more signage could be placed on the road closing. County Engineer Renkes will see what signage she has.

Health Department – Dawn Holland was present advised no report.

Probation- Chief Probation Managing Officer Marcie Arno was present advised no report.

Sheriff & Property- Sheriff Ryan Kloepping reported that he has put out for bids for prisoner meals and snow removal. He has also contacted the local medical facilities to see if they would be interested in entering a contract with the County for prisoners' medical care.

Chair Payette updated the Board that he has asked Sheriff Kloepping and County Administrator Jachnicki to work on what future Courthouse projects need to be done. This will help with budgeting for next year.

An explanation of how uniforms are ordered for new deputies and their reimbursement was clarified by Sheriff Kloepping.

State's Attorney-State's Attorney Aaron Kaney made a statement in regards to the public comments from Kenneth Preston. He assured that the Melissa Trumpy case is still an active investigation. In regards to the Jackson Kradle case, that has been turned over to the Illinois State Police and a Special Prosecutor. The only involvement that the County has is if they are asked for assistance.

He reported that he and County Engineer Renkes had a Webex hearing with Illinois Commerce Commission on Big Cut Road. It will go to the Commission next week. He is hoping for a decision soon.

Chair Payette made a statement on his personal point of view. He stated he has no reason to second guess the trust and integrity of our Sheriff. He understands people want answers, but it is not a T.V. show and investigations takes time.

Transit - A monthly report with the August Transit numbers was included in the Board packet and it was discussed by PCOM Mary Maszk.

She wanted to clear up some misinformation that was given to the Board at the last meeting. The Transit does get a fuel discount of 7 ½ % from Citgo and 2% cash back from FS. She also cleared up that the Transit will be getting four new vans in 2025. One will replace the van that was in the accident this last winter. In 2026, the Transit will get two- 12 passenger buses and two-14 passenger buses. Currently there are fifteen vehicles at Transit that are titled to the County. The vehicles are not on the County's insurance but are on the Carroll County Senior Services' insurance.

Treasurer – County Treasurer Lydia Hutchcraft updated the Board that tax season is winding down and next week certified letters will go out to property owners that have not paid their property taxes.

She reminded the Board and Department Supervisors to reach out to her if help was needed with the new budget software, ClearGov.

Zoning/Zoning Board of Appeals – Zoning Officer Jaicee Buckner reported that she will be attending a Wind & Solar Conference in the next couple of weeks. She is getting prepared for a possible wind project that may be coming to the County the end of 2025.

Chair Payette wanted to clarify that Zoning Officer Buckner is the County Flood Plain Administrator at this time. It will be decided in the future if it will stay with the Zoning Department or possibly be the responsibility of the Emergency Management Department.

AFFILIATE REPORTS –

Blackhawk Hills Regional Council – No report.

Business Employment Skills Team/Workforce – No report.

Community Mental Health Board – No report.

Emergency Telephone System-No report

Health Board – No report.

Hotel/Motel – A monthly report was submitted.

Jo-Carroll Enterprise Zone - No report.

Jo Daviess Carroll County Joint Action Solid Waste Agency –Chair Payette reminded there is an Electronic Recycling event on the September 28th at the Highway Department at 9 a.m.

LRA- A monthly report was submitted.

NWILED- Chair Payette informed the Board that the NWILED annual meeting is today in Dixon, IL.

Senior Services Board - No report

Tri-County Opportunities Council – A monthly report was submitted.

United County Council of Illinois- Chair Payette updated the Board that the monthly UCCI meeting is September 23rd. He encouraged Board members to attend the UCCI conference in October if interested.

Veterans Assistance Commission – No report

Whiteside/Carroll & Jo/Carroll Enterprise Zones-No report

COMMITTEE REPORTS –

Ad Hoc Inmate Housing Committee- Mr. Iske reported that the committee will be meeting this afternoon with Wold to go over special design work.

Ad Hoc Transit Garage Committee-Mr. Flikkema reported that the architect has approved the agreement and it is under New Business.

OLD BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS –

Chair Payette informed the Board that he was moving up item #6, Approval of Joint Bridge Agreement with Ogle County for Section 24-000-44-00-SM and item #7, Approval of Joint Funding Agreement for Fremont Bridge over Elkhorn Grove Section 22-02-119-00-BR.

1. (#6 on agenda) County Engineer Sara Renkes presented and explained for Approval of Joint Bridge Agreement with Ogle County for Section 24-00044-00-SM. She explained this is for piling repairs only and the County's portion would be \$26,664. This is just the first of several steps that will need to be taken. Vice Chair Iske asked if she had spoken with Ogle County to see if they would share cost to add approaches to the project. She confirmed she had not and would like to do so. She asked to pull this from the agenda at this time for approval. No motion.
2. (#7 on the agenda) County Engineer Renkes presented and explained for Approval of Joint Funding Agreement for Fremont Bridge over Elkhorn Creek Section 22-02-119-00-BR. She explained this will be at a cost of only 4% to the County which is \$1,800 and this is a Preliminary Engineering Agreement. After discussion, Ms. Jacobs made a motion for Approval of Joint Funding Agreement for Preliminary Engineering Agreement for Fremont Bridge over Elkhorn Creek Section 22-02-119-00-BR, second by Mr. Flikkema.

Roll call shows Mr. Soldat, Mr. Rieck, Ms. Jacobs, Mr. Iske, Mrs. Bickelhaupt, Mr. Preston, Mr. Payette, and Mr. Flikkema all voting aye. Motion carried.

3. Marni Henert, Rock River Energy Services, explained that Santanna Energy is our current supplier. The current rate with four accounts is 0.7297 and this contract is expiring in January 2025. She went over the four suppliers and the difference of fixed price and NGI Index price. Motion by Mrs. Bickelhaupt to approve Symmetry Energy as supplier, NGI Index pricing and a 24-month agreement, with the understanding that Ms. Henert will continue monitoring rates and if it gets to .60 or above, she will contact the Board Chair who has approval from the Board to sign a new contract with Symmetry Energy to lock in at a fixed rate for the remainder of the contract. Motion was second by Ms. Jacobs. Roll call shows Ms. Jacobs, Mr. Preston, Mr. Soldat, Mr. Iske, Mr. Flikkema, Mr. Rieck, Mr. Payette, and Mrs. Bickelhaupt all voting aye. Motion carried.

4. (#1 Budget Presentation on agenda)

- Lisa Jones, Chair of the Community Mental Health Board presented their budget of \$418,218 which is \$28,258 less than last year. Ms. Jones explained the procedure that the agencies must go through and how the committee decides what they will award to each agency. After discussion, it was consensus of the Board to put their request amount in the draft budget.
- Richard Siedenburger, Chair of the Carroll County Soil & Water Conservation District presented their budget request of \$15,000 which is \$6,000 more than approved for last year's budget. Mr. Siedenburger explained that the increase is due to the State cutting back on funding. After discussion, it was the consensus of the Board to place \$10,000 in the draft budget.
- Craig Dimmick, Member of Jo Daviess/Carroll Solid Waste Agency, presented their budget request of \$7,500 which is a \$200 increase from last year. Mr. Dimmick informed the Board of the upcoming recycling event and what their agency does. After discussion, it was the consensus of the Board to put in the budget request of \$7,500 in the draft budget.

Break from 11:11 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.

Chair Payette called Board meeting back in session at 11:15 a.m.

- Anne Haliotis, Carroll County Historical Society, informed the Board of the responsibilities and needs of the Historical Society. The budgeted levy amount for past budgets has been \$6,200 for many years. The consensus of the Board was to raise the levy to \$7,000 in the draft budget.

- Bob Jachnicki, County Administrator, presented the budget request for Regional Office of Education on behalf of Aaron Mercier, Regional Superintendent, who was in Springfield. Mr. Jachnicki explained that the expenses are shared with Jo Daviess and Stephenson Counties. The total request from the Regional Office of Education is \$132,970 which Carroll County is responsible for 21.015% which is \$27,943.49. The consensus of the Board was to put the budget request of \$27,943.49 in the draft budget.
5. (#2 on the agenda) Chair Payette presented Approval of Draft Architect Agreement between Carroll County and Baranski Hammer Moretta & Sheehy for the Transit Garage and submission to IDOT. After discussion, it was the consensus that the Agreement needed to be reviewed more closely before approving. No Motion.
 6. (#4 on agenda) Chair Payette presented Approval of Carroll County Trustee Resolution. Motion by Mr. Iske to approve Carroll County Trustee Resolution 09-24-001, second by Mrs. Bickelhaupt. Motion carried.
 7. (#5 on agenda) Chair Payette presented Approval of Lease Agreement for Office Space & Detention Agreement with Kane County Juvenile Justice Center. Mrs. Arno explained the lease agreement and detention agreement.

Motion by Ms. Jacobs, second by Mrs. Bickelhaupt to approve the lease agreement for office space with the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts. Discussion. Roll call shows Mr. Rieck, Mr. Payette, Ms. Jacobs, Mr. Flikkema, Mrs. Bickelhaupt, Mr. Preston, Mr. Soldat, and Mr. Iske all voting aye. Motion carried.

Mrs. Bickelhaupt made a motion to Approve Detention Agreement with Kane County Juvenile Justice Center, second by Ms. Jacobs. Roll call shows Mr. Payette, Mrs. Bickelhaupt, Mr. Preston, Mr. Rieck, Mr. Soldat, Mr. Iske, Mr. Flikkema, and Ms. Jacobs all voting aye. Motion carried.

Executive Session- None

Chairman Report/Administrator Report –

1. Chair Payette reported that he and Mr. Jachnicki will be attending a Human Resource seminar on September 24th that is provided by the Illinois County Board Members Association.
2. Chair Payette updated on the new phone system. The savings to the County will be around \$500 per month. With the new agreement there will be a new switchboard and new phones.

3. Chair Payette asked Board Members to be aware of the new budget software, ClearGov, and how it works.

Appointments

Chair Payette presented for Approval Reappointment of Andy Dauphin to the Savanna York Drainage District for a 3-year term thru September 2027. Motion by Mrs. Bickelhaupt, second by Mr. Preston. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Flikkema, second by Mr. Soldat to adjourn at 11:58 a.m. Motion carried.

Submitted by Amy R. Buss, County Clerk and Recorder