

DON GRAY

SANGAMON COUNTY CLERK

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MINUTES

SANGAMON COUNTY BOARD

OCTOBER 12, 2021

The Sangamon County Board met in Reconvened Adjourned September Session on October 12, 2021 in the County Board Chambers. Chairman Van Meter called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Mrs. Williams gave the Invocation and Mr. O'Neill led the County Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Chairman Van Meter asked County Clerk Gray to call the roll. There were 26 Present – 2 Absent. Mr. Fraase and Mrs. Hayes were excused.

PROCLAMATION

Mr. Preckwinkle presented a Proclamation to Jeff Vose upon his retirement recognizing his 30 years of accomplishments and service to the citizens of Sangamon and Menard Counties. Mr. Vose accepted the Proclamation. He stated that he had a long career with many ups and downs, but it is something he would never change. He thanked everyone and appreciates all of the relationships he has established.

APPOINTMENT OF SANGAMON-MENARD COUNTY REGIONAL SUPERINTEDENT OF EDUCATION

Chairman Van Meter made a motion to nominate and appoint Shannon Fehrholz as the Sangamon-Menard County Regional Superintendent of Education. A voice vote was unanimous. Judge Troemper swore in Shannon Fehrholz. Mrs. Fehrholz thanked them and stated she is honored that they are trusting her with this responsibility. She thanked Jeff Vose for his leadership. He will be missed. She also thanked her husband, daughter, and mom and dad for their support.

BICENTENNIAL & TRANSPORTATION CENTER UPDATE – SARA JIMENEZ

Sara Jimenez gave a slide show presentation and updated the County Board on some of the projects they are working on. This morning there was a groundbreaking for the new transportation center. She gave an update on the Hub Transportation Advisory Committees, the Bi-Centennial Video Project, and the other committee working on the second floor space. The Mural Advisory Committee has been busy for the last several months and issued an RFQ for the spaces. One will face 11th Street and one will face 10th Street. They received 49 responses and committee has narrowed that to nine. They have received eight proposals back to the committee, and they plan to narrow the proposals down to two finalists. If all goes well this week then they will bring it to the Transportation Center Steering Committee and then to the full County Board in November.

The Café Advisory Committee is looking at the two food service spaces in the transportation center. There is space for that on 11th Street and on 9th Street. On the 11th Street side, the committee recommended that space be allocated for vending services at this time. SMTD will be putting out an RFQ for that this fall and will be making a selection next spring. The committee will re-evaluate that space later on down the road. On the 9th Street, the committee is exploring an opportunity that would support an entrepreneur effort in the space. Several committee members are in the restaurant industry and are exploring a way to put some entrepreneurs in that space and maybe rotate them.

The County Square Plaza Committee is looking at all the common spaces they are going to have at the new transportation hub that could be programmable. They have come up with around 70 different ideas for these spaces.

Another space at the transportation hub is designated for the race riot exhibit. They are currently in conversations with the Illinois State Museum about how they can help them make that space nice for the transportation center.

Mrs. Jimenez gave an update on how the Bicentennial Video Time Capsule Project is going. They launched the official campaign on September 1st. They were able to shoot 96 videos and five selfie videos were submitted. Just in the first month, they have reported more than 100,000 video views of the different videos. This will be on YouTube and stored on a hard drive and a laptop. They will also be launching a prize program for the selfie videos. Mrs. Jimenez played a few of the videos. Annette Fulgenzi suggested that it would be a good idea for the time capsule to have a video tour of the spaces now and then after they are renovated. People can look back to see how much was done.

Mrs. Jimenez stated the last committee she is working with is the Renovation Committee for the first floor of the County Building. They are looking at the lobby space, the gallery space, a large mural, and to the right an exhibit space for different artifacts that will be displayed. They will rotate different exhibits and artifacts in these spaces.

COVID-19 REPORT
GAIL O'NEILL, DIRECTOR OF SANGAMON COUNTY DEPT. OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Gail O'Neill addressed the County Board to give a COVID-19 report. She addressed the question of how close together you can get a COVID shot and a flu shot. She stated you could get them at the same time if you want. There is no time between them. The number of people testing positive is going down a little bit. This past weekend there was an average of 30 people per day. Those are good signs. Schools are also adjusting well. One of the numbers that kept them in the orange is the number of ICU beds available. That has improved as well. The vaccination rates are slowly creeping up. They have 56.27% of the community population fully vaccinated. The fully vaccinated youth numbers, ages 12 to 17, are now over 46%. The numbers for people who are fully vaccinated, but had a breakthrough case in the state, is .03%. The number is at .009% of those who had a breakthrough case and passed away in the state. The vast majority of these cases are of people who are over 65 years old. The majority of these people have immune deficiencies or other health problems. It will be nice when they can move from the pandemic phase to an endemic phase.

Mr. Bunch stated he has received some calls about the Animal Control Shelter. He asked if the animals are being adopted out or are they getting rid of the animals. Mrs. O'Neill stated they would talk about this later in the meeting. They go through seasons where it is busy and then when it is not. They currently have quite a few dogs and cats. They are also in the process of putting in the new kennels, so it will be better.

MINUTES

A motion was made by Mrs. Williams, seconded by Mr. Bunch, for approval of the Minutes of September 14, 2021 and October 5, 2021. A voice vote was unanimous.

MOTION CARRIED
 MINUTES ADOPTED

CORRESPONDENCE

A motion was made by Mr. Bunch, seconded by Mrs. Williams, to place correspondence on file with the County Clerk. A voice vote was unanimous.

RESOLUTION 1

1. Resolution approving the final plat of Cass Minor Subdivision.

A motion was made by Mr. Stumpf, seconded by Mrs. Williams, to place Resolution 1 on the floor. Chairman Van Meter asked County Clerk Gray to call the roll. There were 25 Yeas – 0 Nays.

MOTION CARRIED
 RESOLUTION ADOPTED

RESOLUTION 2

2. 2021-034 – Legacy Real Estate Professionals LLC (Dan Wallace), 8939 Cardinal Hill Road and 5999 New City Road, Rochester – Granting Variances. County Board Member – Jeff Thomas, District #4.

A motion was made by Mr. Thomas, seconded by Mr. Stumpf, to place Resolution 2 on the floor. A motion was made by Mr. Stumpf to waive the reading of the professional staff's report. There were no objections. A voice vote was unanimous for the adoption of Resolution 2.

MOTIONS CARRIED
RESOLUTION ADOPTED

RESOLUTION 3

3. 2021-036 – Curt M. Mann Jr. and Alyson N. Mann and Robert J. Perkins and Kate L. Perkins, 1000-1300 Block of Dickey Road, Glenarm – Granting a Rezoning and Variances. County Board Member – Jeff Thomas, District #4.

A motion was made by Mr. Thomas, seconded by Mr. Krell, to place Resolution 3 on the floor. A motion was made by Mr. Stumpf to waive the reading of the professional staff's report. There were no objections. A voice vote was unanimous for the adoption of Resolution 3.

MOTIONS CARRIED
RESOLUTION ADOPTED

RESOLUTION 4

4. Resolution approving the procurement of goods and/or services for Information Systems from Levi, Ray & Shoup, Inc. for the purpose of contract to hire for the Systems Analyst I position in the amount of \$64,000.

A motion was made by Mrs. Deppe, seconded by Mr. Thomas, to place Resolution 4 on the floor. A voice vote was unanimous for the adoption of Resolution 4.

MOTION CARRIED
RESOLUTION ADOPTED

RESOLUTION 5

5. Resolution approving a grant award from the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity to Community Resources for rental assistance, food assistance, employment support and homelessness in the amount of \$505,871.

A motion was made by Linda Fulgenzi, seconded by Mrs. Douglas Williams, to place Resolution 5 on the floor. A voice vote carried for the adoption of Resolution 5. Annette Fulgenzi abstained from voting on Resolution 5.

MOTION CARRIED
RESOLUTION ADOPTED

WAIVER OF TEN-DAY FILING PERIOD

A motion was made by Mrs. Williams, seconded by Mr. Bunch, to waive the ten-day filing period. A voice vote was unanimous.

MOTION CARRIED
TEN-DAY FILING PERIOD WAIVED

RESOLUTIONS 6 – 11

6. Resolution to approve an Employee Benefits Contract for health insurance.

A motion was made by Mr. Krell, seconded by Mrs. Deppe, to place Resolution 6 on the floor. A motion was made by Mr. Bunch, seconded by Mr. Smith, to consolidate Resolutions 6 – 11. Chairman Van Meter asked County Clerk Gray to read Resolutions 7 – 11.

7. Resolution allowing Community Resources to continue their program to provide financial relief to landlords and income eligible tenants for an amount of an additional \$200,000, for a total not to exceed \$400,000.
8. Resolution allowing the Springfield Sangamon Growth Alliance to conduct a broadband feasibility study for Sangamon County in an amount not to exceed \$100,000.
9. Resolution approving the procurement of goods and/or services for the Emergency Telephone System Board from Watson Consoles for the purpose of new furniture consoles in the amount of \$295,052.50.
10. Resolution recognizing that Sangamon County is bound to the terms of the Purchase and Sale Agreement with Joint Closing Instructions and the Addendum to Purchase and Sale Agreement of real estate located at 1 Copley Plaza, Springfield, Illinois.
11. Resolution approving an intergovernmental Agreement between the Villages and Cities of Sangamon County and County of Sangamon for the provision of Animal Control Services.

A voice vote was unanimous on the consolidation. A motion was made by Mr. Preckwinkle that the roll call vote for Resolution 1 stands as the roll call vote for Resolutions 6 – 11, as consolidated. A voice vote carried.

Annette Fulgenzi abstained from voting on Resolution 7.

MOTIONS CARRIED

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED

OLD BUSINESS

A. Resolution 5 – Tabled 09/14/2021

2021-033 – Sangamon Solar LLC, 4890 Polecat Creek Road and 9500-11000 Block of State Route 4, Chatham – Granting a Conditional Permitted Use. County Board Member – Craig Hall, District #7.

Resolution 5 remains tabled.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Resolutions

There were no new resolutions.

B. Appointments

Appointment of Sarah Graham to the Community Service Block Grant Advisory Council for a term expiring September, 2024.

Appointment of Richard Thompson to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a term expiring April, 2025.

Appointment of Jamie Dixon to the Loami Fire Protection District for a term expiring May, 2023.

Appointment of Korine Vlahos to the Sangamon County Board of Health for a term expiring February, 2022.

Appointment of Shannon Fehrholz as the Sangamon-Menard County Regional Superintendent of Education.

A motion was made by Mrs. Williams, seconded by Mr. Bunch, for approval of the appointments. A voice vote was unanimous.

MOTION CARRIED

APPOINTMENTS ADOPTED

The nominations for appointment in November were also submitted.

C. Procurement/Grant Notifications

There were no procurement/grant notifications.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jane McBride, residing at 3300 Forsyth Drive in Springfield, addressed the County Board. She stated she is speaking on behalf of Illinois Humane. They have some very significant concerns with the Animal Control facility. They currently have only two kennel workers, and it is very difficult for them to keep up. There is a disease problem there with the cats. Over the last two years, the local groups have spent money for veterinary services for the animals there. They provide services and cover the expenses for these animals when needed. They are before the County Board tonight because they believe this is where the purse strings are, and they need a personal relationship with the County Board as to what is happening at that facility. They need more resources, more personnel, and more training. You cannot run that facility with just two kennel workers. Animal Control Officers have been stepping in to help clean kennels. They want to get your attention on this situation. Your staff and management need your support. They also got a call from the Mayor this morning to see what they need out there. They need to treat the cats that are there, do a deep cleaning, and get a veterinarian out there, get your protocols in place, and get it properly staffed. She is here today to plead with you to put attention on that facility.

Director of Public Health Gail O'Neill gave an update on some of these issues. Staffing has been an issue. There are four kennel attendants that take care of the animals and do vaccinations and give medications. One senior kennel attendant has been on medical leave for almost two years now, so they only have two now. They did have a temporary employee to help, but it is not the same as having a kennel attendant. They hired two others but they did not stay with the program. This is not a job for everyone. They have recently interviewed two more for the positions. Many of these groups have taken a lot of the cats including some that were sick. It has been difficult to find a veterinarian. The APL has hired a vet who has a background in shelter care. They will soon be talking with them and offered to pay half of the cost of the veterinarian. They did get behind with vaccinations, but are working on getting them done. The illnesses just crept up on them and came on pretty quickly. She assured them they are working on this and will work on improving their policies & procedures.

Mr. Bunch asked if some of the animals are sick when they are brought in. He also asked what the County Board could do to help them get a veterinarian. Mrs. O'Neill stated they do take all animals in not knowing their health or condition. They will continue looking for a vet and partnering with the APL. More staffing is important as well. Mr. Bunch asked Chairman Van Meter if they can reach out to a veterinarian for services. Chairman Van Meter stated the staff is working on that.

Mr. Krell asked if the feral cats are segregated from the domestic cats. Mrs. O'Neill stated she is not 100% sure, but she will find out.

REPORTS OF COUNTY OFFICIALS, REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES, REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES, COMMITTEE REPORT ON CLAIMS

A motion was made by Mr. Bunch, seconded by Mrs. Williams, to place the Committee Report on Claims on file with the County Clerk. A voice vote was unanimous.

MOTION CARRIED
REPORTS FILED

RECESS

A motion was made by Mrs. Williams, seconded by Mr. Bunch, to recess the meeting to November 9, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. A voice vote was unanimous.

MOTION CARRIED
MEETING RECESSED

Don Gray
Sangamon County Clerk