

**Montgomery County Board  
Minutes**

---

**For Tuesday, June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2008 – 8:30 AM**

The following are minutes of a regular meeting of the Montgomery County Board held at 8:30 AM on Tuesday, June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2008 in the County Board Chambers of the Historic Courthouse, Hillsboro, Illinois.

**The meeting was called to order by County Board Chairman Mike Plunkett at 8:30 AM.**

**Roll call was taken. 20 members present, 1 member absent.**

**Members Present:** Nelson Aumann, Mary Bathurst, Connie Beck, Terry Bone, Bonnie Branum, Ronald Deabenderfer, Toby Dean, John Downs, Robert Durbin, Ed Helgen, Dennis Jagodzinski, Frank Komor, Sharon Kuchar, Joyce Matthews, Gene Miles, Roger Myers, Dale Ogden, Mike Plunkett, Bill Sielschott, Richard Wendel.

**Members Absent:** George Blankenship

**Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was given.**

**Mileage and Per Diem Approval:**

**Motion by Aumann, second by Kuchar to approve the mileage and per diem. All in favor, motion carried.**

**Approval of Minutes of Previous County Board Meeting:**

**Motion by Myers, second by Matthews to approve the Minutes of the Previously Adjourned County Board Meeting held on Tuesday, May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2008. All in favor, motion carried.**

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

1. **Circuit Clerk's Report** – submitted.
2. **County Treasurer's Report** – submitted.
3. **County Clerk and Recorder's Report** – Sandy Leitheiser was present for questions.
4. **Sheriff's Report** – Under Sheriff Rick Robbins was present for questions.
5. **Health Department Report** – submitted.
6. **T.B. Department Report** – Sally Adams was present for questions.
7. **Public Defender's Report** – submitted.
8. **Probation Office Report** – Bane Ulrici was present for questions, and stated that the Probation Office has recently applied for and received a "Redeploy Illinois" Planning Grant to reduce the total number of Department of Justice referrals.
9. **911 Report** – submitted.
10. **S.O.A.** – submitted.
11. **G.I.S.** – submitted.

**APPROVAL OF 11 ITEMS ON THE CONSENT AGENDA:**

**Motion by Bone, second by Wendel to approve the 11 office reports on the Consent Agenda. All in favor, motion carried.**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**COORDINATING COMMITTEE REPORT:** Chairman Mike Plunkett stated that all activity from the Coordinating Committee will be discussed in other committee reports.

**ROAD AND BRIDGE COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Chairman Bonnie Branum as follows:**

1. **Update- Sign Upgrade Program:** Branum reported that Engineer Boehler will schedule a bid opening for the Sign Upgrade Program at a later date.
2. **Update- Farmersville Overhead Project:** Branum stated that the Farmersville Overpass Project was awarded to United Contractors Midwest (UCM) and sub-contracted to Kenny Contractors. Kenny Contractors will do everything except the bituminous. Branum reported that the project has already started.
3. **Approval- Trucks Purchase:** There was a bid submitted by Wright Automotive in the amount of \$24,998.24 for a used 2008 Ford F350, which does not include title transfer and license. A closed bid was also submitted by Wright Automotive for a new 2008 Ford F350 gas powered truck, which is a State bid of \$17,997.94. **Motion by Branum, second by Komor to accept the State Bid of \$17,997.94 from Wright Automotive for a new 2008 Ford F350. All in favor, motion carried.** Two bids were submitted for the sign truck bed. D&E in Hettick bid \$3,642.32 and Woodies in Edwardsville bid \$6,031.00. **Motion by Branum, second by Helgen to approve the purchase of a new truck bed for the sign truck from D&E in the amount of \$3,642.32. All in favor, motion carried.**
4. **Update- 2008 National Bridge Inspection Standards Process Review:** Engineer Boehler reported that everything was in order and no deficiencies were reported during the National Bridge Inspection Standards Process and Review. The next round of inspections is due in February of 2009. Due to time constraints, Engineer Boehler will be looking to contract out the bridge inspection work.
5. **Approval- Road Broom Purchase:** Boehler received a bid of \$10,658 for a new road broom, which will mount on front of the truck to sweep rocks. There is enough money in the Highway budget to purchase the broom. **Motion by Branum, second by Bathurst to purchase new road broom in the amount of \$10,658.00. All in favor, motion carried.**
6. **Update- Road & Bridge Tour:** There is a Bridge Tour scheduled for Thursday, July 10<sup>th</sup>, 2008 at 8:30 AM for committee members. The committee will meet at the Highway Department.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Chairman Bill Sielschott as follows:**

1. **Approval- CEFS Ordinance #08-12 & Intergovernmental Agreement to Provide for Public Transportation in Montgomery County:** Linda Mitchell with CEFS submitted the annual CEFS Ordinance and Intergovernmental Agreement to provide for public transportation in Montgomery County, with Montgomery County contributing \$4,000 per year for the agreement. **Motion by Sielschott, second by Aumann to approve the CEFS Ordinance and Intergovernmental Agreement to provide for Public Transportation in Montgomery County. All in favor, motion carried. (See Resolution Book 8, page 120-122.)**
2. **Update- Landfill and Golf Course Assessments:** Sielschott reported that Gene Stuard reported to the Committee on the assessment for the Litchfield/Hillsboro Landfill, and recommended negotiating a three year phase-in for the increased assessment. Stuard also shared information on the process of re-assessing the three privately owned golf courses in the county and stated that questionnaires were mailed and information received from the golf courses.
3. **Update- Ameren Assessment Agreement:** Sielschott stated that the Ameren Assessment Agreement is okay, but some details regarding the area covered by Coffeen Fire Protection District need to be worked out.
4. **Update- Probation Department Redeploy Grant:** Sielschott stated that the Probation Department applied for and will receive a Redeployment Grant through the Department of Human Services to reduce the number of Juvenile Cases sent to the Department of Justice. With the help of the Montgomery County Health Department, the Probation Department was reimbursed for employee expenses to supply the redeployment data.

5. **Update- County Real Estate Tax Cycle:** Sielschott stated all townships' assessments have been published per the quadrineal year requirement, and the Board of Review is meeting now to review complaints. The Supervisor of Assessments' Office is on track with the schedule, and the tentative abstract should be sent to the Department of Revenue on June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2008.
6. **Approval- Prevailing Wage Ordinance #08-13:** The Prevailing Wage Ordinance was discussed. **Motion by Sielschott, second by Kuchar to approve the Prevailing Wage Ordinance. All in favor, motion carried. (See Resolution Book 8, pages 123-129).**
7. **Update- FY09 Budget Discussion:** The Annual Budget Hearings will be held on Tuesday, July 22<sup>nd</sup>, Wednesday, July 23<sup>rd</sup> and Friday, July 25<sup>th</sup>, 2008. Letters to Senior Citizens Groups were mailed out Friday, May 30, 2008.
8. **Approval- Sheriff's Department Deputy Hire:** Sielschott stated that the Sheriff's Department wants to hire an additional deputy with revenue from a drug seizure where approximately \$223,000 was recovered. The Sheriff's Department originally asked for three additional deputies, but will agree to hire one new deputy with funds from the drug seizure. It costs about \$140,000 to add a deputy to the force the first year. The Sheriff's Office would like to keep the remainder of the seizure money in an audited Sheriff's Department Fund, and Undersheriff Rick Robbins stated that they would like to get a deputy hired as soon as possible, since they would need to have ten weeks of training prior to working on the force. **Motion by Sielschott, second by Myers to approve the employment of an additional deputy and equipment for the Sheriff's Department, with the funding to be paid for from the drug seizure money. All in favor, motion carried.**
9. **Update- Assistant State's Attorney Budget Issues:** Assistant State's Attorney Mike Havera will be leaving county employment due to his recent appointment as the Christian County Public Defender. State's Attorney Matoush will move the other Assistant State's Attorney Betsy Wilson to Havera's higher salary position and hire a new Assistant State's Attorney at a lower salary. Wilson will continue to work on county civil issues, juvenile cases and also acquire some criminal case issues.

**HWE COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Chairman Bob Durbin as follows:**

1. **Elections Update:** Durbin stated that County Clerk Sandy Leitheiser shared information with the Committee on Election Legislative Updates that were provided by the Illinois Association of County Clerks and Recorders, and said that polling location rent was discussed at the committee meeting and the Committee decided to keep the rent at \$75.00 per location.
  - **Precinct Consolidation:** Durbin reported that he and County Clerk Leitheiser spoke with Democratic Party Chairman Steve White, about consolidating three precincts to one precinct in Witt, but White does not want to consolidate.
2. **Update- Animal Control Program:** The committee met on Friday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2008 to discuss two proposals for the Animal Control facility. Morton Builders submitted a proposal in the amount of \$337,200.00, and Apple Creek Construction Services of Springfield submitted a proposal in the amount of \$435,985.69. Member Dean asked how long the proposals are valid, and Chairman Plunkett responded that the proposal would be valid for 10 days. The Committee will study the proposals to see what cutbacks can be made to reduce the cost of the facility and will make their recommendation at next month's Full Board meeting for their approval. Highway Engineer Boehler stated that unless the County reduces the size of facility, these construction costs would remain due to increasing costs of labor and materials, and Member Helgen stated that costs to build an Animal Control facility will only increase, since three years ago, the construction proposal for a similar facility design was presented for \$235,000. He also reminded members that we are currently spending \$2,300.00 each month for dog kennel usage at Hillsboro veterinarian Ben Brohammer.
3. **Approval- Revised Animal Control Ordinance #08-14:** Discussion took place on the revised Animal Control Ordinance that was put out last month for Board Members to review. **Motion by Durbin,**

**second by Kuchar to approve the revised Animal Control Ordinance. All in favor, motion carried. (See Resolution Book 130-147).**

**4. Update- Recycling Program:**

- Durbin reported that discussion took place on Recycling at the Historic Courthouse. Sheriff Vazzi was present at the committee meeting and stated that his custodians don't have time to separate the recycling and suggested that more containers be put in each office so employees could separate their own recycling materials into individual bins.
- Durbin stated that the Montgomery County Senior Citizens would like a presentation on Recycling for their June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2008 meeting. The Senior Citizen Meeting is at 1:30 at the Taylor Springs Senior Center.
- Durbin stated that WSMI will have a live broadcast on Recycling scheduled for July 30<sup>th</sup>, 2008 at 8:45 AM.
- Durbin reported that more and more people are recycling at the local drop sheds. Hillsboro and Litchfield drop sheds are cleaned out every Monday and Friday each week unless there is a holiday.
- A Montgomery County Tire Recycling Drive is planned for Saturday, August 9, 2008 at the Montgomery County Fairgrounds in Butler.

**5. Approval to Adopt the 5 Year Solid Waste Recycling Act Plan Resolution #08-15:** Discussion took place on the 5 year Solid Waste Recycling Act Plan Resolution. **Motion by Durbin, second by Helgen to approve the 5 Year Solid Waste Recycling Act Plan Resolution. All in favor, motion carried. (See Resolution Book 8, page 148).**

**6. Update- Village of Donnellson Dropoff:** Durbin reported that the Village of Donnellson would like to get a recycling dropoff. Chris Daniels and Mike Plunkett went to the Village's Council meeting to discuss plans on putting in a dropshed for the area.

**PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Chairman John Downs as follows:**

- 1. Update- Department Survey Results for Employee Attendance and Time Off:** Downs reported that the committee reviewed packets of surveys that were completed by Office Holders for employee attendance and time off. The committee agreed that offices should use the payroll voucher system to document and keep track of county employees' time off.
- 2. Update- Policy for IRS Regulations on Personal Use of County Property:** Discussion took place on the policy for IRS Regulations on personal use of county property. This will be implemented through payroll vouchers to the Treasurer's Office. A memo will be sent out to Office Holders along with information regarding employee attendance and time off to be incorporated on payroll voucher.
- 3. Update- Supervisor of Assessments:** Downs reported that Mary Purcell started as the County GIS Coordinator on Monday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2008 and Ray Durston is also training to be the Supervisor of Assessments.

**BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Chairman Terry Bone as follows:**

- 1. Update- Repair to Plaster Ceilings in Historic Courthouse:** Bone stated that Hurst Rosche Engineers has received performance and payment bonds from Cloyd Builders, the contractor who will be doing the remaining plaster removal to the ceilings in the Historic Courthouse.
- 2. Update- Abraham Lincoln Picture for Display in Courthouse:** Robert Armes of Nokomis refurbished a large charcoal painting done by Thomas Johnson from 1863 – 1865 of Abraham Lincoln that had hung at the Wares Grove School for years and would like to put it on display in one of the Courthouses. The committee approved to have State's Attorney Matoush draw up paperwork to have

the painting put on display and hung by the elevator on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of the Courthouse Complex near the security desk.

3. **Update- DCEO Grant for \$25,000 to be used for Historic Courthouse Repairs:** Bone reported that paperwork will be submitted for a \$25,000 grant from DCEO for ceiling and basement wall repairs at the Historic Courthouse. Senator Deanna Demuzio's Office contacted Montgomery County about the grant last year.
4. **Update- Historic Courthouse Office Space Needs:** Chairman Bone spoke with the Farm Bureau Board about the offer to purchase their building and the Farm Bureau has decided not to sell.
5. **Update- Recycling Bin Reorganization & Purchase in Historic Courthouse, Courthouse Complex and Jail:** Bone reported that discussion took place on the possible purchase of more Recycling bins for the Historic Courthouse, Courthouse Complex and Jail due to the Sheriff's request to not have custodial employees separate the material in one area of each building. The committee discussed the space issues that currently face the Courthouse Complex, and decided that there would be no space available to put the quantity of bins it would require to maintain the requested recycling change. Chairman Bone will contact Sheriff Vazzi to advise him that the committee discussed the issue and felt that the recycling should continue to be collected and separated as in the past 12 years by a custodial employee. There are now currently two custodial employees on staff.

**EMA/AMBULANCE COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Chairman Dennis Jagodzinski as follows:**

1. **Ambulance Call Report:** A summary of monthly operations for **May 2008** is as follows: Total calls: 371: Total amount billed: \$203,458.00: Amount collected: \$104,148.15.
2. **Director Holmes Report:**
  - **Fast EMC:** Jagodzinski reported Bill Purcell was at the committee meeting to discuss how the two computer systems, Fast EMC and Firehouse, are compatible in some areas and not compatible in others. If Litchfield wants the two systems to interface, it would have to be at their expense and not the county's. The Committee directed member Bathurst to discuss the issues with Litchfield's Auditor Paul Osborne. The Committee received the Audit completed on the Ambulance Billing by Paul Osborne and are currently reviewing it. Further discussion took place on the changes that will take place on the Medicaid and Medicare billing.
  - **HSEEP Class:** Jagodzinski reported that the Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program classes had ten people and went well.
  - **Exercise Briefing:** The briefing for the exercise that was held on May 1<sup>st</sup>, will take place tomorrow June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2008.
  - **Reimburse for Food Service to City of Irving for Exercise:** Jagodzinski stated that the committee agreed to reimburse the Village of Irving for the food that was served during the Emergency Preparedness exercise in May. The billed amount was \$875.00 with 125 people being served.
  - **HazMat Breakfast:** Jagodzinski reported that HazMat made \$468.00 on the Pancake Breakfast fundraiser.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Chairman Ron Deabenderfer as follows:**

1. **Update- Enterprise Zone Projects in Montgomery County:**
  - **Enterprise Zone:** Deabenderfer reported that the committee met with the Enterprise Zone Mayors to discuss the 10 year extension to the Enterprise Zone and proposed expansions.

- **Dominion Energy Wind Farm Project:** Paul Briggs of Dominion gave an update to the committee on the Wind Farm Project in Christian and Montgomery Counties. Dominion is based in West Virginia and has proposed a project for a 300 megawatt wind turbine farm with 150 to 200 turbines. The company is continuing research to finalize the location for the wind farm, is looking at 25,000 acres, and representatives have been talking to landowners about short term leases that could possibly turn in to long term leases. Dominion is hoping to start construction in 2010 and produce energy by 2011 or 2012, and will come back to the Economic Development Committee in about a year to ask for Enterprise Zone incentives for a very large project, which will include 300 temporary construction jobs and 12 to 15 Full Time jobs once the wind turbines are operational. Dominion representative Briggs stated that there can be no mining within 500 feet of a wind turbine.
- **Hillsboro Energy:** Roger Dennison with Hillsboro Energy reported at the committee meeting that they are currently working on the Permit Stage.
  - a. Stage #1 - IDNR Permit: There were 2 public hearings on the IDNR Permit and 61 requests for modification were received. According to Dennison, Hillsboro Energy will have an answer back to IDNR answering the 61 requests within the next two weeks.
  - b. Stage #2 - Joint Permit with EPA, IDNR and Army Core of Engineers (wetlands).
  - c. Stage #3 - NPDS Permit

All permits should be received by July 2008 and Hillsboro Energy hopes to break ground at the Deer Run Mine in September or October of 2008. The first set of people to be hired will be in November for the slope. Dennison stated that they are close to getting the permits for Mine #1. They are drilling and getting ready to complete a permit for Mine #2. County Clerk Sandy Leitheiser stated that IDNR requests for modifications are posted on the County web site and copies are also available in her office.

2. **Update- Comprehensive Planning:** Deabenderfer stated that University of Illinois representative Pat Curry sent a complete Comprehensive Planning proposal to committee members, and all County Board members have them in their packets. Deabenderfer asked that members review the Comprehensive Plan proposal, which would cost the County \$60,000, for approval at next month's Full Board meeting. He reiterated that this Comprehensive Plan only influences areas outside municipal boundaries in Montgomery County, and is the backbone for any other efforts to look at zoning, land uses, etc...
3. **Update- 10 Year Extension to the Enterprise Zone:** An Enterprise Zone Mayor's meeting will be scheduled for Wednesday, June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2008.
4. **Update- Abandoned Rail Line Property:** Ron Deabenderfer stated that Mr. Kee is having trouble getting a clear title for the Abandoned Rail Line property approved for purchase by the County Board at a prior meeting, and that two Title Companies have been contacted with unsuccessful results. State's Attorney Matoush recommends making sure that the County gets a clear title to the property before it is purchased, and informed committee members that the problem may have started when the railroad acquired the property years ago. If a clear title can be obtained, Matoush recommends holding on to the property for a few years before selling or leasing the property.

**APPROVAL OF 8 COMMITTEE REPORTS & MINUTES:**

**Motion by Downs, second by Bathurst to approve the 8 committee reports. All in favor, motion carried.**

**SCHEDULE CHANGES:** Plunkett reminded members that there will be a special Road & Bridge Committee meeting on Thursday, July 10<sup>th</sup>, 2008 at 8:30 AM. The committee will meet at the Highway Department and go out to tour Montgomery County bridges.

**APPOINTMENTS:**

**Motion by Jagodzinski, second by Matthews to approve the reappointment of Michael Terneus as Commissioner to the Montgomery County Housing Authority Board for a term of 5 years. All in favor, motion carried.**

**Motion by Bone, second by Branum to approve the reappointment of Glen L. Greenwood as trustee to the Coffeen Fire Protection District for a term of 3 years. All in favor, motion carried.**

**Motion by Ogden, second by Myers to approve the reappointment of Dr. Roger McFarlin to the Montgomery County Tuberculosis Care and Treatment Board for a term of 3 years. All in favor, motion carried.**

**Motion by Myers, second by Beck to endorse the appointment approval given last month of Theresa Lang to the Job Center Board for a 4 year term. This endorsement is needed because the appointment was not listed as an approval item on the posted agenda prior to its approval at last month's County Board meeting. All in favor, motion carried.**

**PAY BILLS:**

**Motion by Sielschott, second by Kuchar to pay all approved bills. All in favor, motion carried.** For itemized listing of bills paid, refer to Accounts Payable Book for FY 2008.

Member Dean announced that Animal Control and Protective Services volunteers Barb Boehler, Tara House, and Dawn Ashby were present to answer County Board members' questions about the proposed Animal Control facility and Animal Protection issues, and invited interested members to speak to them after the meeting.

**ADJOURN: Until the Full Board Meeting on Tuesday, July 8<sup>th</sup>, 2008 at 8:30 AM in the County Board Room, Historic Courthouse, Hillsboro, Illinois.**

**Motion by Myers, second by Matthews to adjourn the Full Board Meeting. All in favor, motion carried.** Meeting adjourned at 9:23 AM.

Minutes respectfully submitted and recorded by Montgomery County Clerk and Recorder Sandy Leitheiser.