



Effingham County Board
101 N. 4th Street, Suite 301, Effingham, IL
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EFFINGHAM COUNTY BOARD REGULAR BOARD MEETING July 17, 2023 – 4:00 p.m.

MINUTES

EFFINGHAM COUNTY BOARD MEMBERS: Joshua Douthit-District B, Chair, David Campbell-District D, Vice Chair, Norbert Soltwedel-District A, Tim Ellis-District C, Christopher Keller-District E, Elizabeth Huston-District F, Doug McCain-District G, Sandra Gillet-District H, Jeremy Deters-District I

1. ROLL CALL, PLEDGE, PRAYER

The County Board of Effingham County, Illinois met pursuant to a regular meeting on Monday, July 17, 2023 at 4:00 p.m. in the County Board Room, County Building, City of Effingham, and State of Illinois.

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Joshua Douthit. Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Chairman J. Douthit gave the prayer. Roll call was taken with the following Board Members present: Joshua Douthit, David Campbell, Norbert Soltwedel, Tim Ellis, Christopher Keller, Doug McCain, Sandra Gillet, Jeremy Deters

2. RECOGNIZE PERSONS WHO WISH TO SPEAK ON AGEND/NON-AGENDA ITEMS

- None

3. RESOLUTION – HONORING CRYSTAL SCHUTZBACH ON HER RETIREMENT AFTER 32 YEARS OF SERVICE WITH THE EFFINGHAM COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

- Chairman J. Douthit read the resolution and presented Crystal with a gift of appreciation for her years of service. Member D. McCain made a motion to approve the resolution honoring Crystal Schutzbach on her retirement with the Effingham County Health Department. Member C. Keller seconded. *Motion carried.*

4. RESOLUTION – HONORING FRANCES ARNOLD ON HER RETIREMENT AFTER 21 YEARS OF SERVICE WITH THE EFFINGHAM COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE.

- Chairman J. Douthit read the resolution and presented Frances with a gift of appreciation for her years of service. Sheriff Paul Kuhns spoke about Frances. Member C. Keller made a motion to

approve the resolution honoring Frances Arnold with the Effingham County Sheriff's office. Member J. Deters seconded. **Motion carried.**

5. RESOLUTION - HONORING JANE LUSTIG ON HER RETIREMENT AFTER 15 YEARS OF SERVICE WITH EFFINGHAM COUNTY.

- Chairman J. Douthit read the resolution. Sheriff Paul Kuhns spoke about Jane. Member S. Gillet made a motion to approve the resolution honoring Jane Lustig. Member T. Ellis seconded. **Motion carried.**

6. END OF YEAR 377 REPORT

- Andy Kistler, with Community Support Systems, presented the board with fiscal year report for FY22-23. He discussed some of the items on the report.

7. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

APPROVE MINUTES

ACCEPT OFFICER'S MONTHLY REPORTS

APPROVE BILLS – COUNTY BOARD PER DIEM & EXPENSES

COMMITTEE AGENDA CONSIDERATIONS

- Approve Resolution for Sheriff's Salary
 - Approve Resolution for Public Defender Salary
 - Approve Appointments
 - Edgewood Bi-County Fire District – Michael Bowman
 - Approve Resignation of Ernest Garbe from South Central Illinois Regional Planning and Development Commission
 - Approve Final Plat of Doug and Denise Walk Subdivision
 - Approve Updated Preliminary Estimate from Centrica Business Solutions for Presentation to County Board
 - Approve Allocation of \$3,133.50 in ARPA Funding for CDI Plans for Courtyard Gazebo
 - Approve Allocation of \$270.00 from Earmarked ARPA Funding to Childcare Gap Scholarship for Poster Campaign.
 - Approve Appointments
 - Board of Health – Dr. Michael Williamson, Dr. Greg Campos & Amy Guy
 - Approve Release of Closed Session Minutes
 - Approve Easements for Airport Road Reconstruction
- Chairman J. Douthit pulled item "Approve Updated Preliminary Estimate from Centrica Business Solutions for presentation to County Board." Chairman J. Douthit placed item as #7M

CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL

- Member C. Keller made a motion to approve the consent agenda except for the item pulled under the committee agenda considerations. Member D. Campbell seconded. **Motion carried** on a roll call vote 7 ayes; 0 nays; 1 absent

• 7M – APPROVE UPDATED PRELIMINARY ESTIMATE FROM CENTRICA BUSINESS SOLUTIONS FOR PRESENTATION TO COUNTY BOARD.

Chairman J. Douthit pulled this agenda item for discussion. This is in regards to a preliminary estimate for phase two on a solar system for the Effingham County Courthouse building. Centrica Business Solutions was previously Smart Watt. They completed phase one of the project which was lighting, water and some HVAC. This approval and update is for Centrica Business Solutions to provide a more specific proposal for costs and benefits. Blaine Meadows, account executive with Centrica Business Solutions, was present at the meeting. They specialize

in bundle energy efficiency solutions with local governments in which a study is done for improvements. A 2018 study for improvements noted the replacement of windows on third and fourth floor and other energy efficiency savings. One of these energy efficiency savings would be a rooftop solar system. The preliminary estimate is \$353,000.00. The cost of the replacement windows would be \$195,000.00. The cost of the solar system would be \$158,000.00. The size of the solar system is determined by the square footage of the roof. There are incentives and investment tax credits disbursed to local governments to assist with paying for the cost. A project development agreement is needed to determine the final fixed costs to the county at no cost. If the County doesn't move forward there is a breakup fee in amount of \$10,000.00-\$30,000.00. The breakup fee will be waived if the county enters in to the agreement. Chairman J. Douthit stated Centrica is requesting for the board to allow them to return to the county to determine final numbers at no cost. These improvements were in the phase one plan but not completed because of financial reasons per Centrica. The windows and solar system would be phase two so this would not require bids. This approval would allow Centrica to do an audit and provide final fixed costs for the phase two project. There was discussion on county's solar incentives, the final cost will include all warranties and maintenance of equipment and the timeline to complete the project which will be 60-90 days. If the States Attorney finds this project is not considered a phase two of the original project and procurement is required, the county would follow all statutes regarding bidding and/or procurement. Member J. Deters made a motion to approve the Project Development Agreement at no cost to the county. Member T. Ellis seconded. **Motion carried.**

8. APPROVE APPOINTMENT WITHOUT COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION.

- South Central Illinois Regional Planning and Development Commission
 - Replacement for Ernest GarbeThis agenda item was stricken. There is no replacement for Ernest Garbe.

9. APPROVE AMENDED SALARY SCHEDULE ORDINANCE WITHOUT COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION.

- This amendment was discussed at the Tax & Finance meeting. The Public Defender requested a salary increase for the Assistant Public Defender to match the second Assistant States Attorney. The current budget will cover the increase to \$82,000.00. This amount will be in the budget proposal for fiscal year 2023-24. Member J. Deters made a motion to approve the amended salary schedule ordinance. Member C. Keller seconded. **Motion carried** on a roll call vote 7 ayes; 0 nays; 1 absent.

10. APPROVE STANLEY ACCESS TECHNOLOGIES PARTS AND LABOR CONTRACT WITHOUT COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION.

- Paul Kuhns, Sheriff, stated the sliding door at the Effingham County Government Center was having issues and broke a month after the warranty expired. Stanley Access Technologies allowed the county to purchase an extended warranty for \$765.00. The warranty includes parts and labor for one year. Member D. McCain made a motion to approve the Stanley Access Technologies contract. Member T. Ellis seconded. Motion carried on a roll call vote 7 ayes; 0 nays; 1 absent.

11. ELECTION OFFICIALS REPORTS

- Michelle Kollmann, County Clerk, informed the board a total of 23,874 registered voter ID cards are being mailed out this week. This is part of the Voter Registration Purge required by State Statute.

- Paul Kuhns, Sheriff, stated there was a lightning strike at the County Building which took out several frequencies, electronic door controls and computers. The Sheriff dept staff, maintenance and IT assisted with the repair. He will determine if an insurance claim is needed.
- Aaron Jones, States Attorney, received notice the Safe-T Act decision is expected on July 18.
- Tammy Kreke, Circuit Clerk, noted a grant was received in the amount of \$200,000.00 for equipment in the courtrooms. This will include updating the electronics, speakers and a large TV which is needed for zoom court.
- Greg Koester, County Engineer, stated oiling of roads has started.

12. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Dave Campbell is looking for a replacement for Ernest Garbe on SCIRPDC. Also, the balance for the revolving loan fund is \$14,736.73.

13. PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Courtney Yockey mentioned the monthly webinar will be on the Illinois Paid Leave Act. He updated the board on the grant program for businesses in the county for reimbursement on expenses during COVID.
- Chairman J. Douthit reminded the board of the Effingham Ham-Jam which will take place on July 21, 2023 which will affect parking downtown.

14. CLOSED SESSION

- None

15. ADJOURN

- Member C. Keller made a motion to adjourn this meeting. Member S. Gillet seconded. ***Motion carried.***