

**PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
MACON COUNTY BOARD**

**JUNE 14, 2018**

**Jay A. Dunn**  
Chairman

**Stephen M. Bean**  
Clerk

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with the Operation's Lt. Antonio Brown and Assistant State's Attorney, Mike Baggett present.

The Roll Call showed all members present with the exception of Mr. Oliver and Ms. Zimmerman.

Mrs. Taylor led the members in prayer.

All led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**A. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 10, 2018 MEETING**

**MOTION**

Mrs. Kraft moved, seconded by Mr. Mattingley to approve the minutes of the May 10, 2018 meeting.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

**ROLL CALL.**

Ayes: Bird, Brown, Buckner, Cox, Dawson, Drobisch, Dudley, Dunn, Greenfield, Hogan, Jackson, Joy, Kraft, Mattingley, Meachum, Noland, Potts, Smith, Taylor,

Nays: (None)

**AYES = 19**

**NAYS = 0**

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**ZONINGS/SUBDIVISIONS**

1. Mr. Dudley presented Resolution Z-1195-06-18 which is regarding Case S-02-05-18 a petition submitted by SolAmerica Energy for a Special Use Permit to allow the development and construction of a solar farm project in (A-1) Agricultural Zoning on property commonly known as Cundiff Road, Decatur, IL. After hearing the evidence the Zoning Board of Appeals voted to recommend approval of the subject petition to the County Board with 3 stipulations. The EEHW Committee met and reviewed the petition and recommended the County Board approve the petition subject to the stipulations recommended by the Zoning Board of Appeals.

**COMMENT:**

Mr. Dudley: Mr. Dudley said he wanted to make a comment on this. This went through EEHW and it was a 3 to 3 tie which meant it was not recommended for approval. There

was a question on the setbacks, which have yet to be approved. Our setbacks are 500 feet and this request had a 300 foot setback. SolAmerica has since revised that and met the 500 foot setbacks as required by the county. Therefore, he wanted to wholeheartedly make a motion to support this resolution.

**MOTION**

Mr. Dudley moved, seconded by Mrs. Kraft to approve Resolution Z-1195-06-18 by prior roll call vote.

**QUESTION:**

Mrs. Cox: Mrs. Cox asked if the 300 foot setback should be changed to 500 feet in the resolution.

Mr. Dudley: Mr. Dudley said that looks like it is incorrect. He asked Jennifer Gunter to come up and address that.

Mrs. Gunter: Mrs. Gunter said yes because she had changed it from what the Zoning Board of Appeals had said. She said it should be 500 feet.

Mr. Baggett: Mr. Baggett said as he was reading the resolution, the resolution indicates that the stipulations are as passed by the ZBA. He thinks it is proper that it be presented to the board in the form it was presented with the 300 feet in part 3F as ZBA had recommended. However, the board is certainly within its authority to move to amend these conditions to make it 500 feet before final adoption if that is the board's desire.

**MOTION TO AMEND**

Mr. Dudley moved, seconded by Mrs. Cox to amend Resolution Z-1195-06-18 to make the requirement 500 feet instead of 300 feet on part 3F by prior roll call vote.

**MOTION CARRIED. (AMENDMENT TO Z-1195-06-18) (POTTS SHOWED HIS VOTE AS NO)**

**MOTION CARRIED. (MAIN MOTION AS AMENDED) (POTTS SHOWED HIS VOTE AS NO)**

**B. CORRESPONDENCE**

The Illinois EPA submitted four Notices of Application for Permit to Manage Waste for Advanced Disposal Services Valley View Landfill for: Construction documentation report for Soil-Bentonite Cutoff Wall and Gradient Control System, An application addressing condition XI.8, addressing condition 7, and an application proposing that well G590 be considered undergoing corrective action monitoring.

A letter from Ameren Illinois regarding important upgrades to improve energy service.

A letter from Comcast regarding the addition of EPiX HD to the Comcast Channel Line-Up.

A letter from Comcast regarding changes to Comcast channel line-up in this community.

A copy of the FY 2017 Annual Financial Report from the State of Illinois Comptroller for the Decatur Public Building Commission.

## **REPORTS**

Sheriff's Report – May 2018

Treasurer's Fund and Investment Report – May 2018

Coroner's Report – April & May 2018

Auditor's Report – April 2018

Public Defender's Report – May 2018

## **MOTION**

Mrs. Cox moved, seconded by Mr. Brown to approve the Correspondence and Reports by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

**MOTION CARRIED. (POTTS SHOWED HIS AS YES)**

## **2. CLAIMS**

### **MOTION**

Mrs. Cox moved, seconded by Mrs. Kraft to approve the claims by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

## **C. APPOINTMENTS**

The appointments are being presented on the Consent Calendar.

## **D. CONSENT CALENDAR**

3. Resolution G-4830-06-18 - Executing deeds to convey property on which taxes were delinquent

Resolution G-4831-06-18 – Appointment to the Decatur Sanitary District

Megan Baskerville, 1577 W. Wood, Decatur, IL 62522  
Term Expires: 1<sup>st</sup> Monday, May 2021

Resolution G-4832-06-18 – Reappointment to the Macon County Mental Health Board

Eric McRae, 266 Cobb Ave., Decatur, IL 62522  
Term Expires: June 30, 2022

Resolution G-4833-06-18 – Reappointment to Macon County Mental Health Board

Linda Little, 1413 W. Sunset, Decatur, IL 62522  
Term Expires: June 30, 2022

Resolution G-4834-06-18 – Reappointment to Macon County Mental Health Board

Bryan Smith, 3569 Redlich Dr., Decatur, IL 62521  
Term Expires: June 30, 2022

**MOTION**

Mr. Meachum moved, seconded by Mr. Dudley to approve the Consent Calendar by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**JUSTICE COMMITTEE**

4. Mr. Potts presented Resolution G-4835-06-18 which is approving a fee cost study for the Circuit Clerk's Office.

**MOTION**

Mr. Potts moved, seconded by Mr. Mattingley to approve Resolution G-4835-06-18 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**EEHW COMMITTEE**

5. Mr. Dudley presented Resolution G-4836-06-18 which is adding territory to the Decatur Macon County Enterprise Zone.

**COMMENT:**

Mr. Dudley: Mr. Dudley said before he made the motion he wanted to brief the board a little bit on what happened. We brought this before the board a couple of months ago on the Enterprise Zone expansion and we voted it through. In the mean time when the plans came from the City of Decatur we realized that part of that building overlapped the Enterprise Zone and went on to lots that were not included in the Enterprise Zone expansion. Also, the State of Illinois requires a connector line that connects Enterprise Zones and it was lacking one of those also. So, those corrections have been made and this is a modification. It is the same \$17,000,000 project that is going to hire 100 people for DMH. It is just adding 3 more lots to the Enterprise Zone from what we already approved two months ago and then the connector line.

**MOTION**

Mr. Dudley moved, seconded by Mr. Meachum to approve Resolution G-4836-06-18 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**OPERATIONS AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

6. Mr. Smith presented Ordinance O-130-06-18 which is approving the Prevailing Wage rates for Macon County.

**MOTION**

Mr. Smith moved, seconded by Mr. Potts to approve Ordinance O-130-06-18 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

7. Mr. Smith presented Resolution G-4837-06-18 which is approving an increase in appropriations in the County Clerk's Election budget.

**MOTION**

Mr. Smith moved, seconded by Mr. Mattingley to approve Resolution G-4837-06-18 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

8. Mr. Smith presented Resolution G-4838-06-18 which is approving a budget amendment for Workforce Investment Solutions FY'18 budget for One-Stop Coordinator position.

**MOTION**

Mr. Smith moved, seconded by Ms. Buckner to approve Resolution G-4838-06-18 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

The Legislative Committee had nothing to submit at the meeting.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

9. Mr. Greenfield presented Resolution G-4839-06-18 which is approving appropriation of funds for the Macon County Office Building computer upgrades.

**MOTION**

Mr. Greenfield moved, seconded by Mr. Hogan to approve Resolution G-4839-06-18 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

10. Mr. Greenfield presented Resolution G-4840-06-18 which is approving and Assignment and Assumption Agreement between St. Mary's Hospital and Decatur Ambulance Service related to a radio repeater currently installed on the Macon County Highway Department tower at 2405 N. Woodford St., Decatur, IL.

**MOTION**

Mr. Greenfield moved, seconded by Mr. Hogan to approve Resolution G-4840-06-18 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE**

Mr. Dunn: Mr. Dunn said we have an offer in to Probation, so we are waiting to see their reply on that. There are a couple of contracts coming up later on this year.

The Transportation Committee had nothing to submit at the meeting.

The Executive Committee had nothing to submit at the meeting.

The Siting, Rules & Ordinance Sub-Committee had nothing submit at the meeting.

The Building Sub-Committee had nothing to submit at the meeting.

There were no citizens' remarks presented at the meeting.

**OFFICEHOLDERS' REMARKS:**

Josh Tanner: Mr. Tanner said he wanted to briefly clarify some information out there about Homestead Exemptions. There has been a little bit of confusion out there. Homestead Exemptions for taxpayers do not fall off and are not dropped off. There are not usually any computer errors. Homestead Exemptions are removed for cause. If you move to a new home, you only receive one Homestead Exemption in all of the United States. So whether you move to a new home in Florida or somewhere else in Illinois or somewhere else in the City of Decatur, you will only receive one Homestead Exemption. There are some Homestead Exemptions that are annual renewals, so those don't drop off. You are required as a taxpayer to renew those every year. There are about 57,000 parcels in Macon County and many of those have Homestead Exemptions. It is a big process to process those every year and renew them. There have been some comments made in the public by some of the officeholders in Macon County that there may have been erroneous exemption removals. That is not necessarily the case. We make our best decision we can with the information we have at the time. It is possible that at a later date you could prove that you do in fact live in the home, maybe you don't receive mail there anymore. That is one of our processes. If we send out official correspondence and it comes back, "not deliverable" or they don't reside at the residence anymore that is one of the indicators we have that you don't receive this Homestead Exemption anymore. It is fraudulent to file for a Homestead Exemption that you know you don't qualify for. So, we do implement a number of procedures to ensure that the taxpayers that receive them deserve them, and those who are not eligible for them do not get them. There are about 1.8 billion dollars worth of EAV in Macon County, and we have almost 244 million dollars worth of exemptions. Exemptions are important to taxpayers for sure, but they do greatly remove taxable value for the taxing bodies. His office is tasked with making sure that everybody who gets one deserves one, and everybody who doesn't deserve one doesn't get one. Mr. Tanner said if there are any questions from anyone at any time or any of your constituents, feel free to have them call him. He is happy to explain. Most



people whose exemptions are removed for cause receive a letter. It is a vague letter by design. There are a lot of reasons that people may lose their exemption, and some of those reasons could be upsetting. If a husband passes away we do send a gently worded letter to the wife that she needs to come and sign up. There are many reasons why a Homestead Exemption is removed, but they do not fall off, or they don't drop off. Mr. Tanner said he has one person in his office who handles those Homestead Exemptions. Three years ago she started an audit based on our external auditor's recommendation. She has personally reviewed 30,000 Homestead Exemptions to insure that every one of them has an application and they all deserve one. She is an AFSCME union employee. She is an excellent employee and does a good job and he is very proud of the work that most of his staff does. Every once in a while we are all humans and we do make mistakes, but he thinks his office does a very good job with the Homestead Exemptions. Mr. Tanner said he is happy to talk to any of their constituents at any time about their Homestead Exemptions.

There was no old business presented at the meeting.

There was no new business presented at the meeting.

#### **MOTION TO ADJOURN**

Mr. Potts moved, seconded by Mr. Smith to adjourn until Thursday, July 12, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.

#### **MOTION CARRIED.**

Meeting adjourned at 6:17 p.m.