

**PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
MACON COUNTY BOARD**



**JANUARY 11, 2024**

**Kevin Greenfield  
Chairman**

**Josh Tanner  
Clerk**

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with the Sheriff and State's Attorney present.

The Roll Call showed all members present with the exception of Mr. Horve, Mr. Noland, and Mr. Oliver.

Mr. Entler led the members in prayer.

All led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

**APPOINTMENTS:**

1. Resolution G-5631-01-24 – Amending the appointment to the Emergency Telephone System Board

Erik Ethell, 130 Covington Ave., Mt. Zion, IL 62549  
Term Expires: February 2025

2. Resolution G-5632-01-24 – Appointments to the Warrensburg Fire Protection District

David Cunningham, 355 W. Main, Warrensburg, IL 62573  
Term Expires: 1<sup>st</sup> Monday, May 2025

Larry Cass, 255 S. Durfee St., Warrensburg, IL 62573  
Term Expires: 1<sup>st</sup> Monday, May 2024

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Approval of the minutes of the December 14, 2023 meetings.

**CLAIMS:**

There were no claims presented at the meeting.

**CORRESPONDENCE AND REPORTS:**

A certified letter from Applegate & Thorne-Thomsen Attorneys at Law regarding notice of intent to file for a Non-Homestead Property Tax Exemption for Bristol Gardens Apartments at 4725 N. Martin Luther King Jr. Dr., Decatur, IL 62526, PIN 07-07-25-351-001.

A letter from the Decatur Public Building Commission regarding the Certificate of Ending Fund Balance – Fiscal Year 2023 Multiple Facilities Operational Lease Account

Sheriff's Report – December 2023

Treasurer Fund & Investment Report – December 2023

Collector's Report – December 2023

**DELINQUENT TAX DEEDS:**

There were no delinquent tax deeds presented.

**MOTION**

Mrs. Kraft moved, seconded by Mr. Mattingley to approve the Consent Calendar.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

**ROLL CALL.**

Ayes: Coleman, Entler, Goodman, Greenfield, Hogan, Kraft, Kreke, Lerner, Little, Mattingley, Scott, Yoder

Nays: (None)

**AYES = 12**

**NAYS = 0**

**MOTION CARRIED.**

The Operations and Personnel Committee had nothing to submit at the meeting.

**EEHW COMMITTEE**

3. Mrs. Little presented Resolution G-5633-01-24 which is approving the sale of two vehicles no longer used by Animal Control.

**MOTION**

Mrs. Little moved, seconded by Mr. Kreke to approve Resolution G-5633-01-24 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

4. Mrs. Little presented Resolution Z-1258-01-24 which is regarding Case S-02-12-23 a petition submitted by Classy Grass Services LLC requesting a Special Use Permit to allow the operation of a landscaping business in (R-1) Single Family Residential Zoning on property commonly known as 2855 S. Baltimore Ave., Decatur, IL in Long Creek Township. After hearing the evidence, the Zoning Board of Appeals voted to recommend approval of the subject petition with 6 stipulations. The EEHW Committee met and reviewed the petition and recommended the County Board approve the petition subject to the 6 stipulations recommended by the Zoning Board of Appeals.

**MOTION**

Mrs. Little moved, seconded by Mr. Mattingley to approve Resolution Z-1258-01-24 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

5. Mrs. Little presented Resolution Z-1259-01-24 which is regarding Case S-05-12-23 a petition submitted by Oreana Renewables LLC requesting a Special Use Permit to allow the development and construction of a solar energy system on approximately 21 acres of an existing 78 acre tract of land, and within a 3 year period obtain a building permit and begin to establish the use in (A-1) Agricultural Zoning. This property is commonly known as the northeast corner of Jordan Road and Connors Road in Whitmore Township. After hearing the evidence, the Zoning Board of Appeals voted to recommend approval of the subject petition with 6 stipulations. The EEHW Committee met and reviewed the petition and recommended the County Board approve the petition subject to the 6 stipulations recommended by the Zoning Board of Appeals.

**MOTION**

Mrs. Little moved, seconded by Mr. Entler to approve Resolution Z-1259-01-24 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**JUSTICE COMMITTEE**

6. Mr. Mattingley presented Resolution G-5634-01-24 which is approving an increase in appropriations in the FY23 Coroner’s budget for autopsy services.

**MOTION**

Mr. Mattingley moved, seconded by Mrs. Kraft to approve Resolution G-5634-01-24 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

7. Mr. Mattingley presented Resolution G-5635-01-24 which is approving entering into an agreement with Madison County for the sale of juvenile detention bed space.

**MOTION**

Mr. Mattingley moved, seconded by Mr. Hogan to approve Resolution G-5635-01-24 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

8. Mr. Mattingley presented Resolution G-5636-01-24 which is approving a contract for Macon County Sheriff's police services for the Village of Forsyth, Illinois.

**MOTION**

Mr. Mattingley moved, seconded by Mrs. Larner to approve Resolution G-5636-01-24 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

9. Mr. Greenfield presented Resolution G-5637-01-24 which is entering into an intergovernmental agreement with the City of Decatur for transportation consulting.

**MOTION**

Mr. Greenfield moved, seconded by Mr. Kreke to approve Resolution G-5637-01-24 by prior roll call vote.

**COMMENT:**

Mr. Greenfield: Mr. Greenfield said this is with Ann Schneider who is a consultant for the city and the county.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

10. Mr. Greenfield presented Resolution G-5638-01-24 which is approving and adopting an amendment to the Rules of the Board for Macon County, Illinois.

**MOTION**

Mr. Greenfield moved, seconded by Mr. Kreke to approve Resolution G-5638-01-24 by prior roll call vote.

**COMMENT:**

Mr. Greenfield: Mr. Greenfield said what he would like to do is reinstate the Highway Committee because they have a lot of projects going on there, and they have a new Highway Engineer. Mr. Greenfield said he wants to make sure they stay on top of everything and don't miss anything.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

There was no old business presented at the meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

11. Mr. Greenfield presented Ordinance O-150-01-24 which is modifying the sunset date of the Cannabis Business Establishment Ordinances (Sections 155.008, 155.300 and 155.301 of the Macon County Code).

**MOTION**

Mrs. Kraft moved, seconded by Mr. Mattingley to approve Ordinance O-150-01-24 by prior roll call vote.

**COMMENT:**

Mr. Greenfield: Mr. Greenfield asked Mr. Rueter to explain a yes vote and a no vote on this ordinance.

Mr. Rueter: Mr. Rueter said when the issue came around about whether or not Macon County was going to have anything cannabis related, essentially it was ok that the county could have everything but a dispensary. So, in order to put the hold on any dispensary they have to have an ordinance that basically says everything is ok except the dispensary. He said what they have to do annually is to say that it is still going to be that way. So, if they want it to remain that way where Macon County does not have a dispensary on county property, and they are not talking about the situation where Harristown has one now because that is in Harristown; they are talking about on county property, if they want to keep it that way they would need to vote yes for this to extend the sunset provision. He said if they feel otherwise that a cannabis dispensary should be added to the things possible in Macon County, then they would vote no.

**MOTION CARRIED. (COLEMAN SHOWED HIS VOTE AS NO)**

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Abeer Motan: Ms. Motan spoke to the board regarding some of her concerns.

**OFFICEHOLDER, DEPARTMENT HEAD AND EMPLOYEE COMMENTS:**

Mr. Rueter: Mr. Rueter said they have new hires in his office. One is a young man who started Monday, a fairly new attorney practicing in traffic, so good news there. He said his other recent hire is Diane Couri-Whithaus who is replacing Mr. Baggett in his duties. He said Diane is the one some of them might be talking to regarding issues facing the county board.

Tammy Wilcox: Mrs. Wilcox said they have a county officials meeting once a month in this building to address whatever is going on at that time of the year. They invited Diane to come so she could meet everyone at once. They were able to talk to her about the issues they might be asking her advice on, and she was very receptive to that and got to meet almost everyone. Mrs. Wilcox said in the official's meetings they have brought the Safety Committee back and talked about things they can do in regards to that. She said that Linda Little came to one of their meetings, and she is going to be doing a Dementia Friendly Training in this building which will be helpful in dealing with the public. In the last two weeks they have started the Broadband Breakthrough Program that they got signed up for and approved to do. It is a sixteen week program and they were told to get a team together. It did not take very long to get a very strong team together and she was very proud of the team they assembled. Mrs. Wilcox said from Macon County they have administration, and board members, Ed Yoder and Deb Kraft. They have the County Clerk, Supervisor of Assessments and their IT person, Jim Blackwell as a part of that team. Macon County Farm Bureau is a lead on this team, the City of Decatur, and some township officials, the Chamber of Commerce, Regional Office of Education, Economic Development Corporation, and Ameren recently joined the team. Jenner Ag, Legacy Grain, some local farmers, and just that day the U of I Extension joined the team. They think the team will just keep getting bigger and stronger. Everyone has their own specialty, but what this program is going to do is prepare them for the federal funding that is coming to get broadband out into the rural communities that are currently underserved. She said the villages and City of Decatur show served right now, or at least most of them do, but getting out into the country is going to take a lot more money. This money is only going to come once, so if they don't go after it now, it is never going to come again. Mrs. Wilcox thinks this program will go fast because they will be sending out a survey in February. She said they will send all of that information out to the board members and if they are interested in more detail they can get a hold of any of those people that have been going to the meetings. She said they also have some support that isn't officially a part of the team. IBEW wants to support this, and local libraries will support this as well. They will doing surveys at the libraries and they will be going to a lot of community meetings. She asked that they send information on any community meetings to her and they will look at going to some of those meetings and talking to people about this. She said they are also working on the Landfill Host Agreement because their landfill numbers are going down because of the change in the garbage company, which means that is a loss to Macon County. Mrs. Wilcox is currently

estimating they will be down over 31,000 tons this year which is a loss of about \$70,000. So, they will be meeting with Waste Management sometime soon.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**

Mrs. Little moved, seconded by Mr. Yoder to adjourn until Thursday, February 8, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

Meeting adjourned at 6:16 p.m.