

**PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
MACON COUNTY BOARD**

AUGUST 12, 2021

**Kevin Greenfield
Chairman**

**Josh Tanner
Clerk**

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

The Roll Call showed all members present with the exception of Ms. Buckner, Mr. Drobisch, Mr. Horve, Mr. Oliver.

Mrs. Taylor led the members in prayer.

All led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

A. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE JULY 08, 2021 MEETING

MOTION

Mrs. Little moved, seconded by Mr. Hogan to approve the minutes of the July 08, 2021 meeting.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

ROLL CALL.

Ayes: Coleman, Comer, Dawson, Entler, Greenfield, Gresham, Hogan, Holman, Kraft, Kreke, Larner, Little, Mattingley, Noland, Rood, Taylor

Nays:

AYES = 16

NAYS = 0

MOTION CARRIED.

ZONING / SUBDIVISIONS

1. Mrs. Little presented Resolution Z-1236-08-21 which is regarding Case R-01-07-21, a petition submitted by Phillip Pugsley for rezoning of approximately 6.25 acres from (RE-5) Single Family Estate Zoning to (M-1) Light Industrial District Zoning on property commonly known as 802 N. Moffett Ln., Decatur, IL 62526 in Decatur Township. After hearing the evidence, the Zoning Board of Appeals voted to recommend approval of subject petition to the County Board. The EEHW Committee met and reviewed the petition and recommended approval to the County Board.

MOTION

Mrs. Little moved, seconded by Mr. Hogan to approve Resolution Z-1236-08-21 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

B. CORRESPONDENCE

Laura Zimmerman’s letter of resignation from the Macon County Board effective August 1, 2021.

A copy of the County Jail Inspection from the Illinois Department of Corrections Office of Jail and Detention Standards.

A letter from Illinois EPA regarding an application for a construction permit for Tate & Lyle Ingredients Americas LLC to install two new rotary vacuum filters. Construction Permit (21070022)

A letter from IDOT regarding execution of an Amendment 3 to a Joint Agreement on July 30, 2021. Section 14-00268-00-EG Job: C-97-068-17 & P-97-014-15.

A letter from AT&T regarding their transfer of state-issued authorization to provide video service to its affiliate, DIRECTTV, LLC.

A letter from Comcast regarding package changes.

A letter from Ameren Illinois regarding tree trimming that will be done in the area in the near future.

A Circular Letter from IDOT regarding approval of Under Bridge Inspection (UBI) Vehicles – Reinstatement.

REPORTS

- Sheriff’s Report – July 2021
- Treasurer’s Fund & Investment Report – July 2021
- Collector Report – July 2021
- Public Defender’s Report – July 2021
- Auditor’s Report – June 2021

MOTION

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

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

Mr. Oliver was now present at the meeting.

2. CLAIMS

MOTION

Mrs. Little moved, seconded by Mr. Hogan to approve the Claims by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED. (OLIVER SHOWED HIS VOTE AS YES)

C. APPOINTMENTS

3. Resolution G-5295-08-21 – Appointments/Reappointments of Drainage District Commissioners

<u>DISTRICT</u>	<u>COMMISSIONER'S NAME & ADDRESS</u>	<u>TERM EXPIRES</u>
Austin Drainage Dist. #1	Carmen Morthland 3453 Las Vegas Dr. Decatur, IL 62526	1 st Tuesday, September, 2024
Friends Creek Drainage Dist. #1	Barbara Carroll 742 County Farm Rd. Monticello, IL 61856	1 st Tuesday, September, 2024
Friends Creek-Whitmore Union Drainage Dist. #2	R. Michael Ferrill 9632 Brush College Rd. Oreana, IL 62554	1 st Tuesday September, 2024
Macon-Piatt Union Drainage Dist. #5	Lucia Wilkin 18 Westwood Monticello, IL 61856	1 st Tuesday, September, 2024
Maple Grove Drainage	Barry Parish 2701 Glasgow Rd. Decatur, IL 62526	1 st Tuesday, September, 2024
Maroa Drainage Dist. #2	David Zelhart 6106 W. Duroc Rd. Maroa, IL 61756	1 st Tuesday September, 2024

Maroa Drainage Dist. #3	Thomas Fogerson Jr. 1308 W. Wise Rd. Decatur, IL 62526	1 st Tuesday, September, 2024
Maroa Drainage Dist. #4	Gene Hoffman 12205 Middle Creek Rd. Clinton, IL 61727	1 st Tuesday, September, 2024
Maroa Drainage Dist. #5	Gay Shoemaker 2833 E. School Rd. Maroa, IL 61756	1 st Tuesday, September, 2024
Maroa-Friends Creek Union Drainage Dist. #8	Edward “Dale” Wade 13913 Wade Rd. Maroa, IL 61756	1 st Tuesday, September, 2024
Maroa-Friends Creek Union Drainage Dist. #9	Jeffrey Jackson 572 W. South St. Oreana, IL 62554	1 st Tuesday, September, 2024
Maroa-Friends Creek Union Drainage Dist. #10	Thomas Ferrill 302 W. Hampshire Rd. Maroa, IL 61756	1 st Tuesday, September, 2024
Milam Drainage Dist. #1	John Freeland 10527 Stocks Rd. Dalton City, IL 61925	1 st Tuesday, September, 2024
Niantic Drainage Dist. #1	Mark Blair 437 W. Hoehchester Rd. Springfield, IL 62711	1 st Tuesday, September, 2024
Niantic Drainage Dist. #2	Robert J. Moore 600 N. Broadway Niantic, IL 62551	1 st Tuesday, September, 2024
Oakley Drainage Dist. #1	Greg Morgenthaler 8479 Cerro Gordo Blacktop Oakley, IL 62501	1 st Tuesday, September, 2024
Pleasant View Drainage Dist. #2	Kevin Bafford 10600 Damery Rd. Blue Mound, IL 62513	1 st Tuesday, September, 2024

Pleasant View-Prairieton Union Drainage Dist. #1	Neil Damery 530 N. Shelby Moweaqua, IL 62550	1 st Tuesday, September, 2024
Pleasant View-Prairieton Union Drainage Dist. #2	Gary Ashburn 819 E. Seiberling St. Blue Mound, IL 62513	1 st Tuesday, September, 2024
Sanner Chapel Mutual Drainage Dist.	David Wilson 1315 S. Patterson Sullivan, IL 61956	1 st Tuesday, September, 2024
South Macon-Milam Union Drainage Dist. #1	Roger A. Metzger 3743 E. Walker Rd. Macon, IL 62544	1 st Tuesday, September, 2024
South Macon-South Wheatland Drainage Dist. #1	Terry Hogan 6860 Woodcock Rd. Macon, IL 62544	1 st Tuesday, September 2024
Whitmore Drainage Dist. #1	Brian Volle 3987 Jordan Rd. Oreana, IL 62554	1 st Tuesday, September, 2024
Whitmore Drainage Dist. #4	Steven Wentworth 2035 E. Wise Rd. Maroa, IL 61756	1 st Tuesday, September, 2024

MOTION

Mr. Greenfield moved, seconded by Mr. Hogan to approve Resolution G-5295-08-21 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

4. Mr. Greenfield presented Resolution G-5296-08-21 which is approving appointment of Rabies Control Administrator.

Larry D. Baker, D.V. M., 2800 N. Martin Luther King Jr. Dr., Decatur, IL
62526
Term Expires: August 21, 2022

MOTION

Mr. Greenfield moved, seconded by Mrs. Little to approve Resolution G-5296-08-21 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

5. Mr. Greenfield presented Resolution G-5297-08-21 which is approving appointments to the Macon County Regional Planning Commission.

Jerry Culp, Decatur, IL 62521
Term Expires: December 31, 2022

Clay Gerhard, Decatur, IL 62526
Term Expires: December 31, 2021

MOTION

Mr. Greenfield moved, seconded by Mr. Kreke to approve Resolution G-5297-08-21 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

6. Mr. Greenfield presented Resolution G-5298-08-21 which is approving appointments to the Macon County Health Board.

Cody Parks, Decatur, IL 62526
Term Expires: May 31, 2024

Jeff Entler, Decatur, IL 62521
Term Expires: May 31, 2023

MOTION

Mr. Greenfield moved, seconded by Mr. Hogan to approve Resolution G-5298-08-21 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED. (DAWSON SHOWED HER VOTE AS NO)

D. CONSENT CALENDAR

7. Mr. Greenfield presented Resolution G-5299-08-21 which is executing deeds to convey property on which taxes were delinquent.

MOTION

Mr. Greenfield moved, seconded by Mr. Hogan to approve the Consent Calendar by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED. (DAWSON SHOWED HER VOTE AS YES)

JUSTICE COMMITTEE

8. Mr. Mattingley presented Resolution G-5300-08-21 which is approving an agreement with Macon County Mental Health Board for inmate mental health services at the Macon County Jail for the term of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022.

MOTION

Mr. Mattingley moved, seconded by Mr. Gresham to approve Resolution G-5300-08-21 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

9. Mr. Mattingley presented Resolution G-5301-08-21 which is setting the salaries for the offices of State's Attorney and Public Defender effective July 1, 2021.

MOTION

Mr. Mattingley moved, seconded by Mrs. Kraft to approve Resolution G-5301-08-21 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

The EEHW Committee had nothing to submit at the meeting.

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

The Legislative Committee had nothing to submit at the meeting.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

10. Mr. Greenfield presented Resolution G-5302-08-21 which is authorizing a plan for use of funds received from the American Rescue Plan Act, which is the \$20,000,000 we will receive from the federal government.

MOTION

Mr. Greenfield moved, seconded by Mr. Hogan to approve Resolution G-5302-08-21 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor

MOTION CARRIED.

11. Mr. Greenfield presented Resolution G-5303-08-21 which is establishing the position of County Administrator.

MOTION

Mr. Greenfield moved, seconded by Mr. Hogan to approve Resolution G-5303-08-21 by prior roll call vote.

QUESTION:

Mrs. Dawson: Mrs. Dawson wanted to know if they could amend the resolution to add two people from the board to serve on the search committee.

Mr. Kreke: Mr. Kreke said she was talking about the 3-person interview committee being amended to add two board members.

Mr. Baggett: Mr. Baggett said there will need to be a motion to amend the resolution.

MOTION TO AMEND

Mrs. Dawson moved, seconded by Mr. Coleman to amend Resolution G-5303-08-20 to add

COMMENT:

Mr. Greenfield: Mr. Greenfield said during the discussion about the hiring process they picked Mr. Tanner, Mrs. Reed and Mrs. Wilkerson. Mr. Tanner represents the Republicans and Mrs. Reed represents the Democrats. He doesn't know what politics Mrs. Wilkerson is, nor did he care, but she is with Workforce Investments and they felt she was a perfect fit. Mrs. Dawson would like two board members on there as well. He did not have an issue with that as long as it is one from each party.

Mrs. Buckner was now present at the meeting.

MOTION CARRIED. (BUCKNER SHOWED HER VOTE AS YES) (TO AMEND RESOLUTION G-5303-08-21)

COMMENT:

Mr. Greenfield: Mr. Greenfield said they would need to decide how they are going to pick the two members. He asked Mrs. Dawson if she would like to serve on the committee.

Mrs. Dawson: Mrs. Dawson said not particularly.

Mrs. Little: Mrs. Little asked if they needed to be named tonight, or would it be that just the two board members will be on it.

Mr. Greenfield: Mr. Greenfield said he knew it wasn't on the agenda, but would rather the board be in attendance when they choose the two people instead of just him or the finance committee choosing them. He would rather do it now than later so they could get rolling on it.

Mr. Baggett: Mr. Baggett said for clarification he didn't think it had to be on the agenda because it effectively serves as another amendment to the resolution on top of the amendment that was just adopted. So, it is on the agenda. They are still debating the same resolution. They are just defining the final contours of the resolution. He said if any member wanted to move to amend to specify those two county board members, and that amendment is adopted, then the board can vote on the resolution as amended. So, there would need to be another motion to amend if they want to finalize. Otherwise, his suggestion is that there still needs to be some amendment made to determine how these two county board members will be appointed, whether that's going to be the chairman's appointment or some other mechanism.

Mr. Greenfield: Mr. Greenfield asked Mrs. Dawson if she had a plan in place.

Mrs. Dawson: Mrs. Dawson said no. Her plan was that somebody from the board should be a part of the whole thing. That was her general plan. One Democrat and one Republican. She didn't have anybody in mind.

Mr. Greenfield: Mr. Greenfield asked Mrs. Dawson if she would like to be the Democrat member.

Mrs. Dawson: Mrs. Dawson asked if he wanted her to answer that again.

Mr. Greenfield: Mr. Greenfield said he didn't hear her the first time and apologized. He said he would take that as a no. He was not sure who the Democrat leader is now since

Dr. Zimmerman is gone, so he wasn't sure who to ask. He asked if there were any Democrats that wanted to step up.

Mr. Coleman: Mr. Coleman said he would accept the appointment. There were no members that objected to him serving on the committee.

Mrs. Little: Mrs. Little said she would volunteer as the Republican member. There were no members that objected to her serving on the committee.

MOTION TO AMEND

Mr. Mattingley moved, seconded by Mr. Kreke to amend Resolution G-5303-08-21 to include Mr. Coleman and Mrs. Little in the interview and hiring process for the County Administrator position by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED. (TO AMEND RESOLUTION G-5303-08-21)

There were no further questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED. (RESOLUTION G-5303-08-21 AS AMENDED)

12. Mr. Greenfield presented Resolution G-5304-08-21 which is authorizing a plan for premium pay for essential workers under the American Rescue Plan Act.

MOTION

Mr. Greenfield moved, seconded by Mr. Hogan to approve Resolution G-5304-08-21 by prior roll call vote.

QUESTIONS:

Mr. Holman: Mr. Holman said they had some discussion earlier at one of the meetings about the eligibility of certain workers. He said in reading through the resolution it doesn't specifically state, for example where it says, "eligible county workers performing essential county work during COVID-19" and it recognizes employees for previous work. There was discussion about people who were laid-off, people that were let go, people that were retired. This doesn't spell out whether or not those people get it because it says, "work previously performed". He said if they previously performed the work and they are no longer here, but they were there for 8 months, are they eligible or not?

Mr. Rueter: Mr. Rueter said the general consensus of the committee was that for various reasons including issues with reporting it as income and that sort of thing, that it has to be current employees only. So, those people who have left employment or would have

otherwise qualified, would not get the pay. It is only for the people that are still employed by the county.

Mr. Holman: Mr. Holman asked about the people that retired. If it was there time to retire, then they are done too?

Mr. Rueter: Mr. Rueter said they are out of the pool of people who will receive the premium pay.

Mrs. Dawson: Mrs. Dawson asked about what Mr. Rueter was referring to when he said “for various reasons”.

Mr. Rueter: Mr. Rueter said like IMRF and compensation. There were all kinds of problems that arose with going back. So, the committee decided as a group that it would just be for current employees who worked during that time. He asked the chairman if that was a fair statement. Mr. Greenfield replied that it was.

Mrs. Dawson: Mrs. Dawson asked if that is a fair answer.

Mr. Rueter: Mr. Rueter said that is what the committee debated, whether or not they felt it was an appropriate solution. The consensus of the committee was that, that was the way to handle it. The issue was discussed along those lines.

Mr. Kreke: Mr. Kreke said the way he was reading this in the 6th paragraph down it actually states for full time employees as of August 12, 2021. So, that would be anyone that is gone would not get the money as of August 12th.

Mrs. Dawson: Mrs. Dawson said that if she suffered through the pandemic for a whole year in 2020 and just happened to leave the day before, then she is not eligible.

Mr. Kreke: Mr. Kreke said that was how he read it. He was not arguing whether that is the way...

Mrs. Dawson: Mrs. Dawson said she knew he was not arguing about whether it was fair or not; she was just asking a question.

Mr. Rueter: Mr. Rueter said that is a discussion that was held by the committee. He believed Ms. Rood was also there as well as Mr. Coleman.

Mrs. Dawson: Mrs. Dawson said it doesn't matter who was on the committee, whether she deems it fair or not. It's just that is what she is saying.

Mr. Rueter: Mr. Rueter said it does matter because that was an issue that was discussed, and if she doesn't like then she doesn't have to vote for the resolution.

Mr. Coleman: Mr. Coleman said the question, from his understanding, that was still outstanding, or was not necessarily answered because they did not have counsel at the last committee meeting, was that it was the board's understanding that the Health Department employees are included in this just by claiming they are Health Department employees and are semi under the purview of the county board. That was a question that was not necessarily concretely answered. There was no opinion because they did not have counsel there.

Mr. Rueter: Mr. Rueter said he and Mr. Baggett discussed that and it was their legal opinion that Health Department employees are county employees within the meaning of any meaningful sort of interpretation of this.

Mr. Coleman: Mr. Coleman thanked him for that clarification.

Mr. Oliver: Mr. Oliver asked in regard to the pay for these individuals for their exemplary work during this time of the pandemic, who would make the decision as to who is eligible or not. Will it be done by departments, department heads, elected officials, how will this work?

Mr. Greenfield: Mr. Greenfield said all of the employees will paid.

Mr. Oliver: Mr. Oliver asked if it will be the same amount, varying amounts or what?

Mr. Greenfield: Mr. Greenfield said all the fulltime people get one full sum. The people who work part-time, but work all the time and are not just temporary here or there. Some people work 4 hours a day, 5 days a week.

Mr. Baggett: Mr. Baggett said he wanted to clarify. As it is spelled out in the resolution, it is a lump sum per month during the period of time the county has been dealing with it. So, it is not one lump sum necessarily if an employee did not come into the workforce until half way through or part way through the pandemic. That employee would not necessarily receive the same amount of money as an employee who was here through the entire thing. It is broken down in the resolution on a dollar amount per month that the employee worked with the idea being that if they worked one day during a particular month they would get the full amount for that month. It wouldn't be on a pro rata beyond that. It is set forth in the resolution in terms of how much and it would be equitable. It would be equal for all employees that were working during that time frame for fulltime, and then a different amount for part-time employees.

Mr. Rueter: Mr. Rueter said he wanted to address one other part of Mr. Oliver's question. The discussion was had about who would report to Ms. Reed's office about who to pay. That is up to the department head or elected official to determine which employees qualify for that pay.

Mr. Baggett: Mr. Baggett said this is authorizing the money for all county employees. Ultimately the board can't force any elected officeholder or department head with

internal control authority, to do it. His understanding is that there isn't really any dissent amongst the officeholders in terms of paying this out as set forth in the county board's resolution. This is just the county board authorizing the monies to be paid.

Mr. Oliver: Mr. Oliver said for a dissatisfied employee about who should be paid and who should not be paid, what is their redress in case they don't agree with the pay they may or may not receive?

Mr. Baggett: Mr. Baggett said they could take that up with their employer. If they work for an elected official, that would be for the elected official. If they work for the Board of Health that would be the Board of Health. If they work for any of the entities that fall under the purview of the county board then it would be to their department head who ultimately answers to the county board.

Mr. Oliver: Mr. Oliver asked if he was saying that the final decision would be that of the board, or the officeholder.

Mr. Baggett: Mr. Baggett said it depends on where the employee is employed. If they are employed by an elected officeholder, then the final decision rests with the elected officeholder.

Mr. Rueter: Mr. Rueter said elected officeholder's do have independent control over the authority of expenditure of funds granted through their office. The county board controls the money that is granted to an office to do its job, but elected officeholders are separate from appointed officeholders where they have independent control over how those funds get ultimately divided up. So, that is where they run into a bit of a roadblock in terms of how the money gets divided. He did not know of any elected officeholder that's not going to do this. It doesn't make any sense.

Mr. Oliver: Mr. Oliver said in having been around this county for some time, there have been some employees who have been favored over and above other employees in the same job or occupational group at that time. That is the reason he approached this question because he wanted an answer as to where the appeal process would be.

Mr. Rueter: Mr. Rueter said it would be the same as if they had any other issue with wages they are paid.

Mr. Oliver: Mr. Oliver said if the elected officer or whoever is going to designate who get the pay, if they initiate and are going to have the last word for it, then the employee has nowhere to go.

Mr. Baggett: Mr. Baggett said that is always the case.

Mrs. Dawson: Mrs. Dawson said that is called at will.

Mr. Oliver: Mr. Oliver said that is justice.

Mr. Jackson: Mr. Jackson said they don't have final ruling on even using the funds for this at this time. He said when the county gets final guidance there are more nuances to this than they know at this time to even do it. This is just asking for approval, and if they get the final word from the feds to do it or not.

Mr. Rueter: Mr. Rueter said that is another issue that came up fairly recently after the committee last met. Apparently the treasurer was on a telephone call, along with other elected officials, regarding how the money can be disbursed permissively. They thought at the time of the committee meeting that this was a permissive use. There is still some hesitancy from people to disburse that money, and nobody has done it yet. They are waiting for final federal approval that says they can spend it this way.

Mr. Oliver: Mr. Oliver asked if the unions are going to be involved in this in any way at all.

Mr. Rueter: Mr. Rueter said this is not a part of a contract of any type. This is a disbursement of funds that were given for various purposes by the federal government.

Mr. Coleman: Mr. Coleman said as a non-official member of that committee, he thinks it is definitely the intention of the committee to make sure every county employee who was employed at that time does get this payment. He said if that is not satisfactory they could work to amend it one more time in that there is a report back given eventually, if they even get the funds to do so, from those department heads and elected officials. Mr. Coleman said he believed it is the intention that everyone gets the payment.

Mrs. Dawson: Mrs. Dawson asked what the time frame for the pandemic is. She asked when they define when the pandemic started.

Mr. Rueter: Mr. Rueter said that was a discussion among the committee members to set what the time frame was. It was the consensus to set the dates from the first part of April of 2020 through the end of March, 2021.

MOTION CARRIED. (DAWSON AND OLIVER SHOWED THEIR VOTE AS NO & LITTLE SHOWED HER VOTE AS PRESENT)

The Negotiations Committee had nothing to submit at the meeting

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 to submit at the meeting.

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

COMMENT:

Mr. Greenfield: Mr. Greenfield said there is a lady at the meeting from Prairieland Service Coordination that would like to address the board.

Helen Michelassi: Ms. Michelassi said Prairieland Service Coordination has been around for about 27 years. They coordinate services for persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities in 23 counties in the State of Illinois, one of them being Macon County. That means if you have a loved one who has a disability they start with their organization. The person comes to Prairieland Service Coordination and their staff determines the disability and confirms that. They then work with that person and determine what services they may need and get them on a waiting list for the state to receive those services, called the Prioritization of Urgency of Need (PUN) list. That list on any given day has about 18,500 people on it, the waiting list does. It is quite an ordeal. Once they are pulled from that list, Prairieland Service makes sure they have everything they need to live the life they want to live and are able to live. They have a home and a job if they are able to and want to work. They have friends and are connected to their community. They have the best life they can have. Ms. Michelassi said they then monitor them for the rest of their life, as long as they live in this county, to make sure they are getting the services they are supposed to get as they are supposed to receive it to make sure their health, welfare and safety are taken care of. Recently they have noticed that there have been some changes in the phone calls they get, more so than usual, from folks they cannot help. Because they are state funded from the Illinois Department of Human Services Division of Developmental Disabilities, as with most things from the state, they have very strident guidelines. They say you can help these people, but you can't help those people. So, there are guidelines, parameters and criteria that tell them who they can and cannot help. They have a lot of discussions about what to do about all of those other folks. She was going to have Lesley McCoy who works with her at Prairieland, talk a little bit about their plan.

Lesley McCoy: Ms. McCoy says she oversees the PUNS enrollment and intake for Prairieland Coordination. They have been getting phone calls from people who do not meet the criteria that the state has set for a developmental disability, which would be a 70 and below in IQ. So, if they have a 76 IQ a lot of times the state is going to say they can't help them, which means Prairieland Coordination cannot help them anymore. They also have elderly people call in needing support assistance for something like a wheelchair ramp, just anything. She said you name it and they have gotten phone calls for it. It's where these people don't know where to go. If you have ever had to contact or try to get any support from a government entity, it is daunting and overwhelming. You basically get one phone number after another just telling you to call this person and that person. By the end of it you feel like nobody cares or listens to you so you just give up. Prairieland Coordination wants to be the person they call and they will be there with them every step of the way. If they need support for something they will get them there. They will get them the phone numbers and walk them through it. If they need to get signed up for Medicaid or are told they have to get on a computer to sign up for food stamps, whatever it may be, if they don't have a computer or internet, then what do they do? They want to be there to help with that. They want to bring the person to their office and get them on a computer and get them internet access to sign up for those things. If they

need a ride to a doctor's appointment or wherever it might be, they want to help with that. They don't want to tell people no anymore that they can't help them. They want to say yes, what can we do. She would let Tina explain the ins and outs of what they would do to accomplish that.

Tina Baxter: Ms. Baxter said they would start this off in Macon County. Prairieland actually serves 23 counties throughout the State of Illinois. They would like to jump start this in Macon County and then eventually spread it to all of the other 23 counties that they work with. They would have a program director for this Square One Program as well as what they call program advocates. When someone calls or comes into the office and needs assistance they will sit down and work with the program advocate. Like Lesley said, they will do an intake and help determine what resources they may need or want. Their job is to then get them connected with that resource. Macon County has lots of resources. The problem is sometimes people just don't know how to get there. They would help them complete that application. Sometimes the person has to complete an application on-line and that only works if the person has internet, if they have a computer, if they know how to use the computer, if they know how to read. They would help them to complete all those steps. If they need transportation to an appointment, they would help provide that. Their whole goal is to get people the resources they need to make it sustainable so they can help provide for themselves. They would continue to follow-up with people even after they have connected them to a service to make sure they are still getting what they need. If it turns out they need something else, they will start the process over again and work with them to connect them to the next resource that they need.

Ms. Rood: Ms. Rood asked if the wait list of 18,500 was for the entire 23 county area they service.

Ms. Michelassi: Ms. Michelassi said the entire state of Illinois has 18,500 people on a waiting list who have a disability and are waiting for services.

Mr. Oliver: Mr. Oliver asked what the number is for Macon County.

Ms. Michelassi: Ms. Michelassi said about 400 people in Macon County are currently on the list waiting for services. She said she would just close with this, it has been a long year and a half for everybody. It is fair to say that they are all trying to find a new normal. It has become more apparent that some families just got shifted around a little bit in the last year and a half and just need a little more support. It is not that the services aren't here in Macon County. Macon County has a tremendous amount of agencies and people who are waiting to support people; but they are standing at the door and we need to get them in the door. They then need to make sure they can help support them and carry it through so there is some sustainability. It's not that people can't get to a food bank. It's not that a food bank is not here; it is just that they don't want people to live the rest of their life relying on the food bank.

Mr. Oliver: Mr. Oliver asked where they are located and what their phone number is so that people could get a hold of them.

Ms. Michelassi: Ms. Michelassi said they had some information to leave with them that explains this in a little more detail and has her contact information on it. They are located south on Taylorville Road.

Mr. Oliver: Mr. Oliver asked if that is close to the Decatur Township offices.

Ms. Michelassi: Ms. Michelassi said she thinks so. They are near Farm&Fleet.

CITIZENS' REMARKS:

Reed Sutman: Mr. Sutman said according to the CDC, Macon County has had about 2 to 3 hospital admissions per day since July 27th. Since August 7th they have had 16% or more of ICU beds used by COVID patients and that is increasing. Macon County Health Department reports confirm Delta Variant presence on July 7th then additional Delta cases reported on July 27th, July 30th and August 6th in Macon County. On July 23rd the Macon County Health Department reported 121 home isolations, which is up to 289 home isolations on August 6th. The week of July 9th there were 31 new cases. The five weeks prior it was less than 20 per week. Yesterday alone there were 50 new COVID cases confirmed for Macon County which is the highest we have seen since January 15th. There has been a lack of response from our local officials, both city and county. The local media has done a poor job showing how real and serious this wave is. He acknowledged the health department's on going vaccination clinics and the availability of the vaccination locally. There are still about 15,000 children under 12 who are vulnerable, especially with the surge of the Delta Variant. The CDC issued an eviction moratorium on August 3rd which protects renters until October 3rd. He wants the board to, by legislative action, affirm the CDC order for eviction moratoriums asserting that the county will fully comply and supports it. Minimal public safety measures like mask mandates, and crowd size limits, require masks at board meetings, funding for public outreach to inform people about the current COVID wave and future public health crisis, ideally postal mail sent to every single house, with crucial public health information. He wants the Health Department to do daily updates about case counts and hospitalizations and to report clear data about hospitalizations including age, severity, and resulting medical debt. He wants clear messaging from the Health Department that they are in another wave of COVID and to include information about the Delta. He wants firm recommendations from MCHD to wear a mask even if vaccinated, social distance, stay at home, avoid large crowds and to mask your children. He wants elected officials to contact their constituents and networks and encourage them to take this wave seriously, and to take safety precautions as they did earlier in the pandemic, advocate business owning friends to require masks again, and internal advocacy with city administration to improve and increase public messaging and safety measures. It is already in and near our homes. Thank you.

There were no officeholder remarks presented at the meeting.

There was no old business presented at the meeting.

There was no new business presented at the meeting.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Mrs. Little moved, seconded by Mr. Hogan to adjourn until September 9, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED.

Meeting adjourned at 6:44 p.m.