

**PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
MACON COUNTY BOARD**



**NOVEMBER 10, 2022
BUDGET SESSION**

**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 Ms. Buckner, Mr. Comer, Mr. Edwards, Mr. Hogan, Mr. Noland and Mrs. Taylor.

Mr. Entler led the members in prayer.

All led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

A. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 13, 2022 MEETING

MOTION

Mrs. Kraft moved, seconded by Mr. Kreke to approve the minutes of the October 13, 2022 meeting.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

ROLL CALL.

Ayes: Coleman, Dawson, Entler, Greenfield, Gresham, Holman, Horve, Kraft, Kreke, Lerner, Little, Mattingley, Oliver, Rood, Scott

Nays: (None)

AYES = 15

NAYS = 0

MOTION CARRIED.

There were no zoning or subdivision issues presented at the meeting.

B. CORRESPONDENCE AND REPORTS

Sheriff's Report – October 2022

Treasurer's Fund and Investment Report – October 2022

Collector's Report – October 2022

Auditor's Report – October 2022

MOTION

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

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

1. CLAIMS

MOTION

Mr. Gresham 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

2. Resolution G-5456-11-22 – Reappointment to the Empowerment Opportunity Center

Antonio D. Brown, 724 W. Harold Circle, Decatur, IL 62526
Term Expires: November 30, 2026

MOTION

Mr. Greenfield moved, seconded by Mr. Oliver to approve Resolution G-5456-11-22 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

3. Resolution G-5457-11-22 – Reappointment to the Empowerment Opportunity Center

Marty Watkins, 4830 E. Baker Woods Ln., Decatur, IL 62521
Term Expires: November 30, 2026

MOTION

Mr. Greenfield moved, seconded by Mr. Oliver to approve Resolution G-5457-11-22 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

4. Resolution G-5458-11-22 – Reappointment to the Macon County Ethics Commission

Marty Watkins, 4830 E. Baker Woods Ln., Decatur, IL 62521
Term Expires: November 30, 2024

MOTION

Mr. Greenfield moved, seconded by Mr. Holman to approve Resolution G-5458-11-22 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

D. CONSENT CALENDAR

5. Mr. Greenfield presented the Consent Calendar which includes Resolution G-5459-11-22 regarding executing deeds to convey property on which taxes were delinquent.

MOTION

Mr. Greenfield moved, seconded by Mr. Kreke to approve the Consent Calendar 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-5460-11-22 which is amending the State's Attorney's FY 2022 budget for acceptance of Domestic Violence Coordinator grant from Ed Bacharach.

MOTION

Mr. Mattingley moved, seconded by Mr. Gresham to approve Resolution G-5460-11-22 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

7. Mr. Mattingley presented Resolution G-5461-11-22 which is approving a grant agreement with the State of Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority and amending the State's Attorney's FY22 grant fund budget for Restore, Reinvest, and Renew Program R3.

MOTION

Mr. Mattingley moved, seconded by Mrs. Kraft to approve Resolution G-5461-11-22 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

EEHW COMMITTEE

Mrs. Little: Mrs. Little said the EEHW Committee had no report. She did want to make a comment that she had reached out to Greg in the veteran's office to see what was going on in the community as far as Veteran's Day goes tomorrow, and there are no traditional events scheduled; but a lot of the restaurants in the county are offering discounts for veterans and that sort of thing. The VFW, the Legion, and the DAV will all be open and welcoming, and she encouraged everyone to thank a veteran.

OPERATIONS AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

8. Mrs. Kraft presented Resolution G-5462-11-22 which is amending holidays for 2022 to coincide with the Circuit Court's holiday schedule.

MOTION

Mrs. Kraft moved, seconded Mrs. Larner to approve Resolution G-5462-11-22 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. Mrs. Little presented Resolution G-5463-11-22 which is accepting a one year general liability and property insurance proposal through Arthur J. Gallagher.

MOTION

Mrs. Little moved, seconded by Mr. Kreke to approve Resolution G-5463-11-22 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

10. Mrs. Little presented Resolution G-5464-11-22 which is accepting a one year cyber insurance proposal through Arthur J. Gallagher.

MOTION

Mrs. Little moved, seconded by Mr. Mattingley to approve Resolution G-5464-11-22 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

COMMENT:

Mrs. Little: Mrs. Little said the next three resolutions are coming through the Finance Committee because EEHW was not able to meet and they wanted them to be addressed at the board meeting.

11. Mrs. Little presented Resolution G-5465-11-22 which is approving an increase in appropriations in the FY22 Health Fund budget for Covid-19 Response Grant.

MOTION

Mrs. Little moved, seconded by Ms. Rood to approve Resolution G-5465-11-22 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

12. Mrs. Little presented Resolution G-5466-11-22 which is approving an increase in appropriations in the FY22 Health Fund budget for CCU Workforce Retention.

MOTION

Mrs. Little moved, seconded by Mrs. Larner to approve Resolution G-5466-11-22 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

13. Mrs. Little presented Resolution G-5467-11-22 which is approving increase in appropriations in the FY22 Health Fund budget for Covid-19 Crisis Grant.

MOTION

Mrs. Little moved, seconded by Mr. Mattingley to approve Resolution G-5467-11-22 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

**PRESENTATION OF THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS BUDGET FOR
DECEMBER 1, 2022 THROUGH NOVEMBER 30, 2023**

COMMENT:

Mrs. Little: Mrs. Little said the levies can all be done as one motion, unless there is anyone on the board that would like a particular levy to be pulled out to be addressed separately.

There were no board members that requested any levies be pulled out and addressed separately.

14. Mrs. Little presented Resolution B-1-11-22 which is a statement to establish budgets for 2022-2023 fiscal year.

Resolution B-2-11-22 which is establishing valuation of all taxable property in Macon County, Illinois.

Resolution B-3-11-22 which is establishing tax levy for General Corporate Fund purposes.

Resolution B-4-11-22 which is establishing tax levy for Retirement Fund purposes.

Resolution B-5-11-22 which is establishing tax levy for Social Security Fund purposes.

Resolution B-6-11-22 which is establishing tax levy for Insurance Loss and Liability Fund purposes.

Resolution B-7-11-22 which is establishing tax levy for Judgment Fund purposes.

Resolution B-8-11-22 which is establishing tax levy for the Health Department Unit Fund purposes.

Resolution B-9-11-22 which is establishing tax levy for County Highway Fund purposes.

Resolution B-10-11-22 which is establishing tax levy for Matching Fund purposes.

Resolution B-11-11-22 which is establishing tax levy for County Special Bridge Fund purposes.

Resolution B-12-11-22 which is establishing tax levy for DPBC Lease Fund purposes.

Resolution B-13-11-22 which is establishing tax levy for Historical Museum Fund purposes.

Resolution B-14-11-22 which is establishing tax levy for the Veterans Commission Fund purposes.

Resolution B-15-11-22 which is establishing tax levy for Mental Health Fund purposes.

Resolution B-16-11-22 which is establishing tax levy for Macon County Extension Fund purposes.

Resolution B-17-11-22 which is authorizing Tax Anticipation Warrants against levies for various funds herein.

MOTION

Mrs. Kraft moved, seconded by Mr. Kreke to approve Resolutions B-1-11-22 thru B-17-11-22 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED. (BY OMNIBUS VOTE)

15. Mrs. Little presented Resolution B-18-11-22 which is approving the 2022-2023 budget.

MOTION

Mrs. Little moved, seconded by Mr. Oliver to approve Resolution B-18-11-22 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

QUESTION:

Mr. Gresham: Mr. Gresham said they did the levies and the final approval of the budget, but the first two resolutions, one is establishing valuation and other is establishing the budgets. They did the budget before they did the resolution to establish the budget.

Mrs. Little: Mrs. Little apologized and said she got ahead of herself.

Mr. Baggett: Mr. Baggett said the agenda's notation, which is set forth pursuant to statute indicates, "The budget and tax levy resolutions set forth below...." Basically every resolution beginning with the letter B, so while they did vote twice, one as an omnibus vote and one on B-18-11-22, his position was that in the omnibus vote they actually voted on all 18 at the same time.

Mr. Gresham: Mr. Gresham said he agreed with what Mr. Baggett was saying and he read what Mr. Baggett had just reminded them of, but it was specifically specified they were voting on levies.

Mrs. Little: Mrs. Little said he was correct she misspoke.

Mr. Baggett: Mr. Baggett said in terms of reflecting what happened in the minutes, if Mr. Gresham felt like that hadn't been clarified or wasn't clarified before the vote and they wanted to go through and vote on them to be safe, then they could do that.

Mr. Gresham: Mr. Gresham said he accepted Mr. Baggett's legal analysis, he was just pointing out that we didn't....

Mrs. Little: Mrs. Little said she misspoke. She said they were addressing the levies in that one vote and that was incorrect. She apologized.

Mr. Gresham: Mr. Gresham said he was ok with it as long as Mr. Baggett thought they were ok.

Mr. Baggett: Mr. Baggett said because of the way it was set forth in the agenda he thinks in terms of this clarification here. He said again if any board member thought they would rather do it again to be safe, or holds a different opinion than him, he was just their legal counsel. He is not on the board. They are the ones with the authority to decide how they wanted to proceed. He said he thought it was clear at that point, from the minutes, what the board was voting on. Again, if anyone disagreed or wanted to do it over, they were within their rights to do so.

Mr. Oliver: Mr. Oliver asked when Mr. Baggett used the term safe, what he was alluding to.

Mr. Baggett: Mr. Baggett said he thought what Mr. Gresham was indicating was that the first two B-1 and B-2, may not have been included in the omnibus vote, the first vote they

went through. So, doing it safe if they wanted to go back and re-vote on B-1 and B-2 they could.

Mr. Rueter: Mr. Rueter said the statute allows for all of them to be voted as an omnibus vote. The statute allows it.

Mrs. Little: Mr. Little said her verbiage was incorrect when she said she was lumping the levies together she meant....

Mr. Greenfield: Mr. Greenfield said they would just go ahead and do B-1 and B-2 and then they have it covered.

Mrs. Little presented Resolution B-1-11-22 which is a statement to establish budgets for 2022 – 2023 fiscal year.

MOTION

Mrs. Little moved, seconded by Mr. Gresham to approve Resolution B-1-11-22 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

Mrs. Little presented Resolution B-2-11-22 which is establishing valuation of all taxable property in Macon County, Illinois.

MOTION

Mrs. Little moved, seconded by Mr. Gresham to approve Resolution B-2-11-22 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

The Negotiations Committee had nothing to submit at the meeting.

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

16. Mr. Kreke presented Resolution H-2308-11-22 which appropriating funds to purchase Right of Way Parcel 001 from Louis Lee Properties LLC for the CH 99 Macon County Beltway Project.

MOTION

Mr. Kreke moved, seconded by Mrs. Little to approve Resolution H-2308-11-22 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

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.

There were no citizens' remarks presented at the meeting.

OFFICEHOLDERS' REMARKS:

Mr. Greenfield: Mr. Greenfield said he appreciated all of the county board members for their service. The election has taken some and some decided not to run again. He told them they would be missed and it was a pleasure working with them. The people of Macon County appreciate their service and what they have done. They had one board member that was not at the meeting but has served on the board for 36 years. He said it was 36 continuous years, and he didn't know if that was a record, but it is pretty darn close. Mr. Greenfield said if you talk to him he would tell you he had an opponent every election. Phil Hogan was a solid board member, a good board member, and a good friend. He will truly be missed as well. Phil thought it was time to give it up so he turned it over to his nephew. Mr. Greenfield said that was all he had and wanted to thank all of them for their service. It was a pleasure knowing all of them and hopefully they would stay in touch.

Mr. Rueter: Mr. Rueter said it has been an interesting return of events for him. He congratulated those board members who are joining the board and wished good luck to any future endeavors for those who are not, some of whom are leaving after tonight. In particular, he returned to the office of State's Attorney and there are some old timers here he wanted to give a shout out to. Pat Dawson was here when he was State's Attorney before.

Mrs. Dawson: Mrs. Dawson said she didn't call herself an old timer.

Mr. Rueter: Mr. Rueter thanked Phil Hogan, who was not at the meeting, and Jim Gresham as well for their service. He said it has been a pleasure for his job to be involved with all of them

Mr. Holman: Mr. Holman said he would like to know where they are with the ongoing fiber optics and broad band project.

Tammy Wilcox: Mrs. Wilcox said the broad band project that was approved through the board, for Shelby Electric, has been started and she thinks they are moving on to one of the other phases. She said she has not been updated personally by them for awhile. She asked if that was Mr. Holman's question.

Mr. Holman: Mr. Holman said yes he wanted to know where they were at. He had heard from some people that Shelby Electric had been by their home. He said this is a pretty good sized project and all of this hinges on further expansion of broadband through the county, so he was just wondering where things were at.

Mrs. Wilcox: Mrs. Wilcox said the other part of that is that she and Deb Kraft had been to a conference in Springfield about broadband and the upcoming rollout of more federal funds. She believed the amount is \$42,000,000 for rural broadband. She said that is what they are trying to educate themselves about now, on learning how to apply for those funds.

Mrs. Dawson: Mrs. Dawson said Mrs. Wilcox had stated they hadn't updated her in awhile, so she asked if Tammy is overseeing it or is Mr. Jackson overseeing it.

Mrs. Kraft: Mrs. Kraft said Tammy is.

Mrs. Dawson: Mrs. Dawson asked if there was a point where she would ask them for an update.

Mrs. Wilcox: Mrs. Wilcox said yes. She will go back down there or call them and see how things are going.

Mrs. Dawson: Mrs. Dawson asked if there were any more hiccups with the broadband.

Mrs. Wilcox: Mrs. Wilcox said not that she knew of. She said there had been a couple of residents from Boody who are really close to their line so she is reaching out to Shelby Electric to see if they are going to go into Boody because Boody has terrible service.

Mrs. Dawson: Mrs. Dawson commented just Boody?

Mrs. Wilcox: Mrs. Wilcox said that was who she has heard from.

Mrs. Dawson: Mrs. Dawson apologized and said that was probably not a good comment there.

Mrs. Wilcox: Mrs. Wilcox said what they are looking at is applying for more federal funds to finish, hopefully, all of Macon County. The county resources are really good because they put you in touch with the counties that have already done it. So, that is what they are kind of leaning on right now, who did it right and what did they do, so they can start moving forward.

Mrs. Dawson: Mrs. Dawson asked how much the cost was for Macon County for that part of it.

Mrs. Wilcox: Mrs. Wilcox asked if she meant for Shelby Electric.

Mrs. Dawson: Mrs. Dawson said yes for that out there.

Mrs. Wilcox: Mrs. Wilcox said \$4,000,000 of Macon County's ARPA funds, but the project was much larger than that.

Mrs. Dawson: Mrs. Dawson said so if they are going around to the rest of the county, that will be a nice chunk of change.

Mrs. Kraft: Mrs. Kraft said there is a lot of grant money they can apply for starting in 2023. She and Tammy pulled up the map and Macon County stands to hopefully be in a good spot to acquire some of that grant money. The money would probably be let in 2024. It is going to be a process, but they are determined to get through.

Mrs. Dawson: Mrs. Dawson said she just knows the costs will probably go up.

Mrs. Little: Mrs. Little said the costs will go up, but there are also more grants becoming available. It is not just one pocket they need to be hitting real quick.

Mrs. Dawson: Mrs. Dawson said they are not the only ones applying.

Mrs. Little: Mrs. Little said no they are not.

Mr. Greenfield: Mr. Greenfield said one thing they did learn from Covid was that the rural areas don't have very good service. And when the kids were home trying to do school work when the schools were closed, it was really a burden and troublesome for the parents and teachers as well. He said if they don't run it out there to them he didn't know who was going to do it. Hopefully they can keep the funding coming in and pass it in short order and have all of Macon County covered, which would be great.

Mr. Oliver: Mr. Oliver said that would be a boon to economic development in the future with things coming to Decatur and Macon County.

Mr. Greenfield: Mr. Greenfield said that was very true.

Mr. Oliver: Mr. Oliver said he wanted to pay homage and special attention to one of their board members who has been away for some time, that member being Verzell Taylor. She wasn't able to make this last meeting. Mr. Oliver said she was their chaplain for a long, long time and she made meetings worthwhile with her prayers and attention she payed to the board members and whatever problems were being had here on the board, and with the members. She made the meetings worthwhile to come to. He would

like a notice to be sent from the county board that they appreciated her service and hope that she will get better in the future and that they hope to see her again.

Mr. Greenfield: Mr. Greenfield said they could also send flowers. She has earned those for all of the prayers she has said over years.

Mr. Coleman: Mr. Coleman said he had a couple more questions for Tammy about the Shelby Electric situation. He apologized to Mr. Oliver he didn't know he was going to a different topic. Mr. Coleman asked if there is not a lawsuit that the county is possibly involved in regarding the Shelby Electric situation.

Mrs. Wilcox: Mrs. Wilcox said she is not part of that.

Mr. Baggett: Mr. Baggett said there is a pending lawsuit.

Mr. Coleman: Mr. Coleman asked if that is in relation to the process the county followed when putting out to bid.

Mr. Baggett: Mr. Baggett said that was the allegation in the lawsuit. It is currently on appeal. The county won at the trial court and that has been appealed. He believes it is still in the briefing process at the appellate court. There is no anticipation or expectation in terms of what that timeline will be. The appellate court moves at its own pace. It could be a better part of a year if not two years before they get any resolution from the appellate court.

Mr. Coleman: Mr. Coleman said he appreciated that and assumed Mr. Baggett would keep them apprised of every aspect in that.

Mr. Baggett: Mr. Baggett said as there are developments he would. At this stage the county prevailed at the trial court level. Their attorneys are working on the county's behalf in terms of preparing the briefs. There won't be any update he could give until the appellate court reaches a decision which will be quite some time.

Mrs. Little: Mrs. Little asked for clarification on whether that lawsuit was Shelby Electric.

Mr. Baggett: Mr. Baggett said Shelby Electric is a co-defendant in the case. He said the plaintiff in that case is A.C.T.S. a competitor to Shelby Electric. So, they sued the county as well as Shelby Electric.

Mrs. Little: Mrs. Little said she just wanted to make sure it wasn't Shelby Electric that was the plaintiff.

Mr. Coleman: Mr. Coleman said for further clarification, he asked if they are of the understanding that they followed the legal letter of the law by doing the bidding process.

He said he knew they were alleging that the county did not, but asked if it was their understanding as a board and as a county that they followed the letter of the law.

Mr. Baggett: Mr. Baggett said according to a judgment of the trial court they did.

Mr. Coleman: Mr. Coleman said he was just curious.

Mr. Baggett: Mr. Baggett said they presented their case to the trial court and prevailed. Legally they were found to have followed the law as it was required to be followed.

Mr. Coleman: Mr. Coleman said he thought that was one of the conversations they had, was the potential legal liability in that. So, he was just making sure they were not putting themselves in jeopardy, or if that was the case. He appreciated that clarification.

There was no old business presented at the meeting.

There was no new business presented at the meeting.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Mr. Oliver moved, seconded by Mr. Kreke to adjourn until Thursday, December 8, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED.

Meeting adjourned at 6:28 p.m.