

**PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
MACON COUNTY BOARD**

MAY 08, 2008

**Robert D. Sampson
Chairman**

**Stephen M. Bean
Clerk**

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m. with the Sheriff and State's Attorney present.

The Roll Call showed all members present with the exception of Mrs. Wilkins and Mr. Wolfe.

Major Robert Garrett, Retired U. S. Air Force led the members in prayer.

Major Garrett led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

A. PROCLAMATION

Mrs. Little presented a proclamation honoring Memorial Day. She said once the proclamation has been sealed and signed it will be circulated between the VFW, the American Legions and the DAV.

MOTION

Mr. McGlaughlin moved for unanimous adoption.

MOTION CARRIED.

COMMENT:

Major Garrett: Major Garrett said it is with great honor that he accepts this proclamation on behalf of the VFW and American Legions in the community. He will see that it is given a place of honor and treated with dignity in the legion hall as well as the VFW and Disabled American Veterans. There is more than one Legion and more than one VFW.

B. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 10, 2008 MEETING

MOTION

Mr. Smith moved, seconded by Mr. Oliver to approve the minutes of the April 10, 2008 meeting.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

ROLL CALL.

Ayes: Ashby, Cox, Drobisch, Dudley, Dunn, Hogan, Jacobs, Little, McGlaughlin, Meachum, Oliver, Potts, Sampson, Smith, Snyder, Taylor, Westerman, Williams, Yoder

Nays: (None)

AYES = 19
NAYS = 0

MOTION CARRIED.

ZONING/SUBDIVISIONS

1. Mr. Dunn presented Resolution Z-1077-5-08 which is regarding Case R-01-01-08, a petition submitted by Freesen, Inc. for rezoning 10 acres +/- from A-1 Agricultural District to M-2 Heavy Industrial District on property commonly known as immediately adjacent to 3589 N. Route 121 in Hickory Point Township. After hearing the evidence, the Zoning Board of Appeals voted in favor of recommending to the county board that the petition be granted. The EEHW Committee met and reviewed the petition as requested and voted 7-0 to recommend that the County Board approve the subject petition.

MOTION

Mr. Dunn moved, seconded by Mr. Meachum to approve Resolution Z-1077-5-08 by prior roll call vote.

PETITIONER:

Bridget Hogan: Mrs. Hogan said she is from Samuels Miller and represents Freesen Inc. A representative from Freesen Inc. was also at the meeting to answer any questions.

There were no objectors present at the meeting.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

Melverta Wilkins was now present at the meeting.

2. Mr. Dunn presented Resolution Z-1078-5-08 which is regarding Case S-01-04-08, a petition submitted by Michael Doran for a Special Use Permit on 272 acres +/- to allow for a 250 foot tall telecommunications tower in the A-1 Agricultural District on property commonly known as S.W. corner of Angle Crossing and CR 000 E. intersection in Oakley Township. After hearing the evidence, the Zoning Board of Appeals voted in favor of recommending to the county board that the petition be granted with 7 revised stipulations from the 9 stipulations presented by staff. The EEHW Committee met and reviewed the petition as requested and voted 7-0 to recommend that the County Board approve the petition, subject to the 7 revised stipulations recommended by the Zoning Board of Appeals.

MOTION

Mr. Dunn moved, seconded by Mrs. Cox to approve Resolution Z-1078-5-08 by prior roll call vote.

PETITIONER:

Monica Hudson: Ms. Hudson said she was at the meeting on behalf of Michael Doran.

There were no objectors present at the meeting.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED. (WILKINS ABSTAINED FROM VOTING)

C. CORRESPONDENCE

A notice of application for permit to manage waste from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency for the Veolia ES Valley View Landfill – Unit 2.

A letter from the Illinois Department of Transportation regarding notification of Jurisdictional Transfer from Macon to the Village of Mt. Zion.

A letter from the Illinois Department of Transportation regarding low bid being submitted by Schmidt Construction, Inc. for Contract No. 95530, Section 06-11116-00-BR.

A letter from the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission regarding a public meeting to review 2007 End-of-Cycle performance assessment for the Clinton Power Station.

A letter from the Illinois Housing Development Authority regarding financing the Oxford House IHDA Multifamily #2949 development project located in Decatur.

Two letters from AmerenIP regarding tree trimming that will be done in and around the Decatur area.

REPORTS

Sheriff's Report – April 2008

Macon County Collector Report – March 2008

Coroner's Report – February & March 2008

Auditor's Report – April 2008

County Engineer of Highways Report – December 1, 2007 thru February 29, 2008

MOTION

Mr. Smith moved, seconded by Mr. Yoder to approve the Correspondence and Reports and that they be placed on file by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED. (WILKINS SHOWED HER VOTE AS YES)

3. CLAIMS

MOTION

Mrs. Cox moved, seconded by Mr. Yoder to approve the Claims that have already been paid by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

D. APPOINTMENTS

4. Resolution G-3177-5-08 - Appointment to the Macon County Conservation District Board of Trustees

Rodney B. Washburn, 1347 Rosewood Dr., Mt. Zion, IL 62549
Term Expires: June 30, 2012

MOTION

Mr. Oliver moved, seconded by Mrs. Cox to approve Resolution G-3177-5-08 by prior roll call vote.

QUESTION:

Mr. Williams: Mr. Williams asked if they could have some background on this appointment and the next one, and where their names were obtained from.

Mr. Sampson: Mr. Sampson said that Mr. Washburn has long been active in environmental issues, and served a one-year replacement term on the Macon County Conservation District Board of Trustees. He formerly worked for Illinois Power, and many, many years ago for the Conservation District. He has graciously agreed to return to service. This gives us, if you approve, someone who has experience and can fit right in since we are losing Mr. Luchtefeld who has served one year and is resigning do to a job transfer that will take him out of Macon County.

MOTION CARRIED.

5. Resolution G-3178-5-08 - Appointment to the Macon County Conservation District Board of Trustees

Anne F. Elliott, 4070 South Lake Court, Decatur, IL 62521
Term Expires: June 30, 2013

MOTION

Mr. Meachum moved, seconded by Mr. Smith to approve Resolution G-3178-5-08 by prior roll call vote.

COMMENT:

Mr. Sampson: Mr. Sampson wanted to remind them that on the Conservation District you can not be reappointed upon the expiration of you term. You have to lay out a year, otherwise we would be reappointing a lot of people there. Mrs. Elliott is someone with environmental interest who formerly was active with horses. She is active in a number of community charities. Her husband is an oncologist at Decatur Memorial Hospital. She has served on the Conservation District's Foundation. She is very interested in serving on this board.

MOTION CARRIED.

Mr. Meachum: Mr. Meachum asked if they could combine G-3179-5-08 through G-3183-5-08 into one vote.

Mr. Sampson: Mr. Sampson asked if anyone objected to combining them. Mr. Oliver and Mrs. Little said they objected to combining them. Mr. Sampson said they would take them one at a time then.

6. Resolution G-3179-5-08 – Re-Appointment to the Macon County Merit Commission

Dale Yemm, 804 Stevens Creek Court, Forsyth, IL 62535
Term Expires: May 31, 2014

MOTION

Mr. Oliver moved, seconded by Mrs. Wilkins to approve Resolution G-3179-5-08 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

7. Resolution G-3180-5-08 – Re-Appointment to the Macon County Zoning Board of Appeals

Walt Dannewitz, 19 Central Dr., Decatur, IL 62526
Term Expires: May 31, 2013

MOTION

Mr. Snyder moved, seconded by Mr. Meachum to approve Resolution G-3180-5-08 by prior roll call vote.

MOTION

COMMENT:

Mr. Oliver: Mr. Oliver said he wanted to commend Mr. Dannewitz on his impeccable service he has given the county over these years. He thinks it would behoove us, as a board, to give him a round of applause for all of these years of service he has unselfishly given us.

MOTION CARRIED. (LITTLE SHOWED HER VOTE AS NO)

8. Resolution G-3181-5-08 – Re-Appointment to the Macon County Zoning Board of Appeals

Edward H. Leonard, 510 S. Illinois St., Niantic, IL 62551
Term Expires: May 31, 2013

MOTION

Mr. Potts moved, seconded by Mr. Hogan to approve Resolution G-3181-5-08 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED. (LITTLE SHOWED HER VOTE AS NO)

9. Resolution G-3182-5-08 – Re-Appointments to the Macon County Health Board

Jan Hack, 506 S. Haworth, Decatur, IL 62522
Term Expires: May 31, 2011

Carol Jontry, 3210 Fields Ct., Decatur, IL 62521
Term Expires: May 31, 2011

Jerry Potts, 1561 E. Walnut, Decatur, IL 62526
Term Expires: May 31, 2011

MOTION

Mr. Dunn moved, seconded by Mrs. Wilkins to approve Resolution G-3182-5-08 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED. (LITTLE SHOWED HER VOTE AS YES & POTTS ABSTAINED FROM VOTING)

10. Resolution G-3183-5-08 – Re-Appointment to the Argenta Sanitary District

Jeffrey S. Grider, 191 E. Prairie St., Argenta, IL 62501
Term Expires: 1st Monday in May 2011

MOTION

Mr. Yoder moved, seconded by Mr. Snyder to approve Resolution G-3183-5-08 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED. (POTTS SHOWED HIS VOTE AS YES)

11. Resolution G-3184-5-08 – Appointment to the Macon County Board of Review

Jean Riddle, 253 W. North, St., Warrensburg, IL 62573
Term Expires: May 31, 2010

MOTION

Mr. Oliver moved, seconded by Mr. Potts to approve Resolution G-3184-5-08.

COMMENTS:

Mr. Hogan: Mr. Hogan said that Ms. Riddle is replacing Mr. Buechsenschuetz who is now serving on the Board of Review and has served on the Board of Review for 9 years. Mr. Hogan said it is his understanding that Mr. Buechsenschuetz would like to continue serving on the Board of Review. His question is why is Mr. Buechsenschuetz not being reappointed.

Mr. Sampson: Mr. Sampson said as he has said before in these situations, and quoting his friend Mayor Osborne, "it is enough to get people to serve without subjecting them to the fact that someone is going to be talking about their service or whatever." Mr. Sampson said he appreciates the service of Mr. Buechsenschuetz, and all of those who step forward. It was his judgment as Chairman of the County Board that it was time to

make a change on that board. It has to be a Republican. It also has to be a Republican who has passed the State test. Ms. Riddle meets both qualifications. It is up to the board to either approve or reject his nomination.

Mr. Ashby: Mr. Ashby said this is nothing against Ms. Riddle at all, but he had the pleasure of serving on the Board of Review with Mr. Buechsenschuetz for two years, and during that period of time he found his experience, not only there, but with Illinois Power, and his knowledge of the system, very, very extensive and in great depth. He thinks Mr. Buechsenschuetz's knowledge, and his service, and his experience are assets that the county board should not lose. Again, it is nothing against Ms. Riddle, but he thinks we are making a big mistake by replacing a man with such knowledge and experience.

Mr. Jacobs: Mr. Jacobs said this is a Republican side of the aisle. Do you feel like you gave this much consideration for this appointment, or did you just make the appointment?

Mr. Sampson: Mr. Sampson said as Mr. Jacobs knows we had a conversation in the office across the hall in February about this, and we have had several conversations since then. Mr. Sampson thinks, and it is certainly Mr. Jacobs' right to disagree that he has gone as far, if not farther, than any chairman of the other party to consult with you on this appointment. We happen to disagree on it, but those things happen.

Mr. Jacobs: Mr. Jacobs said Mr. Sampson did invite Mr. Hogan, and himself to Mr. Sampson's office. We indicated at that time, as Republicans, that we would like to retain Mr. Buechsenschuetz, and Mr. Sampson said no, he was going to make a change. We asked for a reason for that change, and you really gave us none other than you wanted somebody younger.

Mr. Sampson: Mr. Sampson said no; he wanted new blood on there.

Mr. Jacobs: Mr. Jacobs said no; he said he wanted somebody younger.

Mr. Sampson: Mr. Sampson said they disagree on what he said so they would have to settle that in another arena.

Mr. Jacobs: Mr. Jacobs feels as a party, Mr. Sampson probably didn't do what he should have done, which we would expect. Mr. Jacobs said he would vote for Jean Riddle, but he does disagree with the way Mr. Sampson handled this situation.

Mr. Sampson: Mr. Sampson said that is certainly his right.

ROLL CALL.

Ayes: Drobisch, Dudley, Dunn, Jacobs, McGlaughlin, Meachum, Potts, Sampson, Smith, Snyder, Taylor, Westerman, Wilkins, Williams

Nays: Ashby, Cox, Hogan, Little, Yoder

Abstain: Oliver

AYES: 14

NAYS: 5

ABSTENTION: 1

MOTION CARRIED.

COMMENT:

Mr. Ashby: Mr. Ashby said on behalf of the board he wanted to thank Mr. Buechsenschuetz for his dedicated service for the past nine years.

There was nothing presented on the Consent Calendar.

The Justice Committee had nothing to submit at the meeting.

EEHW COMMITTEE

12. Mr. Dunn presented Resolution G-3185-5-08 which is consenting to the boundary modifications to the area known as the Decatur Macon County Enterprise Zone.

MOTION

Mr. Dunn moved, seconded by Mrs. Cox to approve Resolution G-3185-5-08.

QUESTION:

Mr. Oliver: Mr. Oliver asked if based on what the first paragraph of the resolution says, is this a dual government resolution. Are the City of Decatur and the County of Macon together?

Mr. Dunn: Mr. Dunn said yes that is correct.

Mr. Coil: Mr. Coil said that paragraph refers to an intergovernmental agreement that was adopted between the city and the county related specifically to enterprise zone activities. The way that document is constructed, it requires consent of the County Board and the City Council whenever we do these boundary amendments.

Mr. Oliver: Mr. Oliver said it is a dual thing now between the two entities. The reason he was asking is because in the past they have had questions asked about different taxing bodies and so forth that are incorporated, especially in the City of Decatur's Enterprise Zone. He was wondering how this will be affecting those outside the city, and those of the county that are not in the city.

Mr. Coil: Mr. Coil said it affects everybody every time we do a boundary amendment. We have to have consent of both entities.

ROLL CALL.

Ayes: Ashby, Cox, Drobisch, Dudley, Dunn, Hogan, Jacobs, Little, McGlaughlin, Oliver, Potts, Sampson, Smith, Snyder, Taylor, Westerman, Wilkins, Williams, Yoder

Nay: Meachum

AYES = 19

NAYS = 1

MOTION CARRIED.

COMMENT:

Mr. Oliver: Mr. Oliver said the question he really wanted to get to was, whether or not this will be more government or less government to put those two together, if both entities have to approve an enterprise zone. Is that going to make it easier or a little more difficult?

Mr. Coil: Mr. Coil said it is really a function of State Statute the way State Statute is written because of the configuration of the zone being in multiple jurisdictions, we are required to do it this way. It would be nice if there was a different way to do it, but this is the way it is. It just adds a little bit of time to process; it doesn't really slow down the process.

Mr. Oliver: Mr. Oliver said he just doesn't want to add any more layers to some of this zoning and stuff we have to go through.

13. Mr. Dunn presented Resolution G-3186-5-08 which is recommending Geographic Name Change from Spring Creek to Ward Branch.

MOTION

Mr. Dunn moved, seconded by Mr. Yoder to approve Resolution G-3186-5-08 by prior roll call vote.

COMMENT:

Mr. Sampson: Mr. Sampson said they have on their desk the Macon County Historian's report and the reaction of citizens to this.

MOTION CARRIED. (JACOBS SHOWED HIS VOTE AS PRESENT & MEACHUM SHOWED HIS VOTE AS YES)

14. Mr. Dunn presented Resolution G-3187-5-08 which is approving the lease between the City of Decatur by its managing agent, The Community Investment Corporation of Decatur, and Macon County Solid Waste Management Department.

MOTION

Mr. Dunn moved, seconded by Mrs. Little to approve Resolution G-3187-5-08 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED. (JACOBS SHOWED HIS VOTE AS YES)

15. Mr. Dunn presented Ordinance O-71-5-08 which is adopting the 2008 National Electrical Code published by the National Fire Protection Association.

MOTION

Mr. Dunn moved, seconded by Mr. Snyder to approve Ordinance O-71-5-08 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

16. Mr. Dunn presented Ordinance O-72-5-08 which is amending the Macon County Subdivision Ordinance.

MOTION

Mr. Dunn moved, seconded by Mr. Meachum to approve Ordinance O-72-5-08 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

COMMENT:

Mr. Bean: Mr. Bean wanted to comment about Mr. Coil's resolution regarding the enterprise zone. Mr. Bean said this is the second time in a row that Mr. Coil has brought something dealing with the enterprise zone. Previously we asked him to have parcel numbers and so forth so that it is easier for us. We get nice, pretty maps but they don't

tell us anything about the boundaries. We don't want to have mistakes. We have enough problems extending taxes. Mr. Bean said he talked to Mr. Coil last year about putting property ID numbers on this to make it easier for us to handle the enterprise operations. It is getting more and more difficult for the Assessors Office and the County Clerk's Office, and the Treasurer's Office to handle the property tax situations with all the changes from Springfield. If we can't get any cooperation from our people here to help make our jobs easier, it is really difficult.

Mr. McGlaughlin: Mr. McGlaughlin suggested they notify Mr. Coil that the County Board would ratify this upon receipt of the necessary geographic information and descriptions to the County Clerk.

Mr. Bean: Mr. Bean said they would take care of it this year, but it is the second time in a row, and Mr. Coil was told about this the last time.

OPERATIONS, PERSONNEL & LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

17. Mr. Smith presented Resolution G-3188-5-08 which is approving Health Insurance proposal from Behnke & Company.

MOTION

Mr. Smith moved, seconded by Mrs. Cox to approve Resolution G-3188-5-08 by prior roll call vote.

COMMENT:

Mr. Smith: Mr. Smith said he would like to introduce Mr. John Malachowski from Behnke, and he could answer any technical questions you might have. He said they handed out some colored charts. One of them deals with the health insurance, and one deals with dental which we will get into in a minute. We thought at committee level that this would be good information for you to have. You can see a little bit more what we are doing here and savings and so forth. Basically this renewal amounts to a 1.8% increase.

Mr. Williams: Mr. Williams asked in Mr. Malachowski's opinion, what criteria are considered to negotiate such a low premium increase.

Mr. Malachowski: Mr. Malachowski said it is a combination of factors that contributed this year to the increase. Claims for the county were more favorable this year than last year. The work of the County Board Insurance Committee, he really did have to point to that. We meet on a regular basis to examine claims information, and examine ways that the plan can be used or structured to maximize the benefit structure, and also look at claim discounts. Frankly, Blue Cross Blue Shield provider has the largest amount of discounts in the area. This county is receiving, on average, over 50% network discounts, provider discounts.

Mr. Williams: Mr. Williams asked what the increase was that was negotiated last year.

Mr. Malachowski: Mr. Malachowski said it was 9.9.

Mr. Williams: Mr. Williams asked what it was before that.

Mr. Smith: Mr. Smith said in 2006 it was zero.

MOTION CARRIED.

18. Mr. Smith presented Resolution G-3189-5-08 which is approving Delta Dental Insurance Proposal from Behnke & Company.

MOTION

Mr. Smith moved, seconded by Mrs. Cox to approve Resolution G-3189-5-08 by prior roll call vote.

COMMENT:

Mr. Smith: Mr. Smith said this is a new proposal, and it will be for two years. It will be a slightly lower rate than what we had been paying, but it is holding constant for two years because we are going into a two year deal. The benefits are a little bit better. There are a lot of additional things here with the dental. It is really a good proposal.

Mr. Ashby: Mr. Ashby asked how many local dentists are in this PPO.

Mr. Malachowski: Mr. Malachowski said in the PPO with Delta Dentist there are approximately 27 dentists who are in the PPO. The interesting thing about the Delta Dental proposal is that it is essentially a 3 tier plan. There are 7 dentists in the deeply discounted PPO. There are about 20 dentists in the middle discounted PPO, and then every other dentist in Macon County appears in the third column of dentists. So there will be no dentist that will not be covered by this particular plan, and that is essentially what the county has currently with the Blue Cross plan that they have. Individuals will receive discounts and better benefits if they are able to go to one of the two top tiers of dentist with Delta Dental, but nobody will be worse off.

Mr. Ashby: Mr. Ashby asked how many top tiered dentists are in Macon County.

Mr. Malachowski: Mr. Malachowski said 7.

Mr. Drobisch: Mr. Drobisch asked where they could find a list of these dentists.

Mr. Malachowski: Mr. Malachowski thought a list of the dentists in the dental PPO was included in the handout. He said the list of dentists is available on their website as well.

MOTION CARRIED.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

19. Mr. Dunn presented Resolution G-3190-5-08 which is setting the salaries of the officeholders elected 2008-2012.

MOTION

Mr. Dunn moved, seconded by Mrs. Wilkins to approve Resolution G-3190-5-08.

QUESTION:

Mrs. Cox: Mrs. Cox asked if when the board set the wages of the other officeholders, they were set at the same level as these are.

Mr. Dunn: Mr. Dunn said no. They were set at some salary, he doesn't remember what that was, and then they were given 3% increases over their four year period.

Mr. Hogan: Mr. Hogan asked when we last raised the salary for these four designated offices.

Mr. Sampson: Mr. Sampson said he believes it was 2000, and they were frozen in 2004 because of the budget crisis. Their last raise would have been in 2004. They were frozen on the last cycle, as were the ones in the other cycle in 2002.

Mr. Dunn: Mr. Dunn said they should notice on the back of the resolution that these raises are based on Local 612 raises. If we would use CPI they would be somewhat higher, but we based them on 612 increases during that time period.

Mr. Jacobs: Mr. Jacobs asked if Mr. Bean could indicate what the salary was when he got a raise.

Mr. Bean: Mr. Bean said he honestly could not remember.

Mr. Drobisch: Mr. Drobisch said the increases are on the back of the resolution. It shows the percentage.

Mr. Sampson: Mr. Sampson said he believes we increased the off year cycle two years ago.

Mrs. Little: Mrs. Little asked if for the next two years all of the elected officeholders in Macon County would be making the same salary since we alternate.

Mr. Dunn: Mr. Dunn said no.

Mr. Sampson: Mr. Sampson said he doesn't think they ever are.

Mr. Hogan: Mr. Hogan asked if that is true that they never are.

Mr. Sampson: Mr. Sampson said we change them every.... They are on two different cycles.

Mr. Meachum: Mr. Meachum said we try to keep them close don't we.

Mr. Sampson: Mr. Sampson said yes, but at some point somebody is always going to be ahead of the other cycle. The other cycle catches up the next time, unless there is a financial crisis.

Mr. Hogan: Mr. Hogan said then the other cycle is less than this cycle.

Mrs. Cox: Mrs. Cox said not much less because they were frozen at \$62,000, and we are wanting to raise them to

Mr. Bean: Mr. Bean asked her what the salary number says.

Mrs. Cox: Mrs. Cox said it states that officeholder salaries were frozen at \$62,447.37.

Mr. Bean: Mr. Bean said when we went off, and he was the only one who stayed the whole time during that cycle. We were brought up to the level of \$62,000 whatever, at that time, and that was in 2004. We were given 2% to 3% raise.

Mr. Sampson: Mr. Sampson said they weren't given anything in 2004. It was 2006.

Mr. Bean: Mr. Bean said it was in 2006, and that was the same amount the other group is making right now. The group he is in just went up that far. Then we got a percentage raise of 2% to 3% in 2007 for this year. We will get 2% to 3% for 2009.

Mrs. Wilkins: Mrs. Wilkins asked who "we" is.

Mr. Bean: Mr. Bean said that is the Treasurer and the Clerk who are set at the same rates. They pay the Sheriff more money, and then the Sheriff also gets a Public Safety additional amount.

Mr. Sampson: Mr. Sampson said there are two cycles. There is the off year election cycle, which is the clerk and treasurer, and the sheriff. Then there is the Presidential cycle which is what we have before us tonight. They are always.... By law, you can't do anything once their terms start, until the next ones come in.

Mrs. Cox.: Mrs. Cox was wondering if right now they are at \$62,447.37. Is that what their ending pay is?

Mr. Sampson: Mr. Sampson asked which cycle she is talking about.

Mrs. Cox: Mrs. Cox said the cycle that is getting ready to end.

Mr. Sampson: Mr. Sampson said that is the Presidential cycle. It is the one that will be ending.

Mrs. Cox: Mrs. Cox said the salaries we are getting ready to increase, if this gets voted in, what will they end up with as their annual salary.

Mr. Sampson: Mr. Sampson said it is on the resolution. The amount is listed that they will be at in 2012. They will be making that top amount.

Mrs. Cox: Mrs. Cox was asking what their annual pay will be at the end of 2008. The amount will be around \$64,000 and we are wanting to, right off the bat move it up right at \$10,000.

Mr. Sampson: Mr. Sampson said no, that is what they will finish at the end with.

Mr. Dunn: Mr. Dunn said no, their increase starts at around \$10,000 and then a 3% increase each year thereafter. This is based on the formula on the back of the resolution based on the Local 612 raises. He compared with a book from the county that had 52 counties respond out of the 102. In the comparable counties that were in that book, this is still below the average counties of comparable size. Some of them pay quite a bit more, but he just based it on what they were frozen at, and multiplied it by the 612 raises. If it had been the CPI it would have been higher. He feels our elected officials have worked very diligently throughout the last 6 or 8 years on holding their budgets when we were in trouble. They have been very good and their employees have been very good. Each officeholder is below comparable counties. He just used the 612 pay increases during that time to justify or come up with that number.

Mr. Jacobs: Mr. Jacobs asked if he understands this correctly, these officeholders will be getting around a 13% increase come election day.

Mr. Dunn: Mr. Dunn said he did not know what the total is, but that is probably close to being correct.

Mr. Jacobs: Mr. Jacobs asked if it would be the total of the individuals on the back of the sheet, 3.5, 3, 3, 2.5, and 2.5, which equates to about 13% in one year.

Mr. Dunn: Mr. Dunn said yes, and remembering that their salaries have been frozen for years.

Mr. Jacobs: Mr. Jacobs said he was here when we did that, so he knows their salaries were frozen. But, can we justify a 12% raise in one year?

Mr. Dunn: Mr. Dunn said we will find out after the vote.

Mr. Jacobs: Mr. Jacobs asked about the money.

Mr. Dunn: Mr. Dunn said what do you want to know about the money.

Mr. Jacobs: Mr. Jacobs asked if the money is there.

Mr. Dunn: Mr. Dunn said sure.

Mr. Jacobs: Mr. Jacobs asked where.

Mr. Dunn: Mr. Dunn said if you want a financial report he would have the Auditor give you one. He asked if Mr. Jacobs wanted one.

Mr. Jacobs: Mr. Jacobs said no, not from him.

ROLL CALL.

Ayes: Ashby, Drobisch, Dudley, Dunn, McGlaughlin, Meachum, Oliver, Potts, Sampson, Smith, Snyder, Taylor, Wilkins, Williams, Yoder

Nays: Cox, Hogan, Jacobs, Little, Westerman

AYES = 15

NAYS = 5

MOTION CARRIED.

20. Mr. Dunn presented Resolution G-3191-5-08 which is setting a minimum wage for full-time employees.

MOTION

Mr. Dunn moved, seconded by Mr. Meachum to approve Resolution G-3191-5-08 by prior roll call vote.

MOTION TO AMEND

Mr. Ashby moved, seconded by Mr. Snyder to amend Resolution G-3191-5-08 at the 5th whereas by adding the word salaried after the word full-time, and also to add the word salaried in the same place in the now, therefore, be it resolved paragraph.

COMMENT:

Mr. Ashby: Mr. Ashby said he does not wish to exclude the hourly employees; he just feels they should be handled on a separate resolution. He has talked to Mr. Dunn about this and he is in agreement. We intend, as a Finance Committee to come back next month with a resolution that will cover the hourly employees.

Mr. Dunn: Mr. Dunn said he would like to echo Mr. Ashby's comments. He has talked to many of the board members, and this will exclude five Animal Control people that we definitely need to look at their salaries. Unfortunately they are classified as hourly, but they do work full time. Come to find out, they didn't show up on his first list. The auditor spotted them and caught it, and we included them in the finance handout. He has a new handout that he gave everyone a copy of, which excludes them. We will look at them next month at the Finance Committee meeting, and see what we can do for them. He has to do some more investigation on why they are not salaried, why they are full time, and why they are working 40 hours versus all the other county employees working 35.

ROLL CALL.

Ayes: Ashby, Drobisch, Dudley, Dunn, Little, McGlaughlin, Meachum, Oliver, Potts, Sampson, Smith, Snyder, Taylor, Westerman, Wilkins, Williams, Yoder

Nays: Cox, Hogan, Jacobs

AYES = 17

NAYS = 3

MOTION CARRIED. (AMENDMENT TO RES. G-3191-5-08)

COMMENT:

Victor Osuna: Mr. Osuna said he is with AFSCME Council 31. He is the representative for this area, for Macon County, the city, and other counties in the state. He wanted to make a couple points. First, he wanted to commend the County Board Chairman, County Board members, and elected officials, that have done a terrific job over the last year or year and a half. As we all know, it goes without saying, we don't need a reminder, but the last 5 or 6 years have been chaotic at best when it comes to the financial situation here in Macon County. He rises today to let you all know that AFSCME Council 31 and Local 612 here in Macon County support this resolution. He also wanted to acknowledge that part of this has been possible because of the members and employees that we have in this county who have for many years have sacrificed especially when it came to their wages to make this happen, to see the light at the end of the tunnel. He wanted to address a couple of concerns about the long-term employees of the county and them not falling within the resolution. We understand that this resolution is to bring up the minimum wage in order to bring in qualified people, and is a good first step in retaining those qualified people. We have spent many, many, many resources on new hires only to find out that 2 or 3 years later they leave the county for a better job. While it is a concern, the

longevity part of it for the people who have been here for a long time, and have quite frankly endured the most, we intend to address that during contract negotiations. We have negotiations that are coming up, and we intend on looking at longevity for those members who have been here for many, many years. Lastly, he wanted to address the Animal Control. It has been addressed already, but we do appreciate it at Animal Control. For those of you who don't know, we have about 5 members over there. Most of them can't own a car, and walk, or rely on their supervisors to pick them up, take them to lunch, and take them home, which is kind of sad to say, because if you have ever been down there it is one of the worst jobs we can offer out of Macon County. We greatly appreciate you guys taking a look at this next month and addressing that issue. Lastly, we ask you to support this. We support it, and we want to thank you for all of the hard work. We look forward to a cooperative effort going forward, and to hopefully continue to see Macon County grow, and be better off.

Mr. Sampson: Mr. Sampson said he made his first visit to the Animal Control Facility a couple of days ago, and it was a surprise visit. Even though those people have tough and unattractive jobs, it was his observation that they are among the finest workers in Macon County. The dedication and concern for the animals he saw, manifested by those people who didn't know who in the heck he was, he could have been someone there looking for a dog, was really impressive. He thinks this board will take care of them down the road.

ROLL CALL.

Ayes: Ashby, Cox, Drobisch Dudley, Dunn, Little, McGlaughlin, Meachum, Oliver, Potts, Sampson, Smith, Snyder, Taylor, Westerman, Wilkins, Williams, Yoder

Nays: Hogan, Jacobs

AYES = 18

NAYS = 2

MOTION CARRIED.

COMMENT:

Mrs. Cox: Mrs. Cox asked how soon we would be taking care of those people at Animal Control.

Mr. Sampson: Mr. Sampson said he assumed it would be when the Finance Committee reports. He expects they will take this up at their next meeting, which will be the first part of June, so we might here something on the board as early as June, probably no later than July.

Mr. Dunn: Mr. Dunn said that is correct because those raises don't take effect until December 1st, so we have a little time there to ferret out the problems and the solution.

21. Mr. Dunn presented Resolution G-3192-5-08 which is authorizing the position of Insurance Director and Salary for 2008-2012.

MOTION

Mr. Dunn moved, seconded by Mr. Potts to approve Resolution G-3192-5-08.

COMMENTS:

Mr. Dunn: Mr. Dunn said he has asked the Auditor to prepare something for us, to address the handout that he had explaining the job duties.

Amy Stockwell: Ms. Stockwell said the first page of the handout is the same thing that is in the board packet. She just simply added, in very small numbers on the left hand side, numbers which correspond to the handout itself. The first part deals with her statutory responsibilities. #1. Audit all claims and recommend payment or rejection. She has a working agreement with the board to release the checks. Her role there is management of her staff and audit. The second one is collect, analyze and preserve statistical and financial information. That is the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, commonly known as the audit. She said that is a very, very large project which requires a number of people including our outside auditors. We are on target to complete that pretty quickly. The third statutory duty is to approve supply orders. Because, of the change enacted by our previous State's Attorney, we do not proactively review supply orders, but instead she works with departments after the fact to ensure compliance with budget, and to make sure that gap and budget are the same. It doesn't always work that way, but we certainly try. We maintain contract files, and she has a database of contracts. The issue is always getting a hold of the contracts, but she appreciates what this board is doing in terms of reviewing contracts because then they can go right to the database as required. We make quarterly reports to the County Board of our entire financial operation. She does that using her monthly report. We audit all receipts, and have installed an Accounts Receivable Module which enables us to do more analysis. We have about two years worth of data in that module, and can generate all kinds of interesting reports on particular sources of revenue. She does a continuous internal audit on claims, payroll, assets, and annual audit coordination. Some of her other statutory duties are auditing the fixed asset register. The current project there is Capital Budgeting. The ninth item is really the same as number 1. To finish her statutory duties she serves as the General Accountant providing a Chart of Accounts, the General Ledger, and the Accounting Manual. She installs financial systems and specifies to all officeholders the methods of paying claims, processing payroll, depositing funds, and presenting accrued time. She said that ends her statutory duties. Her non-statutory duties begin with purchasing and office services, which include coordination and negotiation of phone service, and network computer services. There are several current projects. She has been assisting Mr. Williams and his committee on getting a Disposal Policy finally pulled together. She has been working with Mr. Westerman on the many aspects of getting our phone system righted. At this time we are addressing a 40 year gap in information and making sure we know where all the phones are. She manages staff for mail and copy services. She is the

authorized agent for IMRF, which is a big operation for her staff, including enrolling new employees and making sure that our IMRF information is in synch with Chicago. We have number of current projects, a couple of which you are aware of, the successful implementation of the ERI Program. She said that is ongoing. They are working on a cost analysis of changing our policy on Veteran's service. We are doing a more complete analysis. She thought you would be interested in knowing, in case you heard of anybody, that in the 70's and 80's Macon County enrolled people on a probationary period and they didn't put them in IMRF, and that actually was not correct. So, IMRF is sending letters to our employees, both current and past employees, telling them about this opportunity for credit. She heard from one of the judges tonight, and we are helping them get their credits right, which is obviously a big thing if they are ready to retire. Ms. Stockwell is in charge of payroll administration which is obviously a huge operation. There is a long list of things, including filing and signing the county's tax return, which is no more fun at the office than it is at home. She coordinates the preparation of the annual budget at the request of the County Board. The budget is your budget, and she is there to help facilitate the process and work with the officeholders to gather up the information that the board needs to make good decisions to get the budget pulled together and published. Through that process she is trying, and thinks we have succeeded, in continuing to improve the budget process, and do more long range planning. She reports to the board on the status versus the budget. This is something that she provides direct service on. Additional non-statutory duties include Risk Management and Insurance Administration. There are three parts to insurance, the General Liability Inland Marine and Property, which deals with the physical things of insurance and the General Liability which is how we operate. There is Workers Compensation, which is handled in the Board Office, and then health insurance. Staff is part of the Insurance Committee, and as part of this activity she actually maintains the Fixed Asset Register, which is beyond her statutory duty of auditing the Fixed Asset Register because maintaining the Fixed Asset Register is essential to the insurance operation. Current projects in that area include a Risk analysis of major programs. We went up to the Health Department this week to talk about the activities there to see if our coverage is adequate. We are working with Behnke to establish a Certificate of Insurance Program. In Accounts Payable her non-statutory duties include encumbrance accounting and contract review to make sure we are looking proactively at obligations incurred for the county. The next item is financial reporting, and because we are running an integrated system, and we make 95% of the entries related to the activities of Macon County, except for the Health Department, 95% of the entries are made directly to the General Ledger; we have all of this detail available. We can generate all kinds of reports on a monthly basis which we do. We have a long list of regular reports, and special reports as people need them. In regard to debt administration, this is really looking at our long term debt which is with the Decatur Public Building Commission. She really championed, because of her background and experience, taking a hard look at the long term lease you signed with the Decatur Public Building Commission. Through the efforts of Mr. Waks, and the external attorneys that the board authorized hiring, and her efforts, we saved over a \$1,000,000 by resetting the debt in such a way to reduce our interest cost. She has recommended to them on several occasions, and will continue to do so, that we need to take a very hard look at that contract, and the escalators in it. The ETSB has just negotiated a contract with the

Building Commission which gives us some additional leverage in that area. The next item is revenue forecasting. We are starting to develop short and long term revenue forecasting models, and are testing those models. The Capital Improvement Plan going to Capital Budgeting, and implementing that this year. Next is, Long Range Financial Planning and Analysis, and she has been able to participate in some of our major contract negotiations. Certainly she is not the only one, but everyone who has been involved in Animal Control and seen the remarkable change in that operation, knows it is something that we can be truly proud of. She is very proud to have participated in that. The last thing under her non-statutory duties is benefits administration. She wanted to say before she went on to that, in financial reporting, in addition to the numbers you see every month, for the last two years she has given a text report to the Finance Committee that comments on some of the issues. That has only gone to finance, and she is including a copy in this packet. If you would like to receive it, and it is of interest to you, and you are not on finance, she would include you on the list to receive that. The final thing on her non-statutory duties is benefit administration, which is health insurance and the other benefits we offer in Macon County, and trying to make sure we do the best we can with the money we have available. We are already starting to think about next year's renewal even though you just passed this year's renewal tonight. We are already working on next year. She included in your packet, in hopes that you would pass the dental plan tonight, a list showing a series of employee meetings so we can tell employees face to face about the dental plan and the changes they are going to see, and make sure they get the list of dentists, etc., etc. That list is attached and will go out with the paychecks in the morning. You all are welcome to come to any of those meetings, and we appreciate our vendors helping us on that. She said after that long list of things, she thinks you could legitimately ask why she is doing all of this. There are three reasons. As Chairman Snyder has said on several occasions, as she told him at her interview six years ago, she loves a challenge, and appreciates the opportunity to make a difference. Part of her assessment of how to make a difference was to hopefully relieve you of some administrative problems so you could concentrate on your real work, the policy work. She has tried to do that. She has tried to make things easier. She hopes they know her well enough to know that if she sees something that needs to be done, she just tries to get it done.

Mr. Dunn: Mr. Dunn said he brought this resolution forward, and Amy asked him not to, but he feels like we should. She has done an extremely good job for this county. She reminds him quite often that he didn't support her at her first election. He apologized for that. He has gone into her office and spent many hours trying to read these budgets and financial things. She has been very helpful. He thinks we have an extremely good Finance Committee that spends a lot of time going over these budgets. Without her help in setting those up, he is afraid we would be lost in the shuffle. She hasn't received a stipend as all of the other elected officials have over the years. So, basically he is just trying to bring her up. He does appreciate her extra work, and any of the elected officials who take on jobs for the county.

ROLL CALL.

Ayes: Ashby, Drobisch, Dudley, Dunn, McGlaughlin, Meachum, Oliver, Potts, Sampson, Smith, Snyder, Taylor, Wilkins, Williams, Yoder

Nays: Cox, Hogan, Jacobs, Little, Westerman

AYES = 15

NAYS = 5

MOTION CARRIED.

22. Mr. Dunn presented Resolution G-3193-5-08 which is approving compensation for members of the County Board.

MOTION

Mr. Dunn moved, seconded by Mr. Williams to approve Resolution G-3193-5-08.

COMMENTS:

Adam Brown: Mr. Brown said he is a 22 year resident of Macon County. He had a couple of comments on this. He sees two problems with it if the wage increase and compensation were to be approved tonight. The first problem as he understands it is that it would become effective immediately. He doesn't feel that is right. He feels it should come into play as new members are elected to the board, and as the election cycle continues. His other problem is that it is being decided by the members themselves. Mr. Brown believes an outside committee should be established, of local citizens to determine if you deserve this pay increase, which he believes you might. However, at this time he thinks it should be decided by the citizens, and the amount should also be decided by them. Finally, a compensation increase, to outsiders, as it would go tonight would look like a shallow and self-righteous move because it is being decided by you, and it is being implemented immediately. He thanked them. Mr. Brown said he believes your role as members of the board here is to better society, and by doing that in your leadership role that should really fulfill you enough. You did not run for the money, so he doesn't think that should be at play at all here. Your pay should be that you are a leader and an example for the next generations, and you are bettering society.

Mr. Hogan: Mr. Hogan asked what the gentleman's name is and what district he lives in.

Mr. Brown: Mr. Brown said his name is Adam Brown and he lives in South Shores.

Mr. Ashby: Mr. Ashby said he wanted to clarify that these salaries do not become effective immediately.

Mr. Sampson: Mr. Sampson said that is correct because legally they can't become effective immediately.

Mr. Ashby: Mr. Ashby said he thinks that 19 years is a long time to go with a wage freeze for anybody. Number two, in good conscience he could not support a double increase in our wages up to \$4,000. He looked at this a couple of different ways, and one of the ways he looked at was by looking at the CPI Index from 1989 to present. If we apply the CPI Index and bring our salary from \$2,000 in 1989 up until now, the salary would be approximately \$3,400. He thinks it would be a bad example to ask more than the cost of living increase.

MOTION TO AMEND

Mr. Ashby moved, seconded by Mr. Dunn to amend Resolution G-3193-5-08 by changing the increase amount from \$4,000 to \$3,400 per annum for board members.

COMMENT:

Mr. Sampson: Mr. Sampson said this would be effective December 1, 2008 for those elected in 2008. Those who are elected in 2010 would receive it on December 1, 2010.

Mr. Yoder: Mr. Yoder asked if this passes, will CPI follow every year, just like we voted on the regular, next election round.

Mr. Sampson: Mr. Sampson said only if you decide you want to revisit this issue every year. This stays as it is unless you change it. You could do it for the 2010 cycle if you wanted, but he doesn't know if you want to open that can of worms again or not.

Mr. Williams: Mr. Williams said that is precisely why it is a prudent thing to go with the \$4,000 raise and be done with it.

ROLL CALL.

Ayes: Ashby, Dudley, Dunn, Little, McGlaughlin, Sampson, Snyder, Westerman, Williams, Yoder

Nays: Cox, Drobisch, Hogan, Jacobs, Meachum, Oliver, Potts, Smith, Taylor, Wilkins

AYES = 10

NAYS = 10

MOTION FAILED. (TO AMEND RES. G-3193-5-08)

COMMENT:

Mr. Little: Mrs. Little said she brought something up in committee and it died there, but she would bring it up again and it can die here too. Her concern is that past tradition has been that when salaries change it goes into effect when the entire board is reelected after the census. She has been told that is not the law; that is just past practice. Just because it

is not necessarily the State statute doesn't mean it is not a very good idea. She is not in favor of a two tier board and would be voting against the resolution unless someone wants to support her amendment.

MOTION TO AMEND

Mrs. Little moved, seconded by Mrs. Cox to change the effective date on Resolution G-3193-5-08 to December 1, 2012.

ROLL CALL.

Ayes: Cox, Little, Oliver, Westerman, Wilkins

Nay: Ashby, Drobisch, Dudley, Dunn, Hogan, Jacobs, McGlaughlin, Meachum, Potts, Sampson, Smith, Snyder, Taylor, Williams, Yoder

AYES = 5

NAYS = 15

MOTION FAILED. (TO AMEND RES. G-3193-5-08)

MOTION TO AMEND

Mr. McGlaughlin moved, seconded by Mr. Dudley to amend Resolution G-3193-5-08 by changing the increase amount from \$4,000 to \$3,000 per year for board members.

COMMENT:

Mrs. Little: Mrs. Little said she just had a point of clarification. The Board Rules that we passed indicate it is \$100.00 per chair of a standing committee. You will only get paid for chairing one committee. She doesn't remember how it is worded, but she would like it to be understood that this resolution is not going to override the policy of the board.

ROLL CALL.

Ayes: Ashby, Dudley, Little, McGlaughlin, Westerman

Nays: Cox, Drobisch, Dunn, Hogan, Jacobs, Meachum, Oliver, Potts, Sampson, Smith, Snyder, Taylor, Wilkins, Williams, Yoder

AYES = 5

NAYS = 15

MOTION FAILED: (AMENDMENT TO G-3193-5-08)

COMMENT:

Mr. Drobisch: Mr. Drobisch said one of the things that we are not realizing also is that when we changed this back in 1989, at a later date, we also eliminated the mileage payment. He said it cost him \$55.00 to fill up his car the other day, and by the time you drive back and forth over a year going about your duties as a County Board member, he is sure it doesn't take long for this amount to become a substantial amount, and he doesn't think it is going to go down. He said that is another good, legitimate argument for increasing it. If you are not going to reinstitute the mileage, he doesn't believe the \$4,000 which he will not get, because he doesn't run for re-election until 2010, is an issue that we need to consider. As costs go up, it really doesn't address the main problem that we seem to be having, ever since we went off per diem, which is getting enough people to attend meetings to have a quorum. He doesn't know what the answer to that is. But, he does hope that his fellow board members take into consideration that we are no longer getting mileage. The cost, if you are going to go out and look at property that is going to be rezoned, even though they don't have on site hearings, is another cost factor. Mr. Drobisch said he feels that helps to justify that additional cost.

Mr. Hogan: Mr. Hogan asked if Mr. Drobisch is correct that we don't have on site hearings.

Mr. Sampson: Mr. Sampson said we do have on site hearing. He thinks Mr. Drobisch was referring to a board member wanting to go out to the site on their own and look at something.

Mr. Hogan: Mr. Hogan said we don't pay mileage for board members anymore.

Mr. Sampson: Mr. Sampson said he thinks we dropped that in 2002 or 2003, somewhere in there. It was a casualty of the budget.

Mrs. Cox: Mrs. Cox said by what she was hearing we want to increase this to get more individuals to come to the committee meetings. Mrs. Cox said that is not going to work, no matter what they get paid. If they are not coming now, they are not going to show up with more money.

Mr. Sampson: Mr. Sampson said when you talk about attendance at committee meetings you have to look at another set of tools than the salary. The glare of publicity is a very good....

Mrs. Wilkins: Mrs. Wilkins said she wanted to address the fact that if you just look at \$4,000 a year that equates to about \$11.00 a day. When you are a Macon County Board member you work every day. You represent every day. People call you all the time and you are at meetings. There is nothing that people can pay for your time. This is something that we ran for and were elected for, so there is no huge amount or small amount that could pay for it. There is a lot of pride in serving the community. But, for whatever anybody does for you, there is gratitude or servitude for what you want to give.

She honestly does not think that \$4,000 is a lot to give, but everybody is different. It doesn't matter what time you come into the ring, or what time you come to pay, or you come to work, as long as you work and put your time in.

QUESTION WAS CALLED FOR

Mr. Dunn: Mr. Dunn said he had a point of order. When you call for the question you are voting on whether you are going to cease debate, not the resolution.

Mr. Sampson: Mr. Sampson said we haven't, but we can. He is correct by *Robert's Rules of Order*.

Mr. Dunn: Mr. Dunn said in this case he wants to do it.

ROLL CALL.

Ayes: Ashby, Cox, Drobisch, Hogan, Jacobs, Little, Meachum, Potts, Smith, Westerman, Wilkins, Yoder

Nays: Dudley, Dunn, McGlaughlin, Oliver, Sampson, Snyder, Taylor, Williams

AYES = 12

NAYS = 8

MOTION CARRIED. (TO CEASE DEBATE)

ROLL CALL.

Ayes: Drobisch, Dudley, Oliver, Potts, Snyder, Wilkins, Williams, Yoder

Nays: Ashby, Cox, Dunn, Hogan, Jacobs, Little, McGlaughlin, Meachum, Sampson, Smith, Taylor, Westerman

AYES = 8

NAYS = 12

MOTION FAILED. (MAIN MOTION FOR RES. G-3193-5-08)

23. Mr. Dunn presented Resolution G-3194-5-08 which is approving increase in appropriations in the Public Defender's budget and making certain budget revisions.

MOTION

Mr. Dunn moved, seconded by Mr. Snyder to approve Resolution G-3194-5-08.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

ROLL CALL.

Ayes: Ashby, Cox, Drobisch, Dudley, Dunn, Hogan, Jacobs, Little, McGlaughlin, Meachum, Oliver, Potts, Sampson, Smith, Snyder, Taylor, Westerman, Wilkins, Williams, Yoder

Nays: None

AYES = 20

NAYS = 0

MOTION CARRIED.

24. Mr. Dunn presented Resolution G-3195-5-08 which is approving contract for Macon County Sheriff's Police Services for the Village of Argenta, Illinois.

MOTION

Mr. Dunn moved, seconded by Mr. Smith to approve Resolution G-3195-5-08 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE

Mr. Sampson: Mr. Sampson suggested we move Res. G-3196-5-08 until after we come out of closed session because we will be discussing this topic in closed session.

The Transportation Committee had nothing to submit at the meeting.

The Executive Committee had nothing to submit at the meeting.

MACON COUNTY BUILDING SUB-COMMITTEE

Mr. Drobisch: Mr. Drobisch said we did have a meeting, and we were going to look into this space that had been vacated by Decatur Township. In the mean time, we got a letter from the Deputy Director, Lori Long concerning the proposal they had come to us with, and they withdrew that proposal. So we do not have to look for additional space at this point.

Mr. Sampson: Mr. Sampson said at this point there is nothing new to report on the new police station issue. As soon as there is something to report we will share it with everyone.

CITIZEN'S REMARKS:

Dean Padgett: Mr. Padgett lives at 3245 N. Susan Drive in Decatur, Illinois. He has been quiet at the last two Macon County Board meetings thinking something would happen, and it would happen coming from management. No such luck. The only happening we've had is from Dan Miller who originally voted not to close the campground to begin with. He is the one who has gotten us to point where we are now. Kathy first gave us a proposal that it was going to cost \$166,000 to redo the campground. He has told that story a number of times. Right now they have got \$38,000 in it, and it is half completed. He asked if we call that management. He doesn't think so. He heard a lot tonight about the Animal Control. He is just naïve enough to ask if they accept fowl in the Animal Control. If so he has a goose he will give you. Kathy first told them the wire that was in the ground is no good. That is how the campground is where it is now, using the old wire that is in the ground. He asked if that is good management. He doesn't think so. Mr. Padgett was glad to see they got two new nominees tonight. One that is going off was one of them that voted to close the campground to begin with. Hopefully the two new people have six inches of common sense between their ears. He said if they want to get rid of him, finish this thing up. The price of gas for his rig costs him a dollar a mile to go down the road. He can't go very far. He may just come up here and park in the parking lot. He and his supporters are forced to prepare a petition to get rid of the two management positions at the Conservation District. That is the last thing that we have to do. He said that is their re-call like California. They are also going to look into paying their taxes under protest. We don't think we are getting the management we are supposed to get. Mr. Padgett said he has been a taxpayer since the inception of this park. If Ms. Merner had any management skills she would have said wait a minute board, this park was here before any of us on the board where here. Mr. Padgett said they were once told that was the best manager money could bring to this state. He doesn't think so. He is happy the campground is open. The camp host is a person from Argenta. He is happy about that because this is the community that it has hurt the most. He was happy on day one, because of the 17 sites there were 7 campers out there using the park. He thinks that is incredible. If it happens in the next couple of weeks, Kathy has probably taken in more money than she took in all of last year. Good management? He is glad she is not working for him, but she doesn't know that she is working for him and that is why they are getting this petition. He thanked the board.

Mr. Sampson: Mr. Sampson said as the person who said she was the best manager money could buy in 1999 when we hired her, he thinks she is a better manager today than she was in 1999.

OFFICEHOLDER'S REMARKS:

Sheriff Dawson: Sheriff Dawson said the Deputies FOP Lodge is hosting a Law Enforcement Trap Shoot in June. Last year when we hosted it we cleared about \$6,000, most of which we donated to charity. We do have some raffle tickets. We are raffling off two shot guns, a pistol and a crappie fishing pole. Anybody that is interested, he does

have the tickets. Unlike our friends in the Law Enforcement Center, we do not use promoters when we have these fundraisers; we do the work ourselves, and we keep the money local, and we give it local. Anybody who is interested in any of these weapons or the fishing pole should see him for raffle tickets.

Mrs. Little: Mrs. Little said she meant to do this when she read the proclamation and forgot. She would like to ask who in the room, officeholders, board members or those in the audience, are veterans, and recognize them.

Mr. Sampson: Mr. Sampson asked all of the veterans to stand and they were recognized.

Mr. Meachum: Mr. Meachum said we had a lengthy discussion about salary for the County Board. He saw a lot of good people who agreed and disagreed, and we kept it very civil. He feels that maybe we need to have a subcommittee, bipartisan sit down and take an honest look at this and come up with a proposal from both sides of the aisle that someone could agree to. They could bring it to the chairman in good faith and we could get a unanimous vote on raises for the whole County Board, and make it when we are all up for election. He has seen resolutions all over the board, but he thinks the best way to put this to rest is have a committee, and before 2012 election have it set in place. Whoever is on the board, himself or any of the others who come and go, but have a committee to say this is what we think needs to happen in 2012, and then all of this discussion of who is right and who is wrong is done. A resolution could come to the board that both sides agree on. He feels that is the best way to handle this.

Mr. Oliver: Mr. Oliver said he finds that comment interesting because there are going to be three elections before and including 2012. So, there would be a chance of completely changing this board three times. In the mean time, it would an imposition for us to set a salary for somebody who is three terms away from receiving it. Little did anyone know tonight that this is the last time this could be proposed before 2010 because it has to be done 180 days prior to an election. This is last time for this particular issue to be before the board for any change. The last raise was given in 1989 and did not become effective until 1992, three years later. What are we talking about in 2012 or 2013 that this could become the salary? By that time some of us might have gone on to the big board meeting in the sky.

Mr. Sampson: Mr. Sampson said we have completed the interviews for the GIS Specialist. They were very good and we hope to make a decision on an offer early next week, and have somebody on board in June.

There was no old business presented at the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

25. Mr. Dunn presented Resolution G-3197-5-08 which is amending the fee for a marriage license in the office of County Clerk.

MOTION

Mr. Dunn moved, seconded by Mrs. Cox to approve Resolution G-3197-5-08 by prior roll call vote.

QUESTION:

Mrs. Little: Mrs. Little asked if this went through committee.

Mr. Bean: Mr. Bean said he did not find out until last Tuesday, that the General Assembly and the Governor had signed this. Part of the reason we brought it in the form of a resolution is, as any of the board members who were around in 1989 might remember, the General Assembly passed an issue like this that put \$25.00 into a domestic violence fund. That fund was found unconstitutional. At that time there was something in there for counties that hadn't set a higher rate for marriage licenses, to raise their marriage licenses. They were forced to go back to \$15.00. Mr. Bean said the County Clerk's Association advised us last week, to protect us, even though we have a resolution that set it at \$35.00, to pass a resolution that the County Board also authorized this State mandated fund. We will have to cut a check every month to the State Treasurer. He said we have to segregate that out, talk about it, and reinstate that \$35.00 so that if there is another court challenge to this like there was 20 years ago, our fee won't go back to \$15.00. They advised us to take this boilerplate resolution from Kane County and pass it. He said even if you don't pass it tonight, we will collect the fee because we are mandated by the State.

Mrs. Little: Mrs. Little said you are basically just making the fund.

Mr. Bean: Mr. Bean said we are creating a fund for the budget. We do this already, but didn't bring a resolution forth when they added \$2.00 to the death certificate. We collect it and it goes to a special fund, and in July 2009 grants will be given to organizations like DOVE, or even the State's Attorney's Office.

Mrs. Little: Mrs. Little asked why this is suddenly constitutionally legal.

Mr. Bean: Mr. Bean said he does not know. That was the question the Clerk's Association had. The General Assembly passed it again, and the Governor signed it into law.

Mrs. Little: Mrs. Little said it may end up like the AIDS testing.

Mr. Bean: Mr. Bean said that is when the AIDS testing got thrown out at the same time. This will clearly state that our fee was \$35.00 and the \$5.00 is all they are going to get back if they do challenge it, so that they don't come back and say they want part of that \$35.00 too. He is trying to protect the county's money.

Mr. Sampson: Mr. Sampson said this resolution and the one that follows are both things that came in late, but have to be handled tonight, otherwise we wouldn't put them on new business.

MOTION CARRIED.

26. Mr. Dunn presented Resolution G-3198-5-08 which is First Renewal and Amendment of the Intergovernmental Agreement between the Department of Healthcare and Family Services and Macon County State's Attorney.

MOTION

Mr. Dunn moved, seconded by Mrs. Cox to approve Resolution G-3198-5-08 by prior roll call.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION TO CLOSE SESSION

Mr. Meachum moved, seconded by Mr. McGlaughlin to go into closed session to discuss pending litigation and labor negotiations.

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION TO OPEN SESSION

Mrs. Little moved, seconded by Mr. Drobisch to return to open session by prior roll call vote.

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Mr. Oliver moved, seconded by Mr. Meachum to adjourn until Thursday, June 12, 2008 at 7:15 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED.

Meeting adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

