

**PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
MACON COUNTY BOARD**

JANUARY 12, 2017

**Jay A. Dunn
Chairman**

**Stephen M. Bean
Clerk**

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

The Roll Call showed all members present with the exception of Mr. Hogan, Mrs. Kraft, Mr. Mattingley, and Mr. Oliver.

Mrs. Taylor led the members in prayer.

All led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**A. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 5, 2016 &
DECEMBER 8, 2016 MEETINGS**

MOTION

Mrs. Cox moved, seconded by Mr. Jackson to approve the minutes of the December 5, 2016 and December 8, 2016 meetings.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

ROLL CALL.

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

Nays: (None)

AYES = 17

NAYS = 0

MOTION CARRIED.

ZONINGS/SUBDIVISIONS

1. Mr. Dudley presented Resolution Z-1178-01-17 which is regarding Case S-01-12-16, a petition submitted by Allied Asphalt (Kent Darst) for a Special Use Permit to allow the operation of an asphalt business in (R-1) Single Family Residential Zoning on property commonly known as 2103 S. Taylorville Rd in Decatur, IL 62521. After hearing the evidence, the Zoning Board of Appeals voted to recommend approval of the subject petition to the County Board with 5 stipulations. The EEHW Committee met and reviewed the petition and recommended the County Board approve the petition subject to the 5 stipulations recommended by the Zoning Board of Appeals.

MOTION

Mr. Dudley moved, seconded by Mrs. Cox to approve Resolution Z-1178-01-17 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

B. CORRESPONDENCE

A letter from State Senator Tom Cullerton urging support for completion of a report regarding government consolidation efforts in Illinois.

A letter from Comcast regarding clarification of correspondence from September 13, 2016 regarding relocation of channels

A letter from IDOT regarding acknowledgement of receipt of a financial statement received by them on Section 16-00277-00-SM.

A letter from IDOT regarding Joint Agreement – Amendment 1 on Section 13-00200-01-PV, Job: C-97-067-14 & P-97-020-14.

A letter from the Illinois EPA regarding application for construction permit requested by Tate & Lyle Ingredients Americas LLC. (IL BOA ID#115015ABX) Construction Permit (16120007).

A letter from the Illinois EPA regarding application for construction permit requested by Archer Daniels Midland Co. (Illinois EPA BOA ID#115015AAE) Construction Permit (16120009).

A. Notice of Application for Permit to Manage Waste for Advanced Disposal Services Valley View Landfill regarding revision to CQA Plan.

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

REPORTS

Sheriff's Report – December 2016

Treasurer Fund & Investment Report – December 2016

Tax Collector Report – December 2016

Public Defender Report – December 2016

Annual Report of fees received by County Clerk – December 1, 2015 thru November 30, 2016

Annual Report of fees received by Recorder – December 2015 thru November 2016

Annual Collector's Report – Tax Year 2015 payable 2016 & 2016 Mobile Home Privilege

MOTION

Mr. Potts moved, seconded by Mr. Brown 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.

2. CLAIMS

MOTION

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

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

C. APPOINTMENTS

MOTION

3. Resolution G-4565-01-17 – Appointment to Decatur-Macon County Opportunities Corporation Board of Directors

Debra Kraft, 8814 Mt. Auburn Rd., Decatur, IL 62521
Term Expires: November 30, 2018

MOTION

Mr. Dunn moved, seconded by Mrs. Cox to approve Resolution G-4565-01-17 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

D. CONSENT CALENDAR

4. Resolution G-4566-01-17 Executing Deeds to convey property on which taxes were delinquent

MOTION

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

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

JUSTICE COMMITTEE

5. Mr. Dunn presented Resolution G-4567-01-17 which is designating the Illinois State's Attorneys Appellate Prosecutor as its agent to administer the operation of appellate offices and process appellate cases for Macon County during FY2017.

MOTION

Mr. Dunn moved, seconded by Mr. Brown to approve Resolution G-4567-01-17 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

6. Mr. Dunn presented Resolution G-4568-01-17 which is approving an additional Drug Court Probation Officer.

MOTION

Mr. Dunn moved, seconded by Mr. Brown to approve Resolution G-4568-01-17 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

7. Mr. Greenfield presented Resolution G-4569-01-17 which is a cleanup resolution for FY16 Economic Development Corporation of Decatur and Macon County Marketing and Branding Grant fund.

MOTION

Mr. Greenfield moved, seconded by Mr. Dudley to approve Resolution G-4569-01-17 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

8. Mr. Greenfield presented Resolution G-4570-01-17 which is approving the reappointment of and contract with the Supervisor of Assessments, Joshua Tanner.

MOTION

Mr. Greenfield moved, seconded by Mrs. Cox to approve Resolution G-4570-01-17 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

9. Mr. Greenfield presented Resolution G-4571-01-17 which is approving submitting a public question regarding the Specialty County Retailer's Occupation Tax for Public Safety.

MOTION

Mr. Greenfield moved, seconded by Mr. Meachum to approve Resolution G-4571-01-17 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

10. Mr. Greenfield presented Resolution G-4572-01-17 which is amending the State's Attorney's FY2017 grant fund budget (Child First Center) to accept new grant.

MOTION

Mr. Greenfield moved, seconded by Mr. Potts to approve Resolution G-4572-01-17 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

11. Mr. Greenfield presented Resolution G-4573-01-17 which is approving budget cleanup for FY16.

MOTION

Mr. Greenfield moved, seconded by Mr. Meachum to approve Resolution G-4573-01-17 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

12. Mr. Greenfield presented Resolution G-4574-01-17 which is approving granting a permanent easement for the purpose of maintenance of lines.

MOTION

Mr. Greenfield moved, seconded by Mr. Bird to approve Resolution G-4574-01-17 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

13. Mr. Greenfield presented Resolution G-4575-01-17 which is approving an agreement between the Macon County Sheriff's Office and the Illinois Liquor Commission for FY2017.

MOTION

Mr. Greenfield moved, seconded by Mrs. Cox to approve Resolution G-4575-01-17 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

14. Mr. Greenfield presented Resolution G-4576-01-17 which is approving increase in appropriations in the FY16 Sheriff budget for year-end addition and cleanup.

MOTION

Mr. Greenfield moved, seconded by Mr. Jackson to approve Resolution G-4576-01-17 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

15. Mr. Greenfield presented Resolution G-4577-01-17 which is approving increase in appropriations in the FY16 Recorder's Automation budget.

MOTION

Mr. Greenfield moved, seconded by Mrs. Cox to approve Resolution G-4577-01-17 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.

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.

BUILDING SUB-COMMITTEE

Mr. Drobisch: Mr. Drobisch said they will be having a meeting next Wednesday (1-18-17) at 5:30.

CITIZENS' REMARKS:

Aaron Wemple: Mr. Wemple lives at 1340 W. Eldorado St., Apt. 1 in Decatur. He is accompanied by Denis Durham and they are with the Dad's Club. The idea of a forum was brought up to try and address some of the inequality issues that we have suffered from. They have also been doing a Needs Assessments Study to see if a forum is really warranted. It is a scientific way to survey the community and see what kinds of inequalities might be out there that perhaps need further looked into. Their objective for the forum would be to bridge love, to bridge love between the highest positions and the lowest people in the community. What kind of leadership would that show the community? They had the pleasure last Sunday of hosting a Dad's Club meeting with a retired judge. Ideas and issues were freely floating with no fear of retaliation or retribution or any of that nonsense. One big and strong Vietnam veteran was so moved that he started crying and got up and had to leave the room. As he was walking out the door tears were running down his face. He told the judge, "you give me hope, you give me hope". Mr. Wemple said that is something he will never forget. There is something really special about big positions reaching down and giving the lowest of lows a chance. It gives the gift of relief, and sometimes it is well deserved relief. If you have a throbbing

sore on your left hand and a band-aid and some salve in your right hand, would you put the two together? Many public health departments around the country have found out that there is relief in public forums like this. They improve the wellbeing of society. They help residents have peace of mind. Please help Decatur, Illinois feel the healing relief of a forum for equality.

Donnie Lewis: Mr. Lewis lives at 1342 W. Marietta. He said he is ICCB Legislative SAC Committee Chairman. He represents all 48 community colleges around the State of Illinois. It has been brought to his attention that there are some very serious concerns on what is going on at the Animal Shelter here in the county. Some people think that there is a lot of waste going on. A lot of people think that some of the animals aren't being treated the way they are supposed to. The Animal Shelter is for both the citizens of this county and the animals that are involved with the center. He spoke previously with board member Dudley and he assured him that there would be a meeting on the 19th.

Mr. Dudley: Mr. Dudley said the meeting will be next Thursday night at 5:30 in the same place right here.

Mr. Lewis: Mr. Lewis said they all plan on being there. He just wanted to make it official that they are concerned about this issue.

Kathy Burkham: Ms. Burkham lives at 1430 N. Wildwood Dr. in Mt. Zion. Ms. Burkham said she was at the meeting to talk about the resolution involving approving a new probation officer for the Hybrid Drug and Alcohol Court Program. She said her son is Tyler Yount. He died of an accidental drug overdose on June 14, 2009. Since that time, she and her husband Michael have been very involved with Hybrid Drug Court and helping people at Heritage Behavioral that are suffering from the disease of addiction. It was brought to her attention by Judge Little a couple of months ago that a young man who was waiting to get into their drug court on a waiting list by the name of Tommy Arnold passed away from an overdose while waiting to get into the program. That really upset her and bothered her to think that there are citizens in the community that need help, who are dying while waiting to get in. She spoke to Lt. Butts about that and he and Sheriff Schneider approached Judge Little, she believed, and asked if there was a way to open up a little bit more room. At that time the decision was talked about to try and get a new probation officer hired so they could get more people working to get these people involved. She would like to see that passed tonight and hopefully we won't have any more citizens in our community dying while they are waiting to get into any of our special courts or programs for those that suffer from the addiction epidemic that goes on in our community and around the country every day. She thanked them for allowing her to speak.

Mr. Dunn: Mr. Dunn said they have a drug court graduation on the 27th. He would have Jeannie send it out to all of the board members. He said if they haven't been to one of these graduations, he urged them to go because it is interesting to see and listen to the graduates talk about their issues and the graduation. He thinks it is money well spent for this type of program.

Dale Pope: Mr. Pope resides at 3655 Tulane Dr. in Decatur, IL. He is the chairman of the Vote Yes for Public Safety Committee. The reason he took that role is because of stories like Kathy's. They need the additional funds because as many of them know, they had to cut approximately \$1,000,000.00 from the budget for the Sheriff's Department. Mr. Pope said he is definitely in support of the referendum and appreciated that they accepted that the resolution be accepted and placed on the ballot April 4th. Obviously, what they want to try and do is encourage the citizens to ask us questions because they want this to be completely transparent. They have nothing to hide and want to gather support from the citizens. They hope people will vote yes on April 4th in support of receiving these funds. They want to be able to do these things because they do care for this community. The community has given so much to the Sheriff's office, and of course we want to give back to the community as well. He thanked everyone involved here. Mr. Pope said he knows everyone wants what is best for the county, and he hopes they can get some support behind this. They will be doing everything they can to educate the voters.

OFFICEHOLDERS' REMARKS:

Mr. Meachum: Mr. Meachum said he had a copy of the note from the feedback box that disturbs him, but there are two stories for everything like this. He wanted to hear what the Treasurer's office had to say about this memo getting put into the box. Mr. Meachum wanted to hear his side of the story on this. There are two sides to every story and he just wanted to hear Mr. Yoder's side on what this is about.

Mr. Yoder: Mr. Yoder said concerning the note, there is no name of who wrote the note. There is no time frame. So, with that he asked a question to the Assistant State's Attorney, Michael Baggett. Mr. Yoder said his question was, "As I deem necessary, can I call in part-time help? I have a budget line for this purpose. I have not gone over part-time help in the budget." Mr. Baggett's response was, "As an elected county officer, you have exclusive control over the internal operations of your office." Mr. Yoder said in brackets it said it is Illinois Statue 55ILCS 5-3-10005.1. This means if money has been appropriated to hire staff, by the county board, you have the exclusive authority to hire and employ any such persons within your budgetary line item. Mr. Yoder said that was all he had to say.

Mr. Dudley: Mr. Dudley wanted to say on behalf of the Vote Yes Committee, and thanked Mr. Pope for being there tonight and speaking on that. They have all been involved in the community all their lives. They have been around long enough to remember the time when Decatur was the butt of every other town's jokes. It was when we had the highest murder rates and highest crime rates. If you went to Springfield or Champaign or anywhere else and they would hear you were from Decatur they would laugh about it. But, that has turned around. Right now we have a lower crime rate than Bloomington, Champaign-Urbana, Peoria, and Springfield or any other surrounding town the size of Decatur. That is all in part to the great sheriff and city police department we have in this county, and the hard work they do every day. He would really hate to see

that the money that has been invested in Limitless Decatur to put out the word on television and radio that the crime rates are down and the people in this town feel safe, he would hate to see all of that go to waste because of the fact that we would lose 7 or more jobs on the police department. He really would. He just wanted to say as a board member that he cared about this community enough that he is willing to give the .25 per \$100.00 that is spent in the community which is very miniscule, to keep those people on the department and keep our town as safe as possible.

Mr. Meachum: Mr. Meachum said in adding to what Tim said, this community's sheriff's department and all the law enforcement in the community have had a proactive approach to getting things done here. He would hate to see them go backward if they can't get a little bit of financial assistance to the sheriff's department so they can do their job and protect everybody in Macon County.

There was no old business presented at the meeting.

There was no new business presented at the meeting.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Mr. Potts moved, seconded by Mr. Brown to adjourn until Thursday, February 9, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 6:24 p.m.