

**Macon County Board  
Operations & Personnel Committee Meeting  
Macon County Office Building  
141 S. Main St. – Room 514  
Decatur, IL 62523**

**April 24, 2023**

**5:30 P.M.**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Debra Kraft, Chair  
Kristen Larner  
Ed Yoder  
Karl Coleman  
Jeff Entler (arrived at 5:44)

**COUNTY PERSONNEL PRESENT**

Tamara Wilcox, County Administrator  
Mary Eaton, Recorder  
Josh Tanner, County Clerk  
Rocki Wilkerson, Workforce  
Carol Reed, Auditor  
Edward Flynn, Attorney  
Kevin Greenfield, County Chairman  
Shannon Garrett, AJ Gallagher & Co  
John Malachowski AJ Gallagher & Co

*The meeting was called to order by Chair Kraft at the Macon County Office Building.*

**Minutes**

Motion to approve minutes of prior meeting 03/20/2023 made by Ms. Larner, seconded by Mr. Yoder. Motion carried 4-0.

**Approval of Payroll**

Motion to approve payroll made by Ms. Larner, seconded by Mr. Yoder. Motion carried 4-0

**Approval of Claims**

Motion to approve the claims made by Mr. Yoder, seconded by Ms. Larner. Motion carried 4-0.

**Reports**

***Auditors-***

***Macon County Board Resolution Approving Blue Cross Blue Shield Health  
Insurance Proposal from AJ Gallagher & Co***

Ms. Reed reported that this month we are bringing our insurance proposal's to this committee first. Insurance renews on July 1<sup>st</sup> and the insurance committee met on March 29<sup>th</sup> and prior to that we have gotten some quotes. The insurance committee reviewed those at that time and the first one we have is the health insurance proposal. This year we were able to reduce our premium by 4%. There are a few other things that played into it but 4% is the reduction and we felt that was very good in this market. This year health insurance premium is 4% less.

Mr. Yoder asked if there was change for employee coverage.

Ms. Reed said no change to coverage. I have forgot to mention that if there are questions I can't answer we have John Malachowski and Shannon Garrett here from Gallagher tonight. They are here to answer any questions we might have. The coverage remains the same.

Chair Kraft made a motion to approve, seconded by Ms. Larner. Motion approved 4-0.

***Macon County Board Resolution Approving One Year Blue Cross Blue Shield of IL Dental Insurance Proposal from AJ Gallagher & Co***

Ms. Reed reported that this was a one year renewal for dental insurance. There is a little change to this one. We were previously with Delta Dental and this insurance coverage is going with Blue Cross Blue Shield. There are some incentives there and by going with them we got a \$50,000 dollar credit. We are at 1% reduction to our health rates and by connecting the two we were able to save some money there. This coverage here is all employee paid.

Mr. Malachowski said it is a two year rate.

Mr. Coleman made a motion to approve, seconded by Ms. Larner. Motion carried 4-0.

***Macon County Board Resolution Approving Employee Vision Plan Proposal with Eyemed***

Ms. Reed reported that this is employee paid. We had two vision care plans brought to us and Eyemed was the winner. It has a 2% increase from the prior year and prior to that this is the first increase in 8 years. Prior to that we had been the same for 8 years.

Mr. Coleman made a motion to approve, seconded by Mr. Yoder. Motion carried 4-0.

***Macon County Board Resolution Approving Employer Paid Group Term Life Insurance with Blue Cross Blue Shield***

Ms. Reed reported that we have always had the \$10,000 of coverage benefit and double that for accidental death and the employee paid their portion and we paid our portion. When it came to .30 cent a payroll for the employee portion we felt that this coverage was low and by increasing it and doubling it, it still remained low and we felt that with the savings on the health side we could cover this cost for employer. The employee pays nothing on this one we pay. We would like to propose that it is \$20,000 and we use to have \$10,000.

Chair Kraft said that the ones she has talked to are thrilled with that.

Chair Kraft made a motion to approve, seconded by Mr. Coleman. Motion carried 4-0.

***Macon County Board Resolution Approving Employee Paid Voluntary Group Term Life Insurance with Blue Cross Blue Shield***

Ms. Reed reported that the thing about this one is a lot of people sometimes the \$10 or \$20 thousand isn't very much and they would like to have more. This one is voluntary and you can

take it with you. Employee pays all of it and you can get up to \$150 thousand for employees and \$50 thousand for spouses which is on a guarantee issue which means no medical questions asked. For a lot of our employees that will be a game changer for them. There is more available but this is the basic coverage up to \$150,000. We felt that this was a good addition to what we already had.

Mr. Coleman made a motion to approve, seconded by Ms. Larner. Motion carried 4-0.

***County Board*** – No Report

***County Clerk*** –

Mr. Tanner reported that the election is all wrapped up and the certification has been sent out today. Those who were elected will receive their certificate of election and they will take seat at various times it is just depending on when their next regularly scheduled meeting. Tax extension is almost done and we will send that up to the County Treasury here in the next week or so. He will promptly send the bills out. I am sure he will reporting in Finance when they plan on doing that. They usually go out the first part of May and they will be due in June.

One final thing is my Chief Deputy is retiring in 2026 and at some point when the budget comes around I will need to have a discussion about replacing her. The timing for that you cannot train someone to do all of the things she does as she is walking out the door. There will need to be some advance training on that and someone will probably need to be hired before she actually leaves. I will be bringing something forward around budget time about that and decide when the board thinks it is a good time to begin replacing her.

Mr. Coleman asked you said 2026 to be correct.

Mr. Tanner said yes, December 1 of 2026 the end of my current term she is retiring. Election are complex and every changing and it just takes a while to get the hang of what's happening in an election. You can't get down to just one person who knows that. There are a slew of changes slated for this Legislative cycle and they all take effect for 2024.

***Recorder*** – No Report

***Workforce Investments*** –

***Macon County Board Resolution Approving a Budget Amendment for Workforce Investment Solutions FY'23 Budget-WIOA Statewide Rapid Response***

Ms. Wilkerson reported that she is here to request the approval for \$268,912.55 funding from the Illinois Department of Commerce Economic Opportunity DCEO. We owe a statewide rapid response and this is a special grant that serves 200-300 people, employees that work as millwright, welders, rigging, pipefitters, and there will be over 20 training programs specifically for them. The money is to assist those employers to keep those employees by upgrading their skills. An example would be Austin Company they are a subcontractor for ADM and they are one of the people that are utilizing those rapid response funds. I would like to get approval for that.

Ms. Larner made a motion to approve, seconded by Mr. Yoder. Motion carried 5-0

***Macon County Board Resolution Authorizing the Subaward of Macon County  
ARPA/SLFRF Funds to Workforce Investment Solutions***

Ms. Wilkerson reported that this is what we have talked about at the last meeting. We decided to step back and write a resolution to move it forward the May board meeting. Basically this was brought to my attention because we are a Federal employment training center and I am not allowed to go after advertising or marketing money. Most of the stuff that I do is free, flyers and anything we do there is no fees for so we can't spend it we can't accept it. It is either free or it doesn't happen and that is usually through a relationship with other agencies. It will be a big plus.

Ms. Wilcox said we did change the amount and I will address that because I am the one that did it. I had it at \$60,000 and I had Jim Blackwell look at it and because it is a lot of IT stuff. I asked are these numbers good. He said she really needs a new server. The laptop will be used for training for her students. I don't think you can use the grant money for that either. Any computers and especially a server.

Ms. Wilkerson states that it is very difficult especially with Federal funds and what you can spend and what you can't.

Ms. Wilcox said that I had Jim help me and I wanted to make sure the numbers were good and we were submitting it to this committee.

Chair Kraft said it is all expensing and we got to have it and we need it.

Ms. Wilcox replied that I think that the County Board has decided that this is a priority for them. We are in a Workforce crisis and Rocki has come to the plate especially with Akorn and everything she does every day and I think it is important.

Ms. Lerner made a motion to approve, seconded by Mr. Coleman. Motion carried 5-0.

**Old Business** - *None*

**New Business** – *None*

**Citizen's Remarks**- *no citizens were present*

**Closed Session** -

Motion called to go to closed meeting pursuant to Section 2 (c) (1)

**For the purpose of discussion of the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline,  
performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body**

Chair Kraft made a motion to go into closed session, seconded by Ms. Lerner. Motion carried 5-0.  
***Closed Session at 5:45pm***

Chair Kraft called the open meeting back into session.

Mr. Coleman asked how many voting members are on this committee currently.

Chair Kraft said there are five of us and we are all present.

Chair Kraft made a motion to deny the grievance, seconded by Mr. Yoder.

**Roll Call Votes:**

Ayes: Entler, Kraft, Larner, Yoder

Abstain: Coleman

**Motion Carried.**

**Adjournment** - Meeting adjourned at 6:06 p.m.

*Minutes submitted by Crystal Hugger, Macon County Board*