

# FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD

## MINUTES OF MEETING

Apr 19, 2021

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### **CALL TO ORDER**

The Regular Meeting of the County Board was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chairman J. Larry Miller. Due to the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19), Governor J B Pritzker has ordered everyone to wear masks and to observe social distancing. This meeting was held in the former County Board room, Campbell Building, 901 Public Square, Benton, Illinois.

### **ROLL CALL**

Secretary, Greg Woolard, called the roll. Members in attendance were J. Larry Miller, Randall Crocker, John Gossett, Neil Hargis, Mark Kash, Ray Minor, Jack Warren, Kevin Weston and Brad Wilson.

Also attendances were Gayla Prather, Administrative Assistant to the County Board; David Bartoni, Sheriff; Ryan Buckingham, Director of Emergency Management Agency; Abby Dinn, States Attorney; Darla Fitzjerrells, Director of Court Services; Cindy Miklos, Supervisor of Assessments; Jim Muir, Circuit Clerk; Thad Snell, Animal Control Supervisor; Steve Vercellino, County Treasurer; Donnie Miklos, Foreman County Highway; Rocky Morris and other interest parties.

### **PLEDGE**

Chairman J. Larry Miller lead everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Chairman J. Larry Miller asked the public if there were comments at this time. Rocky Morris spoke about moving the States Attorney's office to the new courthouse. He read previous meeting minutes.

### **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

Jack Warren made a motion to accept the minutes of the March 15, 2021 Regular County Board Meeting. Kevin Weston seconded the motion. On roll call vote, all voted yes.

**COUNTY CLAIMS**

Ray Minor made a motion to pay the claims on file. Brad Wilson seconded the motion. On roll call vote, all voted yes.

**STATE'S ATTORNEYS  
APPELLATE PROSECUTOR  
- RESOLUTION**

Chairman J. Larry Miller stated that the first item on the agenda is the resolution for the State's Attorney's Appellate Prosecutor and he asked Abby Dinn, State's Attorney to explain. Abby Dinn, State's Attorney explained about the fee's that were paid to the Appellate Prosecutor and asked for this resolution be approved.

Neil Hargis made a motion to approve the resolution as presented. John Gossett seconded the motion. On roll call vote, all voted yes.

Said resolution is made part of these minutes as Resolution No. 2021-14.

**DELINQUENT TAX  
PROGRAM -  
RESOLUTIONS**

Chairman J. Larry Miller stated that the next item on the agenda is the Delinquent Tax Program resolutions regarding authorizing my signature (J. Larry Miller) to execute deeds on parcels sold thru the County's Delinquent Tax Program.

Ray Minor made a motion to accept the resolutions as presented. Jack Warren seconded the motion. On roll call vote, all voted yes.

Said resolutions are made a part of these minutes as Resolution No. 2021-15 thru 2021-18.

**OTTERSON ROAD BRIDGE  
- RESOLUTION**

Chairman J. Larry Miller stated that the next item on the agenda is the resolution for the Otterson Road Bridge and with the absence of Mike Rolla, County Engineer, he asked Donnie Miklos, Foreman County Highway to present said resolution. Donnie Miklos, Foreman County Highway, stated that Dees Inc from West Frankfort was the lowest bid received for Section 17-02137-00-BR with an amount of \$149,632 and he asked for this to be approved.

Kevin Weston made a motion to accept the resolution as presented. Ray Minor seconded the motion. On roll call vote, all voted yes.

Said resolution is made a part of these minutes as Resolution No. 2021-19.

**OPPOSING SB 1602 -  
RESOLUTION**

Chairman J. Larry Miller stated that the next item on the agenda is the resolution Opposing SB1602. Chairman J. Larry Miller explained this bill and how it would limit Franklin County on zoning and how the state could make their own decision on how to do zoning in Franklin County.

Ray Minor made a motion to approve the resolution as presented. Jack Warren seconded the motion. On roll call vote, all voted yes.

Said resolution is made a part of these minutes as Resolution No. 2021-20.

**AMENDMENT OF 2017  
RESOLUTION FOR  
PAYMENT OF SENIOR  
SERVICES**

Chairman J. Larry Miller informed the County Board that the next item on the agenda is amending the 2017 Resolution for Payment of Senior Services. Chairman J. Larry Miller explained the amendment is how the County distribute the way we pay the money to the two agencies that receive money from Franklin County.

Kevin Weston made a motion to approve this resolution as presented. Mark Kash seconded the motion. On roll call vote, all voted yes.

Said resolution is made a part of these minutes as Resolution No. 2021-21.

**INTEREST RATE ON THE  
COUNTY'S DEBT  
CERTIFICATES, SERIES  
2019 - AMENDING  
ORDINANCE**

Chairman J. Larry Miller stated that the next item on the agenda is the amending the Ordinance for the Interest Rate on the County's Debt Series 2019 Certificates and he explained that is amended is only for this debt certificates.

Jack Warren made a motion to accept this ordinance as presented. John Gossett seconded the motion. On roll call vote, all voted yes.

Said Ordinance is made a part of these minutes as Ordinance No. 2021-02.

**STATE'S ATTORNEY  
OFFICE - CHANGE  
COURTHOUSE FLOOR  
PLAN**

Chairman J. Larry Miller informed the County Board that the next item on the agenda is the changing of the new Courthouse floor plan to include the State's Attorney's Office. Chairman J. Larry Miller explained about moving the States Attorney to the new Courthouse and Kevin Weston stated that the cost would be around \$150,000 to \$200,000 to make this change. Kevin Weston stated that the County Board should move the State's Attorney's office to a different location than was proposed at the last meeting and explained at this time he doesn't have the a price on the change.

John Gossett made a motion to move the State's Attorney's office the new courthouse. Mash Kash seconded the motion. On roll call vote, the voting was as follow:

Randall Crocker, Ray Minor, Jack Warren, Brad Wilson and J. Larry Miller all voted NO.

John Gossett, Neil Hargis, Mark Kash and Kevin Weston all voted YES.

This motion did not pass with a 5 to 4 vote.

**SHERIFF OFFICE'S  
HVAC SYSTEM**

Chairman J. Larry Miller stated that the next item on the agenda is the Sheriff Office's HVAC System and he asked to get the process started on replacing the HVAC system.

Randall Crocker made a motion to proceed with the Sheriff office's HVAC system. Brad Wilson seconded the motion. On roll call vote, all voted yes.

**U OF I EXTENSION -  
AGREEMENT**

Chairman J. Larry Miller stated that the next item on the agenda is the U of I Extension budget agreement. Chairman J. Larry Miller explained that the agreement has to be approved every year by the County Board. This is for the period July 1, 2021 thru June 30, 2022 budgeted \$106,200 for this agreement.

Randall Crocker made a motion to approve this agreement. Brad Wilson seconded the motion. On roll call vote, the voting was as follows: Randall Crocker, Neil Hargis, Ray Minor, Jack Warren, Brad Wilson, & J. Larry Miller voted YES. John Gossett, Mark Kash, & Kevin Weston voted NO. This motion was passed.

Said agreement is made a part of these minutes as Agreement No. 2021-05.

**BUDGET UPDATE BY  
RHETT BARKE**

Chairman J. Larry Miller stated that the next item on the agenda is the update on the budget by Rhett Barke and he asked Rhett Barke to give his report. Rhett Barke spoke about the budget and how things could be spent. How the budget should include fringe benefits during the budget process.

**ENERGY PROPOSAL**

Chairman J. Larry Miller informed the County Board that the next item on the agenda is the Energy Proposal by Affordable Gas & Electric (AGE). AGE presented a proposal and explained as he read figures for the past year and asked to a 48 months contract beginning May, 2021 and ending May 2025 at a price of \$0.04874 / kWh.

Brad Wilson made a motion to accept the proposal as presented. John Gossett seconded the motion. On roll call vote, all voted yes.

Said agreement is made a part of these minutes as Agreement No. 2021-06.

**WHITE & BORGONONI  
ARCHITECTS**

Chairman J. Larry Miller stated that the next item on the agenda is the White & Borgognoni Architects P.C. is for 21% construction administration on invoice #9 in the amount of \$19,242.20.

Jack Warren made a motion to approve the payment to White & Borgognoni Architects P.C. Kevin Weston seconded the motion. On roll call vote, all voted yes.

Said copy of the claim and invoice are made a part of these minutes.

**NAVIGATE BUILDING  
SOLUTIONS**

Chairman J. Larry Miller stated that the next item on the agenda is the Navigate Building Solutions is for March 2021 Construction Services in the amount of \$16,500.00.

Jack Warren made a motion to approve the payment to Navigate Building Solutions. Kevin Weston seconded the motion. On roll call vote, all voted yes.

Said copy of the claim and invoice are made a part of these minutes.

**SOUTHERN ILLINOIS  
STORAGE**

Chairman J. Larry Miller stated that the next item on the agenda is the Southern Illinois Storage is for monthly rent March 17, 2021 thru April 16, 2021 in the amount of \$175.00.

Jack Warren made a motion to approve the payment to Southern Illinois Storage. Kevin Weston seconded the motion. On roll call vote, all voted yes.

Said copy of the claim and invoice are made a part of these minutes.

**HOLCOMB FOUNDATION  
ENGINEERING**

Chairman J. Larry Miller stated that the next item on the agenda is the Holcomb Foundation Engineering (HFE) is for cylinder testing in the amount of \$953.40.

Jack Warren made a motion to approve the payment to Holcomb Foundation Engineering (HFE). Kevin Weston seconded the motion. On roll call vote, all voted yes.

Said copy of the claim and invoice are made a part of these minutes.

**WHITE & BORGONONI  
ARCHITECTS - WBA #10**

Chairman J. Larry Miller stated that the next item on the agenda is the White & Borgognoni Architects P.C. is for 31% construction administration on invoice #10 in the amount of \$23,902.45.

Jack Warren made a motion to approve the payment to White & Borgognoni Architects P.C. . Kevin Weston seconded the motion. On roll call vote, all voted yes.

Said copy of the claim and invoice are made a part of these minutes.

**REND INVESTMENTS LLC**

Chairman J. Larry Miller stated that the next item on the agenda is the Rend Investments LLC is for May 2021 Rental of Property for construction parking in the amount of \$900.00.

Jack Warren made a motion to approve the payment to Rend Investments LLC. Kevin Weston seconded the motion. On roll call vote, all voted yes.

Said copy of the claim and invoice are made a part of these minutes.

**FAGER-MCGEE  
COMMERCIAL  
CONSTRUCTION INC.**

Chairman J. Larry Miller stated that the next item on the agenda is the Fager-McGee Commercial Construction Inc. for project 3925 for period March 1, 2021 thru March 31, 2021 in the amount of \$1,179,100.41. Chairman J. Larry Miller requested that this claim be tabled at this time.

**CAVE-EASTERN FIRE  
PROTECTION DISTRICT  
BOARD - 1  
APPOINTMENT**

Chairman J. Larry Miller stated that the next item on agenda is the appointment to the Cave-Eastern Fire Protection District Board and Les Darnell is recommended to be reappointed to a three year term ending May 6, 2024.

Ray Minor made a motion to reappoint Les Darnell to the Cave-Eastern Fire Protection District Board as presented. Brad Wilson seconded the motion. On roll call vote, all voted yes.

**EWING-NORTHERN FIRE  
PROTECTION BOARD - 1  
APPOINTMENT**

Chairman J. Larry Miller stated that the next item on agenda is the appointment to the Ewing-Northern Fire Protection District Board and David Wilson is recommended to be reappointed to a three year term ending May 6, 2024.

Ray Minor made a motion to reappoint David Wilson to the Ewing-Northern Fire Protection District Board as presented. Brad Wilson seconded the motion. On roll call vote, all voted yes.

**HILL CITY WATER  
DISTRICT - 1  
APPOINTMENT**

Chairman J. Larry Miller stated that the next item on agenda is the appointment to the Hill City Water District Board and April Tedrow is recommended to be reappointed to a five year term ending April 30, 2026.

Ray Minor made a motion to reappoint April Tedrow to the Hill City Water District Board as presented. Brad Wilson seconded the motion. On roll call vote, all voted yes.

**PLUMFIELD WATER  
DISTRICT - 1  
APPOINTMENT**

Chairman J. Larry Miller stated that the next item on agenda is the appointment to the Plumfield Water District Board and Rodney Summers is recommended to be reappointed to a four year term ending May 1, 2025.

Ray Minor made a motion to reappoint Rodney Summers to the Plumfield Water District Board as presented. Brad Wilson seconded the motion. On roll call vote, all voted yes.



**SESSER FIRE  
PROTECTION DISTRICT  
- 2 APPOINTMENTS**

Chairman J. Larry Miller stated that the next item on agenda are two appointments to the Sesser Fire Protection Board and Angela Evans and Rick Dennison were recommended to replace Kari Payne & John Spence for three year terms ending April 30, 2024.

Mark Kash made a motion to appoint Angela Evans and Rick Dennison to the Sesser Fire Protection Board as presented. John Gossett seconded the motion. On roll call vote, all voted yes.

**COUNTY CLERK,  
CORONER, & SHERIFF**

Chairman J. Larry Miller stated the next item on the agenda are the monthly reports from the Franklin County Clerk; Franklin County Coroner; and Franklin County Sheriff reports for service from March 14, 2021 thru April 18, 2021.

Brad Wilson made a motion to approve all reports as presented. Jack Warren seconded the motion. On roll call vote, all voted yes.

Said reports are made a part of these minutes.

**REGION OFFICE OF  
EDUCATION -  
QUARTERLY REPORT**

Chairman J. Larry Miller stated the next item on the agenda is the Regional Office of Education (ROE) Quarterly Reports of Activities for October 1, 2020 thru December 31, 2020 and January 1, 2021 thru March 31, 2021 this reports.

Brad Wilson made a motion to accept these reports as presented. Jack Warren seconded the motion. On roll call vote, all voted yes.

Said reports are made a part of these minutes.

**CLOSED SESSION**

Chairman J. Larry Miller informed the County Board that a closed session is needed at this time.

Ray Minor made a motion to go into closed session at 7:14 pm. Kevin Weston seconded the motion. On roll call vote, all voted yes.

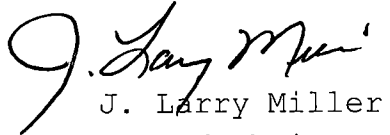
**RETURN TO OPEN  
SESSION**

Discussion on Colt lease and union contracts.

John Gossett made a motion to resume to the open meeting at 7:52 pm. Mark Kash seconded the motion. On roll call vote, all voted yes.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Chairman J. Larry Miller asked the Board if there were any questions. Brad Wilson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ray Minor seconded the motion. There being no further business Chairman J. Larry Miller declared the meeting adjourned.

  
J. Larry Miller

Franklin County Board Chairman

  
Greg Woolard

County Clerk and Recorder