

FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD

MINUTES OF MEETING

Dec 22, 2020

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 Larry Miller, John Gossett, Neil Hargis, Mark Kash, Ray Minor, Kevin Weston and Brad Wilson. Randall Crocker and Jack Warren were absent.

Also attendances were Gayla Prather, Administrative Assistant to the County Board; Ryan Buckingham, Director of Emergency Management Agency; Abby Dinn, States Attorney; Jim Muir, Circuit Clerk; Mike Rolla, County Engineer; Steve Vercellino, County Treasurer; 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. No one had any comments.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Neil Hargis made a motion to accept the minutes of the November 17, 2020 Regular County Board Meeting; November 23, 2020 Continued County Board Meeting; December 7, 2020 Special County Board Meeting and December 7, 2020 Additional County Board Meeting. Brad Wilson seconded the motion. On roll call vote, all voted yes.

COUNTY CLAIMS

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

**LOCAL LIQUOR
COMMISSIONER: COUNTY
BOARD MEMBER -
APPOINTMENT**

Chairman J. Larry Miller stated that the first item on the agenda is the appointment of a County Board Member to be the Local Liquor Commissioner and he appointed Kevin Weston.

**2021 CALENDAR -
CHANGE MEETING DATES**

Chairman J. Larry Miller stated that the next item on the agenda is the change in the meeting dates on the 2021 Calendar. He is asking to change the Board meeting dates to only be on third Monday of the month immediately following the committee meetings.

Ray Minor made a motion to approve the change in the County Board meetings on the 2021 Calendar. Mark Kash seconded the motion. On roll call vote, all voted yes.

**INTER-GOVERNMENTAL
AGREEMENT W/II
COMPTROLLER'S OFFICE
- APPROVAL**

Chairman J. Larry Miller stated that the next item on the agenda is the approval on Inter-Governmental Agreement with Illinois Comptroller's Office to join Illinois Debt Recovery Program and he asked Jim Muir, Circuit Clerk to explain. Jim Muir, Circuit Clerk explained that this Intergovernmental Agreement by and between the Illinois Office of the Comptroller and the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Franklin County regarding access to the Comptroller's local debt recovery program. This program is to provide the named local unit access to the local debt recovery program for purposes of collecting both tax and nontax debts owed to the named local unit.

John Gossett made a motion to approve the Inter-Governmental Agreement with Illinois Comptroller's Office to join Illinois Debt Recovery Program as presented. Kevin Weston seconded the motion. On roll call vote, all voted yes.

Said agreement is made a part of these minutes as Agreement No. 2020-14.

**DELINQUENT TAX
PROGRAM**

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

Brad Wilson made a motion to accept the resolutions as presented. Kevin Weston seconded the motion. On roll call vote, all voted yes.

Said resolutions are made a part of these minutes as Resolution No. 2020-46 thru 2020-70.

**COURTHOUSE
CONTRACTED FINAL
COMPLETION DATE -
APPROVAL**

Chairman J. Larry Miller informed the County Board that the next item on the agenda is the approval of the contracted Final Completion Date for the New Courthouse and he asked Kevin Weston to explain. Kevin Weston explained that the drilling on the piers that were added to the construction of the courthouse added extra time so the board needs to extend the time for completion to May 21, 2022.

Kevin Weston made a motion to approve the extension for the final completion date of the courthouse. Mark Kash seconded the motion. On roll call vote, all voted yes.

**BUDGET DISCUSSION
WITH RHETT BARKE**

Chairman J. Larry Miller stated that the next item on the agenda is the budget discussion with Rhett Barke. Rhett Barke spoke about the budget process and labor negotiations. Discussion followed.

**WHITE & BORGOGNONI
ARCHITECTS PC**

Chairman J. Larry Miller stated that the next item on the agenda is the White & Borgognoni Architects PC claim for 13% Construction Administration in the amount of \$16,802.50.

Neil Hargis made a motion to approve the payment to White & Borgognoni Architects PC. 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 (HFE)**

Chairman J. Larry Miller stated that the next item on the agenda is the Holcomb Foundation Engineering (HFE) claim for construction materials testing in the amount of \$3,029.60.

Neil Hargis 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.

**CROSSWALK COMMUNITY
ACTION AGENCY - 2
APPOINTMENTS**

Chairman J. Larry Miller stated that the next item on the agenda are the two appointments to the Crosswalk Community Action Agency that will expire on December 31, 2020. He informed the County Board that this needs to be tabled at this time.

**FRANKLIN COUNTY
COMMUNITY MENTAL
"708" HEALTH - 2
APPOINTMENTS**

Chairman J. Larry Miller stated that the next item on the agenda are the two appointments to the Franklin County Community Mental "708" Health board that will expire on December 31, 2020. He informed the County Board that this needs to be tabled at this time.

**GREATER EGYPT
REGIONAL PLANNING
COMMISSION - 2
APPOINTMENTS**

Chairman J. Larry Miller stated that the next item on the agenda are two appointments to the Greater Egypt Regional Planning Commission and he asked to reappoint Neil Hargis to another three year term ending December 31, 2023 and appoint Josh Qualls to replace Jason Ashmore to a three year term ending December 31, 2023.

John Gossett made a motion to accept the appointments as presented. Brad Wilson seconded the motion. On roll call vote, all voted yes except Neil Hargis abstained.

**REND LAKE TOURISM
COUNCIL - 3
APPOINTMENTS**

Chairman J. Larry Miller stated that the next item on the agenda are three appointments to the Rend Lake Tourism Council and he asked to reappoint Lowanda Johnson & Steven Vercellino to another three year terms ending December 31, 2023, the third appointment will be announced at a later date.

Ray Minor made a motion to accept the appointments as presented. Neil Hargis seconded the motion. On roll call vote, all voted yes except Mark Kash voted no.

**COUNTY CLERK,
CORONER & SHERIFF**

Chairman J. Larry Miller stated the next item on the agenda are the monthly reports from the Franklin County Clerk, November monthly report; Franklin County Coroner, November monthly report; and Franklin County Sheriff report for service from November 17, 2020 thru December 21, 2020.

Brad Wilson made a motion to approve all reports as presented. Ray Minor 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 stated that a closed session is needed to discuss collective bargaining.

Ray Minor made a motion at 6:47 pm to begin a closed session. Neil Hargis seconded the motion. On roll call vote, all voted yes.

**RETURN TO OPEN
SESSION**

Kevin Weston made a motion at 7:37 pm to resume the open meeting. Neil Hargis 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. Neil Hargis 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