

# FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD

MINUTES OF MEETING

Feb 20, 2024

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**CALL TO ORDER**

The Regular Meeting of the County Board was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by J. Larry Miller. This meeting was held in the Franklin County Courthouse, County Board Room 133, 100 Public Square, Benton, Illinois.

**ROLL CALL**

Secretary, Kevin Wilson, called the roll. Members in attendance were J. Larry Miller, Dave Bartoni, Angela Evans, John Gossett, Neil Hargis, Ray Minor, Curtis Overton, Kevin Weston and Brad Wilson.

Also in attendance were Gayla Prather, County Board Office Manager; Amos Abbott, E-911 Director; Kyle Bacon, County Sheriff; Matt Barnett, County Engineer; Cindy Miklos, Supervisor of Assessments; Jim Muir, Circuit Clerk; Steve Vercellino, County Treasurer and Rick & Barbara Linton and other interested parties.

**PLEDGE**

Ray Minor lead everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Chairman J. Larry Miller asked the public if there were comments at this time.

**MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

Kevin Weston made a motion to accept the minutes of the January 16, 2024 Regular County Board Meeting. Ray Minor 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.

**DISSOLUTION OF FREDCO - RICK LINTON**

Chairman J. Larry Miller stated that the first item on the agenda is the Dissolution of FREDCO and he asked Rick Linton to explain.

Rick Linton: Yeah. In 2004, Franklin County established Franklin County Regional Development

Corporation and up to 2015 I became executive director and for those years I used the USDA grant that we had for about \$500,000 to make loans to businesses. I went out to businesses throughout the county. We helped several people. I put some information on your desk up there. It describes our accomplishments and had a lot of people who basically gave me real kind words and talked about what we had done for their businesses. We maintained a website. We developed brochures, promotional videos, television commercials to promote business and development in Franklin County. I think we were very successful. Several businesses. We made loans to businesses on the USDA grant program that we had. I represented Franklin County and several regional organizations. Workforce development, all the regional county economic development type businesses. We have officially dissolved Fredco. Basically because of financial issues we dissolved the entity. We found it tough to support a regional organization and usually regional organizations are not popular with everyone, so we did not have a full support of everybody in the county. We did have the support of the county board in five cities. That helped us out quite a bit. We have repaid. All our loans are closed. We managed all the loans for the businesses, closed those out and we sent back the money, the balance of the 500,000 to USDA and that is closed. We took the equipment and records and so forth, documents that we get. We took all the furniture, basically donated that to tourism council and we were keeping all these records for another two to three years in the Campbell building and the tourism office. We kept a filing cabinet there. With all my records, I am going to have to probably destroy all that properly because we got loan applications and that sort of thing that we must still be responsible for. Other than that, we really closed out. We had our loans were between five and 3% interest and I was able to acquire about 1% of that over a period, minus the cost of operation we had to do.

We were left with probably about 24,000, but we went through the board, decided the best thing to do is go through and look at the percentage of support that the county and the city given to us and we have written checks back to everybody. So tonight, I am going to give \$12,000 back to Franklin County.

Chairman J. Larry Miller: Thank you, Rick. Barbara, you come up but we have something for you all. You guys have worked diligently. I was involved with Fredco. I have been on that board for a good while and we read through a lot of different venues and you guys have just worked hard for the county and we appreciate it and our county board want give you an expression. I will give that to you Barb.

Barbara Linton: He is the guy out there talking to people? I was back there doing the numbers and the paperwork.

Rick Linton: All the thousands of businesses that are listed in here, Barb called all those people every year.

Barabara Linton: When their numbers are wrong, it is because I cannot see. That is the only ones you hear from.

**DELINQUENT TAX  
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 the parcels sold thru the County's Delinquent Tax Program.

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

Said resolutions are made a part of these minutes as Resolution No. 2024-05 and 2024-07.

**VALIER ANIMAL  
CONTROL SERVICES -  
AGREEMENT**

Chairman J. Larry Miller stated that the next item on the agenda is the agreement for Valier Animal Control Services for which was at the rate of \$2.38, for I believe for us to provide animal control for them, we need a motion to approve that.

John Gossett made a motion to approve the contract with Valier for animal control services. Curtis Overton seconded the motion. On roll call vote, all voted yes.

Said agreement is made a part of these minutes as Agreement No. 2024-02.

**ARCHIMAGES  
CONSTRUCTION FOR EMA  
OPERATIONS CENTER -  
RELEASE FOR BIDDING  
- APPROVAL**

Chairman J. Larry Miller stated that the next item on the agenda is the approval to release the bidding for Archimages Construction Documents for Franklin County Emergency Management Operations Center and he asked for a motion.

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

**HALO SMART SENSOR  
FOR CAMPBELL  
BUILDING - ARPA  
FUNDING - APPROVAL**

Chairman J. Larry Miller stated that the next item on the agenda is the approval for three Halo Smart sensors for the Campbell building and that will come out of the ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) fund. Information was presented for this in the Transportation Committee meeting earlier this evening.

Brad Wilson made a motion to approve the Halo Smart Sensors as presented. Ray Minor seconded the motion. On roll call vote, all voted yes except Angela Evans & Curtis Overton voted no.

Said information is made a part of these minutes.

**PLAT ACT  
REQUIREMENTS  
VIOLATION - LESS  
THAN FIVE ACRES -  
APPROVAL**

Chairman J. Larry Miller stated that the next item on the agenda is the approval of plat act requirements violation of less than five acres will need to be tabled at this time.

**PLAT ACT  
REQUIREMENTS  
VIOLATION - LESS  
THAN 125' ROAD  
FRONTAGE - APPROVAL**

Chairman J. Larry Miller stated that the next item on the agenda is the approval of plat act requirements violation for less than 125 feet road frontage.

Ray Minor made a motion to approve plat act requirements as presented. Angela Evans seconded the motion.

Chairman J. Larry Miller: Any discussion on that?

Brad Wilson: When are we going to investigate that policy? Who is going to do that?

Cindy Miklos, Supervisor of Assessments: Matt Barnett, County Engineer and I discussed that on break. We are going to investigate and hopefully get done. I mean I will investigate it in the next week or so. Week to two weeks, whenever he has got free time and then hopefully get what we want and then get with Abby Dinn, States Attorney and see if she will look over it and then we can put it on the agenda.

Brad Wilson: Thank you.

On roll call vote, all voted yes.

Said violation documents are made a part of these minutes.

**SUPERVISOR OF  
ASSESSMENTS CONTRACT  
FOR CYNTHIA MIKLOS -  
APPROVAL**

Chairman J. Larry Miller stated that the next item on the agenda is the approval of the contract for Supervisor of Assessments Cynthia Miklos needs to be tabled at this time.

**SUPERVISOR OF ANIMAL  
CONTROL CONTRACT FOR  
BOBBIE WILLIAMS -  
APPROVAL**

Chairman J. Larry Miller stated that the next item on the agenda is the approval of the contract for Supervisor of Animal Control Bobbie Williams needs to be tabled at this time.

**RESOLUTION TO  
FURNISH MATERIALS  
FOR COUNTY SECTION  
24-00000-00-GM**

Chairman J. Larry Miller stated that the next item on the agenda is the resolution for 24-00000-00-GM Maintenance County and asked Matt Barnett, County Engineer to present these resolution. Matt Barnett, County Engineer presented the resolution County Maintenance for 24-00000-00-GM for materials. Eagle Valley Inc from Shawneetown, Illinois for CA10 Surfacing Material; Crossroads 2 LLC from Junction, Illinois for CA-16 Seal Coat Aggregate and Erosion Control Material RIP RAP 3; Emulsicoat from Urbana, Illinois for BIT.MTLS Liquid Asphalt HFE-90/150 or RS-2 Delivered and Illini Asphalt, from Benton Illinois for Emulsified Asphalt Grade HFE-300, BIT.MTLS Liquid Asphalt, HFE-90/150 or RS-2 Applied and BIT.MTLS Liquid Asphalt HFP Applied all are the low bidders and he recommends approval.

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

Said resolution is made a part of these minutes as Resolution No. 2024-08.

**RESOLUTION TO  
FURNISH MATERIALS  
FOR TOWNSHIP ROAD  
DISTRICTS**

Chairman J. Larry Miller stated that the next item on the agenda is the resolution for the 2024 Township Maintenance 24-XX000-00-GM and asked Matt Barnett, County Engineer to explain. Matt Barnett, County Engineer presented the resolution for the Township Road districts and they are as follows: Barren, Benton, Browning, Cave, Denning, Eastern, Ewing, Frankfort, Goode, Northern, Six-Mile & Tyrone. Awarding Bidders: Beelman Logistic LLC, East St. Louis, Illinois to furnish Surfacing Material CA 10, Seal Coat Aggregate CA 16, Surfacing Material CA 6/10, and Surfacing Material CA 11; Illini Asphalt, Benton, Illinois to furnish BIT.MTLS Liquid Asphalt HFE-150 or RS-2 Applied, BIT.MTLS Liquid Asphalt HFP, Seal Coat Aggregate CA 16 applied, Emulsified Asphalt Grade HFE-300; Crossroads 2 LLC, Junction, Illinois to furnish Seal Coat Aggregate CA 16, Surfacing Material CA 6/10, Surfacing Material CA 10; and Eagle Valley

Inc., Shawneetown, Illinois to furnish Surfacing Material CA 6/10 were the low bidders. There are twelve townships and the resolution states which low bidder was awarded that contract and he recommends approval.

Ray Minor 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 a part of these minutes as Resolution No. 2024-09.

**911 EMERGENCY  
TELEPHONE SYSTEM - 4  
APPOINTMENTS**

Chairman J. Larry Miller stated that the next item on the agenda are the four appointments to the 911 Emergency Telephone System Board and he read a resignation letter from David Bartoni.

Chairman J. Larry Miller: We need to accept. Can we do this, Mr. Clerk, to accept the resignations of Ray Minor from the 911, the emergency telephone 911 and the resignation of Dave Bartoni for the West Frankfort. Okay. Let us need a motion to approve that. To accept the resignations.

Curtis Overton made a motion to accept their resignations. Brad Wilson seconded the motion. On roll call vote, all voted yes except Dave Bartoni and Ray Minor abstained.

Chairman J. Larry Miller: Alright. Now we are going to make appointments to the 911 phone. Emergency is reappointing Ryan Buckingham and Mariah Hays to another three year terms ending March 20, 2027 and appoint Dave Bartoni to fill Ray Minor's unexpired term ending March 20, 2025. And I think we will have to wait on, so I need a motion to approve those.

John Gossett made a motion to approve the reappointment of Ryan Buckingham and Mariah Hays to another term. And appointing Dave Bartoni to fill Ray Minor's unexpired term. Angela Evans seconded the motion. On roll call vote, all voted yes except Dave Bartoni abstained.

Chairman J. Larry Miller: We need then to appoint Timothy McGuire to the West Frankfort that serve 9 1 1, isn't it? Or am I right? What is that? That is the appointment to the nine one. I got it. I got it. Yes. Tim McGuire. Got it. Want to make a motion to do that?

Ray Minor made a motion to appoint Tim McGuire to replace Dave Bartoni's three year term ending March 20, 2027. David Bartoni seconded the motion. On roll call vote, all voted yes.

Said resignation letter from David Bartoni is made a part of these minutes.

**PAUL MILLER  
CONSTRUCTION COMPANY  
- ARPA**

Chairman J. Larry Miller stated that the next item on the agenda is the approval of a check to Paul Miller Construction Company payment from the ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) fund.

Curtis Overton made a motion to pay Paul Miller Construction Company \$70,000 out of ARPA fund. Ray Minor seconded the motion. On roll call vote, all voted yes except Chairman J. Larry Miller abstained.

**ARCHIMAGES - ARPA**

Chairman J. Larry Miller stated that the next item on the agenda is the approval of a check to Archimages Construction payment from the ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) fund.

Kevin Weston made the motion to pay \$41,551.03 for their work so far on the architectural drawings for the Emergency Management Operations Center project. John Gossett seconded the motion. On roll call vote, all voted yes.



**COUNTY CLERK,  
SHERIFF & CORONER -  
MONTHLY REPORTS**

Chairman J. Larry Miller stated the next item on the agenda are the January, 2024 monthly reports from the County Clerk, Sheriff and Coroner reports.

Brad Wilson made motion to approve the reports as presented. Curtis Overton 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 the next item on the agenda is a closed session. I would like for us to do that if we, I get a motion. A second go close session. We come back; we will not be taking any questions.

Kevin Weston made the motion at 6:37 p.m. to go into closed session. Ray Minor seconded the motion. On roll call vote, all voted yes.


Chairman J. Larry Miller: Alright. We will adjourn to the conference room.

**RETURN TO OPEN  
SESSION**

Angela Evans made a motion to resume the open meeting at 8:12 p.m. Ray Minor seconded the motion. All in agreement.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Chairman J. Larry Miller asked the Board if there were any questions. Curtis Overton made a motion to adjourn the meeting. John Gossett seconded the motion. There being no further business Chairman J. Larry Miller declared the meeting adjourned.



J. Larry Miller  
Franklin County Board Chairman



Kevin Wilson  
County Clerk and Recorder