

DATE: February 5, 2024

**PUBLIC SAFETY**  
**(Sheriff's Office, Juvenile Detention Center, EMA, Animal Control,**  
**Waste Management, Bi-County Health Board, 911/Emergency Services, Animal Control)**  
**DECEMBER, 2023 THRU NOVEMBER, 2024**  
**FIRST AND THIRD MONDAYS OF THE MONTH**

Franklin County Board Committee meetings and Franklin County Board meetings are held at the Franklin County Board Room, Franklin County Courthouse, 100 Public Square, Benton, Illinois.

COMMITTEEMEN:

- (x) John Gossett – Chairman
- (x) Angela Evans
- ( ) Neil Hargis - EMA
- (x) Larry Miller – County Board Chairman
- (x) Ray Minor – 911/Emergency Services
- (x) Curtis Overton
- ( ) David Bartoni
- (x) Kevin Weston
- ( ) Brad Wilson – Juvenile Detention Center

County Offices

- (( ) Amos Abbott, Director 911
- (x) Kyle Bacon, Sheriff
- (x) Matt Barnett, County Engineer
- ( ) Ryan Buckingham, Director EMA
- ( ) Abigail Dinn
- ( ) Darla Fitzgerald, Court Services
- (x) Marty Leffler, Coroner
- ( ) Lorie LeQuatte, ROE
- (x) Cynthia Miklos, Supervisor of Assessments
- ( ) Judge Melissa Morgan
- (x) Jim Muir, Circuit Clerk
- (x) Gayla Prather, County Board Office Manager
- ( ) Monica Urban, Probation
- (x) Steve Vercellino, Treasurer
- ( ) Bobbie Williams, Animal Control Supervisor
- (x) Kevin Wilson, County Clerk

Guests (Public Comments)...Joe Farley and Blake Benjamin, both with Novacom, Steve Vercellino and other interested parties that attended.

The meeting was called to order at 5:46 by Chairman John Gossett. See above list of those attending. There were no public comments.

Chairman Gossett asked Coroner Marty Leffler for an update on the morgue.

Coroner Marty Leffler...

- Plumbing is done.
- Heating and EVAC are 2 weeks out.
- On the Electrical – the EMA will have their own smaller box for their electrical needs.
- Currently Franklin Hospital's Cooler is full.
- At a coroner's meeting the last week – several counties showed an interest in our upcoming facility.
- Our cooler will be able to take care of 12-15 bodies.
- He brought up the fact that the salary for the coroner has not changed in 5 years. It would have to be decided prior to 180 days before the election for a coroner. It's currently a little under \$37,000. Other rural counties in Illinois are around \$55,000.

Sheriff Kyle Bacon...

- Commented that our Coroner is a great asset in death investigations.
- Thanked the board for allowing his department to use surplus vehicles for trade-ins.
- Gave his monthly Sheriff's Report and also his 2023 Activity/Enforcement report which can be seen on [www.franklincountyil.gov](http://www.franklincountyil.gov) as 2-05-2024 Public Safety Committee Meeting Attachment 1 and will be approved by the board on the 2-20-24 County Board Meeting.

County Board Chairman Larry Miller asked Bacon about the Saturday April 6<sup>th</sup> celebration in advance of the Eclipse which will be the following Monday. This event is being planned by Benton West City Area Chamber of Commerce and will be held on the Square. More information on this event can be seen on [www.franklincountyil.gov](http://www.franklincountyil.gov) as 2-05-2024 Public Safety Committee Meeting Attachment 2.

Coroner Marty Leffler told the board that he had received the first payment request from Paul Miller Construction for the work that has been done on the County Morgue. This payment will be processed, presented, and approved at the 2-20-2024 County Board Meeting

The meeting adjourned at 6:07 PM  
Minutes submitted 02/15/2024  
John Gossett – Public Safety Committee

DATE: February 20, 2024

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Guests (Public Comments)...Greg Garner with Archimages, Steve Vercellino and other interested parties that attended.

The meeting was called to order at 6:04 by Chairman John Gossett. See above list of those attending. There were no public comments.

Chairman Gossett asked for any reports or information...

Animal Control Supervisor Bobbie Williams responded...

- Asked for approval of the Agreement for Animal Control Services Between City Council of the City of Valier and Franklin County Board. This agreement is on the following agenda for the following evening Franklin County Board.
- Also brought up that Animal Control r current agreements are quite old.
- Agreements are on a per capita rate.
- County does not have to provide animal control.
- The Board did ask her to proceed with checking into the contracts.

County Board Chairman Larry Miller explained the 911 appointments that are on the agenda for the following evening County Board Meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 6:10 PM

Minutes submitted 02/20/2024

John Gossett – Public Safety Committee