

July 1, 2024

**FINANCE,
(Salaries, Policy and Purchasing, Insurance, Tourism,
Supervisor of Assessments/Mapping, Economic Development)
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) Ray Minor – Chairman
- () Angela Evans
- (x) John Gossett - Labor Negotiations (Sheriff's Office)
- (x) Neil Hargis – Labor Negotiations (Clerical)
- (x) Larry Miller – County Board Chairman, Economic Development
- (x) Curtis Overton
- (x) David Bartoni
- (x) Kevin Weston – Labor Negotiations (County Highway)
- (x) Brad Wilson – Labor Negotiations (Juvenile Detention Center)

County Offices

- () Amos Abbott, Director 911
- (x) Kyle Bacon, Sheriff
- (x) Matt Barnett, County Engineer
- (x) Ryan Buckingham, Director EMA 5:21 (Phone)
- () Abigail Dinn
- () Darla Fitzgerrell, Court Services
- (x) Marty Leffler, Coroner
- (x) 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
- () Kevin Wilson, County Clerk

Guests (subject of those stating public comments)... Tom Carter (Was concerned about our security because our Auditors, Rice & Sullivan, and were recently hacked. He also brought up the conversation about steps the county takes in order to keep our files safe. Discussion followed.) Steve Vercellino, William McPherson and other interested parties that attended.

The meeting was called to order at 5:04 by Chairman Ray Miner. See above lists of those attending and the (subject of those stating public comments).

County claims were submitted and were approved and signed by all members present.

Treasurer Steve Vercellino gave his report...

- Vercellino had not heard of the breach nor did he receive any notice from Rice and Sullivan concerning them being hacked.
- He had heard the information from Tom Carter previously that morning.
- He then reached out to Sarah Kary (our contact with Rice and Sullivan) to discuss. He was informed that it seemed to be files that were breached.
- Discussion followed concerning the actions the county takes to keep their files and financial accounts as safe as they can. County has backups in several ways with our IT groups and also has insurance covering these problems.
- Chairman Larry Miller asked about Positive Pay accounts. Discussion followed. Vercellino said he has accounts at People's National Bank that are covered by Positive Pay. He will check into the 2 other banks that also have some of our accounts, about what ways are used, or could be used to keep our accounts safe in their facility.
- County Highway, does have their own accounts at People's National Bank also. Board Member Brad Wilson asked County Engineer Matt Barnett if he would talk to People's about positive pay for their accounts also.
- Board Member John Gossett asked the cost to use Positive Pay. The response was \$50 per account.
- Vercellino then reported the beginning balance for 6/30/2024 is \$8,598,813. ARPA balance is \$4,477,733.97.
- The total report can be seen on www.franklincountyil.gov as 7-1-2024 Finance Committee Meeting Attachment 1.
- Our auditor, Sara Kary was at the treasurer's office on the previous Thursday. It is usual for her to be in the various offices during the audit. So far, things are going well and continue to move along. Could possible could be finished in September.
- The 4th quarter payments were sent to Devnet last week. Once they are back in Vercellino's hands, the final disbursement can be sent to the entities.
- Wilson asked, if that could possible, be sent Friday of this week? He talked about the need for that last distribution to get to school districts, park districts, etc. He also asked Vercellino if we could do better next year.
- Wilson had passed around a letter that was sent to the Treasurer, a copy of 35 ILCS 200/Property Tax Code and also a letter that had been sent to the State Attorney's office. These requests that were sent by Sesser-Valier Community Unit School can be seen on www.franklincountyil.gov as 7-1-2024 Finance Committee Meeting Attachment 2.
- Vercellino then mentioned and thanked the board that the buttons have been installed for the safety of the Campbell Building employees. The bullet proof glass is still in the process.

Circuit Clerk Jim Muir...

- Had also talked to Rice and Sullivan. It was their files that were being held for ransom.
- Thinking about all of the many files he has in his office, he made a few phone calls.
- According to Concepte of Illinois, Erick Christy – most problems come in through emails. Especially attachments to the email.
- He spoke to Gooden. This is the company that he paid an extra \$40,00 for an extra layer of protection on his files.
- Gooden assured him that they have never been hacked and have several back-ups for the files.

The meeting adjourned at 5:39PM

Minutes submitted 07/11/2024

Ray Minor, Chairman - Finance Committee

July 15, 2024

**FINANCE,
(Salaries, Policy and Purchasing, Insurance, Tourism,
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- () Monica Urban, Probation
- (x) Steve Vercellino, Treasurer
- () Bobbie Williams, Animal Control Supervisor
- (x) Kevin Wilson, County Clerk

Guests (subject of those stating public comments)...Tom Carter, Steve Vercellino, Daniel Evans and other interested parties that attended.

The meeting was called to order at 5:01 by Chairman Ray Miner. See above lists of those attending and the (subject of those stating public comments).

County claims were submitted and were approved and signed by all members present.

Treasurer Steve Vercellino gave his report...

- The beginning balance for 7/15/2024 is \$8,720,241. ARPA balance is \$4,488,377.53.
- He also listed a few of the larger checks – payment to Rice Sullivan for Audit, Concepte for email service, Sheriff inmate medical, etc.
- State checks were just received but not on the report. These checks are around \$418,000.
- The total report can be seen on www.franklincountyil.gov as 7-15-2024 Finance Committee Meeting Attachment 1.
- Tax Bills on Mobile Homes have been mailed and will be due September 18th.
- County Clerk has passed along the next step on the Real Estate Taxes. It then usually takes 2-3 weeks in the Treasurer's office.
- DevNet knows we are almost ready and taxes could be ready to mail early August.
- 2024-2025 Work sheets on budget reports were passed out at a meeting for most of the department heads.
- Treasurer's office will be down 1 employee for several weeks, but one of the part-time employees during tax time will be returning to help fill in the gap.
- Still working to clear some concerns about figuring (PLAWA)paid time off for part time employees. County Clerk's Beth Cunningham and Treasurer's Amy Sileven are working through this.

County Board Member Larry Miller...

- Asked about what preparations are in place during the gap.
- Vercellino responded that the other 2 full time employees have been trained on different parts of each other's responsibilities. With Vercellino's input and the part-time employee returning, the office will be able to cover.

The meeting adjourned at 5:11PM

Minutes submitted 08/01/2024

Ray Minor, Chairman - Finance Committee