

July 3, 2023

**FINANCE,
(Salaries, Policy and Purchasing, Insurance, Tourism,
Supervisor of Assessments/Mapping, Economic Development)
DECEMBER 2022 THRU NOVEMBER 2023
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:

- () Ray Minor – Chairman
- (x) 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) Jack Warren – Labor Negotiations (Animal Control)
- (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) Ryan Buckingham, Director EMA
- () Abigail Dinn
- () Darla Fitzgerrell, Court Services
- (x) Marty Leffler, Coroner
- () Lorie LeQuatte, ROE
- (x) Cynthia Miklos, Supervisor of Assessments
- (x) Jim Muir, Circuit Clerk
- () Bobbie Overturf, Animal Control Supervisor
- () LaVonda Porter, JDC Superintendent
- () Gayla Prather, County Board Adm. Assist.
- (x) Mike Rolla, County Engineer
- () Judge Melissa Morgan
- () Monica Urban, Probation
- (x) Steve Vercellino, Treasurer
- () Kevin Wilson, County Clerk

Guests... Tom Carter (Public Comment – Concerning Juvenile Detention Center/JDC), Justin Turnbough, Angela Turnbough, John Owens, and Heather Morse, (American Medical Response), Becky Salazar and Kristi Bussler (Franklin County Senior Services) and other interested parties.

The meeting was called to order at 5:02 PM by County Board Member Brad Wilson in the absence of Chairman Ray Minor. See above list of those attending, and also, those stating public comments and the topics of their comments.

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

Treasurer, Steve Vercellino then gave his report...

- Beginning balance as of 7/03/2023 is \$8,219,755. ARPA balance is \$4,925,022.44, cashflow without ARPA is \$3,294,732.78.
- Vercellino explained his report, which includes the claims docket, the cash flow statement, ARPA Fund Summary, and a list which includes Courthouse construction claims. He also included information concerning the balance on the Courthouse bond principal balance. Debt on the Courthouse is now down to \$9,563,944.89. The complete report can be seen on www.franklincountyil.gov as 7-03-2023 Finance Committee Meeting Attachment 1.
- Mobile Home Tax bills were sent out today, will be due September 8th.
- Real Estate Tax bills are currently in the County Clerk's office, once they are finished, the process will move to the Treasurer's office. It is estimated the taxes will be mailed in August.

County Board Member Brad Wilson brought up the negative balance in the Juvenile Detention Center (JDC). He passed out Cash flow Statements, from 11/30/2017 and various other dates up to 05/31/2023, to the other board members. Wilson pointed out that the amount in 11/30/2017 statement showed \$99,388.55, and continued to show positive balances through 04/30/2019 which at that time showed cash flow still at a positive balance of \$286,875.69. On the 10/31/2019 Cash Flow Statement the amount had dropped to -\$126,653.81, 5/31/2021 showed a negative balance of -\$396,021.89, 5/31/2022 was down to -\$514,132.94 and as of 5/31/2023 the balance was -\$464,185.79. The complete report can be seen on www.franklincountyil.gov as 7-03-2023 Finance Committee Meeting Attachment 2. His question was, in a five-month time, what happened between a positive amount on 04/30/2019 thru a negative amount on 10/31/2019? Vercellino said he would check in to that time period. Wilson was concerned with the loss during that five-month period.

County Board Member Kevin Weston had a question about the amount that was paid to US Bank for the Courthouse payment. Why was the amount of \$5,305,036.15 paid when that was not the quarterly amount of payment required at this time? County Board Chairman Larry Miller asked Vercellino why, without the board's approval he would do that? Weston and Miller then discussed the interest rate on the loan was 2.65%, while the money being earned on the checking account for the payment is almost at 5.00% and they both thought that keeping it in the interest-bearing account was a better decision for the use of the tax-payers money. Vercellino felt like he did have the authority and according to him, he had asked the State's Attorney opinion and she agreed with him. He also felt like his decision was better for the tax-payers money. Discussion followed.

County Board Member John Gossett asked about paying a late fee of \$1,516.00 to the IRS. Treasurer Vercellino said payments are not made by the Treasurer's office it is made by the County Clerk's office. Discussion followed.

County Board Chairman Larry Miller brought up the subject of the Senior Tax Referendum and introduced Becky Salazar, Executive Director for Egyptian Area Agency on Aging, INC. and Kristi Bussler, Franklin County Senior Services, who were there to discuss the amount of money that is currently being taxed to support this service. We levy a tax for this service and currently, Franklin County Wit and Wisdom, and Franklin Hospital do get funding from that tax. Miller explained that Bussler felt like we were not getting the amount that could be levied for this service, and are leaving "money on the table" that could be used for our senior citizens. Bussler wanted to discuss the original resolution and for what the money was to be used. She feels like their service is much more than just meals and explained other areas, in which, they help. She feels like the amount they receive is trending downward. Population of seniors in our county is increasing. She then asked the board to keep this in mind when they begin the next levy process. Miller asked what amount she feels would be fair to levy and Bussler thought that would be .025. Discussion followed. Miller then asked Bussler to send a copy of their budget.

Wilson asked about the Tax Levy for Veterans Assistance Commission.

Miller responded that more information was being gathered and we would discuss this at a later time:

Funding is the big problem.

This would be a new levy.

Several areas need to be answered and resolved.

Vercellino asked about how 2 new levies would affect PTELL and how would the general fund be affected.

Gossett has been talking with different groups for guidance.

Currently, in other areas, 6 law suits are in process concerning this mandate.

Discussion followed

The meeting adjourned at 5:42 PM

Minutes submitted 7/13/2023

Ray Minor - Finance Committee

July 17, 2023

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(Salaries, Policy and Purchasing, Insurance, Tourism,
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- () Monica Urban, Probation
- (x) Steve Vercellino, Treasurer
- (x) Kevin Wilson, County Clerk

Guests...Amy Siliven (Public Comment – Displeasure with the new emails for county employees), Justin Turnbough, John Owens, and Heather Morse, (American Medical Response), Rick Linton (Rend Lake Area Tourism Council) and other interested parties.

The meeting was called to order at 5:04 PM by County Board Member Brad Wilson in the absence of Chairman Ray Minor (Phone). See above list of those attending, and also, those stating public comments and the topics of their comments.

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

Treasurer, Steve Vercellino then gave his report...

- Beginning balance as of 7/17/2023 is \$8,430,925. ARPA balance is \$4,938,853.86, cashflow without ARPA is \$3,492,071.30.
- Vercellino explained his report, which includes the claims docket, the cash flow statement, and ARPA Fund Summary. The complete report can be seen on www.franklincountyil.gov as 7-17-2023 Finance Committee Meeting Attachment 1.
- Chairman Larry Miller asked about the size of the budget report to be used for the upcoming budget hearing. Discussion followed.

Supervisor of Assessments Cindy Miklos explained the item she has on the following Board Agenda concerning the EagleView Flight...

- Benefit to the residents include the flight is more accurate and up-to-date.
- Findings provide better consistency.
- Cost can be covered through GIS fund.
- Discussion followed concerning the current process of assessment.

RLATC Director Rick Linton gave his tourism report concerning the S3DA event, which, was an overwhelming success for this area...

- This event is a 3year contract.
- Thanked the US Army Corps at Rend Lake for being the host venue for this event.
- Mentioned several partners and host cities that also contributed to the success of this event.
- The full report will be approved at the following County Board Meeting and can be viewed on www.franklincountyil.gov as 7-17-2023 Finance Committee Meeting Attachment 2.
- Thanked Franklin County Board for their continued support of RLATC.

The meeting adjourned at 5:29 PM

Minutes submitted 8/03/2023

Ray Minor - Finance Committee