

DATE: November 6, 2023

**PUBLIC SAFETY**  
**(Sheriff's Office, Juvenile Detention Center, EMA, Animal Control,**  
**Waste Management, Bi-County Health Board, 911/Emergency Services, Animal Control)**  
**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:

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

County Offices

- ( ) Amos Abbott, Director 911
- (x) Kyle Bacon, Sheriff
- ( ) Matt Barnett, County Engineer
- ( ) Ryan Buckingham, Director EMA
- ( ) Abigail Dinn
- ( ) Darla Fitzgerrell, Court Services
- (x) Marty Leffler, Coroner
- ( ) Lorie LeQuatte, ROE
- (x) Cynthia Miklos, Supervisor of Assessments
- ( ) Judge Melissa Morgan
- (x) Jim Muir, Circuit Clerk
- ( ) LaVonda Porter, JDC Superintendent
- (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)... Tom Carter (Wanted information on the tax to pay the bond on the JDC. Also asked for information concerning the tax from a 2012 meeting and a 2019 meeting. Vice Chairman Neil Hargis responded that he would have to check on that information. Chairman Larry Miller also responded that he has been trying to gather information concerning the 1% that is being collected to pay for the JDC), Paul Tart (Thanked the board for the help with the Take Action Today (TAT) program. He commented on the success of a couple of those who have been clean for 1 year. He also talked about a warming shelter that will be opened in Benton this year. The Edison Room has been leased for this purpose. He did mention to the board that extra funding would be helpful), Liam Mungovan, Cynthia Brittin, Dwayne Williams, and other interested parties.

The Public Safety Meeting was called to order at 5:39 PM by Chairman John Gossett. See above list of those attending, and also, those stating public comments and the topics of their comments.

Chairman Gossett then asked for monthly reports.

Sheriff Kyle Bacon gave his November Sheriff's Report...

- Total yearly revenue for his office is \$437,701,62
- Total yearly revenue for Reimbursement for School Resource Officers is \$7,760.50
- Spoke about the success with the K-9's and the help this department provides.
- The total report will be accepted and available to see on the November 20<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting minutes.
- Chairman Gossett asked if a report was filed on the driver of the truck that hit the Courthouse area and discussion followed.

Coroner Marty Leffler ...

- Cooler was delivered on October 24<sup>th</sup>.
- First step on the remodeling for the Coroner's office will be to create the entry area for the vehicles.
- The Contractor may be starting this work next week.
- Assistant Coroner John Graskewicz did retire October 24<sup>th</sup>.
- He will be in Bloomington on Tuesday, November 14<sup>th</sup> to be installed as president of Illinois Coroners and Medical Examiners Association.

County Board Chairman Larry Miller...

- Congratulated Leffler on becoming President of ICMEA
  - He mentioned November's Board appointments.
  - He also explained to the Board about a couple of additions to our Employee Handbook.
1. This would be to include Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority (ICJIA) and Office of Civil Rights (OCR).
  2. The information for the above would be the contact information to file a civil rights complaint to the ICJIA and/or the OCR.
  3. These updates will be passed at the next County Board Meeting -- November 20, 2023.

The meeting adjourned at 5:50 PM

Minutes submitted 11/16/2023

John Gossett – Public Safety Committee

DATE: November 20, 2023

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Guests (Public Comments)...Paul Tart (TAT – he discussed the need for the warming center in the county and requested help with funding), Tessia Leech, David Bartoni and other interested parties.

The Public Safety Meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Chairman John Gossett. See above list of those attending, and also, those stating public comments and the topics of their comments.

Chairman Gossett then continued the conversation concerning security for the Campbell Building. Discussion followed concerning the hardening of the building and all the options that are now available.

Animal Control Supervisor has found a temporary part-time employee due to one of her employees being currently unable to work.

Coroner Marty Leffler gave an update on the coroner's construction project. More materials have been delivered.

Sheriff Kyle Bacon had spoken to Benton Mayor, Lee Messersmith, about lighting for the Courthouse and both agreed that the building should not be part of what the city does. Chairman Miller, thought the lawn was ok to decorate as the rest of the square will be.

Chairman Larry Miller...

- Commented on the various appointments that were on the following board agenda.
- Mentioned that Benton Public Library "Compliance with Decennial Committee" report has now been given to the county.
- The 2024 Budget is on the following agenda. It will be tabled this time. Work is still on-going. Areas concerning PTELL, contingency, Levy, too many differences on the assessments, etc. were discussed.

The meeting adjourned at 6:16 PM

Minutes submitted 11/30/2023

John Gossett – Public Safety Committee