

DATE: October 2, 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
- (x) Jack Warren – Animal Control
- (x) Kevin Weston
- (x) Brad Wilson – Juvenile Detention Center

County Offices

- ( ) Amos Abbott, Director 911
- (x) Kyle Bacon, Sheriff
- ( ) Ryan Buckingham, Director EMA
- (x) Abigail Dinn
- ( ) Darla Fitzgerrell, Court Services
- ( ) Marty Leffler, Coroner
- ( ) Lorie LeQuatte, ROE
- ( ) Cynthia Miklos, Supervisor of Assessments
- (x) Jim Muir, Circuit Clerk
- ( ) Bobbie Williams, Animal Control Supervisor
- ( ) LaVonda Porter, JDC Superintendent
- (x) Gayla Prather, County Board Adm. Assist.
- ( ) Mike Rolla, County Engineer
- ( ) Judge Melissa Morgan (Joined the meeting at 5:08)
- ( ) Monica Urban, Probation
- (x) Steve Vercellino, Treasurer
- (x) Kevin Wilson, County Clerk

Guests...John Metzger, James Rusher, Alan Minton, and other interested parties.

Public comments ...Liam Mungovan spoke concerning the upcoming October 16<sup>th</sup> County Board Meeting. He let the Board know that there would be 60 Veterans and their families coming to that meeting in support of Veteran's Assistance Commission (VAC).

The Public Safety Meeting was called to order at 5:45 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 the monthly reports...

Sheriff Bacon...

- Presented his October Monthly Sheriff's Report which can be seen on [www.franklincountyil.gov](http://www.franklincountyil.gov) as 10-2-2023 Public Safety Committee Meeting Attachment 1.
- Spoke about an accident involving one of his Deputies when covering a 911 call.
- Also reported he had lost another deputy from his staff because Franklin County is not able to match many of the area's Police/Sheriff departments.
- Appreciates what the County is trying to do with the upcoming contract.
- Discussion followed concerning sign-in bonuses and if those could help.
- Overtime is high because he is low in employees.

Gossett asked Bacon if Franklin County uses the Juvenile Detention Center. Bacon responded if he has youth, they are booked in at the Sheriff's office and then taken to JDC.

County Board Chairman Larry Miller mentioned...

- Up-coming appointments for October 16<sup>th</sup> meeting.
- Employee Day has been postponed.
- Auction will be held November 4<sup>th</sup> in West Frankfort for County surplus items.

Board Member Brad Wilson thanked the Board for the steps they are taking to improve the Coroner's facility. After the loss of an extended family member, he realizes how it affects those who have to go to another county to be in the vicinity of their loved one, just because we don't have enough space.

The meeting adjourned at 6:09 PM

Minutes submitted 10/12/2023

John Gossett – Public Safety Committee

DATE: October 16, 2023

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Guests...John Owens, David Bartoni, Steve Vercellino, and other interested parties.

Public comments (and the topic of their comments) ... There were no public comments at this time.

The Public Safety Meeting was called to order at 5:31 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 the monthly reports...

Coroner Marty Leffler...

- Gave his September report can be seen on [www.franklincountyil.gov](http://www.franklincountyil.gov) as 10-16-2023 Public Safety \Committee Meeting Attachment 1.
- Leffler also reported that he has made the 2<sup>nd</sup> and final payment for the cooler.
- Leffler also reported that 2 of his assistant Coroner's John Owens and Matt Warren have removed the shelving that was in the Coroner's construction area and was also connected to the other area of the building. This was needed in order to start putting up walls.
- Leffler also told the board he would have 2 employees retiring by the end of the year - John Graskewicz, one of his Assistant Coroner's and Bernadette "Bernie" Staten, Secretary.
- At the fall meeting of the Illinois Coroners and Medical Examiners Association, he will be installed as the president of the association.

EMA Director Ryan Buckingham mentioned the items he had on the following night's County Board Agenda...

- AMR Third Amendment to Emergency Medical Services Agreement and the Resolution Authorizing.
- Intergovernmental Agreement for Participation in the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS).

County Board Chairman Larry Miller has asked State's Attorney Abbigail Dinn to look over the information on the Juvenile Detention Center and any options the board would have regarding this facility. He will be tabling number 5 on the following meeting agenda concerning the Juvenile Detention Center Tax Referendum Language.

Public Safety Chairman John Gossett gave his view on how to reroute the purpose of the original referendum.

The meeting adjourned at 5:51 PM

Minutes submitted 11/2/2023

John Gossett – Public Safety Committee