

DATE: September 5, 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
- ( ) Ray Minor – 911/Emergency Services – Left after Finance Meeting
- (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
- ( ) 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 Williams, Animal Control Supervisor
- ( ) LaVonda Porter, JDC Superintendent
- (x) Gayla Prather, County Board Adm. Assist.
- ( ) Mike Rolla, County Engineer
- ( ) Judge Melissa Morgan
- ( ) Monica Urban, Probation
- (x) Steve Vercellino, Treasurer
- (x) Kevin Wilson, County Clerk

Guests... Darrell Ellis (Executive Orders), Tom Carter (Questions on Relocation in Campbell Building), David Restivo (TNR), Rocky Morris (Forensic Audit comments), Paul Tart (TAT – Sept is National Recovery Month), Heather Carroll, Myra L. Ellis, William McPherson, Dwayne Williams and other interested parties.

The Public Safety Meeting was called to order at 6:10 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 Kyle Bacon...

- Gave his August report. The complete report can be seen on [www.franklincountyil.gov](http://www.franklincountyil.gov) as 9-5-2023 Public Safety Committee Meeting Attachment 1.
- Also, after 3 weeks back into school, the school's SROs are receiving positive feedback.
- Pretrial Fairness Act begins September 18<sup>th</sup>.

Coroner Marty Leffler...

- Gave his August report. [www.franklincountyil.gov](http://www.franklincountyil.gov) as 9-5-2023 Public Safety Committee Meeting Attachment 2.
- Has ordered his cooler for the coroner's office.
- Expressed his appreciation to the board for the Coroner's office and especially Board Member Curtis Overton for his extra help with the project.

County Board Chairman Larry Miller...

- Brought up the discussion of videoing the Board Meetings and make those videos available to the public. It was decided to at least look into the possibilities.
- Spoke about the Consolidated Report for Compliance with Decennial Local Government Efficiency Act for Ewing Township, Franklin County Illinois (Town and Road District). This report will be on file in the County Board Office.
- Discussed the appointments that will be needed for the September 18<sup>th</sup> meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 6:20 PM

Minutes submitted 9/14/2023

John Gossett – Public Safety Committee

DATE: September 18, 2023

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- ( ) Bobbie Williams, Animal Control Supervisor
- ( ) LaVonda Porter, JDC Superintendent
- (x) Gayla Prather, County Board Adm. Assist.
- ( ) Mike Rolla, County Engineer
- (x) Judge Melissa Morgan (Joined the meeting at 5:08)
- ( ) Monica Urban, Probation
- (x) Steve Vercellino, Treasurer
- (x) Kevin Wilson, County Clerk

Guests... Greg Garner (Archimages), Pamela Boyd (SCT), Rita Blissenbach, Heather Morse, Justin Turnbough, Steve Vercellino, Tom Carter, Rocky Morris, Dwayne Williams and other interested parties.

No public comments were made.

The Public Safety Meeting was called to order at 6:04 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...

- John Owens mentioned that Marty Leffler, Coroner, saved \$1,000.00 on the cooler by ordering a different door.
- He also mentioned they are looking for any grants that could be of help for the Coroners' office.

Chairman Miller discussed the appointments that would be on the following Board Meeting. County Board Member Neil Hargis had the replacement (Cindy Metcalf) for Franklin Hospital Board to be nominated later this evening.

Judge Melissa Morgan ...

- Spoke about the Juvenile Detention Center.
- Several State of Illinois sections were cited that pertained to upkeep to the JDC.
- Items were mentioned that were on the 9-18-2023 County Board Agenda to be voted on tonight that would be a part of the safety and security areas that needed to be corrected.
- Discussion followed on what all was needed to get the facility back in order.
- Discussion followed about what it would entail in order to close the facility.
- Discussion followed concerning other facilities in the state and if those facilities were also having problems.
- It was pointed out that Illinois has a state wide work force shortage for detention facilities.

The meeting adjourned at 6:18 PM  
Minutes submitted 9/28/2023

John Gossett – Public Safety Committee