

**JO DAVIESS COUNTY BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 14, 2014**

CALL TO ORDER: Chairperson of the Jo Daviess County Board, Ron Smith, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 14, 2014 at the Jo Daviess County Board Room, Jo Daviess County Courthouse, Galena, Illinois.

ROLL CALL was answered as follows: Present-Brandon Behlke, Gerald Bennett, Merri Berlage, Richard Dittmar, Robert Heuerman, Dan Hughes, Randy Jobgen, Steve McIntyre, Margie Montelius, John O'Boyle, Steven Rutz, Ron Smith, Terry Stoffregen, RJ Winkelhake and Don Zillig. Present: 15. Absent-William Bingham and Jody Covert. Absent: 2.

THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was led by Chairperson Smith.

THE INVOCATION and thought for the day were given by Merri Berlage.

AGENDA ITEM I – CONSENT AGENDA

The consent agenda was approved as attached following a motion made by Brandon Behlke and seconded by Merri Berlage.

The motion carried by roll call vote: Ayes-Brandon Behlke, Gerald Bennett, Merri Berlage, Richard Dittmar, Robert Heuerman, Dan Hughes, Randy Jobgen, Steve McIntyre, Margie Montelius, John O'Boyle, Steven Rutz, Ron Smith, Terry Stoffregen, RJ Winkelhake and Don Zillig. Ayes: 15. Nays: 0. Absent-William Bingham and Jody Covert. Absent: 2.

Ron Smith was appointed to the Local Redevelopment Authority (LRA) Board for a three-year term ending July 31, 2017 following approval of a motion made by Merri Berlage and seconded by Steve Rutz.

The motion carried by voiced vote with an abstention recorded for Ron Smith.

AGENDA ITEM II – CITIZENS' COMMENTS

Superintendent of Galena School District Sharon Olds, Superintendent of Stockton School District Dave Gilliland, Superintendent of Warren School District Francis Fennel and Superintendent of East Dubuque School District Greg Herbst addressed the board and presented information on the benefits an additional .5% increase of the School Facilities Sales Tax could do for their schools. They thanked the board for approving the previous .5% tax and asked that they approve the additional much needed .5% tax.

Ed Wheelwright, a Jo Daviess County taxpayer, spoke against increasing the Schools Facilities Sales Tax an additional .5%. He feels if the board does not approve the additional .5% increase the schools will not collapse. He feels that it is not right that this tax would not only pay for the schools that need the additional income, but also would fund the two richest school districts in the County.

Shirley Horstman, a Jo Daviess County taxpayer, spoke in favor of increasing the School Facilities Sales Tax by .5% She feels we need to educate the youth of our community to the best of our ability. She has faith in the schools and said that our youth are our future.

Tom Janecke, president of the Warren School Board, urged the County Board to approve the .5% increase to the School Facilities Sales Tax. He feels approving the increase would give some relief to Jo Daviess County residents that pay property taxes.

Mike Dittmar, mayor of Elizabeth, spoke against the increase to the School Facilities Sales Tax saying that towns are dying and there are too many vacant store fronts on Main St. He feels a sales tax increase is not going in the right direction.

Pam Wheelwright, owner of Hoskins Lumber in Elizabeth, said the School Facilities Sales Tax law exempts big ticket items such as cars but not houses. She said when home costs amount to \$200,000 a 7% sales tax is a lot of money. She feels sales in the County are improving and the schools will receive more money in the future.

Alice Pearson, a resident of Galena and an East Dubuque School teacher, said as a teacher she sees so many things going on behind the scenes as a child is learning and she doesn't want to distract that with poor heating and cooling and safety concerns. She said that should be the least of her worries, but unfortunately for most school districts it is most of their worries. The additional .5% School Facilities Sales Tax would allow the schools to focus on the students and not on the buildings. She thanked the board for approving .5% for of the School Facilities Sales Tax. She reminded the board that the voters in the County approved the sales tax at 1% and urged the board to allow the additional .5% tax.

Randy Pepin of Stockton asked the board to consider an interactive visitor center located in Stockton as the Gateway to Jo Daviess County especially with the closing of the CVB Visitor's Center in Galena. Randy provided a handout explaining the concept of a visitor center that would be located in Stockton.

Terry McGovern, a resident of Galena who owns property and businesses in both Galena and Stockton, urged the board to consider a visitor center located in Stockton. She feels that it would be good economics for all of the communities in the County.

AGENDA ITEM III – UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business brought before the board at this time.

AGENDA ITEM IV – NEW BUSINESS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

The board presented a plaque to Thomas Lange and thanked him for his service to Jo Daviess County as Emergency Management Agency Director from December 2012 through July 2014.

The board entered into a discussion leading to possible action on an ordinance increasing the rate of the County's school facility sales tax from .5% to 1%.

After some discussion a motion was made by Steve McIntyre and seconded by Rick Dittmar to refer the issue to the Executive Committee for further review.

The motion carried by roll call vote: Ayes-Merri Berlage, Richard Dittmar, Robert Heuerman, Dan Hughes, Randy Jobgen, Steve McIntyre, Margie Montelius, Ron Smith, RJ Winkelhake and Don Zillig. Ayes: 10. Nays-Brandon Behlke, Gerald Bennett, John O'Boyle, Steven Rutz and Terry Stoffregen. Nays: 5. Absent-William Bingham and Jody Covert. Absent: 2.

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY:

This committee had no business to bring before the board.

CVB BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

A recommendation to approve the Marketing Partnership Grant for the CVB as presented was approved following a motion made by Merri Berlage and seconded by Brandon Behlke.

The motion carried by voice vote.

A recommendation to approve a professional service contract extension from December 1, 2014 to November 30, 2015 with McDaniel's Marketing Communications pending approval from the State's Attorney Office was approved following a motion made by Merri Berlage and seconded by Steve McIntyre.

The motion carried by voice vote.

FINANCE, TAX AND BUDGET:

A motion to approve the following line item transfer requests in the amount of \$7,305.00 was made by Steve Rutz and seconded by Randy Jobgen.

- a) Transfer of \$665.00 from 001-40103-403 County Administration/Part-time salaries to County Administration/IMRF.
- b) Transfer of \$897.00 from 001-40103-403 County Administration/Part-time salaries to County Administration/Health Insurance.
- c) Transfer of \$5,743.00 from 001-40103-403 County Administration/Part-time salaries to County Administration/Full-time salaries.

The motion carried by voice vote.

A motion to approve the following FY2014 line item transfer requests and associated claims in the amount of \$32,148.74 was made by Steve Rutz and seconded by Randy Jobgen.

- a) Transfer of \$700.00 from 002-43141-901 County Highway/Contingency to 002-43141-501 County Highway/Education to pay a claim to Bentley in the amount of \$995.00.
- b) Transfer of \$2,180.00 from 002-43141-901 County Highway/Contingency to 002-43141-724 County Highway/Rental to pay a claim to Sloan Implement in the amount of \$3,000.00.
- c) Transfer of \$1,383.00 from 001-41123-704 Communications/Telephone to 001-41123-719 Communications/Other Services to pay a claim to Archnoix in the amount of \$2,870.00.
- d) Transfer of \$4,016.60 from Communications/Telephone to 001-41123-701 Communications/Maintenance Service to pay a claim to Comelec in the amount of \$2,625.00 and to pay a claim to IFiber in the amount of \$1,391.60.
- e) Transfer of \$775.48 from 001-41121-701 Sheriff/Maintenance Service to 001-41121-502 Sheriff/Travel Expense to pay a claim to Petty Cash in the amount of \$22.61, to pay a claim to Purchasing Card in the amount of \$234.00, to pay a claim to Petty Cash in the amount of \$42.00 and to pay a claim to Purchasing Card in the amount of \$476.87.
- f) Transfer of \$1,980.54 from 001-41125-724 Emergency Services/Rentals to 001-41125-606 Emergency Services/Minor Equipment to pay a claim to Purchase Card in the amount of \$1,980.54.
- g) Transfer of \$1,261.12 from 071-44163-905 Transit/Misc. Expense to 071-44163-702 Transit/Professional Services to pay a claim to Baranski, Hammer, Moretta & Sheehy in the amount of \$14,661.12.
- h) Transfer of \$1,000.00 from 001-41122-711 Safety Building/Utilities to 001-41122-810 Safety Building/Equipment to pay a claim to Globalcom Technologies in the amount of \$3,850.00.

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The motion carried by roll call vote: Ayes-Brandon Behlke, Gerald Bennett, Merri Berlage, Richard Dittmar, Robert Heuerman, Dan Hughes, Randy Jobgen, Steve McIntyre, Margie Montelius, John O'Boyle, Steven Rutz, Ron Smith, Terry Stoffregen, RJ Winkelhake and Don Zillig. Ayes: 15. Nays: 0. Absent-William Bingham and Jody Covert. Absent: 2.

This brings the total claims paid in October 2014 to \$1,057,203.50.

The FY2015 Jo Daviess County Optional Insurance Incentive Program at a rate of \$1,500 annually to eligible employees was approved following a committee motion made by Steve Rutz.

The motion carried by voice vote.

The FY2015 Health Insurance Renewal with Medical Associates for HMO \$25/\$500 co-pay with \$15/\$30 RX card and Chiropractic Care with a \$3,000/\$6,000 Out-of-Pocket effective 12/01/14 at a rate of single \$642.81 and family \$1,574.92 per month was approved following a committee motion made by Steve Rutz.

The motion carried by voice vote.

A resolution establishing the proposed Jo Daviess County Multi-Township Assessment Districts with 9 districts as presented was approved following a committee motion made by Steve Rutz.

The motion carried by roll call vote: Ayes-Brandon Behlke, Gerald Bennett, Merri Berlage, Richard Dittmar, Robert Heuerman, Dan Hughes, Randy Jobgen, Steve McIntyre, Margie Montelius, John O'Boyle, Steven Rutz, Ron Smith, Terry Stoffregen, RJ Winkelhake and Don Zillig. Ayes: 15. Nays: 0. Absent-William Bingham and Jody Covert. Absent: 2.

A quit claim deed conveying the County's interest in parcel 21-001-676-00 in the Village of Warren to Jeffrey and Diane Ege was approved following a committee motion made by Steve Rutz.

The motion carried by voice vote.

A quit claim deed conveying the County's interest in parcel 23-001-028-10 in Woodbine Township to Dennis and Diane Sparr was approved following a committee motion made by Steve Rutz.

The motion carried by voice vote.

DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING:

A recommendation to explore the concept of merging CEDS committee with Development and Planning committee was approved following a committee motion made by Merri Berlage.

The motion carried by voice vote with nay votes recorded for Randy Jobgen and Margie Montelius.

PUBLIC WORKS:

A request from Stockton Township for a 50/50 bridge repair project on Ridge Road at an estimated total cost of \$10,000 to be paid from line item 011-43145-890 was approved following a committee motion made by Randy Jobgen.

The motion carried by voice vote.

A request from Stockton Township for a 50/50 bridge repair project on Morseville Road at an estimated total cost of \$5,000 to be paid from line item 011-43145-890 was approved following a committee motion made by Randy Jobgen.

The motion carried by voice vote.

LAW ENFORCEMENT AND COURTS:

A request by Sheriff Turner to purchase a 2013 Chevy Impala from Green Chevrolet of Jacksonville, Illinois at a cost of \$20,871.00 and a 2014 Dodge Charger from Thomas Dodge of Highland, Indiana at a cost of \$22,307.00 to be paid from the Sheriff Vehicle Fund (038) was approved following a committee motion made by RJ Winkelhake.

The motion carried by voice vote.

An addendum to the professional service agreement with Shive Hattery for the re-bid of the courthouse parking lot railing at a cost of \$2,900.00 was approved following a committee motion made by RJ Winkelhake.

The motion carried by voice vote.

A change to order #1 to the agreement with M&N Sproule Construction for the Jo Daviess County Courthouse Sidewalk, Drainage and Railing Improvement Project at a cost of \$935.00 was approved following a committee motion made by RJ Winkelhake.

The motion carried by voice vote with nay votes recorded for Rick Dittmar, Bob Heuerman, Dan Hughes, Randy Jobgen and Steve McIntyre.

SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL:

This committee had no business to bring before the board.

PLANNING COMMISSION/ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS:

This committee had no business to bring before the board.

LEGISLATIVE:

This committee had no business to bring before the board.

EXECUTIVE:

A request to send Jo Daviess County residents the First Energy Solutions Electric Aggregation Program Opt-In letter was approved following a committee motion made by Merri Berlage.

The motion carried by voice vote with an abstention recorded for Ron Smith.

OTHER COMMITTEES AND BOARDS:

Board members appointed to other special committees updated the board with actions involving those committees.

AGENDA ITEM V – BOARD MEMBER CONCERNS

Rick Dittmar stated that he heard from four Jo Daviess County School Superintendents tonight and not one submitted an enrollment graph. He feels that the school districts should look at consolidation.

Brandon Behlke stated the Galena School District has shown steady enrollment.

AGENDA ITEM VI – CITIZENS' COMMENTS

There were no citizens' comments at this time.

AGENDA ITEM VII – CLOSED SESSION

The board entered closed session at 8:55 p.m. to discuss:

- a) personnel section 2(c)1, *"The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity."*
- b) collective bargaining section 2(c)2, Topic of discussion: Update on current union negotiations.
- c) purchase/lease property section 2(c)5, *"The purchase or lease of real property for the use of the public body, including meetings held for the purpose of discussing whether a particular parcel should be acquired."* Topic of discussion: Possible purchase of property in Galena, Illinois.
- d) litigation section 2(c)11.

following approval of a motion made by Brandon Behlke and seconded by Merri Berlage.

The motion carried by voice vote.

The board reconvened to open session at 9:39 p.m. following approval of a motion made by Merri Berlage and seconded by Steve McIntyre.

The motion carried by voice vote.

AGENDA ITEM VIII - POSSIBLE ACTION AS A RESULT OF CLOSED SESSION

A motion was made by Rick Dittmar and seconded by Bob Heuerman not to pursue the purchase of property in Galena, Illinois as discussed in closed session.

The motion carried by roll call vote: Ayes-Brandon Behlke, Gerald Bennett, Richard Dittmar, Robert Heuerman, Dan Hughes, Steve McIntyre, Steven Rutz, Terry Stoffregen, RJ Winkelhake and Don Zillig. Ayes: 10. Nays-Merri Berlage, Randy Jobgen, Margie Montelius, John O'Boyle and Ron Smith. Nays: 5. Absent-William Bingham and Jody Covert. Absent: 2.

AGENDA ITEM IX - ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned following a motion made by John O'Boyle and seconded by Steve McIntyre.

The motion to adjourn carried by voice vote.

Chairperson Smith adjourned the meeting at 9:45 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, November 11, 2014, at the Jo Daviess County Board Room, Jo Daviess County Courthouse, Galena, Illinois.

**JO DAVIESS COUNTY BOARD
CONSENT AGENDA APPROVED
OCTOBER 14, 2014**

MINUTES APPROVAL

1. County Board meeting minutes from the September 9, 2014 meeting and the September 30, 2014 and October 8, 2014 budget workshops.

APPOINTMENTS

1. Appointment of Bill Tonne to the Quad Cities Regional Economic Development Authority (QCREDA) for a three-year term ending September 14, 2017.

REPORTS & CORRESPONDENCE

1. Letter from Illinois Environmental Protection Agency Bureau of Water in regards to US Army Corps of Engineers for a 401 Water Quality Certification.
2. Thank you note from Steve Rutz.

CLAIMS

1. Claims approval in the amount of \$1,020,139.17.
2. Emergency Telephone Systems Board Fund claims in the amount of \$22,355.15
3. Sheriff's Forfeiture Fund claims in the amount of \$28.96
4. Sheriff's DUI claims in the amount of \$453.33