

SHELBY COUNTY BOARD MEETING

October 12, 2023– 7:00 P.M.

(Video archive of this meeting can be found at shelbycounty-il.gov on YouTube)

The Shelby County Board met on Thursday, October 12, 2023, at 7:00 P.M. in Courtroom A of the Shelby County Courthouse in Shelbyville, Illinois.

Chairman Orman called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Those in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a prayer given by board member Tim Morse.

County Clerk Jessica Fox called the roll. Bennett, Brown, Davis, Hardy, McCormick, and Shuff were absent.

Minutes for the September 14, 2023, board meeting were presented for approval. Wallace made motion to approve the minutes as presented. Brands seconded said motion. Boehm questioned the process detailed in the minutes pertaining to the Budget meeting (Pg 2 paragraph 5). No changes to the minutes were requested and approval of the minutes passed by voice vote (13 yes, 1 no - Boehm).

Upon recommendation by the Republican Central Committee, Clark Amling was nominated to fill the vacancy in County Board District #4. Williams made motion to approve the appointment. Firnhaber seconded said motion, which passed by voice vote (14 yes, 0 no).

Amling was sworn in by Clerk Fox and took his seat on the board.

At this time Chairman Orman called for the Highway Engineer's report.

County Highway Engineer Michael Tappendorf gave some updates to the board to start his report. The Moweaqua bridge has been opened but may have to be closed for a couple of days due to some guardrail issues. Tappendorf will be meeting with the Township Highway Commissioners in the next few weeks to review motor fuel tax. Tappendorf has spoken to Union Pacific about some railroad crossings, as there are multiple crossings in the county that need work. Railroad crossing updates/improvements are funded by the ICC with a goal of creating safer crossings. There are also multiple bridges needing repair and Tappendorf hopes to work with IDOT for increased funding. Tappendorf reported he has experience working with grants and hopes to secure grant funding for road projects. There are multiple engineering technician vacancies needing to be filled and Tappendorf has also started an equipment wish list to replace some outdated equipment.

Continuing with items requiring county board approval, Tappendorf presented a resolution to approve the 2024 supplement work agreement with Hammond-Reid Land Survey for \$70/hour plus materials per employee.

Wallace made motion to approve the resolution. Tate seconded said motion, which passed by roll call vote (15 yes, 0 no). Ayes: Amling, Boehm, Brands, Cole, Edwards, Firnhaber, Martin, Mayhall, Morse, Nelson, Orman, Ross, Tate, Wallace, and Williams. Nay: none.

Firnhaber made motion to approve the resolution with Hampton, Lenzini and Renwick for the 2024 NBIS Bridge Inspections and Program Management. Williams seconded said motion, which passed by voice vote (15 yes, 0 no).

Brands made motion to approve the agreement with HLR for the 2024 Bridge Inspection program for \$46,000. Williams seconded said motion, which passed by voice vote (15 yes, 0 no). Ayes: Amling, Boehm, Brands, Cole, Edwards, Firnhaber, Martin, Mayhall, Morse, Nelson, Orman, Ross, Tate, Wallace, and Williams. Nay: none.

Tate made motion to approve the low bid of \$265,261.50 from Klein Excavating to replace the bridge in Prairie Township. Wallace seconded said motion, which passed by roll call vote (15 yes, 0 no). Ayes: Amling, Boehm, Brands, Cole, Edwards, Firnhaber, Martin, Mayhall, Morse, Nelson, Orman, Ross, Tate, Wallace, and Williams. Nay: none.

Tappendorf reported this bridge project will begin in the Spring of 2024 and will be funded by Rebuild Illinois funds.

Firnhaber made motion to approve the resolution to declare equipment as surplus and authorize disposal of items as County Engineer sees fit. Cole seconded said motion. Items to be declared as surplus are a 2001 Ford F-150 (VIN 1FTRF17W11KF60203), 1998 International 4900 4X2 Dump Truck (VIN 1HTSDAAN7WH552914), and desk, drafting desk, file cabinets and other cabinets that are not needed. Tappendorf informed the board he did plan on taking bids on these items. Item passed by voice vote (14 yes, 1 no – Ross).

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The final item to be presented for the Highway Department was a resolution to approve an AFSCME wage increase for laborers. Edwards made motion to approve the resolution. Brands seconded said motion, which passed by roll call vote (13 yes, 2 no Amling, Ross).

At this time, Zoning Administrator Scott McKee addressed the board to review amendments to the Zoning Ordinance regarding Solar Farms and Wind Energy Systems. These changes are compliant with the IL State Public Act 102-1123. McKee reported the amendments to the Zoning Ordinance had been reviewed by the State's Attorney.

Brands made motion to approve the amendments that addressed Solar Farms. Tate seconded said motion, which passed by voice vote (15 yes, 0 no).

Mayhall made motion to approve the amendments that addressed Wind Energy Systems. Firnhaber seconded said motion, which passed by voice vote (15 yes, 0 no).

Brands made motion to approve the Zoning Ordinance with amendments for Solar and Wind as presented. Firnhaber seconded said motion, which passed by voice vote (15 yes, 0 no).

McKee presented a resolution to rezone property owned by Troy Coleman in Okaw Township located at 1790 County Hwy 15 (1208-21-00-200-006) from AG to General Business for a boat and RV storage business. The Zoning Board of Appeals had approved the rezoning.

Ross made motion to approve the resolution for rezoning. Morse seconded said motion, which passed by voice vote (15 yes, 0 no).

Upon recommendation of the Legislative committee an Ordinance regulating DC power lines was presented for approval. This ordinance will only impact new power lines.

Williams made motion to approve the ordinance. Tate seconded said motion, which passed by voice vote (15 yes, 0 no).

In order to comply with the Consumer Coverage Disclosure Act, an agreement was presented to engage Consociate Health to complete this report on the county's behalf at the cost of \$500.00. This is a Federally mandated report.

Firnhaber made motion to approve Consociate completing this report. Williams seconded said motion, which passed by roll call vote (15 yes, 0 no). Ayes: Amling, Boehm, Brands, Cole, Edwards, Firnhaber, Martin, Mayhall, Morse, Nelson, Orman, Ross, Tate, Wallace, and Williams. Nay: none.

The 2024 proposed budget was presented for approval so it can be placed on the required 15-day public viewing prior to approval by the board. Williams made motion to approve the proposed budget for 2024. Ross seconded said motion. Brands made motion to table the proposed budget since no budget meetings had been held to discuss. Firnhaber seconded said motion to table, which passed by voice vote (15 yes, 0 no).

Brands made motion to approve the transfer of parcel 0417-20-00-300-006 from the County as Trustee to Daniel R. Allen for \$3,000. Ross seconded said motion, which passed by voice vote (15 yes, 0 no).

Tate made motion to approve the transfer of parcel 23114-22-15-401-003 from the County as Trustee to Dale and Margret Myers for \$2,857.53. Firnhaber seconded said motion, which passed by voice vote (15 yes, 0 no).

Upon recommendation of the Legislative committee, Williams made motion to approve the Social Media policy for the County. Edwards seconded said motion, discussion was held. Nelson expressed concerns about the last paragraph under the Statement of Purpose, which states:

This policy establishes guidelines for employees, volunteers, elected/appointed officials who communicate via official County social media channels, as well as responsibilities of these persons who use social media channels for personal or business use.

Mayhall asked who information technologies was? Williams replied Mytec Solutions is the current contracted IT provider for the county.

Nelson made motion to amend the social media policy by striking the last paragraph of the statement of purpose, excluding the portion about official Shelby County communications. Brands seconded said motion, which passed by voice vote (15 yes, 0 no).

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Williams motion to approve the policy as amended, seconded by Edwards, passed by voice vote (12 yes, 3 no – Boehm, Cole and Morse).

Closed minutes from January 12, April 18, June 27, July 13 and July 18, 2023, were reviewed by the Legislative committee at their September 19 meeting. Legislative chair Williams stated after discussion with State's Attorney Hanlon, only the minutes from the April 18 and July 18, 2023, closed session were recommended to be opened at this time.

Williams made motion to approve the opening of the Closed minutes and the audio recordings from April 18 and July 18. Ross seconded said motion, which passed by voice vote (13 yes, 2 no Edwards and Mayhall).

A resolution to increase Election Judge base pay by \$20.00 was presented for approval. This additional \$20.00 will be reimbursed by the State Board of Elections, making the total reimbursement by the state \$65.00 of the \$170.00 base pay judges currently receive.

Nelson made motion to approve the resolution. Firnhaber seconded said motion, which passed by roll call vote (15 yes, 0 no). Ayes: Amling, Boehm, Brands, Cole, Edwards, Firnhaber, Martin, Mayhall, Morse, Nelson, Orman, Ross, Tate, Wallace, and Williams. Nay: none.

Orman called for committee reports. (Committee reports are attached to these minutes). Reports were given and items presented for follow-up or for public awareness were as follows:

Edwards reported construction had begun at the Health Department for the remodel project.

Mayhall stated the U of I extension office was still looking for drivers to deliver lean protein to food pantries. Anyone interested can either contact the U of I extension office or ask him who to contact.

Cole reported the Balloon Fest recently held at the Shelby County Airport was a success with 3,000 – 4,000 in attendance.

Chairman Orman requested the following appointments:

Bennett to the Road/Bridge committee. Motion by Williams, seconded by Ross, passed by voice vote (15 yes, 0 no).

Brands to be the Chair of Public Safety committee. Motion by Ross, seconded by Nelson. The board rules state the Chairman shall appoint all committees. Ross withdrew his motion, and Orman made the appointment of Brands as Public Safety Committee chair.

Farm committee chair Cole asked Chairman Orman to consider the appointment of Morse to the Farm committee.

There was no correspondence and no old business to be discussed.

Tate made motion to approve the claims. Mayhall seconded said motion. Firnhaber reminded department heads that no taxes and no tips should be submitted on county bills for reimbursement.

Payment of claims was approved by roll call vote (15 yes, 0 no). Ayes: Amling, Boehm, Brands, Cole, Edwards, Firnhaber, Martin, Mayhall, Morse, Nelson, Orman, Ross, Tate, Wallace, and Williams. Nay: none.

At 8:15 PM, Chairman Orman called for Public Body comment.

Public Body Comments/Opinions are summarized as follows:

Many in attendance, once again, spoke in support of the Dive Team and encouraged the County Board to work with the City of Shelbyville in their efforts to establish a Dive Team, which will be funded by donations.

Support for the County to continue farming the county farm was also expressed.

Questions were also asked about the live streaming of some committee meetings, but not others.

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The issue of liability insurance was questioned regarding the former Dive Team, but not the Rescue Squad.

The board was informed they don't have the authority to regulate power companies.

Some questioned why the State's Attorney was not in attendance at board meetings.

There was no further business to come before the Shelby County Board.

Firnhaber made motion to adjourn until the next regular meeting to be held on Thursday, November 9, 2023. Nelson seconded said motion, which passed by voice vote (15 yes, 0 no) and the meeting was adjourned at 8:47 P.M.

Jessica Fox
Shelby County Clerk and Recorder