



Effingham County Board
101 N. 4th Street, Suite 301, Effingham, IL
217.342.4990

**Tax & Finance Committee of the Whole of the Effingham County Board
3rd Floor Board Room, Effingham County Building
Thursday, March 14, 2024 at 3:30 p.m.**

MINUTES

TAX & FINANCE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE: Norbert Soltwedel Chairman, Sandi Gillet Vice Chair, Chris Keller, Dave Campbell, Josh Douthit, Doug McCain, Jeremy Deters, Tim Ellis, Elizabeth Huston

Committee Members Present: Chair N. Soltwedel, Vice Chair S. Gillet, C. Keller (late), D. Campbell, J. Douthit, D. McCain, J. Deters, T. Ellis, E. Huston.

The meeting was called to order by Chair N. Soltwedel

1. Approve Minutes

- Member J. Deters made a motion to approve the minutes. Member D. McCain seconded. Unanimous. ***Motion carried.***

2. Unfinished Business

• ARPA Reports Review

The board members reviewed the monthly spreadsheet and tracking report on the ARPA funds. It was suggestion a notice to be sent to the entities about their unspent funds.

• ARPA Funding

- TREC Trail – Disbursement of Funds

An invoice for \$1,748.14 was submitted from the Effingham County Highway dept. for trail maintenance. Greg Koester, County Engineer, talked about the work completed and upcoming projects. Member D. McCain made a motion to recommend to the full board for approval of the payment and distribution of APRA funds in the amount of \$1,748.14. Member T. Ellis seconded. Unanimous. ***Motion carried.***

- County Board Member Tablets – Disbursement of Funds

The total cost for ten tablets and stands was \$2,595.11. The earmarked amount was \$3,000.00. Member J. Douthit made a motion to recommend to the full board approval

of the payment and distribution of ARPA funds in the amount of \$2,595.11. Member J. Deters seconded. Unanimous. **Motion carried.**

- One Hope United
Member D. Campbell stated the 708 Board agreed not to utilize the ARPA funds for One Hope United. They previously requested \$10,000.00 in ARPA funding. A formal denial letter will be sent to One Hope United. Member J. Deters made a motion to recommend to the full board to remove the earmark of \$10,000.00 in ARPA funds and return \$10,000.00 to the ARPA fund. Member C. Keller seconded. Unanimous. **Motion carried.**
- Childcare Research Committee
Courtney Yockey presented a scholarship application for the Effingham County Childcare scholarship program to the board for approval. The scholarship meets the criteria for approval. Member J. Douthit made a motion to recommend to the full board for approval of the scholarship application and the disbursement of \$3,600.00 in ARPA funds. Member C. Keller seconded. Unanimous. **Motion carried.**

3. New Business

- **Certificate of Authority by Vote**

Greg Koester, County Engineer, needs paperwork to allow him to enter into contracts with the State of Illinois for the purchase and/or bidding of materials. The Certificate of Authority by Vote is a required document. Member J. Douthit made a motion to recommend to the full board to approve the Certificate of Authority to Vote. Member C. Keller seconded. Unanimous. **Motion carried.**

- **Amended Ordinance – FY24 Salary Schedule**

- **State’s Attorney Confidential Secretary**

Aaron Jones, States Attorney, requested an amendment to the salary ordinance to include the job title of Confidential Secretary for a new staff member. Member C. Keller made a motion to recommend to the full board to approve the amended FY24 Salary Ordinance. Member S. Gillet seconded. Unanimous. **Motion carried**

- **VAC Superintendent**

The Veterans Commission currently has two part-time employees. Phil Toops, VAC manager, will be stepping down and has recommended the department to staff one full-time employee. This will be a 40 hour a week position with a pay of \$28.85/hr. There is funding in the budget for this full-time position. Member J. Douthit made a motion to recommend to the full board to approve the amendment to the salary ordinance to add the VAC Superintendent position and rate of pay. Member J. Deters seconded. Unanimous. **Motion carried.**

4. Appointments

- None

5. General Information/Public Comments

- Courtney Yockey gave an update on Effingham Regional Career Academy. They are currently in the spring semester with good enrollment. He stated Lake Land College board of trustee voted to waive the fees for these classes.

6. **Closed Session**

- None

7. **Adjourn**

- Member C. Keller made a motion to adjourn this meeting. Member J. Douthit seconded.
Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle M. Kollmann
Effingham County Clerk