



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

EFFINGHAM COUNTY BOARD

REGULAR MEETING

August 21, 2023 – 4:00 p.m.

MINUTES

EFFINGHAM COUNTY BOARD MEMBERS: Joshua Douthit-District B, Chair, David Campbell-District D, Vice Chair, Norbert Soltwedel-District A, Tim-District C, Christopher Keller-District E, Elizabeth Huston-District F, Doug McCain-District G, Sandra Gillet-District H, Jeremy Deters-District I.

1. ROLL CALL, PLEDGE, PRAYER

The County Board of Effingham County, Illinois met pursuant to a regular meeting on Monday, August 21, 2023 at 4:00 p.m. in the County Board Room, County Building, City of Effingham, and State of Illinois. Meeting was called to order by Chairman Joshua Douthit. Pledge of Allegiance was said. Chairman J. Douthit gave the prayer. Roll call was taken with the following Board Members present: Joshua Douthit, David Campbell, Norbert Soltwedel, Tim Ellis, Christopher Keller, Doug McCain, Sandra Gillet, Jeremy Deters.

2. MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR RICHARD F. "DICK" FRANCIS, FORMER CHAIRMAN OF THE EFFINGHAM COUNTY BOARD.

- It was noted that Richard Francis was the Effingham County Board Chairman from December 1994 thru November 1996.

3. CHAIRMAN ACCOMMODATION AWARD PRESENTATION FOR ERNEST GARBE

- This agenda item was stricken. Ernest Garbe was unable to attend and this was moved to the September meeting.

4. RECOGNIZE PERSONS WHO WISH TO SPEAK ON AGEND/NON-AGENDA ITEMS

- Carla Doll spoke on behalf of Effingham Cruise Night. They are wanting to have a beer garden on the county courtyard. The liquor license is issued thru the City of Effingham and they have met the requirements. This item is on the consent agenda.

5. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

APPROVE MINUTES

ACCEPT OFFICER'S MONTHLY REPORTS

APPROVE BILLS – COUNTY BOARD PER DIEM & EXPENSES

COMMITTEE AGENDA CONSIDERATIONS

- Approve County Holidays for FY24
- Approve Appointments
 - 708 Board – Brenda Winskill
 - Ambulance Oversight Committee – Ron Will
 - Island Grove Drainage District – Samuel B. Jansen
 - Lucas Township Drainage District – Greg Elmore
 - South Island Drainage District – Joe Thoele
 - St. Francis Township Drainage District – Dennis Niemerg
- Approve Use of County Courtyard for Downtown Cruise Night on September 9, 2023 Subject to Approval of Special Event Liquor License
- Approve Use of County Courtyard for Corvette Welcomefest Downtown Party on September 15, 2023
- Approve Disbursement of \$4,640.99 of Earmarked Childcare Research Committee Increased Capacity Program ARPA Funding
- Approve Disbursement of up to \$3,600.00 of Childcare Research Committee Gap Scholarship ARPA Funding
- Approve Disbursement of \$2,500.00 in ARPA Funding for the OSLAND Grant Management
- Approve Disbursement of \$3,500.00 in ARPA Funding for Business Resiliency Grant Management
- Approve Payment of Invoice Dated July 31, 2023 to Lakeside Roofing Co.
- Approve Sheriff to Negotiate School Resource Office Contract with County Schools.

CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL

- Member J. Deters motion to approve the consent agenda. Member C. Keller seconded. **Motion carried** on a roll call vote 7 ayes; 0 nay; 1 absent; 0 abstain.

6. APPROVE RESOLUTION FOR SALE OF DELINQUENT PROPERTY #07-22-004-006 WITHOUT COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

- Deb Ruholl, Treasurer, stated this is a parcel Effingham County acquired. The adjourning owner to this parcel is buying the property. Member D. Campbell motion to approve the resolution for sale of delinquent property #07-22-004-006. Member D. McCain seconded. Unanimous. **Motion carried.**

7. APPROVE AMENDED TOWER LEASE AGREEMENTS WITHOUT COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION.

- Aaron Jones, States Attorney, reviewed the agreements and stated the agreements are typical and normal. There was discussion on routine maintenance. Member J. Deters motion to approve the amended Tower Lease Agreements. Member S. Gillet seconded. Unanimous. **Motion carried.**

8. ELECTION OFFICIALS REPORTS

- Michelle Kollmann, County Clerk, announced the first day to circulate nomination papers for the General Primary Election is Tuesday, September 5, 2023. The local offices up for election are Circuit Clerk, State's Attorney, Coroner and County Board Districts C – D – F – G & I and precinct committee persons.
- Travis Buhnerkempe, Chief Deputy Sheriff, stated that Nathan Hill recently graduated from Academy and will start field training.
- Aaron Jones, States Attorney, talked about the Safe-T Act. He noted the implementation and the procedures that will take place. There may be some clarifications thru a trailer bill.
- Deb Ruholl, Treasurer, informed the board the 2022 Real Estate tax bills payable in 2023 were mailed out. The first installment is due Friday, September 22, 2023 and the second installment is due Friday, November 3, 2023. A total of 22,830 bills were sent out.

- Pam Braun, Assessor, is thankful for the truck to assist with the assessment visits. She also talked about the new upcoming website.
- Greg Koester, County Engineer, noted the road construction on Moccasin road has begun and to expect traffic delays.
- Phil Toops, PCOM, encouraged everyone to check out the EZ track system.
- Angie Thompson, County Board Office Administrator, stated the budget paperwork has been returned and the flu shot clinic for employees will be Friday, October 6, 2023.

9. COMMITTEE REPORTS

10. PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Chairman J. Douthit informed the board that Roy Shelley with Koerner Distributors will be appointed to the LWIA position. He meets the qualifications for that position.
- The Business Resiliency Grant is open and accepting applications. There will be additional information on the county website. Courtney Yockey noted that businesses must meet certain criteria, one application will be submitted for all businesses and there are flyers available.
- Courtney Yockey also informed the board the business webinar on August 31, 2023 will be on Crawford County Housing planning and analysis.
- Charles Wohltman stated he bought the family farm and there is a trailer by his property which is making the area unsafe. He stated law enforcement and the States Attorney's office are aware of the situation. His family feels threatened and wants an investigation done.

11. CLOSED SESSION –CONVENE IN CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO ILLINOIS STATUTES SECTION 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(5) IN ORDER TO DISCUSS REAL ESTATE

- Member C. Keller motion to go into Closed Session. Member D. McCain seconded. Unanimous **Motion carried** on a roll call vote of 7 ayes; 0 nays
- The regular meeting of the Effingham County board reconvened. Chairman J. Douthit stated there was no action taken in the matters of real estate.

12. ADJOURN

- Member C. Keller motioned to adjourn this meeting to September 18, 2023. Member S. Gillet seconded. Unanimous. **Motion carried.**