



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

EFFINGHAM COUNTY BOARD

REGULAR MEETING

September 18, 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, September 18, 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. CHAIRMAN COMMENDATION AWARD PRESENTATION FOR ERNEST GARBE

- Chairman J. Douthit read the proclamation and then presented the award to Ernest Garbe. Josh recognized his service to the County with his numerous roles to public service and listed his accomplishments. Ernest introduced his family and gave a brief history of the County Board. A few family members spoke on his behalf. He was nominated by County Board member, Norbert Soltwedel. Member N. Soltwedel made a motion to award the Chairman Commendation award to Ernest Garbe. Member S. Gillet seconded. Unanimous. ***Motion carried.***

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

- Chairman J. Douthit read the 4-H Proclamation for National 4-H week which will be October 1 thru October 7, 2023. There were several 4-H members present at the meeting. Member D. McCain made a motion to approve the proclamation for National 4-H week. Member J. Deters seconded. Unanimous. ***Motion carried.***

4. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

APPROVE MINUTES

ACCEPT OFFICER'S MONTHLY REPORTS

APPROVE BILLS – COUNTY BOARD PER DIEM & EXPENSES

COMMITTEE AGENDA CONSIDERATIONS

- Approve Ordinance – Amendment City of Effingham/Effingham County Enterprise Zone
 - Approve Ordinance – Statement Encouraging the Development of Business Entities
 - Approve West Township Decennial Committee Report
 - Approve Lake Land College Decennial Committee Report
 - Approve Amendment to DevNet Agreement
 - Approve Appointments
 - Lucas Township Drainage District- Curtis Stortzum replacement for Tony Traub
 - Resolution to Award Airport Road Reconstruction (Sect#21 -00100-00-PV) to Lowest Responsible Bidder
 - Professional Engineering (PE) Agreement to Replace Two Bridges along 100th St in Moccasin Township
 - Approve Audit for FY22
 - Approve Disbursement of \$2,000 for Trade, Skills and Manufacturing Day
 - Approve Disbursement of up to \$3,600 of Childcare Research Committee Gap Scholarship ARPA Funding
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- Member N. Soltwedel pulled item “Ordinance – Amendment City of Effingham/Effingham County Enterprise Zone”. Chairman J. Douthit placed item as #4L.

 - Member J. Deters pulled item “Appointment to Lucas Township Drainage District – Curtis Stortzum replacement for Tony Traub”. Chairman J. Douthit placed item as #4M.

CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL

- Member D. Campbell made a motion to approve the consent agenda except for the items pulled under the committee agenda considerations. Member C. Keller seconded. **Motion carried** on a roll call vote 7 ayes; 0 nays; 1 absent.

- **#4L – APPROVE ORDINANCE – AMENDMENT CITY OF EFFINGHAM/EFFINGHAM COUNTY ENTERPRISE ZONE**

Member N. Soltwedel pulled this agenda items so he could read a statement about affordable housing in regards to this ordinance. He wants affordable housing with lower lot costs for property owners. Sasha Althoff was present at the meeting and addressed Norbert’s concern about the affordable housing and the lot prices. Courtney Yockey expressed his support for the ordinance. Member D. Campbell made a motion to approve the Ordinance – Amendment City of Effingham/Effingham County Enterprise Zone. Member S. Gillet seconded. **Motion carried** on a roll call vote 6 ayes; 1 nay; 1 absent.

- **#4M – APPOINTMENT TO LUCAS TOWNSHIP DRAINAGE DISTRICT – CURTIS STORTZUM REPLACEMENT FOR TONY TRAUB**

Member J. Deters pulled this agenda item for clarification on the replacement. The legislative minutes listed Troy Traub and the regular board meeting agenda listed Tony Traub. The minutes were reviewed and the minutes reflect the replacement as Troy Traub. The consent agenda will be amended to reflect the correct name of Troy Traub. A typographical error was made. A new resolution will be done. Member J. Deters made a motion to approve the

amended appointment to Lucas Township Drainage District of Curtis Stortzum to replace Troy Traub. Member S. Gillet seconded. Unanimous. **Motion carried.**

5. ELECTION OFFICIALS REPORTS

- Paul Kuhns, Sheriff, noted the Safe-T Act is now in effect and running smoothly. Paperwork has been submitted to the States Attorney's office for the detained inmates. Also, six inmates have been released. The roof project will begin on Thursday, September 21, 2023
- Deb Ruholl, County Treasurer, informed the board that the first installment of 2022 property taxes will be due on Friday, September 22, 2023.
- Angie Thompson, County Board office administrator, announced the flu shot clinic will be on October 5, 2023 at 3:30 p.m.

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Dave Campbell noted the Revolving Loan Fund has an approximate balance of \$20,000.00.
- Norbert Soltwedel told the board that Delaine Donaldson is refurbishing a statute from WWI. The Effingham High school art class is doing the project but needs a building to work in.

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Jamie Stang-Ellis spoke on behalf of the Rusty Reel Lake Jam and provided a flyer for this event which will take place on October 12 thru October 14, 2023. She was at the meeting to promote the three day music festival at the Rusty Reel boat yard. She listed the festival's music groups and highlighted the weekend activities. She also noted Bret Michaels will donate \$10,000 to local organizations.
- Courtney Yockey gave an update about the Business Resiliency Grant. The deadline is September 22, 2023 and currently three applicants have submitted paperwork. Also, the monthly webinar will be about manufacturing and the critical role it has on the economy.

8. 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 made a motion to go into closed session. Member J. Deters seconded. **Motion carried** on a roll call of 7 ayes; 0 nays; 1 absent.

- The regular meeting of the Effingham County Board reconvened. Chairman J. Douthit stated there was no action taken in the matters of real estate.

9. ADJOURN

- Member C. Keller made a motion to adjourn this meeting until Monday, October 16, 2023. Member T. Ellis seconded. Unanimous. **Motion carried.**