



Effingham County Board  
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# EFFINGHAM COUNTY BOARD

## REGULAR MEETING

November 20, 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 Ellis-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, November 20, 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. Roll call was taken with the following **Board Members present:** Joshua Douthit, David Campbell, Norbert Soltwedel, Tim Ellis, Christopher Keller (arrived late), Elizabeth Huston, Doug McCain, Sandra Gillet, Jeremy Deters. Pledge of Allegiance was said. Chairman J. Douthit gave the prayer.

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

- None

**3. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS (Read off by Chairman)**

**APPROVE MINUTES**

**ACCEPT OFFICER'S MONTHLY REPORTS**

**APPROVE BILLS – COUNTY BOARD PER DIEM & EXPENSES**

**COMMITTEE AGENDA CONSIDERATIONS**

- Approve FY24 CIRMA Liability Insurance Renewal Quote for \$583,138.00
- Approve Resolution for Appellate Prosecutor
- Approve Handbook Amendment to Include County Vehicle Usage Policy
- Approve Centrica Presentation to County Board to Include Two Pricing Estimates
- Approve Sarah Busch Lincoln Employee Wellness Program for FY24
- Approve Disbursement of \$17,000.00 in Earmarked APRA Funding to the Effingham Regional Career Foundation
- Approve Disbursement of \$28,536.35 in Earmarked ARPA Funding to the Effingham County Fair

- Approve Payment of Final Invoices Totaling \$155,668.07 to Lakeside Roofing Company, Inc.
- Approve \$130,000.00 Increase in FY24 Sheriff Department Budget for Body Worn Cameras
- Approve Employee Christmas of \$25.00 Gift Cards and Employee Luncheon
- Approve Effingham County Memorial Airport name change to “Effingham County Regional Airport”

#### CONSENT AGENDA CONSIDERATIONS

- Member J. Deters pulled item “Approve \$130,000.00 Increase in FY24 Sheriff Department Budget for Body Worn Cameras” Chairman J. Douthit placed item as #3M.
- Member J. Deters pulled item “Approve Effingham County Memorial Airport name change to “Effingham County Regional Airport”. Chairman J. Douthit placed item as #3N.
- Member N. Soltwedel pulled item “Approve Centrica Presentation to County Board to Include Two Pricing Estimates”. Chairman J. Douthit placed item as #3O.
- Member E. Huston pulled item “Approve Disbursement of \$28,536.35 in Earmarked ARPA Funding to the Effingham County Fair”. Chairman J. Douthit placed item as #3P.

#### CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL

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

- **3M -APPROVE \$130,000.00 INCREASE IN FY24 SHERIFF DEPARTMENT BUDGET FOR BODY WORN CAMERAS.**

Member J. Deters pulled this agenda item to give public awareness that this expense will be reimbursed thru a grant and will not be an additional expense to the county. Member J. Deters made a motion to approve the \$130,000.00 Increase in FY24 Sheriff Department Budget For Body Worn Cameras. Member S. Gillet seconded. **Motion carried** on a roll call vote 7 ayes; 0 nays; 1 absent; 0 abstain.

- **3N - APPROVE EFFINGHAM COUNTY MEMORIAL AIRPORT NAME CHANGE TO “EFFINGHAM COUNTY REGIONAL AIRPORT”**

Member J. Deters pulled this agenda item to give public awareness on the reasoning for the name change of the airport to become a regional airport. The name change will reflect a change in the status of the airport. Member J. Deters made a motion to approve the Approve Effingham County Memorial Airport name change to “Effingham County Regional Airport”. Member D. McCain seconded. Unanimous. **Motion carried.**

- **3O - APPROVE CENTRICA PRESENTATION TO COUNTY BOARD TO INCLUDE TWO PRICING ESTIMATES**

Member N. Soltwedel pulled this agenda item so Blaine Meadows with Centrica Business Solutions could give a presentation and an update on the two pricing estimates. Blaine spoke to the board about the window replacement with rooftop solar project at the County Building. The project includes a replacement with a total of 140 windows and two doors He has utilized local contractors of Pal’s Electric and Dan’s Glass for this project. He also gave a recap on the timeline of this project. He provided a financial summary of two different net and gross cost estimates. The estimates are for a project of full scope to replace all windows and doors and a second estimate of window replacement on floors 2-4. Also, both estimates include solar costs and

incentives. There was discussion on maintenance costs, funding of the project and incentive payments. Member N. Soltwedel made a motion to tentatively moved forward with the full scope project with consideration of budgetary constraints and legal requirements. Member J. Deters seconded. Unanimous. **Motion carried.**

• **3P - APPROVE DISBURSEMENT OF \$28,536.35 IN EARMARKED ARPA FUNDING TO THE EFFINGHAM COUNTY FAIR**

Member E. Huston pulled this agenda to abstain from the vote. Member D. McCain motion to approve the Approve Disbursement of \$28,536.35 in Earmarked ARPA Funding to the Effingham County Fair. Member J. Deters seconded. Member E. Huston abstained. **Motion carried** on a roll call vote 7 ayes; 0 nays; 0 absent; 1 abstain.

**4. APPROVE FY24 SALARY SCHEDULE WITHOUT COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

This FY24 salary schedule included salary information from the probation office. Member J. Deters made a motion to approve the FY24 Salary Schedule. Member S. Gillet seconded. **Motion carried** on a roll call vote 8 ayes; 0 nays; 0 absent; 0 abstain.

**5. APPROVE RESOLUTION FOR SALE OF DELINQUENT PROPERTY #07-23-004-029 WITHOUT COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

Member T. Ellis made a motion to approve the resolution for sale of delinquent Property #07-23-004-029. Member C. Keller seconded. **Motion carried** on a roll call vote 8 ayes; 0 nays; 0 absent; 0 abstain.

**6. APPROVE \$10,000.00 CONTRIBUTION TO EFFINGHAM COUNTY PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION FOR ELDERLY, DISABLED AND VETERAN COUNTY RESIDENTS WITHOUT COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

This contribution of \$10,000.00 will allow the fee to be waived for veterans, elderly and the disabled. Kelly Lockhart informed the board that this contribution will be matched by the State of Illinois. There is a line item of public services for this contribution. Member C. Keller made a motion to approve the \$10,000.00 contribution to Effingham County Public Transportation. Member D. McCain seconded. **Motion carried** on a roll call vote 8 ayes; 0 nays; 0 absent; 0 abstain.

**7. ELECTED OFFICIALS REPORTS**

- Michelle Kollmann, County Clerk, gave a reminder of the filing period for candidates to file their nomination papers is Monday November 27 thru Monday, December 4.
- Paul Kuhns, Sheriff, informed the board of a grant approved for the control room which will decrease foot traffic in the jail.
- Aaron Jones, States Attorney, noted he is looking to hire an Assistant States Attorney. Gina Vonderheide has left employment.
- Deb Ruholl, Treasurer, stated her office is working on the second distribution of taxes before the end of this fiscal year.
- Kim Rhodes, Coroner, gave an update on the victims from the Teutopolis Anhydrous incident.
- Kelly Lockhart, PCOM, is working on the Title Six plan.
- Angie Thompson reminded the board of the date change of the Special Board meeting which will be held on November 29, 2024.

**8. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- Josh Douthit congratulated the junior high teams of St Anthony volleyball team with 3<sup>rd</sup> place in state, Altamont Lutheran Interparish School baseball team with 2<sup>nd</sup> in state and Teutopolis baseball with a state appearance.

**9. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

- None

#### **10. CLOSED SESSION**

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

Member J. Deters made a motion to go into Closed Session in order to discuss real estate and litigation. Member C. Keller seconded. Motion carried on a roll call vote 8 ayes; 0 nays; 0 absent; 0 abstain

The regular meeting of the Effingham County Board reconvened. Chairman J. Douthit stated there was action taken on litigation. Effingham County has accepted of payment of \$75,000.00 from the insurance carrier with the Lakeside EMS lawsuit.

#### **11. ADJOURN**

- Member C. Keller motioned to adjourn this meeting to December 18, 2023. Member T. Ellis seconded. Unanimous. ***Motion carried.***