



Effingham County Board

101 N. 4th Street, Suite 301, Effingham, IL

217.342.4990

EFFINGHAM COUNTY BOARD REGULAR MEETING January 17, 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, Jeremy Kyle-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 Tuesday, January 17, 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. Member J. Douthit gave the prayer.

Roll call was taken with the following Board Members present: Joshua Douthit, David Campbell, Norbert Soltwedel, Jeremy Kyle, Christopher Keller, Doug McCain, Sandy Gillet, Jeremy Deters.

2. AGENDA CONSIDERATIONS –

- Member J. Kyle asked that “ARPA Funding – Approve earmarking \$40,600 of ARPA funds for Effingham City/County Special Response Team (SRT)” be removed. Chair J. Douthit placed this item on the agenda as item #5A
- Member J. Douthit asked that “Approve supporting Sheriff Kuhns moving forward with Enterprise” be pulled for discussion. Chair J. Douthit placed this item on the agenda as item #5B.

3. COMMENDATION - SHERIFF'S OFFICE MAINTENANCE STAFF

- Sheriff Paul Kuhns spoke about the flooding issue that took place on December 23, 2022 in the Effingham County Courts Building. Sheriff Kuhns read a Letter of Commendation for Tony Hille, Chad Walls and Jeff Baker. It states the county is fortunate to have dedicated staff to safe guard county property and who went beyond their normal duties. These employees were recognized for their dedication and hard work.

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

- NONE

5. CONSENT AGENDA

- Member J. Deters motioned to approve the Consent Agenda as presented except for the Earmarking \$40,600 of ARPA funds for the Effingham City/County Special Response Team and Supporting Sheriff Kuhns Moving Forward with Enterprise. Member C. Keller seconded. Motion carried on a roll call vote of 7 ayes, 0 nays.

5A APPROVE EARMARKING \$40,600 FUNDS FOR EFFINGHAM CITY/COUNTY SPECIAL RESPONSE TEAM

- Member J. Kyle pulled this item because he wants to abstain and Member S. Gillet also stated she will abstain from voting. Member N. Soltwedel questioned the breakdown on the payment of items and also suggested a written agreement of materials used by county or city. Member N. Soltwedel made a motion to refer this request back to the Tax and Finance committee. Member D. McCain seconded. Motion carried on a roll call vote of 4 ayes, 1 nay and Member J. Kyle and Member S. Gillet abstained.

5B SUPPORTING SHERIFF KUHNS MOVING FORWARD WITH ENTERPRISE

- Member J. Douthit pulled with item since Enterprise Holdings representative, Ryan Owens, was available to answer any questions from the board members and gave an update on the agreement. This will be a flexible long-term agreement with an option to exit if necessary with no penalty. There was discussion about replacement of vehicles, monthly payments and what vendors would be utilized to outfit these vehicles. Member J. Deters made a motion to move forward with Enterprise. Member C. Keller seconded. Motion was carried on roll call vote of 7 ayes; 0 nays

6. ELECTED OFFICIALS REPORT

- Michelle Kollmann, County Clerk, gave a reminder that January 26 is the deadline to file the ballot certifications and early voting starts Thursday, February 23, 2023.
- Paul Kuhns, Sheriff, stated they are implementing the new software purchased with ARPA funds for the jail doors and controls, working on damage from flooding in the Courts Building and conducting interviews for the maintenance position.
- Aaron Jones, States Attorney, introduced Gena Vonderheide as the new Assistant States Attorney and the office will be using software to go paperless.
- Deb Ruholl, Treasurer, informed the board 153 parcels were sold at the delinquent tax sale for a total of \$643,377.21. Also, the office is currently working on final tax distribution.
- Kim Rhodes, Coroner, stated the Coroners office passed their annual report and a copy is available.

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Member Doug McCain reported the Health Dept building purchase is still on schedule.
- Member Josh Douthit stated job openings for the PCOM position and a board of review member.

8. PUBLIC COMMENTS

- NONE

9. CLOSED SESSION

- NONE

10. ADJOURN

Member C. Keller motioned to adjourn this meeting to February 21, 2023. Member J. Kyle seconded. Motion carried.