



Effingham County Board  
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# EFFINGHAM COUNTY BOARD

## REGULAR MEETING

April 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 Monday, April 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. Pledge of Allegiance was said. 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, Jeremy Deters

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

- Kathy Schroeder, with Mill Road Thresherman's Association, was present at the board meeting for any possible questions in regards to the Mill Road Thresherman's equipment purchase on the consent agenda.

#### 3. AGENDA CONSIDERATIONS -

- Member J. Deters pulled item "Appointment Dieterich Fire Protection District – Paul Niemerg". Chairman J. Douthit placed this item as # 4A
- Member J. Deters pulled item "Appointment Watson Fire Protection – Alan Davis". Chairman J. Douthit placed this item as # 4B

#### 4. CONSENT AGENDA -

- Member J. Deters made a motion to approve the consent agenda except for Appointment Dieterich Fire Protection District – Paul Niemerg and Appointment Watson Fire Protection – Alan Davis. Member C. Keller seconded. **Motion carried** on a roll call vote of 6 ayes 0 nays.

- **APPROVE APPOINTMENT DIETERICH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT – PAUL NIEMERG (05/01/2023 – 04/30/2026)**

Member J. Deters pulled this consent agenda item to abstain from the vote. Member D. Campbell made a motion to approve the appointment Dieterich Fire Protection District Paul Niemerg. Member D McCain seconded. Member J. Deters abstained. **Motion Carried**

- **APPROVE APPOINTMENT WATSON FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT – ALAN DAVIS (05/01/2023 – 04/30/2026)**

- Member J. Deters pulled this consent agenda item to abstain from the vote. Member D. McCain made a motion to approve the appointment Dieterich Fire Protection District Paul Niemerg. Member C. Keller seconded. Member J. Deters abstained. **Motion Carried**

**5. APPROVE ALLOCATION OF ARPA FUNDING TO EFFINGHAM COUNTY PROBATION FOR PURCHASE OF PORTABLE RADIOS WITHOUT COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

- There was a request at the monthly Tax and Finance meeting for portable radios and mobile phones. The committee requested that the Probation office get a bid for only two portable radios. Darren Tabbert supplied a new bid from Barbeck Communications which included two portable radios with a total cost of \$7,264.82. These radios will have much better coverage than mobile phones and have more transmitting power. Member C. Keller made a motion to approve the Allocation of ARPA Funding to Effingham County Probation for the purchase of two portable radios without committee recommendation with a total cost of \$7,264.82. Member J. Deters seconded. **Motion carried** on a roll call vote 6 ayes 0 nays.

**6. APPROVE EFFINGHAM COUNTY PROCLAMATION AND RESOLUTION WITH CORRECTION RELATED TO SPONSORSHIP AND PARTICIPATION IN LAW DAY 2023 WITHOUT COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION.**

- Chairman J. Douthit stated there was correction of a date which is the reason this is without committee recommendation. J. Douthit informed the board this is a great program and then he read a proclamation and resolution in honor of Law Day which will be held on Thursday, May 4, 2023. Member D. McCain made a motion to approve Effingham County proclamation and resolution with correction related to sponsorship and participation in Law Day 2023 without committee recommendation. Member C. Keller seconded. **Motion carried**

**7. APPROVE APPOINTMENTS WITHOUT COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION.**

- Sigel Fire Protection District – Robert Hoene (05/1/2023-04/30/2026)  
This paperwork was submitted late so the appointment is without committee recommendation. Member J. Kyle mad a motion to approve the Appointment of Sigel Fire Protection District Robert Hoene. Member N. Soltwedel seconded. Member J. Deters abstained. **Motion carried.**
- Board of Review Candidate as Replacement for Henry Verdeyen (04/01/2023-05/31/2024)  
Chairman J. Douthit stated that this would be discussed in closed session. Member J. Deters made a motion to take action on this replacement after closed session. Member C. Keller seconded. **Motion carried.** This item was placed as 12A on the agenda.

**8. APPROVE RESIGNATION FROM JEREMY KYLE AS EFFINGHAM COUNTY BOARD MEMBER, DISTRICT C, WITHOUT COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

Member J. Kyle stated he is moving out of his district and it has been an honor to serve with this board and for his constituents. The effective date of the resignation is April 30, 2023. Member C. Campbell made a motion to approve the resignation of Jeremy Kyle as Effingham Board Member, District C, without committee recommendation. Member J. Deters seconded. **Motion carried** 5 ayes 1 nay

## 9. ELECTION OFFICIALS' REPORTS

- Michelle Kollmann, County Clerk, stated tomorrow the clerk's office will be tabulating the last of the mail in ballots that were postmarked the date of the election with canvassing of the results to take place later this week. Once these steps are completed, they will have the official election results. Also, a reminder that US Imaging will be on site the first part of May to start the digitization of the vault. This project was made possible with ARPA funds.
- Paul Kuhns, County Sheriff, spoke on a few projects with the building. The cooling towers are hooked up and finalized. A new water heater was installed in the Government Center. The masonry project is moving along.
- Aaron Jones, States Attorney, stated he is moving forward with the process to go paperless. There will be oral arguments in Kankakee for The Safe-T Act.
- Pam Braun, Assessor, thanked Jeremy Kyle for his service to the board. She also thanked Josh for his assistance with the interviews for the Board of Review placement.
- Greg Koester, County Engineer, spoke about the Moccasin Road resurfacing project that will begin on June 15.

## 10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Phil Toops, with public transportation, stated by the end of the month there will be two new routes in place for medical purposes. The cost will be \$8 per rider instead of per mile.
- Angie Thompson, board administrator, thanks Jeremy Kyle for his service and updated the election officials about Law Day.
- D. Campbell stated they are researching grants on various topics.
- N. Soltwedel informed the board two trees have been cut down on the court house grounds.
- D. McCain informed the board the CEFS building is almost done
- J. Deters wanted to encourage the citizens to avoid the interstate I70. The first responders have been busy.

## 11. PUBLIC COMMENT

- Courtney Yockey stated there will be a couple of webinars with Effingham County Childcare Research and a business webinar.
- Chairman J. Douthit stated Effingham County Board will be recognizing Rotary Week which will be April 24, 2023 thru April 29, 2023. He read the proclamation to honor Effingham Rotary.

## 12. CLOSED SESSION – CONVENE IN CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO ILLINOIS STATUE 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(12) IN ORDER TO DISCUSS MATTERS PERTAINING TO LITIGATION/CLAIMS.

- Member J. Deters made a motion to go into Closed Session. Member N. Soltwedel seconded. **Motion carried** on a roll call of 6 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 litigation/claims. However, in closed session the board did take action on the appointment on the Board of Review to replace Henry Verdeyen. Member C. Keller made a motion to appoint John Taylor as the replacement on the Board of Review for the remainder of the term which is 04-01-2023 to 05-31-24. Member J. Kyle seconded. **Motion carried.**

## 13. ADJOURN

- Member C. Keller made a motion to adjourn this meeting to the May 15, 2023 Member J. Deters seconded. **Motion carried.**