

**LIVINGSTON COUNTY BOARD
MINUTES OF APRIL 11, 2024 MEETING OF THE COUNTY BOARD**

OPENING

County Board Chair James A. Carley called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., in the County Board Room of the Historic Courthouse, 112 W. Madison, Pontiac, Illinois.

Pastor Victor Randall presented the invocation. William Mays led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

County Clerk Kristy Masching called roll with the following members **present:** John L. Vietti, Michael Haag, Rebekah Fehr, Gina Manker, Joel Barickman, Linda Ambrose, Marty Fannin, Dan Myers, William Mays, Robert F. Weller, John J. Vitzthum, Jim Blackard, Gerald L. Earing, Seth L. Welch, James A. Carley, Steven J. Lovell and Paul A. Ritter **Vacancy:** Mark Runyon

Also Present: Executive Director Alina Hartley, Executive Assistant Jordan Uselding, County Clerk Kristy Masching, Network & Computer Systems Administrator Jon Sear, I.T. Support Specialist Jack Phillips, Human Resource Director Ginger Harris, Finance Director Diane Schwahn, State’s Attorney Michael Regnier, Public Defender Marinna Metoyer, Sheriff Ryan Bohm, Jail Superintendent Lisa Draper, Zoning Administrator Brittney Miller, Treasurer Nikki M. Meier, Public Health Administrator Jackie Dever, Director of Health Education Erin Fogarty and Lauri Pope (Mack & Associates Auditing Services)

APPOINTMENT OF BOARD MEMBER

Appointment of Board Member to fill District 3 Vacancy – Craig Monson: Carley reported that he appreciates Craig Monson’s interest in filling the District 3 vacancy and believes he will be a great addition to the County Board. *Motion by Carley, second by Lovell for approval of the Board Appointment to fill the District 3 vacancy.* **MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE. Ayes:** John L. Vietti, Michael Haag, Rebekah Fehr, Gina Manker, Joel Barickman, Linda Ambrose, Marty Fannin, Dan Myers, William Mays, Robert F. Weller, John J. Vitzthum, Jim Blackard, Gerald L. Earing, Seth L. Welch, James A. Carley, Steven J. Lovell and Paul A. Ritter **Nays:** None **Vacancy:** Mark Runyon

SWEARING IN

County Clerk Kristy Masching administered the Oath of Office to the new Board Member, Craig Monson.

AGENDA

Chair Carley called for any additions or changes to the revised agenda with none requested. *Motion by Ritter, second by Earing to approve the revised agenda as presented.* **MOTION CARRIED ON VOICE VOTE WITH ALL AYES.**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Carley called for approval of the meeting minutes from March 14, 2024. *Motion by Blackard, second by Weller to approve the minutes as submitted.* **MOTION CARRIED ON VOICE VOTE WITH ALL AYES.**

PRESENTATION

FY 2023 Audit – Mack & Associates: A copy of the FY 2023 annual audit and financial statements were provided to the Board. Lauri Pope from Mack & Associates gave a brief overview and reported that there were no findings. *Motion by Manker, second by Ritter to approve the FY 2023 Annual Audit and Financial Statements.* **MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE. Ayes:** John L. Vietti, Michael Haag, Rebekah Fehr, Gina Manker, Joel Barickman, Linda Ambrose, Marty Fannin, Dan Myers, Craig Monson, William Mays, Robert F. Weller, John J. Vitzthum, Jim Blackard, Gerald L. Earing, Seth L. Welch, James A. Carley, Steven J. Lovell and Paul A. Ritter **Nays:** None

APPEARANCES

N/A

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of Bills
- B. Appointments:
 - a. William “Bill” Skonetski – Livingston County Regional Planning Commission
 - b. Rudy Piskule - Livingston County Regional Planning Commission
 - c. Keith Bahler - Livingston County Regional Planning Commission
 - d. Jim Davis – Chairman Livingston County Regional Planning Commission
 - e. ~~Jeffrey “Jeff” Stevenson – Livingston County Zoning Board of Appeals~~
 - f. Neil “Bud” Turner – Livingston County Zoning Board of Appeals
 - g. Katherine Austman – Livingston County Board of Health & TB Board
 - h. Jeanne Elliott – Livingston County Board of Health
 - i. Denny Rich – Saunemin Fire Protection District
 - j. Charles Cole – Reading Community Fire Protection District
- C. Acceptance of Decennial Reports:
 - a. Chatsworth Township & Road District

Motion by Lovell, second by Haag for approval of the Consent Agenda. MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE. Ayes: John L. Vietti, Michael Haag, Rebekah Fehr, Gina Manker, Joel Barickman, Linda Ambrose, Marty Fannin, Dan Myers, Craig Monson, William Mays, Robert F. Weller, John J. Vitzthum, Jim Blackard, Gerald L. Earing, Seth L. Welch, James A. Carley, Steven J. Lovell and Paul A. Ritter **Nays:** None

AGRICULTURE & ZONING

Resolution (#2024-04-22): Approval of Decommissioning Plan & Amendment – Beckham Solar: Miller reported this zoning case pertains to the review of a decommissioning plan of a previously approved special use to develop a 5 MW solar farm located in Nevada Township. Miller reported the decommissioning plan is in the amount of \$212,923.50, of which was indicated in the original estimate when they were approved in August of 2023. Miller stated the proposed amendment is requesting usage of solar trackers rather than fixed tilt panels, as well as relocation of the access road. Miller reported that the Zoning Board of Appeals unanimously recommended this case for approval and the Agriculture & Zoning Committee voted 5 to 1 in favor of the decommissioning plan and amendment. *Motion by Haag, second by Lovell to approve the Decommissioning Plan and Amendment of Beckham Solar. MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE. Ayes:* John L. Vietti, Michael Haag, Rebekah Fehr, Gina Manker, Joel Barickman, Linda Ambrose, Marty Fannin, Dan Myers, Craig Monson, Robert F. Weller, John J. Vitzthum, Jim Blackard, Gerald L. Earing, Seth L. Welch, James A. Carley, Steven J. Lovell and Paul A. Ritter **Nays:** William Mays

Resolution (#2024-04-23): Approval of Decommissioning Plan – TPE IL LI77: Miller reported this zoning case pertains to the review of a decommissioning plan of a previously approved special use to develop a 4.5 MW solar farm located in unincorporated Odell. Miller stated the decommissioning plan is in the amount of \$318,666.00, of which was indicated in the original estimate when they were approved in May of 2023. Miller reported that the Zoning Board of Appeals unanimously recommended this case for approval and the Agriculture & Zoning Committee voted 5 to 1 in favor of the decommissioning plan. *Motion by Haag, second by Lovell to approve the Decommissioning Plan of TPE IL LI77. MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE. Ayes:* John L. Vietti, Michael Haag, Rebekah Fehr, Gina Manker, Joel Barickman, Linda Ambrose, Marty Fannin, Dan Myers, Craig Monson, William Mays, Robert F. Weller, John J. Vitzthum, Jim Blackard, Gerald L. Earing, Seth L. Welch, James A. Carley, Steven J. Lovell and Paul A. Ritter **Nays:** None

Resolution (#2024-04-24): Approval of Decommissioning Plan – TPE IL LI18: Miller reported this zoning case pertains to the review of a decommissioning plan of a previously approved special use to develop a 5 MW solar farm located in Pontiac. Miller stated the decommissioning plan is in the amount of \$356,773.00, of which was indicated in the original estimate when they were approved in May of 2023. Miller reported that the Zoning Board of Appeals unanimously recommended this case for approval and the Agriculture & Zoning Committee voted 5 to 1 in favor of the decommissioning plan. *Motion by Barickman, second by Earing to approve the Decommissioning Plan of TPE IL LI18.* **MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE.** **Ayes:** John L. Vietti, Michael Haag, Rebekah Fehr, Gina Manker, Joel Barickman, Linda Ambrose, Marty Fannin, Dan Myers, Craig Monson, William Mays, Robert F. Weller, John J. Vitzthum, Jim Blackard, Gerald L. Earing, Seth L. Welch, James A. Carley, Steven J. Lovell and Paul A. Ritter **Nays:** None

Ordinance (#2024-04-25): Zoning Efficiencies: The Board reviewed the resolution addressing zoning efficiencies. Discussion took place regarding the decommissioning approval process and having a qualified engineering company review the decommissioning plans. Hartley noted that the County Board, Ag & Zoning Committee and Zoning Administrator all have the ability to request an external review during any of the review periods per the County Ordinance. *Motion by Haag, second by Lovell to approve the Ordinance for Zoning Efficiencies.* **MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE.** **Ayes:** John L. Vietti, Michael Haag, Rebekah Fehr, Gina Manker, Joel Barickman, Marty Fannin, Dan Myers, Craig Monson, William Mays, Robert F. Weller, John J. Vitzthum, Jim Blackard, Gerald L. Earing, Seth L. Welch, James A. Carley, Steven J. Lovell and Paul A. Ritter **Nays:** Linda Ambrose.

Committee Chair Gerald Earing reported that the E-Recycling Day Event will be this Saturday, April 13, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the old K-Mart parking lot.

HIGHWAY

- a. **Local Agency Agreement for Federal Participation:** Federal-Aid Agreement for resurfacing Livingston CH 6 (Fairbury Road) from the CH 8 intersection northerly to the CH 6 intersection of 2000N, approximately 8.5 miles known as Sect. No. 20-00146-04-RS. Includes **Resolution (#2024-04-26)** appropriating Matching Tax Funds for the Local Agency share of the cost.
- b. **Bridge Petition & Engineering Agreement:** Newtown Rd. District, Sect No. 24-17101-03-BR, Proposed SN 053 4244 (2870N, 1100E), – Hampton Lenzini & Renwick (HLR), TBP CY26. Design for Replacement of Existing Bridge 053-3194.
- c. **Bridge Petition & Engineering Agreement:** Round Grove Rd. District, Sect No. 24-25133-00- BR, Proposed SN 053 4247 (2900N, 3560E), – Hampton Lenzini & Renwick (HLR), TBP CY27. Design for Replacement of Existing Bridge.
- d. **Bridge Petition & Engineering Agreement:** Long Point/Amity Rd. Districts, Sect No. 24-14154-00 BR/24 01129-00-BR, Proposed SN 053 4249 (2680N, 600E), – Hampton Lenzini & Renwick (HLR), TBP CY28. Design for Replacement of Existing Bridge 053-3121.
- e. **Bridge Petition & Engineering Agreement:** Nevada Rd. District, Sect No. 24-16110-04-BR, Proposed SN 053 4251 (3260N, 1900E), – Hampton Lenzini & Renwick (HLR), TBP CY28. Design for Replacement of Existing Bridge 053-3300.
- f. **Engineering Agreement & Resolution:** CH 3 (Campus Rd), Sect No. 24-00199-05-BR, Proposed SN 053 3463 (3105N, 3300E), – Hampton Lenzini & Renwick (HLR), Local Bridge Formula Fund FY28. Design for Replacement of Existing Bridge 053-0089. Includes **Resolution (#2024-04-27)** appropriating Matching Tax Funds.
- g. **Agreements:** Avangrid Renewables LLC - County Highway Road Use Agreement – Attorney/Consultant
- ~~h. **Letting Results:** March 28, 2024 Letting~~

Motion by Blackard, second by Ambrose for approval of the highway action items a.-g. with one roll call vote. **MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE.** **Ayes:** John L. Vietti, Michael Haag, Rebekah Fehr, Gina

Manker, Joel Barickman, Linda Ambrose, Marty Fannin, Dan Myers, Craig Monson, William Mays, Robert F. Weller, John J. Vitzthum, Jim Blackard, Gerald L. Earing, Seth L. Welch, James A. Carley, Steven J. Lovell and Paul A. Ritter **Nays:** None

SHERIFF, JAIL & LICENSE

Approval of Annual Liquor License / Mobile Home Renewals: A summary of the annual liquor license and mobile home renewals were provided to the Board Members. *Motion by Weller, second by Fannin for approval of the annual liquor license and mobile home renewals.* **MOTION CARRIED ON VOICE VOTE.**

Committee Chair Robert Weller reported that the Sheriff and Jail Superintendent provided their monthly reports at the Committee Meeting and a quarterly report was given from the Probation Director.

FINANCE

Proposal: Mack & Associates Auditing Services: Fannin reported that the County has been using Mack & Associates for 10 years, so they were considering finding a new company due to longevity and the use of the same staff members. Fannin stated after addressing these concerns, it was brought to their attention that Mack & Associates regularly rotates their staff and managers to prevent the threat of familiarity.

Motion by Fannin, second by Ritter to approve the agreement with Mack & Associates Auditing Services.

MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE. Ayes: John L. Vietti, Michael Haag, Rebekah Fehr, Gina Manker, Joel Barickman, Linda Ambrose, Marty Fannin, Dan Myers, Craig Monson, William Mays, Robert F. Weller, John J. Vitzthum, Jim Blackard, Gerald L. Earing, Seth L. Welch, James A. Carley, Steven J. Lovell and Paul A. Ritter **Nays:** None

Resolution (2024-04-28): Creating PS4 Salary Classification: Harris reported that some of the job positions in the PS3 classification require a higher level of skillset, education and experience to meet the essential job functions, as well as carry a higher liability to the County, so it is the recommendation of the Administrative Team to create a PS4 category to the salary schedule, where the category would have a salary schedule of \$45,103.50 to \$69,225. Harris stated she believes there are 3 positions that should be placed under this category, including the accountant, financial officer at Public Health and the Mapping Specialist in the Assessment Office. *Motion by Manker, second by Haag to approve the resolution creating a PS4 salary classification.* **MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE. Ayes:** John L. Vietti, Michael Haag, Rebekah Fehr, Gina Manker, Joel Barickman, Linda Ambrose, Marty Fannin, Dan Myers, Craig Monson, William Mays, Robert F. Weller, John J. Vitzthum, Jim Blackard, Gerald L. Earing, Seth L. Welch, James A. Carley, Steven J. Lovell and Paul A. Ritter **Nays:** None

Committee Chair Marty Fannin reported that the County has received two rebate checks from CIRMA for the years 2013-2014 and 2014-2015. Fannin stated this comes out of a self-insured loss fund and once all claims have been settled then they will be rebated.

PUBLIC PROPERTY

Committee Chair John Vitzthum reported that the Facility Services Manager is doing a great job keeping up with the maintenance of the buildings and maintaining communication throughout the process. Vitzthum stated they have been discussing working on a long-term maintenance plan.

INFORMATION and TECHNOLOGY

Committee Chair Gina Manker reported that the Committee did not meet this month.

RULES, LEGISLATION, VETERANS, AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

Committee Chair Jack Vietti reported that the Committee met before the Board Meeting and approved appointments.

ADMINISTRATIVE

Chair James A. Carley thanked the members for approving the nominations set on tonight's agenda. Carley stated there are still some vacancies to fill in the Regional Planning Commission and he is working on finding a couple alternates to the Zoning Board.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The floor was open for public comment.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

N/A

ACTION RESULTING FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

N/A

ANNOUNCEMENTS

N/A

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m. on motion by Earing, second by Vietti. **MOTION CARRIED ON VOICE VOTE.**

James A. Carley, Chair

Attest:

Jordan E. Uselding

Executive Assistant

On behalf of County Clerk, Kristy Masching