



**CHAMPAIGN COUNTY BOARD
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

Finance/ Policy, Personnel, & Appointments/Justice & Social Services

County of Champaign, Urbana, Illinois

Tuesday, June 11, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.

Shields-Carter Meeting Room

Brookens Administrative Center

1776 East Washington Street, Urbana, Illinois

MINUTES – Approved as Distributed on August 13, 2024

Members Present: Samantha Carter, Lorraine Cowart, Aaron Esry, John Farney, Carolyn Greer, Elly Hanauer-Friedman, Jennifer Locke, Jenny Lokshin, Diane Michaels, Donald Owen, Brett Peugh, Jilmala Rogers, Mike Smith, Chris Stohr, Jennifer Straub, Leah Taylor, Eric Thorsland, Bethany Vanichtheeranont and Jeff Wilson

Members Absent: Stephanie Fortado, Emily Rodriguez, and Tom ‘Ed’ Sexton

Others Present: Steve Summers (County Executive), Michelle Jett (Director of Administration), Travis Woodcock (Budget Director), Susan McGrath (Circuit Clerk), George Danos (Auditor), Jerry Kellems (Animal Control), Steve Thuney (Coroner), Orion Smith (RPC Fiscal Director) and Megan Robison (Recording Secretary)

Agenda Items

I. Call to Order

Chair Carter called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

II. Roll Call

Roll Call was taken, and a quorum was declared present.

III. Approval of Agenda/Addenda

MOTION by Ms. Michaels to approve the agenda; seconded by Ms. Locke. Upon vote the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

IV. Approval of Minutes

A. May 14, 2024 – Regular Meeting

MOTION by Ms. Lokshin to approve the minutes of May 14, 2024; seconded by Mr. Thorsland. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

V. Public Participation

Minnie Person, NAACP President, has a genuine concern over the lack of respect among elected officials. She reminded everyone that we all have opinions, we do not have to agree with everyone’s opinion, but we need to be respectful of everyone’s opinions. She read the mission statement of the NAACP and stated this goes for everyone. We need to treat everyone with dignity and respect. She requested that everyone stop the bullying and apologize if you make a mistake.

VI. Communications

Mr. Stohr stated the week of June 10th is recognized as Daniel Ellsberg week. He noted why he is recognized and that he passed last year. Second, he let everyone know that SB 1289 has passed but many of his colleagues are concerned about the impact of sequestering carbon dioxide beneath our aquifers. The legislature has stated if there are problems with this bill, they are willing to talk about amendments.

Ms. Carter reminded everyone that the Juneteenth Celebration will be June 15th at Douglas Park.

Ms. Locke spoke about the rededication of Skelton Park that the County Board contributed ARPA funds towards. The space has been vastly improved, and they are still working on completing some additional items.

Mr. Wilson reminded everyone that June 6th was the 80th anniversary of D-Day and how many people lost their lives that day. Also, June 14th is Flag Day and the Army's Birthday. Finally, June 16th is Father's Day and he thanked all fathers.

VII. Justice and Social Services

A. Monthly Reports – All reports are available on each department's webpage through the department reports page

- Probation & Court Services – April 2024
- Public Defender – May 2024
- Emergency Management Agency – May 2024
- Veterans' Assistance Commission – May 2024

Received and placed on file

B. Rosecrance Re-Entry Reports

- Financial Report – April 2024
- Program Report – April 2024

Information only

C. Advocates for Aging Care

1. Skilled Nursing Home Needs Assessment

Joan Dixon, Advocates for Aging Care Member, thanked the County for their financial support. They were able to complete a community needs assessment through the Public Health District. She explained the reason for this assessment and some of the interesting information from the assessment. The bottom line is that we do not currently have enough beds for our community.

Zaheeda Darvesh, Data Analyst, and Robert Davies, Director of Planning and Research at Champaign-Urbana Public Health District, gave a presentation detailing the information received from the community needs assessment. They adopted a 3-pronged approach for their assessment; understanding the demographic landscape, understanding the prevailing landscape around long-term care, and gathering input from the primary population. They received 939 responses to their surveys.

Data showed that Champaign County is the third most populous county in Illinois and is growing faster than the surrounding counties. They shared many different statistics and findings from the surveys. In conclusion, they found that Champaign County is deficient in skilled nursing facilities and in-home care. They identified the top priorities for future interventions as housing, medication affordability and transportation assistance.

County Board members continued to discuss some of the statistics from the surveys and the conclusion. Cathy Emanuel, Advocates for Aging Care Member, explained that the next step was to hire a consultant which they have done. The consultant is currently working to complete a market study and should be providing a report at the end of July. Their report will show exactly what the current market can support. Advocates for Aging Care are working on securing grants and other funding to create a full scope business plan to provide to potential facilities for entering our market.

D. Animal Control

1. Ordinance Establishing Champaign County Animal Control Policies and Procedures

MOTION by Mr. Farney to recommend County Board approval of an Ordinance Establishing the Champaign County Animal Control Policies and Procedures; seconded by Ms. Locke. Discussion followed regarding the major changes, the jurisdiction of the ordinance and what motivated the changes. Upon vote the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

E. Other Business

None

F. Chair's Report

None

G. Designation of Items to be Placed on the Consent Agenda

VII. D. 1

VIII. Finance

A. Budget Amendments/Transfers

1. Budget Amendment BUA 2024/4/332

Fund 1080 General Corporate / Dept 030 Circuit Clerk

Increased Appropriations: \$21,359

Increased Revenue: \$21,359

Reason: Appropriation of funds received through the Court Technology Modernization Program for the purchase of a ScanProi9500 (microfilm machine).

MOTION by Mr. Owen to recommend County Board approval of a resolution approving budget amendment BUA 2024/4/332; seconded by Ms. Lokshin. Discussion followed regarding the use of this machine. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

2. Budget Amendment BUA 2024/5/633

Fund 2075 Regional Planning Commission / Dept 100 Regional Planning Commission

Increased Appropriations: \$600,000

Increased Revenue: \$600,000

Reason: Appropriation of funds for a Redeploy Illinois Program for youth ages 13-18 who are at high risk of incarceration.

MOTION by Ms. Michaels to recommend County Board approval of a resolution approving budget amendment BUA 2024/5/633; seconded by Ms. Straub. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

3. Budget Amendment BUA 2024/6/16

Fund 2075 Regional Planning Commission / Dept 100 Regional Planning Commission

Increased Appropriations: \$4,000,000

Increased Revenue: \$4,000,000

Reason: For internal tracking of indirect/fringe benefits on grant funded operations.

MOTION by Ms. Cowart to recommend County Board approval of a resolution approving budget amendment BUA 2024/6/16; seconded by Mr. Thorsland. Discussion followed with Mr. Smith explaining the need for this amendment. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

B. County Executive

1. Cover Crop ARPA Update

Bailey Conrady, Champaign County Farm Bureau Manager, presented her update from the Cover Crop project that was funded with American Rescue Plan Act funds. She explained what cover crops are, the benefits of using cover crops, and an outline of the project details. She shared details from the first two years, explaining the successes, of the project. Currently, they have used about 52% of the allocated funds for this project and they are actively looking for funding to continue the program past 2025.

The Board members discussed some of the issues with using cover crops and the economic struggles that smaller farmers experience. Overall, this has been a great project and Ms. Conrady thanked the County Board for allocating funds from ARPA for this.

2. GFOA Budget Award

Information only – Mr. Summers took this time to thank his staff for their work on the budget.

3. Resolution Placing the Question of Approval of the Special County Retailers' Occupation Tax for Public Safety on the November 5, 2024 General Election Ballot

MOTION by Mr. Thorsland to recommend County Board approval of a resolution Placing the Question of Approval of the Special County Retailers' Occupation Tax for Public Safety on the November 5, 2024 General Election Ballot; seconded by Ms. Taylor.

Ms. Jett gave the County Board members a list of items detailing how the additional funding would be used. Discussion followed about the importance of funding the items on this list, what the forecast would look like with this tax increase and the language on the resolution.

Upon vote, the **MOTION PASSED**.

C. Auditor

1. Monthly Report – April 2024 – Reports are available on the Auditor's webpage

Received and placed on file – Mr. Wilson asked why a quarterly report has not been published since 2017. Auditor Danos stated he will provide a second quarterly report in July.

D. Treasurer

1. Monthly Report – February, March & April 2024 – Reports are available on the Treasurer's webpage

Received and placed on file – Mr. Wilson thanked the Treasurer for making the first tax disbursements on time this year.

2. Resolution Authorizing the Execution of a Deed of Conveyance of the County's Interest on Real Estate, permanent parcel 14-03-35-184-006

MOTION by Ms. Straub to recommend County Board approval of a resolution Authorizing the Execution of a Deed of Conveyance of the County’s Interest on Real Estate, permanent parcel 14-03-35-184-006; seconded by Ms. Locke. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

E. Circuit Clerk

1. Renewal of Intergovernmental Agreement between Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services and Champaign County Circuit Clerk

MOTION by Mr. Esry to recommend County Board approval of a resolution renewing the Intergovernmental Agreement between Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services and Champaign County Circuit Clerk; seconded by Ms. Taylor. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

2. Authorizing the County Executive to execute a letter granting an extension of the Circuit Clerk’s outside audit

MOTION by Ms. Taylor to recommend County Board approval of a resolution authorizing the County Executive to execute a letter granting an extension of the Circuit Clerk’s outside audit; seconded by Ms. Carter. Discussion followed with the Circuit Clerk on why this letter is now required. Upon vote the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

F. Other Business

None

G. Chair’s Report

None

H. Designation of Items to be Placed on the Consent Agenda

VIII. A. 1-3, D. 2, E. 1-2

IX. Policy, Personnel, & Appointments

A. Coroner

1. Pending legislation

Mr. Thuney explained the different pieces of pending legislation and where they are in the process. He has been actively contacting our U.S. Representatives but has not heard back from them.

Mr. Thuney requested to come back to a future meeting so he can give an update from his office.

B. County Executive

1. Monthly HR Report – May 2024

Received and placed on file – Mr. Stohr mentioned the need for several different job vacancies in the County. Mr. Wilson asked about the very recent vacancy in the Auditor’s Office and asked if there is a sense of urgency to fill that position. Mr. Stohr explained that would fall under the auspices of the Auditor. Ms. Locke gave the Auditor some information about trailing spouses (from the university) and stated the Auditor intends to take on the additional workload himself, in the meantime.

2. Resolution Honoring Correctional Officer Jennie Ashley

MOTION by Ms. Michaels to recommend County Board approval of a resolution honoring Correctional Officer Jennie Ashley; seconded by Ms. Taylor. Discussion followed requesting this item to not be placed on the consent agenda because Ms. Ashley’s family will be in attendance at next week’s meeting. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

3. Appointments/Reappointments (*italics indicates incumbent*)

- a. Resolution Appointing Jonathan Schroeder to the Sadorus Fire Protection District, unexpired term ending 4/30/2027

MOTION by Mr. Farney to recommend County Board approval of a resolution appointing Jonathan Schroeder to the Sadorus Fire Protection District; seconded by Mr. Smith. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

- b. Resolution Appointing *Jonathan Schroeder* to the Two Mile Slough Drainage District, unexpired term ending 8/31/2026

MOTION by Mr. Esry to recommend County Board approval of a resolution appointing Jonathan Schroeder to the Two Mile Slough Drainage District; seconded by Ms. Greer. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

- c. Resolution Appointing Anthony Nichols to the Mental Health Board, unexpired term ending 12/31/2024

MOTION by Ms. Taylor to recommend County Board approval of a resolution appointing Anthony Nichols to the Mental Health Board; seconded by Mr. Esry. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

- d. Resolution Appointing *Krista Jones* to the County Board of Health, term 7/1/2024-6/30/2027

MOTION by Ms. Lokshin to recommend County Board approval of a resolution appointing Krista Jones to the County Board of Health; seconded by Mr. Farney. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

- e. Resolution Appointing *Kim Wolowiec-Fisher* to the Developmental Disabilities Board, term 7/1/2024-6/30/2027

MOTION by Ms. Greer to recommend County Board approval of a resolution appointing Kim Wolowiec-Fisher to the Developmental Disabilities Board; seconded by Ms. Carter. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

- f. Resolution Appointing Mark Toalson to the Forest Preserve District, term 7/1/2024-6/30/2029

MOTION by Mr. Smith to recommend County Board approval of a resolution appointing Mark Toalson to the Forest Preserve District; seconded by Mr. Owen. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

- g. Resolution Appointing *Doug Stierwalt* to the Bailey Memorial Cemetery Association, term 7/1/2024-6/30/2030
- h. Resolution Appointing *James Gady* to the Craw Cemetery Association, term 7/1/2024-6/30/2030
- i. Resolution Appointing *James Reifsteck* to the Craw Cemetery Association, term 7/1/2024-6/30/2030
- j. Resolution Appointing *Francis Lafenhagen* to the Locust Grove Cemetery Association, term 7/1/2024-6/30/2030

- k. Resolution Appointing *Kathryn Stacey* to the Locust Grove Cemetery Association, term 7/1/2024-6/30/2030
- l. Resolution Appointing *Tami Fruhling-Voges* to the Mt. Olive Cemetery Association, term 7/1/2024-6/30/2030
- m. Resolution Appointing *Paul Routh* to the Mt. Olive Cemetery Association, term 7/1/2024-6/30/2030

OMNIBUS MOTION by Ms. Michaels to recommend County Board approval of resolutions appointing Doug Stierwalt, James Gady, James Reifsteck, Francis Lafenhagen, Kathryn Stacey, Tami Fruhling-Voges and Paul Routh to their respective Cemetery Association; seconded by Mr. Smith. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

- n. Currently vacant appointments – full list and information is available on the County’s website

Information only

C. County Clerk

- 1. Monthly Fee Reports – May 2024

Received and placed on file

D. Other Business

None

E. Chair’s Report

None

F. Designation of Items to be Placed on the Consent Agenda

IX. A. 3a-m

X. Other Business

None

XI. Adjournment

Chair Carter adjourned the meeting at 9:18 p.m.