

**PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
MACON COUNTY BOARD**

MARCH 11, 2010

**Jay A. Dunn
Chairman**

**Stephen M. Bean
Clerk**

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m. with the Sheriff and Assistant State's Attorney Randy Waks present.

The Roll Call showed all members present with the exception of Mrs. Wilkins.

COMMENT:

Mr. Dunn: Mr. Dunn asked Mr. Williams if he would like to say anything about the 4-H members being here.

Mr. Williams: Mr. Williams said we appreciate the 4-H members being here, and he thinks it is the 6th year we have done the job shadow with the 4-H. He asked Amy Leman, who is the unit leader with Uof I Extension if she had anything she would like to add.

Ms. Leman: Ms. Leman thanked the board for letting them come and allowing the 4-H'rs to see our government in action.

Mrs. Taylor led the members in Prayer.

All led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

A. PROCLAMATION

Mr. Smith presented a proclamation honoring Aaric Kendall for his Gold Medal in the ice carving competition, a Cultural Olympiad Event at the 2010 Winter Olympics.

Mr. Kendall: Mr. Kendall said he wanted to thank all of his sponsors and there are several that are in the room tonight, people who put their money where their mouth was and backed him. It should be a great honor for them too because they believed in him even before he showed up to compete, so he wanted to thank them and all of the other people who backed them and supported them, and gave great feedback. Hopefully we can do it again someday and we will go from there.

Mr. Ashby: Mr. Ashby said he has seen some of Aaric's work and it is just incredible what he can do with a 300 pound block of ice. For those who have not seen what he can do, it is totally amazing. This is not the first award he has won, and he is really an asset to the community. Mr. Ashby congratulated Aaric.

Aaric Kendall: Mr. Kendall said if they haven't seen one they could come out on Saturday to Flora Gems and he will be doing a carving from 9:00 to 2:00.

B. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 11, 2010 MEETING

MOTION

Mr. Smith moved, seconded by Mr. Dudley to approve the minutes of the February 11, 2010 meeting.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

ROLL CALL.

Ayes: Ashby, Baxter, Cox, Drobisch, Dudley, Dunn, Greenfield, Hogan, Jacobs, Little, McGlaughlin, Meachum, Oliver, Potts, Smith, Taylor, Westerman, Wicklund, Williams, Yoder

Nays: (None)

AYES = 20

NAYS = 0

MOTION CARRIED.

There were no zonings or subdivisions presented at the meeting

C. CORRESPONDENCE

A notice from the Illinois Pollution Control Board regarding the amount of copies to be filed electronically of information on the landfill case with the EPA.

Two letters from Comcast regarding changes and programming updates.

A Public Notice of the Proposed Renewal of the Federally Enforceable State Operating Permit for Buckeye Terminals, LLC in Forsyth.

A letter from the Illinois Department of Transportation regarding Section 03-00184-00-BR being executed on February 5, 2010.

A letter from AmerenIP regarding tree trimming that will be done in and around the Decatur area.

A letter from the Decatur Public Building Commission regarding the check written to the County of Macon in the amount of \$294,015.39 to close an account. The amount was applied to the outstanding bonds.

REPORTS

Sheriff's Report – February 2010

Coroner's Report – February 2010

Macon County Treasurer Fund & Investment Report – February 2010

Macon County Collector Bank Report – February 2010

MOTION

Mr. Meachum moved, seconded by Mr. Drobisch to approve Correspondence and Reports and that they be placed on file by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

1. CLAIMS

MOTION

Mr. McGlaughlin moved, seconded by Mr. Yoder to approve the Claims by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

D. APPOINTMENTS

2. Resolution G-3414-3-10 – Appointment to the Central Illinois Regional Commission for Law Enforcement (C.I.R.C.L.E.)

Jon Baxter, 200 N. Woodlawn, Decatur, IL 62522
Term Expires: November 30, 2010

MOTION

Mr. Dunn moved, seconded by Mrs. Cox to approve Resolution G-3414-3-10 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

3. Resolution G-3415-3-10 – Appointment to the Decatur-Macon County Opportunities Corporation (DMCOC)

Lois Durbin, 41 Sandcreek Ct., Decatur, IL 62521
Term Expires: November 30, 2010

MOTION

Mr. Dunn moved, seconded by Mr. Williams to approve Resolution G-3415-3-10 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

There was nothing submitted on the Consent Calendar.

The Justice Committee had nothing to submit at the meeting.

EEHW COMMITTEE

4. Mr. Dudley presented Ordinance O-83-3-10 which is amending the Macon County Electrical Code and Electrical Commission Ordinance.

MOTION

Mr. Dudley moved, seconded by Mrs. Little to approve Ordinance O-83-3-10 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

The Operations, Personnel & Legislative Committee had nothing to submit at the meeting.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

5. Mr. Ashby presented Resolution G-3416-3-10 which is approving FY10 budget amendment to DPBC Lease Fund to recognize additional income and authorize early repayment of principal on 2006 Bond Issue.

MOTION

Mr. Ashby moved, seconded by Mrs. Cox to approve Resolution G-3416-3-10 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

6. Mr. Ashby presented Resolution G-3417-3-10 which is approving ongoing support and license subscription from Fike & Fike, Inc. for property tax software.

MOTION

Mr. Ashby moved, seconded by Mrs. Little to approve Resolution G-3417-3-10 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

7. Mr. Ashby presented Resolution G-3418-3-10 which is approving Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Macon regarding an Animal Control Program.

MOTION

Mr. Ashby moved, seconded by Mr. Jacobs to approve Resolution G-3418-3-10 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

COMMENT:

Mr. Dunn: Mr. Dunn said he pulled Resolution G-3419-3-10 from the agenda. Jerry Andrews had wanted to pull that, and we have quite a few questions so we are sending it back to EEHW Committee next week.

8. Mr. Ashby presented Resolution G-3420-3-10 which is approving increase in appropriations in the Health Fund for Emergency Preparedness Citizens Corp Program 2010 CDF#97.067.

MOTION

Mr. Ashby moved, seconded by Mr. Drobisch to approve Resolution G-3420-3-10 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

9. Mr. Ashby presented Resolution G-3421-3-10 which is amending the GIS FY10 budget.

MOTION

Mr. Ashby moved, seconded by Mrs. Little to approve Resolution G-3421-3-10 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

10. Mr. Ashby presented Resolution G-3422-3-10 which is establishing a hiring freeze for a one year period.

MOTION

Mr. Ashby moved, seconded by Mr. Meachum to approve Resolution G-3422-3-10.

QUESTIONS:

Mrs. Cox: Mrs. Cox asked what offices this affects.

Mr. Dunn: Mr. Dunn said just the offices under the County Board Chairman. It affects the County Board Office, Supervisor of Assessments, Highway, Environmental Management, and Planning & Zoning.

Mrs. Cox: Mrs. Cox asked what the purpose of this is.

Mr. Dunn: Mr. Dunn said just to kind of set the tone for the elected officials and everybody in the county.

Mrs. Little: Mrs. Little said she will be voting no on this resolution, and while she thinks it is wise and prudent for every officeholder and department head to be frugal, she believes we have elected and hired responsible people to serve in these offices, and she trusts them to act accordingly.

Mr. Jacobs: Mr. Jacobs said he considered this resolution probably non-essential. He thinks as County Board members we have got to do our job, but he also thinks in this resolution that we have sent a message that there will be a hiring freeze because we don't have any money. He made the resolution in committee to send it here so he will vote yes on this.

Mr. Oliver: Mr. Oliver said that in the OPL meeting he was the only one that did abstain at that time. He did because, although we have the condition that we do with our finances in the County of Macon at this time, he thought that the resolution, although it is a reminder to the officeholders in this county that we are in the condition that we are, he considered it a resolution that was a feel good resolution which he has been acquainted with over the years. There is no enforcement to it. It is just a reminder that it is coming down the pipe and we wish you wouldn't do anything toward upsetting the applecart as far as the budget system is concerned. He thinks any hiring that would be done should be

referred back to the Finance Committee who can take care of any discrepancies in these officeholder's budgets. He is hoping that they will take note. Some of them were questioning whether or not this would entail replacing any members of their present staff if they should retire, quit, get fired or whatever, and he didn't think it was intended for that, at least he hoped not. It would be one where they would not take on any new people in their departments.

Mr. Dunn: Mr. Dunn said he has run a lot of jobs in his life, in private life as an electrician. He knows how to run jobs, and he knows how to run people. He knows how to supervise people. He could have not done anything with this resolution, but he had seen in the paper where Coles County passed it. He thought it was the right thing to do to set the tone to this county because of the economic climate. He knew when he wrote it that it only affected his people. He is not naïve enough to think it was going to affect the officeholders but he wanted to set the tone. He thinks he accomplished what he wanted to do. There has been a lot of discussion on this. He thinks everybody is aware of where we are at in the budget process and the economy. That is why he brought it forth. He thinks he already got accomplished what he wanted to.

Sheriff Schneider: Sheriff Schneider said he is going to, as an officeholder, adhere to this, and he has actually had a self imposed one from the beginning of the budget process foreseeing the problems that we would have toward the next fiscal year. But, if he has correctional officers that dip below a certain number he would be coming back and hiring people. So, let it be known that there are issues he may have to face down the road that he is required to meet as an officeholder, but he is adhering to this and will bring it to finance and his oversight committee.

Mr. Dunn: Mr. Dunn said he meant to mention that. It is just to try to get everybody, if they are, it is not to say you can't hire anybody, if you read the resolution we are just trying to get them to go in front of their oversight committee and report and talk about it with the Finance Committee and the board. It gives everybody a chance to put in their two cents worth.

ROLL CALL

Ayes: Ashby, Baxter, Drobisch, Dudley, Dunn, Greenfield, Hogan, Jacobs, McGlaughlin, Meachum, Potts, Smith, Taylor, Westerman, Wicklund, Williams, Yoder

Nays: Cox, Little

Abstain: Oliver

AYES = 17

NAYS = 2

ABSTAIN = 1

MOTION CARRIED.

11. Mr. Ashby presented Resolution G-3423-3-10 which is approving a lease agreement with Congressman Phil Hare.

MOTION

Mr. Meachum moved, seconded by Mr. Dudley to approve Resolution G-3423-3-10.

COMMENT:

Mr. Jacobs: Mr. Jacobs said he totally disagrees with this resolution. He doesn't think the county building was built by the voters of Macon County to house state legislators, nor to any one political party. Why don't we get the Republican and Democrat headquarters over here? He asked Tim Dudley when he gets elected if he wants a room here. Mr. Jacobs thinks the County Building is for county business, not state legislators. Mr. Hare does not represent too much of Macon County, and this building belongs to all of Macon County. So, he will be voting against this.

Mr. Ashby: Mr. Ashby said he will be voting against this resolution and one of the reasons he will be voting against it is that we are in competition as a county against a private landlord. He does not think we want to be in that position so that is the reason he will vote against it.

Mrs. Little: Mrs. Little said she understands the concerns of wanting to be sure that the county building does not become a campaign headquarters. She fully intends to pay very close attention to that, and any reports that campaign activity is happening needs to be addressed promptly and swiftly by this board. Her understanding is that it is a fair market value so she doesn't think we are undercutting the private sector. She will be supporting this but also very cautiously. She finds it convenient if it would.... Personally, she thinks it would be lovely if all of our elected officials had their business offices in a central location. Whether this is a good start or one person who is going to take advantage of it, she is going to support it at this point, and then watch very closely as to how it serves the people of Macon County.

ROLL CALL.

Ayes: Baxter, Drobisch, Dudley, Dunn, Greenfield, Little, McGlaughlin, Meachum, Oliver, Potts, Smith, Taylor, Westerman, Wicklund, Williams, Yoder

Nays: Ashby, Cox, Hogan, Jacobs

AYES = 16

NAYS = 4

MOTION CARRIED.

The Negotiations Committee had nothing to submit at the meeting.

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

12. Mr. Potts presented Resolution H-1700-3-10 which is approving permission to Ameren to install a transformer at 3635 S. Franklin St. (CH 61) in Decatur.

MOTION

Mr. Potts moved, seconded by Mr. Baxter to approve Resolution H-1700-3-10 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED. (ASHBY, COX, HOGAN & JACOBS SHOWED THEIR VOTE AS YES)

13. Mr. Potts presented Resolution H-1701-3-10 which is approving permission to the Sanitary District of Decatur to bore under South Street (CH 20) in Oreana and Argenta Road (CH 25) in Argenta.

MOTION

Mr. Potts moved, seconded by Mr. Yoder to approve Resolution H-1701-3-10 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

14. Mr. Potts presented Resolution H-1702-3-10 which is appropriating funds to cover the construction expenses on Section 09-00226-00-SM, a concrete patching project on Brush College Road (CH 1) in Decatur.

MOTION

Mr. Potts moved, seconded by Mr. Yoder to approve Resolution H-1702-3-10 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

The Executive Committee had nothing to submit at the meeting.

The Siting, Rules & Ordinance Sub-Committee had nothing to submit at the meeting.

The Building Sub-Committee had nothing to submit at the meeting.

CITIZEN'S REMARKS:

John Phillips: Mr. Phillips lives at 80 Allen Bend Drive in the city. There are two things that he wanted to comment on here. They have probably seen that he has been at the meetings for the last several months and at some of the committee meetings, as an observer. That is all he really is, is an observer to learn about how this body works, and all of you and how you do your thing. There are two things he wanted to talk to you about for a little bit. One, is the example this body sets in terms of how you work together is one of the most positive things he has ever seen. There are civics lessons for all of the young people here tonight. If only we could have a State Legislature or a Federal government where Republicans and Democrats work together and find ways to agree and disagree and work through their problems. This is an amazing body and he only wished it could be translated into other kinds of environments. He thanked the board for letting him observe the way they work. The second thing he wanted to comment on is that each of you are here for a single purpose and working and doing your best thing for Macon County. On the political side of things this is one primary Republican who has been voting that way most of his life who is here to ask and support and say that if there is one thing that this group and anybody in our county ought to be united on, that is the support of Tim Dudley. He believes that nobody could represent the citizens of Macon County any better, in any way, and for our future and causing things to happen a little bit better in Springfield and ultimately for us to get what we need from the State, it will be to the benefit of our county if we all pull together and cause Tim to be elected. He thanked the board for the opportunity to talk to them.

Dean Padgett: Mr. Padgett lives at 3245 N. Susan Drive in Decatur, Illinois. He doesn't know how many times he has been here but is here again and will be until he gets his job completed. If you missed him at the last regular meeting, please understand that he didn't toss the towel in the ring. His reason for missing was due to some surgery his wife needed. The hospital dismissed her late on the evening of February 11th forcing him to miss. As he speaks, she is doing fine and supports his desire to get the project at Friends Creek Campground finished. Work is in progress to do at least 10 more sites at the end of the 2010 camping season. Naturally, he will pushing to include the other remaining nine sites to be completed so that this project can be finished once and for all. A phone call from each of you members to both management and board members might aid this endeavor. In closing, he would like to offer his belated congratulations to those winners seeking new offices. Also, good luck to each of you along the way and thanks for all of your support in helping him achieve what they have achieved thus far. He sincerely thanked them for listening to his thoughts and for understanding and patience. If nothing else let's do it for the Olympic Champ. What do you say?

Mr. Oliver: Mr. Oliver asked Mr. Padgett for the telephone number where he wants them to call.

Mr. Padgett: Mr. Padgett could not remember the number. He thought he had given them a copy of the numbers at one time.

Mr. Oliver: Mr. Oliver said he doesn't remember how many years ago that was though.

Mr. Padgett: Mr. Padgett said they had him. He could not spit that number out.

Mr. Oliver: Mr. Oliver asked Mr. Padgett to give him a call.

OFFICEHOLDER'S REMARKS:

Mr. Williams: Mr. Williams wanted to make a couple of comments about the job shadow tonight. He wanted to thank the chairman for all of his support in making this happen. He thanked the individual board members that make our 4-H kids welcome and let them participate in the process. He also thanked the kids for their interest and their time; and he hopes they take something positive away from this experience.

Mr. Dunn: Mr. Dunn asked the 4-H members present at the meeting to give their name and age and let us know what they thought of the meeting.

Sarah Best, 10 years old and Jessica Best 12 years old are with the Long Creek Critters. Kevin Kappenman is 13 years and goes to school at Mt. Zion Junior High and is in the Long Creek Critters. Carsen Culp is 11 years old and goes to Maroa-Forsyth School. Carsen said he is in 5th grade, and thought this was really awesome. He is in the Forsyth Fantastics. Samuel Flickinger is 10 years old and goes to Argenta-Oreana School and lives in Decatur, Illinois. Olivia Bowers is 13 years old. She is home-schooled and is a member of the Homesteaders 4-H group. She thanked the board for letting them come, and said it has been a lot of fun. It is her second year and she really enjoys it. Erica Haas is 11 years old and goes to Warrensburg-Latham School. She is in the Warrensburg-Latham Austinettes. This is her second year coming and she really likes it. It is a lot of fun to see what you guys do.

Mrs. Little: Mrs. Little said before we started the meeting, Olivia was saying the last time they were here we were in the middle of the Animal Control Ordinance ordeal which was a very long meeting as she recalls. It was fun to be able to point out that this contract with the Village of Macon is a direct result of the activity of the board a year ago and the board is adopting the ordinance that we worked so hard on.

Mr. Oliver: Mr. Oliver said he would like once again to voice his displeasure with what is happening with our cable service, the Comcast people. He received a letter from them this week stating that he is going to have to acquire some equipment they are offering for free right now, but if he wants any more than what they are offering he will have to pay a monthly fee for that. He happens to have more than they are offering so he will have to pay a monthly fee if he takes it. It is kind of sad that they are the only ones in town and they act like it. He thinks it is time that we as a county and as a city in the County of Macon begin to realize what is happening to us with the cable service. They are making him think very seriously about going another route to receive his television programming because he took a chance to see what he had in the basic service they are trying to change, and he has 11 stations that mean nothing to him out of the 72 that they are talking

about, at least from channel 23 to 72. He has no choice and has to take what they give him and if he doesn't like it you know, lump it. He doesn't know how anybody else feels about it but the people he has talked to are quite dissatisfied too. He hasn't found any satisfied customers yet.

There was no old business presented at the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

15. Mr. Smith presented Resolution G-3424-3-10 supporting a 220 MPH High-Speed Rail Line linking O'Hare International Airport, Downtown Chicago, McCormick Place, Kankakee, Decatur, Springfield, Champaign Edwardsville and St. Louis.

MOTION

Mr. Smith moved, seconded by Mr. Yoder to approve Resolution G-3424-3-10 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION TO CLOSE SESSION

Mr. Potts moved, seconded by Mr. Drobisch to go into closed session to discuss personnel issues and pending litigation by prior roll call vote.

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION TO OPEN SESSION

Mr. Dudley moved, seconded by Mr. Yoder to return to open session by prior roll call vote.

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Mr. Oliver moved, seconded Mr. Yoder to adjourn until April 8, 2010 at 7:15 pm.

MOTION CARRIED.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.