

**PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
MACON COUNTY BOARD**

**MARCH 08, 2012**

**Jay A. Dunn  
Chairman**

**Stephen M. Bean  
Clerk**

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

The Roll Call showed all members present at the meeting with the exception of Mr. Ashby, Mr. Jacobs, Mr. McGlaughlin, and Mr. Smith.

Mrs. Taylor led the members in prayer.

All led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **A. PROCLAMATION**

Mr. Williams: Mr. Williams and co-presenter, Sara Best presented a proclamation recognizing March 4 – 10, 2012 as Macon County 4-H Week.

#### **MOTION**

Mr. Williams, moved, seconded by Mr. Dudley to approve the proclamation by acclamation.

#### **MOTION CARRIED.**

#### **COMMENT:**

Mr. Williams: Mr. Williams said they had representatives from 4-H at the meeting and asked them to come forward.

Amy Leman: Ms. Leman said she is the 4-H Youth Development Educator for Macon County. She thanked them for allowing the 4-H members to come to the meeting tonight. One of the strongest things they like to teach to their youth is citizenship and the board members were all representing that by giving back to their communities. She thanked them for letting the 4-H members be there and see that. She had provided each board member with a copy of the College of ACES book but the extra page inside is actually an article about one of our 4-H clubs in Macon County, our 4-H SNAP Junior Leaders. We have gotten state recognition for some of our programs that we are very proud of and she wanted to share that with the board. There is also a page that says Join the Revolution of Responsibility. Nationally, 4-H is striving for a revolution in our youth to make our future even better. This highlights some of the great programs we are doing. Something she is very excited about is the 4-H Robotics Club. As of tomorrow they are submitting a proposal to compete at the National 4-H Science Day Experiment for the entire nation. They actually beat out professors with patents on robots so they actually beat the professionals. They are super excited these 4-H members made it to the finals and hope they will go far. She thanked the board and said they would continue to do the best they can for the youth in Macon County.

#### **B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 09, 2012 MEETING**

## **MOTION**

Mr. Meachum moved, seconded by Mr. Dudley to approve the minutes of the February 09, 2012 meeting.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

## **MOTION CARRIED.**

There were no zoning or subdivisions presented at the meeting.

## **C. CORRESPONDENCE**

A letter to the chairman from The Greater Decatur Chamber of Commerce and the Economic Development Corporation concerning assessments

A copy of the Macon County Juvenile Justice Council Community Profile for 2012

An e-mail from AT&T U-verse regarding possible programming changes

A Notice from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency regarding a Public Comment Period for the proposed issuance of a construction permit/PSD Approval to ADM in Decatur

A letter from Comcast regarding Digital Network Enhancement

A letter from Comcast regarding channel additions and changes to the channel line-up

Three letters from Ameren regarding tree trimming that will be done in the Decatur area in the near future.

The 2011 Year End Financial Statement from the Decatur Public Building Commission.

## **REPORTS**

Sheriff's Report – February 2012

Tax Collector's Bank Report – February 2012

Treasurer's Fund & Investment Report - February 2012

Coroner's Report – January 2012

Auditor's Report – February 2012

## **MOTION**

Mr. Wicklund moved, seconded by Mr. Drobisch to approve the Correspondence and Reports and that they be placed on file.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**1. CLAIMS**

**MOTION**

Mrs. Cox moved, seconded by Mr. Wicklund to approve the claims that have already been paid.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

**ROLL CALL.**

Ayes: Baxter, Cox, Drobisch, Dudley, Dunn, Greenfield, Hogan, Little, Meachum, Minich, Oliver, Taylor, Westerman, Wicklund, Wilkins, Williams, Zimmerman

Nays: (None)

**AYES = 17**

**NAYS = 0**

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**D. CONSENT CALENDAR**

2. Resolution G-3679-3-12 – Executing deeds to convey property on which taxes were delinquent

Resolution G-3680-3-12 – Recognizing April 2012 as “National Donate Life Month”

**MOTION**

Mr. Dudley moved, seconded by Mr. Greenfield to approve the Consent Calendar by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**JUSTICE COMMITTEE**

Mr. Baxter presented Anay Hunt, 4-H member from MacArthur High School.

3. Mr. Baxter and Anay Hunt presented Resolution G-3681-3-12 which is approving a contract between the Macon County Sheriff's Department and the Decatur Public Building Commission.

**MOTION**

Mr. Baxter moved, seconded by Mr. Drobisch to approve Resolution G-3681-3-12 by prior roll call.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

4. Mr. Baxter and Anay Hunt presented Resolution G-3682-3-12 which is approving and adopting the Macon County Criminal Justice Strategic Priorities.

**COMMENT:**

Mr. Ahola: Mr. Ahola said the reason we are having this strategic priorities is in response to our community profile. You each have a copy in front of you and that is your personal copy. We had these printed at Richland at a fairly good price for us. It goes through documents that were found during research done by Alli Williams who is listed in this document. She was their AmeriCorps VISTA worker for several months and she helped put this together. The cover of this is a photograph taken by Ms. Williams. It means a lot for this cover because you will see the Transfer House in the background and in the front is the focus of this whole thing, the Civil War Monument in Central Park. We did this on purpose because Macon County is a lot more than just Decatur; it is the entire county. We thought it was important to show something from our history when times were a lot harder than they are now. He said even the inscription reads, "Sacred to the Memory of the Soldiers of Macon County." Mr. Ahola asked that they keep this document and study it. It is a lot of depressing information in there about the Juvenile Justice System and the community here in Macon County. But, we also need some solutions, and a first step would be to have a Strategic Priority. Mr. Ahola urged the board to pass this resolution. He said to see him if they needed other copies of this profile.

**MOTION**

Mr. Baxter moved, seconded by Mr. Dudley to approve Resolution G-3682-3-12 by prior roll call vote.

There were no comments from the board floor.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**EEHW COMMITTEE**

Mr. Dudley: Mr. Dudley said he had Andrew Cunningham with him from the Decatur Discoveries 4-H Group to help introduce the resolution.

5. Mr. Dudley and Andrew Cunningham presented Resolution G-3683-3-12 which is approving an Electronic Recycling Agreement with Advanced Technology Recycling in Pontiac, Illinois.

**MOTION**

Mr. Dudley moved, seconded by Mr. Meachum to approve Resolution G-3683-3-12 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

The Operation and Personnel Committee had nothing to submit at the meeting.

The Legislative Committee had nothing to submit at the meeting.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Mr. Wicklund: Mr. Wicklund presented Jessica Best who would be assisting in presenting the resolutions.

6. Mr. Wicklund and Jessica Best presented Resolution G-3684-3-12 which is approving and addendum to the lease between Macon County and the Decatur Public Building Commission to provide for levy abatement.

**MOTION**

Mr. Wicklund moved, seconded by Mr. Dudley to approve Resolution G-3684-3-12 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

7. Mr. Wicklund and Jessica Best presented Resolution G-3685-3-12 which is appropriating funds for a 50/50 cost share bridge repair project with the Village of Long Creek.

**MOTION**

Mr. Wicklund moved, seconded by Mr. Greenfield to approve Resolution G-3685-3-12 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

The Negotiations Committee had nothing to submit at the meeting.

**TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**

Mr. Williams: Mr. Williams said the resolutions would be co-presented by 4-H member Sara Best.

8. Mr. Williams presented Resolution H-1796-3-12 which is authorizing the Macon County Engineer to negotiate an agreement with Show Bus to provide public transit service in non-urbanized areas under Section 5311 of the Federal Transit Act of 1991, as amended (49 U.S.C. S 5311).

**MOTION**

Mr. Williams moved, seconded by Mr. Wicklund to approve Resolution H-1796-3-12 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

**MOTION CARRIED. (LITTLE SHOWED HER VOTE AS NO)**

9. Mr. Williams presented Resolution H-1797-3-12 which is authorizing the Macon County Engineer to craft and advertise a request for proposal for providing a Public Transportation System under Section 5307 of the Federal Transit Act of 1991, as amended (49 U.S.C. S 5307) for the urban areas not currently served in Macon County.

**MOTION**

Mr. Williams moved, seconded by Mr. Dudley to approve Resolution H-1797-3-12 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

**MOTION CARRIED. (LITTLE SHOWED HER VOTE AS NO)**

10. Mr. Williams and Sara Best presented Resolution H-1798-3-12 which is appropriating funds for the South East Beltway study agreement for additional noise analysis.

**MOTION**

Mr. Williams moved, seconded by Mr. Wicklund to approve Resolution H-1798-3-12 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

**MOTION CARRIED. (GREENFIELD SHOWED HIS VOTE AS NO & LITTLE SHOWED HER VOTE AS YES)**

11. Mr. Williams and Sara Best presented Resolution H-1799-3-12 which is appropriating funds to cover engineering expenses on Section 05-00200-00-PV, the reconstruction of County Highway 30 west of Elwin.

**MOTION**

Mr. Williams moved, seconded by Mrs. Cox to approve Resolution H-1799-3-12 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

**MOTION CARRIED. (GREENFIELD SHOWED HIS VOTE AS YES)**

The Executive Committee had nothing to submit at the meeting.

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

**BUILDING SUB-COMMITTEE**

Mr. Drobisch: Mr. Drobisch said they would be having a Building Sub-Committee meeting on April 4<sup>th</sup> at 5:15. All the sub-committee members have been notified and he believes they will all be attending.

**CITIZENS' REMARKS:**

Mirinda Rothrock: Ms. Rothrock said she is with the Chamber of Commerce.

Craig Coil: Mr. Coil said he is with the Economic Development Corporation at 101 S. Main in Decatur.

Ms. Rothrock: Ms. Rothrock thanked the board for allowing them to be there. The Greater Decatur Chamber of Commerce and the Economic Development Corporation of Decatur and Macon County are submitting a position statement on property tax reassessment for consideration. Their position supports the creation and implementation of a clear, simplified and equitable process for establishing a fair market value on all properties assessed in Macon County. This is a critical issue for the regional economy as the current process directly and negatively impacts our ability to compete for the creation and, more importantly in the current economic climate, the retention of quality jobs. We

encourage the Macon County Board to take an active role in moving forward and resolving this issue. They are requesting the formation of a task force composed of employers, local government and taxing bodies to review current assessment processes and to suggest solutions to fix the system and prevent future reassessment disputes.

Mr. Coil: Mr. Coil said he had nothing to add because he couldn't talk. He just wanted to thank them for their consideration of the document. They looked forward to working with the county in the future on this issue.

#### **OFFICEHOLDERS' REMARKS:**

Mr. Williams: Mr. Williams wanted to thank the board members for their efforts this evening in working with the 4-H kids. This is great night for us to be able to share what we do with the youth of Macon County. He appreciates the effort and time the board members put in while talking to the kids about the process of county government.

Mr. Westerman: Mr. Westerman jokingly recommended that the chairman be docked 1/12<sup>th</sup> of his pay since he didn't do much this evening.

Mr. Dudley: Mr. Dudley said he would go a little further and ask that the chairman be replaced since his replacement did a very good job.

Mr. Dunn: Mr. Dunn said he would like to thank Julia for taking over here; she did a great job.

Mr. Wicklund: Mr. Wicklund said this is a great opportunity for young kids to learn how government works, and what better example than the county board. He also wanted to encourage anybody who has not been out to the Macon County Animal Shelter for a while, to go out and visit them. He has had the honor of being out there a few times in the last couple of months. It is a nice clean facility. It is busy, extremely busy for a Saturday afternoon. There were probably 30 people in there, and they are doing a great job of taking care of the animals and getting it up and going.

Mr. Oliver: Mr. Oliver asked that each of the 4-H members introduce themselves.

The 4-H members attending the meeting were: Julia Taraszewski is 14 years old and is with the 4-H Homesteaders. Anay Hunt is 16 years old and a member of SNAP. Gage Jones is 10 years old and with the Austinettes. Ben Taraszewski is 13 years old and is with the 4-H Homesteaders. Andrew Cunningham is 12 years old and is with the 4-H Decatur Discovers. Erika Flickenger is 8 years old and is with the 4-H RoboStorms. Taran Reed is 16 years old and a member of SNAP. Sara Best is 12 years old and a part of Long Creek Critters. Jessica Best is 14 years old and with the Long Creek Critters. Samuel Flickenger is 12 years old and is with 4-H RoboStorms. Jenell Cross is 17 years old and with the 4-H SNAP program. Hannah Flickenger is 10 years old and is with the 4-H RoboStorms. Allie Watts is 16 years old and a part of the Austinettes 4-H Club.

There was no old business presented at the meeting.

There was no new business presented at the meeting.

**COMMENT:**

James O'Connell: Mr. O'Connell is the President of Lincolnland Area Local Postal Workers Union #239. He lives in Springfield. Springfield processes Macon County's mail. He wanted to ask the county board to pass a referendum to keep the postal facility in Springfield. In September, the postal service said they were going to discontinue 254 processing facilities across the nation, and Springfield is one of them. Springfield processes this area's mail. Decatur is a very good example. When someone from 521 sends a letter to the other side of town at 526, it goes to Springfield and comes right back. What they are proposing is to send all of that mail to St. Louis, and that is going to, not come right back. He could guarantee them that. St. Louis is the number 2 facility in the entire nation for delayed mail, outside of Pittsburgh. Why they would want to send more mail there, he does not know. A couple of years ago they had a tornado and they sent their mail to us to process. If there is something else that happens and they close down our facility, all of that mail that is going to St. Louis will go further into Missouri. He was asking that everyone call their congressman, Dick Durbin's office, Senator Kirk's office, and ask them to stop these closures so our processing won't be disrupted. He has the Office of Inspector General reports that he would leave with the chairman if anyone wanted to see them. Mr. O'Connell asked that they pass a referendum to keep the processing center here. The Illinois State General Assembly has drafted a resolution to keep the postal service here. He has been to every county in the surrounding area that they process, and they have already drafted these resolutions and passed them. He thanked the board.

Mr. Dunn: Mr. Dunn said he would turn the reports over to the Legislative Committee.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**

Mr. Oliver moved, seconded by Mr. Dudley to adjourn until Thursday, April 12, 2012 at 7:15 p.m.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

Meeting adjourned at 7:47 p.m.