

**PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
MACON COUNTY BOARD**

JULY 12, 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. Baxter, and Mr. Jacobs.

Mrs. Taylor led the members in prayer.

All led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

A. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 14, 2012 MEETING

MOTION

Mr. Smith moved, seconded by Mr. Meachum to approve the minutes of the June 14, 2012 meeting.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

ROLL CALL.

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

Nays: (None)

AYES = 18

NAYS = 0

MOTION CARRIED.

There were no zonings or subdivisions presented at the meeting.

B. CORRESPONDENCE

A letter from Ameren Transmission Company regarding a public meeting scheduled on July 24, 2012 for the Illinois Rivers Project.

A letter from the Illinois Department of Transportation regarding a joint agreement for Section: 06-00213-00-BR, Project BRS-0544(104), Job: C-97-081-12.

A Notice of Application for Permit to Manage Waste for Rhodes Landfill from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency

REPORTS

Sheriff's Report – June 2012
Coroner's Report – May 2012
Treasurer's Fund & Investment Report – June 2012
Tax Collector's Bank Report – June 2012
Auditor's Report – June 2012

MOTION

Mr. Oliver moved, seconded by Mr. Smith to approve the 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

Mrs. Cox moved, seconded by Mr. Minich to approve the claims that have already been paid by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

C. APPOINTMENTS

2. Resolution G-3724-7-12 – Appointment to the Macon Mosquito Abatement District

Josh Rohrscheib, 210 Rayjon, Oreana, IL 62554
Term Expires: December 31, 2013

MOTION

Mr. Dunn moved, seconded by Mr. Meachum to approve Resolution G-3724-7-12 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

There was nothing presented on the Consent Calendar.

JUSTICE COMMITTEE

3. Mr. Wicklund presented Resolution G-3725-7-12 which is approving a contract for Alien Assistance Program Service with Justice Benefits Inc.

MOTION

Mr. Wicklund moved, seconded by Mrs. Wilkins to approve Resolution G-3725-7-12 by prior roll call vote.

QUESTION:

Mrs. Little: Mrs. Little said her question was for the State's Attorney, because she had asked Mark and the Sheriff and neither of them had an answer. She asked if the State's Attorney could explain to her why being here illegally is not a crime.

Mr. Ahola: Mr. Ahola said he is not sure this is designed for what is or is not a crime. They are supposed to do paperwork to help document or non-document. There is no state crime in being an illegal alien. The ones we are dealing with are in jail for other crimes.

Mrs. Little: Mrs. Little said she understands that.

Mr. Ahola: Mr. Ahola said this is paperwork to help the sheriff keep track of the people that are up there to help on any funding issues when the person is eventually turned over to INS agents. We don't prosecute anybody for being an illegal alien.

Mrs. Little: Mrs. Little asked if it is not a crime to be here illegally.

Mr. Ahola: Mr. Ahola said it is not a state crime.

Mrs. Little: Mrs. Little said it should be.

Mr. Ahola: Mr. Ahola said maybe they could put that under the Justice Committee for Mr. Wicklund.

MOTION CARRIED.

4. Mr. Wicklund presented Resolution G-3726-7-12 which is approving a contract for Macon County Sheriff's Police Services for the City of Macon, Illinois.

MOTION

Mr. Wicklund moved, seconded by Mr. Meachum to approve Resolution G-3726-7-12 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

EEHW COMMITTEE

5. Mr. Dudley presented Resolution G-3727-7-12 which is consenting to the boundary modifications to the area known at the Decatur Macon County Enterprise Zone.

MOTION

Mr. Dudley moved, seconded by Mrs. Wilkins to approve Resolution G-3727-7-12 by prior roll call vote.

QUESTION:

Mrs. Little: Mrs. Little asked what the effect will be on property tax revenues for the County of Macon.

Patrick Hoban: Mr. Hoban from the Economic Development Corporation of Decatur & Macon County said there is none at this time because they did not ask for any property tax abatement for this project.

Mrs. Little: Mrs. Little asked if by it being in an Enterprise Zone that has no affect on property taxes.

Mr. Hoban: Mr. Hoban said theoretically it could if they request it for the property tax abatement, but they have not.

Mr. Bean: Mr. Bean said we don't have that many properties that ask for property tax relief. It has been the big difference working with Mr. Coil than in previous times.

Mrs. Little: Mrs. Little asked what the benefit is of the Enterprise Zone.

Mr. Hoban: Mr. Hoban said for the sales tax exemption on the construction goods.

Mr. Dudley: Mr. Dudley said he also wanted to state that in the packet on the legal descriptions there are a couple of range numbers left out of a couple of those legal descriptions. Josh, Mary and Steve are going to get together and get those fixed. They are just minor little modifications but we want everybody to know they are not in the legal descriptions that are in the resolution but they will be taken care of.

Mr. Dunn: Mr. Dunn said he thinks we have had this problem before and asked that Josh, Mary and Steve get together with Mr. Coil and hopefully get this problem taken care of so we don't have it again. He is not sure where the break down is, but we have had the problem before and he would like to get it resolved. Mr. Dunn asked Mr. Hoban to correct him if he was wrong in saying that on the Enterprise Zone, at the most if

somebody wants to abate property tax, it is 100% the first year and then goes to 80% and 60% or whatever and within 5 years there is no abatement.

Mr. Hoban: Mr. Hoban said that is correct.

Mr. Dunn: Mr. Dunn said it is unlike a TIF District which could last for 20 plus years. He is not a proponent of the TIF District in too many cases; but the Enterprise Zone is a fair process to help provide development in the county.

MOTION CARRIED.

OPERATIONS AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

6. Mr. Meachum presented Resolution G-3728-7-12 which is approving the election judges through March 2014.

MOTION

Mr. Meachum moved, seconded by Mrs. Cox to approve Resolution G-3728-7-12 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

7. Mr. Meachum presented Resolution G-3729-7-12 which is approving FY 12 budget amendments for Workforce Investment Solutions.

MOTION

Mr. Meachum moved, seconded by Mrs. Little to approve Resolution G-3729-7-12 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

8. Mr. Meachum presented Resolution G-3730-7-12 which is approving FY12 budget amendment for Workforce Investment Solutions.

MOTION

Mr. Meachum moved, seconded by Mrs. Cox to approve Resolution G-3730-7-12 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

The Legislative Committee had nothing to submit at the meeting.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

9. Mr. Dunn presented Resolution G-3731-7-12 which is approving FY12 budget amendments for Workforce Investment Solutions.

MOTION

Mr. Dunn moved, seconded by Mr. McGlaughlin to approve Resolution G-3731-7-12 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

10. Mr. Smith presented Resolution H-1811-7-12 which is approving the bylaws of the Macon County Transit Advisory Group.

MOTION

Mr. Smith moved, seconded by Mrs. Cox to approve Resolution H-1811-7-12 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

11. Mr. Smith presented Resolution H-1812-7-12 which is approving permission to amend the speed limit on CH 20 (Forsyth Road).

MOTION

Mr. Smith moved, seconded by Mrs. Cox to approve Resolution H-1812-7-12 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

12. Mr. Smith presented Resolution H-1813-7-12 which is appropriating funds to cover Phase II engineering expenses on Section 10-00237-00-BR, a bridge on County Highway 21 Kenney Road over Lake Fork Creek.

MOTION

Mr. Smith moved, seconded by Mrs. Cox to approve Resolution H-1813-7-12 by prior roll call vote.

QUESTION:

Mrs. Little: Mrs. Little asked if Macon County is paying 100% of these expenses.

Mr. Smith: Mr. Smith said that is the way he understands it, yes.

MOTION CARRIED.

13. Mr. Smith presented Resolution H-1814-7-12 which is appropriating funds to cover planning expenses for the Decatur Area Transportation Efficiency Study (DATES).

MOTION

Mr. Smith moved, seconded by Mr. Meachum to approve Resolution H-1814-7-12 by prior roll call vote.

QUESTIONS:

Mr. Williams: Mr. Williams asked what we are doing with this. He could not remember.

Mr. Smith: Mr. Smith said it is a study that is in conjunction with Economic Development, the City, and others to do train and truck route studies.

Mr. Williams: Mr. Williams asked what the ultimate goal is for this.

Mr. Meachum: Mr. Meachum said to keep grain going to ADM.

Mr. Bird: Mr. Bird said Kevin was right on the money with that. It was something that came up at a study group, and both representatives from ADM and Tate & Lyle said they were having issues with conflicts between rail and highway, both getting material in and material out. It evolved as part of that. The study will identify choke points where we could prioritize our money at and actually get more bang for our buck whenever we do improvements.

MOTION CARRIED.

The Executive Committee had nothing to submit at the meeting.

SITING, RULES & ORDINANCE SUB-COMMITTEE

Mr. Wicklund: Mr. Wicklund said he had an update. American Legal Publishing has posted our minutes on the site. He said that is accessible through the county's website. They are still on track with the rest of the contract agreement. Josh has been taking care of getting them the proper paperwork.

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

There were no citizens' remarks presented at the meeting.

OFFICEHOLDERS' REMARKS:

Mr. Dunn: Mr. Dunn said he unfortunately missed getting on the agenda, although he doesn't personally think it needs to be an action item, but he did take it through the Finance Committee, not as a resolution, but as a report to get an appraisal on Tate & Lyle. He forgot to bring the information with him, but there are approximately 11 taxing bodies involved in this. He asked all of them if they would pay their fair share for an appraisal that would not exceed their responsibility up to \$25,000, although hopefully we can get one for much less. All the taxing bodies, like the conservation district, mosquito abatement, park district, county board, Richland Community College, mental health, the health board, Decatur Township, all agreed to pay their fair share. The only one that didn't was the City of Decatur. He has taken that through the finance committee and it was unanimous to go ahead and get that appraisal. He would kind of like a head nod or if somebody has a problem with it he could bring it back next month. He would like to get it going because it is going to be a lengthy appraisal. We are looking at hiring a firm out of Nebraska who has extensive experience in wet milling appraisals. The review on the Tate & Lyle appraisal indicated that the appraiser they hired didn't have any good wet milling experience. Basically, the Supervisor of Assessments had Tate & Lyle on the books for \$21,000,000 plus. After Tate & Lyle brought in an appraisal of \$8,600,000 the Board of Review dropped the assessment down to between \$14,500,000 and \$15,000,000. Tate & Lyle went ahead and took it to the PTAB process to appeal that. They are still sticking with their \$8,600,000 appraisal. Mr. Dunn said it raised a bunch of red flags to him because that is approximately the same value we have the Hotel & Conference Center at. He doesn't see the Hotel & Conference Center being appraised at the same rate as Tate & Lyle. He knows what we got for ADM and it is a heck of a lot more than that. We need to get a good appraisal on it. It is going to be or could be expensive if we don't resolve this before, but we need to reach out to somewhere to get a good appraisal and they are kind of hard to find and are expensive. The finance committee was ok with it so he was just asking the board if it was ok, with a head nod. The money was appropriated. We have the line set up for expenses and revenue. We have actually received one check already from one of the taxing bodies.

Mr. McGlaughlin: Mr. McGlaughlin asked if he wanted a motion.

Mr. Dunn: Mr. Dunn said no because it is not on the agenda. He said if somebody here wanted to put it off for a month, we could do that. Otherwise, he is going to go ahead and start working on the appraisal. Mr. Dunn asked if there was anyone who was against moving ahead and there was not.

There was no old business presented at the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

14. Mr. Dunn presented Resolution G-3732-7-12 which is appointing individuals to the Macon County Rural Transit Advisory Group.

MOTION

Mr. Dunn moved, seconded by Mrs. Wilkins to approve Resolution G-3732-7-12 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

UPDATE ON COMCAST CABLE CONTRACT

Mr. Dunn: Mr. Dunn said he would like to discuss the Comcast Cable contract in closed session and then come back out and take some action or update the public. We are in negotiations and have been for 4 years. So, we will talk about that in closed session. We are going to have several items to discuss in closed session.

MOTION TO CLOSE SESSION

Mr. Dudley moved, seconded by Mr. Greenfield to go into closed session for personnel and pending litigation issues by prior roll call vote.

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION TO OPEN SESSION

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

MOTION CARRIED.

COMMENT:

Mr. Dunn: Mr. Dunn said we will be scheduling some open meeting to hear from not only Comcast users, but Suddenlink and any other cable users we have in the county so we will have a little better understanding of how to negotiate during the formal process.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Mr. Oliver moved, seconded by Mr. Drobisch to adjourn until Thursday, August 9, 2012 at 7:15 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.