

**PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
MACON COUNTY BOARD**

AUGUST 09, 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. McGlaughlin, Mr. Oliver, Mr. Westerman, and Mrs. Zimmerman.

Mrs. Taylor led the members in prayer.

All led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

COMMENT:

Mr. Dunn: Mr. Dunn said they would bypass the retirement plaque until next month.

A. PROCLAMATION

COMMENT:

Mr. Dunn: Mr. Dunn said we have the Macon County Home & Community Education members and Mindy Peterson from U of I Extension to read the proclamation recognizing September as National Preparedness Month. Ms. Peterson introduced Jenny Smith who is the co-chair for the event and Sharon Middleton who is their HCE President. They presented the proclamation recognizing September as National Preparedness Month.

B. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF JULY 12, 2012 MEETING

MOTION

Mr. Smith moved, seconded by Mr. Wicklund to approve the minutes of the July 12, 2012 meeting.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

ROLL CALL.

Ayes: Baxter, Cox, Drobisch, Dudley, Dunn, Greenfield, Hogan, Jacobs, Little, Meachum, Minich, Smith, Taylor, Wicklund, Wilkins, Williams

Nays: (None)

AYES = 16

NAYS = 0

MOTION CARRIED.

ZONING /SUBDIVISIONS

1. Mr. Dudley presented Resolution Z-1122-8-12 which is regarding Case R-01-07-12, a petition submitted by Bradley A. Morr for rezoning of approximately 4.0 acres from RE-5 Single Family Estate to RMH-5 Single Family Estate District to move a manufactured home onto property commonly known as 9613 Cabin Road in Oakley Township. Staff recommended at hearing that the petition be approved. After hearing the evidence, the Zoning Board of Appeals voted in favor of recommending to the County Board that the petition be granted. The EEHW Committee met and reviewed the petition and recommended by an 8-0 vote that the County Board approve the subject petition.

MOTION

Mr. Dudley moved, seconded by Mr. Hogan to approve Resolution Z-1122-8-12 by prior roll call vote.

QUESTION:

Mrs. Little: Mrs. Little asked if this is a permanent site for the manufactured home.

Mr. Dudley: Mr. Dudley said yes.

MOTION CARRIED.

COMMENT:

Mr. Bean: Mr. Bean said to let the record show that Mr. Oliver was present at the meeting

C. CORRESPONDENCE

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

A Notice of Application for Permit to Manage Waste for the Veolia ES Valley View Landfill Unit 1 from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency

A letter from Ameren Illinois regarding tree trimming in and around the Decatur area in the near future

A letter from Enbridge regarding the Southern Access Extension Project – contact by Enbridge representatives and resumption of discussions with landowners

A letter from Oros & Busch Application Technologies, Inc. regarding notification of their intent to land apply biosolids material from the City of Decatur Wastewater Treatment

Facility in or around the Hickory Point, Illini, Blue Mound, South Macon and South Wheatland Township area.

A letter from the Sanitary District of Decatur regarding sludge/biosolids that will be applied to land in Macon County

REPORTS

Sheriff's Report – July 2012

Coroner's Report – June 2012

Treasurer's Fund & Investment Report – July 2012

Tax Collector's Bank Report – July 2012

Auditor's Report – July 2012

Annual Financial Report of Macon County, Illinois for FY2011 in accordance with the Office of the Comptroller of the State of Illinois

MOTION

Mr. Smith moved, seconded by Mr. Dudley 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. (OLIVER SHOWED HIS VOTE AS YES)

2. CLAIMS

MOTION

Mrs. Cox moved, seconded by Mr. Drobisch 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.

D. APPOINTMENTS

3. Resolution G-3733-8-12 – Appointment of Rabies Control Administrator

Larry D. Baker, D.V.M., 2800 N. MLK Jr. Dr., Decatur, IL 62526

Term Expires: August 31, 2013

MOTION

Mr. Dunn moved, seconded by Mr. Meachum to approve Resolution G-3733-8-12 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

4. Resolution G-3734-8-12 – Appointment of Drainage District Commissioners

<u>DISTRICTS</u>	<u>COMMISSIONER'S NAME & ADDRESS</u>	<u>TERM EXPIRES</u>
Austin Drainage Dist. #1	John Rau 9008 W. Washington St. Rd. Maroa, Il 61756	1 st Tuesday September 2015
Friends Creek Drainage Dist. #1	Harold R. Dent 111 S. Woodale Ave Decatur, IL 62522	1 st Tuesday September, 2015
Friends Creek Drainage Dist. #3	Tom Barker 4794 E. Emery Rd. Oreana, IL 62554	1 st Tuesday September, 2015
Friends Creek-Whitmore Union Drainage Dist. #2	R. Michael Ferrill 9632 Brush College Rd. Oreana, IL 62554	1 st Tuesday September, 2015
Macon-Piatt Union Drainage Dist. #5	Lucia Wilkin 18 Westwood Monticello, IL 61856	1 st Tuesday September, 2015
Maple Grove Drainage Dist.	Barry Parish 2701 Glasgow Rd. Decatur, IL 62526	1 st Tuesday September, 2015
Maroa Drainage Dist. #2	Donald Westerman 782 E. Hickory Point Rd. Decatur, IL 62526	1 st Tuesday September, 2015
Maroa Drainage Dist. #3	Thomas Fogerson Jr. 9699 Bearsdale Rd. Decatur, IL 62526	1 st Tuesday September, 2015

Maroa Drainage Dist. #4	Gene Hoffman R.R. 4 Box 271S Clinton, IL 61727	1 st Tuesday September, 2015
Maroa Drainage Dist #5	Tom Rogers 1804 E. Hampshire Maroa, IL 61756	1 st Tuesday September, 2015
Maroa-Friends Creek Union Drainage Dist. #8	Edward "Dale" Wade 13913 Wade Rd Maroa, IL 61756	1 st Tuesday September, 2015
Maroa-Friends Creek Union Drainage Dist. #9	Jeffrey Jackson 162 N. Kenwood Argenta, IL 62501	1 st Tuesday September, 2015
Maroa-Friends Creek Union Drainage Dist. #10	John H. Butterfield 302 Sycamore Maroa, IL 61756	1 st Tuesday September, 2015
Niantic Drainage Dist. and Sub-District #1	Mark Blair 6875 Lake Fork Rd. Illioopolis, IL 62539	1 st Tuesday September, 2015
Niantic Drainage Dist. #2	Robert J. Moore 600 N. Broadway Niantic, IL 62551	1 st Tuesday September, 2015
Oakley Township Drainage Dist. #1	Greg Morganthaler 8479 Cerro Gordo Blacktop Oakley, IL 62501	1 st Tuesday September, 2015
Pleasant View Drainage Dist. #2	Kevin Bafford 10600 Damery Rd. Blue Mound, Il 62513	1 st Tuesday September, 2015
Pleasant View/Prairieton Townships Union Drainage Dist. #1	Neil Damery 821 S. Jackson Rd. Blue Mound, IL 62513	1 st Tuesday September, 2015
Sanner Chapel Mutual Drainage Dist.	David Wilson 3512 E. Walker Rd. Macon, IL 62544	1 st Tuesday September, 2015

South Macon/Milam Union Drainage Dist. #1	Roger A. Metzger 3743 E. Walker Rd. Macon, IL 62544	1 st Tuesday September, 2015
South Macon/South Wheatland Union Drainage Dist. #1	Terry Hogan 6810 Woodcock Rd. Macon, IL 62544	1 st Tuesday September, 2015
Whitmore Drainage Dist. #4	Steve Wentworth 2035 E. Wise Rd. Maroa, IL 61756	1 st Tuesday September, 2015

MOTION

Mr. Williams moved, seconded by Mrs. Cox to approve Resolution G-3734-8-12 by prior roll call vote.

QUESTION:

Mrs. Little: Mrs. Little asked if any other qualified candidates expressed a desire to serve on these boards.

Mr. Dunn: Mr. Dunn said no.

MOTION CARRIED.

E. CONSENT CALENDAR

5. Resolution G-3735-8-12 – Executing Deeds to convey property on which taxes were delinquent.

MOTION

Mr. Meachum moved, seconded by Mr. Smith to approve the Consent Calendar by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

JUSTICE COMMITTEE

6. Mr. Wicklund presented Resolution G-3736-8-12 which is approving an increase in appropriations in the Probation Grant Fund for Juvenile Redeploy IL Grant and IL Department of Transportation DUI Grant.

MOTION

Mr. Wicklund moved, seconded by Mrs. Cox to approve Resolution G-3736-8-12 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

7. Mr. Wicklund presented Resolution G-3737-8-12 which is approving an increase in appropriations in the Probation Grant Fund for Juvenile Redeploy IL Grant, IL Department of Transportation DUI Grant, 2nd Chance Juvenile Reentry Grant and Adult Drug Court Demonstration Grant.

MOTION

Mr. Wicklund moved, seconded by Mrs. Cox to approve Resolution G-3737-8-12 by prior roll call vote.

MOTION

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

8. Mr. Wicklund presented Resolution G-3738-8-12 which is approving increase in appropriations in the State's Attorney's budget for Teen Court.

MOTION

Mr. Wicklund moved, seconded by Mr. Williams to approve Resolution G-3738-8-12 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

9. Mr. Wicklund presented Resolution G-3739-8-12 which is approving modification in appropriations in the State's Attorney's FY 12 budget for the Violence Against Women (VAWA) Grant.

MOTION

Mr. Wicklund moved, seconded by Mrs. Taylor to approve Resolution G-3739-8-12 by prior roll call vote.

QUESTION:

Mrs. Little: Mrs. Little asked if this was a lesser amount than anticipated at the beginning of the 2 year grant.

Mr. Wicklund: Mr. Wicklund said actually the grant is being discontinued and this is an extension to spend up what money was left in that grant. There was still some money left over so it was extended through September he believed.

Mr. Ahola: Mr. Ahola said we are spending the rest of the money. It was only a 2 year grant in the first place.

Mrs. Little: Mrs. Little asked if they are spending the rest of the money by decreasing lines.

Mr. Wicklund: Mr. Wicklund said the money is being taken out because the grant is gone, so what is left in there will be spent through September. They have decreased the rest of the....

Mrs. Little: Mrs. Little said, so we didn't budget right at the beginning of the year.

Ms. Stockwell: Ms. Stockwell said this is a typical situation when a multi-year grant is given; we have to guess on the expenditures between the years. When we budgeted we underestimated expenditures on the first year. So this to bring our budget and the multi-year contract amount in sync.

Mrs. Little: Mrs. Little asked if he had to lay anyone off because of these salary reductions and that sort of thing.

Mr. Ahola: Mr. Ahola said no.

Mrs. Little: Mrs. Little said good for you.

Mr. Ahola: Mr. Ahola said most of the money did not come to his office.

Mr. Wicklund: Mr. Wicklund said there was a loss in the Probation office and there were also a couple of community services that were under this grant that are no longer.

Mrs. Little: Mrs. Little said then there were no layoffs in Mr. Ahola's office.

Mr. Ahola: Mr. Ahola said that was correct.

MOTION CARRIED.

EEHW COMMITTEE

10. Mr. Dudley presented Resolution G-3740-8-12 which is approving increase in appropriations in the FY 12 Health Fund budget for Senior Health Insurance Program (SHIP).

MOTION

Mr. Dudley moved, seconded by Mrs. Little to approve Resolution G-3740-8-12 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

11. Mr. Dudley presented Resolution G-3741-8-12 which is approving reduction in appropriations for Targeted Intensive Prenatal due to reduction in revenue from State of Illinois.

MOTION

Mr. Dudley moved, seconded by Mrs. Little to approve Resolution G-3741-8-12 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

12. Mr. Dudley presented Resolution G-3742-8-12 which is approving increase in appropriations in the FY12 Health Fund budget for Teen Pregnancy Prevention.

MOTION

Mr. Dudley moved, seconded by Mrs. Cox to approve Resolution G-3742-8-12 by prior roll call vote.

QUESTION:

Mrs. Little: Mrs. Little asked if we track this to see if it is really working.

Mr. Dudley: Mr. Dudley said yes, but unfortunately Macon County is number one.

Mrs. Little: Mrs. Little said she knows that; but she was saying that if we approve this grant, at the end of this grant are we going to look back and say look....

Mr. Dudley: Mr. Dudley said they do track it. Now whether it is going to do any good or not one will never know; but they do track it.

Mr. Dunn: Mr. Dunn said it probably depends on how long we get the grant but he thinks they would be able to track it to see if it is going down.

MOTION CARRIED.

13. Mr. Dudley presented Resolution G-3743-8-12 which is approving change in appropriations in the FY 12 Health Fund budget for Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program (MIECHV) and community development enhancement.

MOTION

Mr. Dudley moved, seconded by Mrs. Little to approve Resolution G-3743-8-12 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

OPERATIONS AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

14. Mr. Meachum presented Resolution G-3744-8-12 which is approving FY12 budget amendment for Workforce Investment Solutions.

MOTION

Mr. Meachum moved, seconded by Mr. Smith to approve Resolution G-3744-8-12 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

15. Mr. Dunn presented Resolution G-3745-8-12 which is approving and ordering the disposal of public records under the control and possession of the Supervisor of Assessments.

MOTION

Mr. Dunn moved, seconded by Mrs. Little to approve Resolution G-3745-8-12 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

16. Mr. Smith presented Resolution H-1815-8-12 which is appropriating funds for right of way appraisal and acquisition on the Wyckles Road (CH 41) Whitetopping Project, Section 10-00236-00-PV.

MOTION

Mr. Smith moved, seconded by Mr. Williams to approve Resolution H-1815-8-12 by prior roll call vote.

QUESTION:

Mr. Williams: Mr. Williams asked if this is for the right of way from Route 121 to Route 36 or just from 121 to Park Road.

Mr. Moretti: Mr. Moretti said it is all the way.

MOTION CARRIED.

17. Mr. Smith presented Resolution H-1816-8-12 which is appropriating funds for additional engineering expenses on the Country Club Road (CH 26) Reconstruction Project, Section 08-00223-00-PV.

MOTION

Mr. Smith moved, seconded by Mr. Wicklund to approve Resolution H-1816-8-12 by prior roll call vote.

QUESTION:

Mrs. Little: Mrs. Little asked if it was correct that this project has already started. Mr. Smith said yes. She asked if they are doing more engineering or is this just kind of a “time” thing.

Mr. Smith: Mr. Smith said as he understood it, when they submitted the specs and plans and everything, they came back with some additional suggestions.

Mrs. Little: Mrs. Little asked if we are paying for engineering that has already been done on that project.

Mr. Smith: Mr. Smith said yes.

Mr. Meachum: Mr. Meachum said the State of Illinois said these needed to be done and that is why they were done. The State of Illinois came in and said this had to be done and that's why it got done to get the contract approved. It wasn't the county.

Mrs. Little: Mrs. Little said if the State is not paying for it, she doesn't see that it is any of their business how we do it; but that is beside the point that we have already had these services.

Mr. Meachum: Mr. Meachum said Motor Fuel Tax. He asked Mrs. Little if she knew what Motor Fuel Tax stands for. She said she absolutely does. Mr. Meachum said that comes from the State of Illinois so they still have a say in it. You can like it or you don't, but that is the way it is.

Mrs. Little: Mrs. Little said except it says that this will be paid 100% by Macon County with no additional reimbursements, but that is beside the point of her question.

MOTION CARRIED.

18. Mr. Smith presented Resolution H-1817-8-12 to appropriate funds for additional engineering expenses on the Firehouse Road Bridge, Section 11-00243-00-BR.

MOTION

Mr. Smith moved, seconded by Mr. Williams to approve Resolution H-1817-8-12 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

19. Mr. Smith presented Resolution H-1818-8-12 which is granting permission to dispose of surplus equipment.

MOTION

Mr. Smith moved, seconded by Mrs. Cox to approve Resolution H-1818-8-12 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.

CITIZENS' REMARKS:

Jeff Walker: Mr. Walker said he lives on the east edge of Macon County. His property lies about 350 feet to the west of the Piatt County/ Macon County line, just south of the Sangamon River. The reason he wanted to talk to them was to let them know that Piatt County is now addressing a petition to allow RLA which stands for Restricted Landing Area, and or a private airport. This is going to go in just about a ¼ of a mile east of the county line road. In the packet he gave them there is a diagram showing the FAA flight pattern and the IDOT flight pattern. These flight patterns allow planes to fly at this pattern at a level of 150 feet. At present, Scott Gaitros is trying to get this airport put in. Mr. Walker believes they tabled this at the last meeting yesterday, and Mr. Gaitros is taking legal action to make his 5th attempt to put this in. Mr. Gaitros claimed all along that it is just for flying his gyro, which is a personal helicopter. There are pictures in the packet. Mr. Walker said he also turned a larger packet over to the Macon County State's Attorney's office. Mr. Walker does not know what the County Board could help him with on this. This involves himself and quite a few neighbors. The flight pattern is going to go right over his house. The packet shows an example of a typical flight pattern of a pilot. When you take off, you take off into the wind which normally they would go north toward the river. The typical flight pattern is to bank left and you just keeping banking left until you raise your altitude and take off on your flight pattern. This is going to put these planes right over his house, his family's houses, and several of their neighbors' houses in Macon County. Mr. Walker said he was told that Macon County doesn't have any jurisdiction or legal acts they can take over air space; that is up to the FAA and IDOT. He hopes the board and the Macon County State's Attorney could forward a letter or voice some opinion to the Piatt County Board who has been dealing with this problem since 2008. If this takes place the property values will be highly devalued in Macon County and his is one of them. He has some acreage his daughter wants to buy and build a nice house on and these planes would go right over that house. It will also limit Macon County's chance for any development. He personally has a cell tower on one of his pieces of property, and that would not be allowed because of the FFA restrictions with towers being too high. Development probably would not happen because no one is going to want to look at an airport or have helicopters or gyros flying over their house. He just wanted to bring this to the board's attention that this is ongoing. It is in Piatt County. Mr. Walker did not know if the Macon County Board could do anything about it but it does affect Macon County. It affects the citizens. It affects him and his family and he would appreciate any consideration they could help him with as a citizen of Macon County.

Mr. Dudley: Mr. Dudley asked if Mr. Walker had said that a gyro is like a helicopter.

Mr. Walker: Mr. Walker said it is a personalized helicopter basically. He said you cannot buy one of these prebuilt in the United States; you have to build it yourself. There is a very big safety factor. Studies have shown that the accidents and fatalities are the very highest when it comes to aircraft because of gyros for a couple of reasons: One

reason is because people have to put these together themselves. The second is that the aeronautics of them is not very sound. The third reason is because of spectators. People see them and want to go and look at them. The pictures in the packet show them flying over some 12,000 volt lines that run down Highway 32. He is within feet of those lines. Mr. Walker said they fly over his house. He has a pool and they fly over constantly. It is not just the inconvenience but also the valuation of property, the privacy, and the safety. There are a lot of issues and he doesn't think it should be allowed for the convenience of one person. Also, and this is pure speculation but Mr. Gaitros has said that he just wants to fly his personal gyro, but within 3 days after getting permission to do that from Piatt County he applied for a multi-craft permit. He included in the packet pictures from the Gaitros Aviation website. Mr. Gaitros' son is working and has a business at the Decatur Airport. If he only wanted permission to fly his own, he had permission for that. Mr. Walker believes Mr. Gaitros wants to put in an airport so he can move his son out there and do a lot more than just the gyro.

Mr. Dudley: Mr. Dudley asked if it had been addressed that if it is a gyro and like a helicopter, why would they need a runway. Doesn't it just go up and down?

Mr. Walker: Mr. Walker said he is not expert on this but did talk to Randy Waks who seemed pretty knowledgeable. Mr. Walker does know that RLA is the lowest form of a landing area that you need. You have to have that to even land a helicopter or gyro, he believes.

Mr. Williams: Mr. Williams said maybe he misunderstood but Mr. Walker mentioned something about having a tower on his property. He said if he understood correctly, if this airport or landing strip or whatever is allowed, Mr. Walker would not be able to have that tower.

Mr. Walker: Mr. Walker said no, he has a tower on a different property far away from there. He meant that if the opportunity was to come up that he could put another tower up, which he has been in contact with the cell tower people, if the opportunity arises he would not be able to do it because the flight pattern will be there and he would not be allowed to do it.

Mr. Smith: Mr. Smith asked what type of permission or authority has been given by Piatt County.

Mr. Walker: Mr. Walker said he gave a large packet to the State's Attorney, and in it are some court rulings where Mr. Gaitros lost dramatically. A doctor in Piatt County actually sued. He sued Piatt County because they actually went against their own resolutions and granted Mr. Gaitros his first permit for the RLA which is the single. When Mr. Gaitros applied for the multi passenger aircraft that is when the doctor took legal action in Piatt County against Piatt County and Scott Gaitros as an interested party. That is when the wrenches started getting thrown in the works. He withdraws applications and adds new applications, and that is what is in process right now. Mr. Gaitros was on his fourth, he asked to table that; and they are throwing it back now to

their Zoning Commission. Mr. Walker said if he could get a little help from here and he didn't know if they would be willing to or if they could but he thinks Piatt County is getting a little tired of dealing with it. Mr. Walker said he could not think of any airports that are close to any county line roads because of this flight pattern. There may be. Mr. Gaitros did have permission for one. He is on his fourth which is now turning into his fifth application.

Mr. Dunn: Mr. Dunn said he was going to refer this to the EEHW Committee which would give Mr. Dudley time to read through that thicker packet. Mr. Dunn said he is not sure we can do anything other than maybe send a letter to Piatt County to tell them we have some concerns with the drop in land value and future development in that area. That is about all we are probably going to be able to do, but he hadn't looked at all of the material yet.

Mr. Walker: Mr. Walker said he appreciated the consideration and if they could do anything he sure would appreciate it.

OFFICEHOLDERS' REMARKS:

Mr. Bean: Mr. Bean said since there were four Township Supervisors at the meeting he wanted to let them know that all of the village, city, township clerks and various local election officials for libraries and parks were notified that next Tuesday at 9:30, 1:30 and 6:30 he would be having informational meetings concerning the changes in election laws. They will find out that their calendar has been really pushed up. The Township Caucuses will be on December 4th and if you don't legally take December 24th off like the county, if that is not a holiday for your township then the Township Clerk will have to be there until 5:00 p.m. that day to accept petitions. With the way the Internet is today where people can get Independent petitions off the Internet you don't know who might show up. He urged them to talk to their clerks or anyone else who would be open to the public because there are quite a few new laws. There is one in front of the governor right now that will change simultaneous filings where if more than one person files within the last hour of the day, you will have to hold a lottery. That has not been signed by the governor yet but it could cause some new problems that we haven't had in the past.

Mr. Dudley: Mr. Dudley said Verzell Taylor gave one of the best prayers he has ever heard at this meeting. While she mentioned Don Westerman's brother and we are all thinking of him tonight, he is just thankful that Merv Jacobs and Jon Baxter are here with us tonight after a couple of illnesses. He was glad to see them back.

There was no old business presented at the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

COMMENT:

Mr. Dunn: Mr. Dunn said he was going to move these around and take the second one first.

20. Mr. Dunn presented Resolution G-3746-8-12 which is approving an application for a Fireworks Permit for David England.

MOTION

Mr. Dunn moved, seconded by Mr. Hogan to approve Resolution G-3746-8-12 by prior roll call vote.

QUESTION:

Mrs. Cox: Mrs. Cox asked what receive as a fee for fireworks permits.

Mr. Bean: Mr. Bean said \$10.00.

MOTION CARRIED.

21. Mr. Dunn presented Ordinance O-97-8-12 which is initiating the submission of a public question to authorize the County of Macon to adopt an “Opt-Out” program for the supply of electricity to residential and small commercial retail customers.

MOTION

Mr. Dunn moved, seconded by Mr. Dudley to approve Ordinance O-97-8-12.

COMMENTS:

Mrs. Little: Mrs. Little wanted to clarify that this ordinance would be just to get the referendum on the ballot.

Mr. Dunn: Mr. Dunn said that is his understanding.

Christine Pinckard: Ms. Pinckard said she is at the meeting representing Integrys Energy Services. There is a packet with their board materials explaining what she would be talking about this evening. She wanted to start by thanking Chairman Dunn and the Finance Committee for allowing her to bring this issue to them this evening. She said it is correct that the only thing they are voting on tonight is the resolution to place the referendum on the ballot in November. She wanted to let them know that was about 14,000 residents. She thanked Mr. Bean for helping her to gather that information. The City of Decatur, Forsyth and Mt. Zion all this week passed a similar resolution. There are 250 communities in the State of Illinois who are already aggregating power and before the November election there will be 100 more. She introduced Jean Beacom from Integrys Energy Services who would be going through the presentation with them from the packet.

Jean Beacom: Ms. Beacom said she thinks they will find some of this presentation interesting. They will discuss electric choice aggregation and the benefits of aggregation. They will go through some sample bills. She didn't know if everyone had a copy in their packet but she thinks that is extremely important just taking a look at the before and after bill. She would talk a little bit about Integrys and the services they can provide. She told them to feel free to ask questions along the way. She wanted to give them an idea about the switching statistics. Between March 2008 and March 2011 only 1 to 2 customers switched per day. To give them an idea where they are today, over 1,000 customers have been switching per day. That is a lot from 1-2 to 1,000 a day. Ms. Beacom said what has made that possible is the P.O.R. which is Purchase of Receivables. This means Ameren will still be the delivery company and the billing company. If you chose a supplier like Integrys it would be a line item on the invoice. The savings is about 70% of the bill because the energy portion of the bill is about 70%.

Mr. Wicklund: Mr. Wicklund said the numbers she stated that are signing up from March 2008 to 2011 was 2 customers per day and from March 2011 to now is 1118 customers per day. He asked if those are customers who voted to do this or are they just people who pick up the phone and call to sign up for the savings.

Ms. Beacom: Ms. Beacom said it is both. It is people who are picking up the phone and going on line, and it's also people who have been going through the aggregation program, the "opt in" aggregation program and the endorsement aggregation program.

Mr. Wicklund: Mr. Wicklund asked if they have numbers on how many are doing the "opt out" program, a breakdown of how many are just....

Ms. Beacom: Ms. Beacom said she does not have the breakdown. She didn't know if anyone had other questions but she could go over the Ameren bill.

Mrs. Wilkins: Mrs. Wilkins asked if she could just explain a little bit about what people will be voting for in November, or what will be on the ballot and what it would mean.

Ms. Beacom: Ms. Beacom said basically they will be voting on "opt out" aggregation for electricity. That would mean if they voted "yes" then Macon County has the ability to choose a supplier on behalf of all the unincorporated residents of Macon County.

Mrs. Wilkins: Mrs. Wilkins said currently since the rest of Macon County had the opportunity to do that, why isn't it just incorporated so that the outlying areas have that opportunity also.

Ms. Beacom: Ms. Beacom said that Macon County residents that are in a community already are able to choose through that community so then you would have to make that decision for the unincorporated residents. So, say residents in Decatur for example, Decatur is going to go ahead and move forward with their own aggregation program.

Mrs. Wilkins: Mrs. Wilkins said we would just be giving them the opportunity to have the same rights or the opportunities as everyone else. She asked if that is fair to say.

Ms. Beacom: Ms. Beacom said right. At this point, and she thinks Christine brought this up, during the primary there were about 250 communities and counties that moved forward with opt out aggregation, and we anticipate about 100 more to move forward with opt out aggregation for the General Election. She said if they didn't have any other questions she could go through the bill and some of the other information.

Mr. Dudley: Mr. Dudley said he would make a motion to pass the ordinance. He thinks most of us are pretty up on it. We know that Ameren is just one bill and that was a concern of a lot of people. They didn't want to get 2 or 3 bills. It basically just gets billed on the Ameren bill. It shows you your savings and everything. He said another question about the bill was whether you could still do budget billing, which you can.

Ms. Beacom: Ms. Beacom said exactly. If you are on budget billing right now or have an ACH setup that won't change at all; it will still continue to remain the same.

Mr. Dudley: Mr. Dudley said he was willing to make a motion to pass the ordinance.

Mr. Wicklund: Mr. Wicklund said the motion has been made and Tim is just trying to shove this through as fast as possible and that really concerns him.

Mr. Dunn: Mr. Dunn said we have a motion and second to pass this. He is just trying to give everyone an opportunity to understand what they are voting on. It is pretty important. There will be a lot more to this process. If it passes it means that Mr. Bean has to put it on the ballot. But, it also means that we have to do our due diligence to find a broker or supplier or whatever. He is not sure exactly how it works, but we will have to RFQ (Request for Quotation) some different companies to pick someone at some point.

Mr. Wicklund: Mr. Wicklund asked how we are going to go about getting this out to the voters. He asked if we will have to pick an individual or company to do that too.

Mr. Dudley: Mr. Dudley said actually we don't have to do it. It is to our advantage too, because if we do pick someone to go out and do that their success rate is a lot higher. The only thing we are obliged to do then is to give them the first year of aggregation. We are not obligated to do anything, but he thinks as a county we probably need to look at a few other suppliers to make sure we are doing the right thing. Mr. Dudley said at this point we don't have to do that. He feels when we look at the program, and we all take a look at it and decide, we'll make the right decision for what's good for the unincorporated area of Macon County.

Mr. Wicklund: Mr. Wicklund said he didn't know that we are obligated to them for the first year of the contract. He just thinks there are a lot of questions still out there. We are looking at a short period of time to get this on the ballot with a lot of questions. He thinks the citizens of Macon County deserve a little bit more time.

Mr. Dudley: Mr. Dudley said with all due respect to Mr. Wicklund, they have 3 months from now until the election to be educated on this. He thinks with the education that will be out there the voters will be smart enough to decide whether they want electrical aggregation or not. He thinks we are not doing our due diligence if we don't give the people of this county the right to hear their voices be heard. That is all we are doing; we are not making a decision for them. We are not picking a company. We are not picking anything. We are just giving them the right for our people of our county to decide whether they want it or not. He does not think there is anything wrong with that.

Mr. Wicklund: Mr. Wicklund said that option is already out there. The residents of this county have the option to pick up the phone and sign-up for these services.

Mr. Dudley: Mr. Dudley asked Ms. Beacom if she would like to address that issue.

Ms. Beacom: Ms. Beacom said what they have found is that there is typically low enrollment when people have to pick up the phone or go online.

Mrs. Little: Mrs. Little said, but they do still have that option.

Ms. Beacom: Ms. Beacom said they do still have that option.

Ms. Pinckard: Ms. Pinckard said they can pick up the phone and call right now, but they will get stuck with a much higher rate than you could allow them to get through aggregation. They could also get stuck with some really high fees that go along with that, than you could get for them through aggregation.

Mr. Wicklund: Mr. Wicklund said that is not true.

Ms. Pinckard: Ms. Pinckard said that is absolutely true.

Mr. Wicklund: Mr. Wicklund said that's based on the time that you purchase that power.

Ms. Pinckard: Ms. Pinckard said no; it is based on what you decide.

Mrs. Wilkins: Mrs. Wilkins asked if we get this on the ballot how will we educate the people in those areas so they get a good understanding of everything.

Mr. Dunn: Mr. Dunn said he is going to let Mr. Dudley, the Chairman of the EEHW Committee do the RFQ to entertain some people here. His idea was that in a short amount of time we need to do this so we could look at the first two picks the city had and Integrys because we have 2 years of history. The Building Commission has been using this company for 2 years and the Highway Department's been using them. We checked with Mr. Lord and he did his due diligence before he picked this company. They have been outstanding and easy to work with but he thinks if he understands it right from the State's Attorney we do have to entertain and check into other groups. We don't

necessarily have time to check out every company, but we will pick 2 or 3 and go from there.

Mr. Waks: Mr. Waks said he has been talking with the City of Decatur legal department. As many of you know the City Council for Decatur already passed a similar ordinance to put this on their ballot for the citizens of the City Decatur. Each community, each governmental unit can pass or not pass their own ordinance or resolution to put this on the ballot. So the City of Decatur decided to go ahead and do it and they have hired a consultant. The consultant is going to advertise and educate the citizens of the City of Decatur. He is guessing that some of that will leak outside the corporate limits of the City of Decatur into the outer limits of Macon County. So, there is a possibility that the residents of the unincorporated areas of Macon County are going to benefit from the efforts of the City of Decatur in education and promotion of this. We cannot take a position to the voters on whether to pass this or not pass it, but the consultants can. He is certain the consultants will push this to try and get it passed. The consultants for the City of Decatur will put this out for bid and the consultants will earn their fee as a micro portion percentage of the savings or from the bills that are paid. He is not exactly sure how they get their fee paid, but it is not paid by the City of Decatur. It will be paid through the customers that are paying their bills for the electrical service. He wasn't sure if that clarifies any of the issues as far as publication and education to the citizens, but Macon County residents outside the corporate limits will benefit, he is certain from the efforts of the City of Decatur.

Mr. Oliver: Mr. Oliver wanted to say there is a possibility for a good amount of savings to the customers because in his house his wife has signed them up. He said come to find out there are several different offers being made to the general public as to who is the best to save some money and the percentages of the savings vary quite a bit. Anybody who is going to be considering taking this service should try to look around and take into consideration more than one of those offers that are going on because everybody is doing it. When he says everybody, he means there are several different ways it is coming at you from different things from phone companies to people with security services and everything else offering you a chance to save some money. It would be to the benefit of the citizens to have someone who could really get down and dig to find out where the best savings and the best proposition may come from. They also sign you up for an unlimited number of months or years to be involved in this program. That is another thing you could get tied into, 2 or 3 years and if there is another offer that came along that is better than the one you got, you would have to wait until your contract was up before you could even consider going into another one. He thinks the idea of having someone out there for the best interest of the citizens would be very beneficial.

Mrs. Wilkins: Mrs. Wilkins said that right now we are just wanting this on the ballot. She said they definitely respect what Mark says and she definitely takes it into consideration, but talking about due diligence she thinks if they go ahead and get this on the ballot and then allow the process to work through, that will be for the benefit of most.

QUESTION WAS CALLED FOR

Mrs. Wilkins called for the question and it was seconded by Mr. Dudley.

ROLL CALL.

Ayes: Baxter, Cox, Drobisch, Dudley, Greenfield, Hogan, Jacobs, Little, Meachum, Minich, Oliver, Smith, Taylor, Wilkins, Williams

Nays: Dunn, Wicklund

AYES = 15

NAYS = 2

MOTION CARRIED. (TO CEASE DEBATE)

ROLL CALL.

Ayes: Baxter, Cox, Drobisch, Dudley, Dunn, Greenfield, Hogan, Jacobs, Little, Meachum, Minich, Oliver Smith, Taylor, Wilkins, Williams

Nays: Wicklund

AYES = 16

NAYS = 1

MOTION CARRIED. (TO APPROVE ORDINANCE O-97-8-12)

COMMENT:

Mr. Dunn: Mr. Dunn said he didn't know if Mr. Dudley would need to have a special meeting or how he wanted to run that, but he feels they need to look at selecting somebody and bring that back to the next board meeting. It will give them time to educate the people if that is what the board wants, otherwise we will just hope the city does it.

MOTION TO CLOSE SESSION

Mr. Dudley moved, seconded by Mr. Jacobs to go into closed session for a Worker's Compensation issue by prior roll call vote.

MOTION CARRIED. (WICKLUND SHOWED HIS VOTE AS YES)

MOTION TO OPEN SESSION

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

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Mr. Oliver moved, seconded by Mr. Drobisch to adjourn until Thursday, September 13, 2012 at 7:15 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.