

**PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
MACON COUNTY BOARD**

**JULY 14, 2016**

**Kevin Greenfield  
Chairman**

**Stephen M. Bean  
Clerk**

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with the Sheriff and State's Attorney present.

The Roll Call showed all members present with the exception of Mr. Baxter, Mr. Dudley, Mr. Minich, Mr. Noland and Mr. Potts.

Mrs. Taylor led the members in prayer.

All led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**A. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 9, 2016 MEETING**

**MOTION**

Mr. Meachum moved, seconded by Mr. Mattingley to approve the minutes of the June 9, 2016 meeting.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

**ROLL CALL.**

Ayes: Bird, Brown, Cox, Dawson, Drobisch, Dunn, Greenfield, Hogan, Jackson, Kraft, Little, Mattingley, Meachum, Oliver, Smith, Taylor

Nays: (None)

**AYES = 16**

**NAYS = 0**

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**B. PROCLAMATION**

Mrs. Little: Mrs. Little said everyone had at their place today, information about what started DMCOOC, the federal legislation that went through and a little tag that has a list of most of the things that DMCOOC does. She said it is a wonderful organization. Mrs. Little said she was on their board for a long time and Patty was on their board for a long time. Mrs. Little said it was her privilege present the proclamation and she invited Bob Archer from DMCOOC to come up. He is the financial guru there and with the budgets the way they are that is probably a very challenging job. The proclamation recognized August 10, 2016 DMCOOC Day in honor of the poverty forum and to commemorate the 52 anniversary of DMCOOC in Decatur and Macon County.

Bob Archer: Mr. Archer said they are hosting a poverty forum on August 10, 2016, which is the invitation they have in front of them. They decided this year because of the situation in Macon County and the unemployment level, that instead of having a

celebration, they decided to have a forum that focused on what their core is and why they were founded; and that is relieving the poverty level in Macon County. He invited all of them to attend. He said they have a diverse group and are still waiting on confirmations from both the governor's office and Dick Durbin. We don't know if they will be able to attend or not, but Patrick McDaniel, Ryan McCrady, and Senator Andy Manar have all confirmed to be there.

## **2016 Q2 EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER**

Lt. Butts: Lt. Butts said with them tonight was Sheriff Schneider, Officer Mayer, and Sergeant Matt Reynolds from the Corrections Division. He thanked everyone for being there tonight. Lt. Butts said this evening they are recognizing John Mayer a Correctional Officer with the Macon County Sheriff's Office. John was hired October 1999 and is currently assigned to first shift. On October 7, 2015 C.O. Mayer was assigned to Trod 5. At approximately 2:20 p.m. that afternoon C.O. Mayer was conducting his visual checks of inmates in Pod B which is also located in Trod 5. During his check, C.O. Mayer found an inmate hanging from the top bunk of his cell. The inmate had placed a sheet around his neck and tied it to the top bunk located in the cell. Acting quickly and under control, C.O. Mayer returned to his work station where he electronically opened the door to the inmate's cell. He returned to the cell after gaining access, and proceeded to assess the inmate and his condition. C.O. Mayer noted the inmate was cold to the touch, his skin had turned blue, his eyes were closed, and he appeared to be unconscious. C.O. Mayer requested assistance from other officers who assisted him in removing the inmate from his dangerous and life threatening position by cutting the sheet. Upon doing that, the inmate appeared to cough and began to breath. He and other officers laid him on the floor. If C.O. Mayer had not found the inmate when he did it is very likely he would have passed away. C.O. Mayer acted very diligently being very aware of what to do when he encountered a very stressful situation and performed his duties with care and compassion. C.O. Mayer had performed his required cell check at 2:10. This could have been C.O. Mayer's last check prior to being relieved by a second shift officer. Because of C.O. Mayer's cell check at 2:20, which was not required, a person's life was saved. A second shift check would not have been completed until after shift change at approximately 2:35 p.m., and with the time lapse this inmate would not have survived. C.O. Mayer is the true standard of what a Macon County Correctional Officer stands for, dedication, accountability, professionalism, respect and honor. Our office is very fortunate to have 72 correctional officers who all possess these same traits in their character. Being a correctional officer is a very difficult profession. Many times our officers are forced to deal with many stressful situations with no notice. Our officers set the standard for keeping our inmates safe, accountable and while making sure their custodial needs are met. These officers do a job that many times appears to be a thankless job. As many of you know this division is filled with dedicated public servants that come to work every day, evening and night knowing that what they do is needed and what the job requires, which is failure is not an option. On behalf of Sheriff Schneider, his correctional administration, and the citizens of Macon County thank you Officer Mayer for a job well done and congratulations on being named Macon County's Employee of the Quarter.

Sheriff Schneider: Sheriff Schneider said this was his opportunity to be able to tell them how special of a man this Mr. Mayer is, C.O. Mayer. They gave him a Lifesaving Award right off the bat and appreciated the county recognizing him. Those who go into closed session and deal with all the issues, it is people like Officer Mayer that keep us from having those issues. Sheriff Schneider thanked Officer Mayer for everything he has done, and thanked his wife.

There were no zoning or subdivisions presented at the meeting.

### **C. CORRESPONDENCE**

A letter from the Illinois EPA regarding potential Illinois EPA action at ADM, 4666 Faries Parkway in Decatur (Illinois EPA BOA ID#115015AAE Construction Permit 03020009).

A letter from Comcast regarding the addition of *Aspire* to the Digital Economy Package.

### **REPORTS**

Sheriff's Report – June 2016  
Treasurer's Fund & Investment Report – June 2016  
Tax Collector's Report – June 2016  
Coroner's Annual Activity Report for 2015  
Coroner's Report – April, May, June 2016  
Public Defender Report – June 2016  
Auditor's Report – June 2016

### **MOTION**

Mr. Smith moved, seconded by Mr. Oliver 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. Mattingley to approve the claims that have already been paid by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions of comments from the board floor.

### **MOTION CARRIED.**

**D. APPOINTMENTS**

2. Resolution G-4504-07-16 – Appointment to Blue Mound Countryside Fire Protection District

Joseph Gorden, 8061 Blue Mound Rd., Blue Mound, IL 62513  
Term Expires: 1<sup>st</sup> Monday in May 2019

- Resolution G-4505-07-16 – Appointment to Mental Health Board

Evyonne Hawkins, 4021 N. Newcastle Dr., Decatur, IL 62526  
Term Expires: June 30, 2020

**MOTION**

Mr. Meachum moved, seconded by Mr. Brown to approve Resolutions G-4504-07-16 and G-4505-07-16 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**E. CONSENT CALENDAR**

3. Resolution G-4506-07-16 – Executing Deeds to convey property on which taxes were delinquent.

**MOTION**

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

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**JUSTICE COMMITTEE**

4. Mr. Mattingley presented Resolution G-4507-07-16 which is entering into an intergovernmental agreement with the Decatur Park District for purposes of allowing Decatur Park District Police to exercise police powers outside of the Park District property within Macon County.

**MOTION**

Mr. Mattingley moved, seconded by Mr. Meachum to approve Resolution G-4507-07-16 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**EEHW COMMITTEE**

5. Mrs. Little presented Resolution G-4508-07-16 which is approving an intergovernmental agreement between the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency and Macon County.

**MOTION**

Mrs. Little moved, seconded by Mrs. Cox to approve Resolution G-4508-07-16 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**OPERATIONS AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

6. Mrs. Little presented Resolution G-4509-07-16 which is approving the Election Judges through March 2018.

**MOTION**

Mrs. Little moved, seconded by Mrs. Cox to approve Resolution G-4509-07-16 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**

7. Mr. Dunn presented Resolution G-4510-07-16 which is submitting a Public Question regarding the Specialty County Retailer's Occupation Tax for Public Safety.

**MOTION**

Mr. Dunn moved, seconded by Mr. Mattingley to approve Resolution G-4510-07-16 by prior roll call vote.

**COMMENT:**

Mr. Meachum: Mr. Meachum said this has not be addressed in the last 13 years since it was first passed. He said Macon County is in the lower 10%, 1/3 of the taxing bodies for this kind of tax in the whole state. Mr. Meachum believes they need to ask the taxpayers what our public safety is worth to them. He feels it needs to go to the taxpayers for a vote and he is in favor of it.

Mr. Mattingley: Mr. Mattingley said he also had a question for Mr. Dunn because he was not sure people understand how much of our budget the law enforcement needs of the county take up. He asked Mr. Dunn if he has a figure or percentage, or both.

Mr. Dunn: Mr. Dunn said he distributed a handout and hopefully it was in the Republican caucus. One shows the different counties and what their LEST tax rate is. He said it is from January of 2013. He got it from Steve Bean. Steve said that was the most current he could find. Mr. Dunn said there is probably more since then. Mr. Dunn asked Mr. Bean if there were some counties that are going to have it on the ballot. Mr. Bean said there are 2 counties that are going to have it on the ballot this fall. Mr. Dunn said on the back page of that it shows what the county spends. He looked at 2010 and 2015 to see what went on during those five years. Just looking at 2015, the county spent \$16.8 million on the justice system which includes Circuit Clerk, Sheriff, Jail, Coroner, State's Attorney, Public Defender and Probation, Mental Health Court and Circuit Courts. Particularly in 2015 in the Sheriff's Office we spent \$9,000,000. That is not counting LEST because that is its own budget, which is about \$2,500,000 plus. He said for 2016 he does not have the figures but it is more than \$9,000,000, closer to \$10,000,000. As you can see the judicial system costs, not counting the revenue they bring in, is 64.6%. If you count the revenue they bring in it drops it down to 40.5%. It is a huge... Remember, Stockwell always used to say it was about 1/3. He didn't know if it has gone up. He forgot when she left. It is more than 1/3. It's about 40% if you back out their revenue they bring in. We cut the Sheriff's budget 7% this year, both his jail budget and his regular budget. Mr. Dunn said he has not talked to the sheriff but there is a possibility that he may even have to lay-off this year, but definitely next year if this tax increase doesn't pass we may start losing some people out of the Sheriff's Office. He just asked that everyone give it a chance to go to the citizens and let them decide. Mr. Dunn said he has heard a lot of Limitless Decatur adds about our crime rate compared to Sangamon County, McLean County, and Champaign County. He would personally like to see it stay there. Everyone in all of these offices that he just listed are doing a super great job. They are working together trying to cut costs and trying to protect this county. He would appreciate the support for them too.

Mrs. Little: Mrs. Little asked if this is a binding referendum.

Mr. Bean: Mr. Bean said yes it is.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

The Negotiations Committee had nothing to submit at the meeting.

**TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**

8. Mrs. Cox presented Resolution H-1996-07-16 which is approving the purchase of Right of Way from the Gulick family Trust (12) for the CH 41 Wyckles Road Whitetopping Project.

**MOTION**

Mrs. Cox moved, seconded by Mr. Bird to approve Resolution H-1996-07-16 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

9. Mrs. Cox presented Resolution H-1997-07-16 which is approving the purchase of Right of Way from the Gulick Family Trust (13) for the CH 41 Wyckles Road Whitetopping Project.

**MOTION**

Mrs. Cox moved, seconded by Mr. Meachum to approve Resolution H-1997-07-16 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

10. Mrs. Cox presented Resolution H-1998-07-16 which is approving the purchase of Temporary Traffic Signals from Bodine Electric for the CH 57 85<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge Replacement Project.

**MOTION**

Mrs. Cox moved, seconded by Mr. Brown to approve Resolution H-1998-07-16 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

**MOTION CARRIED.**



11. Mrs. Cox presented Resolution H-1999-07-16 which is reappointing the County Engineer.

**MOTION**

Mrs. Cox moved, seconded by Mr. Bird to approve Resolution H-1999-07-16 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

12. Mrs. Cox presented Resolution H-2000-7-16 which is requesting consent of the Department of Transportation to the reappointment of the incumbent as County Engineer.

**MOTION**

Mrs. Cox moved, seconded by Mr. Meachum to approve Resolution H-2000-7-16 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 and Ordinance Sub-Committee had nothing to submit at the meeting.

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

There were no citizens' remarks presented at the meeting.

There were no officeholders' remarks presented at the meeting.

There was no old business presented at the meeting.

There was no new business presented at the meeting.

**MOTION TO CLOSE SESSION**

Mr. Oliver moved, seconded by Mr. Mattingley to go into closed session pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11) for discussion of pending litigation and 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(12) for settlement of claims by prior roll call vote.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**MOTION TO OPEN SESSION**

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

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**

Mr. Jackson moved, seconded by Mr. Drobisch to adjourn until Thursday August 11, 2016 at 6:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.