

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COUNTY BOARD
OF THE COUNTY OF HANCOCK, STATE OF ILLINOIS,
HELD IN THE COUNTY COURTHOUSE IN THE CITY OF CARTHAGE
ON THE 21st DAY OF APRIL, 2020.**

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
)
COUNTY OF HANCOCK)

SS

The meeting was called to Order at 6:30 P.M. by Vice Chairman Tom Scheetz.

An invocation was given by Mr. Scheetz. The "Pledge of Allegiance" was led by the Clerk.

Those present were: Tom Scheetz, Vice Chairman
 Kerry Asbridge, County Clerk

Wayne Bollin	Pat Cramer
Steve Bolton	Janet Fleming
Dennis Castlebury	Mark Menn

Telephone Participants:

Patsy Davis	Mark Hanson
Gary Dittmer	Delbert Kreps
Harry Douglas	Tom Rogers
Steve Finney	

Mr. Scheetz moved to suspend the rules requiring that board members must be present to participate, permitting members be allowed to participate by telephone for the evening due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Ms. Fleming seconded the motion, and it carried.

Sheriff Scott Bentzinger, States Attorney Rachel Mast, Joy Swearingen of the Hancock County Journal-Pilot, and citizen Kim Weaver were present.

Mr. Bolton moved to approve the minutes of the March 17, 2020 meeting with two corrections. Mr. Cramer seconded the motion, and it carried.

Mr. Bolton said the March 30, 2020 meeting held by the County Highway Committee was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Mr. Menn moved to approve bids for County Highway and Township Road oil and chip products. Mr. Cramer seconded the motion, and all members participating voted "Yes".

Award the following bids for County Highway and Township Road oil and chip products:

1. Section 20-00000-00GM (County);
 - a. Group 1: Bituminous Materials, FOB Distributor Truck @ Hancock County
 - (1) \$448,980.00 by W.L. Miller Co., Hamilton, Illinois
 - (2) no other bids
2. Section 20-xx-000-00GM (Township);
 - a. Group 1; Seal Coat Aggregate and Bituminous Materials, Spread on Road
 - (1) \$552,000.00 by W.L. Miller Co., Hamilton, Illinois
 - (2) no other bids
 - b. Group 1: Bituminous Materials, FOB Distributor Truck @ Hancock County
 - (1) \$445,930.00 by W.L. Miller Co., Hamilton, Illinois
 - (2) no other bids

Mr. Cramer moved to approve an Intergovernmental Agreement between the Village of Pontoosuc and County of Hancock to replace a bridge over Spillman Creek to Rio Vista Subdivision, the bridge crossing Spillman Creek. Mr. Castlebury seconded the motion, and all members participating voted "Yes".

Mr. Bollin presented the report of the meeting held by the Finance Committee on April 9, 2020. Mr. Bollin moved the reports be approved, recommendations of the Committee be concurred in, and the reports be placed on file with the Minutes of this meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Menn. On roll call, all members participating voted "Yes".

Mr. Bolton moved to approve a **Resolution to issue deed as Trustee** for taxing districts in City of Hamilton, successful bid of \$810.00 by Jeffrey D. Harris. Mr. Bollin seconded the motion, and on roll call all members participating voted "Yes".

Mr. Bollin opened a hearing on the "Supplemental Budget and Appropriation Ordinance of Hancock County, for the fiscal period of one year commencing December 1, 2019 and ending November 30, 2020". He the hearing open until later in the meeting to allow citizens or board members additional opportunity to comment.

Mr. Scheetz presented the report of a meeting held by the Building and Grounds Committee on April 13, 2020. Mr. Scheetz moved the report be approved, recommendations of the Committee be concurred in, and the report be placed on file with the Minutes of this meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Cramer. On roll call, all members participating voted "Yes".

Mr. Kreps commented on a request for the county to establish a nursing home in Nauvoo, stating, "We just got rid of one nursing home (county owned). We don't need another."

Nauvoo Mayor John McCarty, by phone, corrected the report that he requested the nursing home. The request was made by citizen Kent Hutchison.

Ms. Fleming presented reports of meetings held by the County Health Committee on April 14, 2020, and on April 20, 2020. Ms. Fleming moved the report be approved, recommendations of the Committee be concurred in, and the report be placed on file with the Minutes of this meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Castlebury. On roll call, all members participating voted "Yes".

Mr. Kreps moved to request proposals for contractors to provide or operate ambulance service. Mr. Cramer seconded the motion. On roll call, Wayne Bollin, Steve Bolton, Dennis Castlebury, Pat Cramer, Patsy Davis, Harry Douglas, Steve Finney, Janet Fleming, Mark Hanson, Delbert Kreps, Mark Menn, Tom Rogers, and Tom Scheetz voted "Yes", totalling thirteen. Gary Dittmer voted "No", totalling one. The motion was approved.

Mr. Kreps moved to approve a **Resolution Writing Off \$70,508.23 in Contractual Adjustments for Medicare, Medicaid in March, 2020**. Mr. Dittmer seconded the motion. On roll call, Steve Bolton, Dennis Castlebury, Pat Cramer, Patsy Davis, Gary Dittmer, Harry Douglas, Steve Finney, Janet Fleming, Mark Hanson, Delbert Kreps, Mark Menn, Tom Rogers, and Tom Scheetz voted "Yes", totalling thirteen. Wayne Bollin voted "No", totalling one. The resolution was approved.

The **Resolution Writing Off \$11,152.27 in Uncollectable Ambulance Billing in March, 2020** failed. On roll call, Dennis Castlebury, Gary Dittmer, Steve Finney, Janet Fleming, Delbert Kreps, Tom Rogers, and Tom Scheetz voted "Yes", totalling seven. Wayne Bollin, Steve Bolton, Pat Cramer, Patsy Davis, Harry Douglas, Mark Hanson, and Mark Menn, voted "No", totalling seven. The resolution failed.

Mr. Scheetz moved to approve **Proclamation of COVID-19 Disaster in Hancock County, Illinois**. Mr. Bollin seconded the motion, and it carried.

Mr. Bollin closed the hearing on the "Supplemental Budget and Appropriation Ordinance of Hancock County, for the fiscal period of one year commencing December 1, 2019 and ending November 30, 2020". No one gave oral testimony, or submitted written testimony.

Mr. Scheetz moved to approve **Proclamation of May as Safe Boating Month**. Mr. Bolton seconded the motion, and it carried.

Amy Hall, Administrator of the Hancock County Health Department said face masks are available at the department for critical employees due to the COVID-19 virus.

Memorial Hospital has test capability for COVID-19.

Sheriff Scott Bentzinger said the COVID-19 test is sent to off-site laboratories, and results should be available between four and eight days after the test.

Jack Curfman, Hancock County ESDA director asked the county board for permission to contract with Camp Nauvoo, the Prairie Winds Motel, and perhaps Lamoine Christian Camp to house persons requiring quarantine due the COVID-19 virus. He said FEMA should reimburse Hancock County. No action was taken by the county board. Cost concerns were expressed.

Belynda Allen, Executive Director of the Hancock County Economic Development Corporation, asked the county board to administer a loan program funded by the Downstate Small Business Revitalization Program offered by the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity of the State of Illinois. She said all mayors and village presidents in Hancock County have asked Hancock County to do it.

Amy Huston, City of Carthage Economic Developer, said, "It is easier if the county does it."

John McCarty, Mayor of Nauvoo, said it makes sense and is much simpler if the county does it.

Belynda Allen said many businesses are suffering due to the COVID-19 virus. She said many county businesses could close - hurting employment and the public revenue. She asked the county to do it, and assured everyone she and Amy Graham would facilitate applications.

Several factors in administering the program were noted:

1. The timeline is tight. This is due to the need to make all businesses aware, and complete the application, which is lengthy, unlike the SBA loan form. (The SBA COVID-19 loan application is one page.) The State of Illinois has a June 30, 2020 application deadline, public hearing requirement before approving an application, a 7 day notice by newspaper publication prior to the hearing, and a limited money available statewide (\$20 million).

2. Widespread notice to all businesses in the county should be given about the availability to apply - so not to play favorites.

3. All financial information given by a business in the application is public record and may be inspected by anyone.

4. An individual(s) will need to be hired to administer the grant and loan program. The Western Illinois Regional Council and other regional councils, who specialize in grant writing and grant monitoring, have declined to administer the State of Illinois loan program due to costs and time required.

5. Hancock County will be required to receive the money, issue the loans, monitor the loans, attempt to collect, and ensure applicants are following state rules after the checks are written to the businesses. The county could be forced to repay the state if problems arise.

Mr. Scheetz appointed a special committee consisting of Tom Rogers, Patsy Davis, and Pat Cramer to examine the Downstate Small Business Revitalization Program on the next day, on April 22, 2020.

Wayne Bollin moved to confirm fire protection district trustees to three year terms. Mr. Douglas seconded the motion, and it carried.

APPOINTMENTS - Fire Protection District Trustee

Blandinsville-Hire		Steve Haney, Lee Ward, and Mike Moore
Bowen		Ray Stuehrenber
Dallas Rural		George Salrin
LaHarpe		Tom Hasten
Nauvoo		Bill Shanks
Tri-County		LeRoy Dunn
Warsaw	Rural	Ron Maag
West Point		Keith Bruns

Mr. Bolton moved to adjourn until Tuesday, May 19, 2020. Mr. Cramer seconded the motion, and it carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:35 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by,


Kerry Asbridge
County Clerk