

RESUME OF MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
COUNTY BOARD, CHAMPAIGN COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
May 19, 2022

The County Board of Champaign County, Illinois met at a Regular Meeting, Thursday, May 19, 2021, at 6:30 PM in the Shields-Carter Meeting Room, Brookens Administrative Center, 1776 East Washington Street, Urbana, Illinois, with County Executive Darlene Kloeppel presiding and Matthew Cross as Clerk of the meeting.

**ROLL CALL**

Roll call showed the following members present: Cowart, Fortado, Goss, Harper, King, Lokshin, McGuire, Passalacqua, Paul, Rodriguez, Stohr, Straub, Summers, Taylor, Thorsland, Vanichtheeranont, Wolken, Williams, Carter, and Patterson – 20; absent: Esry and Michaels – 2. County Executive Kloeppel declared a quorum present and the Board competent to conduct business. Thorsland departed early at some point before 8:30 and missed no votes; Rodriguez and Carter departed at 8:30 and missed no votes; Cowart departed early at 8:38 and missed no votes.

**PRAYER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

County Executive Kloeppel read the Serenity Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was recited.

**READ NOTICE OF MEETING**

The Clerk read the Notice of the Meeting, said Notice having been published in the *News Gazette* on May 5, May 12, and May 18, 2022.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA/ADDENDA**

Board Member Cowart offered a motion to approve the Agenda/Addenda; Board Chair Patterson seconded. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

**DATE/TIME OF NEXT MEETINGS**

**Standing Committees:**

- A. County Facilities Committee Meeting  
Tuesday, June 7, 2022 at 6:30 PM  
Shields-Carter Meeting Room
- B. Environment & Land Use Committee  
Thursday, June 8, 2022 at 6:30 PM  
Shields-Carter Meeting Room
- C. Highway and Transportation Committee Meeting  
Friday, June 10, 2022 at 9 AM

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**Committee of the Whole:**

- A. Justice & Social Services; Policy, Personnel, & Appointments; Finance  
Tuesday, June 14, 2022 at 6:30 PM  
Shields-Carter Meeting Room

**County Board:**

- A. Regular Meeting  
Thursday, June 23, 2022 at 6:30 PM  
Shields-Carter Meeting Room

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Mrs. Rogers [no first name given] spoke about the recent tax bill mailing, noting that the “Fees, Liens, and SSA” line was confusing, and the payment order was incorrect. She also complained about the quantity of Vote by Mail applications she had received.

**PRESENTATION**

County Executive Kloepfel presented her Annual Report to the County Board.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Board Member Goss offered a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, comprising 24 resolutions (Nos. 2022-90, 2022-91, 2022-92, 2022-93, 2022-94, 2022-95, 2022-96, 2022-97, 2022-98, 2022-99, 2022-101, 2022-102, 2022-103, 2022-104, 2022-105, 2022-106, 2022-107, 2022-108, 2022-109, 2022-110, 2022-111, 2022-112, 2022-113, and 2022-114) and one ordinance (No. 2022-4); Board Member Fortado seconded. The motion carried by unanimous roll-call vote.

Yeas: Cowart, Fortado, Goss, Harper, King, Lokshin, McGuire,  
Passalacqua, Paul, Rodriguez, Stohr, Straub, Summers, Taylor,  
Thorsland, Vanichtheeranont, Wolken, Williams, Carter, and  
Patterson – 20

Nays: None

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Board Chair Patterson noted an upcoming open house at the Plumbers’ and Pipefitters’ Local 149 on Saturday, June 25, 2022. He also read a thank you letter sent to the board by the Penfield Water District for the county’s American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) infrastructure funding.

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Board Member Goss offered criticism of the County Clerk's Office regarding the disuse of some election judges, the current lack of online sample ballots, and that on the first day of early voting, the ballots were being placed in the emergency drawer and not fed through the tabulator.

Board Member McGuire also offered criticism of the County Clerk's Office regarding the polling location changes the board approved and the computer literacy requirements for election judges.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Board Member Passalacqua offered an omnibus motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the County Board of April 21, 2022 and the Study Session Meeting of the County Board of April 26, 2022; Board Member King seconded. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

### **STANDING COMMITTEES**

#### **COUNTY FACILITIES**

County Executive Kloeppele noted the Summary of Action Taken for County Facilities on May 3, 2022, was received and placed on file.

#### **ENVIRONMENT AND LAND USE**

County Executive Kloeppele noted the Summary of Action Taken for Environment and Land Use on May 5, 2022, was received and placed on file.

Board Member Thorsland offered a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2022-3 amending zoning ordinance, zoning case 030-AT-21; Board Member King seconded. Board Member Thorsland offered details on the ordinance. The motion carried by roll-call vote.

Yeas: Cowart, Fortado, Harper, King, Lokshin, Rodriguez, Stohr, Straub, Summers, Taylor, Thorsland, Vanichtheeranont, Wolken, Williams, Carter, and Patterson – 16

Nays: Goss, McGuire, Passalacqua, and Paul – 4

#### **HIGHWAY AND TRANSPORTATION**

County Executive Kloeppele noted the Summary of Action Taken for Highway and Transportation on May 6, 2022, was received and placed on file.

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County Executive noted the updated CARES Act Grant Application for C-CARTS was included in the Agenda Packet.

## **AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY**

County Executive Kloeppel noted the Committee of the Whole (Justice and Social Services; Finance; Policy, Personnel, and Appointments) Summary of Action Taken May 10, 2022 Meeting was received and placed on file.

### **POLICY, PERSONNEL, AND APPOINTMENTS**

Board Member Stohr offered an omnibus motion to adopt Resolutions No. 2022-115 appointing Chris Diana (R) to the Board of Review, term 6/1/2022-5/31-2024 *and* No. 2022-116 appointing Susan Frobish (D) to the Board of Review, term 6/1/2022-5/31/2024; Board Member Passalacqua seconded. County Executive Kloeppel noted that while neither nominee is certified by the state, both intend to complete the certification process when possible. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

### **FINANCE**

Board Member Fortado offered a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2022-117 establishing the salaries of countywide elected officials; Board Member Cowart seconded. Board Member offered a friendly amendment changing the ½ Consumer Price Index adjustment cap at 3% instead of 2%; offering Board Member Fortado and seconding Board Member Cowart both agreed to the friendly amendment.

Board Member Goss offered an amendment to strike the Circuit Clerk, Auditor, and Coroner from the resolution and to reduce the Treasurer's salary to \$107,000 from \$117,000; Board Member McGuire Seconded. Board Member Goss stated the Treasurer's workload and responsibilities are not equal to that of the County Clerk and Recorder; he also noted the previously determined salary of the County Executive is far to low at \$70,000 and that salary level implies a part-time job. Board Member King noted her full-time salary as an Archaeobotanist at the University of Illinois is only \$45,000 and expressed disgust at the implication that \$70,000 would reflect part-time employment. Board Chair Patterson noted the Goss amendment would roll back the Treasurers salary to that of 2017. Board Member McGuire stated that salary should match the workload of the position. The Goss amendment failed to carry by a hand-count vote of six yeas and 14 nays.

Board Member Williams offered an amendment to alter the County Executive salary to \$110,000; Board Member McGuire seconded. Board Members King and Passalacqua debated appropriate pay for county

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elected officials. Board Member Lokshin noted the lack of research in county executive salaries and that Will County, the only other Illinois county with an executive, had neither a comparable population or tax base. Board Member Vanichtheeranont added that the Will County Executive's current salary is \$93,000. The Williams amendment failed to carry by voice vote.

The motion to adopt Resolution No. 2022-117, as amended to set the ½ Consumer Price Index adjustment cap at 3% instead of 2%, carried by voice vote.

Board Member Straub offered a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2022-118 authorizing reimbursement of travel expense to County Board member pursuant to Champaign County Travel Policy; Board Member Lokshin seconded. Board Member Lokshin noted that conference attendance is a positive. Board Member Fortado noted the next conference is scheduled for November and encouraged two board members (one from each party) attend the conference. Board Member Williams spoke of the benefits he experienced by attending the conference and also encouraged November attendance by two board members (one from each party). The motion carried by roll-call vote.

Yeas: Cowart, Fortado, Goss, Harper, King, Lokshin, Passalacqua, Paul, Rodriguez, Stohr, Straub, Summers, Taylor, Thorsland, Vanichtheeranont, Wolken, Carter, and Patterson – 18

Nays: McGuire – 1

Abstained: Williams – 1

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Board Member Williams offered an omnibus motion to adopt Resolutions No. 2022-119 authorizing payments of claims and No. 2022-120 authorizing purchases not following purchasing policy. Board Member Goss noted the County Clerk's Office did not obtain a purchase order. The motion carried by voice vote.

Board Member King offered a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2022-121 authorizing interfund loans from reserved to other funds; Board Member Thorsland seconded. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Board Member Straub offered a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2022-100 approving budget amendment BUA 2022/5/211 to increase spending authority for DCFS ARPA grant money; Board member Lokshin seconded. The motion carried by unanimous roll-call vote.

Yeas: Cowart, Fortado, Goss, Harper, King, Lokshin, McGuire, Passalacqua, Paul, Rodriguez, Stohr, Straub, Summers, Taylor, Thorsland, Vanichtheeranont, Wolken, Williams, Carter, and Patterson – 20

Nays: none

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## **OTHER BUSINESS**

Board Chair Patterson offered a motion to retain the closed status of the closed session minutes for the County Board, County Administrator Search, and Nursing Home Board of Review; Board Member Taylor seconded. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

## **DISCUSSION/INFORMATION ONLY**

ARPA Project Manager Kathy Larson gave an update on ARPA projects. Board Member McGuire inquired about the second ARPA funds distribution; County Executive Kloeppele stated the county can now sign up for the second fund distribution. Board Member McGuire reminded Project Manager Larson to be mindful of the ARPA budget and asked for details of the community violence project funding; Board Member Fortado noted the final budget for those projects had not yet been determined. Board Member Paul asked about community engagement with ARPA projects; Project Manager Larson noted that the response has been both positive and robust. Board Member Paul asked if the 22-hour per week she has been allocated to manage ARPA projects is sufficient; Project Manager Larson stated it has been sufficient and noted that once the contracts are established, there is little work on the projects beyond standard maintenance. Board Member Fortado requested an evaluation of projects and their impacts upon their completion to help guide future project funding.

Central Illinois Land Bank Executive Director Mike Davis gave a presentation requesting ARPA fund for single-family home exterior rehabilitation, focusing largely on roofing, for homes in rural, unincorporated, and small-town communities of the county. Executive Director Davis stated his desire to couple the county ARPA funds with eligible grant funding from the state. Board Member Carter and Executive Director Davis discussed the Bristol Place housing project in Champaign and its relation to similar projects with which Executive Director Davis was involved in Boston and New York City prior to his employment at the Central Illinois Land Bank. Board Member Paul and Executive Director Davis discussed specific details of the potential project. In response to Executive Director Davis's statement that the Central Illinois Land Bank staff consists of himself and a small number of University of Illinois interns, Board Member Fortado hoped that future funding might be provided to fund staffing.

The discussion of the Broadband Community Engagement Proposal, the Promise Healthcare request, and the premium pay for direct support professionals in I/DD service settings were postponed.

County Executive Kloeppele noted the bids for the County Clerk's record digitization project were lower than had been budgeted, so the county will use that savings for record digitization in other departments utilizing the same company contracted by the County Clerk's Office.

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**ADJOURNMENT**

County Executive Kloeppel adjourned the meeting at 8:41 PM.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Aaron Ammons". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath it.

Aaron Ammons, Champaign County Clerk  
and ex-Officio Clerk of the Champaign County Board  
Champaign County, Illinois