

RESUME OF MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
COUNTY BOARD, CHAMPAIGN COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
September 22, 2022

The County Board of Champaign County, Illinois met at a Regular Meeting, Thursday, September 22, 2022, at 6:31 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: Harper, King, Lokshin, McGuire, Passalacqua, Rodriguez, Stohr, Straub, Summers, Taylor, Thorsland, Vanichtheeranont, Williams, Wolken, Carter, Esry, Goss, and Patterson – 18; absent: Michaels, Paul, Cowart, and Fortado – 4. Wolken departed early at 7:20 and missed the final three votes. County Executive Kloeppel declared a quorum present and the Board competent to conduct business.

**PRAYER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

County Executive Kloeppel read an American Indian 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 September 1, September 8, September 15, 2022.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA/ADDENDA**

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

**DATE/TIME OF NEXT MEETINGS**

**Standing Committees:**

- A. County Facilities Committee Meeting  
Tuesday, October 4, 2022 at 6:30 PM  
Shields-Carter Meeting Room
- B. Environment & Land Use Committee  
Thursday, October 6, 2022 at 6:30 PM  
Shields-Carter Meeting Room
- C. Highway and Transportation Committee Meeting  
Friday, October 7, 2022 at 9 AM  
1605 E Main Street, Urbana

**Committee of the Whole:**

- A. Justice & Social Services; Policy, Personnel, & Appointments; Finance  
Tuesday, October 11, 2022 at 6:30 PM  
Shields-Carter Meeting Room

**County Board:**

- A. Truth in Taxation Hearing  
Thursday, October 20, 2022 at 6:15 PM  
Shields-Carter Meeting Room
- B. Regular Meeting and Public Hearing  
Thursday, October 20, 2022 at 6:30 PM  
Shields-Carter Meeting Room

County Executive Kloeppel read the notices of public hearing for October 20, 2022.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Steve Schmall of unincorporated Urbana spoke about and read a letter from Edgewood Subdivision Homeowner's Association President Jill Stewart in support of amending the county nuisance property policy, specifically regarding overgrown landscaping at a Carrie Ave residence.

Lei Tian of unincorporated Urbana spoke about property damage resulting from easement clearing by the Saline Branch Drainage Commission.

Nik Gordon of unincorporated Urbana spoke in defense of the overgrown landscaping at his Carrie Ave residence.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Board Chair Patterson offered a motion to adopt the Consent Agenda Board Member Lokshin seconded. Board Member requested Resolution No. 2022-192 be removed from the Consent Agenda. The motion comprising 23 resolutions (Nos. 2022-183, 2022-184, 2022-185, 2022-186, 2022-187, 2022-188, 2022-189, 2022-190, 2022-191, 2022-193, 2022-194, 2022-195, 2022-196, 2022-197, 2022-198, 2022-199, 2022-200, 2022-201, 2022-202, 2022-203, 2022-204, 2022-205, and 2022-206) carried by unanimous roll-call vote.

Yeas: Harper, King, Lokshin, McGuire, Passalacqua, Rodriguez, Stohr, Straub, Summers, Taylor, Thorsland, Vanichtheeranont, Williams, Wolken, Carter, Esry, Goss and Patterson – 18

Nays: none

Board Member Esry offered a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2022-192 appointing Debra Griest to the Beaver Lake Drainage District, term ending 08/31/2025; Board Member Harper seconded. Board Member Stohr stated he wanted to delay the

appointment to investigate Debra Griest's spouse, Raymond Griest, giving the statements of Mr. Tian regarding Mr. Griest's actions as Saline Branch Drainage District Commissioner. Board Member Esry defended the easement clearing work of Mr. Griest and noted Ms. Griest's appointment was unanimously approved at the Committee of the Whole. Board Member Stohr offered a motion to reconsider the appointment at the October County Board Meeting; Board Member Rodriguez seconded. The motion to postpone carried by roll-call vote.

Yeas: King, Lokshin, Rodriguez, Stohr, Straub, Summers, Taylor,  
Thorsland, Vanichtheeranont, Carter, and Patterson – 11

Nays: Harper, McGuire, Passalacqua, Williams, Wolken, Esry, and Goss –

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### **COMMUNICATIONS**

Board Member Passalacqua noted volunteer opportunities for a Habitat for Humanity project on Saturday, September 24, 2022.

Board Member Harper noted that drainage districts have rights to access and modify property within easements. He also read a constituent email about polling places St. Joseph.

Board Member Esry advised drivers to be careful about farm equipment on the roads during harvest time.

Board Member Stohr noted an upcoming H3 Coalition community violence event at the Illinois Terminal Building on Saturday, September 24, 2022.

Board Member McGuire spoke about the voter removal process and the Clerk's office requesting ID numbers for voter applicants.

Board Member King noted that the state offers same-day voter registration.

Board Member Williams noted that all polling places in the county are universal polling places, so voters are not restricted to a single polling place, and he also noted the state identification number requirements for voter registration.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Board Member Goss offered a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the County Board of August 18, 2022; Board Member Lokshin seconded. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

## **AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY**

County Executive Kloeppe noted the Summary of Action Taken for the Committee of the Whole (Justice and Social Services; Finance; Policy, Personnel, and Appointments) on September 13, 2022, was received and placed on file.

### **FINANCE**

Board Member Goss offered a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2022-207 approving budget amendment BUA 2022/9/10 required to cover the state stipend that was received by the previous Recorder last year; Board Member King seconded. The motion failed to achieve the required 15-vote threshold.

Yeas: King, Lokshin, Rodriguez, Stohr, Straub, Summers, Taylor, Thorsland, Vanichtheeranont, Williams, Wolken, Carter, Esry, and Patterson – 14

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

Board Member Goss offered a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2022-208 authorizing an Intergovernmental Agreement between the City of Champaign, Illinois and the County of Champaign, Illinois regarding the Champaign Diversity Advancement Program; Board Member Carter seconded. Board Member Williams requested a roll-call vote. Board Member Goss noted his opposition to paying the City of Champaign for their minority and women-owned approved businesses list. Board Member Carter noted the county currently has no contracts with black-owned businesses. Board Member Goss stated the county should select the best contractor by competitive bids, noting that the county doesn't "see color." Board Member Straub noted she supports the resolution as a step towards employment equity. Board Member Lokshin noted the list tracks race, gender, and veteran status. Board Member Williams asked if the county currently has a list of approved vendors; County Executive Kloeppe confirmed the county maintains lists of approved vendors. Board Member Rodriguez stated the contractor list is a means of opposing structural bias. The motion carried by roll-call vote.

Yeas: King, Lokshin, McGuire, Rodriguez, Stohr, Straub, Summers, Taylor, Thorsland, Vanichtheeranont, Williams, Carter, and Patterson – 13

Nays: Harper, Passalacqua, Wolken, Esry, and Goss – 5

## **STANDING COMMITTEES**

### **COUNTY FACILITIES**

County Executive Kloeppe noted the Summary of Action Taken for County Facilities Committee on September 6, 2022, was received and placed on file.

Board Member Summers offered a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2022-209 authorizing the Champaign County Executive to execute an agreement between the County and the East Central Illinois Building and Construction Trades Council regarding a Project Labor Agreement for the Satellite Jail Consolidation Project; Board Member Rodriguez seconded. Board Member Passalacqua asked of the agreement would constitute a barrier. Board Member Summers stated it facilitates smoother work. Board Member Rodriguez stated the agreement is the first step of a community workforce agreement. Motion carried by voice vote.

### ENVIRONMENT AND LAND USE

County Executive Kloeppe noted the Summary of Action Taken for Environment and Land Use Committee on September 8, 2022, was received and placed on file.

Board Member Esry offered a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2022-6 amending Zoning Ordinance for a Zoning Map amendment on certain property, Zoning Case 059-AM-22; Board Chair Patterson seconded. The motion carried by unanimous roll-call vote.

Yeas: Harper, King, Lokshin, McGuire, Passalacqua, Rodriguez, Stohr, Straub, Summers, Taylor, Thorsland, Vanichtheeranont, Williams, Carter, Esry, Goss and Patterson – 17

Nays: none

### HIGHWAY AND TRANSPORTATION

County Executive Kloeppe noted the Summary of Action Taken for Highway and Transportation Committee on September 9, 2022, was received and placed on file.

### NEW BUSINESS

Board Member Williams offered an omnibus motion to adopt Resolutions No. 2022-210 authorizing payments of claims *and* No. 2022-211 authorizing purchases not following purchasing policy; Board Member Thorsland seconded. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Board Member Goss offered a motion to adopt ordinance No. 2022-7 authorizing the issuance by the County of General Obligation Bonds (Public Safety Sales Tax Alternative Revenue Source) in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$20,000,000 to construct and equip a jail facility next to the existing satellite jail; Board Member Stohr seconded. Deputy Finance Director Tami Ogden and Raymond James county advisor Elizabeth Hennessy were invited to join the discussion. Ms. Hennessy gave a brief presentation on the bonds for the jail and the County Plaza projects, noting

the jail project will include American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds in addition to the bond funding and the bonds are projected to be paid off in 14 years (due to the Public Safety Sales Tax source) rather than 20 years, which will save the county more than \$3,000,000. Deputy Finance Director Ogden noted the County Plaza estimates do not include replacement windows, as that estimate had not been received. Board Member Williams asked about using Public Safety Sales Tax source for the County Plaza project, as it will be housing the offices for the County Sheriff; Deputy Finance Director Ogden stated that doing so would be prohibitively difficult and potentially not legal, and Ms. Hennessy and County Executive Kloepfel offered specific details as to why that would not be a viable option. Board Member Stohr asked about the difference in bond interest rates between the two projects; Ms. Hennessy stated the jail project has a lower interest rate because it will be a 14-year bond and the County Plaza will be a 20-year bond. The motion carried by roll-call vote.

Yeas: Harper, King, Lokshin, McGuire, Passalacqua, Rodriguez, Stohr, Straub, Summers, Taylor, Thorsland, Vanichtheeranont, Carter, Esry, Goss, and Patterson – 16

Nays: Williams – 1

Board Member Goss offered a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2022-8 authorizing the issuance by the County of General Obligation Bonds (General Sales Tax Alternative Revenue Source) in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$20,000,000 to renovate, repair, and equip the former County Plaza building for the relocation of various County offices; Board Member Summers seconded. The motion carried by unanimous roll-call vote.

Yeas: Harper, King, Lokshin, McGuire, Passalacqua, Rodriguez, Stohr, Straub, Summers, Taylor, Thorsland, Vanichtheeranont, Williams, Carter, Esry, Goss and Patterson – 17

Nays: none

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

Board Member Passalacqua offered a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2022-212 authorizing an amendment to intergovernmental agreement with the Central Illinois Land Bank; Board Member McGuire seconded. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Board Member Summers offered an omnibus motion to adopt Resolutions No. 2022-213 approving agreement between the Champaign County Executive, Sheriff, Treasurer, Coroner, and Clerk/Recorder and the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees, Council 31 for the General Bargaining Unit, January 1, 2022 – December 31, 2024; No. 2022-214 approving agreement between the Champaign County State's Attorney and the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees, Council 31 for the General Bargaining Unit, January 1, 2022 – December 31, 2024; No. 2022-215 approving agreement between the Chief Judge of the Sixth Judicial Court and the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees, Council 31 for the General Bargaining Unit, January 1, 2022 – December 31, 2024; No.

2022-216 approving agreement between the Champaign County Circuit Clerk and the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees, Council 31 for the General Bargaining Unit, January 1, 2022 – December 31, 2024; *and* No. 2022-217 approving agreement between the Champaign County Executive and the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees, Council 31 for the Highway Department, January 1, 2022 – December 31, 2024; Board Member McGuire seconded. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Board Member Esry offered an omnibus motion to keep closed the Closed Session Minutes for the County Board, the County Administrator Search, and the Nursing Home Board of Review; Board Member Passalacqua seconded. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Board Member Vanichtheeranont offered a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2022-218 authorizing memorandum of understanding between the Champaign County Board and the Regional Planning Commission to utilize facility for early childhood education services; Board Member Goss seconded. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

### **DISCUSSION/INFORMATION ONLY**

Board Member Goss noted the FY2023 County Budget has no discussion points. County Executive clarified that the budget will have two points of discussion: funding for ARPA projects and the County Administrator line item that had been used as a discretionary fund since the County transitioned to the County Executive model.

Deputy Finance Director Ogden noted the October Truth in Taxation meeting is the result of \$128,000,000 in new revenue which resulted in a decrease in the levy rate.

ARPA Project Manager Kathy Larson presented an update on various ARPA projects. Board Member Carter asked if all organization have signed contracts; Project Manager Larson stated that 37 contracts have been drawn (31 signed and seven awaiting signatures) and five contracts are currently in the draft process. Board Member Stohr asked about small business grants; Project Manager Larson replied that those contract drafts are under review. Board Member Thorsland thanked Project Manager Larson for her hard work.

County Executive Kloeppel and various board members discussed the public lottery to determine two-year versus four-year board terms for the November General Elections at the October 11, 2022, Committee of the Whole Meeting. County Executive Kloeppel stated the intent to use the procedure as outlined in Ordinance No. 909. Assistant State's Attorney Matthew Banach was invited to join the discussion; he noted that the statute states they must be a public drawing of lots and advised against deviating from the procedure outlined in Ordinance No. 909. County Executive Kloeppel and various board members discussed whether or not to hold the public lottery before or after the October 11, 2022, Committee of the Whole Meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

County Executive Kloeppel adjourned the meeting at 8:04 PM.

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

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