

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
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COUNTY OF BOND)

Proceedings had before the Honorable Board at the regular meeting of said Board, begun and held in person and via Video Conference in the City of Greenville in said County and State, on Tuesday, July 2, 2024, held for the transaction of general County business.

At 7:00 p.m., Vice Chair, Jacob Rayl, opened the meeting by leading the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll Call showing a quorum present as follows: Jacob Rayl, Wes Pourchot, Jeff Rehkemper, and Chris Timmermann. Bernard Myers was absent.

The minutes of the June 18, 2024 regular meeting (see attached) were approved as submitted with a motion made by Wes Pourchot second by Chris Timmermann. Roll Call Vote: 4 ayes, 0 nays, motion carried.

The Board reviewed Zoning Administrator Brad Criner’s Month-End June 2024 report which included permits, inspections and revenues (see attached). They also approved Special Use Permit BC-2024-103 to Southwestern Electric Coop (see attached) for construction, operation and maintenance of an electric utility substation with a motion made by Chris Timmermann second Jeff Rehkemper. Roll Call Vote: 4 ayes, 0 nays, motion carried.

The Board reviewed Zoning Administrator Brad Criner’s SWIMPAC Report (Southwestern Illinois Planning Commission). After discussion, the Board approved the payment recommended on the report with a motion made by Wes Pourchot second by Jeff Rehkemper. Roll Call Vote: 4 ayes, 0 nays, motion carried.

The Board discussed enforcing a 3-minute Public Comment time limit to encompass all public County business meetings. After discussion, it was decided it was not the County Board’s responsibility to do this for any County meetings other than the County Board. No action was taken.

Temporary Acting County Engineer Stacey Weiss gave the Board her Month-End June 2024 report which included general updates, fire repairs, Pocahontas Avenue, Robinson Cemetery road closure and Campground Trail bridge project (see attached). Stacey also informed the Board that a 2021 Ford F250 Super Duty has been purchased. Also, the lease agreement for the John Deere 5130 has been completed and the tractor was delivered on 6/26/2024. The Board discussed items to be taken to the next Langham auction set for 8/24/24. Jeff Rehkemper asked if there is still a new truck on order for the Highway Department. Stacey said there is and it is scheduled to be delivered late August. The Board discussed the possibility of leasing trucks in the future. Stacey said she would research the options. Stacey told the Board that the air conditioning in the building office is working now, however there is question as to who needs to pay for it, the electrician or the installer since it didn’t work from the point of previous installation. Stacey said there is an issue with Pocahontas Avenue. There is soil washed up over the roads from the ditches being full causing a safety issue. Jeremy Pestle had determined previously this was due to the drain tiles in the fields being installed incorrectly.

This happened last year and the County dug all the ditches in preparation to oil the road, but the road did not get oiled. Chris Timmermann said he had been receiving calls on this issue. Jeff Rehkemper suggested we contact Bond County Soil and Water for assistance. Wes Pourchot said he would reach out to them. Stacey also let the Board know that the Village of Pocahontas did not file the proper paperwork with IDOT for the closure of Robinson Cemetery Road and there is some discrepancy as to who actually owns the road and who should be maintaining the road. Chris Timmermann said the Village is aware. Stacey said this will affect many things if this is not done correctly. Stacey said she could attend the next Village meeting. Stacey updated the Board on the Campground Trail Bridge. She said construction could start early August. She also informed the Board that there seems to be a rise in road sign thefts. She plans to order replacements but proposed advertising an amnesty return offer, no questions asked. Stacey asked the Board what the policy for installing culverts for private use was. After discussion, it was undetermined. Jeff Rehkemper asked Stacey how we know if County Aid projects are getting reimbursed. Stacey said if Federal Funds are involved it could take 5 to 8 years to get reimbursed. She also said that MFT audits are 5 years behind. Stacey asked for some specific jobs and she said she would inquire the status of those reimbursements. Jeff Rehkemper also asked Stacey if she could find out where a culvert from a job at Neathery Cemetery went. He said that it was not used at the job.

IT Director Scott Wight was in attendance to request funds for purchase of a new cooling unit for the Beaumont Radio Tower. After discussion, the Board approved \$2,500 with a motion made by Jeff Rehkemper second by Wes Pourchot. Roll Call Vote: 4 ayes, 0 nays, motion carried.

After Discussion, the Board changed the date of the Tuesday August 6th, 2024 meeting at 7:00 p.m. to Wednesday August 7th, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. due to the Bond County parade with a motion made Jeff Rehkemper second by Wes Pourchot. Roll Call Vote: 4 ayes, 0 nays, motion carried.

The Board appointed Ryan Champ and Jean Doll to the Bond County 377 Board for a 3-year term set to expire July 1, 2027 with a motion made by Jeff Rehkemper second by Chris Timmermann. Roll Call Vote: 4 ayes, 0 nays, motion carried.

Temporary Acting County Engineer Stacey Weiss informed the Board that there are bridge inspections that still need completed from last year. Stacey thought hiring a part-time engineer for this would be appropriate so not to overload the future County Engineer. Chris Timmermann said he had someone reach out to him that exactly fits this need.

At 7:33 p.m., the Board went into Executive Session with a motion made by Chris Timmermann second by Wes Pourchot. Roll Call Vote: 4 ayes, 0 nays, motion carried.

The Board returned to regular session at 7:44 p.m. with a motion made by Jeff Rehkemper second by Wes Pourchot. Roll Call Vote: 4 ayes, 0 nays, motion carried.

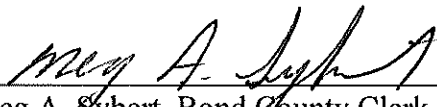
After returning from Executive Session, Jeff Rehkemper asked for clarification of the Open Meetings Act with regard to the rules for virtual attendance and participation. Jeff felt that

the County Board should not have to follow the State statute, and should be able to adopt their own rules. State's Attorney Dora Mann stated the Board does need to follow State Statute, although they may not agree with the law. Jacob Rayl asked if the Board needed to vote on if they would allow virtual participation as long as the guidelines are met according to the State statute. Dora said that they did.

The Board decided that a Special Meeting was needed to discuss potential candidates for the County Engineer position. This meeting will be held Tuesday July 9, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. Jeff Rehkemper added that we need to be sure to present these candidates with a contract of more definitive expectations.

This meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m. with a motion made by Wes Pourchot second by Jeff Rehkemper. Roll Call Vote: 4 ayes, 0 nays, motion carried.

July 3, 2024
(SEAL)


Meg A. Sybert, Bond County Clerk