

Richland County Board
March 13, 2025

Convene

Travis Paddock called the meeting of the Richland County Board to order at 7:00pm on March 13, 2025, in the Jail Meeting Room. The meeting was proclaimed open, the Pledge of Allegiance recited, and a Silent Prayer was offered. Attendance: Dennis Graves, Present; Cindy Given, Present; Morgan Henton, Present; Brian VanBlaricum, Present; Travis Paddock, Present; Steve Schonert, Present; Alexis McFarland, Absent.

Changes/Approval of Agenda

Cindy Given made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Dennis Graves seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Information, Correspondence, Upcoming Meetings

Jeds meeting March 24th @11 o'clock am in the jail meeting room. Public Safety will meet March 18 at 7 o'clock pm in the jail meeting room. 911 will meet Wednesday March 26 at 9 o'clock am at the Olney Fire Department.

Open

Illinois Extension Office employees were in attendance to discuss upcoming events.

Motion/Vote - Consent Agenda

Dan Colwell asked to move 6K from Consent and table until next month's meeting. Cindy Given made a motion to approve all items under the consent agenda minus 6K. Morgan Henton seconded the motion. Items approved were the minutes of February 13, 2025 for County Board, March 6, 2025, for Road and Bridge meeting, and January 22th, 2025 for 911 ETSB meeting; the county officer reports; Berryville Vineyards and Fox Creek Vineyards Annual Liquor License; Illinois Extension Office Yearly agreement; Low Bids from February 27, 2025 Motor Fuel Tax Rock and Oil letting; utilization of Illinois Eastern Community College to perform OSHA workplace safety training; submittal of application for grant from Local Workforce Innovation Area 23 for Safety Training cost reimbursement; Wetland Credit Reservation Agreement with Naturion West, LLC for Bonpas Bridge replacement on Seminary Lane at big branch of Bonpas Creek reference section #23-01131-00-BR; agreement to stockpile county rock on private lot.

Motion/Vote - Finance Committee

Steve Schonert discussed the claims. Claims totaling \$108,074.34 total county and \$91,623.16 non-county. Steve discussed a possible duplicate claim for the Sheriff's Department that will be double checked. Dennis Graves made a motion to approve the claims. Cindy Given seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Steve Schonert then discussed the RCDC Investor donation of \$5,000, that was included in the budget. Steve then discussed the Broadband Grant through the State of Illinois.

Greater Wabash and RCDC would like the County to be the Agency to apply for the grant. The grant has a March 20, 2025 deadline to apply with up to \$300,000 in grant money being awarded. The board will hold a special meeting to discuss on March 19, 2025 at 6:30pm in the jail meeting room.

Sheriff's Report

Nothing to report

State's Attorney's Report

Chelsey Clark discussed the need for the Assistant State's Attorney to become full time. Brian VanBlaricum made a motion to approve the change. Morgan Henton seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Chelsey then discussed applying for an Illinois Criminal Justice Grant to help fund the Drug Court. The grant has an April 4, 2025 deadline. Morgan Henton stated she did not need the board permission to apply for the grant.

Animal Control

Andrea Edwards discussed needing a new washer and dryer for the animal control building and stated that she submitted quotes to the Public Safety Committee. Steve Schonert asked Andrea about the new building. Andrea stated that everything is good, except for possibly moving one kennel door. Two kennels are left at the old location that still need to be moved over. Cindy Given asked Corey McDonald about camera installation to which he replied it is on his calendar.

Highway Business

Nothing to report.

Board Committee Reports

IT.

Morgan Henton discussed Social Media Archiving software to ease FOIA requests. It would also capture deleted comments. Chelsey Clark stated that there would be a concern for lawsuits over deleted comments. Morgan discussed pricing would be \$3,641 per year with a \$500 set-up fee and a 25% discount for this year if the contract is signed by April 1, 2025. Corey McDonald agreed with the one-year contract to take the money out of Infrastructure Hardware budget line this year and next year, spread the expense between the offices that are using the program.

Steve Schonert made a motion to approve the contract. Cindy Given seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Old Business

Nothing to report.

Motion/Vote New Business

Steve Schonert discussed an upgrade in courthouse lighting through a program with Ameren where they replace all fluorescent bulbs with LED. County Clerk Amanda Troyer reached out to Ameren after learning about the program at a Clerk's conference. The total cost for the project is \$12,664. Ameren will pay for \$5,885 of that leaving \$6,779 for the County to pay. Morgan Henton asked where the money would be taken from. Steve stated that it can be taken from the "Maintenance" line. Steve made a motion to approve the contract striking the "media" section out. Dennis seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Executive Session

Steve Schonert made the motion to enter Executive Session to discuss Personnel and Real Estate. Cindy Given seconded the motion. The board went into Executive Session at 7:44 PM. The board re-entered into regular session at 8:07 PM.

Adjournment

Cindy Given made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Brian VanBlaricum seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 8:07 PM.

Amanda Troyer
County Clerk

Travis Paddock
County Board Chairman