

**Richland County Board
December 14, 2023**

Convene

Chairman Dennis Graves called the meeting of the Richland County Board to order at 7:00pm on December 14, 2023, at the Jail Meeting Room. The meeting was proclaimed open, the Pledge of Allegiance recited, and a Silent Prayer was offered. Attendance: Dennis Graves, Present; Shawn Rose, Present; Travis Paddock, Present; Cindy Given, Present; Morgan Henton, Present; Steve Schonert, Present. Brian Vanblaricum, Phone.

Changes to Agenda

Morgan Henton made a motion to approve the agenda. Steve Schonert seconded the motion.

Information, Correspondence, Upcoming Meetings

The 708 Board will meet December 20, 2023 at 12 o'clock PM. The Public Building Commission will meet December 20, 2023 at 4 o'clock PM.

Open

Nothing to report.

Motion/Vote - Consent Agenda

Morgan Henton made a motion to approve all items under the consent agenda. Cindy Given seconded the motion. The motion was passed by vote: Dennis Graves (Yes), Travis Paddock (Yes) Shawn Rose (Yes), Cindy Given (Yes), Steve Schonert (Yes), Morgan Henton (Yes). Items approved were the minutes of November 9, and 29, 2023, for County Board, December 7, 2023, for Road and Bridge meeting, May 24, July 18, August 23, September 27, October 18, 2023 for 911 ETSB meeting; the county officer reports; Ironsides Bar, LLC Liquor License Renewal; Joint agreement with IDOT for use of Federal Funding for Pavement Preservation; Engineering agreement for Charleston Engineering for design and construction inspection on St. Marie Road shoulder project.

Motion/Vote - Finance Committee

- A. Steve Schonert discussed the claims then made the motion to approve all claims, Shawn Rose seconded the motion. The motion was passed by vote: Dennis Graves (Yes), Travis Paddock (Yes) Shawn Rose (Yes), Cindy Given (Yes), Morgan Henton (Yes), Steve Schonert (Yes) Brian VanBlaricum (Yes)
- B. Steve Schonert presented the 2023 payable 2024 County Tax Levy and made the motion to approve the Tax Levy. Travis Paddock seconded the motion. The motion was passed by vote: Dennis Graves (Yes), Travis Paddock (Yes) Shawn Rose (Yes), Cindy Given (Yes), Morgan Henton (Yes), Steve Schonert (Yes), Brian VanBlaricum (Yes).

- C. Morgan Henton discussed donating \$5000.00 to RCDC as the county has in previous years. This was previously approved at the Finance Meeting by the Finance Committee.
- D. Morgan Henton discussed the Illinois Extension Service Budget. The Finance Committee approved the \$65,000.00 Budget.

Sheriff's Report

Sheriff Andrew Hires announced that the new K9 graduated today. He also wanted to award 3 civilians with Life Saving Efforts award after a vehicular accident on HWY 50 in July. Those receiving recognition were Todd Stockvine, Chad Egan, and Connor Travis. Sheriff Hires also presented Deputy Drew Bunting with a Life Saving Award after Deputy Bunting administered Narcan and performed CPR on a woman until EMT could arrive on scene. Sheriff Hires would like to create a program where Deputy's are able to submit nominations for civilian awards.

States Attorney's Report

State's Attorney John Clark stated that his office is running efficiently, and they continue to work to keep Richland County as safe as they can.

Animal Control

Steve Schonert stated that IECC has some used furniture that they are willing to donate to the new Animal Control building. Construction has started on the new building.

Highway Business

County Engineer Dan Colwell discussed 2024 fuel bids. Wabash Valley had bid for last year but Fehrenbacher had the best bid for this year. Travis Paddock made a motion to accept Fehrenbacher's fuel bid. Cindy Given seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Board Committee Reports

IT. County website was approved. Corey McDonald discussed a new security software in the beginning stages. Also working on a social media policy but will have to have State's Attorney look over policy. The back sliding door is still having some issues but hope to be fixed tomorrow. GWCRPC discussed what all they can provide to the county as far as grants, public infrastructure, state and federal. Shelly Herman discussed TJ Maxx still planning to open in Olney. Hibbett Sports will be moving to a new building after the first of the year. She also stated that the contract with grant writer Drew Lane expires at the end of the month.

Old Business

A. ARPA

4. Tasers – Have 12 total but are all past their life expectancy. Would like to buy at least 6 new tasers from ARPA and look for a grant to pay for 8 more. \$17,043 total cost for 6 tasers

including holsters and cartridges. Travis Paddock made a motion to approve the purchase. Cindy Given seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2. 708 Funds to support mental health – CASA requesting an additional \$36,000 out of ARPA. Steve Schonert made a motion to approve the request. Cindy Given seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

1. Public Safety Drone – Morgan Henton discussed the previous drone crashed and insurance paid out. In discussion with the City of Olney about partnering with County to buy a new drone for Richland County Sheriff Office to use as well as City Fire department.

3. CPR units for Fair Board – Steve stated that originally, Bill Clow asked for \$2,000 for new CPR kits for the Fairgrounds. The kits cost \$2,459. Steve Schonert made a motion to approve the additional \$459 and pay out of ARPA.

B. ATM machine – table until someone from J & J Amusements can attend a meeting.

C. ARPA Disbursement to Jasper County Health Department – Steve Schonert discussed buildings for the Jasper County Health Department. They have not found a perfect solution but believes the old DeVita building could work with renovations. With the additional space, they could go from 4 to 8 counselors to better serve Richland County. \$500,000 ARPA funds was allocated for mental health, only \$35,000 has been used so far. Jasper County Health Department is asking for \$157,000 to help in renovations to allow their rent to be lower. Judge Ray Vaughn discussed the need for additional services. Morgan Henton stated that he is very appreciative of their services. Shawn Rose stated that he agreed with Judge Vaughn. Cindy Given and Dennis Graves also agreed. Steve Schonert made a motion to approve the use of \$157,000 for renovations. Cindy Given seconded the motion. Morgan Henton asked if \$157,000 was the correct number. Jasper County Health Department clarified and they would actually be asking for \$167,000. Steve Schonert then made a motion to amend the original motion to approve \$167,000 for renovations to the new building for the Jasper County Health Department here in Richland County. The motion passed by vote: Dennis Graves (Yes), Travis Paddock (Yes) Shawn Rose (Yes), Cindy Given (Yes), Morgan Henton (No), Steve Schonert (Yes), Brian VanBlaricum (Yes).

New Business

Nothing to discuss.

Executive Session

Steve Schonert made the motion to enter Executive Session at 8:04PM. Morgan Henton seconded the motion. Morgan Henton made a motion to exit Executive Session at 8:26PM. Dennis Graves seconded the motion.

Adjournment

Morgan Henton made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Travis Paddock seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 8:28PM

Amanda Troyer
County Clerk

Dennis Graves
County Board Chairman

