

Richland County Board

August 11, 2022

Convene

Chairman Dennis Graves called the meeting of the Richland County Board to order at 7:00 PM on August 11, 2022 at the Jail Meeting Room. The meeting was proclaimed open, the Pledge of Allegiance recited and Prayer/Moment of Silence was offered. Attendance: Dennis Graves, Present; Brian VanBlaricum, Absent; Shawn Rose, Absent; Emily Blackford, Present; Morgan Henton, Present; Bill Clow, Present; Steven Schonert, Present. Chairman Graves welcomed all in attendance.

Motion/Vote - Agenda Approval

District 6 Bill Clow made a motion to approve the agenda removing item 6H. District 4 Emily Blackford seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Bill Clow (Yes), Brian VanBlaricum (Absent), Dennis Graves (Yes), Emily Blackford (Yes), Morgan Henton (Yes), Shawn Rose (Absent), Steven Schonert (Yes). Item #6H: Ironsides Bar liquor license will be discussed under Open.

Information, Correspondence

The members announced their meetings for the next month, including ETSB, 708 Board and Snedeker's Annual Conference.

Open - Ironsides Liquor License

District 5 Morgan Henton made a motion to approve the initial liquor license application for the Ironsides Bar. District 6 Bill Clow seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Bill Clow (Yes), Brian VanBlaricum (Absent), Dennis Graves (Yes), Emily Blackford (Yes), Morgan Henton (Yes), Shawn Rose (Absent), Steven Schonert (Yes). Prior to this vote, Mr. Schonert asked some general questions of the liquor license ordinance. The members discussed qualifications and requirements of the ordinance. The owners of Ironsides Bar, located in Bonpas Township, have not constructed the building at this time. They requested verification of license approval.

Motion/Vote - Consent Agenda

District 6 Bill Clow made a motion to approve items on the Consent Agenda. District 7 Steven Schonert seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Bill Clow (Yes), Brian VanBlaricum (Absent), Dennis Graves (Yes), Emily Blackford (Yes), Morgan Henton (Yes), Shawn Rose (Absent), Steven Schonert (Yes). Items approved were the minutes of July 14; the county officer reports; the Road and Bridge Minutes of August 4; joint funding with IDOT on the Dundas Lane; the Dundas Lane letting; an intergovernmental agreement with EJ Water; the health insurance renewal and allowing Treasurer Ritter to sign the renewal.

Finance Committee

Finance Chairman Bill Clow reviewed the previous committee meeting. Miscellaneous accounts for the auditor were discussed. Auditor Dennis Kapper was present with the completed FY 2021 audit. He noted the County is doing well, but we still need to watch expenses. The committee reviewed the claims presented.

Motion/Vote - County Claims Approval

District 6 Bill Clow made a motion to approve payment of all presented claims. District 5 Morgan Henton seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Bill Clow (Yes), Brian VanBlaricum (Absent), Dennis Graves (Yes), Emily Blackford (Yes), Morgan Henton (Yes), Shawn Rose (Absent), Steven Schonert (Yes). County General claims totaled \$265,496.99. Non County General claims totaled \$466,381.82.

State's Attorney

State's Attorney John Clark noted he sent a draft of the Animal Control Ordinance to the board members. He is working on the Solar Farm Ordinance. This will be discussed more next month. County Engineer Colwell is concerned about road deterioration during construction of solar and wind farms. He would like a road use agreement incorporated into the ordinance(s), being specific about repairs and who will pay for the repairs.

Animal Control

Animal Control Administrator Andrea Edwards presented a "wish list" of supplies to be purchased for use at the facility. The members discussed some of these items. She also posed the question if the County is considering construction of a building for animal control. This would be built on the City of Olney's property. A motion by Mr. Schonert was made to allow the purchase of supplies up to \$2000. This was seconded by Ms. Blackford. It was determined a motion was not necessary as funds were available in her budget. The motion and second were withdrawn. The committee is still working with the City of Olney to create a new Animal Control Ordinance.

Highway Business

County Engineer Dan Colwell stated there was damage to some township roads due to the recent heavy rains. He is attempting to apply for damage control/disaster funding. He is confident the County is going to be required to establish a wetland. This property will have to be seeded and maintained. This is going to call for a 15 or 20 acre area for wetland credit. The State requires a larger patch than necessary. The members discussed the soil types, vegetation and other requirements. Federal bridge funds can be used for a portion of the cost.

Board Committee Reports

Lauren McClain, RCDC Director, stated the position of grant writer was posted. They have received several applications and will continue to review these. Ms. Blackford, representing the 911/ETSB Committee, informed members Juanita Kramer has retired. Mandy Brown took her place as 911 Coordinator. Missy Nuttal took Mandy's place as JEDS Director. There is now an opening in dispatch.

Old Business

(nothing presented)

ARPA Funds

Mr. Clow stated JT Taylor is planning on window replacement in September. Mr. Schonert noted there were no new requests for funding. He did speak with Judge Vaughn concerning his request for computers for the Jasper County Health Department. The funds are for workstations, not just new computers. This will allow connection with Jasper County. Mr. Schonert would like the Board to reconsider the decision made at last month's meeting. ARPA funds are still available for animal control or health department services. We have until 2024 to use the funds. He plans to discuss with the health office their needs.

Motion/Vote - ARPA Funds - Jasper County Health Department

District 6 Bill Clow made a motion to allow use of ARPA Funds for Jasper County Health Department for their services provided in Richland County. District 7 Steven Schonert seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Bill Clow (Yes), Brian VanBlaricum (Absent), Dennis Graves (Yes), Emily Blackford (Yes), Morgan Henton (Yes), Shawn Rose (Absent), Steven Schonert (Yes).

New Business - Term of County Board Members

Per statute, the county board district members' terms of office are to be drawn after each re-districting, after the Census is completed. Clerk Mullinax had papers with the 2-4-4- or 4-4-2 years of terms written. They were placed in a basket. Each board member drew for the district they represented. Those drawing a two year-4 year-4 year term were District 1, District 3, District 5. Those drawing a 4 year-4-year-2 year were District 2, District 4, District 6, District 7. These established the terms until the next redistricting in 2032.

Motion/Vote - Executive Session

District 4 Emily Blackford made a motion to enter Executive Session to discuss personnel, negotiations and contracts. District 6 Bill Clow seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Bill Clow (Yes), Brian VanBlaricum (Absent), Dennis Graves (Yes), Emily Blackford (Yes), Morgan Henton (Yes), Shawn Rose (Absent), Steven Schonert (Yes). The members entered Executive Session at 7:45 pm. Just before 10:00 pm Mr. Henton made a motion to return to Open Session. This was seconded by Mr. Clow. The motion passed. The members returned to Open Session. Chairman Graves stated personnel, negotiations and contracts had been discussed with no action taken on any of the subjects.

Adjournment

With nothing further to discuss, Chairman Graves entertained a motion to adjourn from Mr. Henton. This was seconded by Mr. Schonert, and passed. The meeting adjourned at 10:00 pm.

Alice Mullinax
County Clerk

Dennis R. Graves
County Board Chairman