

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF MONROE COUNTY, ILLINOIS FEBRUARY 6, 2017

The meeting of the County Commissioners of Monroe County, Illinois was called to order at 8:00 a.m. Chairman Robert Elmore, Commissioner Delbert Wittenauer, and Commissioner Vicki Koerber were present.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Others present included County Clerk Dennis Knobloch, Sheila Wetzler, along with Press Corps representatives – Joe Leicht of the Monroe County Independent and Alan Dooley of the Republic Times.

There being a quorum present, meeting was called to order by Chairman Elmore.

There were no public comments.

Shawn Hamilton and Gregg Aleman from Arthur J. Gallagher were present to discuss the County's participation in the CIRMA health insurance program. Also present for the discussion were Kevin Koenigstein and Annmarie Marcuson. Mr. Aleman said they would like to shoot for a July 1 start to the insurance program, and that would allow time to gather all the necessary information and set up the new accounts. He said they were also trying to bring in McHenry County under that same time frame. Mr. Aleman said this is one large statewide pool, with smaller geographic sub-pools. Right now Monroe County will be lumped in with several cities in this area including Wood River, New Baden, Trenton, Collinsville, Glen Carbon and Swansea. Mr. Aleman said Monroe County will be an owner/partner, and can decide all details of the program including what company to select for the insurance carrier. He said the eventual goal of the pool is to have 12 or 14 sub-pools in the program, and for Monroe County to join other Counties in this part of the State once more Counties come on board.

Mr. Aleman said these sub-pools further insulate the county from risk, and these sub-pools are only responsible for claims under \$35,000. All claims larger than that fall under the reinsurance program. Kevin Koenigstein asked if the County would be required to deposit extra reserve funds into the program. Mr. Aleman said no additional payments will be required from the County, other than the cost of their annual premiums. Mr. Koenigstein said while a member of ICIT, the County was required to pay elevated premiums for experience assessments from prior years. Mr. Aleman said this program will not include any kind of extra assessments like that, and he said this program will totally take the County out of the risk business – he said they have never made any additional assessments to anybody within the program.

Mr. Aleman said the administration costs of this program are about 1.5% of the total billed, and are included in the annual premiums, and most of the larger companies charge at least 3% for administrative costs. Mr. Koenigstein asked if any entity has even been expelled from the program because of experience. Mr. Aleman said no entity has even been expelled. Mr. Koenigstein asked if having the Nursing Home as part of our insurance program in Monroe County will cause any problems. Mr. Aleman said the County's premiums are based on the makeup and activity of the county employees, all municipalities pay based on their makeup and experience, and any risks are shared by the members of the pool.

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Mr. Aleman said a 3-person service team will be assigned to the County, and they have to make sure that none of the plan participants are disadvantaged by changing programs prior to the start of the new program.

Commissioner Koerber asked if there would be any consequences from possible changes to the ACA program. Mr. Aleman said at this point, that is unknown, but his concern is that program changes usually bring higher administrative costs. Commissioner Wittenauer said the County was benefitting from savings by using HRA's and deductible reimbursement. Mr. Koenigstein said the County would have to critique those situations, and some of those things would be repeated with the new program.

Mr. Koenigstein asked how soon the budgetary numbers would be available. Mr. Aleman said normally this information is available by December, with the numbers being locked in shortly after the first of the year. Chairman Elmore said the County's fiscal year ends on November 30, so that information would be needed before December. Mr. Aleman said the County only has to make a commitment to the program for one year at a time. Mr. Koenigstein asked if we decide to leave the program, is there a runoff period that the County will have to supply reserve funds to cover claims. Mr. Aleman said the runoff period would be several months. Ms. Marcuson asked if they could lock us in for two years with the initial premium. Mr. Aleman said he wishes they could do that, but they do not do that.

Chairman Elmore said the Commissioners will continue to discuss this, and they will make a decision at the next County Board meeting on February 21.

Kim Keckritz came to the meeting to discuss the monthly Oak Hill report. This report covered the entire business year of 2016. Ms. Keckritz said the Medicare census was down for the last fiscal year, and they have struggled with that. She said there was still a high occupancy in other areas, and there were many times when people had to be turned away, even though this is the highest total census that the Home has had in the last five years. Ms. Keckritz said the average length of stay is going down, and that's good, because that's what the Hospitals like to see. She said at this point, most of the Hospital admissions are coming from St. Anthony's, and she was excited to announce that St. Anthony's has selected Oak Hill as their premier rehab facility on the Illinois side. As to finances, Ms. Keckritz said there have been a few problems with the income due to Medicaid approval not happening on a timely basis. She said as to turnover, the major problem is still with CNA's. Ms. Keckritz said they have started tracking where the CNA's come from and how much they are paid to determine what changes can be made to retain these workers. Following review, motion was made by Commissioner Wittenauer, with a second by Commissioner Koerber to approve the payment of the Nursing Home bills. All voting Aye, none Nay and none Absent. Motion carried.

Paulette Hamlin of Western Egyptian came to the meeting to discuss the work of that organization. She said the group now serves 4 Counties – Monroe, Randolph, Jackson and Perry. Ms. Hamlin said the organization was started in 1964 and has been providing heating and housing assistance since that time. She said they are also working with several local daycare facilities – Lighthouse Learning Centers – to provide the Head Start program in Waterloo and Columbia. At this time she said they have had to cut back some of their programs due to funding cutbacks by the State of Illinois.

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Ms. Hamlin said Senior Services were started in 1975. She said the Senior Services are only provided in Monroe and Randolph Counties. She said they own the Waterloo facility, and have always rented space in Columbia. At this point they are set up in Columbia City Hall, but she thinks they will be pushed out of there soon, because the City needs the extra space for offices and programming. Ms. Hamlin said the Senior Meal program has been very successful – last year they served about 10,000 meals in person, and delivered more than 17,000 meals to homes.

Commissioner Koerber said she saw in the organization financials that there is about \$140,000 in Community Block Grant funds. She asked how much of that is allocated to Monroe County. Ms. Hamlin said she would have to study that number, since some of it is used for administrative costs, and the balance is spread across programs in three of the Counties – Monroe, Randolph and Perry. She said she would have the information available for Commissioner Koerber at the next Western Egyptian meeting. Ms. Hamlin said another one of the programs is to provide (4) \$1,000 scholarships each year to financially disadvantaged students in the area. She said she would also research a list of those who have received that scholarship in recent years. Ms. Hamlin said they also have a program for Economic Development to assist small businesses. She said with the State cutting back on funding, the organization would appreciate any funding that could be provided by each of the member Counties.

John Wagner came to the meeting to discuss several Health Department matters. He provided information to the Board regarding the establishment of a smoke-free campus in Monroe County government facilities. There was also discussion regarding compliance with these regulations. Mr. Wagner said violations of this law fall under a different category, so normally the Sheriff's Department would not ticket any offenders, this would have to be done by Health Department personnel. Mr. Wagner said normally they discuss violations with offenders and don't write any tickets, and normally County Health Departments don't write citations. Commissioner Koerber said since the County is applying for grants from the Illinois Drug-Free Act, the County has to be in compliance with all of the smoke-free regulations, and she doesn't think at this time the County is in compliance.

Mr. Wagner said he would also like to discuss the sale of the Annex Building to the Health Department. Chairman Elmore said if the County Board decides to sell the building, he feels it would have to be advertised to the public, so anyone would have the opportunity to bid on purchasing the building. Mr. Wagner said he didn't feel that was necessary since the sale is going to another public agency. Commissioner Wittenauer said there are a lot of legalities here that need to be discussed. Kevin Koenigstein said he feels the best place to start is to involve the States Attorney in discussions to determine what can or cannot be done with the property. There was discussion of how rentals would be handled with the Extension Service, the Ambulance Service and the Coroner's office, as well as maintenance of the building and grounds. Mr. Wagner said the biggest issue is the Health Department is paying a lot of annual rent to the County General Fund, and by now the Health Department could have used that money to purchase the building. Dennis Knobloch also made the suggestion to get the States Attorney involved at this point, and then this issue can come back to the County Board to discuss details. The Commissioners agreed that they were willing to discuss the matter further.

Mr. Wagner said the County Board also needs to discuss replacement of Lyle Hoffmann on the Health Department Board. Mr. Wagner said he has discussed the position with several people,

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and he will discuss those names with the County Board once he finds out who is interested, so a replacement can be appointed by the Commissioners.

Brian Hooten came to the meeting to discuss the new single point entry for the Courthouse. He said he has checked with several contractors in regard to replacement of the concrete ramp on the north side of the building. Mr. Hooten said there was some discussion regarding the possible placement of heating elements in the concrete, but most of the concrete outside that door would have to be taken up and replaced in order to install the piping necessary for that, so he didn't feel it was economical to go that direction. He said Huebner Concrete was the only company that responded to his request for a quote on the project. Mr. Hooten said Huebner agreed to do the job of replacing the ramp, removing the existing concrete and replacing with 5 inches of new concrete and coating with salt sealer. He said Huebner could start the project immediately which will keep the Courthouse entry project on schedule. Motion was made by Commissioner Koerber, with a second by Commissioner Wittenauer to enter into a contract with Huebner Concrete in the amount of \$6,675 for replacement of the concrete ramp on the north side of the building. All voting Aye, none Nay, and none Absent. Motion carried.

Mr. Hooten said he had also done some research on flooring replacement at the Annex Building, and he feels the approximate cost would be about \$40,000. He said he would like to delay this project since he will be busy with the CTS energy savings projects. Chairman Elmore said he also felt it would be good to hold off on this project until it is decided what will happen with the Health Department request to purchase the Annex Building.

Kevin Koenigstein came to the meeting to discuss several issues. He said the County Board needs to pass a Resolution to allow any County Board members who work more than 600 hours to participate in the IMRF program, with those individuals being required to provide documentation of their hours worked. Commissioner Koerber asked how the documentation process works. Dennis Knobloch said any County Board member wishing to participate in IMRF is required to provide monthly documentation to Connie Seboldt in the Treasurer's office to prove they have worked 600 hours or more during that month. Motion was made by Commissioner Koerber, with a second by Chairman Elmore to approve the participation of Commissioner Wittenauer in the IMRF program for the balance of his elected term. Chairman Elmore and Commissioner Koerber voting Aye, none Nay, none Absent, Commissioner Abstained. Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION 17-8**

**A RESOLUTION RELATING TO PARTICIPATION BY ELECTED OFFICIALS IN  
THE ILLINOIS MUNICIPAL RETIREMENT FUND**

WHEREAS, the Monroe County, Illinois is a participant in the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund; and

WHEREAS, elected officials may participate in the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund if they are in positions normally requiring performance of duty for 600 hours or more per year; and

WHEREAS, this governing body can determine what the normal annual hourly requirements of its elected officials are, and should make such determination for the guidance and direction of the Board of Trustees of the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund;

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NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Monroe County Commissioners finds the following elected positions qualify for membership in IMRF.

TITLE OF ELECTED POSITION	DATE POSITION BECAME QUALIFIED
Monroe County Commissioner	01/01/1951

CERTIFICATION

I, Dennis Knobloch, the Monroe County Clerk of the Monroe County, Illinois of the County of Monroe, State of Illinois, do hereby certify that I am keeper of its books and records and that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution duly adopted by its Monroe County Commissioners at a meeting duly convened and held on the 6 of February, 2017

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Mr. Koenigstein said the County still holds the three loans formerly advanced by the Economic Development Council. He said State Bank of Waterloo is planning to refinance their existing loan with Elizabeth Hahn for her business “Philomena and Ruth”, and they would like the County to subordinate their position allowing State Bank to hold first mortgage on the property. Mr. Koenigstein reported that all payments are up to date on this loan with the County. Motion was made by Commissioner Wittenauer, with a second by Commissioner Koerber to approve this arrangement. All voting Aye, none Nay and none Absent. Motion carried. Commissioner Wittenauer asked if the payments coming in on the three remaining Economic Development loans will continue to be deposited into the General Fund. Mr. Koenigstein said that was his understanding, and then the County has committed to paying \$30,000 into the new Economic Development Corporation for the next three years.

Dennis Knobloch distributed communication from the Illinois Department of Revenue showing what the CPA determination is for Tax Year 2017, taxes payable in 2018, and the number being used will be 2.1%. There was also discussion of a pending legislative proposal that would include a statewide real estate tax cap for the next five years. Commissioner Koerber asked if the County could provide something to the taxpayers showing how the tax bills break down, and what percentage goes to each taxing district. Mr. Koenigstein said if you go with a separate sheet, it will increase postage fees for mailing the tax bills. Dennis Knobloch said the big problem is that there are so many different variables throughout the County because of all of the various tax codes and taxing districts – you can’t provide one graph Countywide to show the breakdown. Mr. Koenigstein said he could look at the situation to see if that could be done.

The following Accounts Payable having been approved for payment, Commissioner Wittenauer moved that the same be allowed and that vouchers be issued against their respective funds of the County Treasurer for payment. Motion seconded by Commissioner Koerber, and so declared all voting Aye, none Nay, and none Absent. Motion carried.

GENERAL FUND

1 <sup>st</sup> National Bank of Waterloo	1,369.82
AT&T Mobility	4,145.41
Americom Imaging Systems, Inc.	119.00
Americom	2,926.57

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Ann Rudloff	183.13
Annmarie Marcuson	30.55
Allied Power Systems	1,287.00
Barcom Security	13,488.00
Best Group LLC	2,209.00
Biethman's Heating & Cooling	173.00
Bountiful Blossoms	181.21
Brittani Holcomb	59.83
Byers Printing Co	1,608.98
Christian T. Unser	27.85
City of Waterloo	17,511.22
Coast to Coast Equipment	68.53
Conrad Press Ltd	671.00
CPR Plus	669.95
Dobbs Tire & Auto Centers	757.66
Ed Roehr Auto Radio Co Inc.	788.00
Egyptian Stationers Inc.	66.69
ESRI	500.00
Gateway FS	62.24
Gilbert Electric LLC	6,878.87
Goodin Associates Ltd	7,698.00
Grassman Lawncare Inc.	2,446.25
GreatAmerica Financial Services	152.49
Harrisonville Telephone Company	3,717.43
IL Dept of Central Mgmt Services	498.55
IL Office of State Fire Marshal	210.00
IL Prosecutor Services LLC	330.00
Illinois Sheriff's Assn	690.00
Jason Ettlign	109.99
John Deere Financial	108.73
Judy Krebel	307.20
K&D Printing	43.00
Kelton Davis	11,577.16
Kyle Waddington	145.00
Leaf	227.30
Leon Uniform Company Inc.	562.87
Mercedes Orange	85.84
Mid-States Organized Crime Info Ctr	150.00
Mike's Service Station	198.55
Monroe County Highway Dept.	3,000.00
Monroe County Soil and Water	15,000.00
Motorola	1,533.27
Nabers Shop	2,113.95
Neff Floor Covering Inc.	200.00
Office Depot	710.31
Prairie Farms Dairy, Inc.	250.36
Quality Collision, Inc.	318.72
Quill Corporation	791.66

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Rahn's Hometown Auto Repair	138.08
Red Bud Regional Hospital	307.60
Rejis Commission	1,579.50
Scott Schumer	445.93
Secretary of State	10.00
Sidebarr Technologies	1,746.20
Silec	1,900.00
St. Clair County Coroner	100.00
State of Illinois Treasurer	1,078.30
Supply Works	1,131.09
Tessco	110.77
Thomson Reuters-West Publishing Corp.	695.90
Toshiba Financial Services	246.00
Traughber & Morris Ltd.	741.66
U.S. Bank Equipment Finance	284.07
U.S. Postmaster	94.00
V "Red" Smith	20.00
Vernier Sales & Service	1,550.00
Walmart Community	135.48
Waterloo Animal Hospital	870.45
Waterloo Lumber Company	32.19
Watson's Office City	181.73
Wayne's One Stop	96.96
Wheat's Auto Body, Inc.	1,000.00
Wightman Pharmacy	936.46
Wireless USA	408.00
Zone 1 Circuit Clerk's Assoc	20.00

HEALTH TAX FUND

1 <sup>st</sup> National Bank of Waterloo	990.45
Coast to Coast Equipment	162.00
Culligan-Schaefer Water Centers	47.37
Egyptian Stationers Inc.	314.08
Harrisonville Telephone Company	590.19
Motorola	34.00

AMBULANCE SERVICE FUND

1 <sup>st</sup> National Bank of Waterloo	60.83
Airgas Mid America	150.63
Dutch Hollow Janitorial Supplies	83.49
Harrisonville Telephone Company	137.26
Hero's in Style	119.98
Motorola Solutions	396.00
Phillips 66 Company	216.01
Wells Fargo Vendor Fin Serv	115.99
Wex	1,484.12

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Wireless USA	200.00
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HIGHWAY FUND

Americom Imaging	1,125.00
Aramark Uniform Services	2,312.19
Bret Langsdorf	27.00
Butler Supply	52.95
City of Waterloo	323.08
Dave Schmidt Truck Service	219.93
Don Anderson Co.	13,224.39
ESRI	13,224.39
Fountain Water District	33.05
Hanft Windshield Repair	235.00
Harrisonville Telephone Co.	43.85
John Deere Financial	727.21
Nabers Shop	1,113.69
Quill	99.41
Select Propane	3,380.90
Shady Brook Lawn & Garden	104.00
University of Illinois	130.00
Waterloo Lumber Co.	71.84
Watson's Office City	18.24

BRIDGE FUND

Oates Associates	3,150.00
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ROAD MOTOR FUEL

Monroe County Highway Fund	10,000.00
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RECORDERS DOCUMENT STORAGE

Fidlar Technologies	2,253.15
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There was discussion of the IT meeting held last week and the upcoming meetings with vendors to discuss how service, etc. will be handled. Commissioner Wittenauer said he still wanted each of the Department Heads to be able to make the decisions necessary to run their offices, but the County should be able to experience some savings by combining some services and equipment purchases by vendor.

Motion was made by Commissioner Wittenauer, with a second by Commissioner Koerber to approve the January 3 open session minutes and the January 3 closed session minutes. All voting Aye, none Nay and none Absent. Motion carried.

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Motion was made by Commissioner Koerber, with a second by Chairman Elmore to approve the January 17 regular session minutes with noted corrections. Chairman Elmore and Commissioner Koerber voting Aye, none Nay, none Absent, Commissioner Wittenauer Abstain. Motion carried.

Application was made by Regional Eye Care – a group of 21 local Lions Clubs represented by Ken Jackson and John Ford of the Waterloo Lions Club, that work together to provide eye care to those unable to afford needed services and procedures – for use of the Courtyard and Bandstand on Sunday, April 23 for their Annual Car show. Motion to approve the application was made by Commissioner Wittenauer, with a second by Commissioner Koerber. All voting Aye, none Nay and none Absent. Motion carried.

Dennis Knobloch said the County had received communication from The White House Historical Association that is observing the 2017 Bicentennial of the inauguration of James Monroe as the Country's fifth President, and Monroe's efforts to restore, renovate and reopen the White House. They are contacting all Counties and Cities named after President James Monroe, and are asking these units of government to adopt a Proclamation recognizing this anniversary. Motion was made by Commissioner Wittenauer, with a second by Commissioner Koerber to approve a Proclamation recognizing the efforts of the namesake of Monroe County – the 5<sup>th</sup> President of the United States – James Monroe. All voting Aye, none Nay and none Absent. Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION 17-9**

WHEREAS, 2017 marks the Bicentennial of a year of rebirth and renewal for the United States of America. James Monroe, our Country's 5<sup>th</sup> President, was inaugurated on March 4, 1817. He entered office without an official home, because on August 24, 1814, fewer than three years earlier, British troops had burned public buildings in Washington, D.C., including the White House. Reconstruction of the Executive Mansion was not yet complete when Monroe became President, forcing him to take up temporary residence in buildings nearby.

WHEREAS, under President Monroe's leadership, famed architects James Hoban and Benjamin Henry Latrobe worked furiously to restore the White House to its former splendor, but their goal was not only to recover the past. The restored Executive Mansion would serve as the home of future Presidents, but also the epicenter of the greatest democracy in the history of the world. Monroe and his family took up residence in the new White House in Fall, 1817, and the building reopened to the public in a gala celebration on January 1, 1818. These events symbolized the end to a troubled past of war and discontent, and the birth of a new beacon of hope.

WHEREAS, following the Revolutionary War, some of the first settlers to enter the Illinois Territory came from the East Coast States, and upon the founding of this County in January, 1816, the political leaders saw fit to name their new county after the country's Secretary of State at that time, James Monroe.

NOW, THEREFORE, it was in the spirit of hope and rebirth that the County of Monroe was in 1816, names after James Monroe, who would later become the 5<sup>th</sup> President of the United States. In commemoration of the Bicentennial of the restoration and reopening of the White House, and in partnership with the White House Historical Association, we proclaim 2017 as the Year of James Monroe, in which we celebrate the legacy of our namesake and his contribution to the United States.

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Adopted by the Board of County Commissioners of Monroe County, Illinois at Waterloo, this 6<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2017.

Motion: Wittenauer                      Second: Koerber                      Absent: None  
Aye: Three                                  Nay: None                                  Abstain: None

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Robert Elmore, Chairman

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Dennis M. Knobloch, County Clerk

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Delbert Wittenauer, Member

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Vicki Koerber, Member

Dennis Knobloch said that Chairman Elmore was contacted by the Illinois Bicentennial Commission looking for a representative from Monroe County to participate as a member of the IBC during the 2018 Illinois State Bicentennial, and Mr. Knobloch has volunteered to serve as the Monroe County representative to explore more details of the plans and programs.

Commissioner Wittenauer said he had met with the House of Neighborly Service regarding the operation of the Violence Prevention Center. He said the County had earlier discussed making a donation back to the House of Neighborly Service in the amount of rent charged for office rent of the space being used by the Violence Prevention Center. Commissioner Wittenauer also said that the 708 Mental Health Funding Board has held back some funds waiting to see what was going to happen with the Violence Prevention Center, and those funds will now be released to the VPC.

Motion was made by Commissioner Wittenauer, with a second by Commissioner Koerber to go into Closed Session to discuss personnel. All voting Aye, none Nay and none Absent. Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION 17-10**

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Monroe County, Illinois that the Board is going into closed session for the purpose of Personnel.

Passed by the Board of County Commissioners of Monroe County, Illinois at Waterloo, this 6<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2017.

Motion: Wittenauer                      Second: Koerber  
Aye: Three                                  Nay: None  
Absent: None

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Robert Elmore, Chairman

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Dennis M. Knobloch, County Clerk

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Delbert Wittenauer, Member

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Vicki Koerber, Member

Motion was made by Commissioner Wittenauer, with a second by Commissioner Koerber to exit closed session and return to open session. All voting Aye, none Nay and none Absent. Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION 17-11**

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Monroe County, Illinois that the Board is ending its closed session and returning to open session.

Passed by the Board of County Commissioners of Monroe County, Illinois at Waterloo, this 6<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2017.

Motion: Wittenauer  
Aye: Three  
Absent: None

Second: Koerber  
Nay: None

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Robert Elmore, Chairman

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Dennis M. Knobloch, County Clerk

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Delbert Wittenauer, Member

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Vicki Koerber, Member

Commissioner Wittenauer made a motion, with a second by Commissioner Koerber to cover the costs of sending Annmarie Marcuson to training for Human Resources, and to execute a contract with her that would require three years of employment with the County following her certification, and if she would decide to leave and seek employment elsewhere during that three-year period, she would be required to reimburse the County for the costs of the Human Resources training on a prorated basis. All voting Aye, none Nay and none Absent. Motion carried.

Commissioner Koerber said she was concerned that there is no one to serve as a backup to the County's IMRF representative when that person is off work. It was decided that the Department Head should be made aware and take care of that situation.

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There was discussion of the EMA Coordinator position.

There being no further business to come before the Board, motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Koerber, with a second by Commissioner Wittenauer. All voting Aye, none Nay and none Absent. Motion carried.