

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF MONROE COUNTY, ILLINOIS SEPTEMBER 12, 2016
BUDGET HEARINGS – DAY #1

The meeting of the County Commissioners of Monroe County, Illinois (Budget Hearings – Day #1) was called to order at 7:30 a.m. Chairman Terry Liefer, Commissioner Delbert Wittenauer, and Commissioner Robert Elmore were present.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Liefer declared there was a quorum present and the meeting was ready for business.

Others present included, Sheila Wetzler, Annmarie Marcuson, County Clerk Dennis Knobloch, and Treasurer Kevin Koenigstein.

Pam Jacobs, Ross Mueller and Allen Mueller presented the budget request for the University of Illinois Extension Service. Allen Mueller served as the spokesperson for the group. He said that the budget request for the Extension Service last year was \$188,000, and this year the service is asking for \$180,000. He said that the programs of the Service continue to be well-used by the public, and the meeting room stays especially busy. During the past year 67 groups have held their meetings in the Annex facility. Mr. Mueller said the State did not pay their matching portion of the funding during the most recent fiscal year, and there is no word at this point if that funding will ever be received.

Between budget requests there was discussion of the Nursing Home rehab addition construction project. Chairman Liefer presented a letter from Holland Construction stating that they would like to forego a Payment and Performance Bond on the project, resulting in a cost savings for the county. Holland will provide a Letter of Guarantee that will provide the same protection, but with no extra costs involved for Monroe County. Motion was made by Commissioner Wittenauer, with a second by Commissioner Elmore to relieve Holland Construction of the obligation to provide a Payment and Performance Bond for the Oak Hill Rehab Unit Construction project. All voting Aye, none Nay and none Absent. Motion carried.

Kevin Koenigstein presented the Tax Levy listing for the current budget. He explained a few of the revisions to the Tax Levy that had been approved previously for the County Budget Year ending November 30, 2016. He said that due to PTELL, the Corporate Fund had reached the maximum rate, and that as a result of that about \$3,000 was added to Tort and Immunity to make up the difference. He also said that the Extension Service budget had been reduced to \$163,200 last year as a result of removing the salary obligation for the Economic Development Director. Mr. Koenigstein said the Nursing Home Salary line item had been increased to \$675,000, and indicated that when the current Nursing Home bonds are paid off, this line item will go away. Dennis Knobloch said this line has nothing to do with any construction bonding, and was passed by the taxpayers as a way to pay the Nursing Home employees a fair salary. He said there was no reason for this item to go away just because the Nursing Home bonds are paid off.

Amy Roever came to the meeting to present the budget for the Board of Review office. This request included \$4,000 for Publications and \$1,500 for Office Supplies, the same amount included in the prior year budget.

Kelton Davis, Regional Superintendent of Schools for Monroe-Randolph Counties presented the Annual Report of Activity for his office for the period July 2, 2015 through June 30, 2016.

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In addition to that, Mr. Davis presented his annual budget request. The request for Monroe County was up \$138,926 compared to \$137,148 last year. This is directly related to the amount of EAV in each of the two Counties. Currently Monroe County has \$776,531,565 or 61.92% of the EAV for the two Counties, as related to EAV of \$477,575,996 for Randolph County, or 38.08% of the total. Mr. Davis said the local School Districts are performing well, but they are having a hard time keeping up with the Transportation budgets. The State mandates the transportation requirements, but provides no funding in return. He said Waterloo recently ran into major problems when the bid for their bus service came in with a 20% increase. Columbia and Valmeyer operate their own bus services, so they haven't run into this problem, even though these two Districts also have problems staying ahead of their Transportation budgets. Mr. Davis said the CEO program is going very well, and he expects that program to grow. He said his office has now started a new program for computer-based GED classes, after a year of not being able to offer these classes at all. Mr. Davis said at-risk students continue to be a problem, and these are equally spread between Monroe and Randolph Counties.

Carla Heise presented the budget for the Ambulance Service. She anticipated an increase in the amount to be paid to Andres Medical Billing, since she will be proposing rate increases before the end of the year. She also said that Andres Billing would be decreasing their rate at the end of this year from 5% to 4.75%. Several items which included decreases were for Equipment & Maintenance, Office Supplies and Communications. She said that one part-time position would be revised to a full-time position. Ms. Heise said that two of the laptops need to be replaced. The Ambulance Service personnel will be receiving a 2.5% salary increase as per their union agreement.

The total Ambulance Service budget request was \$621,440 as compared to \$616,187 last year.

Ms. Heise had a list of budget items to include as part of a three-year projection. These included a new Autopulse for \$30,000, (2) E-Z IO Drills for \$295 each, several new laptops at \$4,000 each and a new X Series Monitor for \$30,000. In addition to this amount, Ms. Heise said she would like to include funding for a new Ambulance in the amount of \$121,906, which would be the cost of remounting one of the existing boxes onto a new 2017 Ford chassis.

Ms. Heise presented a list of the current Ambulance units and their mileage/hours. These were as follows:

2002 unit	293,470 miles	13,049 hours
2006 unit	267,449 miles	11,482 hours
2009 unit	228,520 miles	9,433 hours
2014 unit	94,937 miles	5,543 hours

She also included a list of the repairs completed on each unit during the current fiscal year, and those were as follows:

2002 unit	\$ 2,212.16
2006 unit	\$10,020.74
2009 unit	\$ 7,834.10
2014 unit	\$ 6,709.98
Total	\$26,776.98

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Carl Wuertz presented the budget for the Supervisor of Assessments. There was no change from the prior year in his request for mileage reimbursement, office supplies, education and meetings, equipment and maintenance and publications. When asked by the Commissioners when assessments would be complete for this year, Mr. Wuertz said he plans to have them complete before the end of this calendar year. He said the delay this year was due to a change in office personnel.

Chairman Liefer left the meeting for a short time.

Kevin Koenigstein presented the budget for the Treasurer's office. His budget request included revising one part-time salary of \$10,000 to full-time for a new hire, and reducing the salary of Anmarie Marcuson by 50% to allow her to handle the County's Human Resource needs. The remaining 50% of her salary will be picked up by the Commissioner's budget. Mr. Koenigstein said his budget also included funds for the purchase of several new computers.

Commissioner Wittenauer said he would still like to see something done with the IT services for the County Departments. He said he feels like we are not getting the best deal by working with multiple companies, and there should be a better way to approach this issue.

Kevin Koenigstein discussed the budgets for Social Security, Tort and Immunity, the CIRMA payment, IMRF and the Nursing Home Salaries. The Major Capital Improvement account was also discussed. This year there has been no expenditure from that account, as all projects have been funded by the County's Building Fund.

Mr. Koenigstein also presented the General Assistance budget. This included several decreases including the line item for Utilities and Contingent. Mr. Koenigstein said this will probably be the last year that Sheila Wetzler's salary will be paid from this fund.

Vicki Koerber and Bob Hill presented the budget for the Coroner's office. The only increase from the previous budget year was for office supplies. Ms. Koerber said she is wanting to purchase a computer that will interface with the Sheriff's Department and Ambulance Service. She said the individual cost of an autopsy has gone up, but so far this year the number of deaths requiring an autopsy has been down, and that has been good for her overall budget. Ms. Koerber said she will have enough money to purchase the computer equipment if the State of Illinois ever reimburses her office from the Death Certificate Surcharge Fund. This is a fee that is added to each Death Certificate issued in the County, and the State is behind in their payments to the individual Counties for this fund.

Joann Hartman presented the budget for the Soil and Water Conservation Service. The budget request was \$15,000, just as it was last year. She said they are in the same position as others – no payments have been received from the State of Illinois as promised. This year, the County Service has used about \$25,000 in reserve funds to cover this shortfall. Despite the shortage of funds, the Monroe County Soil and Water Conservation Service continues to provide the same worthwhile programs for local students and residents.

Dennis Doyle presented the budget request for the Circuit Judge in exactly the same amount as the budget for the previous fiscal year. Chairman Liefer asked Mr. Doyle his thoughts on the

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security situation here at the Courthouse. Judge Doyle said any efforts at security are good, and he applauded the Board and the County Security Committee for their efforts. Commissioner Wittenauer asked Judge Doyle about the C.A.S.A. program. Judge Doyle said there has been no more contact from that agency regarding instituting extra fees for those going through the Court system that would help to pay for the expenses of this program.

There was discussion regarding the Monroe County FOIA (Freedom of Information Act) situation. Linda Lehr was previously the County's appointed FOIA Officer.

Motion was made by Commissioner Elmore, with a second by Commissioner Wittenauer to appoint Mike Origliosso as the Monroe County FOIA (Freedom of Information Act) Officer. All voting Aye, none Nay and none Absent. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 16-57

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Monroe County, Illinois that Deputy Mike Origliosso, Monroe County Sheriff's Department, 225 E. Third Street, Waterloo, Illinois be appointed as FOIA (Freedom of Information Act) Officer, with term to commence on September 12, 2016 and expire on or when a successor is appointed and has qualified.

Passed by the Board of County Commissioners of Monroe County, Illinois at Waterloo this 12th day of September, 2016.

Motion: Elmore
Aye: Three
Absent: None

Second: Wittenauer
Nay: None

Terry Liefer, Chairman

Dennis M. Knobloch, County Clerk

Delbert Wittenauer, Member

Robert Elmore, Member

Mr. Origliosso is currently an employee of the Sheriff's Department, and previously did FOIA work at his previous position in Fairview Heights. All FOIA requests are to be funneled through Sheila Wetzler, who will then forward the requests on to Mr. Origliosso. He will then make sure that the County is compliant in responding to the requestor.

Representatives from CTS came to the meeting to present the Final Analysis Summary for the Monroe County Energy Audit. The proposal included information for the Courthouse, Oak Hill, the Annex Building, the Jail, the Highway Department Garage and the Regional Superintendent's office. Ellie Blankenship presented information regarding the possible savings that could be

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attained, and the related expenditures. There was extensive discussion of the various components including the change of lighting fixtures, the replacement of HVAC equipment, and installing new roofs on County buildings. The Commissioners asked Ms. Blankenship to meet with Brian Hooten and Dan Borisuk to polish the numbers for the current maintenance expenses for the various building items. Once this is complete, the proposal spreadsheet will be provided to the Commissioners so they can decide if they want to proceed, and if so, what items should be included in the Energy Savings plan.

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