

Sharon K. Williams, District 1
Junior Watkins, District 2
Betty Duncan, District 3
Chairperson-Andrew A. Rand, District 4
Brandy Bryant, District 5
Eden S. Blair, District 6
James C. Dillon, District 7
Phillip Salzer, District 8
Kathrin Pastucha, District 9



Andrew A. Rand - Chairperson
Rachael Parker - County Clerk

Robert Reneau, District 10
Linda Daley, District 11
Rachel Reliford, District 12
Vice-Chairperson-James T. Fennell, District 13
Brian Elsasser, District 14
Steven Rieker, District 15
Matthew Windish, District 16
Jennifer Groves Allison, District 17
Paul Rosenbohm, District 18

**PEORIA COUNTY BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, March 11, 2021
6:00 PM**

County Courthouse • 324 Main Street • County Board Room 403 • Peoria, Illinois 61602
Voice: (309) 672-6056 • Fax: (309) 672-6054 • TDD: (309) 672-6073
www.peoriacounty.org

**CALL TO ORDER
MOMENT OF SILENCE
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
ROLL CALL BY THE COUNTY CLERK**

Attendance was taken with the Roll Call-Pro voting system, and the following members of the Board were present: Members Blair, Bryant, Daley, Dillon, Duncan, Elsasser, Fennell, Groves Allison, Pastucha, Rand, Reliford, Reneau, Rieker, Salzer, Watkins, Williams, and Windish, with Member Rosenbohm absent.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Approval of February 11, 2021 County Board Regular Meeting Minutes
- Approval of February 11, 2021 County Board Executive Session Meeting Minutes

Member Salzer moved for approval of the minutes, Member Watkins seconded. The minutes were approved by a unanimous roll call vote of 17 ayes.

II. CITIZENS' REMARKS

Zachary Gittrich addressed the Board regarding the potential practical implications of the passage of HB 3653. He contended that peace officers may make arrests using up to lethal force, contrary to statements made. He conveyed that the bill does not require issuing a citation rather than arresting a person for misdemeanors and, in some cases, arrests are required. He asserted that issuing a citation can be safer and cheaper than incarceration.

III. CONSENT AGENDA (including reports to be filed)

- C1.** The Treasurer report consisting of the Bank and CD's Portfolio for the month of January 2021 and Revenue & Expenditure Reports for the month of December 2020.
- C2.** The Auditor's report of expenditures from Accounts Payable system is accessible at www.peoriacounty.org/auditor/transparency.
- C3.** A resolution (item 1 conveyance; item 2 defaulted conveyance) from the Ways



and Means Committee recommending that the County Board Chairman be authorized and directed to execute deeds of said property to the highest bidder, and be authorized to cancel the appropriate Certificates of Purchase. This resolution shall be effective ninety days from March 11, 2021 and any transaction between the parties involved not occurring within this period shall be null and void.

- C4.** A resolution from your Executive Committee recommending approval of an agreement with Hanson Professional Services, Inc. for the Distillery Labs Smart City/Mobility Living Laboratory, and Memorandum of Understanding with Distillery Labs.
- C5.** A resolution from your Public Safety and Justice Committee recommending approval of a Courts Administration FY 2021 budget appropriation to reflect Administrative Office of Illinois Courts (AOIC) Rapid Relief funding in the amount of \$152,664.00 for the Remote Capabilities Program.
- C6.** A resolution from your Ways and Means Committee recommending approval of an appropriation of unspent FY 2020 funds in the amount of \$5,440.00 into FY 2021 County Clerk's budget for the purchase of additional glass divider panels in the County Clerk's Office.
- C7.** A resolution from your Ways and Means Committee recommending approval of an appropriation of unspent grant funds from the Center for Tech and Civic Life in the amount of \$19,430.00, into the FY 2021 Election Commission budget.
- C8.** A resolution from your County Operations Committee recommending acceptance of a \$25,000.00 grant award for intake diversion programs from Best Friends Animal Society and appropriation of those funds in the PCAPS Fund.
- C9.** A resolution from your Infrastructure Committee recommending approval of an Intergovernmental Agreement between the County of Peoria and Medina Road District for the purpose of replacing a bridge on Dickison Lane.
- C10.** A resolution from your Infrastructure Committee recommending approval of a Preliminary Engineering Services Agreement with Maurer Stutz, Inc., Peoria, IL, for Phase I and Phase II Engineering of the Medina Road District Dickison Lane Bridge, at a cost not to exceed \$144,124.00.
- C11.** A resolution from your Infrastructure Committee recommending approval of a Preliminary Engineering Services Agreement with Maurer Stutz, Inc., Peoria, IL, for Phase I and Phase II Engineering of a concrete box culvert on Graham Chapel Road, at a cost not to exceed \$165,292.00.
- C12.** A resolution from your Infrastructure Committee recommending approval of a Preliminary Engineering Services Agreement with Crawford, Murphy & Tilly, Inc., Peoria, IL, for Phase I Preliminary Engineering for the reconstruction of Maxwell Road, at a cost not to exceed \$364,263.00.
- C13.** Chairman Appointments

Member Rieker moved to approve the Consent Agenda and Member Blair seconded. Member



Rieker asked to pull Item C4; Member Elsasser asked to pull Item C7. The Consent Agenda, except for Items C4 and C7, was approved by a unanimous roll call vote of 17 ayes.

C4. A resolution recommending approval of an agreement with Hanson Professional Services, Inc. and a Memorandum of Understanding with Distillery Labs.

Member Rieker moved to approve Item C4 and Member Blair seconded. Member Rieker asked about the potential economic benefits of the project. Mr. Sorrel explained that the project would create a living laboratory for technology companies to beta test in the public right-of-way and noted the County's cost-share.

Member Elsasser inquired about a connection with the project to the Peoria Next Innovation Center, and Mr. Sorrel noted that the incubation model did not come to fruition at the facility and that Distillery Labs is not based around the incubation model. He reported plans for future action with Distillery Labs to promote business development through the venture capital financing process. Member Elsasser brought up that the County has carried the financial weight for economic development projects. Item C4 was approved by a unanimous roll call vote of 17 ayes.

C7. A resolution recommending approval of an appropriation of grant funds from the Center for Tech and Civic Life into the Election Commission budget.

Member Duncan moved to approve Item C7 and Member Williams seconded. Members Elsasser and Daley discussed that the organization is not nonpartisan and that they will be voting nay. Chairman Rand expressed that he will be voting no. Member Reliford remarked that she will not support the resolution after reading more into the funding organization. Item C7 failed on a roll call vote of 11 ayes and 6 nays, with Members Daley, Elsasser, Fennell, Rand, Reliford, and Windish voting nay.

IV. ZONING ORDINANCE AND RESOLUTIONS

1. A resolution from your Land Use Committee recommending approval of a grant award from the Illinois Housing Development Authority's Strong Communities Program, in an amount not to exceed \$84,500.00, to be utilized for the demolition of eight (8) structures within unincorporated Peoria County deemed to be unsafe.

Member Pastucha moved to approve the resolution and Member Williams seconded. Chairman Rand asked about the building demolition process, and Mr. Sorrel detailed the court process and the list.

Member Dillon conveyed that there is a long legal process, that the structures are unsafe, and that the grant allows for demolition because township budgets cannot cover the cost. The resolution passed by a unanimous roll call vote of 17 ayes.

2. SUSPENSION OF RULES

Member Fennell moved to suspend the rules and Member Blair seconded. Chairman Rand explained that the rules must be suspended to take the following item because it did not come through committee before consideration by to the full Board. The motion passed by a roll call vote of 16 ayes and 1 nay, with Member Windish voting nay.



3. A Proclamation extending the Declaration of Emergency due to COVID-19 in Peoria County, Illinois.

Member Reneau moved to approve the resolution and Member Groves Allison seconded. The resolution passed by a roll call vote of 15 ayes and 2 nays, with Members Elsasser and Windish voting nay.

V. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- **Personnel Matters**
- **Pending Litigation**

Chairman Rand announced he would take Miscellaneous and Announcements before the Board went into Executive Session. For those items, see below.

Member Blair moved to go into executive session to discuss personnel matters and pending litigation and Member Reliford seconded. The motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote of 17 ayes.

VI. MISCELLANEOUS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Member Salzer thanked the Board Members for their well wishes and concern regarding his health. He commented that the federal money coming could be well spent and it should be done so in the public's best interest.

Sheriff Brian Asbell highlighted that the reform bill is ambiguous, that there is concern about survival in the profession, and that work is being done to fix it. He mentioned that recruitment and retention may need incentivizing. He expressed that the department has the employees' backs and that the correctional staff pool is being taken to fill other departments. Member Elsasser emphasized that he feels sorry for the police officers and that the bill does not help keep people in Illinois.

Member Elsasser inquired about the County's funding inclusion in the \$1.9 trillion federal bill and the amount given to the state. Member Salzer conveyed the funding that the County is slated to receive, and Mr. Sorrel detailed the direct allocations to the State and Municipalities. He discussed that the allocations will be made in two installments, that there will be a limitation on where the dollars can be spent, and that other federal programs administered in the County may have expanded funding.

Member Williams brought up that the NACO website has a breakdown of where the money is going. She highlighted that the money will be coming directly to the County.

Member Elsasser remarked that the money is impressive but that he hopes the kids and grandkids can pay it back.

Member Pastucha discussed the unemployment levels in the county.

Member Reneau encouraged all to get vaccinated when possible because children are looking to the adults to do the right thing and have some relief.



Member Elsasser informed that a local employer has over 200 vacancies but that they cannot be filled due to the amount of money people are receiving on unemployment.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board, the Chairman announced the meeting was adjourned.