

**Approved 4/25/22**  
**MINUTES**  
**Ways and Means Committee**  
**January 24, 2022**  
**@ 3:30 P.M.**

<b>MEMBERS PRESENT:</b>	<b>Steven Rieker</b> – Chairperson; <b>Jennifer Groves Allison</b> – Vice Chairperson; <b>Eden Blair, James Fennell, Rachel Reliford</b> ( <i>via teleconference</i> ), <b>Phillip Salzer, William Watkins, Jr., Matt Windish</b>
<b>MEMBERS ABSENT:</b>	
<b>STAFF PRESENT:</b>	<b>Scott Sorrel</b> – County Administrator; <b>Shauna Musselman</b> – Assistant County Administrator; <b>Jennie Cordis Boswell</b> - State's Attorney's Office; <b>Heather McCord</b> – Chief Financial Officer; <b>Gretchen Pearsall, Jack Walton</b> – County Administration; <b>Rachael Parker</b> – County Clerk; <b>Tom Bride</b> – Election Commission; <b>Dave Ryan</b> – Supervisor of Assessments; <b>Ryan Sanders</b> – Treasurer; <b>Trisha Collins</b> - VAC
<b>OTHERS PRESENT:</b>	

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Rieker at 3:30 p.m.

A motion to allow the participation of Ms. Reliford via teleconference was made by Mr. Salzer and seconded by Ms. Groves Allison. The motion carried unanimously (6-0).

**Approval of Minutes**

A motion to approve the minutes of January 3, 2022 was made by Ms. Groves Allison and seconded by Mr. Fennell. The motion carried unanimously (7-0).

**Informational Items/Reports/Other Minutes/Updates**

**County Clerk**

➤ **Collections and Transactions Report**

Ms. Parker directed committee members to the submitted report and stood for any questions. There were no questions or comments from committee.

**Peoria County Election Commission**

Mr. Bride advised the process of redrawing precincts has been completed and have been approved by the Election Commission. He stated that the new precincts, as well as state and congressional maps are available to view on the Peoria County website's GIS page. He advised that the number of Peoria County precincts decreased from 169 to 116, primarily due to a change in legislation allowing up to 1,200 registered voters per precinct. He also noted that polling places decreased from 58 to 56.

Mr. Bride advised that he was invited to the Cybersecurity Infrastructure Security Agency in Washington, D.C. by the State Board of Elections to represent local election officials to discuss the State Board of Elections Cybersecurity Navigator Program.

Mr. Bride advised has joined the United States Election Assistance Commission a newly formed local leadership council comprised of two representatives from each state.

### Supervisor of Assessments/Board of Review

- Tax Cycle

Mr. Ryan advised that 2022 Senior Freeze Forms will be distributed within the next month.

Mr. Ryan advised that he anticipates increases in assessments in the next year.

- Board of Review

Mr. Ryan advised that the Board of Review 2021 hearings will be completed this week.

### Treasurer

Mr. Sanders advised that work is being done to restructure accounts to meet the best practices of the new software system. He stated that mobile home tax bills will be distributed in March.

Mr. Sanders advised that the external auditor has conducted an initial field visit.

### Veteran's Assistance Commission

Ms. Collins distributed the Veteran's Assistance Commission Annual Report for FY2021. She advised that over \$6 million in new benefits for veterans and over \$39 million in total benefits were secured in 2021. She remarked that six of the seven VAC employees are accredited Veterans Service Officers.

Ms. Collins advised that limited in-person appointments are being conducted, adding that the Commission has the ability to email digital forms to veterans.

Ms. Collins noted that VAC Board Member Tom Skaggs recently passed away.

Ms. Collins advised that the Commission was featured in a report shown on WMBD, which has resulted in an increase in the number of veterans contacting the office.

### Miscellaneous

Mr. Rieker acknowledged Heather McCord, the new Chief Financial Officer, and welcomed her to Peoria County.

### Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Chairman Rieker at 3:45 p.m.

*Recorded and Transcribed by: Jan Kleffman*