



Peoria County Board Meeting Minutes

Peoria County

Feb 9, 2023 at 6:00 PM CST

@ County Courthouse, 324 Main Street, County Board Room 403, Peoria, IL

Attendance

Present:

Members: Jennifer Groves Allison, Eden Blair, Brandy Bryant, Camille Coates, Linda Daley, Jimmy Dillon, Betty Duncan, Brian Elsasser, Nathan Hoerr, Daniel Kelch, Danny Phelan, Rob Reneau, Steve Rieker, Paul Rosenbohm, Terrence Ruhland, Phil Salzer, Sharon Williams, Matt Windish

CALL TO ORDER

MOMENT OF SILENCE

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL BY THE COUNTY CLERK

February 9, 2023 Agenda

I. APPROVAL OF 1-12-23 MINUTES

Member Daley moved for approval of the minutes, and Member Duncan seconded. The minutes were approved by a unanimous roll call vote of 18 ayes.

II. PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

- A. A Proclamation recognizing WEEK-TV on its 70th anniversary
- B. Proclamation recognizing JT Fennell Corporation on its 75th anniversary
- C. A Proclamation recognizing the Country Club of Peoria on its 125th anniversary

III. CITIZENS' REMARKS

Former District 9 County Board Member Kate Pastucha from the Springdale Historic Preservation Foundation addressed the Board about the Preservation Foundation. She commented that the cemetery was established in 1854 with many historical residents and is around 265 acres. She encouraged the Members to drive through or walk through the gorgeous landscape as many people use the area as a park. She mentioned that it has names that may be recognizable such as Lydia Moss Bradley, Laturno as well as

names that may not be as familiar as Octave Chanute, the father of aviation, among many others. She noted that in the 1990's is when the cemetery went into disrepair and the private owners started selling off assets most notably the civil war cannons that are part of soldier's hill. Three of those cannons were found and purchased back with the help of the Foundation which was established sometime in the 1990s. She conveyed that the State seized the cemetery around the year 2000 because the private owners were embezzling funds and selling off assets. In 2002 the City of Peoria became the property owner of Springdale Cemetery with the request of help from the County, Park District, and the continued support from the foundation which is the first version of the Intergovernmental Agreement. She informed the Board that the funding comes from the taxpayers of the City of Peoria, the Peoria County Board, the Park District, and the Foundation. She explained the Intergovernmental Agreement was renewed in 2022 and can be renewed every 10 years. She stated the agreement also establishes the Springdale Cemetery Management Authority, which is a public body made of 5 Representatives from the City, two from the County, to which she is one of them, one from the Park District, and one from the Foundation. She thanked the County for its continued support. She mentioned the Springdale Historic Preservation Foundation is a private board, a 501 (c) (3) that rely on donations and membership funds. They are a 15-volunteer member board with no paid employees. She emphasized she is here to bring awareness and thanks. She provided a postcard and envelope with the 2023 membership request. She expressed that the money coming in will hopefully make the taxpayer funding of the cemetery no longer necessary.

Tracy Fox representing the Sierra Club of Central Illinois Healthy Community Alliance addressed the Board concerning the Wolf ADM CO₂ Pipeline. She stated that the pipeline will come thru 10 counties in Illinois including Peoria which is slated to come through the Southwest swath of the county down to Decatur to be sequestered in a rock formation. She detailed her concerns including setting themselves up for an eminent domain, by declaring it a public good so they can take land in rural areas, it has multi-season impacts on farming, and the disturbance, backfill, and combustion have reduced production by 25% in bean fields and 15% in corn fields according to a recent Iowa State study. She stressed that there was a risk all along the pipeline. She stated that CO₂ is colorless and odorless and it accumulates low to the ground. It can asphyxiate anything within a mile when the pipeline has a leak or an explosion. She brought up that in February 2020 in Satartia Mississippi, 200 people were evacuated due to a gas explosion and 49 people were hospitalized. She asserted that there was very little oversight with this type of pipeline. The CO₂ is at a much higher pressure than natural gas or oil running through pipelines today as well as is more explosive. She also remarked that this combination is

subject to running ductal fractures so that the explosions or leaks are bigger and more dangerous. She noted that there are no good regulations in place and the Pipeline Safety Bureau of the Department of Transportation, is just getting started on regulations and is being told to do the best they can and try to follow the oil pipeline guidelines. She believes that the pipeline is being driven forward because of a federal tax credit that is coming out and it's making companies anxious to get things going before they are subject to stricter pipeline regulations and while the federal money is available. She asked that the Board educate themselves and will ask for a moratorium until the issue can be studied. She urged that any zoning changes will be to protect the citizens of Peoria County both rural and urban. She hopes that the County will work with the City of Peoria to possibly intervene and put a stop to this pipeline.

Theresa Heath addressed the Board on behalf of her mother, Lydia Ierulli, about the Air BnB. Chairman Dillion reminded the Members that they can only take into consideration what was given at the fact-finding board and all three citizens talking tonight did testify to the board. She mentioned that the Air BnB restrictions are limited to 20 people in a five-bedroom house. She stressed that the property is surrounded by timbers and cornfields. She is worried if the guests decide to have a bonfire, something goes wrong, and a fire starts. She also noted that we are in a drought and share the same water area. The septic system is 45 years old and not set up to hold 20 people at any given time and if it fails the water gets contaminated and hurts everyone. She suggested people go to Wildlife Prairie Park if they want to relax and enjoy wildlife. She emphasized that this house can be seen clearly in the fall and wintertime and isn't nestled away. She predicted people will be trespassing on other people's property and hunting.

Mark Walton with Miller, Hall and Triggs on behalf of Doug Huff addressed the Board. He reminded the Board that they already have adopted an ordinance that it is appropriate to have overnight rentals in the A-2 district where this property is located. He explained that any issues or concerns were raised while going through the ZBA and land use committee with restrictions. He stressed that restrictions are being put into place, like no ATVs, no hunting, or firearms.

Doug Huff addressed the Board in regard to the short-term rental request. He conveyed that the ZBA and the Land Use Committee recommended with restrictions to move for approval. He explained that people can enjoy paddleboarding, kayaking, nature, wildlife and fishing for big blue gill. He also expressed his hope to bring many people into the Peoria-Chillicothe area away from the hustle and bustle of the city.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Monthly Treasurer Report
- B. Intergovernmental Agreement and Designating Ordinance Amendment #8 for Peoria Urban Enterprise Zone
- C. Rural Broadband Contract Award
- D. FY2023 Budget Appropriation for Illinois Court Technology Modernization Program
- E. Intergovernmental Agreement with Limestone Township for Pfeiffer Road bridge rehabilitation
- F. Preliminary Engineering Services Agreement for Phase I & II Engineering of Pfeiffer Road Bridge
- G. Hollis Township Bid for Sealcoating
- H. Intergovernmental Agreement with Essex Road District in Stark County
 - I. Police Service Agreement with Village of Bellevue
 - J. Police Service Agreement with Village of Princeville
 - K. Police Service Agreement with Medina Township
 - L. Dispatch Service Agreement with City of Elmwood
- M. PCAPS Grant Award for purchase of microchips
- N. Intergovernmental Agreement with Princeville Road District
- O. Chairman Appointments
- P. Millbrook Township Bid for Sealcoating

Member Williams asked to pull Item C3.

Member Daley moved to approve the Consent Agenda and Member Blair seconded. The Consent Agenda, except for Item C3, was approved by a unanimous roll call vote of 18 ayes.

Member Elsasser moved to approve Item C3 and Member Phelan seconded. Member Williams said she would be voting nay because of the threshold for prevailing wage. Item C3 was approved by a roll call vote of 17 ayes and 1 nay with Member Williams voting Nay.

V. ZONING ORDINANCE AND RESOLUTIONS

A. Case ZBA-2023-004, Doug Huff

Member Rosenbohm moved to approve the Special Use request and Member Daley seconded. Member Rosenbohm stated that there was a special meeting beforehand and one additional restriction was being added (Restriction #9) and the members had a copy of the restriction in front of them. Member Rieker asked if this new restriction, which has never been added to previous approvals, will be something new going forward. Member Rosenbohm stated that there will be a discussion about adding the restriction for future approvals. Member Rieker inquired if inspections would be ongoing. Member Rosenbohm explained that before giving the certificate of occupancy an inspection will be done and any other inspection after that will be complaint-driven which complies with what the City of Peoria does. Member Elsasser invited the constituents that were attending the meeting stand. He explained that they have had a private predictable life, some for 80 years and this situation makes it unpredictable for them. He complimented Member Ruhland on his work on this new restriction but commented that there aren't enough police officers or conversation officers to enforce the restrictions. He informed the Board that he will be voting nay on this issue because of all this. The ordinance was approved by a roll call vote of 16 ayes and 1 nay and one abstention with Member Elsasser voting Nay and Member Ruhland abstaining.

B. FY2022 Additional Appropriations and FY2023 Appropriation Rollover

Member Williams moved to approve the resolution and Member Rosenbohm seconded. Chairman Dillion reminded the Board that this will require a two-thirds vote. The resolution passed by a unanimous roll call vote of 18 ayes.

C. Revised Financial Policies

Member Williams moved to approve the resolution and Member Kelch seconded. Member Williams asked for Julie or Heather to give a brief explanation. Julie Kusturin, Assistant CFO in Finance, explained that this resolution is to amend the financial policies and allow what was already approved in the budget and approved internally by the Purchase Order policy. She remarked that any

purchase orders approved in FY 2022 or before with the new financial software, will roll over per the County Administrator's approval and be reported to the Board. The resolution passed by a unanimous roll call vote of 18 ayes.

D. Creation and Appointment of County Board Representative for the Health and Human Services Campus Project

Member Daley moved to approve the resolution and Member Reneau seconded. Chairman Dillion asked Member Reneau to speak on this issue and thanked Member Ruhland for agreeing to serve in this role. Member Reneau stated that there had been a want for some Board oversight on the project and design team and they wanted to utilize the strengths that members of the Board have. Member Ruhland has a background in construction and has agreed to serve in this role. Member Rosenbohm thanked Member Ruhland for stepping into the position and agreed that it was a great idea to have eyes and ears on this project. Member Dillon thanked Member Reneau for reaching out and taking the time to listen to everyone's concerns and alleviate them. The resolution passed by a unanimous roll call vote of 18 ayes.

E. Adoption of 2023-2024 Peoria County Board Rules of Order (Pending Committee Approval)

Member Williams moved to approve the resolution and Member Elsasser seconded. Member Williams expressed her thanks to Members Daley, Rieker, Salzer and Dillion for all the input and work they put in on this. The resolution passed by a unanimous roll call vote of 18 ayes.

F. SUSPENSION OF RULES

Member Salzer moved to suspend the rules, and Member Duncan seconded. Ms. Cordis Boswell explained that the rules must be suspended to vote on the following item because it did not come through the committee before coming to the full Board. The motion passed by a roll call vote of 17 ayes and 1 nay with Member Windish voting nay.

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

Member Blair moved to approve the resolution and Member Reneau seconded. County Administrator, Scott Sorrell, conveyed to the Board that it has been widely reported the President will lifting the Federal Declaration of Emergency and the Governor of Illinois will be lifting the State Declaration both on May 11, 2023. Mr. Sorrell summarized that local, state, and federal governments could declare a disaster declaration after a natural disaster occurs. He stated that this allows the local and state governments to access federal funds. He stressed that without the declaration, the County could not be reimbursed for expenses incurred as a result of responding to the disaster. Chairman Dillon referenced that there will be no more calling into the County Board meetings after April. Mr. Sorrell clarified that remote participation is permitted for committee meetings however County Board meetings will require members to be present in the room, starting with the May board meeting, according to the Open Meetings Act and the rules approved earlier in the meeting. The motion was passed by a roll call vote of 15 ayes and 3 nays, with Members Elsasser, Rosenbohm, and Windish voting nay.

H. MISCELLANEOUS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Member Elsasser acknowledged the roll the Bradley Braves have been on since beating ISU in overtime and declared Go Braves.

Member Salzer remarked that he isn't sure the new iPads are for the best. He feels that he is watching the iPad too much and not listening enough to the great comments the other members have. He continued to say he isn't sure that it is the best thing for him.

Member Elsasser remarked that when his iPad gets fixed, he will be reaching out to Member Salzer for a lesson on how to use it.

Member Rosenbohm complimented Member Salzer on how well he is using the iPad and the attitude he has toward it. He emphasized that if Member Salzer, who is 83 can do it, they all can.

Clerk Parker stated that if the Members are having issues with their iPads to please contact IT because ultimately getting the issues resolved will make the meetings go smoother.

Member Rieker reminded the Board that they have an evaluation that is due by next Friday and mentioned that if the new Members have any questions, contact himself or Member Blair.

Member Groves-Allison congratulated the staff at PCAPS and Becky Spencer for their \$50,000 award to spay and neuter and acknowledged all their hard work.

Member Blair explained that she will be facilitating the conversation with Scott and that if anyone had anything to address or discuss to let her know.

Member Daley inquired if we still have the clickers that they used to use to vote on. Clerk Parker explained that the company transitioned into another company and didn't buy into it and that is why they transitioned to another system.

Member Ruhland congratulated Clerk Parker on her progress with the onBoard system since the January meeting.

Chairman Dillon thanked Sheriff Watkins, Chief Middlemas and Mettille for always attending the meetings and to keep up the good work. He further thanked Clerk Parker for her time and effort during this implementation of the new system.

Mr. Sorrell explained that when the iPads were purchased as well as the app good reader the subscriptions were very expensive and as a cost-saving measure, they bought one license that everyone shared. He promised that by next month's County Board meeting, everyone will have their own identity and their own version due to the cost of the subscription lowering substantially.

I. ADJOURNMENT

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