# Pike County Board

# Meeting Minutes

April 27th, 2021

1. Call to order

Chairman Jim Sheppard called to order the regular meeting of the Pike County Board at 7:00p.m. in the upper courtroom of the Pike County Courthouse.

1. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Brent Joy gave the invocation and Chairman Sheppard led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Roll Call

Members present were Jim Sheppard, Amy Gates, Rodger Hannel, Reta Hoskin, Tom Lewis, Mark Mountain, Derek Ross, and Mark Sprague. John Birch was absent.

1. Approval of Minutes from Pike County Board meeting on February 22nd, 2021

Tom Lewis made a motion to approve the minutes from February 22nd, 2021. Mark Sprague seconded. Voice vote 7-0. Minutes approved.

1. Approval of Resolution Creating Animal Control Memorial Fund

Mark Mountain made a motion to approve the Memorial Fund. Amy Gates seconded. Voice vote 7-0. Motion approved.

1. FY 20 Audit

Josh Faivre from WIPFLI was present via TEAMS to present the FY 20 Audit. Pike County improved the overall financial standing from FY 2019 in FY 2020. A finding was present regarding County funds that were left unsecured by Scott Syrcle, Pike County Treasurer. Mr. Syrcle stated it was an oversight. Jim Filbert stated that he had a difficult time hearing the presentation and asked why the auditors were not present in person. Chairman Sheppard stated it was due to COVID.

Mark Mountain made a motion to approve the FY 20 Audit presented by WIPFLI. Mark Sprague seconded. Voice vote 6-1. Derek Ross voting no.

1. Appointment of Michael Starman to the ETSB board for a term to end March 23rd, 2023.

Tom Lewis made a motion to approve the appointment. Mark Mountain seconded. Voice vote 7-0. Motion approved.

1. Committee Reports

Finance

The Finance committee of the Pike County Board met at 5:11 p.m. on Wednesday, March 17th, 2021. Those present were: Mark Sprague, Scott Syrcle, Zack Boren, Bryce Gleckler, Dawn Leahr, Angie Gratton, Kerri Rodhouse, John Birch, Cindy Shaw, Jim Filbert, Walker Filbert, Mike Roseberry, David Greenwood, Natalie Roseberry, Amy Gates, Rodger Hannel, Jim Sheppard, and Reta Hoskin.

The new business: Zack Boren, Pike County State’s Attorney was present to discuss the issue on whether the County Clerk, Natalie Roseberry, can be given additional compensation for hours of work spent on completing a $230,000.00 CURES grant. On January 20, 2021, at the Finance Committee meeting, Pike County Chairman Jim Sheppard submitted a letter proposing that Pike County give Pike County Clerk, Natalie Roseberry $5000.00 “for administration of the CURES and Covid-19 related grants.” The expenditure was a “one time compensation for the 232 work hours since August and the continued administration of the CURES grant…”

In brief, Zack Boren pointed out that he believes the Illinois Constitution of 1970 states that, “an increase in the salary of an elected officer of any local government shall not take effect during the term for which the officer is elected.” Zack has researched this compensation issue through finding specific case law, and Zack’s opinion, that “additional compensation of any kind that is authorized for a public officer is not allowed during that term of office.” Zack did offer to have a formal opinion letter from the Illinois Attorney General’s office on the matter. Amy Gates made a motion to ask the full Pike County Board “to direct the State’s Attorney to seek a formal opinion from the Illinois Attorney General regarding additional compensation to an elected officer.” Reta Hoskin seconded, and the motion passed.

In the meantime, Natalie Rosberry will voluntarily reimburse Pike County the $5000.00 she was paid until an opinion is given from the States Attorney General.

Amy made a motion that the Finance Committee recommend to the full board to pass a motion to pay all employees in arrears effective July 1st, 2021. Reta seconded, and motion passed.

In addition, Amy made a motion to switch from CIC to Paycom, July 1st, and to pay for the charge with Federal Recovery Funds that we plan to receive. Reta seconded, and motion passed.

Finally, Bryce Gleckler discussed an issue on “overtime compensation” for his employees when they work 33 hours instead of their regular 32 ½ hours. The committee asked Bryce to go back no more than 5 years on the issue.

Amy Gates made a motion to adjourn at 7:00 p.m., and Reta seconded. The motion passed.

Rodger Hannel made a motion to direct the State’s Attorney to seek formal opinion from Illinois Attorney General regarding compensation. Amy Gates seconded. Derek Ross expressed concern over seeking a formal opinion on compensation when the Tort Fund expenditures have not had a formal opinion. Mr. Ross requested that the Tort Fund opinion be on the April Agenda. Voice vote 7-0. Motion passed.

Amy Gates made a motion to pay all employees in arears effective July 1st, 2021. Rodger Hannel seconded. Voice vote 7-0. Motion passed.

Amy Gates made a motion to approve paycom contingent on funding from Recovery Funds. Mark Mountain seconded. Voice vote 7-0. Motion passed.

Bryce Gleckler presented potential back payments owed to his staff. The board presented questions on how it would affect other offices as well as previous employees. Rodger Hannel made a motion to approve Bryce Gleckler’s back pay to 5 years as long a it was out of a special fund. Mark Sprague seconded. Voice vote 7-0. Motion passed.

Amy Gates made a motion to approve the finance Committee minutes. Mark Sprague seconded. Voice vote 7-0. Minutes approved.

Highway

The Road & Bridge Committee met Wednesday, March 17th, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. at the County Highway Department. The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m.

Members present were John Birch, Reta Hoskin, Mark Sprague, and Jim Sheppard. Chris Johnson, Highway Engineer, was also present.

A motion was made by Reta Hoskin, seconded by Mark Sprague to pay claims per claim reports dated March 17, 2021. All in favor. Motion carried.

The County Engineer’s contract will expire on June 1, 2021. Each appointment is for a period of 6 years with IDOT’s approval. No action is taken. The contract twill be addressed at the April meeting.

County Engineer’s Report (new business) repairs to the salt building were made to get us by until a permanent solution is found. The department used most of the material purchased on the roads this winter, The City gas bill was $3,900 v $476 one year ago. The county engineer has been subpoenaed to testify in Ross Township matter on the 19th of March.

A motion was made by Mark Sprague, seconded by Reta Hoskin to adjourn meeting at 4:39 p.m. All in Favor. Motion carried.

Mark Mountain made a motion to approve the Highway Committee minutes. Derek Ross seconded. Voice vote 7-0. Motion passed.

Building and Grounds

The Building and Grounds committee met on March 17th, 2021 at 3:05 p.m. Members present were Mark Sprague, Mark Mountain, Tom Lewis and Jim Sheppard. Dave Greenwood was also present. On a motion by Mountain and a second by Lewis, $33,941.35 of routine monthly bills were approved.

On a motion by Mountain, second by Lewis, the final bill for courthouse security of $23,111.78 was approved.

Sheriff Greenwood reported that the upper courtroom plaster and window work was progressing using existing county resources.

Meeting adjourned at 3:34 p.m. on a motion by Mountain, second by Lewis.

Minutes submitted by Mark Sprague.

Zack Boren presented a farm lease agreement between the County and Ron Hoskin. Mark Sprague made a motion to approve the agreement, Tom Lewis seconded. Voice vote 6-0. Reta Hoskin abstained.

Reta Hoskin made a motion to approve the Building and Grounds committee minutes. Amy Gates seconded. Voice vote 7-0. Minutes approved.

GIS/IT

The GIS/IT committee of the Pike County Board met at 5:06 p.m. on March 9th, 2021. Those in attendance were committee members Derek Ross, Amy Gates, Jim Sheppard, and Reta Hoskin. Also in attendance were Dan Brennecke, Nicole McDonald, and Sandy Schacht.

Under Old Business, Chief Judge McCartney qualified for a grant to be used to upgrade Audio/Visual hardware in the upper and lower courtrooms. Quotes are being received to finalize the installation and implementation will hopefully be complete soon. The WTH proposal was forwarded and approved at the highway department but is awaiting approval from a few others. Jim Sheppard is coordinating to get this done.

New Business, Devnet is proceeding forward with integrating PROVAL data into their system and be a single source for the data.

Amy Gates made a motion and Reta Hoskin seconded to pay bills in the amount of $9,461.73. The motion passed.

Amy Gates made a motion and Reta Hoskin seconded to adjourn. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 5:39 p.m.

Reta Hoskin made a motion to approve the GIS/IT minutes. Amy Gates seconded. Voice vote 7-0. Minutes approved.

Agriculture Committee

Mark Sprague called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m on March 4th, 2021. Mark Mountain, John Birch, and Board Chairman Jim Sheppard were present. Visitors present were Donald Foster, Cindy Shaw, Greg Wyatt, Zack Boren, Nichole McDonald, Blake Roderick, Rita Hoskin, Debbie Lambeth, McKenzie Ballinger, Lynette Johns, Jean Hoover, Wongdrum P. Dongjan, Trevian Kutti, Gavin Risley, Mike Reed, Trudi Brummel, Brady Borrowman, Russ Koeller, and Dan Lundberg.

Jean Hoover gave a report from the Animal Control liaison subcommittee. They have seven volunteers now-one per day. No action was taken.

The Sny board, their administrative staff, and rep from Klinger were there to discuss sharing the expense of the drainage debasement updates that were necessary in 2019-20 to allow sny records to interact with Assessor’s office software. After must discussion, no action was taken.

The committee, with help of Greg Wyatt, Blake Roderick, and Zack Boren, put the final touches on the zoning ordinance update. All changes were approved on a motion by Mountain and second by Birch and sent on to the Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals for their approval.

Zack Boren presented the committee with a Draft Cannabis Ordinance. The committee reviewed it item by item, made some changes and filled in some blanks. This ordinance was approved on a motion by Mountain and a second by Birch.

Trevian Kutti addressed the committee regarding her company’s application for a Craft Grow License and zoning change request in Martisburg. We think her rezoning, the Cannabis Ordinance, and the changes to the Zoning Ordinance can all be handled at the same Zoning Board of Appeals public meeting.

The committee reviewed 33 applicants for Animal Control Warden position. There were many qualified people interested in the position. After much discussion, on a motion by Birch and second by Mountain, we approved 5 for further consideration. We set March 11 at 4:00 p.m. to meet again for interviews.

Meeting adjourned at 6:39 p.m. on a motion by Mountain and second by Birch.

Submitted by Mark Sprague.

Mark Mountain made a motion to approve the Agriculture Minutes. Rodger Hannel seconded. Voice vote 7-0. Minutes approved.

Agriculture Committee

The Agricultural Committee of the Pike County Board met on March 11th, 2021 at 4:00 p.m.

Members present were Mark Sprague, Mark Mountain, and John Birch. Jim Sheppard and Natalie Roseberry also attended.

Three of the five finalists for Animal Control Warden agreed to come in for interviews.

Committee discussion followed the interviews and an agreement was reached.

On a motion by Mountain and second by Birch, the Ag Committee recommends the whole board confirm McKenzie Ballinger as the replacement for Debbie Lambeth who is retiring as Animal Control Officer for Pike County.

Meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m. on a motion by Birch and a second by Mountain.

Rodger Hannel made a motion to approve the Ag committee report. Seconded by Mark Mountain Voice vote 7-0. Minutes approved.

Public Safety Meeting (special meeting)

The Public Safety meeting was called to order on 02/24/2021 at 6:30 p.m. at the Pike County Ambulance Building. Members present were Tom Lewis, Jim Sheppard, Derek Ross, and Amy Gates. Pike County employees present were Corey Anderson and Jenna McElfresh.

Motion by Amy Gates and seconded by Derek Ross to go into closed session pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2/C1 at 6:31 p.m. Motion approved.

Returned to regular meeting at 9:39 p.m.

A motion to adjourn was made by Amy Gates and seconded by Derek Ross. Motion passed and meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Amy Gates made a motion to approve the minutes. Mark Mountain seconded. Voice vote 7-0. Minutes approved.

Public Safety

The Public Safety meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m. at the Pike County Ambulance Building. Members present were Tom Lewis, Jim Sheppard, and Amy Gates. Absent was Derek Ross. Also present was several employees from the Pike County Ambulance Service and Lexi Damon from Illini Hospital.

Guest Tim Moen from Professional Billing Services. Tim came to Pike County to do documentation training for the crew earlier in the day. Tim also discussed with the committee about fee schedules, what we could bill for that is not being billed for at this tie to help with revenue. The committee discussed about raising fees and getting them more in line with surrounding ambulance services and set a policy to do yearly increases. The Ambulance Service has not increased rates in at least three years. This project will be one this that the New Ambulance Administrator will be taking on and bringing back to the committee and the full board for approval.

Lexi Damon stated she is on several committees at the hospital including Stroke and Code Blue. She would like to see someone from the ambulance service attend these meetings to keep everyone informed on what is going on at the hospital in these areas. She also stated that she would like to set up meetings with the new Ambulance Administrator after that person is hired. She is wanting to make sure that there is a good dialogue between the ambulance Service and Illini Hospital.

Corey Anderson also asked if we has looked into the pay scale that he had given the committee at last month meeting and was wondering if there was going to be anything done to try and get the salaries for Pike County Ambulance more competitive with surrounding Ambulance services. The committee stated that what was set up during contract negotiation would be what we would do at this time. It was stated by Tom that he would contact our Labor Attorney and discuss this with him.

A motion by Amy to pay bills in the amount of $206,360.17 and seconded by Tom. Motion passed.

A motion to go into closed session pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1) by Amy and seconded by Tom at 7:49 p.m. motion passed.

Returned to open session at 8:28 p.m.

Amy made a motion and seconded by Tom to have the full board hire Kasey Kendall as the new Pike County Ambulance Administrator with the base salary of $55,000.00. Motion passed.

Josh Martin was late to the meeting. The only update he had was the new ambulance should be delivered the week of the 22nd.

With no further business, Amy made a motion to adjourn and seconded by Tom. Motion passed and meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Rodger Hannel made a motion to Hire Kasey Kendall as the new Pike County Ambulance Administrator. Amy Gates seconded. Voice vote 7-0. Motion passed.

Rodger Hannel made a motion to approve the Public Safety minutes. Mark Mountain seconded. Voice vote 7-0. Motion passed.

ETSB

The Emergency Telephone Systems Board of Pike County met at 6:00 p.m. Monday, March 15, 2021 in the upstairs conference room of the Pike County Jail. Members present were: John Fesler, Tom Lewis, Sheriff David Greenwood, Jason White, Jim Sheppard, and 911 coordinator Stephanie Reinhardt.

The committee reviewed the contract with the city of Pittsfield relating to dispatch that the county board had approved. The board also took action pursuant to the ETSB bylaws that a member can be replaced if they have three straight absences. On a motion by Tom Lewis and a second by David Greenwood, it was determined that the position held by Mark Pulliam be declared vacant. Motion carried. Jim Sheppard informed the board that since the agreement with the city of Pittsfield gave them a representative on the board that he would appoint Michael Starman to fill the vacancy.

We next discussed the contract for the Pearl repeater. Due to a change in ownership of the property where the repeater is located, it had become necessary to update the terms of this contract on a motion by David Greenwood and a second by John Fessler. Motion carried.

The committee had a brief discussion about the WebGIS proposal and wanted to gather further information about what it would bring to 911. It will be discussed at our next meeting.

Next ETSB meeting will be June 14th, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 6:44 p.m. on a motion by Tom Lewis and a second by Jason White.

Derek Ross made a motion to approve the ETSB meeting minutes. Mark Sprague seconded. Voice vote 7-0. Motion passed.

1. New Business

County Clerk Natalie Roseberry informed the board about the recent CIC security breach and that they have been unable to use their system for two weeks.

1. Old Business

None

1. Chairman’s Remarks

None

1. Summary of Expenses for the Month/Mileage & Per Diem Report

Summary of expenses are unavailable and will be approved at the April meeting due to the CIC shutdown. Mark Sprague made a motion to approve the Mileage and Per Diem report. Derek Ross seconded. Voice vote 7-0.

1. Questions from Press and Visitors

Jim Filbert asked for clarification on our auditing firm’s name (WIPFLI). Mike Boren inquired about the courthouse construction that was evident in the courtroom.

1. Adjournment

Amy Gates made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Mark Mountain. Voice vote 7-0. Meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Pike County Clerk, Natalie Roseberry.

