# Pike County Board

# Meeting Minutes

November 28th, 2022

1. Call to order

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

1. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Dave Greenwood gave the invocation and Chairman Sheppard led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Roll Call

Chairman Sheppard asked Pike County Clerk, Natalie P. Roseberry, to call roll. Board members present were, Chairman Sheppard, Andy Borrowman, Amy Gates, Reta Hoskin, Tom Lewis, Mark Mountain, and Mark Sprague. Absent were board members John Birch and Derek Ross.

1. Approval of October 24th, 2022 Minutes

Mark Sprague made a motion to approve the October 24th, 2022 board minutes. Andy Borrowman Seconded. Voice vote 6-0. Minutes approved

1. Approval of 2023 Budget Hearing Minutes on 11-01-2022.

Tom Lewis made a motion to approve the minutes. Mark Sprague seconded. Voice vote 6-0. Motion approved.

1. Appointment of a Pike County Ethics Commission

Chairman Sheppard stated that he has brought this up a few times and that the Board has a duty to address a complain within 7 days of an ethics complaint filed. One was filed with the State’s Attorney and a committee needs to be formed. He recommended the Ethics Commission be made up of the same members of the Labor Committee. Mark Mountain made a motion to approve the Labor Committee to serve as the County’s Ethics Commission. Mark Sprague seconded. Voice vote 5-1. Reta Hoskin voting no. Motion approved.

1. Approval of 2022 Budget Amendments

Chairman Sheppard gave a summary of the current posted amendments. Mark Mountain made a motion to approve the 2022 Budget Amendments. Mark Sprague seconded. Roll Call vote. All in favor. Motion approved.

1. Approval of FY 2023 Tax Levy

Chairman Sheppard gave a summary of the FY 2023 Tax Levy. Andy Borrowman made a motion to approve Levy. Mark Mountain seconded. Voice vote 6-0. Tax Levy approved.

1. Approval of FY 2023 Tax Levy

Chairman Sheppard gave a summary of the changes to the FY 2023 proposed budget. He stated he didn’t apply the County Clerk special funds to reduce the general fund salary liability. County Clerk Natalie Roseberry stated the original budget she sent to board members was correct. Chairman Sheppard also discussed the change in the Sheriff’s Department budget due to the agreement to the FOP negotiating contract. State’s Attorney stated the Appellate Prosecutor’s office has changed their charge from 8,000 to 7,000.

Reta Hoskin brought up the County Clerk Budget and much discussion was had over special funds and salaries. No suggestions were made to amend the budget as proposed.

Tom Lewis made a motion to approve the budget for FY 2023. Mark Sprague seconded. Voice vote 4-2. Reta Hoskin and Mark Mountain voting no. Budget passed.

1. Approval of Scott Kendrick to the New Canton Cemetery Association for a term ending on January 31st, 2025.

Amy Gates made a motion to approve the appointment. Tom Lewis seconded. Voice vote 6-0. Appointment passed.

1. Consideration of updated Accommodations Tax Ordinance

Tom Lewis made a motion to extend the Sunset Clause to April of 2023 and have the Economic Development reevaluate. Second by Reta Hoskin. Voice vote 5-0. Mark Sprague abstaining. Motion passed.

1. Update on Animal Control Memorial Fund

Chairman Sheppard stated that this would be discussed as the next Agriculture meeting.

1. Approval of fraternal Order of Police Contract

Chairman Sheppard stated that there was no signed contract at this time.

1. Committee Reports

Finance

Meeting was called to order at 5:39p.m. Committee Members prese nt were Andy Borrowman and Reta Hoskin. Jim, Sheppard, Board Chairman, was also present. Committee member Amy Gates was absent. Also present were Scott Syrcle, County Treasurer; Bryce Gleckler, Circuit Clerk; Walker Filbert, Public Defender; Don Foster, Shellie Brennecke, Dawn Lehr and Kerri Rodhouse with the Treasurer’s Office, and Angie Gratton from the State’s Attorney’s Office.

The Committee reviewed and approved monthly bills totaling $87,758.34. The motion to approve was made by Andy Borrowman and seconded by Reta Hoskin. All approved. Scott reported the General Fund balance was $779,342.31.

Under Old business, the Committee discussed the following:

 Audit: Jim reported that there had not been any success in securing a new auditor.

 Payroll:

A team is trying not fix the IMRF problems from October, but there was not an update available as of the meeting.

Scott reminded everyone that monthly data must be entered into CIC by November 30th or it will have to be entered in lump sums under a 13th period.

Under New Business, Jim reported that the committee should expect to receive a large bill on an air evacuation for a prisoner from the Sheriff’s Office. The amount is around $55,000. Reta suggested asking Representative Davidsmeyer’s Office for help in seeking Medicaid to pay the bill. This issue will be explored further.

Under public comments, the following issues were raised:

Walker Filbert asked for reconsideration of the proposed budget for the Public Defender’s Office for 2023. Jim indicated he will review the material presented by Walker and consider possible adjustments prior to the next full Board meeting.

Bryce requested an increase in the stipend for the three individuals who process passport applications. It was reported that all offices were polled in 2011, and none of the other offices were willing to take the duties due to the increased workload. The stipends began at $800 and were increased to $1000 in the past. Bryce indicated that, prior to the covid restrictions, his office was processing 110 to 120 applications per year. About 90 were processed in 2021, and we are over 90 so far in 2022. After discussion, Andy made a motion that the Committee forward a recommendation to the full Board that it consider an increase in the stipends to $1200 each of the three individuals in the 2023 budget. Reta seconded the motion. Motion approved.

County employees at the meeting raised concerns about the proposed 2023 budget for the County Clerk’s Office. These concerns included:

1. Kerri Rodhouse provided figures that stated the 2022 budget for the County Clerk’s salaries was $151,720.00 and that spending for salaries as of the November 10th payroll was $166,016.48 putting the Clerk’s Office at $14,296.48 over budget in salaries thus far this year. The 2023 budget appears to include $207,970.00 for salaries, but it seems it should be $151,720.00 (the 2022 budgeted level) + $5000 ($1000 raise for 5 employees as discussed by the Board) totaling $156,720.00.
2. Apparently two stipends were implemented by the County Clerk that were not approved by the Board.
3. A part-time employee was hired by the Clerk’s Office. What is the future of this position? Additional Headcount has not been approved by the Board.
4. Based on the data provided by Kerri Rodhouse, Reta voiced concerns about the amount of overtime being paid for under the Clerk’s Office and wondered about the other offices usage.

Shelly Brennecke asked whether the County Clerk had responded to the concerns about the purchase of an ad in the Muddy River News prior to the election. No one at the meeting was aware of any response.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:46 p.m. Motion made by Andy and seconded by Reta. All approved.

Minutes submitted by Reta Hoskin.

Charlie Ward was added to the list of attendees. Clerk Roseberry stated that the board doesn’t approve the office personnel, stipends, or salaries. She also stated that there was no proof of the numbers that were discussed, only handwritten notes. Clerk Roseberry will provide reports proving the information incorrect at the next finance meeting addressing overtime and employees.

Discussion was had regarding the FT/PT status of the current Public Defender and the salary.

Tom Lewis made a motion to increase the stipends for the passport agents in the Circuit Clerk’s Office to $1200 annually up from $1000. Mark Mountain seconded. Voice vote 6-0. Motion approved.

Andy Borrowman made a motion to approve the finance committee minutes. Mark Sprague seconded. Voice vote 6-0. Minutes approved.

Highway

The Road and Bridge committee met Wednesday, November 16, 2022 at 4:00 p.m. at the Highway Department facility located at 39643 260th Ave, Pittsfield, IL 62363. The meeting was called to order at 4:36 p.m.

Members present Reta Hoskin, Mark Sprague, and Jim Sheppard. John Birch was absent. Chris Johnson and Don Foster were also present.

Correction to October 19, 2022 Meeting Minutes: A motion was made by Mark Sprague, seconded by Reta Hoskin, to make a correction to the October 19th, 2022 meeting minutes regarding the 2022-02 Half Aid to Bridge Project as follows:

 2022-02 Montezuma Township-Project consisted of replacing a box culvert on 166th Ave Total cost of $13,246.71 which was paid by Montezuma Township the sum of $6,623.36. All in favor, Motion carried.

Payment of Claims: A motion was made by Mark Sprague, seconded by Reta Hoskin to pay claims per claim reports dated November 16, 2022. All in favor, Motion carried.

2023 Salary Increases. A motion was made by Mark Sprague, seconded by Reta Hoskin to approve a 6% salary increase effective December 1, 2022 for Highway Department employees subject to full board approval. All in favor, motion carried.

No Half Aid to Bridge.

2023 County Engineer Salary. A motion was made by Mark Sprague, seconded by Reta Hoskin to increase the County Engineer salary by 4% for the year 2023 to the sum of $111,404.80, subject to full board approval, and to execute the appropriate resolution and agreement as required by the Illinois Department of Transportation. All in favor. Motion carried.

2023 County and Township Motor Fuel Tax Programs. A motion was made by Mark Sprague, seconded by Reta Hoskin to approve the 2023 County Motor Fuel Tax program in the sum of $510,925.00 and to execute the appropriate resolutions as required by the Illinois Department of Transportation. All in Favor. Motion carried.

Old Business. The Architectural Services Agreement regarding the new building for the USDA loan was tabled until next month.

Adjournment. A motion was made by Mark Sprague, seconded by Reta Hoskin to adjourn the meeting at 5:21 p.m. All in favor. Motion carried.

Minutes Submitted by Brenda Despain.

Mark Mountain made a motion to approve the Resolution for Maintenance for 23-00000-GM. Mark Sprague seconded. Voice vote 6-0. Motion approved.

Andy Borrowman made a motion to approve the resolution setting the County Engineer’s salary increase. Reta Hoskin seconded. Voice vote 5-1. Tom Lewis voting no. Motion approved.

Mark Mountain made a motion to approve the Highway Department minutes. Mark Sprague seconded. Voice vote 6-0. Minutes approved.

Building and Grounds

The monthly meeting of the Pike County Building and Grounds Committee was called to order at 3:07 p.m on 11-16-2022. Members present were Mark Mountain, Mark Sprague, and Jim Sheppard.

A motion was made by Mark Mountain and seconded by Tom Lewis pay bills in the amount of $7573.62.

Judge McCartney and joe Petty talked to us about the ongoing project to rehab 2nd floor of the Courthouse. They reported the Court System Fund has upwards of $100K available to use for this. Joe is putting together a phased bid package for distribution to contractors. The committee consensus was to move forward with the bidding process.

Sheriff got back to committee with bids for the columns on the Jail Porch of $2690.00 and the foundation repairs to stop rainwater from pouring into the girls’ locker room for $5100 + 15%. These repairs were approved subject to full board approval on a motion by Lewis and second by Mountain.

Meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m. on a motion by Lewis and second by Mountain.

Minutes submitted by Mark Sprague

Mark Sprague made a motion to approve the repairs to the jail. Amy Gates seconded. Voice vote 6-0. Motion approved.

Mark Mountain made a motion to approve the Building and Grounds minutes. Andy Borrowman seconded. Voice vote 6-0. Minutes approved.

GIS/IT

The GIS/IT Committee was called to order at 5:36 pm on November 17th, 2022. Those in attendance were committee members Derek Ross and Reta Hoskin. Also in attendance were Dan Brennecke, Brenda DeSpain, and other guests.

Under Old business: Courthouse Wiring: Mike Devine finished the wiring in the courthouse everything appears to be fine. IT Vendors: Reta Hoskin made a motion and Derek Ross seconded to recommend to the full board to switch the County’s IT vendor from GFI to Tigethawk Technologies effective January 1st, 2023. The motion passed.

County Internet Backup: Many individuals and businesses recently experienced internet disruption due to a Casscom line being cut. This event again brought attention to why having an internet back-up provider available to the County is a good idea. There were some technical difficulties uncovered during the committee’sdiscussion, but Brenda will be reaching out to available internet providers and the committee will continue to address the issue and hopefully have a resolution in the coming months.

Motion to pay bills in the amount of $21,880.01 was made by Reta Hoskin and seconded by Derek Ross. The motion passed.

Reta Hoskin made a motion and seconded by Derek Ross to adjourn. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 7:29 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Derek Ross.

Tom Lewis made a motion to approve the GIS minutes. Andy Borrowman seconded. Voice vote 6-0. Minutes approved.

Derek Ross stated that we will be switching our IT vendor from GFI to Tigerhawk. State’s Attorney Zack Boren will issue a letter to terminate the GFI agreement and the new vendor will be picking up the lease for the purchased equipment.

Public Safety

No meeting of the Public Safety Committee due to lack of quorum. Mark Sprague made a motion to pay $39,506.48 in claims. Mark Mountain seconded. Voice vote 6-0. Motion approved.

Reta Hoskin made a motion to increase the salary for the Ambulance Administrator from $60,000 to $65,000. Andy Borrowman seconded. Voice vote 6-0. Motion approved.

Andy Borrowman made a motion to approve purchase of a side by side for $35,805 with a 8% gov’t discount. Amy Gates seconded. Voice vote 6-0. Motion approved.

Labor 11-01-2022

Labor Committee met on November 1, 2022 to negotiate contracts with the FOP and Ambulance. Those present for Pike County were Andy Borrowman, Tom Lewis, Board Chairman Jim Sheppard, Labor Attorney Rhett Barke and Sheriff Greenwood and Kasey Kendall to help on their respective contracts. Absent was Mark Mountain.

Negotiations started with the FOP until 11:20 then went to Ambulance contract. We then would discuss options back and forth between both unions until we agreed to terms with the FOP and set another date with the Ambulance Union Representative Kevin Broamer.

Meeting concluded at 3:00 p.m.

 Negotiations will continue with Ambulance Union on November 17, 9 am

Minutes submitted by Andy Borrowman.

Tom Lewis made a motion to approve the minutes. Mark Mountain seconded. Voice vote 6-0. Minutes approved.

**Labor 11-17-2022**

The labor Committee met in the EOC room at the Sheriff’s office to negotiate the Ambulance Union contract at 9am.

Present for Pike County was Andy Borrowman, Mark Mountain, Tom Lewis and Board Chairman Jim Shepard. Also present was ambulance Administrator Kasey Kendall and Labor Attorney Rhett Barke.

Present for the union was Union Rep Kevin Broemer and Ambulance personnel Marcus Rush and Brandon Riley.

Negotiations went back and forth with economic and non-economic issues until an agreement was reached. Once contact is typed up and both sides can look at final draft each side will have an opportunity to vote to approve.

Negotiations completed at 2 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Andy Borrowman.

Tom Lewis made a motion to approve the minutes as read. Andy Borrowman seconded. Voice vote 6-0. Minutes approved.

Ag 11-16-2022

The ag committee was called to order at 2:04 p.m. by Chairman Mark Sprague.

Members in attendance were Mark Mountain, Mark Sprague, and board chair Jim Sheppard. John Birch was absent.

Also present were Zack Boren, McKenzie Ballinger, Mayci Smith from Animal Control, and Don Foster.

Zack Boren reported on the wind farm progress. He has been working with Greg Wyatt on this. The current proposal is for a 54MW project. The permit issued in 2017 has language “up to 50MW.” This will have to be addressed in the new permit proof. Windmill technology has progressed since 2017 to the point where the current owners (Illinois Wind and Greenbacker Capital) are proposing less windmills with more output.

Under old business, a UTV Ordinance for the county was discussed. Committee Consensus was to move forward with the information gathering phase of this project.

At 2:34 p.m. the committee went into closed session pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)1.

At 3:04 p.m. the committee came out of Closed session.

The committee agreed to hold an emergency meeting of the AG Committee on Friday Nov. 18, 2022 at 1:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 3:06 p.m. on amotion by Mountain and second by Sprague.

Minutes submitted by Mark Sprague.

Andy Borrowman made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Tom Lewis seconded. Voice vote 6-0. Minutes approved.

Ag 11-18-2022

The Ag meeting was called to order at 1:06 p.m. Members present were Mark Sprague, Mark Mountain, and Jim Sheppard. John Birch was absent.

Others present were Scott Syrcle, McKenzie Ballinger, Maci Smith from Animal Control, Sheriff Dave Greenwood, Don Foster, and Natalie Roseberry.

Scot reported on the Memorials. They have been going to Rabies and General Funds at this point. Now a specific fund has been started for Memorials.

At 1:08 p.m., the committee went into closed session pursuant to 5 ILCS 20/2(c)1. At 2:07 the committee came out of closed session.

After the closed session, the committee accepted the resignation of Animal Control Warden McKenzie Ballinger.

On a motion by Mountain and a second by Sprague, the committee approved sending Heather and Lotus from Animal Control to a training meeting in Peoria on December 3rd, 2022.

On a motion by Mountain, and a second by Sprague, the committee approved sending Heather and Lotus from Animal Control to a training meeting in Peoria on December 3rd.

On a motion by Mountain and a second by Sprague, the committee approved the appointment of Lotus Lawless as interim Animal Control Warden.

Meeting adjourned at 2:20 p.m. on a motion by Mountain and second by Sprague.

Minutes submitted by Mark Sprague.

Tom Lewis made a motion to approve the minutes as read. Andy Borrowman seconded. Voice vote 6-0. Minutes approved.

New Business

The Organization meeting for the Pike County Board is set for Monday, December 5th, 2022, at 5:00 pm. in the lower courtroom.

1. Old Business

None

1. Chairman’s Remarks

Chairman Jim Sheppard thanked outgoing board member Amy Gates for her service. He stated he has enjoyed his time as chairman but would not seek another appointment. Chairman Sheppard also brough up his concerns over payroll submissions and the confusing way each various department head submits their payroll, as well as the timeliness of their submissions.

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

Andy Borrowman made a motion to approve and Amy Gates seconded. Voice vote 6-0. Motion approved

1. Closed session pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1), Appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees.

Closed session entered into at 9:24 p.m.

Closed session exited at 9:48

1. Questions from Press and Visitors

Kerri Rodhouse stated she provided information to member Reta Hoskin from payroll reports. Clerk Roseberry stated she didn’t provide correct information. Pike County Highway Engineer stated they have set the December dump day and that going forward, all days will not coincide with any county festivals.

1. Adjournment

Motion made by Amy Gates and seconded by Andy Borrowman to adjourn meeting at 9:49 p.m. Voice vote 6-0. Meeting adjourned.

Minutes submitted by Natalie P. Roseberry



