

MINUTES OF THE MCDONOUGH COUNTY BOARD
April 19, 2017

The monthly meeting of the McDonough County Board was held at the McDonough County Courthouse at 7:00 p.m. roll call resulted in 21 present. Chief Deputy Petitgout made the opening declaration. Board Member Sims led the Pledge of Allegiance.

EXHIBIT 1

Chairman Schwerer introduced Kenny Boyd, CEO of McDonough District Hospital to discuss EMS at MDH. He gave an update on the hospital evaluating privatizing ambulance service. This was evaluated in 2015 and being done again. They are evaluating any services that are not considered CORE services. With Medicare reduction and the State of Illinois budget crisis they are looking to cut non-core services. Currently the State owes MDH 18 million dollars. They have four options: 1. Continue as is (\$ 200,000 loss last year) which really is not an option. 2. Give EMS back to the County to run. 3. Levy a tax. 4. Privatize ambulance service.

He explained the process being used to look at privatization. The EMS staff is met with every other Monday. There are 3 companies they are talking with. AMT (Peoria Illinois based), Lifeguard (Florida/Alabama based) sister company to Air Evac (placing helicopter base at MDH), Midwest Transport (Omaha based) currently providing non-emergency transport for MDH. They would like to have a decision by the fiscal year end June 30, 2017 and look for a 90 day implementation.

Discussion was held on how privatizing would consider if service is operating at a loss, billing for services, the new ambulance space at MDH and leasing, cost to operate, effect on other EMS (fire departments), current employees, length of agreement and opinion/effect for County residents.

Charlie Swift and Brian Stadter, MDH EMS employees, presented information on formation of a McDonough County EMS Association similar to what is in Hancock & Fulton counties. They would suggest a sales tax as opposed to a property tax increase to fund the service with billing efficiencies. 2018 would be the soonest a tax question could be put on a ballot.

Finance Chairman Henry addressed the group stating that in the uncertain State budget funding for the County and overall revenue reduction, we really are not in a position to take on any additional service.

EXHIBIT 2

Board Member Toland moved with second by Board Member Jefferson to approve the minutes of March 15, 2017. Motion carried with a voice vote.

EXHIBIT 3

The report from Public Defender, Nigel Graham for the month of March 2017 was received and filed. Chairman Schwerer stated cases were 833 at beginning of the month and 804 at the end of the month.

EXHIBIT 4

The report of Sales Tax collected in January 2017 was received and filed. The downward trend continued into January.

EXHIBIT 5

The report of Balances and Investments from County Treasurer Graves was received and filed.

EXHIBIT 6

The report of Circuit Clerk Wilson for the month of March 2017 was received and filed.

EXHIBIT 7

The report from County Clerk DeJaynes on Warrants Issued in Vacation was received and filed.

EXHIBIT 8

The Transfer of Appropriations of Monies was referred to the Finance Committee. Chairman Henry reported a transfer of \$200,000 from the Insurance Clearing Fund to the Mutual Medical Payment Fund to cover expenditures for the employees' health insurance plan.

EXHIBIT 9

Board Member Aurelio moved to approve the report of the Finance Committee as read with Board Member Toland seconding the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote of 20 yes and one pass as **Exhibit 9A**.

EXHIBIT 10

Board Member Toland moved with Board Member Marcott seconding to dispense with the reading of the claims report and to approve it as approved by the Claims committee. Motion carried with a roll call vote of 20 yes and one pass as **Exhibit 10A**.

EXHIBIT 11

Board Member Oster moved with Board Member Aurelio seconding to approve Appointment of Marcia Twaddle to replace George Dixon on the Tri-County Resource and Waste Management Board. Motion carried with a voice vote. Chairman Schwerer thanked George for his service on that Board.

EXHIBIT 12

Board Member McGrew moved with Board Member Mahr seconding to approve Re-appointment of Lee Worthington to a 3 Year Term as Trustee of Bushnell Fire Protection District. Motion carried with a voice vote.

EXHIBIT 13

Board Member Henry moved with Board Member Dixon seconding to approve Ordinance Establishing a Travel Reimbursement Policy. Motion carried with a roll call vote of 20 yes and one pass as **Exhibit 13A**.

EXHIBIT 14

Board Member Cox moved with Board Member Nissen seconding to approve Intergovernmental Agreement for Seal Coating South Townships. Motion carried with a roll call vote of 20 yes and one pass as **Exhibit 14A**.

EXHIBIT 15

Board Member McGrew moved with Board Member Shouse seconding to approve Intergovernmental Agreement for Seal Coating North Townships. Motion carried with a roll call vote of 20 yes and one pass as **Exhibit 15A**.

EXHIBIT 16

Board Member Marcott moved with Board Member McGrew seconding to approve Ordinance for the Establishment of an Altered Speed Zone. Motion carried with a roll call vote of 20 yes and one pass as **Exhibit 16A**.

Other

A post trial motion has been made to extend our appeal until May 15th in the recent case settlement.

Groundwater testing kits will be available May 8th, 9th & 10th.

We are currently advertising for a County Engineer to replace retiring Engineer Tom Hickman. He will retire at the end of August.

The Health Department is working on a Household Hazardous Waste pick up for June or July- more details to follow.

Chairman Schwerer read a resignation letter effective 5-31-17 from Member Shouse who will be moving to Minnesota.

Chairman Schwerer entertained a motion that Days and Miles are checked, Roll be called and the Board adjourn until Wednesday, May 17, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. Board Member Oster made the motion which was seconded by Board Member Aurelio. Motion carried with a roll call vote of 21 ayes. With no further business to discuss the meeting adjourned at 8:18 p.m. Chief Deputy Petitgout gave the closing declaration.