

**FORD COUNTY BOARD MINUTES**  
**February 14, 2011**

**A. CALL TO ORDER:**

The County Board of Ford County met pursuant to adjournment in the Ford County Board Room of the Ford County Jail in Paxton on Monday, February 14, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was called to order by County Board Chairman, Rick Bowen.

**B. ROLL CALL:**

The roll call showed the following board members in attendance: Bob Lindgren, Tom McQuinn, Pat Haskins, Randy Ferguson, Richard Hewardine Randy Berger, Gene May, Floyd Otto, Tim Nuss, Elynor Stagen and Rick Bowen.

**C. PROCLAMATION:**  
Doran

Sheriff

**D. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG AND INVOCATION:**  
Otto

Floyd

**E. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Mr. Berger moved that the January 10, 2011 minutes be approved. Mr. Otto seconded the motion.  
Carried

Voice Vote -

**F. COMMUNICATIONS:**

**G. COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR:**

**H. DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:**

Mr. Otto moved to accept the monthly reports of the County Clerk, Coroner, Supervisor of Assessments, Zoning, Sheriff, and Highway and to place them on file. Mrs. Haskins seconded it.  
Voice Vote – Carried

**I. REPORT OF PROBATION OFFICER:**

Mrs. Morris reported that she has changed to a new data base which is working out very nicely. Her report has a new look. She explained that \$109,303 was taken out of her probation fund and placed in the general fund. She had the \$109,303 placed back in her fund. Approval of \$79,549.23 was granted from the chief judge to be disbursed to the county fund for salaries from the probation fund disbursed. She talked about the proposed study to remodel the probation area in the courthouse basement. She asked if there would

be restrooms included in the proposal. Restrooms would be looked into.

**J. REPORT OF CIRCUIT CLERK:**

Mrs. Evans reported about funds taken in.

**K. REPORT OF THE TREASURER:**

Treasurer Hastings explained the new design for the Treasurers Report which she hoped was easier to understand. She passed out informational sheets in regard to the new procedures for dog tags in Ford County. New charges will be \$10.00 for 1 year tag and \$25 for 3 year tag.

Mrs. Stagen moved to approve the Probation, Circuit Clerk and Treasurers reports and to place them on file. Mr. Otto seconded it. Voice Vote – Carried

**L. OPPORTUNITY FOR DEPARTMENT HEADS TO ADDRESS BOARD:**

Candice Short, Supervisor of Assessments, reported that she is continuing to receive re-imbursements from the IDOT Grant. She also reported that she will be ordering 100 more plat books, since she only has 33 books remaining.

Dennis Higgins received the EMS accreditation certificate. He is working on receiving public assistance funds to help with the snow storm expense.

**M. CHAIRMAN REPORT:**

Mr. Bowen reported that the Extension has asked that Dave Hastings continue to sit on their existing board. The board okayed that request. Bowen said that he has received two applications for filling the vacant board position in district 1. They are Rod Steiger and Jason Johnson. Bowen has consulted with the Republican precinct committeeman Chairman, Eric Thompson whose committee will recommend an applicant to the Ford County Board. The position will be filled at the March 14, board meeting.

Bowen attended windfarm meetings for the E.On project.

**N. VERBAL COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**1. Environment**

**2. Finance**

Mrs. Stagen moved to approve payment of the General Fund bills.

Mr. Berger seconded it.

Roll Call - Unanimous

The board will go into Executive Session to discuss the pay of the chief deputy Treasurer.

**3. Highway**

Mr. Otto moved to approve payment of the Highway bills. Mr. Lindgren seconded the motion. Roll Call – Unanimous

The bid letting will be held Wednesday, February 23, at the Highway Department.

**4. Insurance /Personnel**

**5. Overview/Legislation**

The old jail building was toured by some interested people.

**6. Sheriff**

Mrs. Haskins moved to approve payment of the Sheriff, County Housing ESDA & Coroner bills. Mr. McQuinn seconded the motion,

Roll Call –

Unanimous

**7. APPROVAL OF COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES:**

Mr. Berger moved that the written and verbal reports of the committees be accepted

as presented and placed on file. Mr. McQuinn seconded the motion.

Voice Vote -

Carried

**O. SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS:**

- |          |  |             |
|----------|--|-------------|
| Doran    | 1. Mobile Region 8   | Sheriff     |
|          | Our county will host all day training for law updates on Thursday.                               |             |
| Haskins  | 2. Union Affairs   | Mrs.        |
|          | Waiting to have all signatures on the FOP Contract   |             |
| Berger   | 3. Eastern Illinois Economic Development Authority   | Mrs. Stagen |
|          | 4. 708 Board   | Mr.         |
| Bowen    | 5. WIA   | Mr.         |
|          | Ford County's unemployment is below average (9.1)  |             |
|          | 6 Ford-Iroquois Board of Health  | Mrs. Stagen |
| Bowen    | 7. Regional Office of Education  | Mr.         |
|          | Struggling with state reimbursements. Explained their school program to help with social skills. |             |
| Ferguson | 8. Community Economic Development Foundation   | Mr.         |

- |          |   |             |
|----------|---|-------------|
| Hastings | 9. 9-1-1                                      | Mr.         |
|          | Discussed the upcoming agreement with Verizon |             |
|          | 10. I.H.R. & CD                               | Mr. Bowen   |
|          | 11. Zoning                                    |             |
| Bowen    | 12. CIRMA                                     | Mr.         |
|          | 13. Extension                                 |             |
|          | 14. E.M. A.                                   | Mr. Higgins |

**P. OLD BUSINESS:**

None

**Q. QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS**

**R. NEW BUSINESS:**

Mr. Bowen said that he was supposed to have received a telephone call today in regard to ECO Engineering Manufacturing. Since he did not receive the phone call, he does not have any information to provide the board. He said that the company is proposing 2 sites. A host agreement is being worked on and we will eventually have some information to offer.

**S. EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Mr. Bowen moved to go into Executive Session pursuant to 5ILCS 120/2(c)(2) in regard to hiring a chief deputy in the Treasurers office. Mr. McQuinn seconded it. Mr. Bowen requested all board members, Treasurer Hastings and Clerk Kellerhals to attend. Unanimous

Roll Call -

Went into Executive Session at 8:00 P.M.

Went out of Executive Session at 8:25 P.M.

Mr. Ferguson moved to allow Treasurer Hastings to offer the chief deputy position to a past employee at \$10.85 per hour (starting at the 4 year longevity level). Vacation pay will start as a new hire and the probation will be a 6 month probation period. In the event of refusal, a person will be hired at beginning entry level. Mr. Berger seconded it. Unanimous

Roll Call -

**T. ADJOURNMENT:**

Mr. Otto moved to adjourn; Mr. McQuinn seconded the motion. The meeting ended at 8:54 P.M.

**The next monthly meeting will be Monday, March 14, 2011 at 7:00 P.M.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Kellerhals  
County Clerk