

**FORD COUNTY BOARD MINUTES
NOVEMBER 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, November 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, Pat Haskins, Tom McQuinn, Jason Johnson, Richard Hewerdine, Gene May, Randy Berger, Floyd Otto, Tim Nuss, Elynor Stagen and Rick Bowen. Randy Ferguson was absent.

C. PROCLAMATION:

Sheriff Doran

D. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG AND INVOCATION:

Floyd Otto

E. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mrs. Haskins moved that the October 10, 2011 minutes be approved. Mr. Berger seconded it. Voice Vote –Carried

F. COMMUNICATIONS:

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G. COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR:

Ann Ihrke expressed her concern in regard to adopting stricter regulations for wind farms. She said that the wind farm zoning ordinance needs to be updated to address safety concerns in regard to set backs which are only 1,000 feet from a home and according to Vesta (a major manufacturer of wind turbines), the setback should be at least 1300 feet from any residences. She said that the board is only concerned about the revenue of the turbines and not the safety of the public.

Cindy Ihrke stated that she supports everything that Ann Ihrke said.

H. DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

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

I. REPORT OF PROBATION OFFICER:

Mrs. Morris stated that she did not receive the grant that she had applied for the mandated drug court program. She has received some donations which has helped to get the program started. Their temporary office is working out fine. The tentative date for their new office to be completed is February 9, 2012.

J. REPORT OF CIRCUIT CLERK:

Mrs. Evans reported that October was a very busy month for their office. The new skype system for the order of protection is working out nicely.

K. REPORT OF THE TREASURER:

Treasurer Hastings reported that she has hired Maureen Evans as her permanent part-time employee. She attended the treasurers symposium. She announced that the next farm lease payment will be due on March 1, 2012.

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

L. OPPORTUNITY FOR DEPARTMENT HEADS TO ADDRESS BOARD:

M. CHAIRMAN REPORT:

N. VERBAL COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Environment

2. Finance

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

Mr. McQuinn seconded it. Roll Call - Unanimous

Mrs. Stagen moved to **adopt Ordinance 11-62 (the 2011-12 proposed budget).**

Mrs. Haskins seconded it. Roll Call – Unanimous

Mrs. Stagen moved to **present the 2011-2012 Levy Ordinance** which shall be voted on next month. Mrs. Haskins seconded it. Voice Vote - Carried

Mrs. Stagen moved to **adopt Resolution 11-63 (Salary increases for the Probation Department).** Mr. Otto seconded it. Roll Call - Unanimous

Mrs. Stagen moved to **adopt Resolution 11-64 (Amending Circuit Clerk Salary).**

Mr. May seconded it. Roll Call – 10 yeas; 1 abstention
Mr. Nuss abstained

Mrs. Stagen moved to **adopt Resolution 11-65 (increasing salaries for Supervisor of Assessments, Sheriff Administrator, and Employee hourly wage).** Mr.

McQuinn seconded it. Roll Call – Unanimous

Mrs. Stagen moved to **adopt Resolution 11-66 (reappointing Assistant State’s Attorney position).** Mr. Otto seconded it. Roll Call – Unanimous

Mrs. Stagen moved to **adopt Resolution 11-67 (agreement lease with Public Building Commission to cover expenses and maintenance concerning the Ford County Courthouse).** Mr. Johnson seconded it. Roll Call – Unanimous

3. Highway

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

The Elliott Bridge Road from 700N – 800N Rd, will be closed until May.

4. Insurance/Personnel

Mr. McQuinn moved to **adopt Resolution 11-68 (Board Meeting Schedule)**. Mrs. Haskins seconded it. Voice Vote - Carried

Mr. McQuinn moved to **adopt Resolution 11-69 (Holiday Schedule)**. Mr. Johnson seconded it. Voice Vote – Carried

5. Overview/Legislation

Mr. Otto said that the cost for remodeling the basement will be \$171,178.

6. Sheriff

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

Mrs. Haskins moved to **approve the Contracts for County Law Enforcement Services which include the Village of Roberts, Village of Piper City and the Village of Melvin;** and to approve **Contracts for County Alarm System Services with Farmers-Merchants National Bank, Farmers-Merchants Bank of Melvin, First National Bank Plaza and the First National Bank;** and also **approved the agreement regarding Emergency Dispatching with 9-1-1 and Ford County.** Mr. Lindgren seconded it. Roll Call – Unanimous

The board felt that the cost of a teleconferencing system for residents and board members who are unable to attend a board meeting, was cost prohibitive.

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. Mrs. Stagen seconded the motion. Voice Vote - Carried

O. SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS:

1. Mobile Region 8 Sheriff Doran
Sheriff Doran said that there are personnel issues with the director & Asst. Director which needs to get resolved.
2. Union Affairs Mrs. Haskins
Next meeting is December 19, at 3:00 p.m.
3. Eastern Illinois Economic Development Authority Mrs. Stagen
4. 708 Board Mr. Berger
Meets tomorrow
5. WIA Mr. Bowen
Meets Thursday, November 17

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| 6. Ford-Iroquois Board of Health | Mrs. Stagen |
| 7. Regional Office of Education | Mr. Bowen |
| 8. Community Economic Development Foundation | Mr. Ferguson |
| 9. 9-1-1 | Mr. Johnson |
| 10. I.H.R. & CD | Mr. Bowen |
| 11. Zoning | Mr. Johnson |
| 12. CIRMA | Mr. Bowen |
| 13. Extension | Mr. Johnson |
| 14. E.M. A. | Mr. Higgins |

P. OLD BUSINESS:

Q. QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

R. NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. McQuinn moved to **adopt Resolution 11-70 (Resolution re-appointing Zoning Officer)**. Mr. Berger seconded it. Roll Call – Unanimous

Mr. Otto moved to **adopt Resolution 11-71 (rezoning properties at Gibson City from B-1 to R-1)**. Mr. Johnson seconded it. Voice Vote - Carried
Mr. Bowen abstained

Mrs. Stagen announced that the annual Christmas employee dinner will be held on Friday, December 9, at 12:00 noon.

S. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

T. ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Otto moved to adjourn; Mr. McQuinn seconded the motion. The meeting ended at 8:05 P.M.

PROCLAMATION

Sheriff Doran

The next monthly meeting will be Monday, December 12, 2011 at 7:00 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Kellerhals
County Clerk

Approved: _____

