

**FORD COUNTY BOARD MINUTES  
DECEMBER 11, 2023**

**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, December 11, 2023 at 7:00 P.M. The meeting was called to order by Ford County Sheriff, Chad Johnson.

**B. ROLL CALL:**

The roll call showed the following board members in attendance: Sarah Mussman, Chase McCall, Carson Vaughn, Randy Ferguson, Lesley King, Tom McQuinn, Ann Ihrke, Tim Nuss, Vice Chairman Cindy Ihrke & Chairman Smith. Mr. May and Mr. Aubry were not in attendance.

**C. PROCLAMATION:**

Sheriff Chad Johnson

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

Chairman Debbie Smith

**E. APPROVAL OF THE BOARD AGENDA:**

- Mrs. King made the motion to amend the agenda by removing Discussion/Possible action on Ford Co/Ford Co Sheriff & IL Labor Council under VII. Sheriff and then to approve the revised Agenda. Mrs. C. Ihrke seconded it.

Voice Vote - Carried

**F. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

- Mr. Nuss moved to approve the November 13, 2023 Minutes. Mrs. A. Ihrke seconded it.

Voice Vote - Carried

**G. COMMUNICATIONS:**

**H. COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR:**

- Greg N. - spoke briefly on possible issues with entering the farmland into CRP.
- Dallas G. - spoke on detailed maps of the Ford Co. farms and about how the farms are averaging a lower than average bushel per acre.
- Gina G. & Tammy B. - spoke on what they offer through Clove Alliance for abuse victims.
- Ashley L. - from Worknet went through different services she has to offer to the public.

**I. OPPORTUNITY FOR OTHER ELECTED OFFICIALS/DEPT. HEADS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD:**

**J. APPROVAL OF ALL SUBMITTED ELECTED OFFICIAL/DEPT. HEAD REPORTS:**

- Mr. McCall made the motion to accept all submitted Elected Official/Dept. Head Reports. Mr. Vaughn seconded it.

Voice Vote - Carried

**K. VERBAL COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**I. ENVIRONMENT/SAFETY COMMITTEE:**

**II. FINANCE COMMITTEE:**

- Mr. Ferguson moved to **approve all Finance claims recommended from the Finance Committee.**  
Mrs. A. Ihrke seconded. Roll Call - Unanimous
- Mr. Ferguson moved to **approve all ARPA claims recommended from the Finance Committee.**  
Mrs. A. Ihrke seconded. Roll Call - Unanimous
- Mrs. C. Ihrke made the motion to **adopt Resolution 24 - 01 (Setting Ford County FY 2024 Levy).**  
Mrs. King seconded it. Roll Call - Unanimous
- Mr. Ferguson made the motion to **adopt Resolution 24 - 02 (State's Att. Appellate Prosecutor for FY 2024).**  
Mrs. Mussman seconded it. Roll Call - Unanimous

- Mr. Ferguson made the motion to **adopt Resolution 24 - 03 (Accepting the Probation FOP Contract Dec. 1, 2023 to Nov. 30, 2027)**. Mrs. C. Ihrke seconded it. Roll Call - Unanimous
- Mrs. King made the motion to **adopt Resolution 24 - 04 (Setting the salaries of Probation Officers for FY 2024)**. Mr. McQuinn seconded it. Roll Call - Unanimous
- Mrs. A. Ihrke made the motion to **adopt Resolution 24 - 05 (Amending Res 23 - 85 Setting County Board Meetings for FY 2024)**. Mrs. Mussman seconded it. Voice Vote - Carried

### III. HIGHWAY COMMITTEE:

- Mr. Nuss moved to **approve all claims recommended from the Highway Committee**. Mrs. A. Ihrke seconded it. Roll Call - Unanimous
- Mr. Nuss made the motion to **adopt Resolution 24 - 06 (Extending to allow the Ford Co. Engineer to serve as Iroquois Co. Engineer)**. Mrs. C. Ihrke seconded it. Roll Call - Unanimous

### IV. INSURANCE & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE:

### V. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE:

### VI. OVERVIEW LEGISLATION COMMITTEE:

- There was a large discussion on allowing Chairman Smith to sign the contract to enter Ford Co. Farm #3 into the CRP program. The board members and the public all voiced opinions and issues for and against the CRP program including recently found erosion on the farms from neglect of "policing" the farm grounds. They also discussed the results from a recent soil testing performed on the farm grounds and suggested options to help better the soil.
- After discussion, Mrs. C. Ihrke made the motion to allow Chairman Smith sign the CRP Contract for Ford Co. Farm #3. Mrs. A. Ihrke seconded the motion. Roll Call - Ayes - 6, Nays - 4  
(Nays - Mussman, McCall, Vaughn & Ferguson)

### VII. SHERIFF'S COMMITTEE:

- Mrs. A. Ihrke moved to **approve all claims recommended in the Sheriff's Committee**. Mrs. Mussman seconded it. Roll Call - Unanimous

### VIII. ZONING COMMITTEE:

- Mrs. A. Ihrke stated they met on November 30, 2023 to discuss Solar and battery storage. The next meeting has been set for January 18, 2024 at 3:30 P.M. in the Small Courtroom.

### IX. APPROVAL OF COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES:

- Mr. Vaughn moved to **approve all submitted committee meeting minutes**. Mrs. C. Ihrke seconded it. Voice Vote - Carried

### L. SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS: (\* = Chairman of that committee)

- |  |                       |
|--|-----------------------|
| I. <u>708 BOARD</u>  | A. IHRKE              |
| II. <u>9-1-1</u>   | NUSS                  |
| - Mr. Nuss stated the next meeting is on Wed. Dec. 20, 2023 at the Roberts Fire Dept. at 7:00 P.M.   |                       |
| III. <u>CIRMA</u>  | SMITH/McCALL          |
| IV. <u>ECCA</u>  | SMITH                 |
| - Mr. Nuss has attended several meetings via zoom about FY 2024.                                     |                       |
| V. <u>E.M.A./LEPC</u>  | TERRY WHITEBIRD/SMITH |
| VI. <u>EXTENSION</u>   | A. IHRKE              |
| - Mrs. A. Ihrke stated they are working on Ford Co. schools and several alternatives to agriculture. |                       |
| VII. <u>FORD COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH DEPT.</u>  | SMITH                 |

- VIII. MOBILE REGION 8
- IX. REGIONAL OFFICE OF EDUCATION
- X. UNION AFFAIRS
  - **Still working on the FOP Contract.**
- XII. WIA

SHERIFF JOHNSON/SMITH  
SMITH/C. IHRKE  
SMITH/McQUINN  
  
SMITH

**M. OLD BUSINESS:**

- Mr. Nuss stated the next meeting for ROSC will be held on Dec. 19, 2023 at 8:30 A.M.

**N. NEW BUSINESS:**

- Mr. Ferguson briefly discussed options on the Christmas dinner for the employees.

**O. ADJOURNMENT:**

- Mr. Vaughn moved to adjourn; Mrs. C. Ihrke seconded the motion.  
The meeting ended at 9:03 P.M.

Voice Vote - Carried

**P. PROCLAMATION:**

- The next monthly meeting will be held on Monday, January 8, 2024 at 7:00 P.M.

Sheriff Chad Johnson

Respectfully Submitted,  
Amy Frederick, Ford County Clerk & Recorder

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

DRAFT

**FORD COUNTY BOARD MEETING**

**December 11, 2023**

Present = P Absent = A	BOARD MEMBER	FINANCE CLAIMS RECOMMENDED IN FINANCE COMMITTEE		ARPA CLAIMS RECOMMENDED IN FINANCE COMMITTEE		RES 24 - 01 FORD CO LEVY FOR FY 2024		RES 24 - 02 STATE'S ATRNY. APPELATE FOR FY 2024		RES 24 - 03 FORD CO PROBATION FOP CONTRACT DEC 2023 to NOV 2027		RES 24 - 04 SETTING SAL FOR PROB OFFICERS FOR FY 2024		HWY. CLAIMS RECOMMENDED IN HIGHWAY COMMITTEE		RES 24 - 06 EXTND ALLOW FORD CO ENGINEER TO SERVE AS IROQUOIS CO ENGINEER			
		YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO		
P	MUSSMAN, Sarah	X		X		X		X		X		X		X		X			
P	McCALL, Chase	X		X		X		X		X		X		X		X			
P	VAUGHN, Carson	X		X		X		X		X		X		X		X			
P	FERGUSON, Randy	X		X		X		X		X		X		X		X			
P	KING, Lesley	X		X		X		X		X		X		X		X			
A	MAY, Gene	-		-		-		-		-		-		-		-			
P	McQUINN, Tom	X		X		X		X		X		X		X		X			
A	AUBRY, Chuck	-		-		-		-		-		-		-		-			
P	IHRKE, Ann	X		X		X		X		X		X		X		X			
P	NUSS, Tim	X		X		X		X		X		X		X		X			
P	IHRKE, Cindy (VC)	X		X		X		X		X		X		X		X			
P	SMITH, Debbie (CHAIRMAN)	X		X		X		X		X		X		X		X			
RESULTS = PASSED OR FAILED		PASSED		PASSED		PASSED		PASSED		PASSED		PASSED		PASSED		PASSED		PASSED	
		10	0	10	0	10	0	10	0	10	0	10	0	10	0	10	0	10	0

COUNTY CLERK: AMY FREDERICK

**FORD COUNTY BOARD MEETING**

**December 11, 2023**

Present = P Absent = A	BOARD MEMBER	ALLOW CHAIRMAN SMITH TO SIGN CONTRACT FOR CRP - FARM #3		SHERIFF CLAIMS RECOMMENDED IN SHERIFF COMMITTEE		YES		NO		YES		NO		YES		NO	
		YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO		
P	MUSSMAN, Sarah		X		X												
P	McCALL, Chase		X		X												
P	VAUGHN, Carson		X		X												
P	FERGUSON, Randy		X		X												
P	KING, Lesley	X			X												
A	MAY, Gene	-			-												
P	McQUINN, Tom	X			X												
A	AUBRY, Chuck	-			-												
P	IHRKE, Ann	X			X												
P	NUSS, Tim	X			X												
P	IHRKE, Cindy (VC)	X			X												
P	SMITH, Debbie (CHAIRMAN)	X			X												
RESULTS = PASSED OR FAILED		PASSED		PASSED		6	4	10	0								

COUNTY CLERK: AMY FREDERICK