# Pike County Board

# Meeting Minutes

June 24th, 2024

1. Call to order

Tom Lewis, Vice Chairman, 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

Chuck Reel with Chainbreakers gave the invocation and Tom Lewis led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Roll Call

Tom Lewis asked County Clerk Natalie Roseberry to take roll call. Members present were Joey Cobb, Don Foster, Reta Hoskin, Tom Lewis, Mark Mountain, Jim Sheppard and Mark Sprague. Andy Borrowm and Derek Ross were absent.

1. Approval of May 20th, 2024 meeting minutes

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

1. Appointment of Rozanne Cawthon to the Gray Cemetery Association for a term to expire June 1st, 2027.

Mark Mountain made the motion to approve the appointment. Second by Reta Hoskin. Voice vote 6-0. Motion approved.

1. Appointment of Richard Hoover to the Bay Creek Watershed Conservancy District Board for a 5-year term to expire May 2029.

Jim Sheppard made a motion to approve. Seconded by Mark Mountain. Voice vote 6-0. Motion approved.

1. Resolution Approving the Appointment of Mike McLaughlin to the Mid America Intermodal Port District.

Mark Mountain made a motion to approve. Jim Sheppard Seconded. Voice vote 6-0. Motion approved.

1. Approval of 2025 County Holiday’s

Don Foster made the motion to approve Joey Cobb seconded. Voice vote 6-0. Motion approved.

1. Approval of the 2024 additions to the Pike County Policy Manual

Jim Sheppard addressed the following section changes to the policy manual:

Paid Leave for All Workers-Revised

Personal Relationship with Others-Replacement

Technology Policy-Replacement

Smoking and Use of Electronic Cigarettes- New

Political Activity-New

Time Off to Serve as an Election Judge-New

Extended Child Bereavement Leave-New

Blood and Organ Donation Leave-New

Work Performance Evaluations-New

Discipline and Corrective Action-New

Chairman Andy Borrowman created a “Chairman Directive” to all county management stating their obligations to follow the policy manual outside of any governing board/agreement and the necessity of having employees sign the manual acknowledging that they are aware of policies that govern them. Clerk Roseberry was directed to send out the directive along with the Policy Manual once approved. Reta Hoskin expressed her disagreement with the statement and the clerk sending it out.

Motion was made by Mark Mountain and seconded by Joey Cobb to approve the policy manual changes. Voice vote 6-0. Motion approved.

1. 6 Month Reports

Treasurer Scott Syrcle presented to the committee his 6 month report. He identified incorrect information on page 3 where the clearing account is reflecting over 18 million dollars, page 8 on IMRF reflecting 0 dollars, and stated that the ARPA fund had a loan to the General fund for over $400,000.00. Dave Greenwood reported that he has about 8 Federal Inmates, Circuit Clerk Bryce Gleckler submitted his reports to the board in the packets along with County Clerk, Natalie Roseberry and the Pike County Health Department. Clerk fees are down about 6%.

Jim Sheppard made a motion to approve the 6 month reports. Mark Mountain seconded. Voice vote 6-0. Reports approved.

1. Committee Reports

Finance

The Finance committee of the Pike County Board met at 5:00PM on Tuesday June 18, 2024 in the conference room of the Pike County Government building. Those present were; Reta Hoskin, Don Foster, Jim Sheppard and Pike County Board Chairman Andy Borrowman. Also, present were; Scott Syrcle, Walker Filbert, Paula Dean, Catherine Raftery, and Natalie Roseberry.

Routine Bills in the amount of $123,618.84. were approved for payment on a motion by Don Foster and a second by Reta Hoskin.

We spoke to representatives of Sikich concerning the progress of the audit prep. They are still needing a few things but they were going to reach out to potential auditors and try and get us proposals.

Shelby Crow appeared before the committee to request funding for 2025 for the cooperative extension service. After outlining some of the benefits the extension service provides to the county Don Foster made the following motion: Contingent upon budget constraints the board approves $15,000 for the cooperative extension for the county’s fiscal 2025 budget. Reta Hoskin seconded; motion carried.

The committee next heard an update on the IRS audit and IMRF. The IRS audit was triggered by a Paycom error on the reported wages. They gave the IRS two different figures. It was also reported that some of our wellness benefits have to be reported as taxable income. IMRF is still having issues related to their software change, while all of our reports have been filed, they have not requested payment for those reports since February.

The bids for the Health Department parking lot were not ready for presentation so no action needed to be taken on that item. Late fees added to bills amounted to only $5.09 this month. The committee discussed direct deposit of paychecks. Payroll has to be completed a day earlier to have the paper checks shipped to the county so they are available the same day as the direct deposits hit the employee accounts.

Next up for review was a spreadsheet of comp and vacation hours owed employees. It is not a comprehensive list but it does reflect those offices that responded and are not under a collective bargaining agreement. The total liability for the county stands at $162,690.60. It was noted that we need to take steps to keep these numbers in check.

Reta Hoskin made a motion to adjourn and Don Foster seconded. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:42PM

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

Highway

The Road & Bridge Committee met Tuesday, June 18th, 2024 at 1:30pm at the Highway Department Building located at 39643 260th Ave, Pittsfield IL 62363. The meeting was called to order at 1:30pm

Roll Call: Present were Reta Hoskin, Mark Sprague, Don Foster and Andy Borrowman

None were absent

Staff present were Chris Johnson, Gary Laux and Michelle McCartney

Visitors present were Brenda DeSpain

Public Comment: Comments were made before the committee by Brenda DeSpain, a retired county employee, regarding insurance coverage and COBRA at the time of an employee’s retirement. The Road & Bridge Committee is referring this matter to the County Insurance Committee and Jim Sheppard.

Payment of Claims: A motion was made by Mark Sprague, seconded by Don Foster to pay claim reports dated June 18, 2024, All in favor. Motion carried.

The Six-Month report dated 12/01/2023 through 05-31-2024 was submitted to the committee. A motion was made by Mark Sprague, seconded by Don Foster to approve the report. Motion carried.

Township MFT Oil & Chip Letting: A motion was made by Don Foster, seconded by Mark Sprague to accept low bidder, Diamond Construction Co., in the amount of $875,172.40. Motion carried.

New Business: The Nebo bridge project is now scheduled to begin mid-August 2024 instead of July. The roof repair at the Highway Department now has been completed. The Highway Department is looking for a used air compressor to purchase as the current one from 1986 is no longer repairable.

Old Business: Building remodel/USDA Loan- no discussion.

Adjournment: A motion was made by Don Foster, seconded by Mark Sprague to adjourn the meeting at 2:158 pm. All in favor. Motion carried.

Motion made by Mark Sprague and seconded by Reta Hoskin to approve the Oil & Chip bid from Diamond Construction. Voice vote 6-0. Motion carried.

Mark Sprague made a motion to approve the minutes. Joey Cobb seconded. Voice vote 6-0. Minutes approved.

Building and Grounds.

The Building and Grounds Meet at 3PM at the Government building. Members present were Tom Lewis, Mark Sprague, Mark Mountain, And Chairman Borrowman. Also present were Jim Sheppard, Judge McCartney, States Attorney Filbert, David Greenwood, and Shane Martin.

Bills were approved on a motion by Mountain and seconded by Sprague in the amount of $9500.50.

Old Business:

Judge McCartney was to discuss the Final Payment on the courthouse remodel. After a lengthy discussion. Judge McCartney stated he would get with our contractor and find out the exact amount that is owed and who had paid what amounts and bring this back to the committee.

New Business:

David Greenwood stated that the elevator at the courthouse is having issues. It bypasses the 1st floor and goes to the second floor. This is a security issue. David presented a proposal for work to fixing this issue. The amount is $24500.00. Mountain made a motion to use money out of the Capital outlay line to pay for this. Motion was seconded by Sprague. Motion carried. David also stated that one of the jails A/C compressors is going out and would get a quote to have it repaired.

With no further business to discuss Sprague made a motion to adjourn seconded by Mountain. Motion Carried and meeting was adjourned at 3:58 PM

Minutes Submitted by Tom Lewis

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

GIS/IT

The GIS committee of the Pike County Board met at 4:00PM on Tuesday June 18, 2024 in the Emergency Operations Center of the Pike County Jail. Members present were; Reta Hoskin, Jim Sheppard, and Pike County Board Chairman Andy Borrowman. Others present were; Angie Brawdy, Dan Brennecke, Paula Dean, Nicole, McDonald, Crystal Mille, Bryce Gleckler, JR Bareis, and Judge Frank McCartney.

On a motion by Reta Hoskin, Jim Sheppard was appointed temporary chairman for the duration of this meeting. Motion carried.

Routine bills in the amount of $10,346.91 were approved for payment on a motion by Reta Hoskin and a second by Jim Sheppard.

JR Bareis presented a business review of the county’s IT infrastructure, IT Security, IT Support and Services, and IT Telecommunications. Some points that were raised were the internet backup for the courthouse is still an issue, two factor authentication, and mobile device management. No action was taken but we do know what we need to be looking at. JR reported that the phone installation is complete.

On a motion by Reta Hoskin and a second by Jim Sheppard, Crystal Miller was put forth for full board consideration to fill the IT position for the courthouse with the accompanying stipend. To be effective June 25, 2024. Her stipend for June would be $50.00. Dan Brennecke reported that they were having issues with the booking room phone. There was a discussion about the training subjects and recycling the subjects.

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

Public Safety

The Public Safety Committee meet at 7PM at the Ambulance Building. Members present were Tom Lewis, Jim Sheppard, and Chairman Borrowman. Absent were Derek Ross and Kasey Kendall. Also present was Don Foster.

Bills in the amount of $39,765.36 were approved on a motion by Sheppard seconded by Lewis. Motion carried.

Administrators report:

Due to Kasey’s absence Lewis read Kasey’s report. There were 183 calls in the month of May with an average response time of under thirteen minutes. The tactical medic class is next week in Kentucky. We are still fully staffed, and the vehicle fleet is in good condition currently. We received $15,143.42 in interest from our CD’s, and we renewed them. We split the money into two CD’s at $250,000.00 each. One for 3 months at 5.10% and one for 7 months at 4.95%. Kasey also purchased all new portable radios which he had budgeted for.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Public Comment: None

A Motion to adjourn was made by Sheppard seconded by Lewis and meeting adjourned at 7:12 pm

Minutes submitted by Tom Lewis.

Reta Hoskin made a motion to approve the minutes. Don Foster seconded. Voice vote 6-0. Minutes approved.

**ECON**

The Economic and Community Development Committee met on Monday, June 24, 2024. The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm. Present were committee members Joey Cobb and Reta Hoskin. Derek Ross was absent. Phil Bradshaw attended to speak about the New Philadelphia Association request.

The committee discussed three actions from the Accommodation Tax Advisory Board.

The first, $15,400.00 to the New Philadelphia Association for a conference to be held in August of 2024. The Accommodation Tax Advisory Board had recommended this not be funded. Motion was made by Joey Cobb that the request be forwarded to the full Board for consideration. Reta seconded the motion. All approved.

The second, $6,000.00 to CARPE for its Disc Golf Tournament to improve the prizes and players packets. Motion for approval by the full Board was made by Joey Cobb and seconded by Reta Hoskin. All approved.

The third, $10,000.00 to the City of Griggsville for a mural. There was not a motion to approve this. The Committee suggested it be returned to the Accommodation Tax Advisory Board.

Committee adjourned at 6:59PM. Motion was made by Joey Cobb and seconded by Reta Hoskin. All approved.

Jim Sheppard made a motion to approve $6000.00 for CARPE Disc Golf. Reta Hoskin seconded. Voice vote 6-0. Motion approved.

There was no motion to approve $10,000.00 to the City of Grigsville.

Mark Mountain made a motion to approve $15,400 to the New Philadelphia Project. Reta Hoskin Seconded. Voice vote 3-2. Don Foster, Mark Mountain, and Reta Hoskin voting Yes, Joey Cobb and Jim Sheppard voting No, and Mark Sprague abstaining. Motion approved.

Mark Mountain made a motion to approve the Econ minutes. Joey Cobb seconded. Voice vote 6-0. Minutes approved.

**AGRICULTURE**

The Agricultural Committee of the Pike County Board met at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday June 18th, 2024. The meeting was called to order at 11:05 by committee chair Sprague.

Members present were Mountain, Cobb, Sprague, & Board Chair Borrowman.  Others present were Rita Hoskin, Natalie Roseberry, Greg Wyatt, Lotus Lawless, Heather Hayden, Catherine Raferty, & Don Foster.

Under animal control, one of the Heating and Air Conditioning is not working and needs to be replaced.  We will work on getting at least 3 bids for this job and will continue to discuss this with City of Pittsfield as they are the owner of the building and grounds.

TNR has been working well.  This time last year approximately 150 kittens were run through and this year maybe 25.  Those spay and neuter costs have been covered by donations from Jeanie Hoover and Cristina Butler.  We are in process of applying for a $6,000.00 grant from Wal Mart.

Under zoning, permit applications are brisk as many new homes are going up.  Planning commission meets Thursday June 20 and Zoning Board of appeals meets Thursday June 27th at Hull Lions Club building for small solar farm northwest of Hull.  Alex Farkes of Nexamp Community Solar addressed the committee regarding a 17 acre solar farm east of Pleasant Hill.  This is a permitted use.  Their farm should produce about 3MW of electricity.  Ameren customers can sign up for a 15% discount on their power bill with this company.

Wind Farm:  Principles have not yet met the requirements to receive their building permits.  Preliminary work is proceeding in areas of the project where permits are not required.

Joe Cobb moved and Mark Mountain seconded a motion “To hire Patrick Engineering, at Greenbacker’s expense, to supervise the construction of Panther Creek Wind Farm to insure compliance with all local, state, and federal rules, regulations, and laws.  Motion carried.

Metting adjourned at 12:37p.m. on a motion by Mountain and second by Cobb.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Sprague

Jim Sheppard made a motion to approve the amended Agriculture minutes. Reta Hoskin seconded. Voice vote 6-0. Minutes approved.

1. New Business

Mark Mountain stated that he spoke with Treasurer, Scott Syrcle regarding the concerning state of County finances. He proposed that the board forgive the debt to the COVID fund as well as cease spending.

1. Old Business

None

1. Chairman’s Remarks

None

1. Summary of Expenses and Mileage and Per Diem for June 2024.

Jim Sheppard made a motion to approve. Mark Sprague seconded. Voice vote 6-0. Motion approved.

1. Questions from Press and Visitors

Jim Filbert asked about the Road Use Agreement for the Windfarm. State’s Attorney, Walker Filbert responded that permits from IDOT have not been issued and that it likely will have an effect on the construction.

1. Adjournment

Mark Mountain made a motion to adjourn. Don Foster seconded. Voice vote 6-0 .

 Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Minutes submitted by County Clerk, Natalie P. Roseberry



