

# DON GRAY

SANGAMON COUNTY CLERK

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## MINUTES

### SANGAMON COUNTY BOARD

SEPTEMBER 8, 2020

The Sangamon County Board met in Regular Statutory Session on September 8, 2020 at the Bank of Springfield Convention Center. Chairman Van Meter called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Mr. Smith gave the invocation and Mrs. Scaife led the County Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

### ROLL CALL

Chairman Van Meter asked County Clerk Gray to call the roll. There were 28 Present – 1 Absent. Mr. Stumpf was excused.

### COVID-19 REPORTS

Gail O'Neill, director of Sangamon County Public Health Department, addressed the County Board. She was asked to explain the back logs of the specifically related cases to Sangamon County. Over the last weekend starting Friday, the numbers really jumped. The Illinois Department of Public Health had a glitch in their system that puts the data into the lab reporting system, which is where they find out about the cases. All the people who had tested positive or negative had gotten their calls from the laboratories where the tests were ordered, but they had not gotten put in the system. They found a glitch that lasted about a day and a half according to IDPH. This was a statewide issue and they worked quickly to resolve it. That is why the numbers looked shockingly different, but they are starting to get back on track now. This was not a problem with the lab like the last time, this was a problem with the paper work.

There was another question about some articles about a 2<sup>nd</sup> wave happening in the fall. Right now, people are able to be outside, eating and drinking, and getting fresh air. This will soon

end because it will be too cold. Everyone will be in closer quarters which is usually what happens around flu season. They are expecting the 2<sup>nd</sup> wave due to these reasons of being shut down and school starting. Some of it is also coming from the newly rambunctious college students that are out and about and having a good time.

There was another question about there not being as many deaths. There have not been many locally, but there were two on September 8<sup>th</sup>. Is it because they know how to treat COVID patients better? They've been having morning meetings with physicians in their community since the start of this and they are still having them. They have talked about learning how to deal with the COVID patients a little bit better, and are holding off on putting someone on a ventilator if they can wait. That seems to help their outcome. They use the plasma as a tool to help the people who are positive. Another thing they have learned is that people were afraid to go the hospital for a number of reasons in the early part of this and delayed their care. They are hoping now people are not as sick and will not go to the hospital as before.

Chairman Van Meter asked if the numbers seem to be skewing younger now. Mrs. O'Neill said yes, the numbers are going younger. They are seeing quite a bit more teenagers and people in their 20's and 30's testing positive in the recent weeks. There are some children testing positive as well. She just got some new information and she will send it to the board members and put on their website about the breakdown of the ages and zip codes. Chairman Van Meter says it sounds like interesting information.

Annette Fulgenzi said she has noticed as the kids return to school in their community, there has been a lot of confusion on what to do if someone's child has been around a child who is positive. She does not know if there is a fact sheet on their website or if this could be something posted on social media and spread around the county. She thinks this would be very helpful. Mrs. O'Neill said the doctors had been working on two different documents relating to the schools and general doctors about COVID. They have developed a front and back sheet for the schools and one for the medical community. It will be on their website tomorrow.

### **PRESENTATION – ABRAHAM LINCOLN ASSOCIATION**

Sue Massie, Tony Libri, and Floyd Mansberger addressed the County Board. They are there to discuss a project to reconstruct a one-story home the Lincoln family lived in before moving to Washington DC. They have been very busy gaining contributions and thanked the County Board for their generous donation for the project. They began their presentation by showing a short video from the president of the Abraham Lincoln Association, Michael Burlingame. He explained how the project started, who helped in the design and site planning, and talked about the fundraising campaign. Sue Massie then gave a slide show presentation about what the house looks like, the history behind the house, the site plan, why they are doing the project, different activities they plan on doing, and the budget. Overall, the project will cost about \$400,000.

Mrs. Scaife asked if there would be a charge for the tour. Mrs. Massie said there is not a charge for the Lincoln Home now and they have not really discussed whether this house will have a charge, but she does not think there is any intention to try and make a profit from that. There could be activities they could charge for, but not for touring the site.

Mr. Ratts asked where the proposed parking would be. Mr. Mansberger said there is limited parking on 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Edwards Street, and in that general area. The Park Service does maintain a large parking lot just off 7<sup>th</sup> Street, a half a block to the north. Parking is always an issue, but he thinks there is sufficient parking in the area.

Linda Fulgenzi asked if they had thought about an endowment after they finish it to maintain the building, and if they do choose not to charge, that it will keep it going. Mrs. Massie said they cannot be sure of the future, but they are working toward having this annexed through the Lincoln Home site so that it is actually part of that facility. An endowment is still a good idea. Generally, the National Park Service accepts qualified properties or sites if they are donated to them. They are working very hard to be able to pay for this whole project. Linda Fulgenzi said they have a number of historical buildings in this city that are used for different things and more that could possibly be used. The location of this building would be great. However, it not being a historic building and it being a replica puts it in a difficult position. If it does not get taken over by the park service, who is going to maintain it all these years? Mrs. Massie said they will figure it out. Mrs. Fulgenzi thinks it is a very interesting aspect. She loves all the Lincoln sites. She said this is a very good idea. Mr. Mansberger said the neighborhood where this is being reconstructed is south of the existing Lincoln Home neighborhood and there is also several properties, such as the Iles House, the Route 66 Museum, and other historic buildings in the neighborhood. They believe even without the National Park Service, they will be able to maintain this home. They also anticipate succeeding in raising the \$400,000.

Mr. Smith asked if they could give them some details about their Capitol Campaign. Mrs. Massie said all the details are not worked out yet, but the first thing they did was gather endorsements from different organizations in town. They are using that to set a standard or buy in of all the people involved in this to go toward the eventual annexation of the property by the Lincoln Park site. As far as the funding, they have started reaching out to people for individual requests and they will continue doing that. They will also have more publicity to let people know and have some events to describe what they are doing. They have a separate special fund set up in the Abraham Lincoln Association for the Lincoln Cottage Project. They are holding that account for their future expenses.

## MINUTES

A motion was made by Mrs. Williams, seconded by Mr. Bunch, for approval of the Minutes of August 11, 2020. A voice vote was unanimous.

MOTION CARRIED  
MINUTES ADOPTED

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

A motion was made by Mr. Bunch, seconded by Mrs. Williams, to place correspondence on file with the County Clerk. A voice vote was unanimous.

### **RESOLUTON 1**

1. Resolution approving and authorizing Sangamon County to enter into an intergovernmental agreement with the Village of Pawnee regarding enforcement of commercial building codes within Sangamon County.

A motion was made by Mr. Thomas, seconded by Mrs. Williams, to place Resolution 1 on the floor. Chairman Van Meter asked County Clerk Gray to call the roll. Upon the roll call vote, there were 28 Yeas – 0 Nays.

MOTIONS CARRIED  
RESOLUTION ADOPTED

### **RESOLUTIONS 2 – 4**

2. Resolution approving the procurement of goods and/or services from Levi, Ray, & Shoup for the purpose of a new IBM System for Information Systems in the amount of \$146,308.

A motion was made by Mrs. Deppe, seconded by Mr. Forsythe, to place Resolution 2 on the floor. A motion was made by Mr. Bunch, seconded by Mr. Smith, to consolidate Resolutions 2 – 4. Chairman Van Meter asked County Clerk Gray to read Resolutions 3 – 4.

3. Resolution approving the procurement of goods and/or services from BSG Communications, Inc. for the purpose of a new phone system for Information Systems in the amount or \$190,000.
4. Resolution approving the procurement of goods and/or services from Axon Enterprise for the purpose of a new software package for Information Systems in the amount of \$36,784.26.

A voice vote was unanimous on the consolidation. A motion was made by Mr. Preckwinkle that the roll call vote for Resolution 1 stands as the roll call vote for Resolutions 2 – 4, as consolidated. A voice vote was unanimous.

MOTIONS CARRIED

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED

#### **RESOLUTION 5**

5. 2020-013 – Lincoln Labs, LLC, 5859 W. State Route 97, Pleasant Plains – Granting a Conditional Permitted Use with Conditions. County Board Member – Tom Fraase, Jr., District #1.

A motion was made by Mr. Mendenhall, seconded by Mrs. Hills, to place Resolution 5 on the floor. A motion was made by Mr. Fraase, seconded by Mr. Mendenhall, to table Resolution 5. A voice vote was unanimous.

MOTIONS CARRIED

RESOLUTION TABLED

#### **RESOLUTION 6**

6. 2020-019 – Travis Heck, 1450 Buffalo-Mechanicsburg Road, Dawson – Denying a Rezoning and a Variance. County Board Member – David Mendenhall, District #3.

A motion was made by Mr. Mendenhall, seconded by Mr. Hall, to place Resolution 6 on the floor. A motion was made by Mr. Mendenhall, seconded by Mrs. Hills and Mrs. Williams, to table Resolution 6. A voice vote was unanimous.

MOTIONS CARRIED

RESOLUTION TABLED

#### **RESOLUTION 7**

7. 2020-020 – Trent Norville & Dietrich Ostermeier, 9333 Buckhart Road, Rochester – Granting Variances. County Board Member – David Mendenhall, District #3.

A motion was made by Mr. Mendenhall, seconded by Mr. Madonia, to place Resolution 7 on the floor. A motion was made by Mr. Mendenhall to waive the reading of the professional staff's report. There were no objections.

A voice vote was unanimous for the adoption of Resolution 7.

MOTIONS CARRIED  
RESOLUTION ADOPTED

**RESOLUTION 8**

8. 2020-021 – Paul Norgaard & Stephen Norgaard, 8889 Cardinal Hill Road, Rochester – Granting a Rezoning and Variances. County Board Member – Jeff Thomas, District #4.

A motion was made by Mr. Thomas, seconded by Mr. Mendenhall, to place Resolution 8 on the floor. A motion was made by Mr. Mendenhall to waive the reading of the professional staff's report. There were no objections. A voice vote was unanimous for the adoption of Resolution 8.

MOTIONS CARRIED  
RESOLUTION ADOPTED

**RESOLUTION 9**

9. 2020-022 – Dennis W. Thomas, 6065 Turkey Run Road, Sherman – Granting a Rezoning and Variances. County Board Member – Todd Smith, District #2.

A motion was made by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mrs. Douglas-Williams, to place Resolution 9 on the floor. A motion was made by Mr. Mendenhall to waive the reading of the professional staff's report. There were no objections. A voice vote was unanimous for the adoption of Resolution 9.

MOTIONS CARRIED  
RESOLUTION ADOPTED

**RESOLUTION 10**

10. Resolution approving a contract with Fishes & Loaves Vocational and Literacy Center for the Land of Lincoln Workforce Alliance WIOA Program in the amount of \$152,000.

A motion was made by Mrs. Fulgenzi, seconded by Mr. DelGiorno, to place Resolution 10 on the floor. A motion was made by Mr. Preckwinkle that the roll call vote for Resolution 1 stands as the roll call vote for Resolution 10. A voice vote was unanimous.

MOTIONS CARRIED  
RESOLUTION ADOPTED

**RESOLUTION 11**

11. Resolution approving a contract with CliftonLarsonAllen to perform audit services for FY2020 and FY2021 in the amounts of \$89,200 and \$91,600.

A motion was made by Mr. Schackmann, seconded by Mr. Snell, to place Resolution 11 on the floor. A motion was made by Mr. Preckwinkle that the roll call vote for Resolution 1 stands as the roll call vote for Resolution 11. A voice vote was unanimous.

MOTIONS CARRIED  
RESOLUTION ADOPTED

**WAIVER OF TEN-DAY FILING PERIOD**

A motion was made by Mrs. Williams, seconded by Mr. Bunch, to waive the ten-day filing period. A voice vote was unanimous.

MOTION CARRIED  
TEN-DAY FILING PERIOD WAIVED

**RESOLUTIONS 12 – 17**

12. Resolution approving the procurement of goods and/or services from NMS for the purpose of Autopsy Toxicology Testing for the Coroner's Office in the amount of \$48,000.

A motion was made by Mr. Tjelmeland seconded by Mr. Bunch, to place Resolution 12 on the floor. A motion was made by Mr. Bunch, seconded by Mr. Smith, to consolidate Resolutions 12 – 17. Chairman Van Meter asked County Clerk Gray to read Resolutions 13 – 17.

13. Resolution approving a list of contracts for employee benefits for 2021.
14. Resolution approving the procurement of goods and/or services from Quick Silver for the purpose of vote by mail ballot mailing expenses for the 2020 November General Election in the amount of \$81,800.
15. Resolution authorizing execution and amendment of Federal Cares Act Section 5311 Grant Agreement.
16. Resolution authorizing execution and amendment of Federal 5311 Grant Agreement.

17. Resolution authorizing execution and amendment of Downstate Operating Assistance Grant Agreement.

A voice vote was unanimous on the consolidation. A motion was made by Mr. Preckwinkle that the roll call vote for Resolution 1 stands as the roll call vote for Resolutions 12 – 17, as consolidated. A voice vote was unanimous.

MOTIONS CARRIED

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED

### **RESOLUTION 18**

18. Resolution approving an intergovernmental agreement with the Board of Trustees of Southern Illinois University – School of Medicine for professional services related to COVID-19.

A motion was made by Mrs. Williams, seconded by Mr. Bunch, to place Resolution 18 on the floor. Chairman Van Meter stated he would like to entertain a motion that states the approval of Resolution 18 is subject to minor corrections on indemnity and other scrivener issues. A motion was made by Mr. Preckwinkle, seconded by Mr. Bunch that the approval of Resolution 18 is subjected to minor corrections on indemnity and scrivener issues. A voice vote carried. Mrs. Williams abstained from voting on Resolution 18.

MOTIONS CARRIED

RESOLUTION ADOPTED

### **OLD BUSINESS**

There was no old business.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### A. Resolutions

There were no new resolutions.

#### B. Appointments

Appointment of James G Roth to the South County Water Commission for a term expiring May, 2021.

Appointment of Clyde Bunch to the Sewer Rebate Board for a term expiring September, 2021.

Appointment of Judy Johnson to the Sewer Rebate Board for a term expiring September, 2021.

Appointment of Herman Senior to the Sewer Rebate Board for a term expiring September, 2021.

Appointment of Michele Tucker to the Community Services Block Grant Advisory Board for a term expiring September, 2023.

Appointment of David Yankee to the Community Services Block Grant Advisory Board for a term expiring September, 2023.

Appointment of Brad Mills to the Community Services Block Grant Advisory Board for a term expiring September, 2023.

Appointment of Sharon Brown to the Community Services Block Grant Advisory Board for a term expiring September, 2023.

Appointment of David Mendenhall to the Sangamon County Central Dispatch System for a term expiring September, 2021.

Appointment of Tom Chi to the Emergency Telephone System Board for a term expiring September, 2021.

Appointment of Dan Parrish to the Emergency Telephone System Board for a term expiring September, 2021.

Appointment of Dick Rentschler to the Emergency Telephone System Board for a term expiring September, 2021.

Appointment of Kenny Winslow to the Emergency Telephone System Board for a term expiring September, 2021.

Appointment of Joe Powell to the Emergency Telephone System Board for a term expiring September, 2021.

Appointment of Jim Good to the Emergency Telephone System Board for a term expiring September, 2021.

Appointment of Rich Coon to the Emergency Telephone System Board for a term expiring September, 2021.

Appointment of George Allspach to the Lanesville-Illiopolis Drainage District for a term expiring September, 2023.

Appointment of Daivd MacDonna III as the Executive Director of Sangamon County Community Resources.

A motion was made by Mrs. Williams, seconded by Mr. Bunch, for approval of the appointments. A voice vote was unanimous.

#### MOTIONS CARRIED

#### APPOINTMENTS ADOPTED

##### A. Procurement/Grant Notifications

There were none.

#### **REPORTS OF COUNTY OFFICIALS, REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES, REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES, COMMITTEE REPORT ON CLAIMS**

Sangamon County Recorder Josh Langfelder addressed the County Board. Since the interest rates have dropped, they have seen an uptick in their recording fees. They have recorded 26,000 documents this year already. Last year they recorded their 26,000<sup>th</sup> document at the end of October so they are ahead of schedule. They have brought in over \$250,000 worth of revenue so far, which is over budget.

Mr. Langfelder also wanted to address last week's board meeting. The forty minute conversation between Mr. Frank Vala and the Chairman was more of a political grievance to him. This grievance was widely covered by the news media, newspaper, TV, and radio. It was definitely not something one would expect to be brought up at a County Board Meeting. He found it absurd because at the July County Board Meeting, a lady named Sophia Ashebir addressed the County Board. She is a resident of Sangamon County and a contact tracer for the state of Massachusetts. She was concerned about COVID-19; free testing sites, transparency, the grant the county received, the detailed plan for that grant, and the Public Health article about businesses reporting positive COVID-19 cases. After she spoke, the chair did not acknowledge any of her concerns, but rather continued along with the 2021 County Holiday Schedule and the meeting was adjourned. He felt it was a disservice to Ms. Ashebir and she was disrespected. After the meeting, Ms. Ashebir reached out to Mr. Langfelder. In their conversation, she said she had emailed the Chairman, the County Board members, and Public Health. She only heard back from a handful of members.

He advised her to go and speak in front of the Springfield City Council. When Mr. Langfelder was first elected, he told his staff that when helping someone, treat them with respect and give them good customer service. A lot of the time, that will be the only time the person will be in the office, and so first impressions and good customer service are important. When people have a good experience, they will say the Recorder's Office is great. When they have a bad experience, they will say Josh Langfelder's Office was bad. This was Ms. Ashebir's first experience speaking out to the County Board. He would say that from their conversation, she had a bad experience. She was treated as if her concerns do not matter. And Mr. Langfelder believes that falls on the Chair. This body touts to grow their own program and reach out to young residents and keep them involved in the community. Those actions were not shown to Ms. Ashebir and she was passed over. But yet at the August 11<sup>th</sup> County Board Meeting, so much time was focused on a political grievance. It was a sharp contrast from the month before and was a failure to address the concerns brought forth by Ms. Ashebir that affects all of the Sangamon County families. That was a shame. Out of courtesy, please respond to the emails sent by Ms. Ashebir. He thanked the Board for their time.

Mrs. Williams gave a report for the Standing Committees. She stated the Executive Committee would appreciate consideration on a motion to eliminate a step in their committee process. They propose eliminating the practice of every member signing every resolution. Instead they would ask the Committee Chairman to sign an attestation after the meeting stating the votes have been recorded properly during the meeting. They feel it reduces unnecessary paperwork and distractions related to shuffling papers during committee deliberations. The actual record of the vote is recorded by the staff who's in the meeting, not by the signatures that they put on the paper. They also feel the chairs can call for a roll call vote when specific votes are needed to be on the record. With that, they appreciate their consideration and ask for their support of this change. She is happy to make the motion. Mrs. Williams made a motion, seconded by Mr. Smith, Mr. Preckwinkle, and Mr. Bunch, to eliminate the practice of every member signing every resolution. A voice vote was unanimous.

David Mendenhall addressed the County Board. He would like to point out that one of their colleagues, Mr. Sam Snell, was recently appointed to the Sangamon County Farm Bureau Hall of Fame. Through the decades, Mr. Snell has led a life of leadership and community service. The launch of Snell Farm launched him into the agriculture community where he held many leadership positions, starting with the State Young Farmer's Committee. He went on to serve on the State Farm Board of Directors and was the Sangamon County Farm Bureau President from 1984 to 1986. In 2003, Mr. Snell served on the Sangamon County Board, where he has worked hard for constituents in District 6. He served and chaired on many committees and was instrumental in the Sangamon County Drug Force through the Sheriff's Department to stop drug trafficking. He congratulated Mr. Snell and thanked him for his service.

Mr. Snell thanked the County Board. He said it is a great honor to be acknowledged. He thanked the County Board again.

**ADJOURN**

A motion was made by Mr. Bunch, seconded by Mrs. Williams, to adjourn the meeting to October 13, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. A voice vote was unanimous.

MOTION CARRIED

MEETING ADJOURNED

***Don Gray***

***Sangamon County Clerk***