

Sharon K. Williams, District 1
Junior Watkins, District 2
Barry Robinson, District 3
Chairperson-Andrew A. Rand, District 4
Rachael Parker District 5
G. Allen Mayer, District 6
James C. Dillon, District 7
Phillip Salzer, District 8
Michael Phelan, District 9



Andrew A. Rand - Chairperson
R. Steve Sonnemaker, County Clerk

Vice-Chairperson -Stephen M. Morris, District 10
Gregory Adamson, District 11
Robert Baietto, District 12
James T. Fennell, District 13
Brian Elsasser, District 14
Steven Rieker, District 15
Brad Harding, District 16
Thomas H. O'Neill, III, District 17
Paul Rosenbohm, District 18

**PEORIA COUNTY BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, February 9, 2017
6:00 PM**

County Courthouse • 324 Main Street • County Board Room 403 • Peoria, Illinois 61602
Voice: (309) 672-6056 • Fax: (309) 672-6054 • TDD: (309) 672-6073
www.peoriacounty.org/countyboard

**CALL TO ORDER
MOMENT OF SILENCE
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
ROLL CALL BY THE COUNTY CLERK**

Attendance was taken with the Roll Call-Pro voting system, and the following members of the Board were present: Adamson, Baietto, Dillon, Elsasser, Fennell, Harding, Mayer, Morris, Parker, Phelan, Rand, Rieker, Robinson, Salzer, Watkins and Williams, with O'Neill and Rosenbohm absent.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Approval of December 5, 2016 Organizational Meeting Minutes
- Approval of December 5, 2016 Regular County Board Meeting Minutes
- Approval of January 12, 2017 County Board Meeting Minutes

Mayer moved for approval of the minutes, Baietto seconded. The minutes were approved by a unanimous roll call vote of 16 ayes.

II. PROCLAMATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

- A proclamation recognizing Peoria High School's Football Team for winning the 2016 Class 5A State Football Championship.

Chairman Rand announced that the proclamation would be deferred to a future meeting.

- A proclamation recognizing George Manias on the 70th Anniversary of George's Shoeshine and Hatters World Headquarters

III. CITIZENS' REMARKS

Bill Johnson, 611 Anna Avenue, Bellevue, addressed the Board with regard to Ameren bills and electrical aggregation. He asked if the card is not sent in, is a customer signed up automatically.

Chairman Rand explained that to get his questions answered he can speak with Mr. Sorrel



tomorrow.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

- C1.** The Treasurer report consisting of the Bank and CD's Portfolio for the month of December 2016 and Revenue & Expenditure Reports for the month of November 2016.
- C2.** The Auditor's report of expenditures from Accounts Payable system is accessible at www.peoriacounty.org/auditor/transparency.
- C3.** A recommendation from your County Board Chairman and your County Administrator to accept the resignation of Edward T. O'Connor, III as Peoria County Treasurer effective January 31, 2017.
- C4.** A resolution (item 1 conveyance) from the Ways and Means Committee recommending that the County Board Chairman be authorized and directed to execute deed of said property to the highest bidder, and be authorized to cancel the appropriate Certificates of Purchase. This resolution shall be effective ninety days from February 9, 2017 and any transaction between the parties involved not occurring within this period shall be null and void.
- C5.** A resolution from your Executive Committee recommending approval of a one year funding agreement with the Greater Peoria Economic Development Council in an amount not to exceed \$100,000.00 for Fiscal Year 2017.
- C6.** A resolution from your Public Safety and Justice Committee recommending approval of the Peoria City/County Landfill budget for the time period January 2017 through December 2017.
- C7.** A resolution from your Infrastructure Committee recommending approval of financial commitment of local funding to match any Federal Surface Transportation Urban Funds received for the reconstruction of Old Galena Road.
- C8.** Chairman Appointments.

Harding moved to approve the Consent Agenda and Fennell seconded. Harding asked to pull the Peoria County Auditor appointment and Item C5. The Consent Agenda, except the Peoria County Auditor appointment and Item C5, was approved by a roll call vote of 15 ayes and 1 nay, with Harding voting nay. (Robinson noted for the record that he intended to vote aye).

Appointment of Peoria County Auditor

Fennell moved to approve the appointment and Williams seconded.

Dillon stated that he had the privilege to interview Mr. Rotherham and that the process of choosing



an appointment is different than previous appointments because there was an open application and interview process. He said that there were six candidates interviewed and they were all quality candidates. He noted that the interview committee made a unanimous recommendation for Mr. Rotherham, and it seemed that he was interviewing them instead of the committee interviewing him due to his qualifications.

Harding thanked the interview committee for undertaking the work and Chairman Rand for sending out the information prior to the meeting. He identified that he had a conversation with Mr. Rotherham. He said that there is no question that he is qualified to do the job. He explained that there is a question of if the Board is hiring him to do the work of the Auditor because Mr. Rotherham brought up that his purpose was to shut down the office. He expressed that the Auditor is an independent watchdog for the taxpayers' funds, he finds it troubling to close the office, and asked what will happen to the two employees in that office.

Elsasser requested that Mr. Rotherham address the questions that Harding brought up.

Chairman Rand detailed that asking Mr. Rotherham would not be appropriate. He expressed that the appointment itself is in front of the Board.

Adamson contended that it is important for the person that is being appointed to the position to give an explanation if they are they are thinking about shutting the office.

Chairman Rand stressed that the alleged conversation is different than the conversations he and the committee has had with Mr. Rotherham. He said that the conversation is not a point of debate, the only question in front of the Board is ratification.

Fennell expressed that only the taxpayers can eliminate the position.

Morris specified that he will abstain from voting due to a business relationship with Mr. Rotherham.

The appointment of County Auditor was approved by a roll call vote of 14 ayes, 1 nay, and 1 abstention, with Harding voting nay and Morris abstaining.

C5. A resolution recommending approval of a funding agreement with the Greater Peoria Economic Development Council.

Mayer moved to approve Item C5 and Parker seconded.

Harding reported that the Economic Development Council has a rural economic developer position. He noted that he is happy to know that the developer is actively a part of the council's plans. He said he strongly encourages a yes vote because the investment in economic development does produce a return.

Adamson requested information on metrics on how the council has been performing and any particular information on the news of Caterpillar.

Chairman Rand identified that the Executive Committee has received a report on all of the work that the council performs. He remarked that the Caterpillar news is a separate issue and the general



responsibility for the council is to stimulate growth and explain that Central Illinois is a great place to bring a business.

Morris identified that there were tough questions asked of the EDC in Executive Committee about what the County gets and how to measure it. He detailed that there are people being held accountable and that there is someone paying attention.

Chairman Rand described how the investment in the EDC by the County is about \$186,000 a year and the group of investors includes counties, cities, and businesses. He believed that the amount of the annual spend for the EDC should be close to 30% by governments, but it is closer to 40% currently. He said that there is work to be done to get more private investment. He mentioned that the amount of financial participation by the County has declined recently and they are doing good work.

Item C5 was approved by a unanimous roll call vote of 16 ayes.

V. ZONING ORDINANCE AND RESOLUTIONS

1. A resolution from your Infrastructure Committee recommending approval of a Supplemental Preliminary Engineering Services Agreement with Midwest Engineering Associates, Inc., East Peoria, IL, at a cost not to exceed \$4,200.00 for a Preliminary Environmental Site Assessment of the Lancaster Road and Pfeiffer Road intersection safety improvements.

Salzer moved to approve the resolution and Baietto seconded.

Morris stated that he will be abstaining for both Items 1 and 2 due to a prior business relationship.

The resolution passed by a roll call vote of 15 ayes and 1 abstention, with Morris abstaining.

2. A resolution from your Infrastructure Committee recommending approval of a Supplemental Engineering Services Agreement with Midwest Engineering Associates, Inc., East Peoria, IL, at a cost not to exceed \$164,787.90 for Phase 2 engineering for the reconstruction of Old Galena Road from Cedar Hills Drive to Boy Scout Road.

Salzer moved to approve the resolution and Elsasser seconded.

The resolution passed by a roll call vote of 15 ayes and 1 abstention, with Morris abstaining.

VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION – Pending Litigation

Chairman Rand announced he would take Miscellaneous and Announcements before the Board went into Executive Session. For those items, see below.

Robinson moved to enter executive session to discuss pending litigation and Rieker seconded. The motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote of 16 ayes.



VII. MISCELLANEOUS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Rand announced that there will soon be a publication for the Treasurer opening and a timeline will then be put together.

Fennell requested attendance Saturday, February 11th at Shore Acres Clubhouse for Eagle Days' sausage and pancake breakfast. He noted that there are many places taking donations for the family of Ryan Owens and there will be a brick formation honoring him at the military monument in Chillicothe.

Elsasser brought up that his daughter knew Mr. Owens well and from a young age he always knew what he wanted to do.

Salzer thanked County Clerk Steve Sonnemaker for making sure that the flag at the Courthouse was at half-staff in honor of Mr. Owens.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board, the Chairman announced the meeting was adjourned.