

**Proceedings of the Ogle County Board Meeting
May 17, 2022**

State of Illinois)
County of Ogle) ss

Call to Order

Chairman John Finfrock calls the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Roll Call

The roll call shows Griffin is absent. The invocation is given by Oltmanns and followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Consent Agenda Items – by Roll Call Vote

1. Approval of Ogle County Board Meeting Minutes - April 19, 2022
2. Accept Monthly Reports – Treasurer, County Clerk & Recorder and Circuit Clerk
3. Appointments -
 - Board of Review - Mitchell Montgomery (D) - R-2022-0501
 - Mental Health 708 Board - Cindy Bergstrom - R-2022-0502
 - Mental Health 708 Board - Jenae Bothe - R-2022-0503
4. Resignations - None
5. Vacancies -
 - Mental Health 708 Board - 1 vacancy (unexpired term)
 - Lost Lake River Conservancy District
 - 9-1-1 ETS Board (4 terms - 2 Fire/EMS, 1 Law Enforcement, 1 Rochelle PSAP)
 - Franklin Grove Fire Protection District - 1 vacancy

Application and Resumé deadline – Friday, June 3, 2022, at 4:30 p.m. in the County Clerk’s Office located at 105 S. 5th St – Suite 104, Oregon, IL
6. Ogle County Claims –
 - Department Claims - April 2022 - \$113,113.67
 - County Board Payments – \$98,064.57
 - County Highway Fund – \$111,346.97
7. Communications
 - Sales Tax February 2021 - \$41,632.38 and \$82,370.70
 - Sales Tax February 2022 - \$58,601.45 and \$94,477.89

McKinney moved to approve the Consent Agenda, Oltmanns seconds and roll call is taken:

YES: Asp, Billeter, Bowers, Corbitt, Droege, Fox, Fritz, Heuer, Hopkins, Huber, Janes, Kenney, Larson, McKinney, Miller, Nordman, Oltmanns, Reising, Smith, Sparrow, Williams, Youman, and Finfrock

NO: None

ABSENT: Griffin

Motion carried on roll call vote. (Placed on file)

Zoning – None

Public Comment –

Marcia Dewey stated she was a survivor of an accident at the intersection of Pines Road and Lowell Park Road in June 2021. Dewey said she attended the Road & Bridge Committee meeting where the traffic study findings were presented and would like to share her comments after being able to process the information. Dewey shared some suggestions for changes at the intersection that would make it safer; changes like a four way stop, lowering the speed limit, and rumble strips. Dewey stated she has submitted a petition with 134 signatures in support of the installation of rumble strips to the North and South legs of

the intersection. Dewey stated there was a concern in the Committee meeting about rumble strips being an issue for the residents in that area. Dewey said she had gathered signatures of the residents in that area stating they approve of the rumble strips and are aware of the noise. Dewey also shared she collected over 150 additional signatures in support of rumble strips since her last petition.

Sue Ramage commented she lost her sister at the same intersection fifty years ago and nothing has been done to change the intersection to make it more safe. Ramage stated she would like to see anything like a four way stop or rumble strips anything to get people to slow down. The intersection is dangerous and has been for 50 years so please consider making changes.

Trisha Richards shared that her father was killed at the same intersection last year. Asking the Board to consider some type of four way stop, a roundabout, construction; whatever needs to be done to save lives.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

The following committee minutes have been placed on exhibit: County Facilities - County Security - County IT, Executive, Finance and Insurance, Mental Health 708 Board, Personnel and Salary, Road & Bridge, State’s Attorney – Court Services – FOCUS House - Judiciary & Circuit Clerk, and Supervisor of Assessments and Planning & Zoning.

- **Finance & Insurance**

- ARPA Recommendations - R-2022-0504

Sparrow presented and moved to approve R-2022-0504 for a total of \$27,630.00. Corbitt seconds.

ARPA REQUESTS				
DEPARTMENT	VENDOR	DESCRIPTION	NOTES	AMOUNT REQUESTED
Public Defender	Gesin	Bookcases		\$8,371.00
Animal Control	Gesin	Window Seals/Latches		\$1,500.00
		Swinging Gate/Customer Mitigation		\$4,877.00
		Cabinets		\$11,782.00
Long Range	Stateline Solar	Consultation & Design		\$1,110.00
			TOTAL	\$27,640.00

Motion carried. (Placed on file)

- Set Elected Officials Salaries – O-2022-0501

Sparrow presented and moved to approve O-2022-0501 for a 2% increase for years 2023, 2024, 2025 and 2026 for the County Clerk & Recorder and County Treasurer. Williams seconds.

Kenney expressed as the Chairman of the Personnel and Salary Committee he will be voting no to this resolution because it is not the recommendation of the Committee.

Roll call is taken:

YES: Reising, Smith, Sparrow, Williams, Youman, Asp, Billeter, Bowers, Fox, Fritz, Heuer, Hopkins, Huber, Janes, Larson, Nordman, Oltmanns, and Finfrock

NO: Corbitt, Droege, Kenney, McKinney and Miller

ABSENT: Griffin

Motion carried on roll call vote. (Placed on file)

- Establish Salary for Ogle County Sheriff – O-2022-0502

Sparrow presented and moved to approve O-2022-0502 for the increase of the Sheriff’s salary with partial reimbursement from the State. Smith seconds.

Kenney stated he will be voting no on this since the State is mandating management of the County. Kenney shared it shouldn't be up to the State to participate in these types of issues it should be up to Personnel.

Corbitt asked what happens when the State gets behind in payments. Sparrow stated it would be handled the same way the portions of the State's Attorney and Public Defenders salaries are reimbursed.

Motion carried. (Placed on file)

- IMRF Benefits Protection Leave – R-2022-0505

Sparrow presented and moved to approve O-2022-0505 and Kenney seconds.

Sparrow stated this policy will allow for an employee to be gone for a period of absence that has been approved by their Department Head, without a lapse in their IMRF. Sparrow stated individuals do have the ability to take an unpaid leave of absence for up to 12 months without a lapse in their IMRF, if the Department Head approves of it. The employee pays their contribution amount and the County pays theirs while on leave.

Motion carried. (Placed on file)

- Juror Mileage Reimbursement – O -2022-0503

Sparrow presented and moved to approve O-2022-0503 to increase Juror mileage pay to the rate set by IRS each year. Janes seconds.

Motion carried. (Placed on file)

- **Road & Bridge**

- Petition for County Aid: Flagg Twp for Gurler Rd Culvert - 22-06142-00-BR - R-2022-0506

Hopkins presented and moved to approve R-2022-0506, to grant the petition for county aid for 50% of the local share of the project from the County Aid to Bridge Fund. McKinney seconds.

Motion carried. (Placed on file)

- Engineering Study – Pines Rd & Lowell Park Rd Intersection

County Highway Engineer, Jeremy Ciesiel, presented the results of the traffic study performed for the intersection of Pines Road and Lowell Park Road. After a brief history of the previous improvements made to the intersection, he summarized the information gathered during the investigation. These included intersection visibility, traffic volume, vehicle speed and crash history. He stated while the intersection did not meet the criteria of the Federal Highway Administration for a multi-way stop, he has reached out to Illinois Department of Transportation's Traffic Safety Specialists for their recommendation. While IDOT performs their analysis, the Highway Department will install LED Stop Signs and additional Stop Ahead Signs on Lowell Park Road. Rumble strips are also likely to be installed on Lowell Park Rd.

Ciesiel said the County Highway Department will continue to look into options for that intersection even though the studies are showing the area has ample and appropriate signage and visibility. Ciesiel also shared he was preparing a letter and survey to send to the property owners within proximity of the intersection but thanked Dewey for her time getting that discussion moving.

Sparrow asked what would the drawback be of making it a four way stop and Ciesiel stated breaking a habit that has been set on Pines Road is easier said than done and they fear it will create a bigger issue by implementing a stop sign there. With the hill to the West you wouldn't see the stop sign until you were right up on it. Ciesiel stated this is exactly why he has asked the Bureau of Safety to get involved and is waiting to hear what their investigation brings back and what their suggestions are for the intersection.

Hopkins shared as the Township Supervisor this issue came up in this month's meeting. It was the consensus of their group that rumble strips may be the best option for this area. Hopkins stated the intersection of Ridge and Pines Road also had several accidents and a silo that was damaged regularly by missing a stop sign until rumble strips were installed and now there are far less incidences. Hopkins shared a four way stop wouldn't work that great for the traffic coming from the East especially for trucks. Hopkins explained he actually sat out there and watched traffic and people just don't slow down.

Williams asked if the State dictates where rumble strips are installed and a reason why they just cannot be put in now? Ciesiel expressed the State doesn't dictate but installation of them right now would lead to us having to redo them next season so that would be a double expense. There was a suggestion for temporary rumble strips but Ciesiel stated those interfere with snow plowing. Ciesiel stated he would look into the possibility of placing the temporary rumble strips and removing them before winter.

Nordman asked since this is a safety issue would this be reimbursable through ARPA funds. Nordman said she will ask for approval of the reimbursement through ARPA funds.

Motion carried. (Placed on file)

- **Executive**

- **Appointment of Ogle County Solid Waste Director - R-2022-0507**

Finrock presents and Bowers moved to approve R-2022-0507, to appoint Paul Cooney as Ogle County Solid Waste Director. Nordman seconds.

Motion carried. (Placed on file)

- **Requesting Approval for the Hire of a Human Resource Person – R-2022-0508**

Finrock presents and moved to approve R-2022-0508, to move forward in the hiring of a Human Resources person. Kenney seconds.

Heuer asked Lou Finch, Ogle County Coroner, to speak about the process that was gone through to the Board. Finch spoke about having an issue about 10 years ago and not being able to get it resolved. Now last year there was an incident and there were contacts who didn't provide proper instruction so the County was sent to a Labor Attorney to get answers. Finch stated that he has commented in the past the County needs an HR person but this last incident really made it ring true. Finch spoke with most of the Department Heads and they were on board with the idea.

Motion carried. (Placed on file)

Unfinished Business & New Business: None

Chairman Comments:

Nice to see sun & heat for a change

Vice-Chairwoman Comments:

Stay healthy

Adjourn Meeting

At 6:16 p.m., with no further business Chairman Finrock adjourns the meeting until Tuesday, June 21, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. at the Courthouse in Oregon.

Chairman, John Finrock
Ogle County Board

Attest: Laura J. Cook, Ogle County Clerk &
Ex-officio Clerk of the Ogle County Board