

SHELBY COUNTY BOARD MEETING
January 11, 2024 – 7:00 P.M.

Video archive of this meeting can be found at shelbycounty-il.gov under You Tube

The Shelby County Board met on Thursday, January 11, 2024, at 7:00 P.M. in Courtroom A of the Shelby County Courthouse in Shelbyville, Illinois.

Chairman Robert Orman called the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance was said followed by a prayer given by board member Clay Hardy.

County Clerk Jessica Fox called the roll. Boehm, Brands, Mayhall, McCormick, and Tate were absent

Minutes for the December 14, 2023, board meeting were presented for approval. Wallace made motion to approve the minutes. Bennett seconded said motion, which passed by voice vote (15 yes, 0 no).

A vacancy was announced in County Board District #4 due to the resignation of Charles Davis Jr.

Shawne Martz was recommended by the Republican Central committee to fill the vacancy in Shelby County Board District #9. Williams made motion to approve the appointment. Firnhaber seconded said motion, which passed by voice vote (15 yes, 0 no).

Martz was sworn in by Clerk Fox and took his seat on the board.

Zoning Administrator Scott McKee addressed the Board requesting approval for 3 Zoning resolutions as recommended by the Zoning Board of Appeals.

The first resolution was to rezone parcel 1001-19-00-400-018 owned by Chancer, LLC dba Timi's Tours Transportation from Ag to General Business for bus storage and wash center.

Nelson made motion to approve the resolution. Firnhaber seconded said motion, which passed by voice vote (16 yes, 0 no).

Resolution to rezone parcel 2013-17-00-200-025, owned by Kris Metzger, located at 1984 State Hwy 16 to General Business for correction purposes, as this parcel was never rezoned.

Williams made motion to approve the resolution. Nelson seconded said motion, which passed by voice vote (16 yes, 0 no).

The final resolution presented was for a variance for Gary Thompson to construct a residence of approximately 600 square feet.

Firnhaber made motion to approve the variance. Williams seconded said motion, which passed by voice vote (16 yes, 0 no).

At this time, Chairman Orman called for the Highway report.

Michael Tappendorf, County Highway Engineer, requested approval for 2 resolutions, and provided some department updates and the 2022 IDOT MFT compliance reports for Township Bridge, Township MFT, and County MFT.

Tappendorf began his report by giving a recap of 2023. The Highway department is now fully staffed. Many construction projects were completed (Sigel Road, Moweaqua Bridge, general highway maintenance, assist townships, new office equipment purchased, new equipment purchased, 4 million in grants applied for, several projects are planned for 2024 including bridge and roadway reconstruction projects, railroad crossings, small drainage structures and continue with equipment upgrades).

Tappendorf presented a resolution to request \$150,000 in ARPA funds for the purchase of a used grader.

Shelby County Board
January 11, 2024

Firnhaber made motion to approve the resolution. Williams seconded said motion. Discussion was held. Tappendorf is looking for a grader in the price range of \$130,000 - \$180,000. The current grader is a 1984 with over 12,000 hours, the meter quit so it is hard to say how many hours this equipment has. A new grader costs about \$450,000. Rose Township assisted the County by allowing the use of their grader this summer. Cat no longer makes parts for this grader, and they are difficult to find, and repairs are very expensive. If the department is unable to find a used one to purchase, they will need to lease one.

Firnhaber's motion, with Williams second, passed by voice vote (16 yes, 0 no).

A bid letting took place on January 8th for aggregate materials at the Shelby County Highway Department. Various types of rock and gravel were awarded to low bidders; Nokomis Quarry, Mid Illinois Quarry, and Beelman Logistics.

Wallace made motion to approve the aggregate materials bid resolution as presented. Bennett seconded said motion which passed by roll call vote (16 yes, 0 no). Ayes: Amling, Bennett, Brown, Cole, Edwards, Firnhaber, Hardy, Martin, Martz, Morse, Nelson, Orman, Ross, Shuff, Wallace, and Williams. Nay: none.

A letting for culverts, oil and hauling will be held on February 5th at the Shelby County Highway Department.

Tappendorf also presented the 2022 IDOT Motor Fuel Tax compliance reports for township bridge, township MFT, and county MFT.

At this time, Chairman Orman requested the appointment of Angela Miller as Animal Control Administrator.

Nelson made motion to approve the appointment. Firnhaber seconded said motion, which passed by roll call vote (15 yes, 1 no – Wallace). Ayes: Amling, Bennett, Brown, Cole, Edwards, Firnhaber, Hardy, Martin, Martz, Nelson, Orman, Ross, Shuff, and Williams. Nay: Wallace.

The animal control intergovernmental agreement with the Village of Stewardson was pulled so it could be returned to public safety for further review and possible updates.

Upon recommendation of the Public Safety Committee (PSC) Ross made motion to approve a resolution to waive animal adoption fees for Veterans with the appropriate identification per HB 2500. Firnhaber seconded said motion, which passed by voice vote (16 yes, 0 no).

Upon recommendation of the Legislative committee, Williams made motion to amend the Travel Ordinance to exclude reimbursement of tips. Firnhaber seconded said motion, which passed by voice vote (16 yes, 0 no). Finance chair Bennett requested the Clerk put a copy of this ordinance in the claims folder.

Williams made motion to have the Sheriff's office and State's Attorney investigate various allegations made in board meetings during the past few months. Those allegations include, illegally having keys made to the dive team building, theft of Wex fuel cards from the dive team building, illegal transfer of titles, and threatening an elected official. Brown seconded said motion. Discussion was held. Legislative chair Willaims asked Sheriff McReynolds some questions about the investigative process once a complaint has been filed. Sheriff McReynolds stated to date the Sheriff's office had received no complaints or information about allegations related to keys being made illegally, the theft of Wex fuel cards from the Dive Team building, illegal transfer of titles, or threats made against an elected official. The Sheriff informed the board, the Illinois State Police has a special investigations unit where citizens can file a complaint against any elected official or government appointee.

Williams withdrew his motion for investigation with the approval of Brown who had seconded initial motion.

Shelby County Board
January 11, 2024

Williams made motion to approve a date range for the scope of the forensic of the dive team. Firnhaber seconded said motion. Williams stated in discussions with the board chairman and treasurer it was decided the time for this audit should begin fiscal year 2021 through October 31, 2023. Motion passed by voice vote (13 yes, 3 no – Cole, Morse and Wallace).

Orman called for committee reports.

Finance chair Bennett stated for clarification purposes the county does pay \$36,500 per month to community services for various client services and a total of \$438,000 is budgeted by SCCS for this purpose.

Chairman Orman stated he had received a letter from the Christian County Board Chairman about renegotiating the intergovernmental agreement between Christian and Shelby counties for enhanced 9-1-1 emergency telephone service.

Under old business the ARPA funds report previously emailed to the board was discussed. It was asked if the report could be more specific about projects and if the FOP Grievance risk was an estimated figure. Another question was asked about the Fire Protection District act if those entities are required to have the ability to perform water recovery. The act states they may perform not that they shall perform.

Ross made motion to approve the payment of the monthly claims as reviewed by the respective committees. Firnhaber seconded said motion, which passed by roll call vote (16 yes, 0 no). Aye – Amling, Bennett, Brown, Cole, Edwards, Firnhaber, Hardy, Martin, Martz, Morse, Nelson, Orman, Ross, Shuff, Wallace, and Williams. Nay – none.

At this time Chairman Orman called for Public Body Comment.

Public comments/opinions expressed covered the following topics.

Absence of salaried employee
County Farm
Dive Team
Rescue Squad
Insurance – Dive Team/Rescue
IgA with City
Forensic audit
Accusations of crime

Williams made motion to adjourn until the next regular meeting to be held on February 8, 2024. Nelson seconded said motion, which passed by voice vote (16 yes, 0 no) and the meeting was adjourned at 9:12 P.M.

Jessica Fox
Shelby County Clerk and Recorder