

Minutes – Board of Town Trustees
April 16, 2015

STATE OF ILLINOIS
Crawford County
Town of Robinson

Meeting recording starts at Item 5B, the Highway Commissioner’s report.

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES met at the Robinson Township Office at 6:00 p.m. April 16, 2015.

The following official business was transacted. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Larry McCoy. Clerk Vickie Gribben then called the roll.

PRESENT:	Larry McCoy	Township Supervisor
	Vickie Gribben	Township Clerk
	David Lachenmayr	Township Highway Commissioner
	Sue Roberts	Assessor
	Shirley Berry	Township Trustee
	Lori Hodge	Township Trustee
	Pat Richards	Township Trustee
	Greg Wolfe	Township Trustee

Persons from the public attending the meeting were as follows: Becky Taylor, Janie Thackrey, Lacey Whipkey, and Matthew Wilson.

Item 3, Pledge of Allegiance.

Under Item 4, Mr. McCoy asked if the trustees had any questions or changes concerning the minutes of the March 19, 2015 regular Monthly Board Meeting. There being none, Pat Richards made the motion, seconded by Shirley Berry, to approve the minutes as written. Motion carried with vote as follows: Shirley Berry-yes; Pat Richards-yes; Lori Hodge-yes; Greg Wolfe-yes; Larry McCoy-yes.

Under Item 5A, the Supervisor’s report, Mr. McCoy dispensed with reading the beginning and ending monthly account balances for March 1, 2015 to March 31, 2015. He noted the interest rates were still 3/10% on the Robinson Township Investment List. He noted the number of general assistance cases done through the intergovernmental agreements which was 33 resulting in a total received of \$1980.00. He referred to the monthly board meeting schedule for fiscal year 2015-2016. He asked if there were any questions. There were none.

Under Item 5B, the Highway Commissioner’s report, Mr. Lachenmayr told the trustees the department is busy patching potholes and hauling gravel. He said that a large red oak tree in a homeowner’s yard had fallen across Road 1050. He said that most trees along the sides of the township roads had already been trimmed back, so there’s very seldom brush on the roads. The crew was now getting the mowers ready for summer mowing.

Between the Highway Commissioner’s report and the Assessor’s report, Mr. McCoy told the board about upcoming educational programs with the closest one being Rend Lake Resort in Whittington, Illinois. Sue Roberts is going to that one and also taking an afternoon class being offered that day. If anyone wishes to attend, the Township will pay for it.

Under Item 5C, Assessor's report. Mrs. Roberts had nothing to report.

Item 6A, Bids for Highway Department equipment building. Mr. McCoy said, "The way we left it last meeting was to get clarification from the lower bidder to make sure that he was including everything that the other bidder did." He referred the trustees to their copies of the bid and asked Mr. Lachenmayr if he wanted to go through it. He said yes and said that Larry and he had met with Mr. Hershberger two or three weeks ago and brought up any of the concerns as far as the insulation, the insulation in the flooring, rebar for the wire in the flooring. He said some of the things Mr. Hershberger didn't actually put down but Mr. Lachenmayr had recalled him and talked to him about it. Mr. Lachenmayr continued, "What I've come up with is his total bid for the building without the doors is \$258,000.00, and with the doors installed, which is \$20,874.00...and the doors by themselves was...Larry had gotten me a price from a distributor...almost \$18,000. So, really, he's not charging that much to install them for nine doors with torsion springs. But with the doors and the building, \$278,874.00. Now, one thing he didn't include in that was the gravel for the foundation." Mr. Lachenmayr continued by saying he figured the amount that would be needed to the "high side"— 266 yards at six inches. Total with the gravel and the doors would be \$280,514.00.

Mr. Lachenmayr continued, "His bid on the last bid he had for putting metal on the inside of the shed with the cement and insulation was \$16,506.00" but noted that "we can add that later on if we decide to...I think we can do a lot of that type of work ourselves.

Mr. McCoy asked if Mr. Hershberger included the insulation in his bid. Mr. Lachenmayr said that "It is if we went with the insulation in the ceiling and the metal, that would include the insulation, the \$16,506.00." Mr. McCoy said, "But that's in addition to this \$280?" Mr. Lachenmayr answered, "Right."

Mr. Lachenmayr said, "And one thing, other thing, we talked about, a clarification was the boiler system. I called DC Metal and they never did return my call....on that, but I talked to John LaFever... which he does boiler systems locally....and he said that's way overkill having the three boilers. And then I talked to Ron Biernbaum. I asked him just to figure me up what it would... one boiler is what it would take to do that... and he said about 330,000 BTU and it's 333 is what he's got....so, and I talked to the people that they...Hershberger's got to, Huddleston, I think it was, and they said that he had contacted them, and they had refigured and that is what it would take to heat that sufficiently. So I called four places, got three responses, and all three said the one boiler is correct."

Mr. Richards asked, "Do you have any idea how much...the boiler would be?" Mr. Lachenmayr said the price is in the bid. "It's \$48,646.00....That's them installing...all the runs and having it all ready to go except for we've got to supply the gas and the electric to it."

Mr. McCoy said, "I've got a couple of questions for you. This is now the building erected, but it's not finished inside. It's not insulated. Mr. Lachenmayr responded, "Right." Mr. McCoy continued, "It doesn't include the ceiling." Mr. Lachenmayr said, "Right...Septic tank's not included. We'll have to put a new septic in, cause it's just an old barrel system at the old place."

Mr. McCoy said, "My question is, How much is it going to cost to finish it? Have you got any figures on that?"

Mr. Lachenmayr said, "I roughed it out myself. It's approximately \$50,000 by the time you put insulation in it, finish the ceiling, put in the septic system, wiring, but we'll have to have an electrician to do a certain part of the wiring. They'll have to put up the main feed."

Mr. McCoy clarified, "So this doesn't include any wiring." Mr. Lachenmayr answered, "No."

Mr. McCoy responded, "I would doubt that you will finish it for that."

Mr. Lachenmayr said, "I'm just roughing out stuff myself. I don't know, you know, til we get...."

Mr. McCoy said, "Well, that's a big building....I'm not trying to be difficult...how are you planning on finishing it? Are you going to put the steel inside? You gonna insulate it?"

Mr. Lachenmayr said, "Plan on insulating it then putting steel on the inside all the way..."

Mr. McCoy said, "the ceiling and everything..." He asked Mr. Lachenmayer what kind of insulation he would be using. Mr. Lachenmayr said he was thinking about spray on insulation.

Mr. McCoy went through the costs for the property and to erect and finish the building: \$160,000 for the property, \$280,000 for the building, and \$50,000 to finish the interior, for a total of \$490,000.

Mr. McCoy asked if there were any questions. Mrs. Roberts asked about the gauge of the metal. Mr. Lachenmayr said that Mr. Hershberger upped the gauge from 23 to 26 which is what DC Metal priced.

Mr. Richards asked about DC Metal's total bid for the building. Mr. Lachenmayr said the total came to \$332,498.00. Mr. Richards continued, "And it'd cost you another \$50,000 for insulation on top of that?"

Mr. Lachenmayr answered yes. Mr. Richards said, "So, in other words, you're about \$36,000 more than the other guy." Mr. Lachenmayr agreed.

Sue Roberts asked if Mr. Hershberger had insurance. Mr. McCoy said he would have to provide proof of satisfactory insurance. Mr. Lachenmayr said he had asked Mr. Hershberger who said he did have it.

There were no other questions. Shirley Berry moved to accept Hershberger's Pole Building bid to build the highway department's 60' by 160' building with a 30' x 30' office. Lori Hodge seconded. Motion carried with vote as follows: Pat Richards-yes; Lori Hodge-yes; Greg Wolfe-yes; Larry McCoy-abstain; Shirley Berry-yes.

Item 7A, New Business, Approval to designate First Financial Bank as depositories, First National Bank of Olney, First Robinson Savings Bank, Regions Bank, and First Financial Bank for investments. Greg Wolfe made the motion to do so. Pat Richards seconded. Motion carried with vote as follows: Lori Hodge-yes; Greg Wolfe-yes; Larry McCoy-yes; Shirley Berry-yes; Pat Richards-yes.

Item 7B, Approval to retain an attorney for fiscal year 2015-2016, Heller, Holmes & Associates-Heath Uppencamp. Greg Wolf made the motion and Shirley Berry seconded. Greg Wolfe-yes; Larry McCoy-yes; Shirley Berry-yes; Pat Richards-yes; Lori Hodge-yes.

Item 7C, Approval to use the General Assistance and Emergency Assistance Manuals as the Township guidelines for fiscal year April 1, 2015-March 31, 2016. Pat Richards made the motion which was seconded by Greg Wolfe. Motion carried with vote as follows: Larry McCoy-yes; Shirley Berry-yes; Pat Richards-yes; Lori Hodge-yes; Greg Wolfe-yes.

Item 7D, Approval to pass the current charges for grave opening fees for fiscal year 2015-2016. Pat Richards made the motion to do so. Larry McCoy seconded. Motion carried with vote as follows: Shirley Berry-yes; Pat Richards-yes; Lori Hodge-yes; Greg Wolfe-yes; Larry McCoy-yes.

Item 7E, Approval to pay bills that are due prior to board meeting. Greg Wolfe made the motion to approve and Lori Hodge seconded. Motion carried with vote as follows: Pat Richards-yes; Lori Hodge-yes; Greg Wolfe-yes; Larry McCoy-yes; Shirley Berry-yes.

Item 7F, Approval to pass the State Gift Ban Act. Lori Hodge made the motion. Greg Wolfe seconded the motion which carried with vote as follows: Lori Hodge-yes; Greg Wolfe-yes; Larry McCoy-yes; Shirley Berry-yes; Pat Richards-yes.

Item 7G, Supervisor McCoy requested a motion to pass the Investment Policy “which regards what we do with the money, and it will remain the same as we have in the past. It will be kept locally with all of our lending institutions here.”

Pat Richards asked, “Would now be the time to bring up about financin the highway building?”

Mr. McCoy stated, “Can’t be done. I’ve already checked.”

Mr. Richards, “Can be done. I talked to him too.”

Mr. McCoy, “Who’d you talk to?”

Mr. Richards, “...I talked to Bryan Smith.”

Mr. McCoy, “And what did he say?”

Mr. Richards, “Bryan Smith said it was okay. He said we could actually charge more than the 3/10 per cent, but he would recommend goin with 3/10 per cent, and he said there is no problem with it. I talked to him two days ago.”

Mr. McCoy, “I do not like the idea of charging taxpayers interest.”

Mr. Richards, “Well, I, 3/10 per cent, I’d say do the same we do as what we’re gettin from the banks, and we’re just payin ourselves back. We’re not chargin any more and, actually, it’s makin us money, if we’re not, you know, if you’re not chargin, getting 3 per cent off some bank or something for the loan.”

Mr. McCoy, “Well, I will tell you what Brian Bradbury told me, and this is what we’re encountering right now in negotiations with Marathon. They contend, as do many of the people in this county and township, that all the taxing bodies are charging far too high of taxes, and Brian’s point to me, and I agree, is when you start lending money, when you have that much money on hand, to lend to other governmental agencies, you’re charging too much taxes. And that falls right into Marathon’s argument.”

Ms. Lori Hodge, “This is some of the money that we have, didn’t you say, that that is required by law to have that much money on hand?”

Mr. McCoy, “You have to have a certain amount, but the point being, if you have enough, if you have that kind of money, that kind of surplus, you need to lower your taxes. And that’s when the State will come in and tell you that too.”

Ms. Hodge, “Then what, I mean, what is the required...? The, I know at one point in time, you had said there was a...and it was significant...”

Mr. McCoy, “I don’t remember, I would have to check....But, we haven’t budgeted to do that, number one, either, to loan money for this.”

Mr. Richards, “Yeah, but we could.”

More discussion followed with Mr. Richards stating that “the County, they’re loaning to everybody else. They’re loaning to individuals.”

Mr. McCoy, “What are they loaning?”

Mr. Richards, “Well.”

Ms. Hodge, “Business loans and...”

Mr. Richards, “Yeah, the old IGA over at Oblong.”

Mr. Matthew Wilson, a member of the public attending the meeting, said, “Those are different funds.”

Mr. McCoy, “Exactly, and they’re not loaning...they’re not loaning it to other tax bodies, Pat.”

Mr. Richards, “No, they’re not, but they’re loaning money.”

Mr. Wilson, “That’s true.”

Mr. McCoy, “That’s right, but they’re not other taxing bodies.”

Mr. Wilson, “That does not come from the coffers that come on our tax bills.”

Mr. McCoy told the trustees that it was okay to discuss this matter, but no action could be taken on it until the May meeting. He agreed to put it on the agenda.

A difference of opinion arose when Mr. Richards told Mr. McCoy that Mr. McCoy said he would get back to Mr. Richards about the possibility of loaning the money to the Highway department from Township funds for the construction of the building.

Mr. McCoy responded, "I don't recall saying I'd get back with you personally, but I said we would look into it which I did...." Mr. McCoy continued, "I just don't think it's a smart thing to do, to fund this out of Township funds, but we will put it on the agenda for the next meeting....Mr. McCoy concluded by stating that, "I just think it should be done through the banks."

Mr. Richards, "Well, my opinion on that is, you got 3 per cent as opposed to 3/10th's per cent. So you're actually saving the government money by us loaning..."

Mr. McCoy, "I repeat myself, I'm not unaware of your line of thinking, and normally, I couldn't agree with you more. The point though is, as I said, and I think it's a very well taken point, I think it'll come back to bite you in the long run because, that gives Marathon, Hershey, all these big entities a point that they are being overtaxed....And, if they go to the State Property Tax Board, which they're threatening to do, and if they got EAV lowered, you're not going to have the income that you currently have because your tax rate'll go down. Your tax income will go down, but we will... put it on the agenda for next month."

Mr. Richards, "Appreciate it."

Mr. McCoy, "And what I think I will do is, I will ask Bryan or his representative to come along with our attorney, and along with the accountant, and, if they, if they're in agreement that's the prudent thing to do, I won't object, I won't stand in the way. But, I want to hear it from them."

Mr. Richards, "That's fine. Like I say, if Bryan Smith says it, I imagine it's been done before, so, that's what I'm going by; that's what I'm putting my faith in, but yes, that'd be fine...have your attorney in...."

Mr. McCoy said, "He's not my attorney."

More discussion followed with the following conclusion.

Mr. Richards, "Let's just clear it up. Basically, we're talking the same thing, if it's legal and the trustees vote it in, then it's good. If they vote it out or it's not legal, then it's a done deal. Put it on the agenda for next month. We'll go from there."

Mr. McCoy, "I think that's what I just said."

Mr. Richards, "I agree."

Under Item 7G, Mr. McCoy requested a motion to pass the Investment Policy. Mr. McCoy made the motion and Greg Wolf seconded. Motion carried with vote as follows: Greg Wolfe-yes; Larry McCoy-yes; Shirley Berry-yes; Pat Richards-yes; Lori Hodge-yes.

Item 7H, Mr. McCoy requested a motion to pass the Loss Control Policy. Pat Richards made the motion to pass the policy and Greg Wolfe seconded. Motion carried with vote as follows: Larry McCoy-yes; Shirley Berry-yes; Pat Richards-yes; Lori Hodge-yes; Greg Wolfe-yes.

Item 7I, Greg Wolfe made the motion to approve the current Motor Vehicle Policy for the Cemetery for fiscal year 2015-2016. Lori Hodge seconded. Motion carried with vote as follows: Shirley Berry-yes; Pat Richards-yes; Lori Hodge-yes; Greg Wolfe-yes; Larry McCoy-yes.

Item 7J, Pat Richards made the motion to pass the Model Ethics Ordinance. Shirley Berry seconded. Motion carried with vote as follows: Pat Richards-yes; Lori Hodge-yes; Greg Wolfe-yes; Larry McCoy-yes; Shirley Berry-yes.

Item 7K, Lori Hodge made the motion to pass the Work Harrassment/Sexual Harrassment Policy for fiscal year 2015-2016. Shirley Berry seconded. Motion carried with vote as follows: Lori Hodge-yes; Greg Wolfe-yes; Larry McCoy-yes; Shirley Berry-yes; Pat Richards-yes.

Item 7L, Pat Richards made the motion to re-adopt the policy that anyone recording the meeting has to give the board prior notice before the meeting starts. Lori Hodge seconded the motion. Motion carried with vote as follows: Greg Wolfe-yes; Larry McCoy-yes; Shirley Berry-yes; Pat Richards-yes; Lori Hodge-yes.

Item 7M, Mr. McCoy requested a motion to pass the Rules for Public Comments on Agenda Items. Pat Richards moved to approve them. Greg Wolfe seconded the motion which carried with vote as follows: Larry McCoy-yes; Shirley Berry-yes; Pat Richards-yes; Lori Hodge-yes; Greg Wolfe-yes.

Item 7N, Chairman McCoy announced that tentative budgets for the Town and Road funds will be distributed during the May monthly meeting. Final approval will take place in June.

Item 7O, Mr. McCoy referred the board to the Statements of Economic Interest and requested that each office holder complete one and give to Clerk Vickie Gribben.

Item 8A, Shirley Berry moved to approve payment of Town, G.A., and Payroll bills. Lori Hodge seconded the motion. Motion carried with vote as follows: Shirley Berry-yes; Pat Richards-yes; Lori Hodge-yes; Greg Wolfe-yes; Larry McCoy-yes.

Item 8B, Greg Wolfe made a motion to pay the Road District bills. Shirley Berry seconded the motion. Motion carried with vote as follows: Pat Richards-yes; Lori Hodge-yes; Greg Wolfe-yes; Larry McCoy-yes; Shirley Berry-yes.

Item 8C, Pat Richards made a motion, seconded by Lori Hodge, to pre-approve payment of Elected Officials for the time period of April 17, 2015 through May 21, 2015. Motion carried with vote as follows: Lori Hodge-yes; Greg Wolfe-yes; Larry McCoy-yes; Shirley Berry-yes; Pat Richards-yes.

Item 9, Lori Hodge made a motion, seconded by Shirley Berry, to pay per diem. Motion carried with vote as follows: Greg Wolfe-yes; Larry McCoy-yes; Shirley Berry-yes; Pat Richards-yes; Lori Hodge-yes.

Item 10, Public Comments. There were none.

Item 11, Shirley Berry made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Lori Hodge seconded. Motion carried with all in favor voting aye.

Meeting adjourned at 6:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Vickie Gribben
Township Clerk

Larry McCoy
Township Supervisor