

MERCER COUNTY BOARD MINUTES
November 8, 2018

Board convened at 6:30 p.m.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance roll call showed the following members present: Board Members Anseeuw, Bieri, DeFrieze, Frieden, Fullerlove, Hare, and Sarabasa. There was a quorum present.

There was no public comment.

Motion to approve the consent agenda by Board Member Bieri seconded by Board Member Hare was approved by vote of the Board.

Montie Schell spoke on behalf of the Public Building Commission regarding the repairs made to the Courthouse clock tower. For the first time in many years, the clock is functional and the bell chimes on the hour. The repairs were made by Roy Burlingame and Steve Smith. Mr. Burlingame was in attendance and was presented a plaque of appreciation from the PBC and the County. A memorial plaque will be installed at the Courthouse recognizing Mr. Burlingame's and Mr. Smith's efforts in repairing the clock tower.

Sheriff Staley requested the agenda item regarding a possible 911 merger between Henderson and Mercer counties be tabled until the new sheriff is sworn in since he will be the one affected by the merger. A motion to table the discussion was made by Board Member DeFrieze seconded by Board Member Bieri was approved by vote of the Board.

Board Member Sarabasa asked Montie Schell why there were no lights shining on the flag pole in front of the Courthouse. Montie said he would check into it. Clerk Blaser and State's Attorney Lee also stated that they would check with John Koresko to see if he knew the reason. Board Member Sarabasa stated that if the issue was more than just a burned out bulb he would look into making the necessary repairs.

Circuit Clerk Relander reported that the County is now set up with the State of Illinois to collect debt through people's state tax refunds. She stated that the service is offered at no charge to the County and will assist the County in collecting money on outstanding fines.

Motion for roll call vote to approve claims by Board Member Sarabasa seconded by Board Member DeFrieze was approved by roll call vote of the Board – 7 ayes, 0 nays. The claims presented for payment on November 15, 2018 are as follows: General Corporate \$105,767.90, Public Health \$27,203.02, Veterans/Bogardus \$2,156.33, County Highway \$14,232.85, Federal Aid Matching \$34,066.36, Township Motor Fuel \$179,126.71, Motor Fuel \$2,156.08, Animal Control \$1,040.16, Pet Population \$4,445.55, AC – Building Fund \$14,276.50, Law Library \$950.91, Capital Improvements \$4,613.24, Liability Insurance \$9,713.58, Probation Fees \$2,390.44, Circuit Clerk Document Storage \$293.82, and State's Attorney Automation \$220.00 for a total of \$402,653.45.

Montie Schell spoke on the issue of tree/stump removal at the Courthouse. He stated that the PBC would be paying for the tree/stump removal and that he would be presenting replacement options to the Board at a later date. He stated that replacement would include trees, soil, and landscaping.

Motion was made by Board Member Sarabasa seconded by Board Member Bieri to pay the levy reimbursement to Rockridge CUSD #300. Motion was approved by vote of the Board.

Motion was made by Board Member Sarabasa seconded by Board Member DeFrieze to not hire a platting officer. The motion was approved by vote of the Board. Clerk Blaser will check with Angie Litterst (zoning officer) and see if she would be willing to be the platting officer.

The 2019 Budget and Appropriation Resolution was approved by roll call vote of the Board – 7 ayes, 0 nays. The 2019 Statement of Tax Levies and Resolution was then approved by roll call vote of the Board – 7 ayes, 0 nays. Motion was made by Board Member Bieri seconded by Board Member Hare to approve the Resolution for Deed of Conveyance 10-10-16-300-010 in Mercer Township to Susan K. Dobbins for \$955.00 and was approved by vote of the Board. Motion was made by Board Member DeFrieze seconded by Board Member Fullerlove to approve the Resolution of State’s Attorney for Appellate Prosecutor and was approved by vote of the Board. After some discussion, motion was made by Board Member Bieri seconded by Board Member DeFrieze to approve the Resolution for County Holidays for 2019 and was approved by vote of the Board.

In other business, Board Member Fullerlove stated that the Negotiations Committee had met with Attorney Stewart and presented their findings to him. After not hearing from Attorney Stewart since October 2nd, Board Member Fullerlove called him for an update. Attorney Stewart has been in contact with the union’s attorney and they are hoping to set up a meeting in December or January. Board Member Fullerlove stated that he would email the members of the Negotiations Committee about setting up another meeting.

Motion to adjourn to Monday, December 3rd at 6:30 p.m. by Board Member Bieri was seconded by Board Member Fullerlove and was approved by vote of the Board at 7:15 p.m.