

Chairman David Zimmerman  
Kim D. Joesting, Dist. 1  
Nancy Proehl, Dist. 1  
Mark Goddard, Dist. 1  
Kaden Nelms, Dist. 1  
Nick Graff, Dist. 2  
Greg Menold, Dist. 2  
Greg Sinn, Dist. 2  
Eric Schmidgall, Dist. 3  
Dave Mingus, Dist. 3  
Tammy Rich-Stimson, Dist. 3



John C. Ackerman  
County Clerk

Vice Chairman, Michael Harris, Dist. 3  
Jay Hall, Dist. 1  
Michael Deppert, Dist. 1  
Sam Goddard, Dist. 1  
Jon Hopkins, Dist. 2  
Maxwell Schneider, Dist. 2  
Roy Paget, Dist. 2  
Eric Stahl, Dist. 2  
Russ Crawford, Dist. 3  
William (Bill) Atkins, Dist. 3  
Greg Longfellow, Dist. 3

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**TAZEWELL COUNTY BOARD  
MEETING MINUTES  
WEDNESDAY AUGUST 28, 2024  
6:00 PM**

**James Carius Community Room, Tazewell Law & Justice Center,  
101 S. Capitol Street, Pekin, Illinois 61554**

**ROLL CALL BY COUNTY CLERK**

Attendance was taken by Roll Call and the following members of the board were present: Chairman Zimmerman, Vice Chairman Harris, Members Atkins, Crawford, Mark Goddard, Graff, Hall, Hopkins, Joesting, Longfellow, Menold, Mingus, Paget, Nelms, Proehl, Rich-Stimson, Schneider, Sinn, Stahl - 19. Absent: Members Deppert, Sam Goddard, Schmidgall – 3.

**INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Chairman Zimmerman had a moment of silence for Darrell “Dude” Meisinger, a former Tazewell County Board Member that recently passed away.

Chairman Zimmerman led the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**COMMUNICATION FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND/OR COUNTY EMPLOYEES**

Tim Behr, a concerned citizen, spoke in opposition to solar and wind projects within Tazewell County. He voiced concern with recent votes pertaining to such projects by the Tazewell County Board.

Jim Griffin, attorney for Unsicker Solar, spoke on the proposed solar farm and the recent Zoning Board of Appeals meeting.

Matt Walsh, Project Manager with Unsicker Solar, spoke on the solar projects proposed in Morton Township.

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## **COMMUNICATIONS FROM ELECTED & APPOINTED COUNTY OFFICIALS**

No communications from elected or appointed county officials.

## **APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JULY 31, 2024, COUNTY BOARD PROCEEDINGS AND THE AUGUST 7, 2024, SPECIAL COUNTY BOARD PROCEEDINGS**

Member Graff moved to approve the minutes of the Board Meetings held on July 31, 2024, and August 7, 2024, as printed; seconded by Member Schneider. Motion to approve the minutes as printed were approved by voice vote of 18 Yeas; 0 Nays.

## **IN-PLACE PROPERTY COMMITTEE MEETING**

Meeting started at 6:11 PM and entered Executive Session at 6:13 PM. The Property Committee ended the Executive Session at 6:27 PM. The Tazewell County Board returned to regular session at 6:28 PM.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

- 1. Land Use: Approve Case No 23-42-S-Taz Co IL S1, LLC – Special Use – Delavan Township, Resolution LU-24-16.**
- 2. Land Use: Approve Case No. 24-32 A – Amendment 70, Resolution LU-24-17.**
- 3. Property: Approve bid for McKenzie Building exterior limestone replacement and repair, Resolution P-24-23.**
- 4. Property: Approve proposal for purchase of a generator for 1800 Broadway, Pekin, IL, Resolution P-24-21. Upon approval of in-place meeting**
- 5. Property: Approve bid for proposal for soil borings, field exploration services, environmental services, laboratory soil testing services, and engineering services for the New Justice Center Annex, Resolution P-24-24. Upon approval of in-place meeting**
- 6. Human Resources: Approve participation in the Health Fair, Resolution HR-24-18.**
- 7. Human Resources: Approve the 2024 Tazewell County Health Benefit Plan, Resolution HR-24-19.**

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8. **Human Resources: Approve Professional Development Reimbursement Policy, Resolution HR-24-20.**
9. **Executive: Approve Decommissioning Agreement for Vann Parkin I – Washington and Parkin II - Morton, Resolution E-24-94.**
10. **Executive: Approve County Delinquent Tax Sale resolution, Resolution E-24-95.**
11. **Executive: Approve Decommissioning Agreement for Morton Solar, LLC, Resolution E-24-96.**
12. **Executive: Approve consulting agreement with Wyman Group, Resolution E-24-97.**
13. **Executive: Approve We Care application for DOAP for FY25, Resolution E-24-101.**
14. **Executive: Approve We Care application for Section 5311 grant for FY25, Resolution E-24-102.**
15. **Executive: Approve Grant Agreement with IDOT, Resolution E-24-103.**
16. **Executive: Approve budget for Heritage Lake Special Service Area for FY25, Resolution E-24-104.**
17. **Executive: Approve tax levy for the Heritage Lake Special Service Area for FY25, Resolution E-24-105.**
18. **Executive: Approve engineering design quote for culvert lining for Heritage Lake Association Special Service Area, Resolution E-24-106.**

Member Crawford moved to approve the Consent Agenda items as outlined in the agenda packet; seconded by Member Hopkins. The Consent Agenda was approved by voice vote of 18 Yeas; 0 Nays.

The following items were removed from the Consent Agenda for further discussion.

**Item 1 Land Use:** Member Hall motioned to approve Case No. 23-42-S-Taz Co IL S1, LLC – Special Use – Delavan Township; seconded by Member Mingus. Member Harris stated he would not support this resolution. Motion passed by roll call vote of 16 Yeas; 2 Nays – Harris, Hopkins. Resolution LU-24-16 was passed by the County Board.

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**Item 2 Land Use:** Member Atkins motioned to approve Case No. 24-32-A-Amendment 70; seconded by Member Mingus. Motion passed by roll call vote of 18 Yeas; 0 Nays – Resolution LU-24-17 was passed by the County Board.

**Item 4 Property:** Member Graff motioned to approve proposal for purchase of a generator for 1800 Broadway, Pekin, IL; seconded by Member Atkins. Motion passed by voice vote of 18 Yeas; 0 Nays. Resolution P-24-21 was passed by the County Board.

**Item 5 Property:** Member Menold motioned to approve proposal for soil borings, field exploration services, environmental services, laboratory soil testing services, and engineering services for the New Justice Center Annex; seconded by Member Atkins. Motion passed by voice vote of 18 Yeas; 0 Nays. Resolution P-24-24 was passed by the County Board.

**Item 8 Human Resources:** In response to Member Graff's question, Human Resources Director Sue Webster explained this policy will provide educational reimbursement up to \$5000 a year. She explained this program should help with recruitment of future employees while retaining current ones. Member Nelms motioned to approve the Professional Development Reimbursement Policy; seconded by Member Hopkins. Motion passed by voice vote of 18 Yeas; 0 Nays. Resolution HR-24-20 was passed by the County Board.

**Item 9 Executive:** Member Atkins motioned to approve the Decommissioning Agreement for Vann Parkin I – Washington and Parkin II – Morton; seconded by Member Graff. Motion passed by voice vote of 17 Yeas; 1 Nay – Harris. Resolution E-24-94 was passed by the County Board.

**Item 11 Executive:** Member Harris stated he would not be supporting this resolution. Member Crawford stated no member should oppose a decommissioning proposal.

Member Atkins motioned to approve the Decommissioning Agreement for Morton Solar, LLC; seconded by Member Graff. Motion passed by voice vote of 17 Yeas; 1 Nay – Harris. Resolution E-24-96 was passed by the County Board.

**Item 16 Executive:** Motion by Member Crawford to return Heritage Lake Special Service Area FY25 Budget back to the Executive Committee for discussion on bond interest revisions; seconded by Member Nelms. Motion passed by voice vote of 18 Yeas; 0 Nays.

**Item 17 Executive:** Member Crawford motioned to return the tax levy for the Heritage Lake Special Service Area for FY25, back to the Executive Committee; seconded by Member Graff. Motion passed by voice vote of 18 Yeas; 0 Nays.

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## **APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS**

Member Schneider moved to Appoint Michael Deppert to the Tazewell County Extension Board; seconded by Member Sinn. Resolution E-24-91 was approved by voice vote of 18 Yeas; 0 Nays.

Member Schneider moved to Reappoint Brian Becker to the Spring Lake Drainage and Levee District; seconded by Member Sinn. Resolution E-24-92 was approved by voice vote of 18 Yeas; 0 Nays.

Member Schneider moved to Appoint Ron Craig to the Spring Bay Fire Protection District; seconded by Member Sinn. Resolution E-24-93 was approved by voice vote of 18 Yeas; 0 Nays.

Member Rich Stimson moved to Reappoint Michael Harris to the Local Landfill Review Board; seconded by Member Schneider. Resolution E-24-98 was approved by voice vote of 17 Yeas; 0 Nays; 1 Abstention – Harris.

Member Schneider moved to Reappoint Bradley Haning to the West Fork Drainage District; seconded by Member Sinn. Resolution E-24-99 was approved by voice vote of 18 Yeas; 0 Nays.

Member Schneider moved to Reappoint Wayne Deppert to the Union Drainage District; seconded by Member Sinn. Resolution E-24-100 was approved by voice vote of 18 Yeas; 0 Nays.

Member Schneider moved to Reappoint Kenneth Becker to the Mackinaw River Levee & Drainage District #1; seconded by Member Sinn. Resolution E-24-107 was approved by voice vote of 18 Yeas; 0 Nays.

Member Schneider moved to Reappoint Joshua Charlton to the Cincinnati Drainage and Levee District; seconded by Member Sinn. Resolution E-24-108 was approved by voice vote of 18 Yeas; 0 Nays.

## **Land Use Items Recommended for Denial**

- 1. Land Use: Approve Case No. 24-27-S-Unsicker 1, LLC – Special Use – Morton Township, Resolution LU-24-13.**
- 2. Land Use: Approve Case No. 24-28-S-Unsicker 2, LLC – Special Use – Morton Township, Resolution LU-24-14.**
- 3. Land Use: Approve Case No. 24-29-S-Unsicker 3, LLC – Special Use – Morton Township, Resolution LU-24-15.**

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Member Crawford stated the ZBA voted for denial of the proposed solar projects, indicating they referenced the finding of facts. He indicated the Village of Morton voiced concerns with these projects. He stated that Land Use Committee voted to deny by a 4-3 vote.

Member Hopkins motioned to enter into Executive Session citing Section 2 (c)(11) Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting; seconded by Member Rich Stimson. Motion to enter into Executive Session was approved by voice vote of 16 Yeas; 2 Nays – Crawford, Menold.

The Tazewell County Board entered Executive Session at 6:41 PM.

Tazewell County Board returned to Regular Session at 7:23 PM.

Member Menold voiced concern with previous votes on solar projects in the past. He indicated the Village of Morton has invested a lot of money for infrastructure improvements.

Member Atkins reminded the board that a recommendation for denial was on the agenda and a Yes vote would be for application to be granted, while a No vote would be for denial.

Member Sinn voiced concern why the Village of Morton approved other solar projects in their community and why they didn't annex the property of the proposed project.

Member Graff stated he was concerned that the county board only had one option regarding approval/denial of solar projects.

Member Hopkins indicated he would be voting no on these proposed solar projects.

Chairman Zimmerman stated all three resolutions would be voted on together.

Motion to approve Case No. 24-27-S-Unsicker 1, LLC – Special Use – Morton Township, Resolution LU-24-13, Case No. 24-28-S-Unsicker 2, LLC – Special Use – Morton Township, Resolution LU-24-14 and Case No. 24-29-S-Unsicker 3, LLC – Special Use – Morton Township, Resolution LU-24-15 was denied by a roll call vote of 8 Yeas – Atkins, Mark Goddard, Hall, Joesting, Longfellow, Nelms, Proehl, Schneider; 10 Nays – Crawford, Graff, Harris, Hopkins, Menold, Mingus, Paget, Rich-Stimson, Sinn, Stahl.

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Resolutions LU-24-13, LU-24-14 and LU-24-15 were denied by the Tazewell County Board.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

It was determined the board had no unfinished business at this time.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

It was determined the board had no new business at this time.

### **REVIEW OF APPROVED BILLS**

Board Members reviewed the approved bills as presented.

### **APPROVE THE AUGUST 2024 CALENDAR**

Member Hall moved to approve the September 2024 calendar; seconded by Member Crawford. Motion to approve the September 2024 calendar was approved by voice vote of 18 Yeas; 0 Nays.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Chairman Zimmerman thanked Property Committee Chairman Greg Longfellow on his extensive work on the proposed New Justice Center Annex project. Chairman Zimmerman also thanked Finance Chairman Nick Graff for his work on the county budget.

Finance Chairman Graff reminded the board that the first budget committee meeting would be held on Tuesday, September 3, 2024, at 3:30 PM.

There being no further business before the Board, Chairman Zimmerman announced the meeting adjourned. The Tazewell County Board Meeting adjourned at 7:36 PM. The next scheduled County Board meeting will be September 25, 2024.