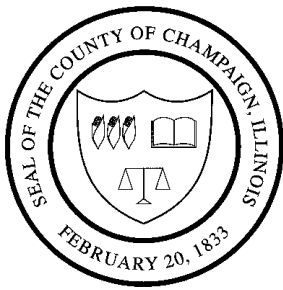


Committee of the Whole Meeting

Agenda Items - Distributed November 9, 2022

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CHAMPAIGN COUNTY BOARD

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Finance/ Policy, Personnel, & Appointments/Justice & Social Services

County of Champaign, Urbana, Illinois

Tuesday, October 11, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.

Shields-Carter Meeting Room

Brookens Administrative Center

1776 East Washington Street, Urbana, Illinois

10

11

12MINUTES – Subject to Approval

13Members Present: Lorraine Cowart, Aaron Esry, Stephanie Fortado, Jim Goss, Jenny Lokshin, Jim
14 McGuire, Diane Michaels, Brad Passalacqua, Jacob Paul, Emily Rodriguez, Chris
15 Stohr, Jennifer Straub, Steve Summers, Leah Taylor, Eric Thorsland, Bethany
16 Vanichtheeranont, Wayne Williams, Kyle Patterson

17

18Members Absent: Samantha Carter, Stan Harper, Mary King, Jodi Wolken

19

20Others Present: Darlene Kloeppel (County Executive), Tami Ogden (Director of Finance), Susan
21 McGrath (Circuit Clerk), Megan Robison (Recording Secretary)

22Agenda Items

23

24 I. Call to Order

25

26 Chair Patterson called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

27

28 II. Roll Call

29

30 Roll call was taken, and a quorum was declared present.

31

32 III. Approval of Agenda/Addenda

33

34 **MOTION** by Ms. Straub to approve the agenda; seconded by Ms. Lokshin. Ms. Kloeppel mentioned the
35 Sheriff would like to pull item IX. C. 1. from the agenda since he has not received the draft agreement back
36 from Kankakee. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

37

38 IV. Approval of Minutes

39

A. August 29, 2022 – Legislative Budget Hearing

40

B. August 30, 2022 – Legislative Budget Hearing

41

C. September 13, 2022 – Regular Meeting

42

43 **OMNIBUS MOTION** by Ms. Michaels to approve the minutes of August 29, 2022, August 30, 2022, and
44 September 13, 2022; seconded by Mr. Goss. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

45

46 V. Public Participation

47

48 David Beck, AFCSME Council 31 Regional Director, represents about 100 employees at the University
49 Rehabilitation Center (previously the Nursing Home) and is here, on behalf of the employees, to speak about
50 the request to change the covenants included in the Nursing Home sale contract. The mantra used several
51 years ago, when discussing the sale of the Nursing Home, was “sell it, to save it”. The company that was
52 supposed to be saving the Nursing Home, now wants to shut it down. The employees gave up so much to stay
53 employed and now they are losing even more if they shut down. He requested the Board members vote “no”
54 to change the covenants in the sale contract.

55

56 Claudia Lennhoff, Champaign County Healthcare Consumers Executive Director, is here to speak about the
57 request to sell the Nursing Home to a non-nursing home operator. She agrees that we do need more substance
58 abuse resources but not at the expense of losing another nursing home. Our community needs approximately
59 1,128 nursing home beds, if this facility closes, we will be down to approximately 400 beds in the
60 community. It is a hardship for loved ones to be placed in other communities. There is a growing aging
61 population in our community and the need is only going to increase. She urges the Board to not let the current
62 owners out of the covenants.

63
64 Dottie Vura-Weis, retired physician, moved to the community about nine years ago and at that time there was
65 a public nursing home that was seen as an asset to the community. She listed some of the issues the Nursing
66 Home faced over the years prior to the sale. Once it came time to sell, there were covenants that were placed
67 in the contract as protections for the community. She said we need to hold them to the contract they signed.

68
69 Renee Mullen came to address the resolution being proposed about reproductive freedom. She requested the
70 Board members consider the science of biology and genetics and to research the Abortion Survivors Network.
71 Both of her children are adopted, and she mentioned how blessed she is to have them because their birth
72 mothers chose adoption instead of abortion. Abortion hurts everyone it touches, and she listed some of those
73 ways and the programs that are required to support people after abortions. She believes abortion is very much
74 a money-making endeavor.

75
76 Benjamin Beaupre reminded the Board of a gentleman named David Laker who came to the meetings prior to
77 the sale of the Nursing Home and asked, "What about Sue?". He sent a link to Mr. Laker's argument to all of
78 the Board members. He knows they had bad options to choose from when it came to the sale of the Nursing
79 Home, but we all need to look out for the most vulnerable members of our community.

80
81 Jeff Wilson, Champaign resident, came to talk about three topics. First, he spoke about the Nursing Home
82 issue. He would like the County Board to consider the compassionate and right thing to do. They need to ask
83 what they can do as a community to take care of it's most vulnerable members. Second, he mentioned the last
84 two items on tonight's agenda. He believes there are more important items for the Board to attend to and
85 recommends they drop both of these resolutions.

86
87 Mike Ingram said the resolution to declare President Biden the winner may seem silly except there are
88 candidates running for office who state they are unsure if he won. He also mentioned other ways to reduce the
89 rate of abortion and believes those are the things this County should be focusing on instead of fighting about
90 this resolution. Then he moved on to the Nursing Home topic and why the covenants were placed in the
91 contract. He believes the current owners should follow the contract they signed.

92
93 Allan Axelrod, District 11 resident, is here to support the AFSCME workers at the Nursing Home. He then
94 mentioned the members that voted to support a resolution about utility shutoffs, some of the comments
95 against the resolution and explained a little more in detail why that was needed. He believes the County Board
96 is more progressive now, than it was in 2018, and wants members to think about how changing the covenants
97 will undermine union jobs. These are just people trying to live their lives and take care of the people in the
98 facility. He urged the Board to just let them do their jobs.

99
100 Mary Gannaway, mother of a Nursing Home resident, who is speaking on behalf of all of the residents. This
101 is their community, their home. This company knew what was included in the contract and they need to
102 follow those covenants. She prays that these people get to stay here in their community.

103
104
105

106 Amanda Alman, Champaign County resident of 16 years, spoke about the resolution to make Champaign
107 County a Champion of Reproductive Freedom. She wants to know if this is really the best use of the County
108 resources. She does not believe this is reflective of the community's values; most support restrictions on
109 abortion. Explicitly saying the County will be a champion of abortion is just going too far; how many more
110 abortions do we want to become a champion? We can pull ourselves together to help all of these women, we
111 can do better.

112
113 **VI. Communications**

114 A. The 13th Annual Disability Resource Expo

115
116 Mr. Patterson mentioned the letter in their packet about the Disability Resource Expo and recommended
117 everyone attend this event to familiarize themselves with services available in the community.

118
119 Mr. Passalacqua read a message from Chad Hoffman the Executive Director of Habitat for Humanity. In his
120 letter, Mr. Hoffman mentioned their request for ARPA funds. Mr. Passalacqua mentioned the amazing work
121 they do and believes they have some flexibility with their ARPA funding to support their request.

122
123 Mr. McGuire stated that he attended the Grand Opening of the Martens Center and explained what a
124 wonderful facility it is for the community. He would like the Board to discuss and support the Park District's
125 request for ARPA funding.

126
127 Ms. Rodriguez said she was approached by Julian Carter, a childhood friend of Kiwane Carrington, who
128 would like to rename a street in Champaign after his late friend. She will be submitting a letter of support to
129 the Champaign City Council and asked Board members that were interested in joining her in support, to let
130 her know.

131
132 Mr. Esry read an email from Samuel Furrer, who requested the County Board enforce the covenants that were
133 included in the sale of the Nursing Home.

134
135 Mr. Thorsland stated that many Board members received correspondence about the covenants in the Nursing
136 Home sale. He doesn't believe anyone received messages stating they should let the current owners out of the
137 covenants in the contract. He also mentioned receiving his vote-by-mail ballot and reminded the public that
138 early voting is open at the Brookens Center and that all voting locations are universal (can vote at any
139 location).

140
141 **VII. Drawing of Lots to Determine Term Lengths for County Board Members**

142
143 Mike Ingram, Democratic Central Committee Chair, drew lots for the Democratic Caucus and Jacob Paul,
144 District 1 County Board Member, drew lots for the Republican Caucus. The results can be viewed on the
145 [website](#) with the meeting materials.

146
147 **VIII. Finance**

148 A. Budget Amendments/Transfers

- 149 1. Budget Amendment BUA 2022/9/90
150 Fund 1080 General Corporate / Dept 040 Sheriff
151 Increased Appropriations: \$23,728
152 Increased Revenue: \$23,728
153 Reason: To receive reimbursement for equipment purchases from federal grant funding.

154
155 **MOTION** by Mr. Esry to recommend County Board approval of a resolution approving budget amendment
156 BUA 2022/9/90; seconded by Mr. Passalacqua. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

- 157 2. Budget Amendment BUA 2022/9/383
158 Fund 2630 Circuit Clerk Operation & Administration / Dept 030 Circuit Clerk
159 Increased Appropriations: \$87,019.38
160 Increased Revenue: \$0
161 Reason: To pay for JANO services for the implementation of PayIt, the system used to pay fees and
162 costs to the Clerk's Office.

163
164 **MOTION** by Ms. Cowart to recommend County Board approval of a resolution approving budget
165 amendment BUA 2022/9/383; seconded by Ms. Taylor. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

- 166
167 3. Budget Transfer BUA 2022/9/381
168 Fund 2630 Circuit Clerk Operation & Administration / Dept 030 Circuit Clerk
169 Amount: \$41,065.44
170 Reason: To transfer funds, allocated for the vacant Court Technology Specialist position, to the
171 professional services line for training on JANO programs.

172
173 **MOTION** by Mr. Thorsland to recommend County Board approval of a resolution approving budget transfer
174 BUA 2022/9/381; seconded by Ms. Straub. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

175
176 B. Treasurer

- 177 1. Resolution authorizing the cancellation of the appropriate certificate of purchase on a mobile home,
178 permanent parcel number 04-006-0115
179 2. Resolution authorizing the cancellation of the appropriate certificate of purchase on a mobile home,
180 permanent parcel number 11-013-0025
181 3. Resolution authorizing the cancellation of the appropriate certificate of purchase on a mobile home,
182 permanent parcel number 14-019-0034
183 4. Resolution authorizing the cancellation of the appropriate certificate of purchase on a mobile home,
184 permanent parcel number 30-058-0137

185
186 **OMNIBUS MOTION** by Ms. Vanichtheeranont to the recommend County Board approval of resolutions
187 authorizing the cancellation of the appropriate certificate of purchase on mobile homes, permanent parcels 04-
188 006-0115, 11-013-0025, 14-019-0034, and 30-058-0137; seconded by Ms. Michaels. Upon vote, the
189 **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

190
191 C. Auditor

- 192 1. Monthly Report – September 2022 – Reports are available on the Auditor's webpage at:
193 <http://www.co.champaign.il.us/auditor/countyboardreports.php>

194
195 Received and placed on file

196
197 D. County Executive

- 198 1. Recommendation to the County Board to receive and place on file the FY2023 Tentative Budget

199
200 **MOTION** by Mr. Goss to recommend to the County Board to receive and place on file the FY2023 Tentative
201 Budget; seconded by Mr. Thorsland. Ms. Fortado thanked the staff for all of their hard work to get this done.
202 Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

203
204 E. Other Business

205
206 None

207

208 F. Chair’s Report
209
210 None
211
212 G. Designation of Items to be Placed on the Consent Agenda
213
214 VIII. A. 1-3, B. 1-4, D. 1
215
216 **IX. Justice and Social Services**
217 A. Monthly Reports – All reports are available on each department’s webpage through the department
218 reports page at: <http://www.co.champaign.il.us/CountyBoard/Reports.php>
219 • Probation & Court Services – August 2022
220 • Public Defender – August 2022
221 • Animal Control – September 2022
222
223 Received and placed on file
224
225 B. Rosecrance Re-Entry Financial Report – August 2022
226
227 Information only
228
229 C. Sheriff
230 1. Intergovernmental Agreement between the County of Champaign and the County of Kankakee for
231 Inmate Housing
232
233 Removed from the agenda
234
235 D. County Executive
236 1. Proposed amendment to the restrictions and covenants of the Nursing Home sale contract
237
238 **MOTION** by Ms. Lokshin to recommend County Board approval of a proposed amendment to the
239 restrictions and covenants of the Nursing Home sale contract; seconded by Mr. Paul.
240
241 Mr. McGuire requested the representatives from the Nursing Home come up and explain their current
242 position. Keith Gibbons, Chief Investment Officer of Altitude Health Services, and Steve Sher,
243 attorney, shared some background about this request. Mr. Gibbons explained they do not have any
244 outside investors and they have had substantial loses, some due to issues caused by a pandemic. He
245 also gave some background about the other two properties that they closed in Champaign County to
246 explain that they were not buying them to close them down. He moved back to the Nursing Home and
247 stated these loses are no longer sustainable. They are asking the Board to reconsider some of the
248 covenants due to this no longer being viable as a nursing home and knowing that the community does
249 need a drug rehab center. He explained the options are 1.) grant these changes and sell to a drug rehab
250 center or 2.) changes aren’t granted and the nursing facility will have to close and then it will be a
251 vacant property.
252
253 Ms. Fortado gave a third option of not granting the changes, closing the facility and selling to
254 someone else and they will revisit the covenant changes with the new owners. She also presented a
255 chart from her own research on current bed occupancy rates. Her chart shows an occupancy rate of
256 62% unless you remove the poor performing facilities and then it jumps up to 77%. She told the
257 representatives that the Board cares if the aging community members are able to stay here in the
258 community. She reiterated her third option or said they could try to turn this around and gave them

259 ideas to try. Discussion continued with several other Board members about the issues at the facility
260 and all of the time spent coming to an agreement for sale four years ago.

261 Ms. Michaels called the question.

262 Mr. Thorsland requested a roll call vote.

263 Upon roll call vote, the **MOTION FAILED** unanimously.

264

265 E. Other Business

266

267 None

268

269 F. Chair's Report

270

271 None

272

273 G. Designation of Items to be Placed on the Consent Agenda

274

275 None

276

277 X. Policy, Personnel, & Appointments

278

278 A. County Executive

279

1. Monthly HR Report – September 2022

280

281 Received and placed on file – Mr. Stohr mentioned the long list of current vacancies within the County and is
282 hoping we can make a good effort to fill these important positions.

283

284 2. Appointments/Reappointments (*italics indicates incumbent*)

285 a. Resolution appointing Jacob Paul to the Sangamon Valley Public Water District, term 12/1/2022-
286 5/31/2027

287

288 **MOTION** by Ms. Michaels to recommend County Board approval of a resolution appointing Jacob Paul to
289 the Sangamon Valley Public Water District; seconded by Mr. Goss. Mr. Paul spoke about how he cares about
290 his community and the water quality and would like to represent his neighborhood on this board. Mr. Goss
291 mentioned how this neighborhood is underserved and he would like everyone to support the appointment of
292 Mr. Paul. Mr. Stohr mentioned the many calls he has received and expressed great concern about this
293 appointment.

294 Mr. Esry requested a roll call vote.

295 Upon roll call vote:

296 Yea: 16 – Michaels, Passalacqua, Paul, Rodriguez, Straub, Summers, Taylor, Thorsland, Williams, Cowart,

297 Esry, Fortado, Goss, Lokshin, McGuire, Patterson

298 Nay: 2 – Stohr, Vanichtheeranont

299 The **MOTION CARRIED**.

300

301 b. Resolution appointing Mark Richardson to the Penfield Water District, term ending 5/31/2027

302 c. Resolution appointing Steve Moser to the Silver Creek Drainage District, term ending 8/31/2025

303 d. Resolution appointing Steven Westfall to the Upper Embarras River Basin Drainage District,
304 term ending 8/31/2025

305 e. Resolution appointing Steven Westfall to the Prairieview Cemetery Association, term ending
306 6/30/2028

307

308 **OMNIBUS MOTION** by Mr. Passalacqua to recommend County Board approval of resolutions
309 appointing Mark Richardson, Steve Moser and Steven Westfall to their respective boards; seconded
310 by Ms. Straub. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

311
312 f. Currently vacant appointments – full list and information is available on the County’s website at:
313 <http://www.co.champaign.il.us/CountyExecutive/appointments/CurrentVacantOpenings.pdf>

314
315 Information only

316
317 g. Applications for open appointments

318
319 B. County Clerk

320 1. Monthly Report – September 2022

321
322 Received and placed on file

323
324 C. County Board

325 1. Resolution declaring Joseph R. Biden unequivocally won the 2020 presidential election

326
327 **MOTION** by Mr. Thorsland to recommend County Board approval of a resolution declaring Joseph R. Biden
328 unequivocally won the 2020 presidential election; seconded by Ms. Vanichtheeranont. Discussion followed
329 regarding the need for this resolution.

330 Ms. Fortado requested a roll call vote.

331 Upon roll call vote:

332 Yea: 13 – Paul, Rodriguez, Stohr, Straub, Summers, Taylor, Thorsland, Vanichtheeranont, Williams, Cowart,
333 Fortado, Lokshin, Patterson

334 Nay: 4 – Passalacqua, Esry, Goss, McGuire

335 The **MOTION CARRIED**.

336
337 2. Resolution declaring Champaign County a Champion of reproductive freedom

338
339 **MOTION** by Mr. Williams to recommend County Board approval of a resolution declaring Champaign
340 County a Champion of reproductive freedom; seconded by Ms. Lokshin. Ms. Fortado stated there is a
341 historical need to be on the record as a body in regard to this topic and she requested a roll call vote.

342 Upon roll call vote:

343 Yea: 13 – Paul, Rodriguez, Stohr, Straub, Summers, Taylor, Thorsland, Vanichtheeranont, Williams, Cowart,
344 Fortado, Lokshin, Patterson

345 Nay: 4 – Passalacqua, Esry, Goss, McGuire

346 The **MOTION CARRIED**.

347
348 D. Other Business

349
350 None

351
352 E. Chair’s Report

353
354 None

355
356 F. Designation of Items to be Placed on the Consent Agenda

357
358 X. A. 2. b-e

359

360 **XI. Other Business**

361

362 None

363

364 **XII. Adjournment**

365

366 Chair Patterson adjourned the meeting at 8:39 p.m.

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-

RESOLUTION DESIGNATING THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT CONFERENCE ROOM AS THE LORRAINE COWART CONFERENCE ROOM

WHEREAS, roads, highways and transportation are vital to the public health, welfare and economy of civil society, and that roads convey children to school, people to places for employment and commerce, for agricultural work of all kinds [particularly during harvest], for recreation, for emergency services, and provide reliable routes for conveyance; and

WHEREAS, Lorraine Cowart was sworn in as a Champaign County Board member from 1982-1986 and from 1988-present; and

WHEREAS, Lorraine Cowart has served on the Highway & Transportation Committee since 1998 and has provided leadership as the Committee Chair since 2000; and

WHEREAS, under the guidance and leadership of Lorraine Cowart as the Highway and Transportation Committee Chair, the Champaign County Highway Department has rebuilt 180 miles of county roads and over 100 bridges to provide for the safe and efficient travel of the citizens of Champaign County; and

WHEREAS, Lorraine Cowart has admirably served the citizens of Champaign County with her full commitment to her responsibilities as a representative of the Champaign County Board District II; to work in partnership with fellow County Board members and officials of Champaign County; and with her full commitment, service and dedication to the best interests of all people of Champaign County; and

WHEREAS, the County Board of Champaign County seeks to permanently and publicly recognize the commitment and dedication of Lorrain Cowart, who continues to diligently serve the citizens of Champaign County as an elected official for more than three decades.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the County Board of Champaign County, that the Highway Department Conference Room, located at 1605 East Main St., Urbana, Illinois, be named the Lorraine Cowart Conference Room, in recognition of the exemplary selflessness in service still being provided by this esteemed elected official, Ms Lorraine Cowart.

PRESENTED, ADOPTED, APPROVED, and RECORDED this 17th day of November, A.D. 2022.

Kyle Patterson, Chair
Champaign County Board

ATTEST: _____
Aaron Ammons, County Clerk
and ex-officio Clerk of the
Champaign County Board

Approved: _____
Darlene A. Kloepfel, County Executive
Date: _____