

**JO DAVIESS COUNTY BOARD SPECIAL MEETING
PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES
APRIL 10, 2023**

CALL TO ORDER: Jo Daviess County Chairperson LaDon Trost called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, April 10, 2023 in the Jo Daviess County Board Room, Jo Daviess County Courthouse in Galena, Illinois.

ROLL CALL was answered as follows: Present – Dianne Allendorf, Tina Brandel, Steve Endress, Lynn Gallagher, John Grizzoffi, Joseph Heitkamp, Michael Holt, John Lang, Steve McIntyre, John Schultz, LaDon Trost, and Don Zillig. Present: 12. Present electronically - John Creighton, Diane Gallagher, and Daniel Holcomb. Present electronically: 3. Absent - Robert Heuerman and Darcy Wild Absent: 2.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

There were no citizens' comments at this time.

OPENING OF PUBLIC HEARING

Chairperson Trost opened the public hearing considering the Intent of the County Board to Issue Not to Exceed \$15,000,000.00 General Obligation Bonds (Sales Tax Alternate Revenue Source) to Renovate, Alter, Repair, Improve, Equip and Build an Addition to the Jo Daviess County Courthouse and Provide Related Improvement at 7:03 p.m.

READING OF THE MEETING NOTICE INTO THE MINUTES

County Administrator Scott Toot read the meeting notice that was published in the Galena Gazette newspaper and The Flash newspaper on March 22, 2023 regarding the Public Hearing for the Intent of the County Board to Issue Not to Exceed \$15,000,000.00 General Obligation Bonds (Sales Tax Alternate Revenue Source) to Renovate, Alter, Repair, Improve, Equip and Build an Addition to the Jo Daviess County Courthouse and Provide Related Improvement, to be held on April 10, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. in the County Board Room on the 3rd floor of the Jo Daviess County Courthouse, 330 N. Bench St., Galena, Illinois.

ALTERNATE BOND PRESENTATION

Scott Toot outlined the project's key dates to this point and hypothetical bond scenarios. The bonding summary table with Estimated Annual Debt Service, Estimated Total Net Debt Service, Estimated Project Fund Deposit, and Assumed True Interest Cost had information for 20 years, 25 years, and 30 years.

BOARD DISCUSSION ON ALTERNATE BOND PRESENTATION

Mike Holt questioned the amount in the hypothetical bond scenarios. The original discussion was for 10 million, but all the scenarios for Estimated Project Fund Deposits are for less than that.

Steve McIntyre believes interest rates will rise and does not want to tap into county reserves.

John Grizzoffi believes county reserves are meant to be used for things like this project.

John Lang referenced a recent citizen's email received by members requesting board consideration on building a new Courthouse and Public Safety Building. He disagrees with the opinion of a 50 million dollar build cost, stating it would be higher and states the county does not have that kind of funding available for a new build. The renovation is the only option that doesn't raise property taxes.

John Schultz stated the interest rates would be fixed.

John Creighton does not see the urgency for this project and would like the question put forth to the voters.

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AUDIENCE DISCUSSION ON ALTERNATE BOND PRESENTATION

Gerald Podraza, Galena, asked the board if they have looked into funding from the USDA and/or any Historic Preservation organizations.

CLOSURE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Chairperson Trost closed the public hearing at 7:30 p.m.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

There were no citizens' comments at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made by Dianne Allendorf and seconded by John Grizzoffi.
The motion carried by voice vote.

Chairperson Trost adjourned the meeting at 7:31 p.m.