

**JO DAVIESS COUNTY BOARD
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 4, 2024**

CALL TO ORDER: Jo Daviess County Chairperson LaDon Trost called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 4, 2024 in the Jo Daviess County Board Room, Jo Daviess County Administrative Offices in Galena, Illinois.

ROLL CALL was answered as follows: Present – Dianne Allendorf, John Creighton, Michael Dittmar, Steve Endress, Diane Gallagher, John Grizzoffi, Joseph Heitkamp, Robert Heuerman, Michael Holt, John Lang, John Schultz, LaDon Trost, and Don Zillig. Present: 13. Absent - Tina Brandel, Lynn Gallagher, and Darcy Wild. Absent: 3. Vacant: 1.

THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was led by Chairperson Trost.

AGENDA ITEM I - CITIZENS' COMMENTS

Justina Hermann, Stockton, Illinois and Jo Daviess County Coroner spoke to the board regarding the duties and responsibilities of the Coroner. She stated that although she is running for the position in November 2024, she has been actively looking for someone to replace her, but has been unsuccessful due to the low salary. As Coroner, she stated she averages 200 deaths per year and typically spends 3-5 hours per death.

AGENDA ITEM II – NEW BUSINESS

A motion to adopt an ordinance to Establish the Salary of the Jo Daviess County Coroner that includes a 3% increase per year, setting the FY2025 salary at \$22,143.97, FY2026 salary at \$22,808.29, FY2027 salary at \$23,492.54, and FY2028 salary at \$24,197.32 was made by John Lang and seconded by John Schultz.

The board discussed the salary and whether it was adequate and if not, what would be an acceptable amount.

A motion to amend the original motion to add \$5,000.00 to each fiscal year of the ordinance was made by John Schultz and seconded by Don Zillig.

A motion to amend the amendment to the original motion to change the FY2025 salary to \$35,000.00 with 3% increases for FY2026, FY2027, and FY2028 was made by Mike Dittmar and seconded by Robert Heuerman.

The motion to amend the amendment to the original motion carried by roll call vote. Ayes – Dianne Allendorf, Michael Dittmar, Steve Endress, John Grizzoffi, Robert Heuerman, Michael Holt, and LaDon Trost. Ayes: 7. Nays – John Creighton, Diane Gallagher, Joseph Heitkamp, John Lang, John Schultz, and Don Zillig.

The amended motion carried by roll call vote. Ayes – Dianne Allendorf, Michael Dittmar, Steve Endress, John Grizzoffi, Robert Heuerman, Michael Holt, and LaDon Trost. Ayes: 7. Nays – John Creighton, Diane Gallagher, Joseph Heitkamp, John Lang, John Schultz, and Don Zillig.

AGENDA ITEM III – CITIZENS' COMMENTS

Matthew Runkle, Stockton, Illinois stated he believed due to the “good old boy system”, the salary was ignored for many years, leading to the issue today.

AGENDA ITEM IV - ADJOURNMENT

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

Chairperson Trost adjourned the meeting at 6:50 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, June 11, 2024 at the Jo Daviess County Board Room, Jo Daviess County Administrative Offices in Galena, Illinois.



Angela Kaiser, County Clerk