

**JO DAVIESS COUNTY BOARD
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 24, 2021**

CALL TO ORDER: Jo Daviess County Chairperson Don Hill called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, June 24, 2021 in the Jo Daviess County Board Room, Jo Daviess County Courthouse in Galena, Illinois.

ROLL CALL was answered as follows: Present –Robert Heuerman, Don Hill, John Korth, John Lang, Robert O’Connor, John Schultz, LaDon Trost, and Don Zillig. Present: 8. Present electronically – Dianne Allendorf, Staci Duerr, Diane Gallagher, and Darcy Wild. Present electronically: 4. Absent - William Bingham, Janet Checker, and Hendrica Regez. Absent: 3. Vacant: 2.

THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was led by Chairperson Hill.

AGENDA ITEM I - CITIZENS’ COMMENTS

There were no citizens’ comments at this time.

AGENDA ITEM II – UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business brought before the board at this time.

AGENDA ITEM III – NEW BUSINESS

Chairperson Hill exercised his chair prerogative and moved to Items C and D on the agenda. He will return to Item A after closed session. Item B will be possible action from closed session.

A Development & Planning committee motion to approve an Ordinance Amending the Boundaries of the Joint Northwest Illinois Certified Enterprise Zone was made by Diane Gallagher.

The motion carried by roll call vote. Ayes – Dianne Allendorf, Staci Duerr, Diane Gallagher, Robert Heuerman, Don Hill, John Korth, John Lang, Robert O’Connor, John Schultz, LaDon Trost, Darcy Wild, and Don Zillig. Ayes: 12. Nays: 0. Absent – William Bingham, Janet Checker, and Hendrica Regez. Absent: 3. Vacant: 2.

A Development & Planning committee motion to approve a Resolution to Authorize an Amendment to Intergovernmental Agreement for the Operation of an Enterprise Zone was made by John Schultz.

The motion carried by roll call vote. Ayes – Dianne Allendorf, Staci Duerr, Diane Gallagher, Robert Heuerman, Don Hill, John Korth, John Lang, Robert O’Connor, John Schultz, LaDon Trost, Darcy Wild, and Don Zillig. Ayes: 12. Nays: 0. Absent – William Bingham, Janet Checker, and Hendrica Regez. Absent: 3. Vacant: 2.

A motion to authorize County Administrator Scott Toot to begin researching options for a new Position Classification and Compensation Plan was made by John Lang and seconded by Diane Gallagher.

The motion carried by roll call vote. Ayes – Dianne Allendorf, Staci Duerr, Diane Gallagher, Robert Heuerman, Don Hill, John Korth, John Lang, Robert O’Connor, John Schultz, LaDon Trost, Darcy Wild, and Don Zillig. Ayes: 12. Nays: 0. Absent – William Bingham, Janet Checker, and Hendrica Regez. Absent: 3. Vacant: 2.

AGENDA ITEM IV – CLOSED SESSION

A motion to enter closed session at 4:39 p.m. was made by John Schultz and seconded by John Lang to discuss:

A. Personnel section 2(c)1

"The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity." Topic of discussion: Transit Director/PCOM Appointment/Advance Step Hire.

The motion carried by roll call vote. Ayes – Dianne Allendorf, Staci Duerr, Diane Gallagher, Robert Heuerman, Don Hill, John Korth, John Lang, Robert O'Connor, John Schultz, LaDon Trost, Darcy Wild, and Don Zillig. Ayes: 12. Nays: 0. Absent – William Bingham, Janet Checker, and Hendrica Regez. Absent: 3. Vacant: 2.

The board reconvened at 5:23 p.m. following a motion by John Schultz and seconded by John Lang.

The motion carried by roll call vote. Ayes – Dianne Allendorf, Staci Duerr, Diane Gallagher, Robert Heuerman, Don Hill, John Korth, John Lang, Robert O'Connor, John Schultz, LaDon Trost, Darcy Wild, and Don Zillig. Ayes: 12. Nays: 0. Absent – William Bingham, Janet Checker, and Hendrica Regez. Absent: 3. Vacant: 2.

AGENDA ITEM V – POSSIBLE ACTION AS A RESULT OF CLOSED SESSION

A Social & Environmental committee motion to approve an advance step hire of a Transit Director/PCOM at a Grade 12 with an annual salary of \$64,957.00 pending a successful employment agreement was made by Don Hill.

The motion failed by roll call vote. Ayes – Don Hill, John Korth, John Lang, and Robert O'Connor. Ayes: 4. Nays – Dianne Allendorf, Staci Duerr, Diane Gallagher, Robert Heuerman, John Schultz, LaDon Trost, Darcy Wild, and Don Zillig. Nays: 8. Absent – William Bingham, Janet Checker, and Hendrica Regez. Absent: 3. Vacant: 2.

A motion to approve an advance step hire of a Transit Director/PCOM at a Grade 12 with an annual salary of \$61,900.00 pending a successful employment agreement was made by John Lang and seconded by John Korth.

The motion failed by roll call vote. Ayes – Diane Gallagher, Don Hill, John Korth, John Lang, and Robert O'Connor. Ayes: 5. Nays – Dianne Allendorf, Staci Duerr, Robert Heuerman, John Schultz, LaDon Trost, Darcy Wild, and Don Zillig. Nays: 7. Absent – William Bingham, Janet Checker, and Hendrica Regez. Absent: 3. Vacant: 2.

AGENDA ITEM VI – BOARD MEMBER CONCERNS

LaDon Trost addressed the advance step hire decisions to say that rejecting them had nothing to do with ability, but everything to do with fairness to all County employees.

Don Zillig thanked County Administrator Scott Toot for providing the Law & Courts Committee with a Public Defender Report. They had been requesting one for some time.

AGENDA ITEM VII – CITIZENS' COMMENTS

Melisa Hammer, County Treasurer, Angela Kaiser, County Clerk/Recorder, and Laura Edmonds, C.C.A.O thanked the board for their actions to take steps toward equalizing pay for all employees and for understanding their objections to the night's advance step hire issue was about fairness and was not personal.

AGENDA ITEM VIII - ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made by John Korth and seconded by Robert Heuerman.

The motion carried by voice vote with no nay votes recorded.

Chairperson Hill adjourned the meeting at 5:39 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, July 13, 2021 at the Jo Daviess County Board Room, Jo Daviess County Courthouse in Galena, Illinois.