

County Commissioner's Record No. 31

State of Illinois)
 SS July 13, 2018
County of Union)

The Union County Board of Commissioners met for a regular meeting in the Union County Courthouse Community Room at 8:30 A.M. County Chairman Bobby Toler Jr. called the meeting to order and roll call was taken with Bobby Toler Jr., David Gould, Danny Hartline, Max Miller and Dale Foster present.

A motion was made by Danny Hartline and seconded by Dale Foster to approve the minutes of the June 22, 2018 meeting.

Bobby Toler Jr.	Yes
Danny Hartline	Yes
David Gould	Yes
Dale Foster	Yes
Max Miller	Yes

Motion Passed.

A motion was made by Max Miller and seconded by David Gould to approve the minutes of the June 22, 2018 executive meeting.

Bobby Toler Jr.	Yes
Danny Hartline	Yes
David Gould	Yes
Dale Foster	Yes
Max Miller	Yes

Motion Passed.

Building Permits:

Doug & Elizabeth Hileman	350 Cates Lane	05-27-03-893
Jerry & Kathy Rambeau	4 Angus Lane	14-00-12-239-D

A motion was made by Danny Hartline and seconded by Max Miller to approve building permits as presented.

Bobby Toler Jr.	Yes
Danny Hartline	Yes
David Gould	Yes
Dale Foster	Yes
Max Miller	Yes

Motion Passed.

A motion was made by Max Miller and seconded by Danny Hartline to approve the bills from June 19, 2018 to July 06, 2018.

Bobby Toler Jr.	Yes
Danny Hartline	Yes
David Gould	Yes
Dale Foster	Yes
Max Miller	Yes

Motion Passed.

Paula Stairs from Shawnee Development gave annual report. These are some programs they have. Rental program which is a thirty seven page application, Weatherization, which has been cut some, DHS which pays rent and utilities, Food Pantry , Community Garden, Farmers Market and a Clothing Room.

A motion was made Max Miller and seconded by David Gould to approve Resolution 2018-21 Resolution Adopting The Prevailing Wage for The County of Union, Illinois.

Bobby Toler Jr.	Yes
Danny Hartline	Yes
David Gould	Yes
Dale Foster	Yes
Max Miller	Yes

Motion passed.

A motion was made by Bobby Toler Jr. and seconded by Dale Foster to approve Resolution 2018-22 Appointing Jim Clark Trustee of The Shawnee Mass Transit District for a four year term expiring on June 30, 2022.

Bobby Toler Jr.	Yes
Danny Hartline	Yes
David Gould	Yes
Dale Foster	Yes
Max Miller	Yes

Motion passed.

A motion was made by Bobby Toler Jr. and seconded by Danny Hartline to approve Resolution 2018-23 Appointing A Member of the Southern Seven Board of Health: Dale Foster for a term expiring June 30, 2019.

Bobby Toler Jr.	Yes
Danny Hartline	Yes
David Gould	Yes
Dale Foster	Abstain
Max Miller	Yes

Motion passed.

Ordinance Imposing Cable\Video Service Provider Fee was tabled.

A motion was made by Bobby Toler Jr. and seconded by David Gould to approve Resolution 2018-24 Appointing Member of Southern Seven Board of Health: Cindy Flamm for a three year term expiring on June 30, 2021.

Bobby Toler Jr.	Yes
Danny Hartline	Yes
David Gould	Yes
Dale Foster	Yes
Max Miller	Yes

Motion passed.

There was discussion on the Hotel Operators Occupancy Tax Board vacancy. Max Miller had one suggestion possibly Jerri Schaefer.

There was also discussion on the Union County Hospital Board vacancy. Tony Calabrese has resigned.

A motion was made by Max Miller and seconded by Danny Hartline to approve Liquor License Application for Class I: Special Use to Kite Hill.

Bobby Toler Jr.	Yes
Danny Hartline	Yes
David Gould	Yes
Dale Foster	Yes
Max Miller	Yes

Motion passed.

Committee Reports:

Crystal Gurley gave report on 911 meeting. Consolidation is on hold due to some commissioners that want to scratch everything and start over and form new committee. There is confusion and we need some guidance on what to do.

Danny Hartline stated the homework is done and we do not need to procrastinate. Bobby Toler Jr. said a lot of work has gone into this and attorneys have been involved.

Max Miller asked what is 911 board opinion on this?

Crystal Gurley stated the 911 board is ready to move forward that they have prepared for three years for this. The contract expired June 30.

Max Miller asked who would the commissioner be that wants to go back to beginning?

Crystal Gurley said Mr. Gould said this in a meeting that myself, the Sheriff, Danny Hartline and Angie Johnson had.

David Gould stated that I don't believe that I wanted to go to the beginning I just wanted agreement all written up for us to review for approval.

Crystal Gurley stated there were multiple statements saying you wanted to go back to the beginning.

David Gould thinks that's appropriate. It has been on hold for so long. Need to get information all together and let committee approve them before we let it go on.

Bobby Toler Jr. thinks 911 board has a handle on it and they will keep the board informed.

Crystal Gurley said absolutely. We have a open door policy and want what is best for the county.

On another subject Crystal Gurley would like to address the county board on a email she received yesterday from Angela Knupp in Human Resources. I have worked for the county in excess of fifteen years. Four years in the Treasurer office and eleven years as an employee of 911. This issue regarding IMRF participation of 911 staff has been discussed and questioned since 1994 when Oscar Sanders was 911 director followed by Jana Fear as 911 Director, myself as Assistant 911 Director and now I am continuing the battle as 911 Director.

The constant intimidation and threat of 911 staff being pulled from IMRF has been questioned and discussed with multiple States Attorneys giving their legal opinion that 911 is a county entity because the County Commissioner Board passed referendum to create 911 in the county.

After worrying and discussing this same issue continuously over the last eleven years as 911 staff, I feel harassed that I need to continue this discussion and scared that I am going to lose my IMRF retirement that I participated in for the last fifteen years.

The email also stated that IMRF was questioning the legality of 911 staff participating in IMRF. I find that questionable considering 911 staff across the State of Illinois participate in IMRF. If IMRF is questioning the legality of 911 staff participating in IMRF, why have

no other counties ever been questioned or had to fight this battle that continues against Union County 911 staff.

The email went on to state that in the event of a Consolidation with Alexander County 911 that has been worked on for 3 years by 911 staff was to go through I would no longer fall under 911. I would hazard to guess that IMRF will not approve a new entity with only one employee. So then what happens to my years of contributions to IMRF?

I believe these are auditor questions Danny Hartline stated.

Max Miller stated he didn't read the email in that way and wait to see what auditor says.

We are a county entity Crystal Gurley stated.

Angela Knupp said this is the first time we have had a IMRF auditor. Once she has all information she will give it to auditor.

Public Comments:

Josh Ditto from Tech Guy Inc.:

I would like to speak to commissioners. I am here because I have questions concerning comments made and actions taken by some County Commissioners. Mr. Foster, we finally get the chance to speak, you told me you told a friend recently that you must have mistaken me for someone else, yet I have not heard you speak these words in public with the same confidence you must stirred up and managed to call me a idiot in front of everyone. You have anything to say for yourself or anything to say to them.

Dale Foster: No Comment.

Josh Ditto: Well I have something to say to you, why are you still here? You have proven time again you lack the professionalism and expertise to perform your job duties and that's just the few meeting you managed to show up for. I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of the taxpayers of Union County to formally ask you to resign your position and save the county further embarassement by your comments.

Mr. Gould and Mr. Miller, it seems you both became famous for the saying I have something on my phone I think you should see. I find that interesting because in the last couple weeks leading up to today I have been sent a lot of screenshots and received a lot of phone calls myself regarding the words and actions of both of you so called professionals. It seems I have some fair and interesting facts on my phone that I think county taxpayers should see. So those present can be filled in on what I am talking about Mr. Gould and Mr. Miller have my tax information on their phones and on there person printed out and they have been actively calling and text messaging, facebook messaging and even in person

going into businesses explaining my tax issues was reason my company was not selected for the county IT proposal. I believe this to be true.

Mr. Gould , how many messages have you sent and how many phone calls have you made? On behalf of the county, where have you mentioned what you call the so called true story behind the IT proposal. Can you put a number to it?

David Gould: No comment.

Josh Ditto: No comment?

David Gould: I can't honestly tell you.

Josh Ditto: Just ballpark it and include your personal phone and phone you purchased specifically for doing county business so that your personal phone could not be FOIA.

David Gould: Four or five or something.

Josh Ditto: Mr. Miller actually lets go back to Mr. Gould, when you and I spoke you told me that you were making those calls for lots of reasons, one was to help my business, two to discredit me and my facebook post and three to protect the entity that you are a part of. Insinuating that you were acting on behalf the county government in making these calls. You recall this conversation?

David Gould: Not to those words.

Josh Ditto: I managed to have you on speaker phone with others in the room that I am sure would be happy to help me to catch you up on your foggy details. You also managed to threaten me stating that the States Attorney signed a press release against me that would be very embarrassing for my business. Thankfully Mr. Edmonds was kind enough to reach out to me and reassure me he would never do such a thing.

Mr. Miller, how many messages have you sent and phone calls you made on behalf of the county where what you told to be the true story of the IT proposal. To my knowledge you have driven to in person meetings to area businesses to discuss my business, is this correct?

Max Miller: No.

Josh Ditto: Are you sure? Your making statement that this is not correct, I will give you one more chance to answer honestly.

Max Miller: I have no comment other than this, let me make a comment on my part and I'm only speaking for myself and then I'm done with this, I am not going to publicly argue with you.

Josh Ditto: You are still publicly reaching out to people with unfair facts.

Max Miller: Only fact I have just so you know, I am going to explain myself whether you believe it or not that's up to you. The day you came to meeting to complain that you did not get the bid I had laying in front of me which is public record your tax lien. I listened to you and I basically sat here and when I made the comment to you I don't have to answer to you that was the reason so I chose not to embarass you in that public meeting and for your information we did have the lien, It was filed March 13 or 14. It was in our office the next day. So I am not going to argue with you anymore but I'm just telling you those are facts.

Josh Ditto: Did you bother to reach out to me?

Max Miller: Didn't have to. It wasn't resolved at the time of bid.

Josh Ditto: It was resolved and I could have given you proof of that.

Max Miller: Never the less that's why we made our decision whether resolved or not we could not in good conscious all five of us agreed that we couldn't give you the contract for that reason.

Josh Ditto: If financials is truly the concern, why did the Commissioners not reach out to any other counties on the other bidders and check them out? Would you like to comment on that? If you look at mine you should have looked at my competitors as well. Any comment? I didn't expect you to make any comments on that because you did not look into my competitors financials. Furthermore you did not call any of my references. I question if any of you even read my proposal or any of the proposals for that matter. Some of you are going to great efforts to attempt to destroy my personal and business reputation in order to save your own political campaign as Union County Commssioners. How many calls have you made Mr. Gould?

David Gould: I already answered that.

Josh Ditto: How many calls have you made Mr. Miller? If my lien was the fact you think that anyone with common business sense would have said we should call the other competitors counties and see if they have financial issues. You did not. You didn't want me to have the position for personal reasons and now your mad because essentially I brought it to public knowledge. You've attempted to destroy my personal business to cover up your deceit, your inappropriate comments and frankly your unfair bidding practices and I hope that some day taxpayers of Union County can expect more out of the Commissioners. You have anything else to say for yourselves?

Max Miller: Thanks for coming.

Beverly Tweedy stated she has several businesses in this county. She is not directing this to David Gould. Not one of you contacted me for a reference. Now that's poor. She personally recommended Josh Ditto. Not one of you contacted me to ask about reference.

Bobby Toler Jr. stated that he actually saw Beverly Tweedy letter and believed what she said. There were others in there, one from a school and one from a seed company. I actually went thru all proposals and read the proposals.

Beverly Tweedy stated that what we have here is a person trying to make a business in this county. I am a business person and it's very difficult to make ends meet. He could have hired more personnel but you went out of the county. I have a local business and it's hard to keep a business in this county. The businesses are dwindling in this county. All I am going to say.

Debbie Nash went back to a 911 issue asking if the board could make a motion that Crystal would remain in IMRF.

Beverly Tweedy asked what the prevailing wage is in the county? Danny Hartline stated that there are several categories.

Another person in audience stated she was there in support of Josh Ditto because he takes care of her IT for her business. Josh goes above and beyond. He cares about the local businesses. I would like to see all the backstabbing on his business be over. He is a fine young man.

One person in audience asked Mr. Gould if the decision was made prior to his being on the board? David Gould replied yes.

She asked then why is it your personal vendetta in showing this information and trying to discredit this business. David Gould stated he is not. She stated it seems very personal when you were not involved in this. David Gould replied, I know Josh, my kids have used him, I did not want information going out to hurt his business. I wanted to protect so he would not get hurt.

Josh Ditto: I will say I had a customer come in to my office that didn't think I would be interested in a \$10,000 to \$12,000 website contract as a direct effective comment that Mr. Miller had made and I will say that basically you just said that you did say in your exact words that you were making those calls and that was to discredit me. I'm sorry you have forgotten that but I take really good notes when I talk to people.

Motion by Danny Hartline and seconded by Dale Foster to go into executive session to discuss employees.

Bobby Toler Jr.	Yes
Danny Hartline	Yes
David Gould	Yes

Dale Foster **Yes**

Max Miller **Yes**

Motion passed. Time 9:20 A.M.

Time returning to open meeting 10:04 A.M.

Motion to adjourn Danny Hartline seconded by David Gould.

Bobby Toler Jr. **Yes**

Danny Hartline **Yes**

David Gould **Yes**

Dale Foster **Yes**

Max Miller **Yes**

Motion passed. Time 10:05 A.M.

Bobby Toler

Bobby Toler Jr

Max Miller

Max Miller

David Gould

Dale Foster

Dale Foster

Danny Hartline

Vonda Benefield

Vonda Benefield

