

Proceedings of the Ogle County Board Meeting  
August 19, 2008

State of Illinois )  
County of Ogle ) ss  
City of Oregon )

**Call to Order**

Vice-Chairman Hopkins calls the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

**Roll Call**

The roll call shows Rice is absent. The invocation is given by White and this is followed with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**Approval of Minutes**

Vice-Chairman Hopkins asks for a motion to approve the July 15, 2008, Ogle County Board minutes. Horner moves to approve the July 15, 2008, Ogle County Board minutes. Swanson seconds and the motion carries on a voice vote.

**Approval of Reports**

Brooks moves to accept and place on file the monthly reports of the Treasurer, Circuit Clerk and the Ogle County Clerk/Recorder. Messer seconds and the motion carries on a voice vote.(Placed on file)

**Presentation – Karen Copeland – Lee/Ogle Transportation System (L.O.T.S.)**

Vice-Chairman Hopkins introduces Karen Copeland to the County Board for an update regarding L.O.T.S.. Copeland informs the board of two routes which will include Hillcrest, Rochelle, and Creston to Kishwaukee College and these will begin on Monday, August 25<sup>th</sup>. There will be two runs to Kishwaukee College which will begin at 6:30 a.m. and three runs from Kishwaukee College in the afternoon with the last run at about 4:15 p.m.. Copeland states a L.O.T.S. Committee has been working with the Ogle County G.I.S. Department to map the existing transportation routes.

**Resignation – Resolution 2008-8002 - Mental Health “708” Board**

Vice-Chairman Hopkins announces the County Board has received a resignation notice from Sherri Egan on the Mental Health “708” Board effectively immediately. Heuer moves to approve Resolution 2008-8002 and accept the resignation of Sherri Egan, Horner seconds and the motion carries on a voice vote.(Placed on file)

**Resignation – Resolution 2008-8004 – Forreston Fire Protection District**

Vice-Chairman Hopkins announces the County Board has received a resignation notice from Ralph Derby on the Forreston Fire Protection District effective immediately. Gronewold moves to approve Resolution 2008-8004 and accept the resignation, Horner seconds and the motion carries on a voice vote.(Placed on file)

**Vacancies -**

Vice-Chairman Hopkins announces the following vacancies:

- Board of Health – 2 vacancies (1 applicant is required to be a Dentist)
- Ogle County Housing Authority – 1 vacancy term ends 10/31/2013
- Mental Health “708” Board – 1 unexpired term ends 12/31/2011

Application deadline for these vacancies will be Friday, October 3, 2008 at  
4:30 p.m. in the Ogle County Clerk’s Office

**Appointment – Resolution 2008-8003 - Sheriff’s Merit Commission**

Vice-Chairman Hopkins states Curt R. Timmer has been recommended for appointment to the Sheriff’s Merit Commission for an unexpired term ending July 31, 2011. White moves to approve Resolution 2008-8003, Nye seconds and the motion carries on a voice vote.(Placed on file)

**Zoning - Ordinance 2008-8002 - #5-08 SPECIAL USE – Dallas & Amy Beaver**

Vice-Chairman Hopkins and County Clerk Huntley present the petition of Dallas & Amy Beaver, 400 E. Oak Grove Rd., Leaf River, IL for a Special Use Permit to allow a single-family dwelling in AG-1 Agricultural District on property described as follows and owned by the petitioners:

Part of the E1/2 SW1/4 Section 10 Byron Township 25N, R10E of the 4th P.M., Ogle County, IL, 31.17 acres, more or less  
Property Identification Number: Part of 04-10-300-003  
Common Location: 400 E. Oak Grove Rd.

Heuer moves to concur with the Board of Appeals and approve Ordinance 2008-8002 - #5-08 SPECIAL USE for Dallas & Amy Beaver. Boes seconds and the motion carries on a voice vote.(Placed on file)

**Zoning - Ordinance 2008-8003 - #6-08 SPECIAL USE – John R. & Augusta A. Grove and Joseph J. & Wendy M. Kerwin**

Vice-Chairman Hopkins and County Clerk Huntley present the petition of John R. & Augusta A. Grove, 4361 W. Rte. 72, Leaf River, IL and Joseph J. & Wendy M. Kerwin, 11920 N. Adeline Rd., German Valley, IL for a Special Use Permit in the AG-1 Agricultural District to allow a dwelling on property described as follow, owned by John R. & Augusta A. Grove and being purchased by Joseph J. & Wendy M. Kerwin:

Part of the NW1/4 NW1/4 Section 35 Leaf River Township 25N, R9E of the 4th P.M., Ogle County, IL, 6.43 acres, more or less  
Property Identification Number: Part of 03-35-100-005  
Common Location: 7800 Block of N. Mt. Morris Rd.

Heuer moves to concur with the Board of Appeals and approve Ordinance 2008-8003 - #6-08 SPECIAL USE for John R. & Augusta A. Grove and Joseph J. & Wendy M. Kerwin. Messer seconds and the motion carries on a voice vote.(Placed on file)

**Zoning - Ordinance 2008-8004 – Variation – Chester D. Kobel**

Vice-Chairman Hopkins and County Clerk Huntley present the request of Chester D. Kobel, 6477 N. River Dr., Oregon, IL for a Variation to the Special Flood Hazard Areas Ordinance to allow a dwelling addition to be constructed with a lowest floor elevation of 684.1' in lieu of 684.4' (0.7' above the base flood elevation in lieu of 1') as required. Heuer moves to approve Ordinance 2008-8004 – Variation for Chester D. Kobel. Messer seconds and the motion carries on a voice vote.(Placed on file)

**Road & Bridge – Resolution 2008-8006 - Section 04-00227-00-FP Pines Road**

Huntley presents the Supplemental Resolution for County Road Construction - Section 04-00227-00-FP Pines Road which appropriates \$19,442.32 from Motor Fuel Tax Fund. Colson seconds and the motion carries on a voice vote.(Placed on file)

**Road & Bridge – Resolution 2008-8005 – Ogle County Yard Paving**

Huntley presents the Award and Appropriation Resolution - Section 08-00255-00-RS, Ogle County Yard Paving – 2008 Salt Bin which appropriates \$55,000.00 from County Highway Fund and Messer seconds. Horner asks if the cost of this project was presented in the original purchase of the Salt Bin. Huntley states no this money is coming out of the County Highway Fund for the paving around the salt bin area. Some board members said this project should have been presented at the same time of the purchase of the salt bin. Boes asks about the square footage of the paving project. Williams states there is approximately 517 ton of hot mix asphalt will be used for the paving. Kenney feels this project was an add-on and would like to encourage people who present projects to the board; present all of the information at the same time. Heuer asks Huntley if this money comes from General Revenue funds which we allocate to the Highway Department or from Motor Fuel. It was stated this is money which is already appropriated to the County Highway. The motion carries on a voice vote.(Placed on file)

## Claims

The clerk reads the claims:

- Payments in Vacation – July 2008 - \$92,340.45
- County Board Payments - August 2008 - \$393,930.29
- County Highway Fund – \$39,261.22

Kenney moves to approve the claims as read, Nye seconds and the motion carries on a voice vote.(Placed on file)

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

The following committee minutes have been placed on exhibit: Blackhawk Hills RC&D, Executive and State's Attorney, Finance and Insurance, HEW & Solid Waste, LRP-Courthouse Renovations, Mental Health Board, Regional Planning Commission, Personnel & Salary - County Clerk, Planning & Zoning – Supervisor of Assessments, Road & Bridge, Sheriff & Coroner/Buildings & Grounds/IT Committee and Tri-County Opportunities.

The following committees had no minutes to file: 911 ETS Board, Board of Health, Byron Dragway, GIS Committee, Ill Assoc of Co Bd Members, Juvenile & Probation/Judiciary & Circuit Clerk, Land-Use Task Force, LRP –Emergency Operations Center, Liquor Commission, Safety Committee and UCCI/ICRMT.

**HEW & Solid Waste** Minutes placed on exhibit

Ordinance 2008-8001 Bauer moves to approve Ordinance 2008-8001 to increase Health Department Fees as presented last month. Kilker seconds and the motion carries on a voice vote.(Placed on file)

**Executive** Minutes placed on exhibit

Resolution 2008-8001 Vice-Chairman Hopkins presents Resolution 2008-8001 for the 2009 Ogle County Holiday Schedule. Stahl moves to approve the resolution and Horner seconds. Heuer comments this issue was discussed at the Personnel Committee meeting and next year they would like to see ½ day off at Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve. These two ½ days would be in lieu of another holiday. Kenney states he is in the process of making an appointment with Judge Mallon to see if this can be done. The motion carries on a voice vote.(Placed on file)

Resolution 2008-8010 Vice-Chairman Hopkins presents Resolution 2008-8010 regarding the Resolution to put the question of Enacting Concealed Carry Legislation before the voters of Ogle County. County Clerk Huntley states this question will be put on the Ogle County ballot and every county has the option to put this on the ballot. This will then urge the State Legislature to enact legislation for concealed carry. Kilker asks for a roll call vote on this issue. Horner moves to approve the resolution. White seconds and a roll call vote is taken:

**YES:** White, Williams, Barnes, Bauer, Boes, Bowers, Brooks, Colson, Diehl, Gouker, Gronewold, Heuer, Hopkins, Horner, Huntley, Kenney, Kilker, Messer, Nye, Scholl, Stahl and Swanson

**NO:** Colbert

**ABSENT:** Rice

The motion carries on a roll call vote.(Placed on file)

Resolution 2008-8013

Vice-Chairman Hopkins presents the resolution to Appoint Representatives to the Lee-Ogle County Transportation Board. Nye approves the resolution as presented. Kenney seconds and the motion carries on a voice vote.(Placed on file)

**Sheriff & Coroner –  
Buildings & Grounds**

Minutes placed on exhibit

Resolution 2008-8011

Vice-Chairman Hopkins presents the Resolution from Autumn on Parade for a Temporary Waiver regarding Smoking on County Grounds. There was discussion whether or not we could do this since this is a State Law. Sheriff Beitel states there is a provision in the law to allow a temporary waiver. Williams and other board members state we should not allow this temporary waiver. Kenney states we took an extra step at the request of the Sheriff to allow for No Smoking on all County properties. Barnes states the addresses in the resolution are incorrect and do not include the Courthouse Square. County Clerk Huntley states this was a typo on the Resolution and the person who prepared the document intended the Courthouse Square to be included. Bauer makes the motion to amend the wording in the Resolution to include the Courthouse Square and Stahl seconds. Sheriff Beitel states if we do not have the waiver then we are breaking the law. If this resolution is not passed and someone complains about the smoking – the officer will need to take action. There have been other activities on the Courthouse Square and no one has asked for a smoking waiver. The motion for the amended verbiage to the resolution to include the Courthouse Square carries on a voice vote. Horner moves to approve the amended resolution, Colbert seconds and the motion carries on a voice vote.(Placed on file)

**Personnel & Salary –  
County Clerk & Recorder**

Minutes placed on exhibit

Resolution 2008-8008

County Clerk Huntley presents the Resolution to the board regarding the Judges of Election list for the Democrats and Republicans. These lists have been on display in the County Clerk’s Office and lists have been distributed to the committee members. County Clerk Huntley states she will take these lists to a Judge for a hearing date and then they are officially Election Judges. Bauer moves to approve the resolution, Nye seconds and the motion carries on a voice vote.(Placed on file)

Resolution 2008-8009

County Clerk Huntley presents the Resolution to the board regarding an additional \$20 compensation for Judges of Election. The Judges of Election are currently paid \$80 to work the Election and \$100 if they attended a Judges of Election School. With this compensation they will now be paid \$100 to work the Election and \$120 if they attend a Judges of Election School. The Election Judges begin work at 5:00 a.m. and work until at least 9:00 to 10:00 p.m.. County Clerk Huntley states we will receive all of the money back from the State and it does not cost Ogle County any additional funds. Kilker moves to approve the resolution, Colbert seconds and the motion carries on a voice vote.(Placed on file)

**Courthouse Renovation**

Minutes placed on exhibit

Update

Stahl states the committee is currently looking at a couple of places for relocation of County Offices. One of the buildings is the Watt Building in Mt. Morris and the committee is looking into prices on modular homes/offices. Stahl states Sheriff Beitel and Jim Mielke

will be reviewing lease agreements. Stahl states the Department Heads have visited the Watt building and seem to be happy with the location. Stahl states there was discussion regarding the County Board Room layout and are looking at seating for approximately 84 people. They are still working on the layout.

Resolution 2008-8012

Stahl presents the Resolution to Acknowledge the Estimated Courthouse Remodeling Budget and Authorize Holabird & Root to Commence the Construction Document Phase of the Project which was passed at the last committee meeting. Stahl makes the motion to pass Resolution 2008-8012 and Bauer seconds. Boes appreciates the committee's work and has some concerns with cost overruns. Boes talks about the operational windows and the air-conditioning system as well as the cost of \$4,000 for a hot water heater. Vice-Chairman Hopkins states these are projected costs and nothing has been bid on at this time. Williams states he had permission to review the design development documents and has the following concerns:

- Operable windows with the modern HVAC system
- Masonry and Roof repair – to be determined by contractor
- Handicap Ramp into the basement
- Fire-pump to be incorporated and not connected to back-up power system
- No flow tests documentation on fire hydrants
- Hot water heater ventilation cost of \$10,000
- Furniture estimate - \$267,000 – There is a \$50,000 variance in figures
- Window shades – explore window tinting options

Williams has three pages of things he would like to give to the architect to review. Vice-Chairman Hopkins asks Dennis Vovos from Holabird & Root if he would like to comment on a few of the items:

- Windows – more detailed information during construction document phase & pursue options regarding operable and non-operable windows
- Masonry & Roof Repair – they know some repairs will be needed and are making allowances in the estimate
- Ramp – current ramp is not ADA Compliant – There have been discussions with the committee regarding repair or replacement – he thought the direction from the committee was to replace the ramp and that has been done & provides protection for people entering through this entrance
- Fire pump – The Oregon Fire Department will not provide a flow test – OFPD has given flow test pressures and once entered into the Holabird & Root calculations they felt the pump was needed. Mr. Vovos states if someone can help with having the Oregon Fire Department perform a flow test, he would be happy to do this
- Hot water heater – he would need to review this further
- Furniture estimate – he will check the figures
- Window shades vs tinting – The direction he was given was to make the building exterior more historic and the tinting of the windows will detract from that look. There would be an additional cost with the installation of the window cost which could be offset with the shading.

Mr. Vovos states he is willing to review the information Board Member Williams has prepared. Mr. Vovos states we are not looking to go to construction we are looking to go to the next phase to refine the documents. Williams asks what is the mechanism we use between now and then to make sure we look at all of these items and address them. Mr. Vovos states we will do this through the attendance of the members at the Committee Meetings and we need to have more detailed discussions during these meetings. Boes cannot accept this cost estimate provided

on the resolution. Kenney tells Mr. Vovos to have John Coffman contact our Insurance Carrier to have the flow tests conducted. Horner states we need to watch this project closer than we did with the Judicial Center. Colson states on Monday of this week a petition with signatures of citizens of the county regarding the County Board Room component of the project was filed. Colson states this document does not allow a provision for the outcome of the referendum. Vice-Chairman states the Committee is following in the direction which was approved by the County Board. Messer asks why are we approving this today when it is not the final costs of the construction of the project. Stahl states the reason this was put on the Agenda was to keep the public informed. County Clerk Huntley states the committee was accused of not being open about the process and this is there attempt. Messer doesn't think we need to vote on this resolution if the costs are not finalized and Boes agrees. Barnes asks for a roll call vote. Gouker asks for clarification on the vote. Vice-Chairman Hopkins states motion will be to accept the projected costs of \$8,755,125. Boes reads part of the Resolution: "...the Ogle County Board accepts the estimated Project Budget of \$8,755,125 and authorizes Holabird & Root to continue with the next step in the Courthouse remodeling project by entering into the Construction Document Phase of the project." Boes does not like that number, it is too high. Vice-Chairman Hopkins states they have to move forward into the Construction Documents to get bids for the final costs of the project. Stahl states the bottom line is this resolution was provided to keep the public informed and provide an estimated project number. Stahl states the resolution does not need to be approved if that will cure this. Kilker states more information needs to be included in the minutes. Stahl states the August 11<sup>th</sup> Committee minutes are in detail and have almost the same wording as the resolution and they are very thorough. Stahl makes the motion to withdraw, with the understanding the committee is continuing, Bauer seconds the withdrawal.

**Finance & Insurance**                      Minutes placed on exhibit

Resolution 2008-8007                      John Coffman presents an explanation of the Deed of Conveyance for P.I.N. 08-35-202-007 for Marvin L. & Beverly K. Binkley. The Ogle County as Trustee is contracted for unsold taxes and proceeds for deed if the taxes are not paid for 3 years. The Trustee has proceeded for deed and the property owners paid the Trustee. Then a Deed of Conveyance is needed to deed the property back to the original owners. Bauer makes the motion to approve Resolution 2008-8007, Colson seconds and the motion carries on a voice vote.(Placed on file)

**Vice-Chairman's Comments –**

Vice-Chairman has Heuer speak about the UCCI and Illinois Taxpayers Federation information which was distributed and placed on the Board Members desks. Heuer has the board members look at the Ogle County information in the Illinois Taxpayers Federation brochure. Heuer states Illinois only has four states higher than ours in the rate of personal property tax. Heuer states we need to look how we stand with our neighboring counties regarding taxes when preparing our budget.

Colson presents the brochure for "Pasture Improvement and Manure Management Field Day" which will be held on Tuesday, September 9, 2008 in Freeport. Colson states there is a report from Blackhawk Hills RCD which is self explanatory. Colson talks about the Annual Report – travel booklets and brag cards for the Illinois Lincoln Highway Coalition which has been distributed. Colson also informs the board members of Rochelle having their annual Lincoln Highway Festival this weekend.

Vice-Chairman Hopkins states Chairman Rice gave him a letter from the Illinois Extension Service regarding the trees which will need trimming if the County proceeds with a Geo-Thermal Unit for the Courthouse.

Vice-Chairman Hopkins informs the board members the Rockford City Council has approved annexing in all of the land south of the City up to the Ogle County line.

#### **Public Comments –**

- Pat Saunders makes a comment regarding the information Heuer presented regarding the taxes in Illinois as well as Ogle County. We are a higher taxing County and reminds us that Exelon pays 1/3 of the taxes which is why we are in a higher bracket. Saunders also states Illinois is so high on the list of taxing states because we have more taxing districts than other states (ie: Forest Preserves, Libraries, Senior Taxes and 708 Taxes). Saunders says most of these taxes were passed by referendum which evidently people want to pay for.
- John McLane states he filed petitions in the County Clerk's Office which contained approximately 1,700 signatures to put the referendum question on the ballot and only 1,255 signatures were needed. McLane states if the referendum question passes favorably to restore the courtroom, the board will be put in a very difficult position. The architect has said the drawings could be prepared in two ways – with one option restoring the courtroom to its original two story height. If this option is not accepted now and the referendum issue passes, there will be additional costs for the architect to change the drawings and there will be delays. McLane thinks the LRP Committee does not want to honor the will of the voters if the voters want to restore the courtroom. The Board should consider what the outcome could be and how they will act if it comes in favor of restoration.
- Nelson Preston of Scott Township – He says he looks at an Industrial Park outside his front window and asks if the City of Rockford can come across the county line and annex his property? It was stated yes, they can annex property under certain conditions and extend their City Limits.
- Christopher Bearing speaks on behalf of the Concealed Weapons and would like to have Ogle County put a referendum on the ballot like they are doing in Winnebago County. This would be separate from what Ogle County has done this evening.
- Russ Martin addresses the board.

#### **Unfinished Business –**

##### **New Business –**

Boes states in light of what has been announced in the Executive Committee he would like to have the board move into Closed Session to discuss the issue at hand. It was stated it is not on the Agenda and it needs to be prepared ahead of time. Boes was of the understanding that it did not need to be on the Agenda and that you can ask to go into Closed Session and discuss issues. Ogle County State's Attorney Ben Roe states there needs to be 48 hour notice and follow the Open Meetings Act.

#### **Communications –**

- Super Mix Sales Tax (on file in County Clerk's Office)
- Letter from Rock River Center, Inc.
- Illinois Department of Corrections – Jail Inspection Report
- Sales Tax for April 2008 was \$29,538.65 and \$73,229.56
- Sales Tax for April 2007 was \$34,773.62 and \$72,969.75
- Sales Tax for May 2008 was \$28,720.82 and \$77,300.87
- Sales Tax for May 2007 was \$35,994.87 and \$80,540.11

#### **Motion to Adjourn**

At 6:50 p.m., Kenney makes the motion to adjourn the August Ogle County Board meeting until September 15, 2008 at 5:30 p.m.. Horner seconds and the motion carries on a voice vote.

Lyle Hopkins  
Vice -Chairman - Ogle County Board

Attest: Rebecca Huntley, Ogle County Clerk &  
Ex-officio Clerk of the Ogle County Board

Ogle County Board Meeting

August 19, 2008

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Proceedings of the Special Ogle County Board Meeting  
August 26, 2008

State of Illinois )  
County of Ogle ) ss  
City of Oregon )

**Call to Order**

Vice-Chairman Hopkins calls the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

**Roll Call**

The roll call shows Colbert, Nye and Rice are absent. This is followed with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**Purpose of Meeting**

Vice-Chairman Hopkins states the Agenda has the first item of business is to hold a Closed Session to discuss Personnel Issues. Vice-Chairman Hopkins asks if anyone would like to address the purpose of the meeting. Kenney states the topic of the meeting is a pretty broad statement and what is the issue for the Closed Meeting. Boes clarifies the request by saying this meeting is not about the Administrator himself – the Administrator has met his obligations and probably more. This meeting was called to express concerns as to what we do as a County Government going forward with the Office of the Administrator being vacated. The purpose of this meeting is for a finding of facts as to whether or not the goals and objectives of the position that was created by the County Board were accomplished. Did the taxpayers and citizens benefit from this position? In short, the Administrator’s position is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the County and brings all of responsible parties together to establish a balanced budget. This is in the best interest of the taxpayers. The county needs to have a plan in place to accomplish this on his exit. Boes questions whether or not the \$86,000 salary can be better utilized for something else. Vice-Chairman Hopkins asks Boes if the discussion is regarding the Administrator position. Boes says yes. Vice-Chairman Hopkins states we cannot go into an Executive Session when the personnel issue is not about a specific individual. We will have to remain in Open Session. State’s Attorney Ben Roe verifies this by stating the exceptions of personnel issues C1 & C3 of the Open Meetings Act – C1 “The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees...” or C3 “..the discipline, performance or removal of the occupant of a public office, when the public body is given power to remove the occupant..” Roe states neither of these exceptions apply to the topic of the meeting tonight. White states it was his understanding the board was going to discuss the performance review of the Administrator from last year. Vice-Chairman Hopkins says it seems the main concern is what are we going to do since the Administrator has resigned. Of course, at the last County Board Meeting there was no resignation nor had he been hired at that time. Technically since neither of these happened there could be no discussion on the issue. Vice-Chairman Hopkins believes the Personnel Committee will be looking into this. Since we have a committee type of government in this county he assumes the committees will be taking care of this and reporting back to the full board with all the facts. He doesn’t see the need of holding this special meeting until the committees have time to investigate and report back to the board. Kenney states as Chairperson of the Personnel Committee he has had no discussion with Chairman Rice or Vice-Chairman Hopkins regarding the plans and no information has been conveyed to any members of the committee. Vice-Chairman Hopkins has been in contact with Chairman Rice who is currently on vacation. Chairman Rice is willing to spend more time at the courthouse to fulfill some of the duties that the Administrator had fulfilled. He will do this until we can get the committees together and decide what we want to accomplish as a whole. Vice-Chairman states Jim Mielke has agreed to stay until September 19<sup>th</sup> and try to have the budget put together. Boes asks who is going to take on some of the day-to-day responsibilities during the loss of the Administrator. Vice-Chairman Hopkins says Chairman Rice will for the time being. Boes asks if the County Clerk’s Office handled some of the functions before an Administrator was hired. County Clerk Huntley says she and her staff are willing to help with the functions as needed just as the office did for the first eight years she was in office. Colson says to be productive during this meeting before we go to the committees to ask them to detail something, the board needs to be able to tell the Committee what direction we want them to take.

Vice-Chairman Hopkins states the board members can converse with the members of the committee and voice their opinion. Williams says as a group there are some members who cannot attend a lot of the committee meetings and it's a good idea for the board to get together as a group to discuss this issue. He would like to have the board look and see how the County benefited from this position. He was not a board member when all the discussion took place and the decision was made to hire a County Administrator. Vice-Chairman Hopkins stated at first he was against hiring a County Administrator, because he didn't want to spend the money. Once Jim came on board, he saw the benefits of how much smoother things ran and saw how well he worked with the department heads. Huntley expresses the same. Huntley says Mielke came in at the last hour in 2006 and had everyone work together to present a budget. He says it has been a pleasure. Vice-Chairman Hopkins agrees the budget process has been streamlined and the board has not had to approve a budget at the last minute. Horner and Stahl ask what are we doing here. Stahl says this should be handled through the Personnel Committee who can evaluate and bring back to the board. Bowers asks don't you think we should value the other board members opinions about where we should proceed from here? Horner says a special meeting is not the place and says this is a waste of the county's money to hold this meeting. Horner asks County Clerk Huntley how much it costs to hold a County Board meeting. County Clerk Huntley says \$50 per board member in attendance plus mileage. Vice-Chairman Hopkins thinks that by talking with the committee members and expressing your opinions this can be done. Especially since the committees are larger and you can converse with two or three committee members. Huntley says talking about this now, is too preliminary. Bauer says how can we discuss, if we don't know what the questions and issues are and no one has any way of deciding what the research questions are. That is were the committee process comes in – we can discuss it in committee or give written questions to the committee. Bauer states some board members didn't know what was the personnel issue - they had a good guess as to what the personnel issue. Vice-Chairman Hopkins believes Jim Mielke will give 100% for the county and get the job done. Bauer also states before he evaluates an employee – he wants the employee to be present to discuss it with them. You need all parties present in order to have both sides explained. Colson would like to see discussed is the position of an Executive Assistant to the County Board Chairman to provide the smoothness of the operation, instead of a County Administrator. This could be achieved at possibly 1/3 the cost. Kenney states Chairman Gocken had assigned the task of researching the Administrator position to the Personnel Committee – which he was a member of that committee as well as Brooks and County Clerk Huntley. The committee went through the process of researching for this position and at the Chairman's direction it was broken down. Chairman Gocken became the Chairman of the Search Committee – went through the process of elimination and the information was brought back to the County Board. The County Board had the final decision. Kenney says there has been no communication between Chairman Rice, Vice-Chairman Hopkins or any committee members. He states the committee will be well informed if Chairman Rice sends the task their way. He thinks this very premature, things are happening to fast, too early without a way to respond to the questions. Kenney says he has no problem with listening to all of the county board members and their wishes. Unfortunately, not all of the board members are here, there are members who are traveling. Vice-Chairman Hopkins restates to the board that Jim Mielke will be here through the next County Board Meeting and Committee Meetings. Horner asks for a show of hands – the board members who were here before the Administration position – if they think he is an asset to the County and about half of the board raised their hands. Horner makes the motion to adjourn the meeting. Gouker says there have been a few comments made here tonight of wanting to do an assessment of the position. He states Jim has done a good job. We were told when we created this position that this position would save us money and we can't answer Horner's question without looking at the assessment. He doesn't think it is a bad thing to get the board members together to discuss things. This is a government body and before it goes to the Personnel Committee, we should discuss if the position should continue. He doesn't think it should be the decision of just the committee. If Boes wants to have a meeting, it is part of the bylaws and he doesn't understand the resistance to hold this meeting. He thought the meeting was going to be more about the immediate needs of how to solve the budget this year. He doesn't know if we should put this responsibility on an Administrator who will have other focuses. Vice-Chairman Hopkins states Mielke has guaranteed to help get this done before he leaves. John Coffman states it doesn't matter if the Administrator or Finance Committee works on the budget; it is always the responsibility of the board to complete. Coffman doesn't see what the resistance is to have Mielke work on the budget. Messer seconds to close the meeting. There was discussion and roll call will be taken to adjourn the meeting.

**Public Comments –**

Don Conn comments on the ten board members who called this meeting tonight as being fiscally irresponsible.

Gouker feels it is not necessary to allow Public Comment which is derogatory toward the County Board or members as individuals.

**Motion to Adjourn**

At 5:22 p.m., Horner made the motion to adjourn the Special August Ogle County Board meeting. Messer seconded and a roll call vote is taken:

**YES:** Williams, Barnes, Bauer, Boes, Bowers, Brooks, Diehl, Gouker, Gronewold, Heuer, Hopkins, Horner, Huntley, Kenney, Kilker, Messer, Scholl, Stahl and Swanson

**NO:** Colson and White

**ABSENT:** Colbert, Nye and Rice

The motion to adjourn carries on a roll call vote.

Lyle Hopkins  
Vice -Chairman - Ogle County Board

Attest: Rebecca Huntley, Ogle County Clerk &  
Ex-officio Clerk of the Ogle County Board