

MINUTES of the AURORA TOWNSHIP BOARD of TRUSTEES MEETING
80 N. Broadway, Aurora, Illinois
Thursday, January 25, 2024

I. CALL TO ORDER
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
INVOCATION
ROLL CALL AND ESTABLISH QUORUM

Supervisor Bill Catching called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m. and led all in the Pledge of Allegiance. Trustee Dolores Hicks gave the invocation. Clerk Cassidy Alexander called the roll and established a quorum with the following officials and board members present: Supervisor Catching, Trustee Dolores Hicks, Trustee David Moore, Trustee Sam Núñez, Trustee Juanita Wells, and Highway Commissioner Jason Owens. Assessor Davis Offutt was absent. Staff present: Aurora Township accountant Chris Tippin, and Delia Gomez of the Aurora Township Assessor's Office. Public present: R. Paolucci, George Scowins, Dr. Peggy Hicks, and Martin Galicia, Mercy Galicia, Connie Jaquez, Juan Jaquez and Dr. Alejandro Benevides of the Illinois Tejano Organization.

II. Supervisor Catching moved for **Approval of the Minutes of The Regular Board Meeting of January 11, 2024**, which was seconded by Trustee Hicks. Without discussion, the motion carried unanimously.

III. Approval and/or Audit of Township and Road District Bills

a. Supervisor Catching moved to approve the combined Town Fund, Road and Bridge Fund, General Assistance Fund, Town IMRF Fund, R&B IMRF Fund, Town Social Security Fund, and Road & Bridge Social Security Fund bills as presented to the board. It was seconded by Trustee Wells. The bills are as follows:

Town Fund.....	\$95,060.61
Road & Bridge Fund.....	\$42,890.61
General Assistance Fund.....	\$360.61
Town IMRF Fund.....	\$503.32
R&B IMRF Fund.....	\$206.57
Social Security Fund.....	\$4,662.90
R&B Social Security Fund.....	\$1,789.02

The total for all funds is \$145,473.64. The Supervisor mentioned that the large expenditure in the town fund was for a new van that was just purchased for a VNA shuttle. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

IV. REPORTS

a. ASSESSOR'S REPORT

Assessor Davis Offutt submitted a written report with the progress of the usual duties of the department.

b. HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Highway Commissioner Jason Owens submitted a written report of the usual duties of the department, including six responses to snow incidents outside business hours in the last two weeks, and he commended his crew for doing a fine job. All those present broke into spontaneous applause for the department.

c. SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

- Supervisor Catching thanked Trustee Moore for filling in at the last meeting when he was out sick.
- He said he attended the first meeting of the year of the Township Supervisors of Illinois in Bloomington.
- Catching said he got a call from the Executive Director of Aurora Interfaith Food Pantry, who said there was money available from the federal government to assist in the migrant problem, for food, housing, health care,

legal services and so on, for those who crossed into the country from the Mexican border. The deadline to apply for the money is January 31, 2024.

DISCUSSION: Dillon's Rule was mentioned (a governmental body only has the legislative powers specifically granted to it in writing) as the possibility that it may not even be legal to perform these extra duties. Other problems were brought up. The board finally agreed that, although the plight of the migrants is sad, there is not enough time to gather the extensive information needed for an informed decision, nor enough time to write a good application, and they should not proceed. Supervisor Catching said he will pass.

d. DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION'S REPORT

Director of Finance and Administration Patty Richardson was absent but submitted December's financial statement to the board.

e. KANE COUNTY DEPUTY SHERIFF'S REPORT - none

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. Supervisor Catching moved to approve **Resolution 2024-01 Authorizing the Supervisor to Enter Into an Agreement with Accion Latina USA**. It was seconded by Trustee Hicks. Catching explained that he had chosen Frank Navarro to be interim Director of Youth Services for a period of six months, at a similar pay as the former director, Ken Maurice. He stated a great deal of good qualifications for Mr. Navarro. There were many comments from the board in favor, and the motion carried unanimously.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

a. Supervisor Catching moved to approve **Resolution 2024-02 Appointing Adam Pauley to 708 Board**. The second was Trustee Moore. Catching said there was a vacancy on 708 Board and gave many credentials to Mr. Pauley. The motion carried unanimously.

VII. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Trustee Wells said she attended a meeting regarding Aurora's digital management. She said they want to bring broadband service to the underserved in Aurora, and she asked them how much help unincorporated areas would get and wanted to make sure Aurora Township citizens are not left out. Supervisor Catching said he would be glad to follow up.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Dr. Alejandro Benavides of the Illinois Tejano Organization presented Supervisor Catching with a plaque showing appreciation for the many years of support Aurora Township has given their organization. Dr. Benavides said the definition of a Tejano is an individual of Mexican heritage who was born in Texas. He added many have moved here starting in the 1950s, and the Illinois Tejano Organization preserves this unique culture and raises money for student scholarships.

Dr. Peggy Hicks commented that Frank Navarro was a wonderful choice, not only because of his excellent qualifications, but also because he was from this community. She added she agreed with the board's choice to pass on the grant for migrants, as it would not be enough time to write a grant.

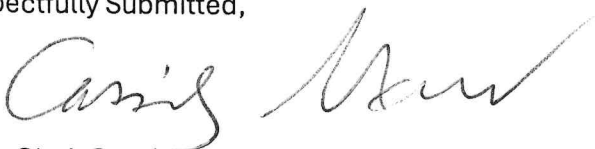
IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Trustee Hicks said a meeting of the Senior Citizens Service Committee will be held tomorrow, January 26, at 9 a.m. at Oak Street Health.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Supervisor Catching moved to adjourn which was seconded by Trustee Wells. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote and the meeting ended at 4:42 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Cassidy Alexander". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Town Clerk Cassidy Alexander