FRIDAY A.M.

STATE OF ILLINOIS)) SS COUNTY OF PIATT)

The County Board of Piatt County convened for an Emergency Meeting by a virtual phone conference in the City of Monticello, County of Piatt and State of Illinois on Friday, the 3rd day of April, A.D. 2020, at the hour of 10:00 o'clock in the morning and was called to order by Attorney Ed Flynn.

On roll call the following Board Members and County Officers responded: County Board Members, Shannon Carroll, Renee Fruendt, Dale Lattz, Robert Murrell, Randy Shumard, and Ray Spencer; State's Attorney Rhoades, and County Clerk Jennifer Harper.

Other members of the audience on roll call are: Linda Leach, Finance Officer, Elizabeth Dobson, Assistant State's Attorney, Mike Holmes, EMA Director, David Lansford, Bement Police Department, Jennifer Moss, Kirby Medical Center, Crystal Alexander, Kirby Medical Center, Steve Shreffler, Monticello Community Open Forum Discussion Page, Tony Kirkman, Piatt County Mental Health, Jami Trybom, Piatt County Transportation, Scott Porter, Piatt County Nursing Home, Keri Nusbaum, Piatt County Zoning/County Board Secretary, Steve Hoffman, Piatt County Journal Republican, John Kraft, Edgar County Watch Dogs, Dave Oliger, Piatt County Citizen.

This Emergency meeting has been called in response to the legal action of case number <u>2020-MR21</u> filed by State's Attorney Dana Rhoades. Judge Koritz appointed Mr. Flynn to represent the Piatt County Board to address the EMA director's budget and the COVID-19 pandemic.

Under the declaration of the United States President and the Illinois State Governor, we are currently under a disaster because of COVID-19 pandemic. The EMA director put together a budget at the request of Mr. Flynn that he deemed necessary for the current disaster of COVID-19. The Assistant State's Attorney, Elizabeth Dobson prepared a presentation on the budget request in a question and answer format for the EMA Director to explain his needs in the request list. Mr. Holmes is requesting an increase of \$36,188 to his current budget, \$15,968 for administrative costs and \$20,220 for operational costs.

Board Member Lattz, questioned how much of the \$36,188 would be reimbursed from grants and how much would be the net cost to the county? Holmes responded; he did not know the exact percentage at this time.

Board Member Carroll, questioned the distribution location and the expenses that go along with the location. There had not been any communications for choosing a location. Changes to the location could save on expenses. Mr. Carroll had done research of other possible location options. Mr. Carroll is also concerned about the flood plains at the current location. Mr. Holmes responded; the current location site is set but he could request a change. He had been advised the building is

his, belonging to EMA, Mr. Holmes made the decision for the location and commented he was hired to fix problems.

Chairman Spencer, asked if there had been any communications with the Health Department and Dave Remmert with their availability of space. In addition, asked if Mr. Holmes has met Mr. Remmert. Mr. Spencer asked if there is a printer already at EOC, do you need another one. Mr. Holmes responded; he has had communication with Mike Schroeder from the Health Department on a daily basis but needed to keep their operations separate. Mr. Holmes did not speak with Mr. Remmert but believes he has met him, and could do a lot of extra work, traveling back and forth across town for use of the printer.

Board Member Shumard, commented, all buildings in Piatt County belong to Piatt County and we will do what we need to get through this crisis. Our responsibility is to take care of our citizens and we are going to back EMA 100 percent whether we finance money, whatever it takes to get the job done without a lot of lives lost.

Board Member Fruendt, commented the old ambulance building would be separate from any other entity, also asked if it was necessary to have a color printer for the command center. Mr. Holmes responded, yes for graphs and charts.

Board Member Murrell, asked how long it takes for Mr.Holmes to travel from Tuscola to Piatt County. And what date the request for \$36,188 had been submitted. Mr. Holmes responded, travel time takes 30 minutes to commute to Piatt County and the request had been submitted to the Regional Coordinator on April 1, 2020.

AMENDMENT TO EMA BUDGET (Page 14)

MOTION was made by Murrell, seconded by Carroll, that the amendment to EMA Budget Page 14 of the Budget to add \$36,188.00 be approved. The amendment is recorded on page

On roll call the vote was as follows: Ayes, Murrell, Shumard, Spencer, Carroll, Fruendt, and Lattz. 6 ayes, 0 nays, motion carried.

Board Member Murrell, made a statement before the vote was taken for the record, My vote today is based on the past 7 months of official impropriety and sophistry on display in Piatt County government. I am confident when true transparency and accountability are made public the citizens of Piatt County will both understand and appreciate the conflict and turmoil this board endures still today and, in the weeks, to come.

There was discussion for Mr. Holmes to have communication with the EMA committee on a regular basis with a report, suggested a daily email and a weekly meeting.

Mr. Flynn, addressed the concerns of Mr. Holmes inability of communication being limited with the public. In fact, his communications were not limited and are part of his responsibilities as EMA director to communicate with the public. This does not require any official action but wanted to verify that everyone concurs his responsibility.

Dana Rhoades, State's Attorney wants clarification on the credit card limit for purchasing.

Ms. Harper, stated the motion would need redone to increase the credit card as it was not included with the earlier motion.

Mr. Flynn, stated this meeting and recording would satisfy the obligation.

Chairman Spencer, commented Mr. Holmes had never been under a gag order, and does want him to be a spokes person for the EMA and always has been. Mr Flynn, responded, I never believed Mr. Holmes was under a gag order.

Ms. Dobson, commented to explain the term gag order referencing the Piatt County handbook.

Mr. Flynn encouraged open and professional communication going forward by all parties.

PUBLIC COMMENT

John Kraft – Edgar County Watchdogs – Thank the Board

David Lansford - Bement Police Department - Thank the Board and Mr. Holmes

Steve Shreffler – Monticello Open Community Forum Page – asked if Mr. Holmes is prevented from speaking to the public? He is against an unlimited credit card limit, he would like to see the printer moved and why does Piatt County need a stock pile compared to larger counties.

Tony Kirkman – Piatt County Mental Health – If there is room for another ESprayer in the budget, he would like to request one, as his department is essential. He is also against an unlimited credit card limit.

ADJOURNMENT

At 11:53 a.m., MOTION was made by Carroll, seconded by Murrell, that the Honorable County Board adjourn. On voice vote, motion carried.

PIATT COUNTY CLERK