

Zone II Meeting

February 9, 2024

Morgan County Courthouse & Mulligans
Jacksonville, Illinois
11 am to 1 pm

1. The Zone II meeting was called to Order by Zone Chair Kris Pilkington at 11:00 am
2. Pledge & Prayer led by Kirby Ballard
3. Welcome and introductions
4. Approval of Minutes:
Motion- Staci Mayall Second- Nikki Lohman motion passes
5. Approval of Treasurer's Report:
Motion- Kirby Ballard Second- Nikki Lohman motion passes
Bank Balance as of 02/09/24 \$3,599.17 balance includes the reimbursement to Kris Pilkington for Pam's retirement gift.
6. Kris Pilkington recognized and welcomed Molly Bettis the new Treasurer for Menard County

Open Discussion: In Summary - Crystal Myers asked if anyone was seeing more judicial deeds being issued which created more sale in errors and then the voiding of taxes. Bryden Cory discussed land banks and that they could be the cause for a portion of it. More talks broke out regarding the issues with land banks. Pros and cons were discussed regarding the receiving of funds, grants, etc. Also, that an understanding of properties that do not sell should go back to the land. Crystal questioned if anyone else paid interest on the sale in errors. Kirby said that it should be contested in court. Crystal suggested that the bill voided until sold. Kirby said that can only happen if the assessor gets that approved by the state.

7. Joseph E Meyer & Associates by Whitney Strohmeier

Topics: Tax Buyers working the system to make sure a sale in errors with interest occurs. Tax Buyers don't look at property before the tax sale and then they do not want to pick up the subsequent for the following year. As a result, it goes to tax sale and the Trustee then takes it. Files for the deed prior to the Tax Buyer which results in the sale in error plus interest to said Tax Buyer. Some counties are waiting to record the tax deed so that the county taxing the deed does not result in a sale in error with interest. Trustee is flagging one year prior tax lean parcels so that they know which ones to postpone the recording of the tax deed. Trustees are hoping judges do not go through with sales in errors with interest when the Tax Buyer do not do their due diligence. Kris asked if RAMS2 is getting nixed. Whitney said no – they will go for the certification and that the Tax Buyer preferred auction process varies.

8. Problems and Concerns:

Staci Mayall, Fulton Co Treasurer, wanted to discuss Stipends. Status of stipends with the Illinois department of revenue, county and circuit clerk. Department of Revenue does not handle their stipends. County Clerk is through the Board of Elections and Circuit Clerk is through the courts so they are not handled the same as Treasurer, Sheriff, Coroner and/or Auditor. State stipend fund account for revenue showing as one line or should it be broken down as per elected official. Most had one expense and one revenue. The W2 will look like the county paid the stipend but the resolution and tracking of revenue and express will wash out and show actuals. Crystal Myers asked what the Correction of Error cutoff date was. Kris Pilkington said right before tax sale. Kirby Ballard

said that it depends on the exemption. The Senior and Veteran are not eligible only the Homeowner exemption. Mark Ford asked how many have a grant writer. His board is wanting to have a grant writer on hand. Discussions consisted of creating a position for a grant writer vs. doing research on how to do the grant writing.

9. Chair Kris Pilkington provided the 2024 dates of the Zone II meetings as followed:
April 12, 2024 TBD, June 14, 2024 Ridge View Winery Mt. Sterling IL, August 9, 2024 Foundry Boathouse Holiday Shores IL and October 11, 2024 TBD, December 13, 2024 Christmas party at Saputo's in Springfield. Amber McGartland offered to host the April meeting in Macoupin County and Nikki Lohman offered to host the October meeting in Montgomery County.

10. IACO Spring Conference is May 15-17, 2024 in Springfield, ICTA Summer Conference is July 24-26 in O'Fallon and IACO Fall Conference is November 18-20, 2024 in Bloomington/Normal.

11. Adjournment: 11:57 am
Motion- Bryden Cory Second- Kirby Ballard

12. We proceeded with the Morgan County Court House Tour by Crystal Myers and then walked to Mulligans for lunch.

A Very Special **Thank You** to our Speaker, Whitney Strohmeyer from Joseph Myers!

Attendance:

- Kris Pilkington, Hancock County
- Staci Mayall, Fulton County
- Betty Asmussen, Christian County
- Nikki Lohman, Montgomery County
- Kirby Ballard, Greene County
- Crystal Myers, Morgan County
- Mark Ford and Shelley, Scott County Treasurer & Deputy
- Molly Bettis, Menard County
- Heather McClelland, Brown County
- Amber McGartland, Macoupin County
- Lisa Roth, Calhoun County
- Scott Syrcle, Pike County
- Katie Abbey, Jersey County
- Bryden Cory, Adams County
- Travis Cox, Cass County
- Penny Thomas, Logan County
- Hannah Clark, Tazewell County
- Whitney Strohmeyer, Joseph E. Meyers & Associates
- Steve Adams, PMA Securities
- Chuck Venvertloh, CIC

Minutes submitted by Hannah Clark