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SPECIAL CLAY COUNTY BOARD MEETING
MAY 18, 2020 AT 6:00 P.M.

AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER by *TED WHITEHEAD*, CHAIRMAN
2. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG
3. INVOCATION
4. ROLL CALL, by *BRENDA BRITTON*
5. ACKNOWLEDGE GUESTS, AGENDA CHANGES AND APPROVAL
6. PUBLIC DISCUSSION
7. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT, *TED WHITEHEAD*
 - A. Discuss/Approve Resolution Declaring Support for and Demanding Implementation of "Back to Business" Illinois Reopening Plan
8. NEW BUSINESS
9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
 - A. Open Discussion
10. ADJOURN

For the Chairman

Brenda Britton

Brenda Britton

Clay County Clerk

Agenda Subject to Change

Posted: May 14, 2020

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PETITION AND NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING
OF THE COUNTY BOARD

STATE OF ILLINOIS }
County of CLAY } ss

PETITION

To the Clerk of the Board of Clay County:

The undersigned being one third of the membership of the County Board request that a special meeting be called for:

Discuss/Approve Resolution Declaring Support for and
Demanding Implementation of "Back to Business"
Illinois Reopening Plan

to be held at the hour of 6:00 PM. at the Clay County Courthouse
on the 18th day of May, 2020.

NAME OF MEMBER	DISTRICT
<i>[Signature]</i>	H
<i>[Signature]</i>	B
<i>[Signature]</i>	C
<i>[Signature]</i>	F
<i>[Signature]</i>	D

NOTICE OF A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
COUNTY BOARD

TO : County Board Member:

You are hereby notified that there will be a special meeting of the County Board for the purpose, time and place as set forth in the foregoing petition.

[Signature]
Clerk

QUESTIONS

May 18, 2020 County Board Meeting

	MOTION		MOTION		MOTION		MOTION		MOTION		MOTION		MOTION	
	AYE	NAY	AYE	NAY	AYE	NAY	AYE	NAY	AYE	NAY	AYE	NAY	AYE	NAY
SHANNON FRENCH (A)	✓													
BRAD HARRIS (B)	✓													
JOE GOODMAN (C)	✓													
JANICE BROOKS (D)	✓													
JEREMY WILDBUR (E)	✓													
JOHN WEIDNER (F)	✓													
CHRIS RINEHART (G)	✓													
TERRY HRONEC (H)	✓													
TED WHITEHEAD (I)	✓													
JOHN BAYLER (J)	✓													
DAVID JOHNSON (K)	✓													
JOE GILLIAND (L)	✓													
BARB MCGREW (M)	✓													
MARY MCCOLLOUGH (N)	✓													

Approve Resolution/Declaration/Demanding Back To Business IL Reopening Plan

The May 18, 2020 Special meeting of the Honorable Clay County Board was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Sheriff Andy Myers.

The Pledge to the flag was led by Sheriff Myers.

The blessing was led by Chairman Ted Whitehead.

The roll was called:

Present: Ted Whitehead, Chairman, Shannon French, Brad Harris (Zoom), Joe Goodman, Janice Brooks, Jeremy Wildbur, John Weidner, Chris Rinehart, Terry Hronec, John Bayler, David Johnson, Joe Gilliland, Mary McCollough and Barb McGrew. Absent None

Chairman Whitehead welcomed and acknowledged guests St. Atty Andrew Koester briefly addressed the public, noting a subcommittee was formed to investigate how other counties were working to reopen and the types of resolutions that had been passed.

Koester noted that Clark County had approved opening the county against the advice of counsel. Madison County's Resolution had been passed with no enforceability specifically offering the public no legal guarantees.

Additionally, Koester wanted to impress upon the audience that the passage of a Resolution by the county offers no legal cover. He encouraged business owners considering reopening to consult with their attorneys or insurance carries for advice.

The Resolution to be voted on tonight endorses "Back to Business" plan and sharing that with IDPH & Governor's office.

Chairman Whitehead opened the floor to Public Comment, hearing from Jenny McKinney and Jeremy Kohn, both supporting Clay County reopening for business.

Motion by Joe Gilliland, seconded by Jeremy Wildbur, to approve the following Resolution.

Motion Carried.

RESOLUTION

(Resolution Declaring Support for and Demanding Implementation of "Back to Business" Illinois Reopening Plan)

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of Illinois Executive Order 2020-10 is continued and extended in its entirety for the duration of the Gubernatorial Disaster Proclamations, which currently extends through May 30, 2020;

WHEREAS, the health of the citizens of Clay County remains a constant concern and priority for all officials of Clay County;

WHEREAS, on May 5, 2020, Governor Pritzker released his "Restore Illinois" plan for reopening in the State of Illinois, and it is one of the slowest and most cautious reopening plans in the United States;

WHEREAS, a number of Illinois state legislators, local health department officials, and other local officials and citizens have worked diligently to produce an alternative "Back to Business" plan;

WHEREAS, the "Back to Business" plan is attached to this Resolution;

WHEREAS, the continued lockdown and reopening plan proposed by Governor Pritzker will inflict increasingly greater harm to the economy of Clay County, in that businesses and jobs will continue to be shuttered and unemployment will rise, with the damage to many businesses in lost revenue being too severe to recover from;

WHEREAS, the Clay County Board acknowledges the importance of the entire well-being of the citizens of Clay County to include their physical and mental health and abilities to provide shelter and food for themselves and their families through work and economic livelihood;

WHEREAS, the County Board believes the "Back to Business" plan better serves the interests of Clay County, in that it considers not only the dangers of COVID-19 but also acknowledges the detrimental effects the Executive Order is having on local small businesses and citizens currently unemployed due to the Executive Order;

WHEREAS, the County Board voices its support for the "Back to Business" plan;

NOW, THEREFORE, The Clay County Board endorses the "Back to Business" plan and recommends that the "Back to Business" plan be promptly implemented by the appropriate authority, and further supports this plan being shared with the Governor, Illinois Department of Public Health, and the leaders of the Illinois General Assembly and Senate.

Dated this 18th day of May, 2020.

BOARD OF CLAY COUNTY, ILLINOIS

By: Ted Whitehead
TED WHITEHEAD, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

Brenda Britton
BRENDA BRITTON, CLERK

Motion by Joe Goodman, seconded by Brad Harris, to approve a prepared press release from the County Board. Motion Carried, Voice Action.

I, Ted Whitehead, Clay County Board Chairman, and speaking on behalf of the entire Board, would like the public to know that the Board has heard your concerns loud and clear regarding Governor Pritzker's Executive Orders. We share many of your feelings. COVID-19 and the subsequent Stay at Home Orders have caused pain and grief in many different forms for many in our great County. If we could make that pain and grief go away tomorrow, we would in a heartbeat. We want life to go back to normal and we want our citizens to be able to go back to work and provide for their families.

However, the Clay County Board cannot dictate what happens and doesn't happen in regard to the Stay at Home Order in our County. The County Board has received legal opinions from both the County's liability carrier and the Clay County State's Attorney that the Board does not have any authority to pass a less restrictive stay at home order, and any ordinance or resolution indicating it could do so would be void and non-effective. We will continue to do whatever we can to work with health department officials, local representatives, and other officials to continue to work on an alternative reopening plan that focuses on regionalization and the specific needs of this County. In the meantime, we continue to pray for our small businesses, citizens that have lost jobs, and others who have been affected by this crisis.

Motion by Mary McCollough, seconded by Barb McGrew, to adjourn. Time 6:20 p.m.

Motion Carried, Voice Action