

**MADISON COUNTY BOARD  
Special Board Meeting**

STATE OF ILLINOIS     )  
                                  ) SS  
COUNTY OF MADISON )

Proceedings of the County Board of Madison County, Illinois, as the recessed session of said Board held at the Nelson "Nellie" Hagnauer County Board Room #203 in the Administration Building in the City of Edwardsville, in the County and State aforesaid on said Thursday, July 13, 2023 and held for the transaction of special business.

**THURSDAY, JULY 13, 2023  
6:00 PM  
SPECIAL SESSION**

The Board met pursuant to recess taken June 21, 2023.

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The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Kurt Prenzler, Chairman of the Board.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said by all.

The Roll Call was called by Vanessa Jones, Chief Deputy County Clerk, showing the following members present:

PRESENT:     Fred Michael, Stacey Pace, Frank Dickerson, Bobby Ross, Mick Madison, Michael Turner, Bill Stoutenborough, Shawndell Williams, Dalton Gray, Matt King, Mike Babcock, Terry Eaker, Victor Valentine, Alison Lamothe, Nick Petrillo, Denise Wiehardt, John Janek, Paul Nicolussi, Charles "Skip" Schmidt, Chris Guy, and Jason Palmero

REMOTE:     Valerie Doucleff, Michael "Doc" Holliday, and Robert Pollard

ABSENT:     Robert Meyer and Ryan Kneedler

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Mr. Gray moved, seconded by Mr. Turner to allow Ms. Doucleff, Mr. Holliday, and Mr. Pollard, to attend and participate remotely.

**VOICE VOTE BY ALL MEMBERS.**

Mr. Holliday, Mr. Pollard, and Ms. Doucleff entered the meeting remotely at 6:00 PM.

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A moment of silence was observed for the individuals who were in a fatal traffic accident on I-70 on July 11, 2023.

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**JAMES SINCLAIR'S ADDRESS TO THE BOARD:**

Thank you for having me tonight. What was it Yogi Berra said? Deja vu all over again. It was about one year ago that I was here speaking to you about this same topic. It's a very important topic and I hope you treat it very seriously. If it's nothing more than a campaign pledge and an exercise to fulfill that obligation, fine, go through the exercise and do it. But if you're seriously considering this step, you need to be very careful about what you're wishing for when you put this forward on the ballot. Last year, I said that your role is to be a gatekeeper, and all I can do is reiterate that today. That is your statutory obligation under the law that's known as PTELL. If you were not to be the gatekeeper, it wouldn't be in the law, so you have an obligation. If you're going to vote in favor of putting PTELL on the ballot, I would suggest to you that you have an obligation to read that statute. I have copies if you want, at some point in the meeting, I'll be glad to distribute what I have. It's 34 pages long, I believe, if you print it out so you can read it. And I would challenge you to take that step if in fact, you think that this is something that you should do. Having said that, I would think it's important to point out the tax caps or PTELL does not really affect individuals tax bills directly. Rather, it affects the revenues of the taxing bodies that rely upon real estate property taxes for their financial support. Now, when we started preparing for this meeting tonight, we thought it might be beneficial to see what the status of the adoption of PTELL is in the state of Illinois, and what we found out, there's a map. It's in the technical manual from the Illinois Department of Revenue. You can get it online. It shows all the counties that have adopted PTELL, voted on PTELL, and turned down PTELL, and it's dated 2016. So we thought well, maybe something has happened, that this is dated. So we checked with the Department of Revenue. And the Department of Revenue tells us by an email, and I can quote that email to you, to our knowledge, there has not been a referendum since this map was last published. If a county did have a referendum it was not to our knowledge and was not reported to us at IDOR. So since 2016, seven years, nobody has even taken up the question of PTELL, at least as far as a referendum is concerned. Why is that? Let's ask the question, is there a need for Madison County to have PTELL? If you look at your own report, what you're going to find, I'd suggest you go to table seven I think at 157, what you're going to see is the tax rates in Madison County per Fire Protection District, which is the area of my concern, has been going down over the last several years. Take a look at that. When you say the voters should decide this, the voters already decided, they decided in 1999, and they voted it down in Madison County. Check on that map and you'll see.

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**BRAD SKERTICH'S ADDRESS TO THE BOARD:**

Good evening, my name is Brad Skertich and I'm a resident of Maryville and also the Superintendent of Collinsville Unit 10. I'd like to thank the board and the chairman for the opportunity to speak this evening. Also present with me are some teachers from our district, as well as our Board President Gary Peccola. Under PTELL, units of government are no longer able to control their own levies. The increase is in the hands of a branch of the federal government that sets the consumer price index, essentially removing local control. PTELL has and continues to be pushed as a tax cap, a way to lower taxes. However, it accomplishes neither. Under PTELL, levies are maximized annually in preparation of hard or unforeseen economic times, and debt may still be incurred by units of local government. PTELL hasn't passed in any county, as Mr. Sinclair talked about being on the ballot, it has not been successful since 2003. Units of local government are kept from addressing facility emergencies, insurance increases, and program changes. Because of the manner in which PTELL works, the annual tax extension of all units of local government will be limited from one year to the next and how much may be levied. The only adjustments allowed by PTELL are based upon the consumer price index and new construction. Over time, PTELL limits available resources for the operations of our units of local government. This has a particular impact on infrastructure, our public works such as buildings, road repairs, water, or sewer type projects. It also limits major capital expenditures for equipment such as fire apparatus, police vehicles, and our township's ability to maintain roads. Schools, which play a big part in my life and our major focus in our school district, like other units of local government, will be restricted and the amount that may be levied from one year to the next. As a result, resources for safety, academic, and social emotional needs, which could not be more important now than any other time in our careers and in our

educational history, and our facility requirements for safety. Every time we pick up the paper, we see a mass shooting somewhere in our country. Our ability to address those things for our students in our community limits our district's ability to provide those supports and services and most importantly, a safe environment. Madison County residents are provided outstanding public services by our first responders, townships, and school districts. PTELL will only hinder the regular improvements throughout our county. I strongly urge the county board to not place PTELL on the ballot. Thank you for your time.

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**JILL GRIFFIN'S & TODD MEISER'S ADDRESS TO THE BOARD:**

I'd like to thank the county board for allowing us to speak tonight. Good evening, I'm Todd Meiser, President of the Bethalto School District Board of Education. There is a reason PTELL hasn't passed in the county in over 20 years. PTELL was established to control property tax growth in the collar counties around Chicago, not downstate Illinois. Rarely do we believe that what is good for Chicagoland is good for downstate. We currently have a mechanism in place to help control property taxes as people have the ability to vote for representatives to serve on their local school boards. This is the nature of a representative democracy. Our school board is mindful of property taxes and has worked in the past to reduce our tax rate while maintaining the funding necessary to operate our district. Those that believe in local control as I believe most of you do, should not strip local school boards of education like mine of our ability to make decisions on behalf of our constituents.

Good evening, I'm Jill Griffin, the Superintendent of the Bethalto School District. At this time, school districts are on the heels of a pandemic that has had a lasting negative impact on the students we serve both academically and emotionally. We are plagued with staff shortages in every job category, teachers, paraprofessionals, bus drivers, social workers, and psychologists. We are struggling to meet the academic and growing social emotional needs of students, which are more pressing than we've ever witnessed in our careers. We continue to face school shootings and school safety concerns across the county and country. Keeping school safety in the spotlight, addressing these concerns takes resources. This is what we must be focused on as school districts and leaders, not PTELL. As my colleagues have shared, PTELL is not a tax cap. In fact, the data is very clear. Counties that pass PTELL tend to see an immediate increase in their property taxes, as school districts and other taxing bodies must prepare for the future.

I ask the County Board to take lead from the fact that no county has passed PTELL in over 20 years because it doesn't lower taxes, and it has a devastating impact on our communities and districts at a time when we are already struggling. Please support local control. Support local school boards and districts. Please don't cut our legs out from under us. We respect the role of the county board. Please respect the role of your local school boards. Please do not continue to pursue PTELL as an option for our county.

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**JASON HENDERSON'S ADDRESS TO THE BOARD:**

Thank you to the chairman and to the board for allowing me to speak this evening. My name is Jason Henderson, and I'm the Superintendent of the Triad School District. I want to echo a little bit of what Dr. Skertich and Dr. Griffin just spoke about. PTELL does not lower property taxes. However, it does take away the control of locally elected school boards and puts it in the hands of the federal government. PTELL puts school districts and other taxing bodies in a situation where they cannot take care of their aging facilities. We cannot raise prices or fees enough to keep up with our expenses. School districts are not businesses. Last year, Triad had to replace a 20-year-old roof at its high school. We're also currently in the process of an air conditioning repair that's for a 20-year-old system as well. The cost of the district for both of these projects combined is over \$2.5 million. Under PTELL, the district would not be able to fund these projects until it put it out to the voters. So major jobs to keep up our schools

would have to go on the ballot and wait for an election instead of being decided by local school boards. Is that really what we want to let happen? I know anything that I say about PTELL as a district superintendent will seem self-serving. In Illinois, property taxes are the main source of income for schools. However, the board and its subcommittees have heard from Democrats and Republicans alike on this issue. And I don't believe there has been a single person who has actually experienced PTELL that has felt it has been a positive for their county. Many of the committee may have heard the Madison County Clerk talk about PTELL and say how it has not been a positive and it did not lower taxes. In fact, the Board's own subcommittee unanimously voted not to recommend moving forward with putting it on the ballot. The theory behind PTELL is appealing. But the reality of PTELL is that does not lower property taxes. In fact, if enacted, property taxes in Madison County will spike without question the largest that this county has ever seen. And we will be putting our schools, our police and our fire departments and the rest of our taxing bodies in the situation of having to protect themselves to ensure that they are prepared for expenses that will continue to increase with no mechanism to increase revenue. I'd ask you to check out the population of small counties where PTELL has passed. If you look out 5 to 10 years, you will notice the same thing, a declining population. The schools begin to age, repairs cannot be made, districts cannot afford to keep up with salaries for their existing staff and are forced to make cuts and the school systems begin to decline. And when your schools begin to decline, people leave our communities. Our local schools are what draw people to the area. I ask the board to consider what PTELL could potentially do to damage our schools before placing this complicated issue on the ballot. I ask you to vote no, thank you.

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**RACHEL TOLLETT'S ADDRESS TO THE BOARD:**

Members of the board, you have already heard from teachers and clerks about how PTELL would affect things that draw people to Madison County. And I'm not going to reiterate or repeat to you all the lovely things that they have said despite the fact that I agree with them. I'm going to speak to you as a resident of Madison County that moved here from the Chicagoland area. It is a disastrous decision to put something like this into effect. And I sincerely believe that when we vote, it should be an informed vote. The point of voting is to vote knowing exactly what you were voting for. And one of the things that we vote for is for county board members to represent our interests. We vote for school boards to represent our interests and to make decisions for us. It is part of a representative democracy. And I do not believe that we could sincerely explain in the course of a single paragraph on a ballot the following from the Secretary of State, the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law does not cap either individual property tax bills or individual property assessments. Instead, it allows a taxing district to receive limited inflationary increases and tax extensions on existing property, plus an additional amount for new construction newly annexed areas and recovered TIF valuations. If you think we can explain that in a paragraph, I really would love you to try and see if I could even understand it. I'm a resident of Madison County, I'm about to buy a home, and I do not have any children. I will pay higher taxes every day on that house that I will buy, and I will be happy to do it because I believe in good roads, I believe in safe jails, and police and fire and EMS, and I believe that we should have good animal welfare officers, I believe that we should have good schools, and nobody should have a leaky roof in a county building, and I believe that the county board should be able to meet in a facility like this because this is what facilitates representative government. No child of mine will ever benefit from the A-plus schools of Madison County, but every time I talk to a friend of mine in Chicagoland, I say, hey, have you thought about moving to Edwardsville? I will pay those higher taxes every day, and I will be happy to do so because I think it's worth it. So I'm encouraging the county board members to vote no because I do not think that we can easily explain on a ballot all the ins and outs of PTELL. My friends, the road commissioners in Macoupin and Cumberland, even if you don't think about the school thing, say I don't have the money to repave my potholes, right? People make more flats in my city because I don't have the money to fix the roads. Roads are a basic thing. Infrastructure might not be cool, but it's important. So I encourage the county board to act as we asked you to do, we elected you for a purpose, and vote no. Thank you

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Ms. Pace moved, seconded by Mr. Dickerson to suspend the rules to allow all 7 speakers that are signed up to speak.

The ayes and nays called on the motion to approve resulted in a vote as follows:

AYES: Michael, Pace, Dickerson, Ross, Madison, Doucleff, Turner, Holliday, Stoutenborough, Williams, Gray, Pollard, King, Babcock, Eaker, Valentine, Lamothe, Petrillo, Wiehardt, Janek, Nicolussi, Schmidt, Guy, and Palmero

NAYS: None.

AYES: 24. NAYS: 0. Whereupon the Chairman declared the rules are suspended to allow additional speakers.

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**BARRETT DEIST'S ADDRESS TO THE BOARD:**

Good evening, my name is Barrett Deist. I am a lifelong resident of Madison County, former high school social studies teacher and college government instructor, and currently serve as a school district business manager. I am fiscally conservative, and I lean to the right more than I lean to the left. I speak tonight in opposition to PTELL. First, I would like to thank the members of the bipartisan PTELL subcommittee for their work on this matter. I was able to attend the meeting last night, and as a former government instructor, it was nice to see government working the way it is supposed to work, setting politics aside, studying an issue and making a decision based upon the facts. Members of the committee, thank you. Second, I am concerned regarding the misinformation, disinformation, and untruths that have been circulated by some members of this chamber and its leader regarding PTELL. As the bipartisan subcommittee rightfully confirmed, PTELL does not lower taxes, does not cap taxes, and does not end the legal bonding practices that some disagree with. In fact, it can have a devastating impact on the community. Some in this chamber may have known this all along yet have continued to share information that is simply untrue for what seems to be for political purposes instead of decision making regarding policy. No one in this chamber should listen to or follow leaders who failed to tell the truth. It also concerns me that some in this chamber seem to have forgotten the oath that they took to faithfully discharge the duties of their office. This special meeting and the action item on the agenda this evening regarding PTELL seems to clearly be as much about politics as it is about policy. Calling a special meeting, placing items on the agenda, and voting in favor of items on an agenda for political purposes is not a faithful discharge of your duties. Finally, especially to those in this chamber that consider themselves conservatives, I ask that you not abandon a core principle of conservatism, local control. Just as this chamber would not desire Governor Pritzker and the Chicago elite to take away your authority as locally elected county board members, you should have no desire to take away the authority of your locally elected boards of education. As someone who is fiscally conservative, I agree that property taxes are an issue. PTELL, however, is not a solution. If you believe in truth, ethics, and local control, you should vote no on this matter. Thank you for your time.

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**RYAN CUNNINGHAM'S ADDRESS TO THE BOARD:**

Over the past three years, Madison County has been a beacon of light and hope not only in the state of Illinois, but this nation. This county board has been bold and courageous. Reagan once addressed the nation and said freedom is a fragile thing, it's never more than one generation away from extinction. It's not by our ways of inheritance, but it must be fought for defended constantly by each generation for it only comes once to a people. This board has

lived and breathed those words as they fought against tyrannical mandates. You set forth policies for others to look up to ensuring the world knew Madison County stood for freedom. You're a beacon of hope to 1000s of children and parents and those typically not involved in government got to see what it means to take a stand. Tears of joy were set for children and parents alike. Sadly, this tyrannical behavior I fought against is right here in our backyard. Last board meeting I showed up with a documentary film crew and I was silenced and not allowed to speak. The documentary which will be released later this fall has been in development for 10 years. It will detail the sacrifices and advocacy of Martin Luther King, Kennedy, Reagan, and many others who died trying to make a difference for this nation. It was important for me to ensure this board was properly recognized in history. Instead, here's what was documented in the history books, and I don't know what final edit will look like. I signed up to speak and it's no surprise to anyone that the Chairman and I have had our political differences. I reached out before the meeting and asked him to table my replacement on the fire board so I could honor the board in this moment of history. I was shocked when he told me there were five speakers and I would not be allowed to speak. I begged to set politics aside and let the history reflect the good that has been done here in this county. As many of you saw, I still showed up with the crew hoping he'd have a change of heart. What was supposed to be resounding remarks of freedom and triumph turned into a meeting in which political adversaries were silenced. Yet last meeting, elected officials, including the chairman spoke during public comment silencing me and other members of the public when there was additional time left for speakers, possibly against the Open Meetings Act. Tonight, you're here talking about PTELL. Instead, you should be talking about and investigating the silence of public and political adversaries and tyrannical abuse of power. History will not judge this moment well; action must be taken. The Honorable Judge Raylene Grischow has said to other tyrannical leaders in Illinois, this is the type of evil is exactly what the law is designed to constrain.

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**Mr. Prenzler:** Next we have a playing of a video audio clip of a PTELL discussion that took place on May 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Mr. Madison:** The County Clerk, Linda Andreas, had a tax meeting a few months ago and she invited me. I decided I probably needed to learn more about our tax system, so I signed up to come. Several other members came as well. She had a county clerk from Marion, Illinois speak here and he went through his tax part. At one point, they were shooting a video, and one part during the presentation he said, I want to touch for a moment on PTELL. And it turned into a big question and answer session from the board members that were present and we kind of turned it, accidentally, into a PTELL meeting. The gentleman didn't want to be involved in the politics here. He didn't want to come back and speak. He just wanted to be informational. I wanted the other board members, like the committee got to hear, the information from this meeting. We have also spoken to the county clerk in McDonough County, who has reiterated the things that the clerk from Marion County had said so she backed those things up. And that's an audio. The reason we're not doing the video clip, but we're doing the audio clip is because it was much more clear and easier for everyone to understand in the room.

*The May 4<sup>th</sup> audio clip begins at the 27:58 mark and ends at the 38:47 mark in the recording.*

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The following item was submitted for discussion and approval:

**RESOLUTION TO SUBMIT A BINDING REFERENDUM TO THE VOTERS OF  
MADISON COUNTY FOR CONSIDERATION IN THE MATTER OF THE  
PROPERTY TAX EXTENSION LIMITATION LAW**

**WHEREAS**, the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law (PTELL) was adopted by the General Assembly of Illinois in 1991 and signed into law by the Governor; and,

**WHEREAS**, Illinois State Statute 35 ILCS 200/18-213 provides that county boards may submit to the voters of the county the proposition, at any election except a consolidated primary election, of whether to make all non-home rule taxing districts that have all or a portion of the equalized assessed valuation subject to PTELL; and,

**WHEREAS**, the legal authority to place a referendum before the voters of Madison County rests with the County Board of Madison County.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the County Board of Madison County that the County Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to place on the March 19, 2024, Primary Election Ballot in Madison County the following public question in accordance with applicable law:

*Shall the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law (35 ILCS 200/18-185 through 18-245), which limits annual property tax extension increases, apply to non-home rule taxing districts with all or a portion of their equalized assessed valuation located in Madison County?*

*YES/NO*

APPROVED this \_\_\_\_ day of July, 2023 by the Madison County Board of the County of Madison, Illinois.

Respectfully submitted,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Madison County Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Madison County Board Chairman Pro Tem

County Board Special Meeting  
July 13, 2023

On the question:

**Mr. Madison:** Chairman, I'm making a motion to allow me to read the recommendation from the PTELL subcommittee that we made last night. Can I get a second, please?

**Mr. Prenzler:** You want to read the entire thing?

**Mr. Madison:** Yes.

**Mr. Prenzler:** Okay.

**Mr. Babcock:** Second.

**Mr. Prenzler:** Go ahead, allowed.

**Mr. Madison:** The committee has been around for a while. We had a new committee recently, but a lot of our answers have come recently. A lot of legwork and phone calls have been done. I applaud the committee members for all their work, and the administration folks that came here and helped us do this. So, after, after all the information that we've gathered, this is the recommendation we believe we should send to the board.

**RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING THE MADISON COUNTY BOARD REJECT A BALLOT REFERENDUM TO ENACT THE PROPERTY TAX EXTENSION LIMITATION LAW (PTELL) IN MADISON COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

**WHEREAS**, for the benefit of the Madison County Board, the PTELL Sub-Committee was instituted to research the effects of the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law (PTELL) on Madison County Taxpayers, and units of local government subject to its limitations including, among others, school districts, and all other taxing districts such as fire districts, library districts, small townships, excluding, however, units of government not subject to PTELL including home rule units of government and certain others; and

**WHEREAS**, the Committee has considered abundant information on the effects of PTELL being enacted in Madison County and has found that PTELL would certainly financially impact and potentially devastate small taxing districts of every type and raise the property taxes of Madison County Residents and property owners; and

**WHEREAS**, PTELL is not a “Tax Cap” and will never lower property taxes, but will, instead, raise property taxes, as, history shows, taxing bodies will increase their property tax levy to the maximum allowed to protect their tax base the year before PTELL can take effect should the voters approve it; and

**WHEREAS**, PTELL has been unilaterally imposed on 6 Illinois Counties by the Illinois Legislature, it has been adopted by referendum in only 33 of 102 Illinois Counties, and PTELL has not been enacted in any Illinois county in over 20 years; and

**WHEREAS**, no evidence suggesting that all PTELL Counties have lower property taxes than all non-PTELL Counties has been presented; and

**WHEREAS**, to date, no person has supplied a factual based assessment to the Committee that PTELL will lower taxes in Madison County; and

**WHEREAS**, PTELL was designed for the counties surrounding Cook County, the “collar counties”, where it was made effective by the legislature, while considering that all taxing bodies in that area are significantly larger than those in the lesser populated counties, which would certainly be less devastating than in much smaller taxing districts such as those in Madison County; and

**WHEREAS**, the PTELL Sub-Committee has considered several real effects of PTELL on Madison County taxing bodies and residents including the real-life concerns that small townships may lose the ability to pay their portion of bridge replacements in their districts, causing them to turn to the taxpayers for more money; and small Fire Protection Districts would likely lose their ability to function properly and to purchase fire trucks and other costly necessary equipment thus impacting the vital public safety service they provide; and

**WHEREAS**, PTELL has had the unintended consequence of forcing taxing districts, such as school districts, to issue bonds, or borrow the maximum allowed in order for them to continue to have the ability to bond in the future, which will raise property taxes. In fact, simply discussing enacting PTELL has the plausible effect of causing districts to issue extensive bonds just in case PTELL is enacted in the county; and



**WHEREAS**, many voters residing in taxing districts unaffected by PTELL will be allowed to vote on whether or not PTELL should be implemented in Madison County and, therefore, apply to taxing districts in which they do not reside; and

**WHEREAS**, Madison County voters previously rejected a PTELL referendum on the ballot in 1999, and two previous county boards have rejected placing PTELL on the ballot since 2017, as well; and

**WHEREAS**, the Property Tax Code provides the County Board is responsible for placing the question of whether PTELL shall apply in the County on the ballot, and, therefore, because PTELL may be approved by referendum, it is in essence the responsibility of the County Board to determine whether PTELL would be beneficial to the County as a whole; and

**WHEREAS**, voters have the right to an objective, factually-based, and responsible assessment of PTELL and its impact and implications on the County by its elected County Board members before they are forced to vote on it; and

**WHEREAS**, the PTELL Sub-Committee does not recommend that the Madison County Board approve any action to place the statutory PTELL question on the ballot.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the PTELL Sub-Committee of Madison County, Illinois, that the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law (PTELL) will negatively impact the residents of Madison County, will only raise taxes, and hereby recommends that MADISON COUNTY FULLY REJECT PLACING A REFERENDUM ON THE BALLOT PERTAINING TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF PTELL IN MADISON COUNTY ILLINOIS.

Adopted this 12th day of July, 2023.

**Mr. Prenzler:** Thank you. I'm told I need a motion to bring this resolution in. Do I have a motion? A motion to put PTELL on the ballot.

**Mr. Madison:** A motion to put PTELL on the ballot?

**Mr. Prenzler:** Yes, which is on the agenda. Do I have a motion?

**Mr. Madison:** Sorry, I removed my motion. I thought we were motioning to allow me to read that. I'm sorry.

**Mr. Prenzler:** No, we didn't need a motion for that.

**Mr. Madison:** I removed my motion.

**Mr. Prenzler:** Do we have a motion to put PTELL on the ballot? And a second?

Mr. Nicolussi moved, seconded by Mr. Gray to approve the resolution to place PTELL on the March 19, 2024 ballot as presented.

On the question:

**Mr. Babcock:** We had been meeting over the course of many, many months as a committee. The committee was set up as a count of seven of us, unfortunately, one of them couldn't be there last night. Last night, the PTELL committee actually voted 6-0 to vote no on PTELL. It would have been 7-0. The individual that's in that group is actually on the phone tonight. My understanding is he is voting no on PTELL.

**Mr. Prenzler:** Mr. Pollard, do you also support the PTELL Committee's recommendation not to put PTELL on the ballot?

**Mr. Pollard:** Yes.

**Mr. Babcock:** There was a study on a Property Tax Relief Task Force in 2019. This is what it tells us and first of all, let me also say we looked over and over and over to find somebody that could come before us and give us some form of positive information regarding PTELL; we were not able to find one person and we've been studying this for a long period of time, but as a group, we've been studying it for about three/four months as our group met. Number one, PTELL districts/counties taxes are actually higher since PTELL was implemented. PTELL does not fix backdoor referendums, things that we're hearing. This is number two, does not fix backdoor referendums. Backdoor referendums can continue to take place. Number three, home rule, this is what we studied and figured out, home rule. There's four cities and 2 school districts in Madison County that actually can vote on PTELL, but do not have to live by PTELL rules. That's literally 37%, and if you count in Highland, it's actually closer to 40 to 45% of the people voting for PTELL and their communities do not get affected by it. That's the cities of Alton, Collinsville, Granite City, Edwardsville. I don't think that's fair representation to put PTELL on a ballot, where people can actually vote and it doesn't affect them because they're in the home rule classification. The school districts are Collinsville and the other one is Highland. Who will be affected? Schools, fire department districts which I've gotten many phone calls from the fire districts. They're begging me not to put this on the ballot because there's going to be a campaign and the campaign is going to be run and it's going to tell the people that their taxes are going lower. And the answer to that, and this is a fact, taxes are not going lower based on this information that we've already studied. In PTELL counties, taxes are higher, townships, cities, libraries, community colleges, by the way, all these people are elected by the people on these boards in these communities are elected by their people in their community. Why do we want to take away their right to do their job inside that board? Why do we want to even think about doing that? I have no idea. Ask yourself this, why? Why counties haven't passed PTELL in 22 years, actually, it was 2002 was the last time it was actually passed. Why are taxes higher in PTELL communities versus non-PTELL communities in the last 30 years? Why people in home rule districts can vote for PTELL when it does not even apply to them at the rate of 37 to 40% of the people in our county. Why is there not one positive message from anyone about PTELL after 30 years of being implemented? And finally, why after knowing everything we've been told about negative effects of PTELL, why would we consider the idea of voting for PTELL to place it on the ballot as a representative of your district, when you know taxes are higher in PTELL communities? I want one last mention, Ryan Kneedler, who could not be here tonight, asked me to mention this to you. He would not vote for PTELL, but he's on vacation, unfortunately, and he wanted me to let everybody know that.

**Mr. Prenzler:** I'm going to take the opportunity to respond to the speaker from Marion County, and I'm going to have Mallory distribute this chart. You can see that this is from information provided by the Illinois Department of Revenue, Federal Reserve, St. Louis, US Census Bureau, published by Wire Points, that shows that the property taxes paid in Madison County are 4.3% of medium household income. Madison County 4.3, Marion County 2.3, so that really doesn't show that PTELL has caused taxes to increase in Marion County. I understand where a county official would not like PTELL if it's limiting taxes, and I think that's what we see in Marion County. In any case, is there any other discussion? I thought I would jump in there because we had to listen to this county clerk from Marion County for a long time.

**Mr. Petrillo:** First of all, when you talk about that, which surprised me, that you would bring that up. When you see an apple, it's an apple, an apple is not an orange. That comparison to me doesn't resonate at all because we're two totally different counties.

**Mr. Prenzler:** That's true, counties are different. I agree.

**Mr. Petrillo:** If I may, just a brief history lesson. I know that a number of people on this county board have said that they needed time to do some research and needed to check and see. I don't know what other members of this board did, quite frankly. I'm going to trust that they did make a contact outside of this county and talk to some people. Matter of fact, the people I'm going to mention, I'll even encourage you to call them to double check and make sure that I spoke to them. I talked to 8 different counties. In those 8 counties, well, wait a minute, let me go back to the election. In 1999, this county did vote, the people did speak. When I looked at the election, I asked for a copy and Mallory was kind enough to send it to me and so I started looking at that, and I thought, Alton's in there, Collinsville, everybody's in there in the county, of course. And I thought, home rule really doesn't affect in essence, Alton, Collinsville, Edwardsville, and Granite City, although I will say this, Granite City voted no, I was pretty proud of them. But then I decided maybe I ought to look at counties or I should say townships that would possibly be affected by this. How did they vote in '99? When I looked at it, there are 19 townships that I looked at, a total of 110 precincts. And the outcome was 60 of those precincts said no, 45 of those precincts said yes, and there were 5 ties. I thought it was kind of interesting when I tabulated it and looked at it that Wood River who has 29 of those precincts, 13 of those precincts said yes. Godfrey, which had 15 of those precincts, 13 said yes. That's 26 of the 45. I think this county has already spoken, especially those people that would be affected. And I think they said no. I don't see anything that's really changed things, maybe others that have done their research that they said they were going to do. Maybe it'll change my mind. But I spoke to 8 counties. I spoke with either a clerk and or an assessor. I can tell you that 3 of them immediately after I introduced myself and I requested that I simply wanted to get their feel now that they have been involved in PTELL since as early as '96, and I did talk to the two counties in '02, which actually that didn't take effect until '03, but that's when they voted on it, you get a year, so you can pump all your taxes up so you're ready for what's going to hit the fan. Almost every one of those, and you can look at my notes later on if you wish, and you can make the phone calls, I'll give you the names of the people that you can make contact with. Almost every one of them says, we made a big mistake, don't do it, you will regret it. Of those 8 counties that I checked into, I decided to do a little more investigation because we're talking about taxes. If these counties have been in effect 20 years or more, and we're thinking that it's going to help them tax wise. These 8 counties in terms of property tax, were rated in the top 25% of the highest in the United States, not the state of Illinois, throughout the United States. If you've had this in effect for some 20 plus years, I would expect to see a little movement with that. It hasn't helped them at all. I'm going to tell you what, you're going to either do one of two things here, you're either going to vote for a fact, or you're going to vote for a fairy tale.

**Mr. Dickerson:** Just to be clear and factual to everyone, I was one of the board members that did sign the petition for the special meeting of the county board. After I signed this, and after I heard we were coming to this special meeting, I started digging deeper. I only looked at the last 10 years, but there's a couple things here. First of all, I probably live in one of the districts with the most volunteer fire departments. There was also mention of a volunteer fire department tonight that responded to a call, and I would hate to be part of someone who cut the funds to these departments, and they would not be able to respond like they did just yesterday. But I will tell you, I looked at the last 10 years of the funds, and my tax rate without PTELL is \$89.26. If I assume the PTELL rate, and again, you heard from all of our speakers that they raise to the maximum, so I'd made that assumption, my tax rate would be 97.29. That is an increase if it was PTELL. Because of this finding, and because of the fire departments, and library boards being hurt, not to mention what you've heard from the school districts, I am not going to be voting for this tonight. Thank you.

**Mr. Nicolussi:** I would like to say this is the hardest vote I've had to do since I've been on the county board, which is okay, I ran, I got elected to vote on issues of substance like PTELL. I've done my research, I've contacted many officials from other counties, and to be honest with you, what I'm getting is a mixed bag. PTELL is not like a genie lamp that you rub that is going to cure all your tax problems, that is for sure. There's good points and there's bad points. It also doesn't appear to be the wrecking ball that some people say it might be to where it's going to destroy the county. Many counties have seen a population increase since they enacted PTELL. Take for instance, McHenry County in 1991 was smaller than Madison County; it is now 45,000 people larger. Is that just because of PTELL? Hard to say. But it didn't destroy the county like some might say. I've heard from many fine people in my community who don't want me to vote for this tonight. I heard from a lot of fine people in my community who want me to vote

for it. I'm really torn. I would like to say to Mr. Petrillo, I'd love his information. He did a lot of good research. I'd love to review it with him and even discuss it with him if you would allow me to. I also agreed to meet with one of these speakers tonight already, and I'd like to meet with more of them if they would meet with me sometime we can discuss PTELL more and they can educate me. What I'm wrestling with is not whether I'm for it or against it, but whether I shut the voters out and don't give them a voice on it. I have to let them choose. I'm going to be voting yes to put this on a ballot tonight.

**Mr. Schmidt:** Jason and I had a private conversation at length about this issue. And I too, feel the same way he does. PTELL is PTELL, I'm voting based on the fact that I taught civics, I told my constituency I would vote with conscious. I've had constituents both ways very, very close in my district. My job as an elected person is to represent. If you go back to paragraph 3, whereas voters basically are asked to and given the right to vote on such an issue, pertaining to taxes. And I'm not here to be popular. I'm here to do what I feel is correct. In my soul, and for my constituents. I ran on PTELL, I will be voting yes.

**Ms. Pace:** Simply put, PTELL is bad legislation. A vote for this resolution is ultimately a vote to raise your constituents and all of Madison County's taxes. One of the arguments with this resolution is that the voters deserve a voice in this matter. I feel they've made that choice. They elected us. That is our job as county board members to represent them. We're the ones doing the research on behalf of them. We're the ones going to the meetings. We're the ones coming together talking about what we've learned and discussing it. We put aside the Rs and Ds behind our names because quite honestly, it doesn't matter right now. What matters in this very moment is do you want to raise the property taxes of every individual in Madison County, plain and simple. It disgusts me that people keep going back to oh, we got to give the voters a choice. We gave them a choice. You just got voted in, now do your job. What's best for Madison County? Don't raise the taxes, vote no. Thank you.

**Mr. Eaker:** I'm not sure if everybody got to their emails today, but there was a letter from the Godfrey Fire Protection District stating how they are just against this totally. I know the Rosewood Heights, ex Fire Chief, Tim Bunt, and he's dead set against this. But back to what Stacey was saying there a little bit, they have put us in this spot to vote to find out about this stuff and learn about it. They trust us to do the right thing, that is why they put us on this board. Our constituents don't want to take the time to learn this. Look what it took us, we've been on this thing for over a year. We finally came to the conclusion last night, we were trying to let it just die out, but we came to the conclusion that this is not good for Madison County. That is why I'm going to vote no, and that is what I recommend everybody else to do.

**Mr. Palmero:** A lot of people are going back and forth on this. A lot of people are passionate about this. This is something that, in my opinion, we shouldn't even be here discussing right now. This is a gamble to our fire districts, our school districts, our property taxes, real estate professionals, engineers, school districts, fire districts everybody can sit there and pretty much almost all agree that PTELL is not going to be good for our county and our communities. The only rebuttal might be is to let the people vote. I keep hearing people say that. All of our voters in our districts voted for us to make smart decisions for them. They didn't vote us in to do a bunch of research on things that might have a negative impact on our community, and then throw the dice and put it on the ballot. My voters voted for me to make a smart decision, and I'm not going let them down. I am not voting for PTELL.

**Mr. Guy:** First, I do as Finance Chairman for the Madison County Board, I do want to thank the subcommittee for spending a lot of hours on this. I think all you guys and gals are very passionate about this issue. And serving with you since 2018 on the county board, I commend all of you too. We have worked together and have not raised the property tax levy here in Madison County, and that's something I've committed to my voters in my district. As an elected official, I will never vote to increase a tax levy. Ten years ago I was elected as a township trustee; I never voted to increase the tax levy there for the four years I was there. As a Village of Maryville Board Member, I never voted to increase the tax levy. As a Madison County Board Member, I've never voted to increase the tax levy. Guess I've kind of been lucky that all three governments have managed their finances pretty good. We haven't had to do that. I do think regardless of, I think we know which way this will go tonight, but moving forward, I think it's very

important for individuals that do really care about their tax bill. Every year, November, December is when all the taxing entities meet and decide whether or not to increase or decrease their levy. It's good to go to your city council meetings, your school board meetings, your village board meetings, and make your voice heard when they're making that consideration. I know in my district, my tax bill, I'm proud that Collinsville School District, Village of Maryville, SWIC, the library board, county board, again, all decreased their levy. They did not increase it. So that's something to be proud of. I just want to make the record reflect that I do not support increasing property taxes.

**Mr. Babcock:** I want to show you a document here, Chairman Prenzler, because there was an indication on your part that in that county that's lower than us, which is totally a different county, as Nick pointed out. In our county, I have information here from Rob Werden, and I really appreciate what Rob Werden does every day. He's out there fighting for your school districts, and he should be applauded for what he is doing. The tax difference for me on my house, and he will show you on your house in a PTELL community. Over the last 30 years, I would have paid \$4,275 more. This debunks the theory that it's going to lower your taxes. I have proof right here in my hands. And if you know this information to be true, I just can't understand how in the world you would allow this to go on a ballot and let somebody go out there and market a lie to our people. Let me finish up by saying this, and this is a professional comment. After many years, Mr. Prenzler, the thing I find disappointing about the bizarre crusade that you've been on in your intellectual dishonesty on this subject, you want to ignore and hide the overwhelming negative aspects of PTELL and pretend they don't exist. You've had over six years to provide to these board members real information on the effects of PTELL and you've failed to do so. You're either incapable of gathering the data or the data to support your claim simply doesn't exist. The PTELL subcommittee that just met last night on the other hand, did an extensive research on the effects of PTELL. All the data ultimately points to a big initial tax increase and an encouragement of bad behavior by taxing districts to levy the max rate rather than the need; something that you would agree with. In addition, maximizing their debt capacity before PTELL takes place. This is a fact. It's a fact now. You've not only ignored the data, but you've also failed to attend our meetings, or be engaged at any point in time with our committee. If you think this is so critical and important, then why have you been so absent from our meetings?

**Mr. Prenzler:** May I respond to that, Mr. Babcock?

**Mr. Babcock:** Not yet. You've failed to produce any supporting data. All you've provided is talking points that have been repeatedly shown to be false. The Illinois Department of Revenue has said, and I quote, it is misleading to call it tax caps. PTELL is not a tax cap. It is a tax increase. Plain and simple. You're willing to mislead the voters and encourage them to walk themselves into a large property tax increase. Why? I think we all know in this room why and not only that, a primary, you put it on a primary. I think we all know in this room, why. Why are you doing this? You think it makes people think you're fighting for them for taxes. I applaud you for that. The truth is, you haven't given us any reasons to this committee, or to our taxpayers, why this should be on the ballot. If this were to be passed, the tax increases would incur after an election, so you'd have no accountability. And to me, it's sad that you're willing to put your own selfish political ambitions ahead of what the taxpayers of Madison County need.

**Mr. Prenzler:** I'm going to interrupt here.

**Mr. Janek:** Listen, I'd like to say something.

**Mr. Prenzler:** No, because I now have to respond to Mr. Babcock. He's called me a liar. Mr. Babcock, I don't have to apologize for anything I've done. In 2006, against an overwhelmingly powerful and well-funded Democrat machine, I called a foul on what Fred Bathon was doing. We all know how that turned out. As County Treasurer, I reduced my budget within two months, the payroll by 30%. What I did also is I started holding honest tax sales. I outsourced it to the Joe Meyer company down here at the corner of Hillsboro and 157. I don't have to apologize to you for anything. Now, in addition, soon after I was elected County Treasurer, the school districts of this county decided to promote a 1% sales tax. I led the fight to defeat that and you know that's true, don't you, Mr. Babcock?

**Mr. Babcock:** The reason they did that, Kurt, is because they're funded at 39% and not the 51% that's constitutional. There's a reason why they're being underfunded by the State of Illinois. This doesn't fix the problem, Mr. Chairman.

**Mr. Prenzler:** Well, they brought that back, we defeated that. Madison County voters voted to defeat that sales tax increase, which would have increased sales taxes in parts of Granite City and Collinsville to over 10%. They put that back on the ballot, it's very easy to put tax increases on the ballot. The people here in this room put that back on the ballot in 2017 and 2018, and I led the fight in both those years to defeat that 1% sales tax. I have also taken my time, beginning in 2012, Highland did a backdoor referendum, which they passed, and I remember this because I devoted a lot of time to fighting backdoor referendums. At the end of June 2012, the Highland School District passed a backdoor referendum, which they wanted to issue a bond, and they voted to issue the bond that would be repaid with higher property taxes, and it would be added to their working cash. It's called a working cash bond. And they did that using the backdoor referendum legal loophole in this county, which this state's permits, which has been used in this county a lot. That's not legal in Missouri. In Missouri, they have the Hancock Amendment which says that if you issue a bond, which is going to be repaid with higher property taxes, it's got to be voted on by the voters. I gathered those signatures along with other people, and it was put on a November ballot and then I was done. I just wanted the people to vote on it. The people of Highland in November of 2012 voted, and they passed it. They decided they would pass it. Now recently, the Highland School District put a \$40 million bond issue on the ballot in November, that's fine, the people are able to vote on it, that same thing happened. I have worked very hard to collect signatures to put referendums on the ballot where this county in October of 2013, passed an \$18.8 million backdoor referendum. I personally gathered 1,300 so I've really used a lot of shoe leather to make sure that the voters are able to vote on their taxes, which I think is a pretty original United States of America issue, the ability to vote on your own taxes. I'll just stop right there. Mr. Babcock, I don't have anything to apologize to you for. I have not just talked the talk; I've walked the walk in terms of this county. Since I became Chairman, when I was elected in November 2016, before I took office, the county board passed a levy of \$32.6 million. The next year, we came back and passed a levy of \$30.8 million where it has stayed. We passed that in November '17, '18, '19, '20, '21, '22, and I'm proud of that, I'm really proud of that. In addition, Mr. Babcock, I led an effort to collect 10,000 signatures in the spring of 2016, which was very difficult, in which was opposed by our then county clerk and others. We had to really, really work hard to get that because we needed 8,000 signatures, we submitted 10,000 they were challenged, we had those signatures, we did win that. The people voted 4-1 in November of '16 to reduce our general fund maximum rate from .25 to .20. I'm presiding over this meeting, but when you challenge me I have the right to respond.

**Ms. Lamothe:** Actually, I was just going to say it sounds more like a campaign ad. I would like us to keep this brief. This is a special meeting that was called during a week when we already had meetings last week rescheduled for this week, and I just would like to move on with the business of the meeting.

**Mr. Madison:** I just want to say, years ago, I've been on the board for 10 years and I've known Kurt for 10 years. He told me about PTELL originally years ago. I couldn't even tell you when it was. I was like, oh, wow, there's something that we can use to limit our property taxes, that's fantastic. When you brought it to the board the first time, I voted to, kind of reluctantly...

**Mr. Prenzler:** I think it was tabled, if I recall, in 2018.

**Mr. Madison:** No, the first time we voted, I voted to allow the voters to vote on it. As I have learned more, especially through this PTELL subcommittee, I've learned more and more and more. I originally told some of the members when this first started that I would still let the taxpayers vote on this because it was the right thing to do, but as I've learned more, I've realized that would have been a foolish endeavor because I feel like they would think we were putting it on there to help them because that's how we have acted for years, trying to be helpful to our citizens. I think we would just trick them into raising their own taxes, and then they would be furious and rightfully so. I think it's a gamble that we may devastate small taxing bodies. It's a gamble that we may raise taxes higher than

we realize even if there's some argument back and forth on how high. I think I've come full circle now to where I will not vote to put this on the ballot because it's going to trick people into raising their own taxes.

**Mr. Petrillo:** First of all, let me go back for just a moment and say that in 1998, and I know last night I noticed Mr. Haine kind of smiled or gave a little laugh at me, at that particular time, it was a 28-0 vote to bring this before the citizenry of this county. And they responded by voting no. I made a comment and said at that time, I think probably around 90% were Democrats. If I'm not mistaken, I was just a young guy about 52 years old at that time, and as I recall, I think everybody on that county board at that time was a township supervisor. I could be wrong, but I think maybe it might have been 100% Democrats. This was an idea that came out of Springfield. It was specifically earmarked for Chicago and its five collar counties. My suspicion is, this is me, my suspicion is that over the next three to four years, Springfield saw an opportunity to get more taxes. Then they opened it up for the whole state of Illinois. I think it's somewhat interesting that approximately 53 counties over the last 20 plus years have not seen this magical change that's going to help them. They haven't jumped on the bandwagon. They see from those that jumped on early, this is not a good deal. Not at all. Secondly, I agree that was a great campaign speech, but I will also say this, I agree with you on most of those things and I applaud you for those changes. We're not against you. This is an issue that we're talking about, we're not campaigning. We're talking about an issue that's going to affect a number of districts within this county. We believe given the history from these other counties, it is really a bad deal. Mr. Guy, that's great that you haven't had to vote for any kind of tax levy. I'll guarantee you that if this passes, if this were to ever pass, and we become PTELL, you will then be voting for tax levies, and they will go up, they have to. As far as back door referendums, if this county went to PTELL, there will be backdoor referendums and the people that vote won't have recourse. All you have to do is talk to your superintendent or talk to your treasurer and he'll tell you what could possibly happen to bonds. I could tell you, but you may not believe me, because all I am as a former teacher and former coach and a little bit of this and that here and there. In terms of losses, I looked at the top 105 cities in Illinois. I can tell you that 21 out of the 105 that I looked at, the top 105 showed some kind of growth. Montgomery lost 4.44% of its population. This is according to 2021 statistics. It was the largest loss in the state of Illinois. Two cities, Cicero and Oak Park lost over 2% of their population. Another 40 cities lost no less than 1% plus. I believe this is my personal opinion based on these facts that I've looked at. I believe they probably left primarily because of property taxes, and possibly even loss of jobs. That's all I'll say for right now. Thank you.

**Mr. Stoutenborough:** One of the presenters made a comment which I think we should go back to, be careful what you promise or be careful what you ask for. You may get it. When I campaigned, I was in one of the home rule cities, I knew very little about the county. I did not go out campaigning on any issue other than saying I will do the best I can to serve the interests of the people. I have changed my mind on many things and discussions I've had. I may have told someone that I would support this, but to find out more about PTELL, initially it sounds good when you read about it, when you go into the adverse effects, it's terrible. The worst thing about PTELL is it takes away the local governance of so many different areas of fire departments, etc. I mean, you've all heard it. We have winners. The interesting aspect of last night's discussion was a lot that didn't really appear to be a PTELL issue. Question was, this a year ago was voted on within the executive committee and be forewarned 8 of those people that were on the executive committee last year, some of them were pushed out by their own party. I think for some people, it takes a little bit of braveness to stand up and say, hey, I'm going to vote for what's right. I'm not going to be voting to support a person. The winner of this would be self-governance if we vote this no, the loser would be the county. I think that the question was discussed at length, how did this even get here? It turns out the only winner is going to be you, Mr. Chairman, because whether it's no, or whether it's yes, I can bet you're going to be telling people I tried to help you on your taxes.

**Mr. Prenzler:** I need to respond to these personal attacks. I will tell you, Mr. Stoutenborough, that in your area, there was a county board member by the name of Gene Frizzo. I just have to interrupt when I'm attacked personally when I'm being accused of bad motives. Mr. Frizzo was a former bank president, I believe at Germania Bank, a very intelligent man who felt that the PTELL should be voted on again. It was on a spring election. He felt he wanted to have another vote. He gathered 15,000 signatures from citizens who wanted to vote on it, but that simply

is not the way the law prescribes for putting PTELL on the ballot. I have a lot of respect for Mr. Frizzo. I really reject your personal attacks.

**Mr. King:** Two things, this does not stop the backdoor referendums. Simply when the bonds expire, they can stretch them out another 50 years and still stay under that yearly cap or whatever you want to call it so that has no weight. Second thing, there was a senate bill that passed also. I researched this, this has been going back four or five years now. I'm wore out on PTELL. There was a senate bill that was passed that they can reclaim monies that were lost through PTELL. It went through the Senate, I can't remember what senate bill it was, but I'm just trying to say, there's attorneys and they can find loopholes and there's always loopholes in about every law there is, so this does not stop anything.

**Mr. Janek:** I'm new at this, of course. I'm also looking at the special meeting of the Madison County Board and we're on discussion number 4 and we've been on there for almost an hour and a half. I've heard some bashing of you from Mr. Babcock. I've heard some bashing from Bill Stoutenborough. This stuff has got to stop. This is not a political meeting tonight. This is a meeting on the PTELL. I don't want to hear about what happened 20 years ago, 30 years, I want to know what happened 5 years ago, or yesterday.

Mr. Nicolussi moved, seconded by Mr. Gray to approve the resolution as presented. The ayes and nays called on the motion to approve resulted in a vote as follows:

AYES: Gray, Nicolussi, Schmidt, Guy

NAYS: Michael, Pace, Dickerson, Ross, Madison, Turner, Holliday, Stoutenborough, Williams, Pollard, King, Babcock, Eaker, Valentine, Lamothe, Petrillo, Wiehardt, Janek, and Palmero

ABSTENTIONS: Doucleff

AYES: 4. NAYS: 19. ABST: 1. Whereupon the Chairman declared the foregoing motion failed.

\* \* \* \* \*

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

None.

\* \* \* \* \*

**NEW BUSINESS:**

None.

\* \* \* \* \*

Mr. Janek moved, seconded by Mr. King at 7:31 PM to recess this special session of the Madison County Board meeting until Wednesday, July 19, 2023. **MOTION CARRIED.**

ATTEST: Linda A. Andreas  
County Clerk

\* \* \* \* \*