VILLAGE OF ROCKDALE
Board Meeting Minutes of
July 1, 2025

I. Call to Order

Village President Mr. Wyke called to order, the regular meeting of the Rockdale Village Board at 7:00 p.m. on July 1, 2025, at the Village Municipal Building, 79 Moen Avenue, Rockdale, Illinois.

II. Roll Call

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Mr. Wyke asked for a roll call. Trustee Mr. Stadler was present along with Mr. Califello, Mr. Pirc, Mr. Scheidt and Mr. Lorenc. Also present in person were Police Chief Mr. Robert Dykstra, Public Works Superintendent Mr. Angelo Proia, Village Treasurer, Steve Lucas, Village Attorney Mr. Michael Stiff and Village Engineer Mr. Dan Malinowski.

III. Approval of Previous Minutes

Mr. Wyke asked for a motion to approve the Village Board meeting minutes from July 1, 2025, as written. Mr. Lorenc made a motion with a second by Mr. Stadler. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays and 1 absent.

IV. Visitors

Resident Sue Ingram was on the agenda but was not in attendance.

V. Bills and Claims.

Mr. Wyke asked for a Motion to approve the Bills & Claims. Mr. Scheidt made a motion to approve with a second by Mr. Pirc. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays and 1 absent.

VI. Clerk's Receipts

Mr. Wyke asked for a Motion to approve the Clerk's Receipts as submitted. Mr. Lorenc made a Motion to approve with a second by Mr. Pirc. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays and 1 absent.

VII. Treasurer's Receipts

Mr. Wyke asked for a Motion to approve the Treasurer's Receipts. Mr. Pirc made a Motion to accept with a second from Mr. Lorenc. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays 1 absent.

VIII. Treasurer's Report

Mr. Wyke asked for a Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. Mr. Scheidt made a Motion to accept with a second by Mr. Stadler. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays 1 absent.

IX. Building Permits

None

X. Communications

There were no communications.

XI. Old Business

Mr. Wyke asked for any old business. Mr. Scheidt asked about the Moen Ave Phase III project closeout with IDOT. Mr. Wyke recommended that the question be posed to Village Engineer Dan Malinowski during his report to the Board.

XII. New Business

Mr. Wyke asked the Trustees for any new business. There was none.

Moving to the first item on the agenda was the Discussion regarding Letter of Understanding by and between the Village of Rockdale and the Illinois Department of Transportation related to the Center Street at I-80 improvements and detour route. Mr. Stiff indicated that the Village had received the letter with an email without much explanation. The letter seems to indicate that the Village might be responsible to reimburse IDOT for certain costs, so Mr. Stiff routed this to Dan Malinowski who concurred that the prior communications with IDOT did not have any agreement for reimbursement. Dan Malinowski met with IDOT this afternoon and the engineers agreed that there would be no reimbursement to IDOT for the improvements on Brandon Road for the detour. Mr. Stiff will make modifications to the Letter of Understanding and send them back to IDOT. Mr. Malinowski summarized the other topics discussed with IDOT's engineers at this afternoon's meeting, specifically the turn radius issue at Meadow and Brandon. IDOT will not re-do the culverts because it requires permitting and that will delay the project. Most of the truck traffic during the detour will be to Graham Industrial Park anyway. He also discussed an overlay on Meadow to help with the increased truck traffic and the engineers were amenable to including that in the LOU/design plans. Mr. Malinowski also indicated that they agreed to a video before and after since IDOT will be responsible for restoration costs. The Board asked a number of questions regarding damage repair issues, financial responsibilities. Although the current guard rail is already banged up, Mr. Malinowski believes that it will be further damaged during the detour and that the Village will be able to ask that IDOT restore it. Mr. Stiff will create a Resolution approving the Letter of Understanding once his amendments are approved by IDOT.

Next up was the Resolution Approving A Collective Bargaining Agreement Between The Village Of Rockdale And Teamsters Local 179 For The Period Beginning July 1, 2025, And Ending June 30, 2028, And Authorizing The Execution Of The Agreement. Mr. Stiff provided a summary of the union negotiations and the agreed upon Collective Bargaining Agreement which had been negotiated by the Village's negotiation team and the Union. The Union voted in favor of the new 3-year agreement today. Mr. Stiff went over the major changes in the new Agreement, including the boot allowance, wage increases and the new CDL requirements. Most importantly, the Union agreed to remove the archaic step system which is unnecessary for this small of a department. The concession by the Village to get this removed going forward was a slightly larger wage increase for the first year of the contract. The next resolution number is 858. A motion to approve the resolution was made by Mr. Scheidt with a second by Mr. Stadler. Motion carried, 5 ayes, 0 nays and 1 absent.

The next item was a Resolution Approving 2025-2026 Pay Increases For Non-Union Village Employees. This item was tabled following the executive session to discuss the issue.

XIII. Department Business

Public Works Superintendent Mr. Proia reported on the progress of Well #7 presently under repair with the plans to complete the repairs after the holiday. One of the employees will be in class for the commercial driver's license. Mr. Proia thanked the Board for approval of the union contract. Mr. Stiff asked about the backflow prevention inspections contract and Mr. Proia said they could meet to discuss it.

Police Chief Dykstra handed out the PD call sheet and had nothing more to add. The Board had no questions or comments.

Mr. Malinowski was up next to report on the conversations with IDOT about grading work around Kinsey and Margaret. The location of this problem area is right on the dividing line between two separate stages of I-80 work so it is yet to be determined whether this problem will be addressed with the grading for this project or the next phase. He also reviewed the schedule for I-80 and the future plans for traffic. Police Chief Dykstra had questions about the diversion of traffic into the Village for the IDOT detours which is cause for concern with his department. Mr. Scheidt had questions regarding the closeout of the Moen Ave project Phase III. Again, Dan and his team are ready to move forward but the matters are still waiting on a decision from IDOT on the extension.

Dan is also working on getting the culvert repairs brought to P.T. Ferro's attention.

Finally, Mr. Stiff updated the Board on the status of the litigation with Will County and Mr. Guzman. At a recent status hearing, the County sought to have the business on the property shut down completely until the capping is completed. Mr. Guzman failed to appear, although his attorney was there. An Agreed Oder was entered which requires Mr. Guzman to shut down all operations and remove vehicles from the property within 14 days, although the enforcement of the order was stayed for 60 days. There is another status hearing in August to determine whether the capping is done.

The 2025 2026 appropriations Ordinance will be on the July 15 Board agenda. There will also be a Public Hearing. The Notice for that was placed in the Joliet Herald News.

Public Comment

Mr. Wyke asked for Public Comment. Ms. Weber asked the Engineer for the timetables on the Center Street project and detour. There was also discussion on the Meadow Avenue Water Main replacement schedule being completed in two stages with a break for this winter and completion in 2026.

Mr. Ahmed Aich stated that he has issues with the new water and sewer rates which went into effect recently. He was very vocal about the poor condition of the water. Mr. Aich also questioned the math on the rates and the water bills, as well as asking for further explanation of the Joliet Water Surcharge. Mr. Wyke and other Trustees, as well as the Village Clerk, tried to explain the details which are involved with why the rates were raised.

Ms. Hernandez addressed the Board about the rates being too high and costly for her relatives. She challenged the accuracy of the readings comparing other people in Rockdale have the same volume of usage but different charges. Mr. Lorenc suggested that the Board investigate the issue to determine whether there are inaccuracies.

Mr. Pirc defended the Village with the residents and Mr. Wyke was required to use the gavel to restore order during the heated exchange.

Mr. Wyke then closed the public comment section of the meeting and asked for a motion to go into executive session pursuant to 5/ILCS 120/2(c)(1) Compensation of specific employees of the Public Body. There was no need for an executive session pursuant to 5/ILCS 120/2(c)(2) Collective negotiating matters. The motion to go into executive session was made by Mr. Stadler with a second by Mr. Lorenc Motion carried, 5 ayes, 0 nays and 1 absent.

Following the closed session, a motion was made by Mr. Scheidt to return to the regular session of the Board meeting with a second by Mr. Lorenc. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent.

Following the closed session, Mr. Stiff presented the Salary Increase Ordinance, which after discussion was tabled. The motion to table was made by Mr. Stadler with a second by Mr. Lorenc. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays and 1 absent.

XIV. Special Business

XV.Adjournment

A Motion was made by Mr. Stadler with a second by Mr. Lorenc. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent.

The next Village Board Meeting will be on Tuesday July 15, 2025.