

COUNTY OF MENARD)
) S.S.
STATE OF ILLINOIS)

The Menard County Board of Commissioners met on Tuesday, **November 28, 2023**, at 6:00 p.m. at the Menard County Courthouse, 102 S. Seventh Street, Petersburg, Illinois. Commissioners Bob Lott, Ed Whitcomb, Jeff Fore, Rich Brauer, and Troy Cummings were physically present. A quorum was present. State’s Attorney Gabe Grosboll, County Coordinator Dara Worthington, County Clerk Marty Gum, and Sheriff Mark Oller were also present. Treasurer Pam Bauser was absent.

Chairperson Bob Lott called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Commissioner Brauer moved to approve the Regular and Executive Minutes from the November 14, 2023, Board Meeting as well as the October 2023 Monthly Department Expense Report. Commissioner Whitcomb seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Zoning Report/Requests for Board Action

Joe Crowe, Zoning Officer, was in attendance and presented the Zoning permit report as well as an update with the current projects happening within his department.

Gwen Thomas, Zoning Administrator, spoke with the Board with regard to the proposed text amendment to include “Agritourism” in the Menard County Zoning Ordinance. Gwen provided the Board with a brief overview of the Agricultural Experiences Act. Pam Bultman inquired as to the definition and rules under the Agricultural Experiences Act. Discussion ensued. Commissioner Whitcomb advised that he spoke with the Menard County Farm Bureau and reported that their membership will be discussing Agritourism at their upcoming Annual State Meeting. Commissioner Whitcomb moved to table the text amendment until the Board hears back from the Farm Bureau which they presume will be in January, 2024. Commissioner Cummings seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Highway Department Report/Requests for Board Action

Corey Dowd, Highway Engineer, was in attendance, and updated the Board with the current projects happening within the Department.

Corey presented the Board with a Joint Agreement with IDOT for Section 18-00068-00-BT (Sangamon Valley Trail). Commissioner Brauer moved to approve the Joint Agreement. Commissioner Fore seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Sheriff's Report/Requests for Board Action

Sheriff Mark Oller was in attendance and briefed the Board on the current jail census of ten total inmates. He advised the Board that the pole on the Courthouse dome had been removed and that carpet was installed on the south side small courtroom and the two adjacent offices. He also inquired about a raise for his Administrative Assistant. Discussion ensued. The Board advised that the Sheriff will pay her overtime and provide her with the approved 3% raise for FY24.

County Treasurer

In the Treasurer's absence, Coordinator Worthington presented the Board with the monthly financial reports.

County Clerk's Report/Requests for Board Action

County Clerk Gum provided the Board with the North Sangamon Lattimore Drainage District Bond. County Clerk Gum presented six annual liquor licenses for approval. Commissioner Fore moved to approve the liquor licenses for Shamblee Golf Course, Country Hills Golf Course, Hill Prairie Winery, Wankel Brothers, AM PM New Salem, and Parkside Tavern. Commissioner Whitcomb seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

State's Attorney Report/Requests for Board Action

State's Attorney Gabe Grosboll provided an overview of activities within his office.

County Coordinator's Report/Requests for Board Action

Coordinator Worthington was in attendance and presented the Board with the monthly Sangamon County Department of Public Health bill for payment. Commissioner Fore moved to approve payment. Commissioner Brauer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Coordinator Worthington discussed various items such as, DCEO Grant, FY21 GATA, FY22 Actuarial Valuation, Sunny Acres Nursing Home water heaters and shower room, Senior Transport update, Ameren tree trimming, and the 2023 Menard County Christmas Party.

Individual Board Members - Report/Requests for Board Action

Commissioner Brauer provided an overview of the water leak at Sunny Acres Nursing Home.

Commissioner Whitcomb advised that he spoke with the Hokes and Ty Willis with regard to removing the fencerow on the northeast side of Country Side Estates.

Other Scheduled Topics

Commissioner Cummings moved to approve an ordinance adopting the Fiscal Year 2024 budget. Commissioner Fore seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. The ordinance shall be known as **Ordinance #40-23**.

Coordinator Worthington provided the Board with bids for the Sunny Acres Nursing Home HVAC units. Bids were opened and discussion ensued. Commissioner Cummings moved to approve the bid from Prairie State Plumbing. Commissioner Brauer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 41-23 – Participation in Service Program of Office of State’s Attorney Appellate Prosecutor at \$5,500.00 per year. Commissioner Brauer moved to approve the Resolution. Commissioner Fore seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Brauer moved to set the salary of the Menard County Coroner’s Department and to appoint Ben Hollis as the Menard County Coroner for a three-year term beginning December 1, 2023 and ending November 30, 2026. Commissioner Whitcomb seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. The resolution shall be known as **Resolution #42-23**.

Commissioner Cummings moved to approve the expenditure of Cresco Funds for Menard County Oil Fund. Commissioner Whitcomb seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

It was the consensus of the Board to complete the brush work at the County Farm and Sunny Acres Nursing Home.

Adjournment

With no other business coming before the Board, Commissioner Cummings moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:12 p.m. Commissioner Fore seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.