

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

The Menard County Board of Commissioners met for a regular board meeting on Thursday, October 31, 2024, at 9:00 AM at the Menard County Highway Department, 15620 Chautauqua Road, Petersburg, Illinois. Commissioners Bob Lott, Jeff Fore, Ed Whitcomb, Troy Cummings, and Rich Brauer were present. A quorum was present. County Treasurer Molly Bettis, County Clerk Marty Gum, Assistant State’s Attorney Gwen Thomas, and County Coordinator Dara Worthington were also present.

Chairperson Bob Lott called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

Commissioner Fore moved to approve the Regular Minutes from October 8, 2024, Executive Session Minutes from October 8, 2024, Special Meeting Minutes from October 15, 2024, Executive Session Minutes from October 15, 2024, Special Meeting Minutes from October 22, 2024, Executive Session Minutes from October 22, 2024, and the September 2024 Departmental Expense reports. Commissioner Whitcomb seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**The Honorable Michael Atterberry**

Judge Atterberry was in attendance and presented his proposed FY25 departmental budgets and explained grants that were received by his department.

**Zoning Department’s Report/Request for Board Action**

Zoning Officer Crowe was in attendance and reported on office activities along with new developments with the department.

**Highway Department’s Report/Request for Board Action**

Highway Engineer Dowd was in attendance and presented the following to the commissioners:

Draft Joint Agreement with IDOT for the Construction of 18-00068-00-BT (Sangamon Valley Trail). Commissioner Brauer made a motion to approve the agreement while Commissioner Fore seconded.

**Resolution 39-24** - Menard County's Local Match Participation in the Construction of 18-00068-00-BT (Sangamon Valley Trail). Commissioner Brauer made a motion to approve the resolution and Commissioner Fore seconded. Roll Call Vote: Brauer –

Aye, Fore – Aye, Cummings – Nay, Whitcomb – Nay, Lott – Aye. The “Ayes” carried the motion. This shall be known as **Resolution 39-24.**

**Ordinance 40-24** – Menard County Utility Policy. Commissioner Whitcomb made a motion to approve the ordinance as set forth and Commissioner Brauer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. This shall be known as **Ordinance 40-24.**

An update on departmental activities was presented to the commissioners.

### **Sheriff’s Report/Requests for Board Action**

Sheriff Oller was in attendance and updated the Board on the current jail census at a total of four inmates. Sheriff Oller reported that the jail roof work was completed and the repairs to the canopy were underway. Oller reported that visits were being conducted to the sex offenders residing within the county to ensure they were not participating in Trick or Treating.

### **Coroner’s Report/Requests for Board Action**

Coroner Ben Hollis was in attendance and presented his proposed FY25 Coroner’s budget to the commissioners.

### **Treasurer’s Department Report/Requests for Board Action**

Treasurer Bettis was in attendance and furnished an update on delinquent notices and publications along with the upcoming tax sale.

### **County Clerk’s Report/Requests for Board Action**

Clerk Gum was in attendance and presented to the Board an overview of her department’s activities. Gum reported that as of the date of the meeting there were 1,209 early voters. County Clerk Gum provided a description of the process of mail-in voting, early voting, and regular voting.

### **State’s Attorney Report/Requests for Board Action**

In State’s Attorney Grosboll’s absence due to handling a pre-trial call, Assistant State’s Attorney Gwen Thomas was in attendance and reported on a technology in the courtroom conference she had attended.

## **County Coordinator's Report/Requests for Board Action**

Coordinator Worthington was in attendance and requested that the November 2024 statement for Public Health Services be paid. Commissioner Fore made a motion to approve payment and Commissioner Cummings seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Whitcomb made a motion to open Executive Session Minutes from October 26, 2021, and April 25, 2023, and to have Executive Session Minutes from November 8, 2022, May 9, 2023, October 10, 2023, and April 9, 2024, remain closed. Commissioner Cummings seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Updates were provided on the Annual Noxious Weeds report, the new sign for Sunny Acres, Open Enrollment for county employees, the Christmas party, the DCEO grant, and the budget process.

## **Individual Board Members – Report/Requests for Board Action**

Commissioner Brauer reported that he, along with Commissioner Cummings and Treasurer Bettis, had walked around Sunny Acres. Commissioner Fore inquired about the funding for the Menard County Health Department. Commissioner Cummings provided an update on Sunny Acres business.

## **Other Scheduled Topics**

Fiscal Year 2025 Budget Planning & Preparation Including Discussion of the Following: Special Revenue & Fiduciary Fund Preparation & Review, as Needed, & General Fund Budget Preparation & Review

Budgets were presented to the commissioners for reviewing and discussion as follows: 042, 041, 000, 010, 011, 015, 025, 030, 040, 039, 094, 093, 006, 043, 091, 027, 052, 107, 053, 057, 028, and 030.

Assistant State's Attorney Gwen Thomas gave a brief summary of Animal Control as it relates to coverage provided in the different communities and intergovernmental agreements.

## **Executive Session**

Commissioner Cummings moved to go into Executive Session for the purpose of union negotiations, personnel, and the purchase or lease of real property at 11:23 AM. Commissioner Fore seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

## **Adjournment**

With no other business coming before the Board, Commissioner Brauer moved to adjourn the meeting at 12:16 PM. Commissioner Whitcomb seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.