

COUNTY OF MENARD)
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STATE OF ILLINOIS)

The Menard County Board of Commissioners met on Tuesday, **May 30, 2023** at 6:00 p.m. at the Menard County Courthouse, 102 S. Seventh Street, Petersburg, Illinois. Commissioners Bob Lott, Ed Whitcomb, Jeff Fore, and Troy Cummings were physically present. Commissioner Rich Brauer was absent. A quorum was present. County Coordinator Dara Worthington, State’s Attorney Gabe Grosboll, and Sheriff Mark Oller were also present. County Clerk Marty Gum and Treasurer Pam Bauser were absent.

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

Commissioner Cummings moved to approve the Regular Minutes and the Executive Session Minutes from May 9, 2023, along with the April 2023 Expense Report. Commissioner Whitcomb seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Scheduled/Unscheduled Guests

There were no guest speakers.

Scheduled County Elected Officials and Staff

Health Department Report/Requests for Board Action

Administrator, Gail O’Neill provided an overview of the Menard County Health Department reporting that Menard County is now fully accredited through 2025 with no findings from the Illinois Department of Public Health. O’Neill reported that WIC appointments are now being done in-person with appointments available at the local clinic in Petersburg on Tuesdays and Thursdays by appointment.

Zoning Department Report/Requests for Board Action

Gwen Thomas, Zoning Administrator, was present to report on both the Solar and Ordinances for the county. Thomas reported that they anticipate having a residential solar ordinance for the next board meeting.

Commissioner Fore made a public statement as follows:

“I am not at all happy our state legislature passed Public Act 102-1123 (HB 4412) regarding commercial wind energy facilities. I want to make it clear to the public that I did not support House Bill 4412 and I am not in favor of the Public Act. As a result, all Illinois counties are forced to adhere to the language of the Public Act. The proposed Ordinance regarding commercial wind and solar facilities were drafted in such a way to

conform with Menard County's Comprehensive Plan within the parameters established by the Public Act."

No one from the public was present to make comment on either proposed ordinance.

Ordinance 17-23 – Menard County Commercial Wind Energy Siting. Commissioner Whitcomb made a motion to approve the ordinance while Commissioner Cummings seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Ordinance 18-23 – Menard County Commercial Solar Energy Siting. Commissioner Cummings made a motion to approve the ordinance and Commissioner Whitcomb seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

EMS Department Report/Requests for Board Action

EMS Chief Huss was in attendance and provided an overview of activities within his department. Huss reported that due to vacancies within the department, he will be moving to a hybrid schedule in order to cover slots.

Highway Department Report/Requests for Board Action

Menard County Engineer, Corey Dowd, was present for the meeting and gave an update on his department's activities.

Amended Joint Agreement for 09-00056-05-EG for Completion of Athens Blacktop Right-of-Way Acquisition. Commissioner Fore made a motion to approve the agreement while Commissioner Whitcomb seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Supplemental Engineering Agreement for 09-00056-05-RG for Completion of Right-of-Way Negotiations for Athens Blacktop, Segment F. Commissioner Whitcomb made a motion to approve the agreement and Commissioner Fore seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Amendment to Extend Joint Agreement with the State of Illinois for Section 09-00056-05-EG (Athens Blacktop Road). Commissioner Cummings made a motion to approve the amendment to the agreement and Commissioner Fore seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Modification Affidavit to Extend Joint Agreement with the State of Illinois for Section 09-00056-05-EG (Athens Blacktop Road). Commissioner Fore made a motion to approve the modification and Commissioner Whitcomb seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Sheriff's Department Report/Requests for Board Action

Sheriff Oller reported as follows regarding his department: the census at the jail is currently at three males and zero females; more inmates are expected from Cass and Sangamon counties; a new squad car was acquired. It was the consensus of the commissioners that the insurance check would be put against the cost of the new squad car with the balance being paid from Fund 010 – General Fund.

Chief Deputy Hollis was in attendance reporting that the new CAD system should go on-line sometime in August. Hollis inquired about a new option available that allowed for community involvement through a portal. Deputy Hollis was instructed to bring the request before the board at the next meeting for possible ARPA one-time ARPA funding with future operational costs incorporated into the Sheriff's annual budget.

Treasurer's Department Report/Requests for Board Action

In the Treasurer's absence, Coordinator Worthington pointed out that the monthly reports were provided by Treasurer Bauser at their seat before the meeting commenced.

County Clerk's Report/Requests for Board Action

Coordinator Worthington presented a NSPOA Fireworks Permit Request in County Clerk Gum's absence. The request has been reviewed by State's Attorney Grosboll. Having no further comments/questions, Commissioner Fore made a motion to approve the permit and Commissioner Whitcomb seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

State's Attorney Report/Requests for Board Action

State's Attorney Grosboll was in attendance and provided an update on the Child Advocacy Center. After discussion with their personnel, it was determined that this item should be tabled pending further discussion on their part. State's Attorney Grosboll reported that he is in discussion with Environmental Health regarding being able to write tickets to possibly be handled within our local court system.

Ordinance 19-23 – ARPA Spending Authorization for Central Square Attorney Portal. Commissioner Cummings made a motion to approve the ordinance and Commissioner Fore seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

County Coordinator's Department Report/Requests for Board Action

Coordinator Worthington presented a bill for the Menard County Health Department. Commissioner Fore made a motion to pay the bill and Commissioner Cummings seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Executive Session minutes from November 8, 2022, were presented with the recommendation that they remain closed. Commissioner Cummings made a motion to keep the minutes closed and Commissioner Fore seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Coordination Worthington provide further updates: the Sunny Acres Nursing Home operations report, updates on the two Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity grants, progress update on the FY22 audit, Countryside Estates update; GATA update; Sunny Acres Nursing Home Administrator status and possible Addendum to the agreement with Heritage; and legislative updates from UCCI.

Individual Board Members – Report/Requests for Board Action

Commissioner Fore inquired about whether an efficiency committee was needed, reported on the Kone service to the Countryside Estates elevator, and reported on a compliment he had received on the Coroner.

Commissioner Whitcomb inquired about making an ARPA donation to each of the communities within the county for playground equipment. Commissioners were directed to reach out to the communities within their district with such a proposal for playground equipment, only.

Commissioner Cummings inquired about expanding the Sunny Acres Nursing Home Advisory Board. It was the consensus of the board that expansion should not be an issue.

Other Scheduled Topics

Resolution 20-23 – End to Disaster Proclamation (Coronavirus/Public Health)
Commissioner Whitcomb made a motion to approve the resolution as written and Commissioner Fore seconded that motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 21-23 – Reappointment of Brianne Satorius to the Menard County Board of Health for a Three-Year Term Expiring May 31, 2026. Commissioner Fore made a motion to approve the reappointment and Commissioner Cummings seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 22-23 – Appointment of Dr. Kylea Tibbs-Hnizdo DDS to the Menard County Board of Health for a Three-Year Term Expiring May 31, 2026. Commissioner Fore made a motion to approve the new appointment and Commissioner Whitcomb seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Transportation Grant with AgeLinc for FY24. Commissioner Whitcomb made a motion to approve the grant and Commissioner Fore seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment

With no other business coming before the Board, Commissioner Fore moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:39 PM. Commissioner Whitcomb seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.