

COUNTY OF MENARD)
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STATE OF ILLINOIS)

The Menard County Board of Commissioners met on Tuesday, **January 14, 2020** at 6:00 p.m. at the Menard County Courthouse, 102 S. Seventh Street, Petersburg, Illinois. Commissioners Bob Lott, Allan Anderson, Jeff Fore, Ed Whitcomb and Troy Cummings were physically present. A quorum was present. County Clerk Martha Gum, County Treasurer Pam Bauser, State’s Attorney Gabe Grosboll and County Coordinator Dara Worthington were also present.

Chairperson Robert Lott called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m on the second floor of the Menard County Courthouse.

Scheduled/Unscheduled Guests

Various people from the public gathered to discuss how the new Cannabis Law for Illinois will affect Menard County.

Commissioner Lott welcomed everyone and stated no decision will be made this evening on what Menard County will allow.

State’s Attorney Grosboll gave a presentation and an informational handout. He discussed: adult use cannabis cultivation centers, adult use craft growers, adult use dispensaries, adult use infusers, adult use processors, and adult use transporters. He added that the Illinois Department of Agriculture handles the licensing for all these. He also discussed some of the restrictions.

Each County Official gave a presentation on how or if it would affect their office.

Bill Dart, Assistant Director of the Sangamon County Department of Public Health, discussed the work place policies and added farmer’s markets will not be allowed to sell any marijuana products. He noted you must be twenty-one to legally obtain/use marijuana, unless you have a medical marijuana card. No smoking in any public places. Use is only in your home, or anything attached to your home, such as a porch or deck. He discussed the impact on adults under twenty-five, stating that the brain development is impacted. He also noted the high level of THC in some of the products.

Commissioner Fore posed the question as to whether we would need more personnel to handle any issues associated with this. Mr. Dart stated he did not think so at this point in time. Sheriff Oller also stated that he did not think so, but might have to re-visit the issue down the road.

John Goetz, a member from the Menard County 9-12 Group, was in attendance and discussed the 9-12 public meeting they had held. Mr. Goetz presented questions and concerns on the marijuana opt out issue. He stated there are issues within other

legalized states regarding the cost of curbing the problems associated with legal use and the marijuana is much stronger. He added that this strong marijuana is causing some people to have “scromitting” (screaming & vomiting at the same time). He would like to encourage Menard County to opt out.

The regular board meeting moved to the regular board room.

Commissioner Fore moved to approve the consent agenda which included both the regular minutes and Executive Session minutes from the December 10, 2019 Board Meeting. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Robert Haerr, representative from Heritage Operations Group, was in attendance to provide information on a proposed partial roof replacement for Sunny Acres Nursing Home. He stated the cost for the roof would be \$407,175., with \$100,000 of that being for five shower replacements. He added it would take around eight to ten weeks to complete and Heritage planned to pay for the work from the Operations line item, with the County covering any difference.

Highway Department Report/Requests for Board Action

County Engineer Tom Casson provided an overview of activities.

Mr. Casson presented a Resolution for approval.

Resolution #01-20 – Approval of County Maintenance for 2020 Related to Appropriation of Motor Fuel Tax Funds.

Commissioner Cummings moved to approve the Resolution. Commissioner Whitcomb seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. This shall be known as **Resolution #01-20.**

County Engineer Casson informed the Board a that the older oil distributor truck caught fire under the hood and they are looking to repair. He also added that Gudgel Avenue is closed and Altig Bridge Avenue will most likely close soon due to flooding of the Sangamon River. All county bridge inspections have been completed.

Sheriff's Report/Requests for Board Action

Menard County Sheriff Mark Oller was in attendance and gave the census at the jail which consists of ten males and one female.

EMS/EMA Administrator Report/Requests for Board Action

Menard County EMS/EMA Administrator, Mike Burg, was in attendance and discussed the current Union contract as it relates to the shift start/end times. He stated the Union President, Brad Stephens, spoke with their Local where they suggested opening the contract up, changing the shift start/end time and closing the contract. Tabled – approval of new shift time for EMS Department.

County Treasurer's Report/Requests for Board Action

County Treasurer Bauser was in attendance and presented monthly financials for review and discussion.

County Clerk's Report/Requests for Board Action

County Clerk Martha Gum was in attendance and updated the Board on activities within her office.

State's Attorney Report/Requests for Board Action

State's Attorney Gabe Grosboll was in attendance and updated the Board on activities within his office. He briefly discussed the new expungement cases and noted that the county will be handling all that were charged with under thirty grams of marijuana. He added that it will entail a lot of time and research. He noted the Circuit Clerk's Office has been receiving a lot of inquiries regarding these expungement cases.

County Coordinator's Report/Requests for Board Action

County Coordinator Worthington presented Health Department bills for payment approval. Commissioner Anderson moved to approve the Health Department bill. Commissioner Fore seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Coordinator Worthington also discussed items such as; Joe Feiden is resigning from the Chautauqua Sanitary District as of February 1, 2020, the County's Farm Bureau membership dues are \$90, the Census 2020 questionnaire, and the evaluations for Zoning Administrator, County Coordinator, County Highway Engineer and EMS/EMA Administrator being due this year.

Worthington also informed the Board that a bill was received from ICRMT for the deductible for legal fees from the Sunny Acres litigation.

Coordinator Worthington requested Executive Session minutes from June 11, 2019 Part A be opened and June 11, 2019 Part B remain closed. Commissioner Whitcomb moved to approve the request. Commissioner Fore seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Individual Board Members - Report/Requests for Board Action

Commissioner Anderson noted that Head Start opened and has twelve students.

Commissioner Fore discussed an email he received regarding complaints on Road District #9. He added that the quality of the roads could be affecting the property values. Commissioner Cummings noted he has been hearing there have been improvements made. A lengthy discussion ensued with County Highway Engineer Tom Casson with him adding that according to State Statutes, protocol is in place on what has to be done to address lack of proper road maintenance. He also noted that he would share a map of the road work completion for that road district with the commissioners. Mr. Casson will discuss the road improvement priorities with Road Commissioner Langley. Commissioner Fore stated he would like Road Commissioner Langley to update the public on what he has improved and what his future plans are for the district.

Commissioner Fore also questioned all the empty lots owned by the County.

Coordinator Worthington presented the new 2020 IRS Standard Mileage Rate of 57.5 cents per mile for approval to be effective January 15, 2020. Commissioner Cummings moved to approve the rate. Commissioner Fore seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution #02-20 – Re-Appointment of Tom Eldridge to a five-year term on the Zoning Board of Appeals. This five-year term will expire on January 1, 2025. Commissioner Whitcomb moved to approve the Resolution. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. This shall be known as **Resolution #02-20**.

Resolution #03-20 – Deed of conveyance of County's Interest for Parcel ID # 12-18-100-040. Commissioner Cummings moved to approve the Resolution. Commissioner Fore seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. This shall be known as **Resolution #03-20**.

Executive Session

Commissioner Fore moved to enter into Executive Session at 8:11 p.m. to discuss personnel issues as allowed by (5 ILCS 120/2(C)(1). Commissioner Whitcomb seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment

With no other business coming before the Board, Commissioner Cummings moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:49 p.m. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.