

COUNTY OF MENARD)
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STATE OF ILLINOIS)

The Menard County Board of Commissioners met on Tuesday, April 28, 2020, at 6:00 p.m. at the Menard County Courthouse, 102 S. Seventh Street, Petersburg, Illinois. Commissioners Robert Lott, Jeff Fore, Ed Whitcomb, Allan Anderson, and Troy Cummings were physically present. A quorum was present. County Clerk Martha Gum and County Coordinator Dara Worthington were present. State’s Attorney Gabe Grosboll and Treasurer Pam Bauser were absent. This meeting convened under Governor Pritzker’s Executive Order 2020-07 as it relates to the Open Meetings Act as a result of COVID-19.

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

Commissioner Fore moved to approve the consent agenda which included the minutes from the April 14, 2020 regular Board Meeting as well as the monthly department expense report for March 2020. Commissioner Cummings seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Scheduled/Unscheduled Guests

There were none.

Health Department Report/Requests for Board Action

Dara Worthington presented information in Sangamon County Health Department Director’s absence. Coordinator Worthington had received information from Health Department Director Gail O’Neill regarding an updated count of positive COVID-19 cases within Menard County. As of Tuesday, April 28, 2020, Menard County has seven positive COVID-19 cases, with three new positives confirmed. Two of the new positives are from Greenview and one is from Petersburg.

EMS/EMA Report/Requests for Board Action

Mike Burg, EMS/EMA Chief, was in attendance and updated the Board on the proposed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) concerning Worker’s Compensation for any EMS employee that contracts coronavirus. Chief Burg noted that the union had requested this MOU. Commissioner Fore questioned if our Insurance Agency would be the one deciding if they could receive Worker’s Compensation. Coordinator Worthington that the insurance company is aware of the new policy. She reported that while this was previously approved, that new rule had been repealed. Commissioner Lott indicated that the county will take care of its employees.

Tabled – Approval of Memorandum of Understanding with the International Association of Firefighters Local 4622 re: COVID-19

Sheriff's Report/Requests for Board Action

Chief Deputy Ben Hollis was in attendance on behalf of Sheriff Oller and discussed the executive order requiring the wearing of a mask in public effective May 1. Deputy Hollis indicated that their department will not be addressing failure to wear masks with criminal charges and will only intervene as necessary. Chief Deputy Hollis also added they are not requiring courthouse staff to wear masks, but allowing each office to decide for themselves. All public entering the courthouse will be required to wear masks.

County Treasurer's Report/Requests for Board Action

In Treasurer Pam Bauser's absence, Coordinator Worthington presented financials for review. Treasurer Bauser phoned into the meeting to address the Board with information on the upcoming tax bills for 2019 payable 2020. She stated there will be an informational insert mailed along with the tax bills. The due dates for property taxes will be June 24, 2020 and September 3, 2020. The insert will state that the late fee will be waived for the first installment if that installment is not paid on time, however failure to pay the full tax bill by September 3, 2020 will result in interest penalties retroactive to the June 24, 2020 payment date. Treasurer Bauser stated escrow payments will be exempt from this. She explained the slight cost increase to have the bills and inserts mailed out.

County Clerk's Report/Requests for Board Action

County Clerk Martha Gum was in attendance and informed the Board that the survey of the sliver of land has been completed by Ron Moss. She also stated she will have her part of the tax cycle complete this Friday, May 1 and will then forward the data to Treasurer Bauser for final processing.

State's Attorney Report/Requests for Board Action

Coordinator Dara Worthington presented an informational email in State's Attorney Gabe Grosboll's absence. He updated the Board on the property tax resolution he, Coordinator Worthington and Treasurer Bauser worked on and the Workers' Compensation Memorandum of Understanding. Attorney Grosboll indicated that he does not advise the commissioners sign that MOU at this time. Attorney Grosboll reported that the juvenile abuse/neglect cases and domestic battery cases are on the rise most likely due to the COVID-19 stay at home order. He also added the summer will be busy with the continued cases from April and May moving to June, July and August.

County Coordinator's Report/Requests for Board Action

County Coordinator Worthington presented health department bills for approval and payment. Commissioner Fore moved to approve bill payment. Commissioner Whitcomb seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Individual Board Members - Report/Requests for Board Action

Commissioner Cummings discussed the lawsuit that was filed against Governor Pritzker. He also addressed the Heritage wordage regarding their with their affiliation of the County as it relates to an email he had received.

Commissioner Anderson had inquiries from constituents about when the County's businesses will be opening back up. Coordinator Worthington pointed out information from UCCI and the employment attorney's list of things to consider before opening back up.

Commissioner Fore added that he, too, had been contacted by constituents to open up businesses within the County as soon as possible.

Resolution #14-20 – Appointment of Kathleen Ruppel as Acting County Engineer, effective May 1, 2020. Commissioner Whitcomb moved to approve the Resolution. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. This shall be known as **Resolution #14-20**.

Resolution #15-20 – Postponement of Delinquency Date and Waiver of Interest Penalty on First Installment for 2019 Property Taxes. Commissioner Anderson moved to approve the Resolution. Commissioner Cummings seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. This shall be known as **Resolution #15-20**.

Resolution #16-20 – Reappointment of Brianne Satorius to the Menard County Board of Health for a Three -Year Term Expiring May 31, 2023. Commissioner Cummings moved to approve the Resolution. Commissioner Whitcomb seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. This shall be known as **Resolution #16-20**.

Tabled – Approval of Flexible Leave and Pay Policy during confirmed COVID-19 Pandemic event for Sunny Acres Nursing Home.

Executive Session

Commissioner Whitcomb moved to enter into executive session to discuss issues as allowed by 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(3) at 6:55 p.m. Commissioner Cummings seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment

With no other business coming before the Board, Commissioner Fore moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:04 p.m. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.