

COUNTY OF MENARD)
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STATE OF ILLINOIS)

The Menard County Board of Commissioners met on Tuesday, January 29, 2013, at 6:00 p.m. in the Commissioners' Room of the Menard County Courthouse, 102 S. Seventh Street, Petersburg, Illinois. Commissioners Merle Kirby, Ed Whitcomb, Jeff Fore, Allan Anderson and Bob Lott were physically present. A quorum was present. County Clerk Gene Treseler, County Treasurer Jackie Horn, State's Attorney Ken Baumgarten and County Coordinator Steve Duncan were also in attendance.

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

Commissioner Lott moved to approve the consent agenda which included the minutes from the January 8, 2013 regularly scheduled Board meeting, the monthly department expense report for December 2012 and payment of 2013 Membership Dues for the Menard County Farm Bureau. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Commissioner Fore moved to table consideration of all old business including a billing services agreement with the third-party billing service used by the Menard County EMS Department and a resolution to appoint a member to the Planning Commission due to a vacant term. Commissioner Lott seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Hearing of Citizens (Unscheduled Public Comments/Requests for Board Action)

There were no unscheduled public comments or requests for Board action.

Health Department Report/Requests for Board Action

Health Department Administrator Alicia Davis-Wade was in attendance and provided an overview of the Health Department's financial condition, informing that the Health Department would be under the \$50,000 credit limit established with the County (\$43,718), as presented. She informed of a request to the PORTA School District to consider a reduction in the lease amount owed each month.

Commissioner Fore moved to approve the transfer of \$500.00 from the County's General Fund to the Health Department Fund, as budgeted and per the request of the Health Department. Commissioner Whitcomb seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Anderson moved to approve the payment of various Health Department bills (and as deemed needed per the County extending the Health Department's line of credit to pay said bills), as presented. Commissioner Fore seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

EMS/Community Services Department Report/Requests for Board Action

Dara Worthington, Community Services Administrator/EMS Fiscal Officer and Larry Graf, EMS Chief/ESDA Coordinator were in attendance.

After extensive discussion regarding rural transportation, Commissioner Whitcomb moved to table consideration/approval of a Downstate Public Transportation Operating Assistance Grant Agreement; consideration/approval of Opinion of Counsel; and, consideration of a resolution – authorizing execution and amendment of Downstate Operating Assistance Grant. Commissioner Fore seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. Ms. Worthington was directed to seek clarification on issues related to funding commitments from the State of Illinois and Sangamon County and grant agreement language related to rural transportation.

Ms. Worthington provided an overview of the EMS Department's financial and collection reports. There was discussion of EMS billing practice and issues regarding mileage billing errors with the County's third-party billing company.

Commissioner Fore moved to approve a Business Associate Agreement (Between EMS Department and EMS Management & Consultants related to HIPPA compliance). Commissioner Whitcomb seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Worthington informed the Board of a donation given to the EMS Department and that it would be used to provide fitness equipment for the EMTs' to use, if approved by the Board. Commissioner Lott moved to approve the utilization of said funds to purchase fitness equipment for the EMS Department personnel. Commissioner Fore seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Worthington announced staffing changes for the EMS Department and noted that Cody Szerletich had been promoted to Captain and Jonathan Zanon had accepted the full-time EMT job opening.

Larry Graf, EMS Chief, presented the ambulance/transportation log for review. Mr. Graf discussed some building issues and noted that the mold issues had hopefully been addressed by the landlord. He informed that an electric heater was still needed for the garage area. Commissioner Fore was asked to look into the heating issue.

County Treasurer's Report/Requests for Board Action

County Treasurer Jackie Horn presented the overview of monthly financial reports.

County Clerk's Report/Requests for Board Action

County Clerk Treseler presented the semi-annual reports of receipts and expenditures made for the County Treasurer's office, Sheriff's department, County Clerk and Circuit Clerk's office. He informed road district levies were available for public review. He also stated that the election fund will be seeing repercussions from state funding and that it will affect the upcoming elections.

State's Attorney Report/Requests for Board Action

There were no State's Attorney report/requests for Board action.

County Coordinator's Report/Requests for Board Action

County Coordinator Duncan informed that he was going to get a proposal from FWAI Architects to act as the project manager on doing a partial replacement of the courthouse roof (re-roofing the shingled areas and areas around outside walls where most of the leaking is occurring), if there were no objections. There were no objections to getting a proposal. Mr. Duncan got signatures for County personnel and elected officials to have access to a bank box at National Bank of Petersburg.

Commissioner Whitcomb moved to open all content (no redactions) of executive session minutes from the January 25, 2011, July 26, 2011 and January 31, 2012 Board meetings. Commissioner Fore seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Anderson moved to partially open executive session minutes from the July 10, 2012 Board meeting while keeping a portion of these minutes closed (collective negotiating matters) for another six months. Commissioner Fore seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

As related to amending the County's land-use plan, the Board directed Mr. Duncan to provide a map of the County showing the productivity index. Mr. Duncan provided various mailings and handouts to the Board.

Mr. Duncan informed that there was a headline in the local paper indicating that Menard County's website failed online or website transparency. He informed that what Menard County had "failed" is the Illinois Policy Institute's (a non-governmental, non-profit group out of the Chicago area) criteria for what they believe constitutes a transparent website. He informed that "failing" this group's standards is not necessarily an indication of non-compliance with actual state law and that Menard County staff has worked hard to meet actual legal requirements. He informed that while some of the areas that score you points and thus a possible "passing" grade are certainly laudable, the Illinois Policy Institute may actually be encouraging governments, especially small governments with fewer staff and financial resources, to just eliminate having any web presence as they are not subject to their "audit" and any criticism. In essence, a government entity is rewarded by them for having no government website or presence.

Individual Board Members - Report/Requests for Board Action

Commissioner Lott questioned whether the County should give consideration to creating parcels off of Sunny Acres Road (and on the County farm property) for sale as possible home sites and as way to raise revenue to finance County needs and projects. The Board spent time discussing this proposal. No action was taken at this meeting.

The Board spent time discussing purchasing generators for Sunny Acres Nursing Home. There was also a discussion of testing 911 services.

Executive Session

Commissioner Lott moved to enter into executive session to discuss litigation as allowed by (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11) at 8:20 p.m. Commissioner Whitcomb seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

The regular meeting reconvened at 8:40 p.m.

Adjournment

With no other business coming before the Board, Commissioner Anderson moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:41 p.m. Commissioner Lott seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.