

COUNTY OF MENARD    )  
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STATE OF ILLINOIS    )

The Menard County Board of Commissioners met on Tuesday, July 28, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. at the Menard County Courthouse, 102 S. Seventh Street, Petersburg, Illinois. Commissioners Bob Lott, Jeff Fore, Allan Anderson, Ed Whitcomb and Troy Cummings were physically present. A quorum was present. County Clerk Marty Gum, State’s Attorney Gabe Grosboll, County Coordinator Dara Worthington and Sheriff Mark Oller were also present. County Treasurer Pam Bauser was absent.

Chairperson Bob 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 July 14, 2020 regular Board Meeting and Executive Session as well as the monthly department expense report for June 2020. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**Scheduled/Unscheduled Guests**

Petersburg Rural Community Protection Fire District members Dave Leischner and Chris Schirding, were in attendance and voiced their concerns for a proposed LP storage tank from Illini Propane and the Petersburg Rural Community Fire Protection District’s ability to properly protect of these tanks in the event of a fire or disastrous event. Mr. Schirding spoke in detail regarding the fire safety analysis and the lack of water supply currently available. They requested more zoning uniformity within the County in order to adhere to safety concerns of nearby residents and first responders. A discussion ensued with Zoning Administrator Brian Hollenkamp with regard to the current zoning, which is B2, and the need for amendments. Mr. Hollenkamp stated he would research, talk to other counties and report back to Board members for further action. State’s Attorney Gabe Grosboll reported that he had consulted with the Illinois State Fire Marshal’s office which indicated that they only act in an advisory capacity in these types of situations.

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

Acting Highway Engineer Kathy Ruppel was in attendance and presented two contracts for approval. She informed the Board that underwater bridge inspections are every five years, and the next bridge inspections are due in November of this year.

Approval of engineering contract with Veenstra & Kimm for Underwater Bridge Inspections. Commissioner Whitcomb moved to approve the contract. Commissioner Fore seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of engineering contract with Hanson Engineering for Right of Way Acquisition Services for Section 18-0069-00-BR, Douglas Avenue. Commissioner Whitcomb moved

to approve the contract. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

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

County Sheriff Mark Oller was in attendance and discussed the issue with the Illinois Department of Corrections refusing to take inmates since March 2020. He stated there is currently a class action lawsuit filed against IDOC from multiple county agencies. Chief Deputy Sheriff Ben Hollis testified on behalf of Menard County.

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

County Clerk Marty Gum provided an overview of activities and issues related to her office. She discussed the upcoming November 3, 2020 General Election, noting that anyone who has voted in the last three elections will automatically be mailed a vote by mail application, giving those voters an option to vote by mail.

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

State's Attorney Gabe Grosboll provided an overview of activities and issues related to his office. He briefly discussed three contracts that Coordinator Worthington reported are expiring November 30 including Sunny Acres, EMS, and FOP. He also added that his part time law student, Hayden Eddings, is working on expungement cases for past cannabis charges. State's Attorney Grosboll added there's a chance we will get some reimbursement for each case we do.

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

Coordinator Worthington presented information from County Treasurer Pam Bauser, noting a new part time employee, Amy Ruppel, was hired to work mainly during the busy tax season.

Menard County Health Department bills were submitted for approval. Jeff Fore made a motion to approve payment of the bills and Troy Cummings seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Worthington updated the Board on ongoing activities within her office which included: scheduling interviews for the Highway Engineer, appointment of an Animal Control Administrator, the county owned parcel of land on the market for sale, and upcoming insurance rates and plans available for the County.

Coordinator Worthington requested Executive Session minutes from January 14, 2020 be opened. Commissioner Anderson moved to approve the request. Commissioner Whitcomb seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Worthington requested Executive Session minutes from July 30, 2019 remain closed. Commissioner Cummings moved to approve the request. Commissioner Fore seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Coordinator Worthington briefly discussed the issue of including the Sunny Acres employees within our personnel policies as it relates to the Heritage Operations Agreement.

Coordinator Worthington also discussed the Bill Brady Capital Grant for \$25,000 to be used for building improvement. She stated the Public Building Study Group suggested new flooring for the courthouse. She presented a quote for the removal of carpet and woodwork to the stairs. They are still waiting for a quote for new carpet. She also discussed allocated monies from the CURES Act in the amount of \$284,852.00. This is to be used for public safety relating to COVID-19 and is currently in the works.

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

Commissioner Fore was made aware of a property in Greenview that the trustee for the County owns where someone might be living illegally. A discussion ensued regarding this being a possible liability to the County. County Clerk Gum stated she will contact the trustee to see if they could be renting the trailer.

Commissioner Whitcomb requested that the Board give a small donation to the Menard County Fair in order to set the tone for other businesses to help out.

Commissioner Cummings discussed the Sunny Acres meeting he attended, noting the census is up and roof work will begin at the end of August.

### **Executive Session**

Commissioner Cummings moved to enter into Executive Session at 7:38 p.m. Commissioner Whitcomb seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

It was the consensus of the Board, under the recommendation of Attorney, Jerry Tice, to move forward with additional surveying and quit claim each parcel to the adjoining land owners. Commissioner Whitcomb moved to approve the recommendation. Commissioner Cummings seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

### **Adjournment**

With no other business coming before the Board, Commissioner Anderson moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:01 p.m. Commissioner Fore seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

