

COUNTY OF MENARD)
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STATE OF ILLINOIS)

The Menard County Board of Commissioners met on Tuesday, June 10, 2025, at 6:00 PM at the Menard County Courthouse, 102 South Seventh Street, Petersburg, Illinois. Commissioners Bob Lott, Ed Whitcomb, Troy Cummings, Rich Brauer, and Dalton Whitley were present. A quorum was present. County Clerk Marty Gum, County Coordinator Dara Worthington, County Treasurer Molly Bettis, and State's Attorney Gwen Thomas were also present. Chairperson Lott called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Commissioner Brauer moved to approve the Consent Agenda which consisted of the Regular Board Minutes and Executive Session Minutes from May 29, 2025, along with the April 2025 Monthly Department Expense Reports. Commissioner Whitcomb seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Scheduled/Unscheduled Guests

There were no scheduled or unscheduled guests.

County Sheriff Report/Requests for Board Action

Sheriff Mark Oller was in attendance and provided an update on his department's activities. Oller reported on the current jail census. Sheriff Oller and Coordinator Worthington provided an overview of the status of the proposed work to be done at the Menard County Courthouse Annex including the electrical RFP and window RFP. A request was made to have the Property Maintenance Specialist do regular onsite inspections to ensure that the courthouse windows are being installed properly. Sheriff Oller shared that he will be engaging a vendor to contract for the provision of regular maintenance to the HVAC system at the annex. It was the consensus of the commissioners to pursue this.

The ordering and placement of a finial on the courthouse dome was discuss with proposed renderings of the finial shared with the board members. It was the consensus of the commissioners to proceed with ordering the suggested finial for placement on the dome. Further exploration will be done to determine installation and warranty on the current ongoing work.

County Treasurer's Report/Requests for Board Action

County Treasurer Molly Bettis was in attendance and provided an update on her department's activities. Bettis reported that her office is finalizing the testing of tax bills with first installment for taxes being due July 25 and the second installment due on September 12. Work will soon begin on the FY26 budget book.

County Clerk's Report/Request for Board Action

County Clerk Marty Gum was in attendance and provided an update on her office activities. Clerk Gum submitted a fireworks permit from New Salem Property Owners' Association which had been reviewed and approved by Menard County Rural Fire. Commissioner Brauer made a motion to approve the permit and Commissioner Whitley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Clerk Gum reported on her Illinois Voter Registration Grant and the expenses incurred against it.

States Attorney Report/Request for Board Action

States Attorney Gwen Thomas was in attendance and provided an update on her office activities. Thomas reported that the part-time Victim/Witness Coordinator position is still vacant within her office. Additionally, it was reported that she is waiting for further contact from Greg Andrews.

County Coordinator's Report/Requests for Board Action

Coordinator Dara Worthington was in attendance. Worthington presented Executive Session minutes Set B from June 11, 2019, be opened. Commissioner Cummings made a motion to approve the opening of the noted minutes. Commissioner Whitcomb seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Worthington provided the following updates to the commissioners: Menard County Farm Bureau Social Engagement, HOPE Trust Annual Conference in July, DCEO grant, update from Marge Oblinger, Acting Administrator for Sunny Acres Nursing Home, remodeling and plantings at Sunny Acres Nursing Home, the UCCI Annual Conference, proposed EMS union negotiation dates, the FY22 audit status/GATA update.

Individual Board Members - Report/Requests for Board Action

Commissioner Brauer requested that an inquiry be made to the Illinois Department of Transportation for an update on the Route 97 project. Commissioner Cummings commented upon the open position for the nursing home administrator. Commissioner Lott requested information on the possibility of a new recreational tax as an additional source of revenue for the county.

Other Scheduled Topics

Award of Bid for Courthouse Annex Replacement Windows

Commissioner Cummings made a motion to award the bid for the Menard County Annex replacement windows to United Glass and Door. Commissioner Whitcomb seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Setting Base Wage for CNA at \$20.00 Per Hour to be Effective with the Next Pay Period

Commissioner Whitley made a motion to approve the increase upon recommendation of the Sunny Acres Advisory Board. Commissioner Brauer seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Discussion & Approval of Management Services Agreement with Heritage Operations Group, LLC to be Effective July 1, 2025

Upon discussion of the matter, it was the consensus of the entire board that the topic be tabled for further dialog with Heritage regarding operations of the facility.

Resolution 12-25 – Appointment of Casey Blakely to the Menard County Housing Authority Board for a Five-Year Term Expiring May 31, 2030

Upon concluding discussion on the matter, Commissioner Brauer made a motion to approve the appointment and Commissioner Whitley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. **This shall be known as Resolution 12-25.**

Executive Session

Commissioner Cummings made a motion to enter into Executive Session as allowed by 5 ILCS 120/2 (a)(11) & (5). Commissioner Whitcomb seconded. The motion carried unanimously at 7:02 PM.

Adjournment

With no other business coming before the Board, Commissioner Whitcomb moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:14 PM. Commissioner Cummings seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.