

COUNTY OF MENARD)
) S.S.
STATE OF ILLINOIS)

The Menard County Board of Commissioners met on Tuesday, **January 10, 2023** at 6:00 p.m. at the Menard County Courthouse, 102 S. Seventh Street, Petersburg, Illinois. Commissioners Bob Lott, Ed Whitcomb, Jeff Fore, Troy Cummings, and Rich Brauer were physically present. A quorum was present. County Clerk Martha “Marty” Gum, County Coordinator Dara Worthington, State’s Attorney Gabe Grosboll, and Sheriff Mark Oller were also present. Treasurer Pam Bauser was absent.

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

Commissioner Brauer moved to approve the Regular and Executive Session Minutes from the December 13, 2022, Board Meeting, the Special Meeting Minutes from December 22, 2022, the Special Joint Emergency Meeting from December 27, 2022, and January 3, 2023, as well as the Monthly Department Expense Report for November 2022. Commissioner Fore seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Scheduled/Unscheduled Public Comments/Requests for Board Action

Jaigh Lowder was present to speak to the Board and the public regarding HB 5855, Protect Illinois Communities Act. Steve Smith, Joel Gains, Larry Dale, Evan Minder, Bonnie Hills, and Albert Stier discussed their concerns/beliefs relating thereto. State’s Attorney Gabe Grosboll and Sheriff Mark Oller discussed their perspective for their official duties on the Act. Jaigh Lowder requested that the Board update the previous Resolution to reflect the new law and pair with other Counties and the Safety Act.

Margaret Santos inquired of the Board as to the status of the elevator as well as the water damage at Countryside Estates.

Highway Department’s Report/Request for Board Action

Corey Dowd, County Highway Engineer, was in attendance and updated the Board on his department’s current projects.

Sheriff’s Report/Requests for Board Action

Chief Deputy Sheriff Ben Hollis was in attendance and updated the Board on the current jail census at seven total inmates. He informed the Board that the new tasers have come in, the radios are on order, and that they are waiting on plumbing work that was paid with last year’s funds.

Treasurer's Report/Requests for Board Action

Coordinator Worthington presented the Treasurer's financial for review and discussion and reported to the Board that \$200,000.00 IGT funds were transferred to Sunny Acres Nursing Home operating.

County Clerk's Report/Requests for Board Action

Nothing to report.

State's Attorney Report/Requests for Board Action

State's Attorney Grosboll provided an overview of activities within his office. He gave the Board an update regarding the SAFE-T Act and the Pre-Trial Fairness Act. He advised the Board that Attorney Gwen Thomas would be starting on 01/17/2023 spending half of her time working with the Zoning Office and the other half of her time assisting Grosboll with his work. He then advised the Board that Carrie Magerl will be leaving the end of February 2023.

County Coordinator's Report/Requests for Board Action

Coordinator Worthington was in attendance and presented Health Department bills for payment approval. Commissioner Fore moved to approve the payments. Commissioner Cummings seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Worthington requested that Executive Session Minutes from June 11, 2019, December 29, 2020, June 8, 2021, June 29, 2021, remain closed. Commissioner Cummings moved to approve the request. Commissioner Fore seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Worthington requested that Executive Session Minutes from June 14, 2022, be opened. Commissioner Whitcomb moved to approve the request. Commissioner Fore seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Worthington advised the Board that the ICRMT bill in the sum of \$70,394.13 due on February 1, 2023, will be paid.

Coordinator Worthington discussed items such as: County Commissioners term length by Districts for the next ten years; expenses for water damage to Countryside Estates submitted to the adjuster each Friday; HB4412 for Wind/Solar passed the Senate and is now with the House; UCCI has applied an 80% discount on dues; movement with encryption of all desktops on County servers and laptops for insurance is moving

forward, and advised that Sheriff Mark Oller is creating a Disaster Plan for the Courthouse.

Individual Board Members – Report/Requests for Board Action

Chairperson Lott advised that SIKICH will not be the accountant for the County any longer due to a staffing shortage and that Coordinator Worthington is gathering a list of potential replacements. Lott reported that the single audit should be complete next week.

Commissioner Fore advised the Board about recent calls he has been receiving with regard to the 2nd Amendment to the Constitution of the United States as well as several Zoning questions.

Other Scheduled Topics

Approval of Intergovernmental Agreement 22-IGA-5 with the City of Petersburg for use of ARPA Funds. Commissioner Brauer moved to approve the Agreement. Commissioner Cummings seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Contract 23-ARPA-1 with Menard County Fair, Inc. for use of ARPA Funds. Commissioner Cummings moved to approve the Agreement. Commissioner Brauer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Executive Session

Commissioner Fore moved to go into Executive Session, for the purpose of litigation and sale/purchase at 7:20 p.m. Commissioner Brauer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Upon the adjournment of Executive Session at 7:51 p.m. and re-entering regular session, Commissioner Cummings moved to accept the settlement presented by Attorney Sha Kelly. Commissioner Brauer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment

With no other business coming before the Board, Commissioner Fore moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:52 p.m. Commissioner Cummings seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.