

**MINUTES OF A FINANCE MEETING OF THE COUNTY OF HANCOCK,
STATE OF ILLINOIS, HELD AT THE COUNTY COURTHOUSE IN THE
CITY OF CARTHAGE ON FEBRUARY 9, 2023**

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by chairman Wayne Bollin. Members in attendance included Alex Blythe, Tom Bergmeier, Harry Douglas, Andrew Asbury, Dennis Castlebury, Mark Menn, Mark Hanson, and Wayne Bollin. Visitors included Kendall Beals, Kris Pilkington, Shelby Crow, Holly Wilde-Tillman, Kasey Livingston, Maria Hopp, and Stephanie Swisegood was in attendance to take minutes of the meeting.

Ms. Crow talked to the board about the University of Illinois Extension. They are in 5 counties with Hancock County being the primary county. There are 45 new members in 4h in Hancock County. There are a couple 100 members in 4H. They go to schools and teach where food comes from and nutrition. They have a youth leadership academy, spin clubs, special interests, rifle club, archery club. She will come to the full board meeting on February 21 to make a presentation.

Ms. Hopp stated that she now has her MTC/Frontier phone problem fixed. The sheriff's office is now MTC. They have been receiving 2 bills. She has been doing the swing shift to cover staffing issues. She has 1 parttime person in training and 1 started yesterday. They answer 911 calls for Hancock and Henderson County.

Mr. Beals was asked about the \$2/mile fee. He explained that this was the one-way fee for when he removes a body. He asked if the board would be interested in buying him a vehicle and him having a gas card? Funeral homes across the country charge money for removing bodies. He has an average of 8 autopsies a year. If he had a vehicle he would have no charge for mileage. He is willing to continue with the \$2/0.575 mileage fee.

Ms. Wilde-Tillman stated that Mr. Thor needed a credit card for his office. He has been using his own card. Mr. Asbury moved that we obtain a credit card for the public defender's office. Mr. Douglas seconded. All members present voted aye.

Early voting starts February 23 and military ballots go out February 17. The economic interest sheets are due on May 1.

The bid packet for the ambulance barn was asked about. Ms. Wilde-Tillman stated that Ms. James has it. There was discussion with Ms. Pilkington about the federal tax withholding.

The ambulance finances were gone over. There is \$50,000 more in the line of credit. The crew is going in the right direction. They have a new scheduling system. They have 4 new hires. There was extensive discussion on the ambulance finances and expenses. A motion to have a \$200,000 debt ceiling including tax anticipation warrants was made by Mr. Douglas and

seconded by Mr. Blythe. Blythe, Bergmeier, Douglas, Castlebury, Hanson, Bollin, and Menn voting yes. Asbury voting no. Motion carried.

Ms. Livingston stated the assessment changes were published yesterday and notices sent out. Board of review will be coming in on February 10. The deadline for appeals is March 10. She will try to get the books to Holly by the end of March. Ms. Wilde-Tillman stated the best case scenario would be for her to start on the books after Easter.

Bellwether sent a draft for the budget. It can be changed. It is felt that there needs to be more lines and it needs to be longer paper. Ms. Wilde-Tillman stated she is going to increase the RHSP by \$10 of which the county receives \$1. She would like to have a fee study done in her office. Veteran death certificates are now cheaper. *She will hire Bellwether with funds out of her budgeted special funds.* If you filed for the opioid settlement you can refile and may receive additional money. It is due April 18, 2023. Ms. Pilkington will check with Ms. James on this.

The pipeline group met with McDonough County and offered them \$600,000/year for 30 years. The pipeline has withdrawn filing with IOC. They did not have easements and only had 6% of landowners apply with them. Mr. Bollin asked the committee if they would like the Coalition Against CO2 Pipelines come and speak with the board. He will see when they would be available.

After the last meeting Mr. Menn was contacted by Mr. Jared Massey regarding the county website. Mr. Massey was wondering if the county still needed him to do the website and if Mr. Dedey needed anything he would be available to help him. Mr. Massey will be asked to come to the March 9 meeting at 9 a.m.

Claims were gone over. Mr. Bergmeier motioned the claims be approved, Mr. Douglas seconded. All members voted yes.

Motion to recess until March 9 was made by Mr. Douglas with Mr. Bergmeier seconding. All members present voted aye. Meeting adjourned at 10:58 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Wayne Bollin, Chairman