

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COUNTY BOARD IN THE COUNTY
OF HANCOCK, STATE OF ILLINOIS, HELD IN THE COUNTY
COURTHOUSE IN THE CITY OF CARTHAGE ON MARCH 21, 2023**

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
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COUNTY OF HANCOCK)
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The meeting was called to order by chairman Mark Menn at 6:30 p.m.
The invocation was given by Patsy Davis. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by a Deputy Clerk.
Roll call was taken.

Members present included: Mark Menn, Chairman

Mark Hanson	Tom Bergmeier
Steve Lucie	Mark Hanson
Dennis Castlebury	Andrew Asbury
Patsy Davis	Wayne Bollin
Alex Blythe	Michelle Merritt

Absent was: Ryan Weeks, Tom Rodgers, Stephen Finney, and Harry Douglas

Visitors included Bobi James, Miranda Lambert, Elgin Berry, Ecojustice Representatives, Steve Hess, several members of the Iron Union and farming community, and Stephanie Swisegood was in attendance to take minutes of the meeting.

Ms. Merritt moved the March minutes be approved, Mr. Bergmeier seconded. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting "yes". Motion carried.

There was a presentation on the CO2 Pipeline by Ecojustice. This pipeline will be 3 times longer than other CO2 pipelines. If there is rupture it causes dizziness, difficulty breathing, and engines will not run. There were several questions and comments from the community.

Ms. Davis presented the report of the meeting held by the highway committee on February 27, 2023. Mr. Berry informed the board that the culvert letting will be pushed back to March 27 as he did not have it advertised in time for March 23. He did some comparisons on utility rates and decided he is not as bad off as he thought so he now has a 1-1/2 year contract for utilities. Ms. Davis moved the report be approved, recommendations of the committee be concurred in, and the reports be placed on file with the minutes of this meeting. Mr. Lucie seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting "yes". Motion carried.

Ms. Davis made a motion to approve the Connable Road Widening and Resurfacing Project Land Acquisition Summary. Mr. Castlebury seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting "yes". Motion carried.

Mr. Bollin presented the report of the meeting held by the finance committee on March 9, 2023. He moved the report be approved, recommendations of the committee be concurred in, and the reports be placed on file with the minutes of this meeting. Mr. Blythe seconded. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting "yes". Motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Asbury to approve a credit card for Jevat Dedey, Ms. Merritt seconded. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting "yes". Motion carried.

Ms. James has spoken with the attorney Mr. Murphy. There was a rumor of the total cost for us being \$200,000. He said this would be split equally between the counties that get involved in the litigation. This will be an additional \$30,000 for the county. We have already spent \$21,000. Other options were discussed. Christian County passed a resolution against having sequestration sites. A motion to continue with intervening the CO2 pipeline was made by Mr. Blythe and seconded by Mr. Bollin. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting "yes". Motion carried.

Mr. Hanson presented the report of the meeting held by the building committee on March 14, 2023. He moved the report be approved, recommendations of the committee be concurred in, and the reports be placed on file with the minutes of this meeting. Ms. Merritt seconded. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting "yes". Motion carried.

Mr. Castlebury moved the Resolution, ordinance, and acceptance of the Special Warranty of the Hancock County Public Transportation 5311 Agreement be approved. This was seconded by Ms. Davis. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting "yes". Motion carried.

Motion to approve the Hancock County Public Transportation DOAP Agreement, resolution, ordinance, and acceptance of special warranty was made by Mr. Bergmeier and seconded by Mr. Lucie. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting "yes". Motion carried.

A motion to approve the Resolution in support for Illinois and Hancock County Agriculture was made by Ms. Merritt. Mr. Blythe seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting "yes". Motion carried.

Mr. Asbury moved the approve the purchase of a cable and network rack for IT, and Ms. Merritt seconded. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting "yes". Motion carried.

Mr. Blythe moved to approve the sheriff to purchase the explorer from Carson Ford for \$39,002.26. Mr. Lucie seconded. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting "yes". Motion carried.

The sealed bids on the ambulance building were opened. The first was from Adrienne Jacquot for \$290,000. There was a stipulation that the ambulance would be able to use the whole building for 1 year and after that the space would need to be shared. The second was from Ryan Jacquot for \$330,000 with the ambulance being able to use the whole building for 1 year and then the space would need to be shared. There were other stipulations. Third was from the Hancock County Building Commission for \$284,100 with \$200,000 at signing and \$84,100 when their CDs are up. Motion to reject all bids as presented was made by Mr. Castlebury. Mr. Harrison seconded. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting "yes". Motion carried.

A motion was made to appoint a committee made up of Mr. Hanson, Mr. Bollin, and Mr. Asbury to negotiate with Mr. Jacquot on the ambulance building sale and bring back to the board. A roll call vote was taken with Merritt, Blythe, Castlebury, Davis, Harrison, Hanson, Asbury, Bollin, Lucie, and Menn voting yes, and Bergmeier voting no. Motion carried.

Mr. Asbury presented the report of the meeting held by the health committee on March 6, 2023. He moved the report be approved, recommendations of the committee be concurred in, and the reports be placed on file with the minutes of this meeting. Ms. Davis seconded. A roll call vote was taken with Merritt, Blythe, Castlebury, Davis, Bergmeier, Hanson, Asbury, Bollin, Lucie, and Menn voting yes, and Harrison voting no. Motion carried.

Mr. Asbury and Mr. Feagain have been to many events and have several upcoming events that they present the Ambulance Referendum.

Mr. Bergmeier would like to know how much it would cost to get a new motor for one of the sheriff vehicles. The sheriff is looking into it.

Mr. Menn has been notified by the union that the ambulance would like to open up the contract for negotiations in April. He will be putting together a negotiation committee.

Motion to move into executive session was made by Ms. Davis and seconded by Mr. Bergmeier at 8:43 p.m. All members present voted aye. Motion to move out of executive session was made by Mr. Bergmeier at 8:45 p.m. with Mr. Bollin seconding. All members present voted aye.

Motion to recess until April 18, 2023, was made by Mr. Hanson, seconded by Ms. Merritt. All members present voted aye.



Respectfully submitted,

Holly A. Wilde-Tillman
Holly A. Wilde-Tillman, County Clerk