

**MINUTES OF A HEALTH AND MISCELLANEOUS MEETING OF THE COUNTY OF
HANCOCK, STATE OF ILLINOIS, HELD AT THE COUNTY COURTHOUSE IN THE CITY
OF CARTHAGE ON JULY 5, 2023**

The meeting was called to order by chairman Andrew Asbury at 6:30 p.m. Members in attendance included Ryan Weeks, Harry Douglas, Mark Menn, Mark Harrison, Michelle Merritt, Steve Finney, and Patsy Davis. Visitors included Mike Wright, Jack Curfman, Aaron Feagain, and 2 members of EMS.

Mr. Wright turned in his May and June animal control papers. His deep freeze quit and he is looking to get a medium-sized one. He stated Printy's are building a crematory and will come up with a price for cremations. He is having no luck with getting another bid for the concrete work for the drain. Mr. Wright and Ms. Swisegood will come up with a more user-friendly form. Elvaston, West Point, Augusta, and Bowen have hired their own lawyer, write tickets themselves, and then he signs the tickets. Further discussion about other unincorporated areas doing this ensued. Mr. Wright will call other animal control facilities in the area to see what their fees are.

Mr. Curfman presented the ESDA report. They had a drill at Illini West High School on June 20. This drill showed them what needs to be worked on. There was discussion regarding a Disaster Declaration for Hancock County. This will make resources more readily available. They will send in workers to meet with people and go over their claims and see what can be done. If the governor declares it a disaster then the EPA can get involved. This will allow buildings to be pushed in and burned. Motion to approve the Disaster Declaration for Hancock County was made by Ms. Merritt and seconded by Mr. Finney. All members present voted aye.

The assessor will need to reassess the property values since the Derecho/tornado went through Hancock County. Mr. Menn suggested having township meetings to meet with property owners.

Mr. Feagain gave the EMS report. He got the new ambulances on June 30. He wanted to thank the county board for allowing him to purchase the ambulances. He stated they are in pristine condition. The grant for the parking lot has been extended. They now have until March 31, 2024, to utilize the fund. He has a committee of employees to help him start planning what they would like in a new building. They have been to the sheriff's building and will have potential layouts. He was wondering about building a 40x40 addition on the front. They are 1 medic short. Adams County is out of doing transfers. Blessing Hospital is calling us for transfers on a daily basis. Mr. Feagain was wondering if we were interested in doing a contract with Blessing. At this time it is felt that Hancock County is not interested.

Mr. Asbury stated Mr. Ryan Vanfleet with the First Responders of Tri-County Fire Protection District has called inquiring about monetary support. This was further discussed.

There was discussion regarding the ADT bill. This was supposed to be settled in November 2022 and now they are saying we owe money.

Bills were gone over. Motion to approve the bills was made by Mr. Finney, seconded by Mr. Harrison. All members present voted aye.

Motion to recess until August 7 at 6:30 p.m. was made by Mr. Weeks. Ms. Merritt seconded the motion. All members present voted aye. Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew Asbury, Chairman