

**MINUTES OF A BUILDING, GROUNDS, SAFETY, AND INSURANCE COMMITTEE OF  
THE COUNTY OF HANCOCK, STATE OF ILLINOIS, HELD AT THE COURTHOUSE IN  
THE CITY OF CARTHAGE ON SEPTEMBER 12, 2023**

The meeting was called to order by chairman Mark Hanson. Members in attendance include Michelle Merritt, Tom Rodgers, Ryan Weeks, and Steve Finney. Absent was Tom Bergmeier and Mark Menn. Visitors included Travis Duffy, Lane Sinele, Rick Geier, and Karlton Shaw.

Mr. Geier introduced himself. He works for Linea Energy which is in charge of the gale wind project in Hancock County. The initial footprint is spreading from southwest of Carthage all the way north of LaHarpe into Henderson County. Wind geeks look at wind patterns and pick ideal spots for the windmills. They lease the ground in hopes to be able to use it someday. It is all narrowed down to if they get enough land leased and then they put a project together. The landowner will get paid for 40 years, and will get paid no matter if their land gets used or not. There are no standing fields in Hancock County as of yet. The life expectancy of a tower is 20-25 years. Blades can be replaced a few times in this period of time. If Linea goes under somebody will come in and take over the equipment. It was discussed what burden is left for the county, will this cost tax payers to have the towers removed?

No more insurance packages were taken out for bidding. These are due September 29 and will be voted on at the October meeting.

A safety committee is required. We need to set up a committee and meet with office holders quarterly to go over what is in the safety plan. We look at any issues where employees are hurt on the job and that we are advising on safety measures. Without having this plan in place we will not be in compliance with worker's compensation and will lose this. Ms. Merritt motioned we take action with the safety commission within 60 days, Mr. Finney seconded. Voice vote was taken with all members present voting aye.

Ms. James discussed the wind and solar energy ordinances. There was extensive discussion regarding Illinois statutes stating you cannot say you do not want wind or solar facilities in the county. Any ordinances have to be within the state's guidelines. Motion to approve the resolution regarding commercial solar projects and resolution regarding commercial wind projects was made by Mr. Rodgers and seconded by Mr. Weeks. Voice vote was taken with all members present voting aye.

The sheriff's report was given with 18 people in jail, 3 females, 15 males.

Claims were gone through. Motion to approve the claims was made by Ms. Merritt, seconded by Mr. Finney. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting "yes". Motion carried.

Motion to adjourn until October 10 was made by Mr. Finney. Ms. Merritt seconded. Voice vote was taken with all members present voting aye. Meeting adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Hanson, Chairman