

**MINUTES OF A BOARD MEETING OF THE COUNTY OF HANCOCK, STATE OF
ILLINOIS, HELD AT THE COUNTY COURTHOUSE IN THE CITY OF CARTHAGE ON
AUGUST 22, 2023**

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
COUNTY OF HANCOCK)

The meeting was called to order by chairman Mark Menn at 6:30 p.m. The invocation was given by Ryan Weeks. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the clerk. Roll call was taken.

Those in attendance: Mark Menn, Chairman
 Holly A. Wilde-Tillman, County Clerk

Harry Douglas	Mark Hanson
Ryan Weeks	Tom Rodgers
Tom Bergmeier	Michelle Merritt
Steve Lucie	Steve Finney
Andrew Asbury	Wayne Bollin
Mark Harrison	Dennis Castlebury
Patsy Davis	Alex Blythe

Visitors included Jeff McPherson from Gray-Hunter-Stenn, Mike Heisler, Lane Sinele, and several members of the community. Visitors were welcomed. Mr. Bergmeier moved the August minutes, special building, and executive minutes be approved. This was seconded by Mr. Weeks. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting “yes”. Motion carried.

Mr. McPherson presented the board with the audit. There is a disclaimer of the opinion of the ambulance as there was no record keeping of every run that was taken. The general fund increased by \$2,000,000. Their company tests fees that the county collects and how they are spread out, and make sure the finances are stable.

Mr. Heisler stated the building commission is working with the ambulance director on the layout of the EMS building. They are limited to where they can add on. They will have 3 bays on the west side and a sleeping and lounging quarters on the east. The architect and Mr. Feagain will sit down and go over the plans, then bids can be requested.

Committee minutes were presented. Motion to approve the minutes was made, with the correction of Steve Finney’s name on the special building minutes, by Mr. Castlebury, and seconded by Ms. Merritt. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting “yes”. Motion carried.

A motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Mr. Lucie. Mr. Weeks seconded. A voice vote was taken with all members present voting “aye”.

- A. Resolutions as Trustee for Taxing Districts
- B. Resolution Establishing Animal Control Fees

Amendment of the Resolution to expend Motor Fuel Tax Funds in the amount of \$750,000 was made by Mr. Bollin, seconded by Ms. Merritt. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting “yes”. Motion carried.

Discussion regarding developing rules for wind energy ensued. Ms. James will get a sample resolution to the next building committee meeting to go over. We can no longer issue a moratorium but she could have a resolution ready by the next full board meeting. Mr. Weeks made a motion to send this on to the building and grounds committee to include both wind and solar power. Mr. Bollin seconded. Voice vote was taken with all members present voting “aye”.

Motion to approve the salary of the coroner commencing 2024-2027 was made by Mr. Blythe and seconded by Mr. Bergmeier. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting “yes”. Motion carried.

Mr. Douglas motioned to approve the salary of \$62,150 for the circuit clerk, Ms. Merritt seconded. A roll call vote was taken with Ms. Davis recusing herself from the vote and all other members present voting “yes”.

Mr. Sinele discussed wind energy in Hancock County. There have been numerous landowners contacted regarding wind energy. He would like the board to take a good hard look and see what this looks like long term for the county. He feels it is a political environment pushing wind energy into the county.

Ms. Davis discussed the Tioga situation. The individual squatting on the property owned by Clear Vision, LLC, has had hernia surgery and is living in a tent on the property. The rat population is going down a bit because of the poison but now it is making a terrible smell. She would like to move forth with condemning the property. Ms. James will work with the committee on setting standards.

Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Blythe at 7:13 p.m. Ms. Merritt seconded. All members present voted “aye”. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Holly A. Wilde-Tillman, County Clerk