

MINUTES OF A BOARD MEETING OF THE COUNTY OF HANCOCK, STATE OF ILLINOIS, HELD AT THE COUNTY COURTHOUSE IN THE CITY OF CARTHAGE ON SEPTEMBER 19, 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 Tom Rodgers. Mr. Menn lead the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call was taken.

Those present were: Mark Menn, Chairman
 Stephanie Swisegood

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 Sam Harnack, Evan Davidson, Bobi James, Joe Scheetz, and Jim Scheetz.

Mr. Bergmeier moved the August minutes and September committee minutes be approved. Ms. Merritt seconded. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting “yes”. Motion carried.

Evan Davidson of the Carthage Fire Department spoke regarding post-traumatic stress disorder. After several years of slowly developing symptoms his life was spiraling out of control and knew he needed to get help before he ended his life. Travis Howes has a post-traumatic class in Dubuque, Iowa. Mr. Davidson and his wife attended. It saved his life and his marriage. Mr. Howes explains different ways to deal and cope with PTSD. The next meeting is on Saturday September 23.

Ms. Harnack from Hancock County Economic Development discussed a few points. IDOT is either going to raise the approach to the 136 bridge into Iowa or possible other approaches. There will be a public meeting with IDOT engineers, Mayor Bo Casey, and Ms. Harnack. Both options will be discussed. IDOT would like feedback from the community. There is no date for

this meeting as of yet. The economic development and 3 chamber organizations in the county are working together to get a Taste of Hancock County in October 2024. Thursday night is Hancock County Economic Development annual meeting to be held at Marine Bank at 7 p.m.

Mr. Menn informed the board that the Circuit Clerk is having an open house after the meeting for her office to introduce her staff and observe the improvements. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

Trent Loos will be at Lake Hill Winery on September 28 regarding landowner rights regarding the CO2 pipeline.

Committee minutes were read. Mr. Douglas moved to accept the minutes. Ms. Merritt seconded. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting "yes". Motion carried.

Mr. Menn stated he has heard a lot of good comments regarding the Basco project. He commended Elgin Berry and Patsy Davis and the highway committee for getting this accomplished.

The Klingler plans for the Connable Road are available for anybody to view.

The Building Commission met and will take over the Hamilton EMS lease payment and utilizes beginning December 1, 2023.

Mr. Lucie motioned to approve the consent agenda. Ms. Davis seconded.

- A. Highway Department Policy Manual
- B. Resolution Regarding Commercial Wind Power
- C. Resolution Regarding Commercial Solar Power
- D. Resolution Establishing a Holiday Schedule for year 2024

Discussion regarding commercial wind and solar power in Hancock County was discussed. A resolution needs to be passed at the county level even though the state has guidelines as the guidelines do not apply if you do not have any resolution in place. Draft ordinances are complete. There was discussion about changing some of the language of the resolution but ultimately it was motioned to leave as is.

A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting "yes". Motion carried.

Mr. Asbury approved the resignation of Jack Curfman. Mr. Douglas seconded. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting "yes". Motion carried.

Mr. Asbury moved the Resolution Approving Election Judge Compensation, seconded by Mr. Harrison. A roll call vote was taken with Mr. Douglas recusing and all other members present voting "yes". Motion carried.

Ms. James updated the board on old business. She is working with Amy Hall on a couple of issues in her department. She has been in communication with ADT regarding an account that was opened under EMS. If anybody hears in the news that Navigator is putting a pause in moving, this is only in Iowa, not Illinois. Ms. James had met with Ms. Davis regarding the Tioga property. She was getting ready to send a 15-day required letter to Mr. Bashara but received the certified card back stating he received his letter. She has also spoken with Kam Miller who also has a few properties he is working on filing against Clear Vision, LLC. The board would like her to go ahead and demolish the house in Tioga. The fire department could burn it down as a training exercise.

The question of how appointments work was answered. An appointment is brought from an independent group and the board approves it.

Mr. Lucie voiced concerns regarding the health department. Motion to approve the appointment of Monica Crim, Andy Bastert, Ed Owens, Melissa Pence, and Karen Beeler to the board of health was made by Mr. Blythe, seconded by Mr. Bergmeier. A roll call vote was taken with Lucie, Merritt, Davis, and Weeks voting no, and all other members voting "yes". Motion carried.

Motion to approve the appointment of Joseph Zumwalt to the Hunt-Lima Drainage was made by Ms. Davis and seconded by Mr. Weeks. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting "yes". Motion carried.

Motion to recess until October 17, 2023, was made by Mr. Weeks, Ms. Merritt seconded. All members present voted aye. Meeting adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Holly A. Wilde-Tillman, County Clerk