

**MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE OF THE COUNTY
OF HANCOCK, STATE OF ILLINOIS, HELD AT THE COUNTY COURTHOUSE IN THE
CITY OF CARTHAGE ON NOVEMBER 15, 2023**

The meeting was called to order by chairman Andrew Asbury at 8:30 a.m. Members in attendance included Michelle Merritt, Patsy Davis, Harry Douglas, and Mark Menn. Absent was Steve Finney, Mark Harrison, and Ryan Weeks.

The main point of the meeting was to talk about the compensation package for the ESDA director, salary, and hiring. It needs to be stressed that this is part-time and no benefits. This is a contracted job. The salary was determined to be \$16,100 for ESDA and \$2400 for the flood plain. Ms. Davis made a motion to hire Jeff Totten as the ESDA director, Ms. Merritt seconded. All members present voted aye.

Mr. Totten was called and offered the job which he did accept. He will start on December 1, 2023.

Extensive discussion regarding animal control ensued. Various scenarios were discussed. The committee would like to speak with Hearts of Hancock, the municipalities, and Maggie Harrell. The county is only responsible to take care of bites, rabid dogs, and mistreated animals. The community needs to be educated about this. The committee will work on a mission statement. Mr. Wright will be asked if he would be interested in staying on until at least February 1, 2024.

Motion to recess until November 20, 2023, at 5 p.m. was made by Ms. Merritt. Mr. Douglas seconded. All members present voted aye. Meeting adjourned at 10:07 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew Asbury, Chairman