

**MINUTES OF A BOARD MEETING OF THE COUNTY OF HANCOCK, STATE OF
ILLINOIS, HELD AT THE COUNTY COURTHOUSE IN THE CITY OF
CARTHAGE ON JANUARY 16, 2024**

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 Steve Lucie. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Holly Wilde-Tillman. Roll call was taken.

Those present were:

	Mark Menn, Chairman
	Holly Wilde-Tillman, County Clerk
Mark Hanson	Michelle Merritt
Tom Bergmeier	Alex Blythe
Patsy Davis	Steve Lucie
Steve Finney	Wayne Bollin
Ryan Weeks	Dennis Castlebury

Absent were Harry Douglas, Tom Rodgers, and Mark Harrison. Visitors included Miranda Lambert. Mr. Weeks made a motion to approve the December minutes and January committee minutes, seconded by Ms. Merritt. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting “yes”. Motion carried.

Mr. Menn announced the resignation of Andrew Asbury. Motion to accept the resignation was made by Mr. Castlebury and seconded by Mr. Lucie. All members present voted aye. Mr. Menn stated Mr. Asbury’s time as a board member over the last 4 years is greatly appreciated.

Mr. Menn announced the passing of Rosalie Bishop. He would like to recognize her years of outstanding work as a dispatcher at the sheriff’s department.

The highway and finance minutes were submitted. The building committee met before the full board meeting tonight. A resolution will be drawn up for wind and solar power and will be presented next month. Ms. Lambert presented the Memorial Hospital and Hancock County Public Transportation contract. The health minutes were submitted. Motion to accept the minutes was made by Mr. Hanson. Ms. Davis seconded. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting “yes”. Motion carried.

Motion to remove the closure of the animal pound from the consent agenda was made by Mr. Bergmeier and seconded by Mr. Weeks. All members present voted aye. Mr. Blythe motioned to approve the temporary closure of the animal pound effective January 16, 2024. Ms. Davis

seconded. There was further discussion regarding the dog pound. A roll call vote was taken with Mr. Bergmeier voting no and all other members present voting “yes”. Motion carried.

Ms. Merritt moved to approve the consent agenda, Mr. Castlebury seconded. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting “yes”. Motion carried. This included:

- A. Connable Road Joint Funding Agreement
- B. IPRF Safety Grant to be used on Signs and Safety Vests for the Highway Department
- C. Amendment of Mileage on Intake Form of Hancock County Pound to 40 miles

Motion to pay \$1500 to Four Seasons for videography was made by Mr. Bollin, seconded by Ms. Davis. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting “yes”. Motion carried.

Motion to accept the engineering agreement with Klingner and Associates for the County Bridge on the Fountain Green Road phase I only was made by Mr. Blythe and seconded by Mr. Lucie. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting “yes”. Motion carried.

Ms. Davis made a motion to accept the Pilot Grove Township Bridge Half Aid Petition, Mr. Bollin seconded. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting “yes”. Motion carried.

Mr. Bergmeier moved to accept the engineering agreement for the Pilot Grove Bridge, Mr. Lucie seconded. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting “yes”. Motion carried.

Mr. Castlebury made a motion to approve the Fountain Green Township Bridge Half Aid Petition and Ms. Merritt seconded. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting “yes”. Motion carried.

Motion was made to accept the engineering agreement with Klingner and Associates for the Fountain Green Township Bridge phase I and II was made by Mr. Weeks. Mr. Blythe seconded. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting “yes”. Motion carried.

Ordinance for the Hancock County Public Defender fund budget amendment was made by Mr. Bollin. Ms. Merritt seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting “yes”. Motion carried.

Mr. Blythe motioned to accept the resolution to authorize the finance chair and Hancock County chairman to conduct line item transfers. Ms. Merritt seconded. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting “yes”. Motion carried.

Mr. Bollin moved the ordinance for supplemental budget and appropriations for FY 2023. Mr. Hanson seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting “yes”. Motion carried.

Mr. Castlebury made a motion to authorize the county chairman to seek legal counsel regarding the animal pound with Ms. Merritt seconding. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting "yes". Motion carried.

Mr. Finney made a motion to approve the lease with the building commission, Mr. Weeks seconded. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting "yes". Motion carried.

Ms. Merritt moved to accept the contract renewal between Memorial Clinic and Hancock County Public Transportation. Mr. Lucie seconded. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting "yes". Motion carried.

The approval of any outstanding bills was made by Mr. Lucie. Mr. Weeks seconded. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting "yes". Motion carried.

Mr. Menn informed the board that with the resignation of Mr. Asbury, Ms. Davis will be the chair of the health committee and Mr. Castlebury will be the chair for the highway committee.

Mr. Blythe motioned to accept the appointment of Christopher Link to the LaHarpe Fire Protection District until December 11, 2025. Mr. Bergmeier seconded. All members present voted aye.

Motion to recess until February 20, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. was made by Mr. Weeks with Ms. Merritt seconding. All members present voted aye. Meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Holly A. Wilde-Tillman
Hancock County Clerk