

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COUNTY OF HANCOCK, STATE OF
ILLINOIS, HELD IN THE COUNTY COURTHOUSE IN THE CITY OF
CARTHAGE ON THE 24th May 2024**

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
COUNTY OF ILLINOIS)

The meeting was called to Order at 8 a.m. by Chairman Mark Menn.

The invocation was given by Michelle Merritt. The "Pledge of Allegiance" was led by the Clerk.

Those present in person were: Mark Menn, Chairman
 Holly A. Wilde-Tillman, County Clerk

Dennis Castlebury	Michelle Merritt
Harry Douglas	Tom Bergmeier
Wayne Bollin	Alex Blythe
Patsy Davis	Mark Turner

Absent were: Mark Hanson, Mark Harrison, Steve Lucie, Ryan Weeks, Tom Rodgers, and Stephen Finney

Mr. Bergmeier made a motion to approve the April full board meeting minutes, it was seconded by Ms. Merritt. Roll call was taken with all members present voting "Yes." Motion carried.

Mr. Alex Farkas, 22c was not able to attend but was called and updated the board. He has submitted 4 applications in Hancock County. The farms are between 60 and 100 acres but only 40 acres on each farm will be used for solar with the rest being farmed. They will begin this project in 2025. Mr. Farkas stated the next step is to publish and make contact with neighbors.

Ms. Harnack would like more information about decommissioning as many residents have asked her about this. Mr. Blythe would like more information about how they are taxed. Mr. Menn will have Ms. Mehaffy speak at a committee meeting.

Committee reports were read by the committee chairs for each committee meeting. Mr. Menn informed the committee that he had met with Mr. Totten after Finance, and it was decided that Mr. Totten would receive 15% of the permit fee. Mr. Douglas made a motion to approve the committee reports and it was seconded by Mr. Castlebury. Roll call was taken with all members present voting "Yes." Motion carried.

A motion was made by Ms. Merritt for the consent agenda consisting of designating the Connable road as a Class II truck route, declaring 2 ambulances as surplus, and the travel expense control resolution, it was seconded by Mr. Bollin. Mr. Bergmeier asked what constitutes a Class II Truck route and Mr. Berry

stated it was very hard to decipher the statue. Mr. Douglas explained that the State Police would be enforcing this. Mr. Bergmeier stated with uncertainty maybe we should not vote on this but Mr. Berry stated they would be forfeiting \$436,000 if we do not pass it. All members present voted "Yes." Motion carried.

Ms. Davis reported ESDA would like to have one of the ambulances to use as a command center. Mr. Menn will let Health and Miscellaneous handle this at their committee meeting.

Ms. Davis made a motion to use \$76,000 from ARPA funds to purchase new Handicapped Voting Machines, it was seconded by Mr. Douglas. Roll call was taken with all members present voting "Yes." Motion carried.

Mr. Castlebury made a motion to compensate Jeff Totten 15% of the application fees for solar and wind, it was seconded by Ms. Merritt. Discussion was had regarding a resolution outlining the fees for solar and wind permits. Mr. Berry is concerned that we do not have road usage agreements and that the township will need these also. It was stated that any of these fees can come from the application fees to not burden county or township. Mr. Totten will work on this over the next month, and it will be discussed at finance. All members present voted "Yes." Motion carried.

Ms. Davis reported that after the Bicentennial committee meeting, they had decided \$5,000 could be used for advertising and marketing. This will be discussed in Finance.

Mr. Bollin made a motion to appoint Kevin Roskamp to the Lima-Tioga fire protection district for a 3-year term, it was seconded by Mr. Bergmeier. All members present voted "aye." Motion carried.

Mr. Bergmeier made a motion to appoint Ricky Johnson to the Farmland review board and Troy Pierce to the Board of Review both for a 3-year term, it was seconded by Mr. Blythe. All members present voted "aye." Motion carried.

A motion was made by Ms. Merritt to adjourn the meeting until June 18, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. It was seconded by Mr. Bergmeier, and it carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:31 A.M.

Respectfully submitted by,

Holly A. Wilde-Tillman
Hancock County Clerk and Recorder