

COUNTY OF MENARD)
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STATE OF ILLINOIS)

The Menard County Board of Commissioners met on Thursday, June 25, 2026, at 9:00 AM at the Menard County Courthouse, 102 South Seventh Street, Petersburg, Illinois. Commissioners Ed Whitcomb, Troy Cummings, Rich Brauer, Dalton Whitley, and Rod Riech were physically present. A quorum was present. County Clerk Marty Gum, County Coordinator Dara Worthington, State’s Attorney Gwen Thomas, and County Treasurer Molly Bettis were also physically present.

Commissioner Cummings made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda which consisted of the minutes from June 9, 2026 meeting along with the May 2026 monthly department expense reports. Commissioner Whitley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Scheduled/Unscheduled Guests

There were no guests.

Scheduled County Elected Officials & Staff

County Zoning Administrator/Request for Board Action

Zoning Administrator Joe Crowe was physically present.

Discussion and Approval of Special Use Permit for Betsy Burris – Prairie Schoolhouse

Commissioner Brauer made a motion to approve the Special Use Permit and Commission Riech seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Zoning Administrator Crowe provided an update on the status of various ongoing projects within his department. Included in his overview was a notification that Public Act 104 changes the county code to include a code inspector which would require additional training and job responsibilities for his position. The information was provided for the commissioners’ further consideration of possible county procedures.

County Engineer’s Report/Request for Board Action

County Engineer Corey Dowd was in attendance physically.

Discussion and Approval of Agreement for the Review of the Pike Creek Transmission Traffic Impact Analysis with Hutchinson Engineering, Inc.

Engineer Dowd noted that the entire cost of this study would not fall to Menard County.

Commissioner Riech made a motion to proceed with the agreement and Commissioner Whitley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Dowd provided a synopsis of the activities going on within his department.

County EMS/EMA Chief's Report/Request for Board Action

Chief Huss reported that work on the EMS building should commence upon completion of work at the courthouse. He noted that a deposit had been made on the new signage for his department and that the departmental reports would be sent to the commissioners.

County Sheriff's Report/Request for Board Action

Sheriff Mark Oller was physically in attendance.

Oller reported that the current jail census was nine inmates with two females and seven males. One inmate was being held for Cass County. Plans were shared about the Menard County Fair and the upcoming office move.

County Treasurer's Report/Request for Board Action

Treasurer Molly Bettis was in present.

Bettis provided a brief update on the progress of the audit and the 2026 collection process for property taxes. She noted that a new feature is available allowing for tax bills to be printed from the county's website.

County Clerk's Report/Request for Board Action

County Clerk Marty Gum was in attendance and had nothing to report.

State's Attorney's Report/Request for Board Action

State's Attorney Gwen Thomas introduced Kara Claussen as her summer help.

County Coordinator's Report/Requests for Board Action

Coordinator Dara Worthington was in attendance.

A brief update was given on MAP's request for a change in size of a proposed building through a grant application, UCCI Codification Consultants, and the workers' compensation audit.

Individual Board of Commissioners' Reports/Requests for Board Action

Commissioner Cummings provided an overview of the Sunny Acres Nursing Home Advisory Board meeting. Cummings noted that the county needs to review the setting of the county's tax levy. County Clerk Gum reported that consultants will be performing that function.

Other Scheduled Topics

There were no other scheduled topics.

Executive Session

There was no need for Executive Session.

Adjournment

Having no further business to go before the board, Commissioner Brauer made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 AM and Commissioner Whitley seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned.