

COUNTY OF MENARD    )  
                                  ) S.S.  
STATE OF ILLINOIS    )

The Menard County Board of Commissioners met on Tuesday, **December 12, 2023** at 6:00 p.m. at the Menard County Courthouse, 102 S. Seventh Street, Petersburg, Illinois. Commissioners Bob Lott, Ed Whitcomb, Troy Cummings, and Rich Brauer were physically present. A quorum was present. County Clerk Martha “Marty” Gum, County Coordinator Dara Worthington, State’s Attorney Gabe Grosboll, and Sheriff Mark Oller were also present. Commissioner Jeff Fore and Treasurer Pam Bauser were absent.

County Clerk Marty Gum called for nominations to serve as the Menard County Board of Commissioners’ Chairperson for the 2024 fiscal year (December 1, 2023 to November 30, 2024). Commissioner Whitcomb nominated Robert Lott to continue as the Menard County Board of Commissioners’ Chairperson for the 2024 fiscal year. Commissioner Cummings seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Lott assumed the position as Chairperson.

Commissioner Brauer moved to nominate Commissioner Jeff Fore as the Interim Chairperson for Menard County Board of Commissioners for the fiscal year 2024. Commissioner Cummings seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Brauer moved to approve the Regular Board Minutes from the November 28, 2023 meeting. Commissioner Whitcomb seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**County Zoning Report/Requests for Board Action**

Joe Crowe, the Menard County Zoning Officer, advised the Board that the Bartenslager’s have pulled their application and are going to proceed to run their business under the Ag Experiences Act. Officer Crowe also advised that they still need to proceed with defining Agritourism and rewriting the Menard County Zoning Ordinance. Discussion ensued with regard to the definition of Agritourism.

**EMS/EMA Report/Requests for Board Action**

Chief Huss was in attendance, and presented the Board with an Amendment of the Menard County EMS Local 4622 Contract moving away from requiring paramedic licensure for all full-time employees, stipends for paramedics partnering with EMT’s, and overtime offered to full-time employees before being offered to part-time employees. Commissioner Cummings moved to approve the Amendment. Commissioner Brauer

seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. Chief Huss also updated the Board on his department.

### **Highway Department's Report/Request for Board Action**

Corey Dowd, County Highway Engineer, was in attendance and presented the Board with the Construction Engineering Contract with Veenstra & Kimm for Section 20-00056-08-PV. Commissioner Whitcomb moved to approve the Contract. Commissioner Brauer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Engineer Dowd also presented an expenditure for purchase of chipper with Cresco funds at the time of the sale. Commissioner Whitcomb moved to approve the expenditure. Commissioner Cummings seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Dowd presented the Board with **Resolution 43-23** approval of FY24 Motor Fuel Tax Maintenance. Commissioner Cummings moved to approve. Commissioner Brauer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. This shall be known as **Resolution 43-23**.

He then updated the Board on his department's current projects.

### **Sheriff's Report/Requests for Board Action**

Sheriff Mark Oller was in attendance and updated the Board on the current jail census at six total inmates and provided the Board with an update on Courthouse projects.

### **County Clerk's Report/Requests for Board Action**

County Clerk Marty Gum was in attendance and advised the Board that her office's semi-annual report for FY23 has been filed. Clerk Gum also presented three annual liquor licenses for approval. Commissioner Cummings moved to approve the liquor licenses for Greenview AMVETS, West of Wise, and Indian Creek Farmstead. Commissioner Whitcomb seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

### **State's Attorney Report/Requests for Board Action**

State's Attorney Gabe Grosboll provided the Board with the Child Advocacy Center Agreement. Commissioner Brauer moved to approve the Agreement. Commissioner Whitcomb seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

## **County Coordinator's Report/Requests for Board Action**

Coordinator Worthington was in attendance and presented Health Department bills for payment approval. Commissioner Brauer moved to approve the payments. Commissioner Whitcomb seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Worthington requested that Executive Session Minutes from May 28, 2019 and November 29, 2022 remain closed. Commissioner Cummings moved to approve the request. Commissioner Brauer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Coordinator Worthington discussed items such as: Regional Office of Education Quarterly payment; ICRMT down payment has been made; provided clerical salaries report for FY23 and FY24; Courthouse doors have been ordered with the down payment provided; Ben Hollis is preparing bid requests for keyless fob, alarm system for offices, and the rekeying of interior doors; carpet will be installed in the Circuit Clerk's Office this weekend; GASB75 data was submitted on 12/11 to John Ritchie at Menard Consulting; ARPA expenditure update provided; Sunny Acres Nursing Home Wick building update and a reception for the Treasurer will be held on 12/29/23 from 2:00 – 3:30 pm.

## **Other Scheduled Topics**

Appointment of Individual to serve as Interim Treasurer to be effective January 1, 2024. Republican Chair Jason Huffman advised the Board that after interviewing the three applicants, the Republican Party recommended that the Board appoint Molly Bettis as Interim Treasurer. Commissioner Brauer moved to approve the recommendation. Commissioner Whitcomb seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of 2023 Menard County Board of Commissioner Committee and Oversight Assignments. Commissioner Cummings moved to approve the assignments. Commissioner Whitcomb seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of 2024 calendar of regular meetings of the Menard County Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Whitcomb moved to approve the calendar. Commissioner Brauer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Amendment to Menard County Personnel Policies Impacted by Paid Leave for All Workers Act and Other Laws/Changes to be effective January 1, 2024. Commissioner Whitcomb moved to approve the policies. Commissioner Cummings seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**Resolution 44-23 - 57-23** – Approval of Fiscal Year 2024 Tax Levies. Commissioner Cummings moved to approve all thirteen tax levy resolutions for fiscal year 2024. Commissioner Brauer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. These shall be known as **Resolutions 44-23 – 57-23**.

**Resolution 58-23** - Establishing the Reimbursement of all travels, meals and lodging expenses of officers and employees in the County of Menard. Commissioner Cummings moved to approve reimbursements. Commissioner Brauer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. These shall be known as **Resolutions 58-23**.

### **Executive Session**

Commissioner Brauer moved to go into Executive Session, for the purpose of potential litigation at 6:17 p.m. Commissioner Whitcomb seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

### **Adjournment**

With no other business coming before the Board, Commissioner Brauer moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:18 p.m. Commissioner Whitcomb seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.