

COUNTY OF MENARD)
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STATE OF ILLINOIS)

The Menard County Board of Commissioners met on Tuesday, June 9, 2026, at 6:00 PM 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, 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 May 28, 2026. Commissioner Riech seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Scheduled/Unscheduled Guests

Brenda Yale and Tom Barbee were present to discuss concerns they had with the care their mother received as it relates to meals and mealtimes. They reported that the nursing care was phenomenal and the activity people were top notch. Mrs. Yale reported that she had shared recommendations for several different processes. The commissioners expressed their appreciation for informing them of the situation.

Scheduled County Elected Officials & Staff

County Zoning Administrator/Request for Board Action

Zoning Administrator Joe Crowe was present.

Discussion and Approval of Text Amendment to the Menard County Zoning Ordinance – Section 504.01 for Addition for “Private School” as a Special Use.

A brief overview was provided on the plans for Prairie Roots Schoolhouse was provided. Discussion followed with questions pertaining to public schooling, state aid, number of students, future plans, grade levels, and code enforcement. Upon completion of the discussion, Commissioner Brauer made a motion to approve the noted text amendment and Commissioner Whitley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Discussion and Approval of Crawford Murphy and Tilly Agreement for ENGIE Project Plan Review and Field Work Reporting During Construction.

Crowe explained the status of the ENGIE Solar Project and the need for oversight by an engineering firm. This agreement sets forth the scope of the work that the firm will complete on the project. Crowe noted that ENGIE will be responsible for the full cost of

the work completed on the project which encompasses June 1, 2026, through December 31, 2026.

Commissioner Riech made a motion to approve entering into the agreement and Commissioner Cummings seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

An update was provided on the status of the RCM proposed project. It was reported that the project was being placed on hold upon notification from their attorney. RCM would not, at this time, be applying for the CRISI grant. The Road Use Agreement and Grand Administration Agreement were yet to be passed or agreed upon. It was the consensus of the commissioners that the current Road Use Agreement should be final.

County Engineer's Report/Request for Board Action

County Engineer Corey Dowd was in attendance.

Engineer Dowd provided an update on departmental projects which included: Athens Blacktop project, Montgomery, Pumphouse, Gudgel and Price bridges, chipping and sealing of county roads, delivery of the DuraPatcher, Pike Creek Traffic Impact Analysis needing work, entrance investigations, and oiling of county roads commencing on July 7.

County Sheriff's Report/Request for Board Action

Sheriff Mark Oller was in attendance.

Oller reported that the current jail census was 10 inmates with one female and nine males. Oller apprised the board and invited them to attend a training conducted by our insurance company.

County Treasurer's Report/Request for Board Action

Treasurer Molly Bettis was in attendance.

Bettis reported that there are currently nine unpaid mobile home tax bills which are now considered past due and have a penalty. Tax bills have been sent to the direct mailing provider for printing and mailing. First installment will be due July 24 and second installment will be due September 18. An update on the status of the FY24 audit was provided.

County Clerk's Report/Request for Board Action

County Clerk Marty Gum was in attendance.

Gum presented a liquor license for the Menard County Fair. Commissioner Brauer made a motion to approve the license and Commissioner Whitley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

County Coordinator's Report/Requests for Board Action

Coordinator Dara Worthington was in attendance.

Worthington presented information a request for payment of the July 2026 statement for the provision of public health services. Commissioner Brauer made a motion to approve payment. Commissioner Riech seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Executive session minutes from May 13, 2025, May 29, 2025, November 25, 2025, and December 9, 2025 were presented to the board as needing to remain closed. Commissioner Cummings made a motion for the noted minutes to remain closed. Commissioner Whitley seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

An update was provided on the Menard County Farm Bureau Annual Member Appreciation Day at the Menard County Fair, painting of the courthouse exterior doors, masonry work to be completed at Sunny Acres, new signage at Sunny Acres, the FY25 Worker's Compensation Audit dispute, and the tax bill insert.

Individual Board of Commissioners' Reports/Requests for Board Action

Commissioner Brauer reported on a recent visit from IDOT to further look into the Petersburg stoplight.

Other Scheduled Topics

Menard County Fair Board President Ben Hollis was present to provide the commissioners with information on a situation the fair board was dealing with in the need to replace a water main. Hollis indicated that he was looking into possible grant funding for the necessary repairs for next year. Menard County, as owner of the fairgrounds, would need to apply for the funds.

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 6:53 PM and Commissioner Riech seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned.