

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

The Menard County Board of Commissioners met on Tuesday, **April 25, 2024** at 9:00 a.m. at the Menard County Courthouse, 102 S. Seventh Street, Petersburg, Illinois. Commissioners Bob Lott, Ed Whitcomb, Troy Cummings, and Jeff Fore were physically present. A quorum was present. County Clerk Martha “Marty” Gum, Treasurer Molly Bettis, County Coordinator Dara Worthington, Sheriff Mark Oller, and State’s Attorney Gabe Grosboll were also present. Commissioner Rich Brauer was absent.

Chairperson Bob Lott called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Commissioner Fore moved to approve the Regular Minutes and Executive Session Minutes from April 9, 2024, as well as the amended Minutes from March 12, 2024 and the monthly department expense report for March 2024. Commissioner Whitcomb seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**Dawn Kelton – Menard County Supervisor of Assessments**

Assessor Dawn Kelton was in attendance and advised the Board that a member of the Board of Review has resigned. Kelton will be posting the opening on the County website as well as publishing the same in the local newspaper with the requirements to fill said position. She also advised that the final equalization factor has been received at a 1.0.

**Joe Crowe – Menard County Zoning Officer**

Zoning Officer Crowe was in attendance and presented the Board with an update on his department’s current projects. Crowe advised that the Indian Creek Farmstead application for a text amendment has been continued. He advised the need for an ordinance to be put into place for the discharge of firearms as well as for the demolition of buildings. Lastly, Officer Crowe provided an update with regard to the Change Finder project.

**Highway Department’s Report/Request for Board Action**

Highway Engineer Dowd was in attendance and presented the Board with an update on his department’s current projects. Dowd discussed two bids received for a new tandem truck. It was the consensus of the Board that the bid from Truck Centers should be accepted.

Engineer Dowd presented the Board with a Road Use Agreement with Prairie Power for approval. It was the consensus of the Board that the Agreement is approved.

### **Kolbe Huss – EMS/EMA Chief**

EMS/EMA Chief Huss was in attendance and advised that his department has responded to 480 calls so far this year. He advised that the department is in receipt of the new Ford Explorer and the pickup is ready to be turned over to the Highway Department. Huss advised that the remount is ready for final inspection and that he should have ownership by the middle of May 2024. Lastly, Huss provided the Board with an update on the cybersecurity project.

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

Sheriff Mark Oller was in attendance and updated the Board on the current jail census at a total of four inmates. He advised that the speed trailer is up and running. He also advised that the new key fob systems should be installed in late May 2024. Sheriff Oller also discussed property that has been willed to the Sheriff's Department and the condition thereof. The Board inquired about the contract with Lexipol. Sheriff Oller and Chief Deputy Sheriff Ben Hollis will look into the renewal due date and pricing.

### **Treasurer's Department Report/Requests for Board Action**

Treasurer Bettis was in attendance and discussed such items as: ARPA report update, CD investments, collection of tax payments at Alliance Community Bank and moving seven accounts from general accounts to interest bearing accounts at Alliance Community Bank. Treasurer Bettis also advised that she is still interviewing for the open position in her office.

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

County Clerk Gum was in attendance and advised the Board that her Deputy Recorder is leaving to work for the State of Illinois on April 30, 2024 and she advised that the Assessor Kelton has finished her portion of the tax extension so Clerk Gum will begin her portion of the extensions this week.

County Clerk Gum was in attendance and presented a liquor license application for Hamilton's Catering for review and approval. Commissioner Fore moved to approve the application. Commissioner Cummings seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

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

State's Attorney Grosboll was in attendance and advised that he is working on the utility permit process and there is a rumor that in 2026 Public Defender position will be a full-time position.

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

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

Worthington requested that Executive Session Minutes from October 26, 2021, November 8, 2022, January 10, 2023, April 25, 2023, and May 9, 2023 remain closed and Executive Session Minutes from April 11, 2023 be opened. Commissioner Cummings moved to approve the request. Commissioner Fore seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Coordinator Worthington discussed items such as: no communication from Perry Mayer; Menard County Health Department has an opening for a Registered Nurse, Sunny Acres Nursing Home van should be ordered with the title being under Sunny Acres Nursing Home and a notation being made on the Certificate of Insurance; license plates will be charitable plates; walk through at Sunny Acres Nursing Home with the Public Building Study Group on May 14, 2024; Doug Flanders has spoken with Steve Ozella and looked at the outside wall of the Boardroom; and provided an update regarding the Audit.

### **Other Scheduled Topics**

Adoption of Revised 2024 Menard County Board of Commissioners Meeting Schedule. Commissioner Whitcomb moved to approve the revised schedule. Commissioner Fore seconded the motion. The motion carried with three "ayes" and one "nay".

Discussion and Approval of Sunny Acres Nursing Home Room Rates for Lilac Lane. Commissioner Cummings moved to approve the rates. Commissioner Whitcomb seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Setting starting wages for Dietary Cooks to \$17.50 per hour. Commissioner Cummings moved to approve the wages. Commissioner Fore seconded the motion. The motion carried.

**Resolution 18-24** – Re-appointment of David Bagot and Dianne Markley to the Menard County Board of Health for three -year terms expiring May 31, 2027. Commissioner Fore moved to approve. Commissioner Whitcomb seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. This shall be known as **Resolution 18-24**.

**Resolution 19-24** – Appointment of Taylor Hamlin as Trustee of the Oakford Fire Protection District for a three -year term expiring the first Monday in May 2027. Commissioner Fore moved to approve. Commissioner Cummings seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. This shall be known as **Resolution 19-24**.

Discussion with regard to setting salaries for the Elected Officials (Circuit Clerk, County Clerk and Supervisor of Assessments) for FY25, FY26, FY27 and FY28. Discussion ensued and the matter has been set for the next Agenda.

Discussion with regard to setting salaries for the Menard County Treasurer for FY25 and FY26. Discussion ensued and the matter has been set for the next Agenda.

### **Executive Session**

Commissioner Whitcomb made a motion to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussion on litigation at 10:34 a.m. Commissioner Fore seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

### **Adjournment**

With no other business coming before the Board, Commissioner Fore moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:41 a.m. Commissioner Cummings seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.