

COUNTY OF MENARD)
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STATE OF ILLINOIS)

The Menard County Board of Commissioners met on Tuesday, November 11, 2025, at 6:00 PM at the Menard County Courthouse, 102 South Seventh Street, Petersburg, Illinois. Commissioners Ed Whitcomb, Troy Cummings, and Dalton Whitley were physically present. A quorum was present. County Coordinator Dara Worthington, State's Attorney Gwen Thomas, and County Treasurer Molly Bettis were also physically present. Commissioners Bob Lott and Rich Brauer were absent along with County Clerk Marty Gum. As Acting Chair for the meeting, Ed Whitcomb called the meeting to order.

Commissioner Whitley moved to approve the Consent Agenda which consisted of the Regular Board Minutes from the October 30, 2025 and the Special Meeting from November 6, 2025. Commissioner Cummings seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Scheduled/Unscheduled Guests

David Jordan, a resident of Menard County, was present to express his opinion on the proposed new Menard County Zoning Ordinance. Upon listening to Mr. Jordan's concerns, it was the consensus of the commissioners to table passage of the proposed ordinance.

Scheduled County Elected Officials & Staff

County Engineer's Report/Request for Board Action

Engineer Dowd was in attendance. Dowd presented the following to the commissioner for review and possible approval:

Approval of Engineering Agreement with Veenstra and Kimm for Section 25-05118 (Pumphouse Road Bridge).

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

Approval of Teamsters' Local Union 916 Contract Effective December 1, 2025 through November 30, 2028.

Commissioner Whitley made a motion to approve the new contract and Commissioner Cummings seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 29-25 – Appropriating Fund for Payment of the County Engineer Salary – September 1, 2025 – November 30, 2025.

Commissioner Cummings made a motion to approve the resolution. Commissioner Whitley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. This shall be known as Resolution 29-25.

Resolution 30-25 – Appropriating Fund for Payment of the County Engineer Salary – 12/01/2025 – 11/30/2026

Commissioner Cummings made a motion to approve the resolution and Commissioner Whitley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. This shall be known as Resolution 30-25.

Resolution 31-25 – Reappointing County Engineer

Commissioner Whitley made a motion to approve the reappointment of Corey Dowd to the County Engineer position while Commissioner Cummings seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. This shall be known as Resolution 31-25.

Engineer Dowd provided an overview of current and upcoming projects and work being completed within his department.

County Zoning Administrator's Report/Request for Board Action

Zoning Administrator Joe Crowe was in attendance.

Ordinance 32-25 - Special Use Permit for Halsey Case 25-02SU

Commissioner Cummings made a motion to approve Ordinance 32-25 allowing for Special Use Permit 32-25 for the Halsey Lavender Farm and Commissioner Whitley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. This shall be known as Ordinance 32-25.

Administrator Crowe provided a brief overview of the proposed new zoning ordinance as it relates violations and fines.

County Sheriff's Report/Request for Board Action

Sheriff Mark Oller was in attendance and reported the jail population at seven total inmates with six being male and one female.

County Treasurer's Report/Request for Board Action

County Treasurer Bettis was in attendance and provide an update on the progress with the FY26 budget along with general office projects.

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

State's Attorney Gwen Thomas was in attendance and gave a brief overview of jury trials for February 2026. Thomas reported that she is currently accepting resumes for an opening in her office.

County Coordinator's Report/Requests for Board Action

Coordinator Dara Worthington was in attendance. Worthington presented executive session minutes from 11/29/2022, 10/10/2023, 10/31/2024 and 04/08/2025 to be opened. Commissioner Whitley made a motion to approve the opening of the submitted minutes. Commissioner Cummings seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Worthington provided an update on the following: GATA FY23 and FY24, the final installation, courthouse windows installation, DCEO grant status, animal control services for the City of Petersburg, and Affordable Shred.

Other Scheduled Topics

Adoption of Menard County Zoning Ordinance – Tabled

Appointment to Central Illinois Economic Development Authority – A motion was made by Commissioner Cummings to appoint Zoning Administrator Joe Crowe to the noted board. Commissioner Whitley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Setting New Rates for Sunny Acres Nursing Home and Countryside Estates Effective 12/01/2025 – Tabled

Heritage Agreement Amendment – Commissioner Whitley made a motion to approve the amendment to the current Heritage Agreement allowing for the current administrator to be a county employee rather than a Heritage Operations Group employee effective with her start date in that position. Commissioner Cummings seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment

With no other business coming before the Board, Commissioner Cummings moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 PM. Commissioner Whitley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.