

MARSHALL COUNTY BOARD MEETING

February 9, 2023

The Marshall County Board met for the February Board meeting on February 9, 2023; at 8:30 A.M. Vice-Chairman McGlasson called the meeting to order. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, roll call shows McGlasson, McLaughlin, Gauwitz, Meierkord, Stash, Minnick, Balensiefen, Lueders and Durham present with 1 vacant position and 1 absent. Chairman Kroeschen was on zoom.

It was moved by Balensiefen and seconded by Stash to **approve** the January 12th and 17th minutes as presented. Vote shows: all ayes, 0 nays, and 2 absent and 1 vacant position.

No Health Department update was given.

Sloan reported on Zoning and Highway. A list of building permits was given to each member. They did not have any hearings for February. They will have one in March on 2 items one being solar east of 89 on Tax School by Washburn and the other being a text amendment for wind farms and turbine setbacks. They will also be working on the changes with the solar farms. South of Toluca Bridge is not finished yet. They are working on Phase II for Western Road and are hoping to receive statements by March 1st. Camp Grove Bridge project will be starting in April.

Sloan stated he hired a full-time engineer tech Keil Endress. Keil is currently finishing his associate degree and will be finished in the spring. Sloan stated that this will be his last time reporting on zoning. He introduced Ryan Giacometti as the new Marshall County Zoning Administrator. He currently lives in Granville.

Sloan also stated that he will be taking the month of April off and Jim Schudde will be helping out as acting engineer during that time. He has filled in twice. Sloan also stated he plans to work until the end of the year. He has contacted several people about the engineering position. He has another lead on a new person and will be contacting them. Marshall County is not the only County not able to find an Engineer. Chairman Kroeschen asked what something would be that Marshall County could do as an incentive like a \$10,000-\$20,000 sign on bonus or a moving package. Sloan stated there are a lot of places looking for Engineers.

#23-14 It was moved by Durham and seconded by Balensiefen to **approve** the appointment of Ryan Giacometti as the Marshall County Zoning Administrator.
Vote shows: all ayes, 0 nays, 2 absent and 1 vacant position.

Recycling Update: Sloan stated they purchased a new newspaper trailer. Paper and cardboard will be together and be hauled to Bloomington.

Old Business:

Joan Erickson from the Sun Foundation was present. Joan and her husband Bob own the land. Joan stated that the Sun Foundation is 50 years old this year and the Art and Science will be 48 years old. They receive no tax money it is strictly donations. Each year they have several hundred kids that come out for their programs and learn about nature and wildlife. On April 24th they will be having a clean water celebration. This celebration will bring in about 20,000 students. They have famous artists that come and teach and show the kids their talent. They have famous wood carvers come as well. Literature was given to each board member on what they do.

#23-15 It was moved by Meierkord and seconded by Balensiefen to **approve** to leave the County Board meeting times as is.

Vote shows: all ayes, 0 nays, 2 absent and 1 vacant position.

New Business:

#23-16 It was moved by Gauwitz and seconded by Lueders to **approve** Hopkins and Associates to do the audit for 2024, 2025, 2026, and 2027. Gauwitz stated that Joel has stated that the County Clerk and Treasurer Offices are doing a great job with everything and have no issues when he does the audit.

Vote shows: all ayes, 0 nays, and 2 absent and 1 vacant position.

#23-17 It was moved by Minnick and seconded by Gauwitz to **approve** the re-appointment of Don Benckendorf, Scott Harms, Beth Harms-Miller, Ron Thies, and Roger Weiland to the Rutland Cemetery Association Board for a 6-year term.

Vote shows: all ayes, 0 nays, and 2 absent and 1 vacant position.

#23-18 It was moved by McLaughlin and seconded by Lueders to **approve** the reappointment of Ray Allen to the ETSB Board for a 3-year term.

Vote shows: all ayes, 0 nays, and 2 absent and 1 vacant position.

#23-19 It was moved by Gauwitz and seconded by Minnick to **approve** the Circuit Clerk's Annual Report and Annual Audit.

Vote shows: all ayes, 0 nays, and 2 absent and 1 vacant position.

It was moved by Stash and seconded by Lueders to **approve the payment of bills.**

Committee Reports:

Animal Control: Minnick stated they have a couple dogs.

Building & Grounds: Minnick stated he has received good reviews on the new cleaning people. They are doing a wonderful job.

COVID 19: McLaughlin reported they have submitted the application to the State's Attorney for review and waiting to hear back.

Finance/Budget: Gauwitz reported that Hopkins is finishing the audit and will probably review it maybe next meeting.

County Highway & Recycling: Sloan stated that he is meeting with the Architect today to go over the new building plans.

Human Resources & IT: Nothing to report.

Public Safety: Sheriff Strawn was present; the new window was replaced in the squad and is back on the road. He hired Monica Schoepke as a part time dispatcher to fill in on weekends. EMA Director Rich Koch was present, and he stated that he had a meeting about the bridge closing and the plans. They are going to do their best; it just may take longer to get an ambulance. He stated they do have plans in place in case route 18 closes due to flooding.

Public Transportation: Lueders reported they are training new drivers.

Airport: Gauwitz reported they will be having a meeting tonight. They are also having the March bid-letting for the west side hangers.

Comm. Mental Health: Lueders reported they will be having mental health training on March 16th at the Community Center. They will also be having emergency response active shooter training.

Economic Development & Enterprise Zone: Nothing to report.

ETSB: Mike Mayer was present and stated he finished up the annual financial report. In May they will be doing a network update and working on one more audit for the mapping and addressing.

Health Dept.: Nothing to report.

Human Services Transportation Comm.: Lueders reported they had a meeting last Tuesday to go over grants.

Tri-County Opportunities: Balensiefen stated they had a meeting and a lot of people from Marshall County received help from Li-Heap.

Upper IL River Valley Development Authority: Meierkord reported they will have a meeting in Morris this next Wednesday to approve an enterprise expansion for General Mills.

Zoning & Land Use: Nothing to report.

Marshall County Clerk & Recorder Jill Kenyon reported that HB3878 passed and starting on July 1st, 2023, she will be collecting an additional \$10.00 for RHSP which is the Rental Housing Support Program. We are currently collecting \$10.00, and this will be additional. Our current fee is \$77.00 to record a document and will go to \$87.00. \$18.00 will go to Rental Housing Support Program, \$1.00 will go to general fund and \$1.00 will go to recording automation. She also gave an update on the scanning project. We are currently indexed back to 1987 and able to view books back to 1841 if you know the book and page. The title searchers have had nothing but positive feedback on all that has been done. They do not have to pull the books in vault they are able to print them off the computer. It will save from damaging the books. US Imaging will be here on February 16th to scan 2021. They will be set up in the board room. She also stated that she and her staff are working on 560 Permanent Vote by Mails to get sent out and ready to stuff. They are waiting on ballot proofs from the programmer.

Vice-Chairman McGlasson noted that they are still searching for a County Board District #2 member to fill the vacancy.

At 9:44 A.M. it was moved by Gauwitz and seconded by Stash to **adjourn** the meeting.

3/9/23 It was moved by Stash and seconded by Balensiefen to approve the 2/9/23 **minutes as presented.** Vote shows: all ayes, 0 nays, 2 absent, 1 vacancy. Motion carried.