

MARSHALL COUNTY BOARD MEETING

September 14, 2023

The Marshall County Board met for the September Board meeting on September 14, 2023; at 8:30 A.M. Vice-Chairperson McGlasson called the meeting to order. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, roll call shows: Gauwitz, Lindstrom, Vice-Chairperson McGlasson, McLaughlin, Stash, Minnick, Balensiefen, Meierkord, Lueders, Durham and Fecht present.

Chairperson Kroeschen was absent.

#23-80 It was moved by Lindstrom and seconded by Gauwitz to **accept** the resignation of Hon. Gary Kroeschen as Chairperson and County Board District #2 effective September 14th, 2023. Kroeschen wasn't present at this meeting and Vice-Chairperson McGlasson stated he would like to read a proclamation at the next October meeting when he will be present.

Vote shows: all ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent.

County Clerk & Recorder Jill M. Kenyon asked for nominations for a chairperson.

#23-81 It was moved by McLaughlin and seconded by Meierkord to nominate Hank Gauwitz.

#23-81A It was moved by Lindstrom and seconded by Lueders to nominate Travis McGlasson.

Before voting McGlasson shared with the members why he would like to be nominated. He expressed how important the role of the chairperson is. McGlasson and Gauwitz both agreed that you must be able to address issues and have the time to take care of problems that arise. He stated that he has served on most of the committees and has spent numerous hours on the County website.

Roll call shows: Stash=Hank, Fecht=Travis, Lindstrom=Hank, Balensiefen=Travis, Lueders=Travis, Minnick=Travis, Gauwitz=Hank, Durham=Hank, Meierkord=Hank, McLaughlin=Hank, McGlasson=Travis.

Roll call vote shows: 6 Hank Gauwitz and 5 Travis McGlasson.

#23-82 County Clerk & Recorder Jill M. Kenyon swore Hank Gauwitz in as Chairperson. This term for chairperson will be until December of 2024.

Chairperson Gauwitz thanked everyone for the opportunity and the 13 years that he has served on the board. He would like to continue to work together and is open to any suggestions that anyone may have.

It was moved by Balensiefen and seconded by Stash to **approve** the August 10, 2023; minutes as presented. Vote shows: all ayes, 0 nays, and 0 absent.

Vanessa Hoffeditz, who is the Tri-County Coordinator gave an overview of what Tri-County does. A fact sheet was handed out to each member. They work with low-income people with helping with utilities, rent and housing. In 1965 they covered 3 counties. They currently take care of 9 (Bureau, Carroll, LaSalle, Lee, Marshall, Ogle, Putnam, Stark and Whiteside Counties). They were able to assist 50 people with the opportunity to obtain training and certificates to achieve employment. 8 scholarships were given out to people to achieve a higher learning level for employment. They work with numerous grants.

Reid Buckley was present from Orion Renewable Energy who is one of the owners/managers of the Camp Grove Wind Farm. They hosted a celebration for all the landowners. They have been in operation for 15 years. When they first started, they thought about how they would repair road damage, deal with crop damage and how assessments would be. Operation began in 2007. There

are currently 100 turbines, 60 of them being in Marshall County and 40 in Stark County. They produce enough electricity for 45,000 homes in Illinois. They are manufactured by General Electric. They have currently paid \$17 million dollars to landowners in Marshall and Stark County. In Marshall County they have paid \$10 million in property taxes. In 2006-2007 they paid \$100,000 for building permits. They currently have 10 full-time employees that are locally employed. \$100,000 in education has also been paid for students to achieve higher education beyond high school.

No Health Department update was given.

Ryan Giacometti gave the update on Zoning. They have two hearings scheduled for Thursday, September 21st at 7:00 pm at the Courthouse. One being for a solar development for Daniel & Angela Hosler which is located on Route 29 by Henry. The other request is for a map amendment request from Arc Designs Resources Inc. on behalf of Dollar General Partners which is on the corner of Route 89 and 17. They are asking that a 3-acre parcel that is zoned as AG and be rezoned too commercial. A list of building permits was given out.

Assistant County Engineer Catherine Terando gave an update on the Highway. The maintainers are continuing to mow and spray patch. The new building is supposed to start at the end of September. Lindstrom asked that a current drawing be emailed out.

#23-83 It was moved by Lindstrom and seconded by McLaughlin to **approve** Structure over Snag Creek Road in Richland Township with Hutchison Engineering Inc.
Sec# 22-08118-00-BR.
Vote shows: all ayes, 0 nays, 0 absent.

#23-84 It was moved by Lindstrom and seconded by Durham to **approve** Co. Aid Project 803 for Township Bridge Repair-Richland Township, County portion being \$122,500.
Vote shows: all ayes, 0 nays, 0 absent.

#23-85 It was moved by Meierkord and seconded by Balensiefen to **approve** Removal & replacement of 3 span channel beam bridge with Willett, Hoffmann & Associated Inc.
Sec#23-01121-00-BR.
Vote shows: all ayes, 0 nays, 0 absent.

#23-86 It was moved by Lindstrom and seconded by Minnick to **approve** Co. Aid Project 104 for Township Bridge Repair-Bell Plain township, County portion being \$117,500.
Vote shows: all ayes, 0 nays, 0 absent.

Recycling Update: Friday, October 27th Noon-4:00 pm at the Recycling Center in Lacon they will be holding an electronic event.

Old Business:

#23-87 It was moved by McLaughlin and seconded by Stash to **approve** the 2024 Amended Holiday Schedule to add November 5th General Election as a holiday.
Vote shows: all ayes, 0 nays, 0 absent.

McLaughlin brought up that he would like to change the first level floor to be able to close for lunch from noon-1:00pm as the same as the second-floor employees. He and Balensiefen said things should be consistent.

#23-88 It was moved by Stash and seconded by McLaughlin to **approve** a whole Courthouse Generator for the building. 2 bids were received. The bid was for \$120,000 for a 125KW.
Vote shows: all ayes, 0 nays, 0 absent.

New Business:

#23-89 It was moved by Stash and seconded by Minnick to **approve** the resolution to relocate Saratoga Precinct Polling Place with Whitefield Polling Place at Denny Bogner Farm Building. The reason is due to ADA requirements and lack of judges. New voter cards will be sent out to each voter.

Vote shows: all ayes, 0 nays, 0 absent.

#23-90 It was moved by Lindstrom and seconded by Lueders to **approve** the resolution to relocate Richland Precinct Polling Place with Hopewell Polling Place at Marshall County Airport. The reason is due to ADA requirements and lack of judges. New voter cards will be sent out to each voter.

Vote shows: all ayes, 0 nays, 0 absent.

#23-91 It was moved by Meierkord and seconded by Balensiefen to **approve** Trustee Tax Resolution 04-25-359-007.

Vote shows: all ayes, 0 nays, 0 absent.

#23-92 It was moved by Meierkord and seconded by Balensiefen to **approve** Trustee Tax Resolution 07-24-279-012.

Vote shows: all ayes, 0 nays, 0 absent.

Chairperson Gauwitz went over the increase changes with the 2024 Preliminary Budget. He explained that if we leave everything the way it is and was presented, we will be \$562,598 over than what we are bringing in for tax revenue. Someone suggested taking an extra \$250, 000 and make a payment towards the unfunded pension liability. He talked to the auditor, and they suggested not to do that as it didn't make a difference. With the engineering and bridge cost up.

#23-93 It was moved by Stash and seconded by Lueders to **approve** to place the budget on the County Clerk's counter until the October meeting for department head reviews and to **not** make an extra payment to the retirement fund.

Vote shows: all ayes, 0 nays, 0 absent.

It was moved by Balensiefen and seconded by McLaughlin to **approve the payment of bills.**

Committee Reports:

Animal Control: Minnick stated everything is good.

Building & Grounds: Durham reported that County Clerk & Recorder Jill Kenyon is applying for a grant for a sprinkler/water system that must be in place before a new elevator can be purchased. Darren Oltman will be working on some things that need to be repaired at the courthouse.

Coroner: Nothing to report.

COVID 19: Nothing to report.

EMA: McLaughlin reported Rich attending some training.

Finance/Budget: Referenced above.

County Highway & Recycling: Nothing to report.

Human Resources & IT: Lindstrom reported they had a meeting last Friday discussing internet.

Insurance: McLaughlin reported he is waiting to get copies of policies from Wilson Insurance.

Lower Offices: Minnick reported the Clerks office will be getting some new furniture. County Clerk Jill Kenyon reported that Brie Nighsonger who works in the Assessor's office completed 6 classes that consisted of 90 hours over the summer and passed all the tests to be certified. These classes were not easy at all, and she passed them on the first try!!!!

Public Transportation: Nothing to report.

Sheriff: Minnick reported he has a Non-Highway Vehicle ATV ordinance that he would like discussed for next month's meeting agenda.

Upper Offices: Nothing to report.

Airport: Gauwitz reported there is a meeting tonight.

Comm. Mental Health: Lueders reported they have a new part-time coordinator hired.

Economic Development & Enterprise Zone: Nothing to report.

ETSB: McLaughlin reported Mike is working on updates and is having a meeting with Cindy Bartell.

Health Dept.: Lindstrom reported they have completed the I Plan with the state, and they have a couple new hirers.

Human Services Transportation Comm.: Lueders reported they didn't have a meeting.

M-P Extension: Stash reported he is trying to get someone to come and give an update.

ROE: Nothing to report.

Tri-County Opportunities: Nothing to report.

Upper IL River Valley Development Authority: Meierkord reported he attended a zoom meeting.

Zoning & Land Use: Stash reported they will have an October meeting.

Public Comments:

Terry Giosta and Jeff Noyd were present and expressed their concerns with the Varna Fire Protection District setting off their civil defense siren at noon. The current siren is 27 feet in the air and has asked that it be raised to 50 feet. Both Giosta and Noyd's houses are located right by it. They have gone to the City Council and Varna Fire Protection District about this being moved and nothing has been done. Giosta said that he has offered to pay for this to be moved. They are here to ask the board if they could send a letter, and something be done.

10:34 A.M. Durham left.

At 10:38 A.M. it was moved by Stash and seconded by Lindstrom **to adjourn** the meeting.

10/12/23 It was moved by Minnick and seconded by Balensiefen to approve the 9/14/23 minutes as presented. Vote shows: all ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent. Motion carried.