

MARSHALL COUNTY BOARD MEETING

February 8, 2024

The Marshall County Board met for the February Board meeting on February 8th, 2024; at 8:30 A.M. Chairperson Gauwitz called the meeting to order. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, roll call shows: Gauwitz, McGlasson, Lindstrom, Balensiefen, Stash, Minnick, Meierkord, McLaughlin, Lueders, Fecht and Perona present.

Durham was absent.

It was moved by Perona and seconded by Stash to **approve** the January 11, 2024, minutes as presented. Vote shows: all ayes, 0 nays, and 1 absent.

Joel Hopkins from Hopkins and Associates gave an update on the audit that ended on November 30th, 2023. He stated that he wanted to thank the department heads for preparing for the audit. He especially wanted to thank Cindy Nighsonger, Jill Kenyon, and Gina Noe for all their help as they have a big part in preparing for the audit. The County records are in very good shape. The audit was very successful. A single audit was not required this time as the County did not spend over \$750,000 in federal funds. The ARPA funds were reported in the FY 2022 audit. He went over a 5-year comparative balance sheet which is the government wide state and net position. The assets and deferred outflow for the County were \$36,135,273 ending November 30th, 2023. Joel stated that the County has done a great job in controlling the funds. The increase in the increased assets is through state and federal grants which are from the Circuit Clerk, Probation, MSW Transportation, Parking Lot grant and County Clerk & Recorder receiving grants. The Treasurer and Clerk's office does a very good job with the check and balance process. He stated that the audit went very smoothly.

#24-13 It was moved by McLaughlin and seconded by Balensiefen to **approve** the Annual Financial Report as presented.
Vote shows: all ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent.

Hector Gomez was present from the Health Department. He introduced Daniel Wierenga who is from Colona IL and will be the new fiscal director. He will be helping with the budget and GATA process. He will be a part time employee.

Zoning

Ryan Giacometti gave an update. The next ZBA meeting will be held on February 15th, 2024, for a Special Use for a 5 mega watt commercial solar facility on an 80.5-acre parcel outside of Varna on the corner of Route 17 and Century Road. A list of building permits was sent to each member.

#24-14 It was moved by Lindstrom and seconded by Balensiefen to **approve** the re-appointment of Rick Roeing to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a 5-year term.
Vote shows: all ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent.

#24-15 It was moved by Lindstrom and seconded by Balensiefen to **approve** the appointment of Tamara Mehalic to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a 5-year term.
Vote shows: all ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent.

Highway

County Engineer Catherine Terando gave an update. The maintainers dealt with a few snow events. They had a few trucks break down, they are working on detailing and cleaning the equipment and fixing road signs. The doors are on the new building and the inside is framed. Catherine stated that she has been working with the road commissioners on compiling the MFT paperwork for the projects this year.

#24-16 It was moved by Lindstrom and seconded by Lueders to **approve** the Intergovernmental Agreement between Marshall and Putnam Counties for Engineering Services.

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

#24-17 It was moved by Perona and seconded by Minnick to **approve** Employment Agreement with Catherine Terando 6-year contract, with adding the line unless otherwise stated in this agreement "D".

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

Recycling

Routine operation. Justin Meierkord stated that the lane needs some new gravel put down.

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

New Business

#24-18 It was moved by Minnick and seconded by Fecht to **approve** the appointment of Dr. Kimberly Yee to fulfill the remainder of Dr. Patrick Hamper term ending 06/30/2024 on the Marshall County Board of Health.

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

#24-19 It was moved by Balensiefen and seconded by Perona to **approve** the appointment of Sarah Szalko to fulfill the remainder of Michelle Rippel term ending 06/30/2025 on the Marshall County Board of Health.

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

#24-20 It was moved by Lindstrom and seconded by Minnick to **approve** the appointment of David B. Todd to replace John Bayler as President on the Varna Community Fire Protection District until 05/2026.

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

#24-21 It was moved by Lueders and seconded by Meierkord to **approve** the M-P Fair Liquor License donation in the amount of \$100.00.

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

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

Committee Reports:

Animal Control: Minnick stated they do not have any dogs at this time.

Building & Grounds: Chairperson Gauwitz reported he met with TK Elevator and Oberlander Alarms this past week to get things for the new elevator in order. The electrician will also be coming.

Coroner/Sheriff: Minnick reported that they are looking for a part-time deputy.

COVID 19: McLaughlin reported they had a meeting, and everyone submitted their bills from the funds they have received.

EMA: Koch reported they had a meeting last night and he has submitted all the reports that need to be completed. They are looking at 240 hours of training is going to be required in a 3-year span. He has not received definite on this matter yet.

Finance/Budget: See audit report.

County Highway & Recycling: Lindstrom reported they are looking at some options for a new truck or repower current truck at \$100,000. A new truck costs about \$300,000 which is way out of budget for the County.

Human Resources & IT: Lindstrom reported that Circuit Clerk Gina Noe is waiting to hear back on the grant that she submitted.

Insurance: McLaughlin reported they will have a meeting to go over the policies on March 6th at 6:30 P.M. in the conference room. McLaughlin wanted to thank Chief Deputy Aaron Wilson in working with Energy Specialist to get the pump replaced on the boiler and that no pipes busted with the temperatures we had.

Lower & Upper Offices: Meierkord reported that early voting has started for the clerk's office.

Public Transportation: Lueders reported they did not have a meeting.

Airport: Chairperson Gauwitz reported that they will be having a meeting tonight.

Comm. Mental Health: Lueders reported they had a meeting and are serving clients in Marshall County.

Economic Development: Vice-Chairperson McGlasson reported the port district will have a groundbreaking in Ottawa on February 14th at 11:00am.

ETSB: Coordinator Mike Mayer stated they are still doing updates. He stated that Blake Friend from IVRD is coming down and doing 4 hours of dispatch training with the dispatchers for the next couple of weeks. He has been working with the mapping companies to get a 3D image of schools showing the classrooms for the dispatchers in case they get a call.

Health Dept.: See front page.

Human Services Transportation Comm.: Nothing to report.

M-P Extension: Lindstrom reported the next meeting will be in March.

ROE: Vice-Chairman McGlasson reported that Chris would like to come in April and give a report. May 2nd in Ottawa will be the event awards.

Tri-County Opportunities: Balensiefen reported they had a zoom meeting and they have increased the energy assistance funds.

Upper IL River Valley Development Authority: Meierkord reported that they had a zoom meeting due to weather conditions.

Zoning & Land Use: Stash reported they went over issues they are having about enforcing zoning issues.

Correspondence:

Received a thank you card from the Sloan family for the plant that was sent in remembrance of Joseph Sloan.

At 9:31 A.M. it was moved by Stash and seconded by Lindstrom **to adjourn** the meeting.

3/14/24 It was moved by Stash and seconded by Perona to approve the 2/8/24 **minutes as presented**. Vote shows: all ayes, 0 nays, 3 absent. Motion carried.