

MARSHALL COUNTY BOARD MEETING

August 14th, 2025

The Marshall County Board met for the August Board meeting on August 14th, 2025; at 8:30 A.M. Chairperson Hank Gauwitz called the meeting to order. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, roll call shows: Gauwitz, McGlasson, Lindstrom, Minnick, McLaughlin, Lueders, Fecht, Balensiefen, Meierkord, Perona, and Stash was present. Durham was absent.

It was moved by Balensiefen and seconded by Lindstrom to **approve** July 10th, 2025; minutes as presented. Vote shows: all ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent.

Health Department update was given. Hector Gomez was present. He stated that it is national immunization month. August 7th there was a West Nile case reported in Lacon. High risk area zip codes are 61369, 61377, 61424, 61537, and 61541.

Zoning:

Ryan Giacometti gave an update. He stated that they will have 2 hearings on August 21st. One being for a text amendment for an alteration for an existing cell tower and fees and the other being to install a temporary meteorological tower on Turnbull property from Apex Clean Energy. A list of building permits was given to each member.

Highway:

County Engineer Catherine Terando gave an update. Tar cracking is complete on Tax School Road and will have seal coat put on it. The maintainers have done some field entrances; they are also working on vehicle maintenance. They have had a few tree clean ups. On August 12th they had a bid letting for Bell Plain Harvest Road Bridge. The cost came in less than the engineers' estimate.

#25-48 It was moved by Lindstrom and seconded by Meierkord to **approve** the Bell Plain Township Bridge Replacement in the amount of \$604,449.77 to Riber Construction.
Vote Shows: all ayes, 0 nays and 1 absent.

Recycling: Routine operation. They are having a tire collection for Townships today August 14th.

New Business:

#25-49 It was moved by Minnick and seconded by Lindstrom to **approve** the appointment of Kimberlee Paszko to replace Mike Blew on the Varna Fire Protection District until 05/2026.
Vote Shows: all ayes, 0 nays and 1 absent.

#25-50 It was moved by Balensiefen and seconded by Perona to **approve** trustee tax resolution 06-07-154-003.
Vote Shows: all ayes, 0 nays and 1 absent.

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

Public Comment: (Each person was given 3 minutes to speak.)

Bill Maupin was present. He stated that he has nothing under public comments but under various correspondence the emails that were sent he would be happy to discuss or answer any questions from last month's meeting.

Hans Soon was present. He thanked everyone that attended the pancake breakfast. He was present in support of the home school resolution and wanted to know why it wasn't placed on the August agenda.

Arkasia Cox was present. She read a letter in support of the home schooling.

Jena Archileta was present and also gave an overview of her thoughts and support on HB 2827. Her family decided to do home schooling because it works well for her family.

There were other supporters that were present that didn't want to speak but were in support.

Chairperson Gauwitz stated that he contacted the ROE and a Representative down in Springfield that deals with the Legislatures, and a letter was received from each one. Their advice was there wouldn't be any law change within the year. The Legislature and the ROE will have to be the ones to put it together.

Board Member Lueders also voiced his opinion stating that it should be put on the agenda and help these taxpayers in our County.

Committee Reports:

Animal Control: Nothing to report.

Building & Grounds: Meierkord stated that he is waiting for the tree trimmers to come.

Coroner/Sheriff: Perona stated that they had to go to pick up a prisoner in Missouri which was unexpected that had a warrant. Everything went well with the M-P Fair and Wenona Days. They currently have 9 prisoners, and some have medical and dental needs. Just in the last month they had over 247 hours of overtime, which is a lot.

EMA: Director Rich Koch stated that he had a table set up at the fair. Quarterly report was also sent in. They had a meeting this week and toured the new building at the Highway Department, he ended up going on fire call and will get with the committee.

Finance/Budget: Chairperson Gauwitz stated the budget hearings will be on Friday, August 15th.

County Highway & Recycling: Nothing to report.

Human Resources & IT: Lindstrom reported that they need to look at Central States Health Insurance and maybe work on getting another bid from another vendor.

Insurance: Nothing to report.

Lower & Upper Offices: Meierkord stated that the new GIS System is up and running and the flood plain maps are available on it. Petition packets are ready in the County Clerk's office. The Chief Deputy in the Treasurer Office will be retiring January 1st.

Public Transportation: Lueders reported they got rid of 2 vans that have been replace. The Downstate Operation contract has been submitted.

Airport: Chairperson Gauwitz reported they are moving equipment off site, and the runway project is almost completed. They will have their meeting tonight.

Comm. Mental Health: Lueders reported that Donna Augustyn-Sloan is not happy that she wasn't involved with the funding switch up which she reached out to State's Attorney Pat Murphy. Samantha McEvoy is currently working with Sam Giugler on helping on some grant submissions.

Economic Development: Vice-Chairperson McGlasson reported that they will have their annual meeting on November 7th in Peoria and will get more information for everyone when he receives it.

ETSB: McLaughlin reported Mike received a response from the State 911 Administrator Office that they are able to use state surcharge funds to construct a 911 dispatch center. They want to get dispatch on one level. He is currently working with architect Dave Leonatti on the cost for his service. Discussion will be held at there next meeting in September.

Health Dept.: Lindstrom reported that they are fully staffed at this time.

Human Services Transportation Comm.: Lueders reported he wasn't able to attend the meeting.

M-P Extension: Lindstrom reported they will have a meeting at the end of the month.

ROE: Vice-Chairperson McGlasson reported that Midland has started school and Henry-Senachwine will start this next week, and they still have the construction going on for the addition to the school.

Tri-County Opportunities: Balensiefen reported they will have vendors and booths set up at the M-Fair on September 5th for Community Resource Day.

Upper IL River Valley Development Authority: Meiekord reported he couldn't attend the meeting, but they did approve 6 enterprise zone projects.

Zoning & Land Use: Fecht reported they had a meeting Tuesday.

At 9:29 A.M. it was moved by McLaughlin and seconded by Lindstrom to **recess** the meeting.

9/18/25 It was moved by Stash and seconded by Lueders to approve the 8/14/25 **minutes as presented**. Vote shows: all ayes, 0 nays, 1 vacant. Motion carried.