

COUNTY OF MENARD)
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STATE OF ILLINOIS)

The Menard County Board of Commissioners met on Tuesday, March 11, 2014, at 6:00 p.m. at the Menard County Courthouse, 102 S. Seventh Street, Petersburg, Illinois. Commissioners Bob Lott, Jeff Fore and Allan Anderson were physically present. Commissioner Whitcomb arrived after the consent agenda had been approved. There was a vacancy in the 3rd District Board of Commissioner position. A quorum was present. State's Attorney Kevin Tippey, County Treasurer Jackie Horn and County Coordinator Steve Duncan were also present.

Interim Chairperson Bob Lott called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Commissioner Anderson moved to approve the consent agenda which included the minutes from the February 25, 2014 regular Board Meeting and the Menard County Community Services Report of February 2014. Commissioner Fore seconded the motion. The motion carried with three "ayes", no "nays", one "absent" and one "vacant".

Hearing of Citizens (Public Comments/Requests for Board Action)

There were no public comments or request for Board action during the Hearing of Citizens.

Health Department Report/Requests for Board Action

Cheryl Lee, Health Department Administrator, was in attendance. She provided an update on a timeline informing of the phase out of home health services and other Health Department re-organization efforts.

The bills and status of the Health Department's finances were submitted, highlighting that the Health Department is currently operating at a \$145,612 deficit. There was discussion about the Health Department's continuing financial issues.

Commissioner Fore moved to approve the payment of various Health Department bills (and as deemed needed per the County extending the Health Department's line of credit to pay said bills), as presented. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion. The motion carried with three "ayes", one "nay" (Whitcomb) and one "vacant".

Highway Department Report/Requests for Board Action

Tom Casson, County Engineer, was in attendance and presented monthly, Highway Department bills for February 2014. He informed that right of way acquisition was complete on Section 08-00056-04-PV of the Athens Blacktop Road safety project. He informed that a request for statement of interest for Phase III construction engineering, to comply with Federal requirements related to receiving Federal funds for the Athens Blacktop Road project, had to be posted on the County's website and emailed to engineering firms currently doing business with the Highway Department.

Mr. Casson informed that the Illinois Department of Transportation had put up new speed limit signs (45 mph) on a stretch of State Highway 97 through Atterberry due to concerns with traffic safety in that area.

Commissioner Fore informed that he had received complaints about truck traffic on certain roads that required permitting through the Highway Department. It was discussed that due to the damage such truck traffic caused County roads and highways at certain times of the year, it caused a need for taxpayer dollars to be spent on damaged roads because violators were ignoring the law. It was discussed that complainants should contact the Sheriff's Department with complaints as they would have to enforce the required permitting.

Sunny Acres/Countryside Estates Report/Requests for Board Action

Pat McNeal, Sunny Acres Nursing Home Administrator was in attendance and provided an overview of Sunny Acres and Countryside Estates operations. Ms. McNeal stated that the census for Sunny Acres was 80 total and that Country Side Estates currently has two vacancies. She informed that the pay mix at Sunny Acres was Medicare A – 5 plus 3 insurance; Private Pay – 34; Public Aid – 38.

Ms. McNeal provided an overview of issues related to managed care and on how to best market and attract nursing home residents. There was discussion that capital improvements (e.g., remodeling rooms) may need to be undertaken to attract nursing home residents. She informed that the water heater that supplied the laundry facility had to be replaced.

County Treasurer's Report/Requests for Board Action

County Treasurer Horn provided various financial reports to the Board and gave an overview of financial related issues.

Commissioner Whitcomb moved to transfer \$20,000 in funds from the General Fund (Fund 10) to the Animal Control Fund (Fund 37), as budgeted. Commissioner Fore seconded the motion. The motion carried with four "ayes", no "nays", and one "vacant".

There was discussion that the Board wanted the County Treasurer to be invited to Board of Health meetings.

County Clerk's Report/Requests for Board Action

There were no report/requests for Board action.

State's Attorney Report/Requests for Board Action

State's Attorney Tippey provided an update on issues related to whether qualifying veterans were entitled to general assistance funds for funeral expenses. He highlighted that there was no veteran's commission set-up by the County, to best of his knowledge, and no funds budgeted for such general assistance. He informed that the ability to set-up such a program could be done by the County.

He informed of the need to replace a computer workstation for his legal secretary. He presented a quote in the amount of \$949.00 The Board expressed no objection to utilizing budgeted funds for such a purchase, as requested.

County Coordinator's Report/Requests for Board Action

County Coordinator Duncan presented executive session minutes due for review. Commissioner Anderson moved to partially open minutes from the July 30, 2013 meeting and keep closed another six months a redacted portion of the minutes due to on-going collective bargaining negotiations. Commissioner Fore seconded the motion. The motion carried with four "ayes", no "nays" and one "vacant".

Mr. Duncan informed that Washington National Supplemental Insurance was requesting authority to come to the County and be available for current, employee enrollees to review their policies and be available for any new employees who may be interested in their policies. The Board informed that they were not in objection to their request. He provided and/or informed of various mailings to the Board (e.g., United Counties Council of Illinois announcements). Commissioners' Lott, Fore and Anderson informed that they would try to attend the UCCI's regional education seminar on April 26, 2014.

Individual Board Members - Report/Requests for Board Action

The Board directed that Mr. Duncan request that the Sheriff utilize one company to maintain the courthouse buildings HVAC system to ensure consistency of work and knowledge of issues.

There was discussion about the need for an EMS facility. The Board informed that they wanted to review the information that had been presented by FWAI Architects regarding such a facility.

Executive Session

Commissioner Whitcomb moved to enter into executive session to discuss collective negotiation matters as allowed by (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2) and selection of a person to fill a public office as allowed by (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(3) at approximately 7:20 p.m. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion. The motion carried with four "ayes", no "nays" and one "vacant".

The regular meeting reconvened at 7:58 p.m.

A letter from the Menard County Republican Central Committee was presented regarding the vacancy in the 3rd District Board of Commissioner position, informing that they were recommending Troy Cummings to be appointed to fill the vacancy. The Board discussed having a special meeting to discuss the vacancy on March 24, 2014 and possibly appoint on that meeting date.

General Teamsters/Local Union No. 916 (Highway Department employees, as applicable) Contract Ratification

Commissioner Anderson moved to approve and ratify the General Teamsters/Local Union No. 916 (Highway Department employees, as applicable) contract. Commissioner Whitcomb seconded the motion. The motion carried with four "ayes", no "nays" and one "vacant".

Adjournment

With no other business coming before the Board, Commissioner Fore moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 p.m. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion. The motion carried with four "ayes", no "nays" and one "vacant".