

COUNTY OF MENARD)
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The Menard County Board of Commissioners met on Tuesday, February 28, 2012, at 6:00 p.m. in the Commissioners' Room of the Menard County Courthouse, 102 S. Seventh Street, Petersburg, Illinois. Commissioners Bob Lott, Barb Kyes and Jeff Fore were physically present. Commissioners Merle Kirby and Ed Whitcomb were unable to attend. A quorum was present. County Treasurer Jackie Horn, County Clerk Gene Treseler, State's Attorney Ken Baumgarten and County Coordinator Steve Duncan were also in attendance.

Interim Chairperson Barb Kyes called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Commissioner Lott moved to approve the consent agenda which included the minutes from the February 14, 2012 regularly scheduled Board meeting and the monthly department expense report for January 2012. Commissioner Fore seconded the motion. The motion carried with three "ayes", no "nays" and two "absent".

EMS/Community Services Department Report/Requests for Board Action

EMS Chief Larry Graf was in attendance and gave a report outlining the call volume and wheelchair van log.

Menard County Fair Financial Report

Bruce Harmening, Vice-President of the Menard County Fair Board and Jeff Sampson, Treasurer of the Menard County Fair Board were in attendance to present the Menard County Fair financial report.

Mr. Harmening informed that as of January 31st, the Menard County Fair was pretty much out of debt, still owing approximately \$2,400. Mr. Harmening highlighted that the County property tax-levied funds were vital in helping to keep the Fair solvent as other sources of revenue, including from the State of Illinois, were decreasing. Mr. Harmening highlighted other ways the Fair had raised revenues including boat rentals in the winter time and fund raisers like the Fair dinner. He informed insurance premiums related to the Fair currently cost approximately \$14,000. He informed that a nine-year agreement had been tentatively reached with the Sportsmen's Club and that organization's use of the fairgrounds property. Mr. Harmening highlighted that the electrical infrastructure needed to be addressed at the fairgrounds and that was a major issue facing the Fair. Mr. Harmening indicated that having a "beer tent" had been a success for the Fair. Mr. Sampson provided an overview of the number of participants in the various livestock shows.

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

There were no unscheduled public comments or requests for Board action.

Health Department Report/Requests for Board Action

Health Department Administrator Alicia Davis and Edie Sternberg, Chairperson of the Board of Health were in attendance. Ms. Sternberg informed the Board that they had recently met with Tom Curtis, Medicare consultant/auditor and Mike Feriozzi, independent auditor. Ms. Sternberg informed that Mr. Curtis reported that the Health Department's Medicare loss was 4.2% and that any loss under 5% was considered to be good. Ms. Sternberg informed that Mr. Curtis had informed that many Health agencies were in much worse shape than the Health Department in regards to Medicare, that Medicare patients were going down in all agencies as there was much more competition and that there was an economies of scale issue with Menard County and that the Health Department needed to be careful not to scale back too much in staffing or the Health Department would be hurt.

Ms. Davis presented an accounts receivable consolidated summary to the Board. She highlighted that the Medicare billing system is currently being reviewed and compared to Medicare's system to verify all payments are posted correctly. Ms. Davis informed that Mr. Curtis and Mr. Feriozzi had estimated that there were

uncollectible receivables in the amount of \$27,443.70. She informed that since the Health Department's balance sheet had an allowance for doubtful accounts of \$45,211 that the adjustment of \$27,443.70 would not affect the bottom line. Ms. Davis informed that there was approximately \$16,374 in Medicare payments that were received but not posted correctly. She provided an overview of the Medicare write-offs going back to 2007.

County Treasurer Horn informed that the Health Department's line of credit with the County was, as of this meeting, currently around \$94,226, with some revenues not yet reported in this figure. There was discussion that the Board had set the line of credit limit with the Health Department at \$100,000. Commissioner Lott informed that the Health Department had around \$10,000 until they reached the agreed upon credit limit and that the Health Department needed to take some kind of action. Commissioner Lott highlighted that it was unlikely that the Health Department would come to the next meeting without a request to go well over the credit limit that had been established. Ms. Davis informed that would be a decision of the Board of Commissioners as to what they wanted to do. Commissioner Lott asked Ms. Sternberg for her thoughts and she indicated that she was like everyone else in that she did not know when reimbursements might come into the Health Department to alleviate the situation. Ms. Sternberg expressed thoughts that the line of credit figure was arbitrary and perhaps not the best number to look at in making hard decisions about the Health Department.

Commissioner Lott expressed thoughts that the Health Department and Board of Health needed to come up with a plan if they were going to continue to ask for the County Board to provide funds. Ms. Davis informed that, based on past history, the Health Department had always been able to recover and pay down the line of credit given by the County. It was highlighted that the County had already raised the line of credit from \$50,000 to \$100,000. Ms. Davis highlighted that the County used to subsidize the Health Department employees' health insurance but had stopped that subsidy which affected the bottom line and created the condition where she was borrowing money from the County to pay back the County. Ms. Davis highlighted that a group was looking at whether a tax referendum, to support the Health Department, would be feasible including reaching out to Menard County residents to get their input. It was pointed out that, at the earliest, and if such a referendum was held in November 2012, it would not lead to any tax revenue collection for approximately a year after the referendum passed, assuming it did. Commissioner Lott expressed his opinion that nobody wanted any one to lose their job but if those other entities, like the State of Illinois, were not going to reimburse or reimburse in a manner that supported the Health Department, something had to be done.

The Board members in attendance asked all the health-related departments to get together and see if there was any way in which they could work together to gain efficiencies. Ms. Davis stated that Mr. Curtis and Mr. Feriozzi informed that there should be no, centralized billing as each department had different, specialized billing software and/or companies. The Board members informed there was no deadline but that they wanted these agencies to see if there were any areas of common ground.

Commissioner Lott 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 Fore seconded the motion. The motion carried with three "ayes", no "nays" and two "absent".

EMS/Community Services Department Report/Requests for Board Action

Ann Gorman, representing Larry Graf who had to leave early, and EMS Fiscal Officer/Community Services Administrator Dara Worthington were in attendance. Ms. Gorman spent meeting time reporting on a number of EMS and emergency management-related issues including informing that the loan for the heart monitors had been paid off and 11 of the 12 full-time crew members had now attained the status of EMT - Paramedic (copy of report on file). Ms. Worthington spent meeting time providing an overview of various EMS financial reports. She informed that it would not be practical to pursue the J.A.R.C. (Jobs Access Reverse Commute) grant, at this time, due to the lack of matching funds. She provided an update on on-going efforts to create a Sangamon/Menard-county rural transport system.

County Treasurer's Report/Requests for Board Action

County Treasurer Jackie Horn passed out to the Board, various financial reports. She highlighted the low yields that the County gets with its' certificate of deposits. She informed that there were still issues with integrating between the Treasurer's office and the new Sunny Acres Nursing Home financial software.

County Clerk's Report/Requests for Board Action

County Clerk Treseler provided an overview of preparations related to the upcoming primary elections.

State's Attorney's Report/Requests for Board Action

There was no report or requests for Board action.

County Coordinator's Report/Requests for Board Action

County Coordinator Duncan handed out a paid claims analysis for the self-funded health insurance. He informed that the billboard structure that was being unused off of Athens Blacktop Road was not owned by the County. He informed that the equalized assessed valuation of real property in the County, after Board of Review appeals, was being reported as \$239,580,477 million by the Assessor's office. The Board clarified that the County Coordinator should allocate \$2,790 from the GIS fund for the new server and computer hardware equipment recently purchased and installed.

Individual Board Members - Report/Requests for Board Action

There were no reports or requests for Board action.

Approval of Fuel Contract with Sunrise Ag Service Company

Commissioner Lott moved to approve a fuel contract with Sunrise Ag Service Company, as presented, for the purchase of bulk diesel and unleaded gasoline. Commissioner Fore seconded the motion. The motion carried with three "ayes", no "nays" and two "absent".

Village of Tallula Request to Allow Single-wide Manufactured/Mobile Homes & Proposed, Zoning Ordinance Text Amendments related to Manufactured/Mobile Homes

Mr. Duncan presented a Village of Tallula request to allow single-wide manufactured/mobile homes & other proposed, zoning ordinance text amendments related to manufactured/mobile homes. Commissioner Fore moved to initiate the text amendment process needed to review and potentially adopt the presented text amendments, as written. Commissioner Lott seconded the motion. The motion carried with three "ayes", no "nays" and two "absent".

Executive Session

Commissioner Lott moved to enter into executive session to discuss personnel as allowed by (5 ILCS 120/2)(c)(1) at 7:33 p.m. Commissioner Kyes seconded the motion. The motion carried with three "ayes", no "nays" and two "absent".

The regular meeting reconvened at 7:46 p.m.

The Board clarified that full-time employees who meet the following criteria, along with any other applicable eligibility criteria, should be considered as qualifying to join the Menard County, self-funded, healthcare group:

“If other coverage was an individual health insurance policy, the coverage will be considered lost only if the following conditions are met: an employer had paid for or reimbursed the policy premiums in whole or in part, the employer discontinued such payments or reimbursements, and the employer has been in existence for at least the past 5 consecutive years.”

It was discussed that this language should be included in the plan booklets to clarify the County’s interpretation and eligibility intent regarding such a qualifying event.

Adjournment

With no other business coming before the Board, Commissioner Lott moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:48 p.m. Commissioner Fore seconded the motion. The motion carried with three “ayes”, no “nays” and two “absent”.