

COUNTY OF MENARD)
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STATE OF ILLINOIS)

The Menard County Board of Commissioners met on Tuesday, April 29, 2014, at 6:00 p.m. at the Menard County Courthouse, 102 S. Seventh Street, Petersburg, Illinois. Commissioners Bob Lott, Allan Anderson, Ed Whitcomb and Troy Cummings were physically present. Commissioner Jeff Fore was unable to attend. A quorum was present. County Treasurer Jackie Horn, County Clerk Gene Treseler, State’s Attorney Kevin Tippey and County Coordinator Steve Duncan were also present.

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 April 29, 2014 regular Board Meeting; approval of the monthly department expense report for March 2014; and approval of payment to FWAI Architects for services rendered related to the Courthouse Roof Project. Commissioner Whitcomb seconded the motion. The motion carried with four “ayes”, no “nays” and one “absent”.

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

Anne Smith, Executive Director-Menard County Housing Authority, was in attendance and informed of an upcoming electronics recycling event to be held on May 3rd, by the Jaycees and Rotary, at the Menard County Courthouse parking lot. Ms. Smith also informed of \$7.8 million in approved funds to establish the Parkside Development in Athens.

Sangamon Menard Area Regional Transit Update; Approval of Sangamon Menard Intergovernmental Agreement/SMART; Resolution - Provide for Public Transportation in Sangamon and Menard Counties

Kate Downing, Sangamon Menard Area Regional Transit (SMART) Director, was in attendance and provided an update on the status of SMART. She informed that the vehicles to be used by SMART should be in its possession by August 2014. She informed that the initial, SMART budget would be approximately \$693,330 (no local, Menard County taxes are being allocated for this service). She informed that this was not a route-based service but an on-demand/scheduled pick-up service (as capacity allows) for the general public.

Commissioner Whitcomb moved to approve the Sangamon County and Menard County intergovernmental agreement to provide public transportation through SMART. Commissioner Cummings seconded the motion. The motion carried with four “ayes”, no “nays” and one “absent”.

Commissioner Anderson moved to approve a resolution to provide for public transportation in Sangamon and Menard Counties. Commissioner Whitcomb seconded the motion. The motion carried with four “ayes”, no “nays” and one “absent”. The resolution shall be known as **Resolution 13-14.**

OLD BUSINESS: Menard County EMS Local 4622 of International Association of Fire Fighters/Paramedics Contract Ratification (Tabled at 4/8/2014 Meeting)

Commissioner Cummings moved to approve the Menard County EMS Local 4622 of International Association of Fire Fighters/Paramedics contract ratification. Commissioner Whitcomb seconded the motion. The motion carried with four “ayes”, no “nays” and one “absent”.

NEW BUSINESS: Highway Department Report/Requests for Board Action; Approval of Construction Engineering Services Agreement for Federal Participation, Athens Blacktop; Approval of Preliminary Engineering Services Agreement for Motor Fuel Tax Funds, In-Depth Inspection of Four River Bridges; Approval of Preliminary Engineering Services Agreement for Motor Fuel Tax Funds, Finish Plans and Project Development Report Tangent Portions of Athens Blacktop; Approve and Award MFT Material Bids for Oil and Rock for the County and Road Districts

County Engineer Tom Casson informed of a local bid letting for materials that was held at the office of the Menard County Highway Department on April 22, 2014 at 10:30 a.m. He brought recommended bids to accept or reject and the tabulation of bids (copy on file).

Commissioner Cummings moved to approve the low bid of Hanson Material Service for 3,600 tons of CA-16 at \$13.85 per ton for a total bid of \$49,860 and for the County Highway Department. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion. The motion carried with four “ayes”, no “nays” and one “absent”.

Commissioner Whitcomb moved to approve the low bid of Hanson Material Service for various crushed stone for Item No. 1-3, 5-7, 9 & 10, 12-16 and 18-23 for a total bid of \$219,015 and to reject the low bid of R.A. Cullinan & Son for CA-16 gravel for Item No. 4, 8, 11, 17 and 24 and for applicable road districts. Commissioner Cummings seconded the motion. The motion carried with four “ayes”, no “nays” and one “absent”.

Commissioner Anderson moved to approve the low bid of Asphalt Sales Co for sealing grade asphalt and mixing grade asphalt for a total bid of \$251,370 and for the County Highway Department. Commissioner Whitcomb seconded the motion. The motion carried with four “ayes”, no “nays” and one “absent”.

Commissioner Cummings moved to approve the low bid of Asphalt Sales Co for various sealing grade asphalt for a total bid of \$453,999.50 and for applicable road districts. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion. The motion carried with four “ayes”, no “nays” and one “absent”.

County Engineer Casson informed of a State bid letting that was held on Friday, April 25, 2014 for the Athens Blacktop project near A. Kent Street. He informed that P.H. Broughton & Sons, Inc. of Springfield, Illinois was the low bidder with a bid that was approximately 6% higher than the engineer's estimate and approximately 6% lower than the average of all four bids received by the Highway Department. He informed that rejecting this bid and rebidding would result in the project being delayed another year and would not result in a lower bid. He informed that the County had recently executed an amendment to our local agency agreement for federal participation which extended the funding date for HRRRP money out to April 15, 2015 and that to not award at this time might jeopardize that funding. The Board concurred with pursuing this recommended course of action.

Commissioner Whitcomb moved to approve a Construction Engineering Services Agreement for Federal Participation with Allen Henderson & Associates, Inc., Section 08-00056-04-PV, Athens Blacktop Ave (CH 2) safety project for curves near Barber's Glen Subdivision, cost plus fixed fee not to exceed \$121,932.59. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion. The motion carried with four "ayes", no "nays" and one "absent".

Commissioner Anderson moved to approve a Preliminary Engineering Services Agreement for Motor Fuel Tax Funds with Allen Henderson & Associates, Inc., Section 09-00056-05-EG, finish ARRA Project designing tangent portions of the Athens Blacktop (Segments B, D & F), cost plus fixed fee not to exceed \$5,010.35. Commissioner Whitcomb seconded the motion. The motion carried with four "ayes", no "nays" and one "absent".

Commissioner Cummings moved to approve a Preliminary Engineering Services Agreement for Motor Fuel Tax Funds with Allen Henderson & Associates, Inc., in-depth bridge inspection on four river bridges (Gudgel, Altig, Hubly, and Lower Salt Creek), cost plus fixed fee not to exceed \$12,131.77, with Mason County to participate in half the cost for the two Salt Creek Bridges (Mason County share would not to exceed \$2,848.48 leaving a balance of \$9,283.29 which would be paid out of the County Bridge Fund, 602-00-045 budget line item). Commissioner Whitcomb seconded the motion. The motion carried with four "ayes", no "nays" and one "absent".

EMS/Community Services Department Report/Requests for Board Action

EMS Chief Larry Graf, Administrative Assistant Ann Gorman and Dara Worthington, Community Services Administrator/EMS Fiscal Officer, were in attendance.

Mr. Graf provided the latest ambulance transport logs showing 90 calls for service in March 2014 (273 for calendar year 2014). There was continued discussion of the need for ambulance replacement including discussion of the "re-mount" option and pros and cons of engine-types.

Ms. Gorman provided an update on projects and issues she had been working on including adjusting payroll to reflect the contract ratification with the local EMT union. Ms. Worthington presented the trial balance for the EMS Fund and other financial information.

Commissioner Cummings moved to approve the collections report and write-offs of uncollectible accounts in the amount of \$1,519.65. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion. The motion carried with four “ayes”, no “nays” and one “absent”.

Commissioner Whitcomb moved to approve an amended EMS Department billing collections protocol. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion. The motion carried with four “ayes”, no “nays” and one “absent”.

Commissioner Whitcomb moved to approve quote from B&B Metal Recycling to scrap the EMS Department’s 1992 Dodge Ram 250 van for \$475.00. (Note: This was the most that the EMS Department could get for the vehicle per a solicitation of bids to the public.) Commissioner Cummings seconded the motion. The motion carried with four “ayes”, no “nays” and one “absent”.

There was discussion that the County Coroner would have to arrange for transports utilizing a different mode of transport with the disbursement of this van.

Ms. Worthington brought up the need for certain type of cots (automatic, power lift cots) to be looked at to hopefully alleviate workers compensation claims. She informed that a grant opportunity might be created through the Illinois Counties Risk Management Trust to assist their insurance clients in purchasing certain types of equipment to mitigate claims. She asked the Board if they would be willing to allow for the allocation of matching funds if such a grant program is created (e.g., a 50% match). The Board expressed that they would support the allocation of matching funds if such a grant opportunity becomes available.

Commissioner Anderson moved to table consideration of a submittal of the Area Agency on Aging for Lincolnland, Inc. - FY15 IIIB Transportation grant. Commissioner Cummings seconded the motion. The motion carried with four “ayes”, no “nays” and one “absent”.

Health Department Report/Requests for Board Action

County Coordinator Duncan informed that he had been informed that Cheryl Lee, Health Department Administrator, was planning to stay in her position, at a reduced salary, hopefully until a transfer of management responsibilities to another entity or individual was completed by the Board of Health.

Health Department employee Sherrie Leezer was in attendance and passed out the list of bills and updated financial position, highlighting that the Health Department is currently operating at a \$157,799 deficit as of the end of March 2014. Commissioner Whitcomb 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 Cummings seconded the motion. The motion carried with four “ayes”, no “nays” and one “absent”.

County Treasurer’s Report/Requests for Board Action

County Treasurer Jackie Horn presented a revised and amended investment policy for Board approval. Commissioner Cummings moved to approve the revised and amended investment policy, as presented. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion. The motion carried with four “ayes”, no “nays” and one “absent”.

Ms. Horn presented a handout related to the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund investment returns and provided an overview of the handout. She provided an article of general interest related to investment issues in other Illinois counties.

County Clerk's Report/Requests for Board Action

County Clerk Treseler informed that the most recent election cost \$38,543 with a 44.98 percent turnout of eligible voters. He informed the cost per voter was \$9.91.

County Clerk Treseler informed of a grant opportunity through the State Board of Elections he would pursue to hopefully get funds to pay for voter registration software licensing.

Commissioner Cummings moved to table consideration of a resolution to amend the County's delinquent tax program agreement to allow more time for State's Attorney review. Commissioner Whitcomb seconded the motion. The motion carried with four "ayes", no "nays" and one "absent".

State's Attorney Report/Requests for Board Action

State's Attorney Kevin Tippey informed of how a recent purchase of electronic equipment for the courtroom had assisted in getting a conviction.

County Coordinator's Report/Requests for Board Action

County Coordinator Duncan presented executive session minutes due for review. Commissioner Anderson moved as follows: partially open executive session minutes from the October 24, 2013 special Board meeting and keep closed another six months a redacted portion of the minutes due to on-going job performance appraisal and on-going collective bargaining negotiations; keep closed executive session minutes from the October 29, 2013 regular meeting, due to on-going collective bargaining negotiations, for another six months. Commissioner Whitcomb seconded the motion. The motion carried with four "ayes", no "nays" and one "absent".

Mr. Duncan informed that it was his understanding that the County's project manager, FWAI Architects and the general contractor of the courthouse roof replacement project had concerns related to the downspouts and that a proposal would be put together for the Board's consideration.

Commissioner Anderson moved to authorize making payments #2 (\$25,395.23) and #3 (\$99,786.56) to Trotter General Contracting, Inc., as related to the courthouse roof repair and replacement project. Commissioner Whitcomb seconded the motion. The motion carried with four "ayes", no "nays" and one "absent".

Mr. Duncan informed of some project overages related to additional issues that arose during the courthouse roof repair and replacement project (e.g., rotted and damaged roofing substructure boards were found that needed to be removed and replaced). The Board informed that they did not want to pay for the owner request to provide additional ground protection for the man lift until the contractor had addressed damage to the courthouse lawn that had occurred because they did not utilize the additional ground protection. The Board also informed that they would like the project manager, FWAI Architects, to come to the next meeting to discuss the project.

Mr. Duncan informed of upcoming events including the Snedeker Risk Management client conference to be held in September, the swearing-in ceremony for future Judge Atterberry and the United Counties Council of Illinois meeting for May.

Resolution – Appointment of Trustee of the Tallula Fire Protection District for a Three-year Term

Commissioner Whitcomb moved to approve a resolution for the re-appointment of Terry Nichols as Trustee of the Tallula Community Fire Protection District for a three-year term to end the first Monday of May 2017. Commissioner Cummings seconded the motion. The motion carried with four “ayes”, no “nays” and one “absent”. The resolution shall be known as **Resolution 14-14**.

Individual Board Members - Report/Requests for Board Action

The Board spent time discussing setting the elected officials salaries that need to be set by ordinance, for the next four fiscal years, by June 1, 2014. Commissioner Cummings informed that he believed that the elected offices should retain the same salary as currently established for the elected offices. He highlighted a legal opinion provided to the United Counties Council of Illinois that advised against setting different salaries for different elected officials and the practice of some adjoining counties in keeping salaries the same regardless of length of term in office. County Treasurer Horn, County Clerk Treseler and State's Attorney Tippey expressed thoughts of agreement with Commissioner Cummings to retain the same salary as currently established for the elected offices.

Commissioners' Whitcomb and Lott expressed thoughts that newly elected officials should not necessarily come in making the same salary as existing elected officials that had been in the position for awhile and constituent expectations that they would cutback spending when possible. Commissioner Anderson expressed thoughts about being fair to both the public's need to manage costs and setting salaries to be fair to the elected official.

It was pointed out that Menard County would receive savings in pension contributions with most newly elected officials as State of Illinois law had changed the required pension contribution formula to be more in favor of the employer's financial interest. The Board was advised that they would need to give direction at the May 13th meeting so as to prepare the ordinance to set the salaries at the May 27, 2014 Board meeting.

Executive Session

Commissioner Cummings moved to enter into executive session to discuss personnel as allowed by (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1) and collective negotiating matters as allowed by (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2) at approximately 8:16 p.m. Commissioner Whitcomb seconded the motion. The motion carried with four “ayes”, no “nays” and one “absent”.

Adjournment

With no other business coming before the Board, Commissioner Cummings moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:58 p.m. Commissioner Whitcomb seconded the motion. The motion carried with four “ayes”, no “nays” and one “absent”.