

COUNTY OF MENARD)
) S.S.
STATE OF ILLINOIS)

The Menard County Board of Commissioners met for a special board meeting on Thursday, May 7, 2026, at 1:00 PM in the Menard County Courthouse, 102 S. Seventh Street, Petersburg, Illinois. The special meeting was held pursuant to the required notice under the Illinois Open Meetings Act. Commissioners Ed Whitcomb, Troy Cummings, Rich Brauer, Dalton Whitley, and Rod Riech were present. A quorum was present. State’s Attorney Gwen Thomas, Zoning Administrator Joe Crowe, and County Coordinator Dara Worthington were also present.

Chairperson Whitcomb thanked everyone present who worked on putting together the documents for the meeting.

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 PM followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairperson Whitcomb announced that attorney representing Menard County, John Redlingshafer, was in attendance remotely.

Zoning Administrator Joe Crowe presented a brief item-by-item history of RCM Case #26-01SU. This included a review of the case’s entire procedural history, including the County Board’s request for certain conditions to be considered, and the relevant standards under the Menard County Zoning Ordinance and Illinois law. Mr. Crowe then provided a brief explanation of the negotiations between RCM and the County which have occurred since the April 30, 2026, Board Meeting.

Turning to the first agenda item, and at the insistence of Chairperson Whitcomb, Mr. Crowe went through each of the proposed conditions for the RCM special use permit. Upon reviewing condition #24 (Grant Application and Administration), Commissioner Riech requested that language be removed from the section (the sentence beginning with “Such cooperation shall include...”). Attorney Redlingshafer reminded the Board that amending the conditions is the Board’s prerogative consistent with 55 ILCS 5/5-12009.5 (as Mr. Crowe also explained earlier during his presentation). Redlingshafer then reminded the Board the rest of that paragraph still required the County to act in good faith on grants. Attorney Redlingshafer also agreed with County Coordinator Worthington’s point that the numbering in condition 10 (Assignment) needed to be corrected.

Upon conclusion of discussion, Commissioner Cummings made a motion to approve the Final Conditions for Special Use Permit RCM Co-Op Case #26-01-SU as amended by Commissioner Riech. Commissioner Brauer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Zoning Administrator Crowe then presented the Menard County Zoning Board of Appeals Recommendation on the Special Use Permit RCM Co-Op Case #26-01SU. Commissioner Riech made a motion to approve the Zoning Board of Appeals Recommendation with conditions (those just adopted) and Commissioner Whitley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

The Road Use Agreement related to Condition 5 for Special Use Permit RCM Co-Op Case #26-01SU was introduced as an additional item for board consideration. It was noted that additional discussion and negotiations needed to occur before moving forward with action. As a result, Commissioner Cummings made a motion to table the motion and Commissioner Whitley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairperson Whitcomb thanked everyone involved in the negotiations for their hard work and inquired if counsel for RCM had any comments.

Dan Hamilton, attorney for RCM, expressed his appreciation of the time, energy and effort from everyone involved in the process. It was noted that the location of the entrance to the new development would be dependent upon the results of the grant application they planned to pursue.

Adjournment

With no other business coming before the Board, Commissioner Brauer moved to adjourn the meeting at 1:30 PM. Commissioner Riech seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.