

MARION COUNTY FULL BOARD MEETING

MINUTES

MAY 23, 2023

7:00 P.M.

Basement of Sheriff's Office

Meeting convened a 7:00P.M. with Debbie Smith, County Board Chairwoman, leading the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Invocation presented by Wayne Walker.

Roll call taken by Lori Linder, County Board Secretary. Present were Tracy Murray, Creighton Engel, Jack Riley, Deborah Reed, Bill Henson, Tyson McHenry, Steven Whritenour, Steven Bradley, Judith Meeks-Hakim, Adam Smith, Debbie Smith, and David Iossi. Absent were Brock Waggoner, Sharon Woodward, and Christopher Krupp.

RECOGNITION OF GUEST: Ken Ferguson, Marion County Animal Control Administrator, Kevin Cripps, Marion County Sheriff, Tim Hudspeth, Marion County State's Attorney, Bill Smith, Wayne Walker, Mark Miller, Marion County Supervisor of Assessments, Gary Purcell, Marion County Treasurer, Judy Shafer, Dennis Rosenberger, Bruce Kropp, and Steve Fox, Marion County Clerk and Clerk of Marion County Board.

THOSE WHO WISH TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

Marion County Board Chairwoman, Debbie Smith, inquired if any Elected Officials would like to address the Board. Gary Purcell, Marion County Treasurer, conveyed that the Marion County Mobile Home Tax Bills have been issued. In addition, the Marion County Real Estate Tax Bills are currently being processed and will be issued in the near future. Ken Ferguson had questions concerning the mobile home taxes versus real estate taxes. Marion County Supervisor of Assessments, Mark Miller, explained how this issue was changed in 2012.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Debbie Smith explained that there was an issue with the minutes included in the emailed packet. The matter was resolved by re-issuing the minutes separately. Motion to approve Full Board Minutes dated May 9, 2023 was made by David Iossi with second by Deborah Reed. Roll Call Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

COUNTY CLERK STEVE FOX CORRESPONDENCE

Motion on request from Centralia Fire Protection District to reappoint Danny Phillips to the position of Board Treasurer of the Centralia Fire Protection District for another three year term ending April 30, 2025 was made by Steven Whritenour with second by Tyson McHenry. Letter with request dated March 10, 2022 was not received; therefore, second request is being made this date. Voice Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

County Clerk Steve Fox Correspondence – continued

Motion on request from Centralia Fire Protection District to reappoint Doug Dorries to the position of Board Secretary of the Centralia Fire Protection District for another three year term ending April 30, 2026 was made by Bill Henson with second by Steven Whritenour. Voice Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

Motion on recommendation from Iuka Fire Trustees and Fire Chief Kenny Eagan to appoint Vernon Quandt to the Iuka Fire Department Board of Trustees due to the immediate resignation of Kevin Cripps was made by Creighton Engel with second by Deborah Reed. Voice Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES

FINANCE & INSURANCE COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN CHRISTOPHER KRUPP

Due to Chairman Christopher Krupp being absent, Debbie Smith proceeded with the presentation for this committee.

Prior to the Full Board Meeting, Marion County State's Attorney, Tim Hudspeth distributed a copy of Resolution 2023-26 – Reimbursement for meals. Steve Fox explained the details that are included in the Resolution and its purpose. He stated that meal allowances have not been addressed for several years. The amounts are very low compared to the costs of food for this date and time. He is recommending \$15.00 for breakfast, \$20.00 for lunch, and \$30.00 for dinner. Motion to approve Resolution 2023-26 and the meal amounts of \$15.00 for breakfast, \$20.00 for lunch, and \$30.00 for dinner was made by Steven Whritenour and seconded by Bill Henson. Roll Call Vote: All – ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

Steve Fox, also explained Ordinance 2023-03 – Regional Housing Support Program (RHSP) State Fee Increase. This will be addressed on the June 13, 2023 Full Board Meeting.

In conclusion, Gary Purcell provided information in regards to the WIPFLI Audit Contract. The contract presented is for clarifying payroll issues with the 2021 audit that have been passed over by the previous auditors. Motion to accept the WIPFLI Contract was made by Adam Smith and seconded by Judith Meeks-Hakim. Roll Call Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed. Debbie Smith also mentioned that various County grants are not being received until this issue is resolved.

BUILDING & HISTORICAL COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN CREIGHTON ENGEL

Chairman Creighton Engel made a motion to approve Capital Expenditure (Ameresco) (\$1,300,430.84) Ordinance 2023-02 with second by David Iossi. Prior to Roll Call Vote, Deborah Reed questioned if the Ameresco projects have been signed off on. Sheriff Kevin Cripps and State's Attorney Tim Hudspeth stated that they are pleased after their completions. Roll Call Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

Dr. Engel announced that Marion County received an Illinois State Fire Marshal Inspection Certificate.

Building & Historical Committee – continued

In addition, Chairman Creighton Engel stated that the Moose Building mold inspection was conducted by Environmental Resources, Inc. Upon inspection of the upstairs' rooms, old paneling and old drywall were determined to be contaminated. Environmental Resource, Inc. submitted a proposal for book remediation (\$7,900) and removal and remediation of mold affected drywall, plaster, and ceiling board from the second story storage rooms (\$7,200). The previous issues, including ventilation and moisture, seem to have been resolved. Replacement of the paneling and drywall will be an extra expense in the future. Adam Smith stated that he felt that the proposal is "a little high." Dr. Engel explained that there are very few companies that deal with mold issues and that this is the busy season for the available companies. Environmental Resources, Inc. is willing to move on this project right away. Steve Fox relayed that he is concerned that he has seen a small amount of mold on his books in the secured area of the building. The shelves' location is located next to the wall. This issue will be addressed with the company. Debbie Smith reiterated that Rend Lake Plumbing and Heating will be contacted in regards to re-evaluating the ventilation issues. David Iossi questioned if those results need to be evaluated prior to the abatement. Motion to accept the Environmental Resources, Inc. bid for book remediation (\$7,900) and removal and remediation of mold affected drywall, plaster, and ceiling board from the second story storage rooms (\$7,200) was made by Tracy Murray and seconded by Judith Meeks-Hakim. Roll Call Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

In conclusion, Kevin Cripps affirmed that the Courthouse first floor restrooms' renovations are being completed. Flooring completion is to be finalized in the near future along with the unresolved matters with the third floor restrooms. He stated that the painting of the first floor rooms has been completed. In addition, the Moose Building has key fob access and its security system, along with all of the Courthouse, has been placed on the same system and may be viewed at the Marion County Sheriff Department.

The Ameron bill issues from the last meeting were reviewed and the account was found to be paid in full.

LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN STEVE WHRITENOUR

Chairman Steven Whritenour began by stating that he, Dr. Engel, and Sheriff Kevin Cripps assessed the issues with the bathroom and shower areas of the jail. Sheriff Kevin Cripps addressed the Board in regards to the repairs. He had spoken to Eco-Advantage and received their bid, but is waiting on a second bid from another company. As soon as he receives the second bid he will present both of them to the Board. In addition, he gave the report on the jail: 91 inmates - 24 Federal, 4 Juveniles. Four windows have been replaced at the facility. Squad cars are expected to be available within a month or two. He also informed the Board that the Commissary Audit is to be done yearly. Lastly, he addressed the outside power to the lighting of the Courthouse. The issue seems to be in reference to the electricity from the light switch to the outside fixtures. He received a bid for the repairs to this area in the amount of approximately \$1,680.00. Dr. Engel questioned if this would include access to the flagpole lighting. Sheriff Kevin Cripps relayed that Ameron is willing to supply a light on their pole to illuminate the flagpoles for the amount of \$5-7.00 per month. Additionally, outlets on the outside of the Courthouse were discussed with the electrical company and for \$2,690.00 can be installed and repaired.

Law Enforcement Committee – continued

He also stated that a temporary power service is available for an annual cost of \$210.00. The power supply may be used for the Courthouse Christmas decorations.

At the conclusion of his discussion, Sheriff Kevin Cripps communicated that the replacement of the Courthouse front doors will be completed as soon as the backorder doors arrive. He also stated that he has not heard back on additional bids for the County Service Building and Marion County Sheriff's Office doors to make them handicap assessable.

COUNTY & COMMUNITY COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN BILL HENSON

Chairman Bill Henson began with clarifying that the matter of who made the motion for the Broadband Committee was determined to be himself after reviewing the notations and recording from the Full Board Meeting held on April 25, 2023.

Next, County Board Chairwoman, Debbie Smith, spoke about Resolution 2023-27 County Board Code of Conduct. State's Attorney Tim Hudspeth and Debbie Smith are in the process of revising and updating Marion County's Code of Conduct in this resolution. This should be prepared and addressed at one of the Full Board Meetings in June, 2023.

The formation and selection of the members of the Decennial Committee were conveyed to the Full Board. Motion to approve the Decennial Committee Members David Iossi, Judith Meeks-Hakim, Steven Bradley, Jennifer Griffin, and Karma Durham was made by Adam Smith and seconded by Steven Whritenour. Voice vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

A bid proposal from Chuck's Excavating & Landscape for the flagpoles on the Courthouse premises was presented. A suggestion of placement of three flagpoles on the Southwest corner of Main Street and Broadway was previously initiated. Sheriff Kevin Cripps reiterated that Ameren is willing to supply a light source on their pole for a fee of \$5-\$7.00 per month. He also mentioned that his head custodial employee, Dave Daniels is willing to oversee the maintenance of this area. After discussion in regards to the location, lighting, and number of flagpoles a decision was considered. A motion to accept Wilson and Wilson's bid for one 30 foot and two 25 foot flagpoles for \$10, 140.00 was made by Tracy Murray and seconded by David Iossi. Roll Call Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed. Mr. Henson will contact Wilson & Wilson and follow through with a discussion with Dr. Engel and Sheriff Kevin Cripps.

Lastly, Chairwoman Debbie Smith explained the signing of the GoodEnergy (Homefield Energy) contract. The rate 8.78 will be locked in for two years on the expiration date in December, 2023. This amount is below Ameren's rate and save Marion County money.

Sub-Committee Codification: Chairman Brock Waggoner

Chairman Brock Waggoner was absent and Bill Henson followed through with a presentation from the Sub-Committee Codification Meeting held on May 16, 2023. He stated that three companies that offer this service are American Legal Publishing, Illinois Codification Services, and Municode and were evaluated and compared during their meeting. American Legal Publishing was selected by the Sub-Committee to present to the Full Board for their consideration for use this company's services.

Sub-Committee Codification – Continued

State’s Attorney Tim Hudspeth explained that Marion County’s Resolutions, Ordinances, and County Board Rules will be codified only. County Board Chairwoman Debbie Smith stated that a representative from American Legal Publishing will be appearing by video at the next Full Board Meeting scheduled June 13, 2023 at 7:00 P.M.

Motion to Approve the Sub-Committee Codification Minutes dated May 16, 2023 was made by Deborah Reed and seconded by Judith Meeks-Hakim. Voice Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

ROAD & BRIDGE COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN STEVEN BRADLEY

Chairman Steven Bradley stated that the Road & Bridge Committee does not have any new information for the Full Board.

911/ESDA COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN STEVEN WHRITENOUR

Chairman Steven Whritenour mentioned that the minutes from the 911/ESDA Committee Meeting dated May 16, 2023 were not included in the agenda packet. This matter will be addressed at the next Full Board Meeting June 13, 2023.

In conclusion, he stated that Nixel/Everbridge is in the process of establishing programs for the individual entities in Marion County. A small issue with the notification system that recently occurred has been resolved. Tracy Murray questioned who to notify for alerts for rural areas. He is to meet with Chairman Steven Whritenour for a response. Bill Henson had concerns in regards to notifying Marion County individuals that this service is available. Steven Whritenour stated that media, social media, and word of mouth are the best choices.

PERSONNEL/LABOR RELATIONS COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN ADAM SMITH

Chairman Adam Smith stated that the Settlement Payment involving the Marion County State’s Attorney’s Office was tabled and will be addressed at the next Full Board Meeting June 13, 2023.

BROADBAND COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN CHRISTOPHER KRUPP

Chairman Christopher Krupp was absent and the approval of the Broadband Committee Meeting Minutes dated May 9, 2025 was tabled.

The next Broadband Committee Meeting is scheduled for May 25, 2023 at 6:00 P.M.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Sheriff Kevin Cripps acknowledged that this last week was Police Memorial Week and wanted to remember Deputy Adam Conrad. He also stated that red arm bracelets are available in the remembrance of Deputy Adam Conrad at his office in the Marion County Sheriff’s Department.

REPORTS FROM SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

708 MENTAL HEALTH BOARD

Board Representative Bill Henson stated that everyone is invited to the next Committee Meeting scheduled June 1, 2023 at 5:30 P.M at the Community Resource Center, Centralia.

ENTERPRISE ZONE

Board Representative Adam Smith stated that he attended their meeting last week. The Enterprise Zone Committee is currently searching the Marion County area for additional housing projects.

911

Board Representative Steven Whritenour stated that the audit needs to be completed in order to release their grant money.

MARION COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Board Representative Creighton Engel stated that the next meeting is next month.

SCIRPD

Board Representative Gary Prucell stated that he attended a meeting last month. Next meeting will be held Tuesday May 30, 2023 at the Salem Elks.

MARION COUNTY HOUSING AUTHORITY

Board Representative Judith Meeks-Hakim stated that a meeting was held today (May 23, 2023) at the new location at Centralia Chamber of Commerce. Marion County Board Chairwoman, Debbie Smith stated that she will be attending the next meeting in three months and that everyone is invited to attend.

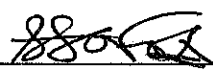
WORKFORCE INVESTMENT

Board Representative Deborah Reed stated that the next meeting is scheduled in June, 2023.

Nothing further to come before the Board, Motion to Adjourn with mileage and per diem was made by Steven Bradley and seconded by David Iossi. Roll Call Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

Time Adjourned: 8:26 P.M.

Next meeting: Tuesday, June 13, 2023.



STEVEN A FOX, MARION COUNTY CLERK AND
CLERK OF THE MARION COUNTY BOARD

