

MARION COUNTY FULL BOARD MEETING

MINUTES

January 23, 2024 at 6:30 P.M.

Basement of Sheriff's Office

Meeting convened at 6:30 P.M. with Debbie Smith, Marion County Board Chairwoman, leading Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Invocation presented by Claude Howell.

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

RECOGNITION OF GUEST: See attached list.

THOSE WHO WISH TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

No One.

Proceeding out of sequence with the items on the Agenda, Marion County Board Chairwoman, Debbie Smith introduced Marion County Resident Circuit Court Judge Mark Stedelin. His discussion included the renovations for the large third floor Courtroom in the Marion County Courthouse, Room 301. He stated that there were "fatal flaws" with the previous proposal for the improvements and upgrades. The first was the estimated cost of \$1.8 million. He expressed that his suggestions would not be that high priced. For instance, he would not like to modernize the Courtroom, but maintain its historical appearance by keeping the original woodwork and lighting. He recommended an expansion of the Jury box seating area from 12 to 14 people, and also making it handicap assessable. In addition, he would like the witness stand to accommodate wheelchair-bound people and provide a larger seat especially for law enforcement officers. Improvements to the Clerk's bench and make room for all of the new electronic technology was also encouraged. He also suggested consideration of new painting and carpeting in the room. Judge Stedelin would like to see all of this done this year.

Chairwoman Debbie Smith requested that Judge Stedelin compose a list of his proposals. After this is received, the Board would be able to obtain cost estimates and put the work out for bids. She expressed gratitude towards Judge Stedelin for conveying input with regards to the Courtroom's renovation project.

Prior to proceeding with the meeting, Sheriff Kevin Cripps proposed conducting Marion County Board Meetings in the large Courtroom in the future. Next, Judge Stedelin suggested that the Board also consider replacement of the windows in the Courthouse in the near future. Sheriff Cripps and Chairwoman Debbie Smith relayed that this project is moving forward at this time. The replacement of the windows in the Public Service Building is included.

Lastly, Mrs. Smith questioned if there were any security issues that need to be addressed. Judge Stedelin stated that he and Sheriff Cripps had a previous discussion and determined that cell phones

would be barred in the Courthouse during jury trials. This will prohibit people from abusing the phone's use in the Courtroom such as taking pictures of witnesses and posting on social media. In addition, Sheriff Cripps stated that he would like to add a security entrance from the elevator into the Courtroom to avoid contact between the prisoners and the public in the future.

Continuing out of order, County and Community Chairman Bill Henson introduced Leah Dellicarpini, City of Salem Economic Development Director. Prior to Ms. Dellicarpini's presentation, Mr. Henson relayed that the website IML.org provides TIF details. Ms. Dellicarpini had previously provided information with regards to Tax Increment Financing (TIF) (See attachment) that was included in the Full Board Meeting packet. She continued with a thorough presentation and included Salem's TIF District 2. She responded to questions and comments from County Board Member Brock Waggoner. He additionally questioned if a Resolution needed to be approved in lieu of the letter of support for TIF. County Board Chairwoman Debbie Smith relayed that the matter will be discussed with State's Attorney Tim Hudspeth. Ms. Dellicarpini welcomed everyone to meet with her to address any further questions or concerns. Her business cards were provided. Mrs. Smith expressed gratitude to Leah Dellicarpini for coming and addressing the Board with the TIF information.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to approve Full Board Meeting Minutes dated December 26, 2023 was made by David Iossi and seconded by Jack Riley. Voice Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

Motion to approve Full Board Special Meeting Minutes dated January 16, 2024 was made by David Iossi and seconded by Tyson McHenry. Voice Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

COUNTY CLERK STEVE FOX CORRESPONDENCE

Nothing new to report.

REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES

FINANCE & INSURANCE COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN CHRISTOPHER KRUPP

Chairman Christopher Krupp began by addressing the Advanced Correctional Healthcare, Inc. 2024 Renewal Contract. Sheriff Kevin Cripps stepped out of the room briefly and then will present information with regards to the contract as soon as he returns.

During his absence, a Motion to approve Resolution 2024-01: Permanent Parcel Number: 14-00-058-160 – Delinquent Tax Sales of said property of which the County will receive \$300.00 with remaining monies distributed according to law and Resolution 2024-02: Permanent Parcel Number: 14-00-067-505 – Delinquent Tax Sales of said property of which the County will receive \$300.00 with remaining monies distributed according to law was made by Christopher Krupp and seconded by Sharon Woodward. Voice Vote: 12 ayes – 1 nay (Brock Waggoner). Motion passed.

Finance & Insurance Committee – Continued:

An explanation of Ordinance 2024-01: Document Class Predictable Fee Schedule was given by Steve Fox, Marion County Clerk. Motion to approve Ordinance 2024-01 was made by Christopher Krupp and seconded by David Iossi. Roll Call Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

Next, Ordinance 2024-02: Increase Threshold for Construction Project Bids (Resolutions 2017-44 thru 46) was discussed. Board Member Brock Waggoner conveyed his concerns with increasing the amount due to Audits 2021 and 2022 not being completed and issues with the County's spendings in the past. The State's threshold is \$30,000.00 and was the previously proposed amount. More questions and concerns existed and a Motion to table Ordinance 2024-02 was made by Christopher Krupp and seconded by David Iossi. Voice Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

Reverting back to the Advanced Correctional Healthcare, Inc. 2024 Renewal Contract, Sheriff Kevin Cripps conveyed that this is the same Healthcare Plan for Marion County inmates as in the past. A discussion of its assets occurred. Motion to approve the Advanced Correctional Healthcare, Inc. 2024 Renewal Contract was made by Christopher Krupp and seconded by Bill Henson. Prior to Roll Call Vote Board Member Tracy Murray inquired if it was an annual premium, which was verified. Board Member Brock Waggoner questioned if other companies were considered. Sheriff Cripps and Bill Henson emphasized that Advance Correctional Healthcare, Inc. is a highly admirable company and that there are very few companies that offer this service. Roll Call Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

The Sexual Abuse Liability Coverage which was previously tabled, was again tabled until a Full Board Meeting in February, 2024. Chairman Christopher Krupp will be obtaining more information with regards to this topic prior to the meeting. He will also request that Dimond Brothers Insurance representative Tom Simpson attend. In addition, an overall Insurance Committee Meeting will convene in the near future to clear up all of Marion County's coverages.

In conclusion, Mr. Krupp relayed that he has been told that the FY2021 Audit will now not be completed until the end of February. A meeting with WIPFLI will take place the following morning at 9:00 A.M. He will then convey an update with the Audit at the Full Board Meeting scheduled Tuesday, February 13, 2024.

BUILDING & HISTORICAL COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN CREIGHTON ENGEL

Chairman, Creighton Engel began with a discussion of the Phoenix Modular Elevator Maintenance Proposal. Chairwoman Debbie Smith indicated a slight increase in their rates this year. Sheriff Kevin Cripps verified that this is the best company choice for Marion County. Motion to approve the Phoenix Modular Elevator Maintenance Proposal was made by Creighton Engel and seconded by David Iossi. Roll Call Vote: All ayes – No Nays. Motion passed.

Sheriff Cripps continued by conveying that Jerold Henson Painting has completed the painting and repairing the ceiling around the rotunda on the third floor of the Courthouse. In addition, the painting on the first and second floors' common area is finished. Dr. Engel and Sheriff Cripps encouraged everyone to visit the Courthouse and are very pleased with the results.

Building & Historical Committee – Continued:

Sheriff Cripps reiterated that the next major project for the Courthouse be the replacement of its windows. He conveyed that the water had frozen in Judge Stedelin's restroom toilet due to a window issue in that room. Additionally, water froze at the meter entering the Courthouse over the weekend. Six units in the jail also had issues that same day. Rend Lake Plumbing & Heating was contacted to resolve that matter.

In conclusion, Dr. Engel reported that the odor in the Marion County Public Service Building has very much improved. A cracked sewage pipe that may have contributed to the issue was repaired. The wall will remain open to monitor the situation for a short period of time.

LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN STEVE WHRITENOUR

Chairman Steven Whritenour opened the floor to Sheriff Kevin Cripps for the report.

Sheriff Cripps conveyed that there are presently 48 inmates in custody with 21 Federal. These numbers continue to decrease. He reiterated that he feels more people should be held in jail that are a risk to public safety, but continue to be released and rearrested. Discussions are ongoing between himself and State's Attorney Tim Hudspeth with regards to this matter. Other Law Enforcement Agencies are dealing with this issue also.

Sheriff Cripps stated that a concern with a concrete wall in one of the cell blocks will be resolved the following day.

Lastly, Sheriff Cripps relayed that Franklin County Juvenile Detention Center has closed. Marion County Juvenile Delinquents are now being transported to the Madison County Juvenile Detention Center as it is now the priority facility. Renee Pride, Marion County Probation Director stated that St. Clair County Juvenile Detention Center will be used as a backup, but they are having staffing issues. Sheriff Cripps discussed how electronic monitoring is becoming an alternative option. There is a maximum 12-hour limit of detainment at the Marion County Jail for all Juveniles. This issue will be further addressed by Sheriff Cripps, other law enforcement officers, State's Attorney Tim Hudspeth, and Renee Pride, Marion County Probation Director. Board Member Brock Waggoner questioned if a Juvenile is charged with a heinous crime where would they be detained for a longer period of time. Sheriff Cripps conveyed that it may be a possibility of having to search for facilities in other states and Marion County would be responsible for that cost.

COUNTY & COMMUNITY COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN BILL HENSON

Chairman Bill Henson allowed Ken Ferguson, Marion County Animal Control Officer to present his report. Mr. Ferguson stated that 7 dogs were picked up and that the shelter remains full. Fostering and finding new homes is an issue with the large amount of dogs being abandoned in Marion County. He reiterated that everyone is working together with regards to solving this matter. He continued by conveying that there is presently \$49,000.00 in the spay/neuter program fund.

Sub-Committee Codification: Chairman Brock Waggoner

Chairman Brock Waggoner stated that discussions are ongoing with regards to the contract with American Legal Publishing. This matter was tabled. He will be conducting a Sub-Committee Codification meeting in the near future and then present that information to the Full Board.

ROAD & BRIDGE COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN STEVEN BRADLEY

Chairman Steven Bradley announced that Michael McCormick, Marion County Highway Engineer, would be presenting the proposals of the Resolutions on the Agenda.

Mr. McCormick requested approval of three Resolutions. An explanation of each was given.

Resolution 2024-03: County 2024 Aggregate Bid Approval 24-00000-00-GM. Prior to motion being made, Steven Bradley questioned if there were any rejections. Mr. McCormick stated that there were not. Motion to approve Resolution 2024-03 made by Steve Bradley and seconded by Steven Whritenour. Roll Call Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

Resolution 2024-04: Township 2024 Aggregate Bid Approval 24-(01-17)000-00-GM Motion to approve Resolution 2024-04 was made by Steve Bradley and seconded by David Iossi. Roll Call Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

Resolution 2024-05: ROW Permit Raccoon Water Company/County Farm Road Service Line. Motion to approve Resolution 2024-05 made by Steve Bradley and seconded by Tyson McHenry. Roll Call Vote: All ayes – No Nays. Motion passed.

Next, Michael McCormick conveyed that the Green Street Safety Project low bidder is Guinzy Construction located in Ashley, Illinois. Their bid was bid was \$3.4 million, which came in under the estimate. The project's start date is undetermined at this time, but hopefully sometime this spring. It will also include a portion of the Odin Road bridge area. The Kline Road Bridge project is still pending.

In conclusion, Mr. McCormick spoke about a portion of Martin Road off of North Route 37 that IDOT is interested in having Marion County take over its jurisdiction. After a discussion, he was given authorization to refuse the transfer at this time from the Full Board Members.

BICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN ADAM SMITH

Board Chairwoman Debbie Smith conveyed that the following day is end of the Bicentennial Celebration.

911/ESDA COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN STEVEN WHRITENOUR

Committee Chairman Steven Whritenour relayed that a 911/ESDA Committee Meeting was conducted prior to the Full Board Meeting this evening. The revision of Resolution 2023-45: Intergovernmental Agreement Providing for Marion County and Municipalities Therein to Work Together for the Provision of Nixle Services to the Residents of Marion County will be made and presented to the Full Board in the near future.

PERSONNEL/LABOR RELATIONS COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN ADAM SMITH

Chairman Adam Smith was absent; therefore, no report was presented.

BROADBAND COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN CHRISTOPHER KRUPP

Chairman Christopher Krupp conveyed that he received an email from Board Chairwoman Debbie Smith with regards to Wabash Communications applying for a grant and requesting a letter of support from the Marion County Board. Mr. Krupp will be forwarding a copy of Resolution 2023-35: Supporting Broadband Internet Access for All Residents and Areas of Marion County, Illinois to the company.

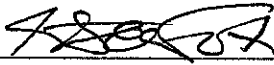
Prior to adjourning the meeting, Christopher Krupp commented that a member of the public questioned him regarding signage on Quail Run Road. It was determined that it is a Township Committee issue. They will be instructed to contact the Stephenson and/or Alma Township Commissioner with this issue. Gary Purcell, Marion County Treasurer relayed that the final distribution of the Marion County Property Taxes will occur at the end of the week. The Interest from the Collector's accounts will also be distributed within Marion County. Sheri Barter, Marion County ESDA Coordinator provided Financial & Insurance Committee Chairman Christopher Krupp correspondence from the State of Illinois with respect to the Marion County Audit. Mr. Krupp will follow through by communicating with WIPFLI and will report back with their information.

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

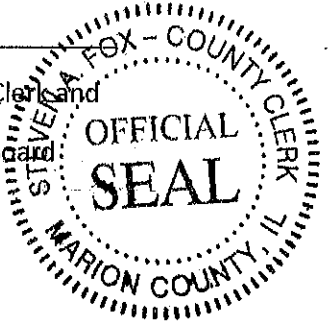
Time: 8:15 P.M.

Approved: _____ ✓

Date: 2-13-24



Steve Fox, Marion County Clerk and
Clerk of Marion County Board



The seal is circular with a dotted border. The text inside the seal reads: "STEVE A. FOX - COUNTY CLERK" at the top, "OFFICIAL SEAL" in the center, and "MARION COUNTY, IL" at the bottom.