

MARION COUNTY FULL BOARD MEETING

MINUTES

April 25, 2023

7:00 P.M.

Basement of Sheriff's Office

Meeting convened at 7:00 P.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, Brock Waggoner, Sharon Woodward, Creighton Engel, Jack Riley, Deborah Reed, Bill Henson, Tyson McHenry, Steven Whritenour, Steven Bradley, Judith Meeks-Hakim, Christopher Krupp, Debbie Smith, and David Iossi. Absent was Adam Smith.

RECOGNITION OF GUEST

Guest: Roger Campbell, Life Star Ambulance, Stacey Arenas, Marion County 911 Coordinator, Kevin Cripps, Marion County Sheriff, Jared Hunter, United Medical Response, Mark Miller, Marion County Supervisor of Assessments, Wayne Walker, Bill Smith, Troy Reed, Marion County Jail Administrator, Tim Hudspeth, Marion County State's Attorney, Bruce Kropp, and Dennis Rosenberger.

THOSE WHO WISH TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

Roger Campbell, Life Star Ambulance, began discussion in regards to the EMS issues within Marion County. He stated that under funding and under staffing are major concerns. There are three small fire departments in Marion County that are demonstrating the matters in question. Mr. Campbell is requesting EMS representation on the Marion County 911 Board. Marion County Board Chairwoman Debbie Smith reiterated that she has discussed this matter with Stacey Arenas, 911 Coordinator, and this will be addressed at their next Board meeting on May 11, 2023. Ms. Arenas will then follow through with relaying their Board's decision to the Marion County Board to appoint someone.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to approve Full Board minutes dated April 11, 2023 made by David Iossi with second by Deborah Reed. Roll Call Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

COUNTY CLERK STEVE FOX CORRESPONDENCE

Motion request from John Schubert of South Central Illinois Mass Transit District to appoint a person to replace Board of Directors' member Don Jones who is deceased with the recommendation of Janet Carter Sullens to complete the unexpired term that will expire in 2028 was made by Tracy Murray with second by David Iossi. Voice Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

## REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES

### FINANCE & INSURANCE COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN CHRISTOPHER KRUPP

Chairman Christopher Krupp began with the discussion of the U of I Extension \$153,000.00 from the Levy approved by the Marion County Board. The U of I Extension Staff will be making a presentation of monies received from Marion County at the next Full Board meeting on May 9, 2023.

In conclusion, the issues with the Marion County Jail Cook and Part Time Cook wage expenditures was addressed. After talking with the Marion County Treasurer, Gary Purcell, Mr. Krupp stated that this item has been under budgeted for the last several years. In addition, the Correctional Officers', Deputies', and Communication Officers' wage expenditures will also have the same issues. Mr. Krupp reiterated that money was transferred for the raises approved in the new Labor Contract last year, but was not entered in the budget line item. These matters will be addressed for next year's budget.

### BUILDING & HISTORICAL: CHAIRMAN CREIGHTON ENGEL

Chairman Creighton Engel began discussion on updates. Marion County Sheriff Kevin Cripps stated that the issues with the Courthouse windows that were leaking have been resolved. Shores Builders and Ameresco were asked to evaluate the problem, but no response was made by Ameresco. Shores Builders responded quickly and applied caulking around the window panes which resolved the flooding matters. Sheriff Kevin Cripps also stated that the large fallen tree and its stump on the Courthouse lawn have been removed. Three companies were contacted with only one response from Top Notch Tree Service with a very reasonable price. In addition, the first floor restroom projects are still underway. Lastly, the Marion County Jail door issues are being addressed by Ameresco.

Additionally, Dr. Creighton Engel recognized that Top Notch Tree Service and Marion County Highway Department preformed extremely great services in removing the trees and stumps on the Courthouse Lawn.

Dr. Engel questioned Mark Miller, Marion County Supervisor of Assessments, in regards to his office's projects. Mr. Miller stated that they are going well.

Dr. Creighton Engel addressed the Capital Expenditure (Ameresco) Ordinance 2023-01 (\$546,944.45) and Capital Expenditure (Ameresco) Ordinance 2023-02 (\$1,300,430.84). Motion to approve Capital Expenditure (Ameresco) Ordinance 2023-01 (\$546,944.45) was made by Creighton Engel with second by David Iossi. County Board Member Brock Waggoner had questions in regards to completed and guaranteed work by Ameresco. No comments were made. Voice Vote: 13 ayes – 1 nay (Brock Waggoner). Motion passed. Capital Expenditure (Ameresco) Ordinance 2023-02 was tabled.

In conclusion, Mark Miller voiced his concern in regards to the mold situation at the Moose Building. He and Marion County Circuit Clerk Tiffany Schicker had been in the building today and suggested that an inspection be made fairly quickly. Chairman Creighton Engel was in agreement and will follow through. Brock Waggoner questioned if any information about a humidity control system or a water sensor has been obtained from Security Alarm System. He had been in touch with them to reach out to the Committee, but there has not been any communication between the two.

LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN STEVE WHRITENOUR

Chairman Steve Whritenour stated that there was nothing new from this Committee on the agenda. Sheriff Kevin Cripps gave the Marion County Jail Report. 75 inmates – 18 Federal, 2 Juvenile, and 1 Housed in Jefferson County.

Mr. Whritenour commended the Marion County Sheriff Kevin Cripps and his Department for their involvement with the triple shooting in Centralia. Their response was made very quickly and appreciated. He also stated that the new department agreements are working well. Board member Bill Henson added that Sheriff Cripps visited the Sandoval High School and valued his presence and interaction with the students.

COUNTY & COMMUNITY: CHAIRMAN BILL HENSON

Chairman Bill Henson began with informing the Full Board Members and guests that a Committee meeting was held just prior to the Full Board Meeting. A presentation by Matt Schmidt, Office of Illinois Broadband, was the main topic with information of what needs to be done to move forward with getting Broadband in Marion County. Mr. Henson will be forwarding website links for the program to Lori Linder, the Marion County Board Secretary, to then forward to all of the Marion County Board Members for review. The Marion County Board is going forward with the Broadband Program for all Marion County residents, especially in rural areas. A recommendation to Marion County Chairwoman Debbie Smith to form a Broadband Committee was also made during the Committee Meeting. Her selection was made and it was based on members living in the Broadband lacking areas. She announced the Broadband Committee: Christopher Krupp – Committee Chairman, Steve Whritenour, Tracy Murray, Jack Riley, and Deborah Reed are members. County Board Member Brock Waggoner raised questions in regards to the selected members. Chairwoman Debbie Smith noted again it was based on these individuals living in rural areas. Next, the estimate for the Courthouse flagpoles from Wilson and Wilson Monuments was discussed. The two 30 foot poles were priced at \$3,280.00 each with a charge of \$500.00 for instillation. Each pole will hold a 5 foot by 8 foot flag. Sheriff Kevin Cripps suggested purchasing three flagpoles. After further discussion, this matter is tabled in order to obtain more information.

Sub-Committee Codification Chairman Brock Waggoner stated there was nothing new to report. The next meeting remains scheduled for May 2023.

Motion to approve Minutes dated April 11, 2023 made by Brock Waggoner with second by Steve Whritenour. Voice Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

ROAD & BRIDGE COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN STEVEN BRADLEY

Chairman Steven Bradley stated that there was nothing new to report.

→ He stated that he had done 90% of the preparations for this service, so why was he left off of the Broadband Committee. He also expressed that he felt that County Chairwoman, Debbie Smith was showing animosity towards him.

MARION COUNTY BICENTENNIAL: CHAIRMAN ADAM SMITH

Due to Chairman Adam Smith being absent, Chairwoman Debbie Smith stated that a presentation to the Retired Teachers of Marion County was held at Sharon's Café on April 13, 2023 provided by herself and Mark Decker. In addition, she and Mark Decker attended a presentation at the Iuka Grade School on April 20, 2023 at their Musical Salute to Marion County in Celebration of the 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Its' Founding. Mrs. Smith stated that certificates will be distributed to each student participant along with a gift certificate from the Artic Cow.

911/ESDA COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN STEVE WHRITENOUR

Chairman Steve Whritenour began with an update on the Committee Meeting held on April 18, 2023. He stated on that date the Nixel/Everbridge program was up and running, but an issue was discovered on April 21, 2023. This problem has been resolved.

To enroll in the program, a person will need to text 888777 and type in their zip code. All zip codes in Marion County are included in the program and multiple zip codes can be entered. The Everbridge App can also be downloaded to receive alerts.

In conclusion, Mr. Whritenour would like the Marion County Board to consider reverting back to individual Committee meetings.

The next meeting is scheduled for May 16, 2023 at 6:00 P.M.

PERSONNEL/LABOR RELATIONS COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN ADAM SMITH

No report.

CYBER COMMITTEE: CHAIRWOMAN DEBBIE SMITH

Chairwoman Debbie Smith stated that the previous breach issues have been resolved and no further concerns have occurred. Therefore, she is disbanding the Cyber Committee.

In conclusion, Chairwoman Debbie Smith stated that a few Marion County Board Member's Economic Disclosure Forms have not been turned in and the return deadline date is May 1, 2023. The forms should be given to Lori Linder, Marion County Board Secretary.

Nothing further to come before the Board, Motion to Adjourn with mileage and per diem was made by Judith Meeks-Hakim with second by Sharon Woodward. Roll Call Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

Time Adjourned: 7:55 P.M.

Next Meeting: Tuesday May 9, 2023 at 7:00 P.M.



Steven A Fox, Marion County Clerk and  
Clerk of the Marion County Board

