

MARION COUNTY FULL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

JUNE 27, 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 Steve Fox.

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

**RECOGNITION OF GUEST:** Melissa Mallow, Marion County Health Department Administrator, Tim Hudspeth, Marion County State's Attorney, Bill Smith, Sheri Barter, Marion County ESDA Coordinator, Dennis Rosenberger, Bruce Kropp, and Steve Fox, Marion County Clerk and Clerk of Marion County Board.

**THOSE WHO WISH TO ADDRESS THE BOARD:** Melissa Mallow, Marion County Health Department Administrator, distributed an Annual Report: 2022 Pamphlet. She stated that the purpose of the report is to summarize the statistical aspects and the services they provide for Marion County residents. A list of the Marion County Health Board and the Health Department's staff was also included. Assistance with nursing services, immunizations and screenings, maternal and child health care, and environmental health data was also incorporated. In conclusion, the financial statement was reviewed and it was determined that the cash balance as of November 30, 2022 was \$1,208,675.72. After questioning of the number of staff members, Ms. Mallow affirmed that there are twenty-four. Brock Waggoner questioned the Marion County Health Department's role in the lack of health care providers in the area. She relayed that they do not have a nurse practitioner on staff, but are able to provide immunizations and lab services. Their lab program accepts referrals which are very reasonably priced. Sharon Woodward requested information on Family Case Management. Ms. Mallow stated that it provides education on parenting skills, nutrition, and safety in the home environment. Lastly, Mr. Waggoner mentioned a previous grant obtained for more software and upgrading case management systems for managing pandemics. She stated that it was used for security upgrades provided by XT Solutions and included WIFI to the Salem office.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Motion to approve minutes from the Full Board Meeting held on June 13, 2023 made by David Iossi with second by Sharon Woodward. Voice Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

**COUNTY CLERK STEVE FOX CORRESPONDENCE**

Nothing at this time.

## **REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES**

### **FINANCE & INSURANCE COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN CHRISTOPHER KRUPP**

Resolution 2023-34: Adopting Cost of Living Adjustment for Marion County State's Attorney, Public Defender, and Sheriff. Motion to approve Resolution 2023-34: Adopting Cost of Living Adjustment for Marion County State's Attorney, Public Defender, and Sheriff was made by Christopher Krupp and seconded by Sharon Woodward. Prior to Roll Call Vote, Brock Waggoner questioned if this was included in the salaries within the budget. Marion County State's Attorney, Tim Hudspeth reiterated that Cost of Living adjustment does not come out until the State does its budget in the spring of this year. He stated that it is factored in his budget and each department effected should have managed their own budget. The state will cover 66 2/3% of the increase. Roll Call Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

### **BUILDING & HISTORICAL COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN CREIGHTON ENGEL**

Chairman Creighton Engel began with a discussion in regards to a bid for resealing and restriping the Marion County Sheriff Department's parking lot. A proposal from Tri-County Seal Coating, LLC was presented in the amount of \$4,800.00. A second bid is expected in the near future. This matter was tabled for the Full Board Meeting in July, 2023.

The next topic of conversation was the old Boardroom in the Marion County Courthouse that has been remodeled. Dr. Engel conveyed that the original plans for this room was for it to be used as a multiple purpose meeting room. County Board Chairwoman, Debbie Smith and Tim Hudspeth spoke with reference to office holders using this room for meeting or training occasions. Access to a sink, small refrigerator, and microwave will still be available.

In addition, new information was unavailable for the water pump leak and security cameras in the Marion County Public Services Building. Dr. Engel stated that placing all of the security cameras in the Marion County Buildings on one system is still being addressed. The Sally Port remodeling in the Marion County Sheriff's Department is progressing well. The restrooms in the Marion County Courthouse are nearly complete.

In conclusion, Adam Smith raised the concern from Tiffany Schicker, Marion County Circuit Clerk, in regards to the Marion County Employee/Public Parking area. She stated via email that one of her employees has had to repair multiple flat tires within the last eighteen months due to parking in that locale. Dr. Engel announced it will be a costly event and taking bids will be the next step. Brock Waggoner questioned the parameters due to it being a previous Amoco sight. Debbie Smith inquired to applying another load of rock to the lot, and suggested to speak with SCIRPD with respect to grants that may be offered. Jack Riley raised concerns that the lot is owned by the city of Salem. Debbie Smith clarified that its current owner is Marion County. Steven Bradley was asked for his opinion, and he felt that covering with additional rock may not solve the problems. Brock Waggoner mentioned consulting with the Marion County Highway Engineer. Steve Fox stated that the engineer was previously contacted and his opinion was to fill in the low spots with blacktop and level it, but was not in favor of concrete.

### Building & Historical Committee – Continued

Drainage onto city streets is a concern with any repairs. Criticism is currently occurring and Dr. Engel has concerns of placing unattractive areas of asphalt and causing more complications. Brock Waggoner has apprehension of someone injuring themselves and filing a lawsuit. He suggests engaging an architect or engineer to draw up plans prior to obtaining bids from potential contractors.

Prior to moving to the next Committee's report, Board Chairwoman Debbie Smith communicated that a Building & Historical Committee and Financial & Insurance Committee combined meeting will be occurring in the near future. She would like an updated priority list of things to do from the Elected Officials so that an estimate of monies can be addressed at that meeting.

### LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN STEVEN WHRITENOUR

Chairman Steven Whritenour began with a discussion in regards to the body cameras for the Marion County Law Enforcement Officials. He had a conversation with Sheriff Kevin Cripps, who had recently been in contact with Axon International, a body cam and taser company. Sheriff Cripps has obtained a bid for their services. Chairwoman Debbie Smith mentioned that Sheriff Cripps would like to appropriate \$100,000.00 per year for the body cameras from the ¼% tax Revenue. Mr. Whritenour is currently utilizing Axon equipment in his Centralia office and has recently been through the bidding process for an additional five-year contract. It is anticipated that Sheriff Cripps will arrange for a representative from Axon International to appear via ZOOM for a presentation at the next Committee Meeting scheduled on July 11, 2023 at 5:00 P.M.

Sheri Barter, EDSA Coordinator, raised the issue with the audit and the no pay. She stated that she has FEMA monies that have been withheld due to the delays with the completion of the audit and will soon be unattainable. Christopher Krupp questioned how soon the monies will no longer be available. He stated that the matters at question are currently being addressed, but does not have a time frame when it will be finalized. Several obstacles remain due to this difficult situation with no fault of the Marion County Board. Chairwoman Debbie Smith expressed the difficulty in finding auditors for Marion County over the past years due to it having fund accounts. An excellent company has now been found. Brock Waggoner disputed that corrections to rectify these barriers have not occurred. Creighton Engel, Debbie Smith, and Steve Fox were in agreement that \$60,000.00 was spent in 2021 for training of the Marion County Treasurer's personnel which had previously been suggested. The rectification will be determined at the conclusion of the current audit that is being addressed.

### COUNTY & COMMUNITY COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN BILL HENSON

Chairman Bill Henson stated that Ken Ferguson, Marion County Control Administer, presented his report at the June 13, 2023 meeting. In addition, Mr. Henson relayed that the Marion County Courthouse flagpoles will be set in place in the next couple of weeks.

### Sub-Committee Codification: Brock Waggoner

Chairmen Brock Waggoner reiterated that completion of the final paperwork and payment with the 2024 Budget will allow this service to begin.

→ Prior to approval of minutes - 3-Abby Purcell, Marion County Treasurer, stated that in 2021 only \$16,362.99 was spent on the entire Accounting Software System. This included payroll, accounts payable, cash receipts, general ledger reconciling, needed tax documents for employees, & tech support.

**ROAD & BRIDGE COMMITTEE: STEVEN BRADLEY**

Chairman Steven Bradley stated there is no new business to report.

**911/ESDA COMMITTEE: STEVEN WHRITENOUR**

Chairman Steven Whritenour began by relaying information that was discussed at the Committee meeting that took place prior to the Full Board meeting tonight. The Nixel/Everbridge system is not being acknowledged at this time. Tornado sirens in Marion County was the current topic up for discussion. Marion County 911/ESDA representatives are in the process of obtaining bids for a complete replacement of the system in Marion County. The Committee is expecting presentations from three tornado siren companies to be organized and held within the next couple months at their meetings. Information will then be conveyed to the Marion County Full Board.

Sheri Barter, Marion County ESDA Coordinator, communicated to the Full Board that she would like to replace all of the padlocks on the tornado sirens. She has obtained bids for fifty padlocks from two different companies. This matter will be placed on the agenda for the July 11, 2023 Full Board Meeting.

**PERSONNEL/LABOR RELATIONS COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN ADAM SMITH**

Chairman Adam Smith began with discussion on the agreement of the settlement with the Central Laborer's Pension Fund and the Marion County State's Attorney's office. The total amount of the final payment is \$29,678.65. This sum is below the amount that was previously approved. Motion to approve the final payment \$29,678.65 for the Settlement with the Central Laborer's Pension Fund and the Marion County State's Attorney was made by Adam Smith and seconded by David Iossi. Roll Call Vote: 13 ayes – 1 nay (Brock Waggoner). Motion passed.

**BROADBAND COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN CHRISTOPHER KRUPP**

Chairman Christopher Krupp addressed Resolution 2023-35: Supporting Broadband Internet Access for All Marion County, Illinois. Motion to approve Resolution 2023-35: Supporting Broadband Internet Access for All Marion County, Illinois was made by Christopher Krupp and seconded by Debbie Reed. Prior to Roll Call Vote, Brock Waggoner asked to table this matter because the State's Statute is not included in Resolution 2023-35 and it also does not state that 25% of Marion County is unserved at this time. Brock Waggoner made a motion to table Resolution 2023-35: Supporting Broadband Internet Access for All Marion County, Illinois to make amendments and seconded by David Iossi. Prior to Roll Call Vote, Mr. Krupp questioned Marion County State's Attorney, Tim Hudspeth if the amendments are normal. He stated that it is normal, but it does not affect the Resolution. It does not contain any legal aspects therefore does not need to include the statute. As for the addition that 25% of the residents do not have service may demonstrate that there is a necessity for our county. Roll Call Vote: 13 ayes – 1 nay (Creighton Engel). Motion passed. Mr. Waggoner will be sending more specific information to be included in the Resolution, which will then be forwarded to the Committee Chairman and the members.

Broadband Committee - continued

Chairman Christopher Krupp continued his discussion with new Broadband information that he just received. He stated that the next stage is writing the grant. His understanding is that the County Board is responsible for the grant. He will be researching this issue and provide more details in the near future.

Motion to approve the Broadband Committee Meeting minutes dated June 13, 2023 was made by Christopher Krupp and seconded by Deborah Reed. Voice Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

**BICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN ADAM SMITH**

Chairman Adam Smith began his discussion with information in regards to the Bicentennial Exhibit at the Marion County Fairgrounds during fair week. He has been in contact with Amy Telford who is in charge of the exhibit hall. He would like to consider having a combined exhibit with the DAR, Historical, and Genealogy Committees. The Marion County Farm Bureau and the American Legion would also like be involved. After talking with John Shaw, who is very knowledgeable about the history of the area, Mr. Smith is taking into consideration having Mr. Shaw and others take part in a question and answer session at the exhibit building.

**DECENNIAL COMMITTEE**

No report

**LIQUOR COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN DEBBIE SMITH**

No report

**REPORTS FROM SPECIAL COMMITTEES:**

911

Steven Whritenour, Marion County Board Representative, stated that converting to digital communications has become a priority. This topic will be further addressed at their meetings.

708 Mental health Board

Bill Henson, Marion County Board Representative, stated that the approval was finalized for their website. It is now available on line. The next meeting is scheduled September 7, 2023 at 5:30 P.M. at the Sandoval High School Cafetorium.

Marion County Health Department

Dr. Creighton Engel, Marion County Board Representative, referred to Melissa Mallow's presentation for information.

Reports from Special Committees – continued

SCIRPD

Debbie Smith, Marion County Board Representative, stated that a meeting convened this evening.

Marion County Housing Authority

Steven Whritenour, Marion County Board Representative, stated that a meeting was held this morning. He highlighted that Marion County Housing is having an issues with finding contractors to do work and often their bids are considerably too high for their budget. In addition, they schedule 150 appointments a month and approximately 50% are “No shows.” Director Kelly Tinsley is in the midst of resolving this problem by possibly confirming appointments within 24 hours and having a waiting list.

WIB (Workforce Investment Board)

Deborah Reed, Marion County Board Representative, was unable to attend the June meeting, but is planning to attend the next scheduled meeting in September, 2023.

Enterprise Zone

Adam Smith and Christopher Krupp, Marion County Board Representatives, stated that their meetings are scheduled every three months. Therefore, nothing new to report.

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

Time: 8:22 P.M.

Next meeting: Tuesday, July 25, 2023

  
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Steve A Fox, Marion County Clerk and

Clerk of the Marion County Board

