

MARION COUNTY FULL BOARD MEETING

MINUTES

Tuesday, August 13, 2024

6:30 P.M.

Marion County Courthouse, Room 301

Meeting convened at 6:30 P.M. with Debbie Smith, 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, Sharon Woodward, Creighton Engel, Jack Riley, Deborah Reed, Bill Henson, Tyson McHenry, Steven Whritenour, Steven Bradley, Judith Meeks-Hakim, Christopher Krupp, Adam Smith, and Debbie Smith. Absent were Brock Waggoner and David Iossi.

RECOGNITION OF GUEST

See attached list.

THOSE WHO WISH TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

Sheri Barter, Marion County ESDA Coordinator addressed the Full Board with concerns of events that occurred during the Marion County Fair week (see attached letter). She introduced her advocates that were present; Doug Telford, Marion County Fair Board President, Fair Board Members Amy Telford and Colleen Miselbrook. Board Member Creighton Engel expressed his appreciation that during Mrs. Barter's presentation she explained that the Fairgrounds are privately owned by the Marion County Fair Board. Doug Telford reiterated and concurred with the information conveyed by Mrs. Barter. In addition, he communicated his strong feelings and opinions in regards to this matter. He stated that he did have "everything under control" with respect to sheltering the fair's attendees and workers. Mr. Telford also commended the Community for their assistance with the parking issues.

Several Board members expressed their admiration for the information conveyed.

Next, Mark Miller, Marion County Supervisor of Assessments, invited everyone to attend The Property Tax Cycle seminar scheduled for Tuesday, August 22, 2024 at the Bryan Bennett Library in Salem at 6:30 P.M.

Gary Purcell, Marion County Treasurer, stated that the Marion County Mobile Home Taxes were due today. The first distribution of the first Real Estate Taxes will take place at the end of the month.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to approve the Full Board Meeting Minutes dated July 23, 2024 made by Bill Henson with second by Judith Meeks-Hakim. Voice Vote: All ayes – 0 nays. Motion passed.

COUNTY CLERK STEVE FOX CORRESPONDENCE

Marion County Clerk Steve Fox presented the Illinois Department of Revenue figures.

Illinois Department of Revenue:

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
¼%	\$85,208.88	\$92,915.55
1%	\$33,163.78	\$40,043.59

REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES

FINANCE & INSURANCE COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN CHRISTOPHER KRUPP

Approval of Bills

General: \$104,973.59 Christopher Krupp made a motion to approve bills and seconded by Judith Meeks-Hakim. Roll Call Vote: 13 ayes – 0 nays. Motion passed

Insurance: \$90,225.05 The total was corrected from the Agenda's numbers (see attachment). Christopher Krupp made a motion to approve bills and was seconded by Deborah Reed. Roll Call Vote: 13 ayes – 0 nays. Motion passed.

Judicial: \$692,248.97 Christopher Krupp made a motion to approve bills and was seconded by Sharon Woodward. Roll Call Vote: 13 ayes – 0 nays. Motion passed.

Next, Finance & Insurance Committee Chairman Christopher Krupp addressed the financing of the window replacement at the Marion County Courthouse and the Public Service Building. A thorough discussion transpired regarding the closed financial bids opened at the Combined Meeting with the Building & Historical Committee held on Wednesday, August 7, 2024. Mr. Krupp conveyed that after analyzing each of the institution's bids, the Committee had made the decision of utilizing People's National Bank and presenting their information to the Full Board for final approval. A copy of each of the bids were included in this meeting's packet. Following a lengthy conversation amongst the Full Members, the Elected Officials, and Committee Chairman Christopher Krupp and Building & Historical Committee Chairman Creighton Engel, Mr. Krupp made a motion to approve People's National Bank and their bid for the loan amount of \$900,000.00; a 15-year term with a 4.79% interest rate, and ~~monthly~~ ^{annual} payment of \$85,887.09 and was seconded by Deborah Reed. Prior to the Roll Call Vote, Board Member Steven Whritenour continued to voice his concerns with regards to future projects and their expenses. Board Chairwoman Debbie Smith reiterated that a meeting is scheduled on Wednesday, September 4, 2024 at 5:30 P.M. with the Elected Officials to discuss a 5-10-year priority list of any repairs or renovations that they foresee. Roll Call Vote: 11 ayes – 2 nays (Tyson McHenry and Steven Whritenour). Motion passed.

Finance & Insurance Committee – Continued:

In conclusion, Committee Chairman Christopher Krupp stated that an update on the FY 2022 Audit will be discussed during the next morning's phone conference with WIPFLI. This information will be relayed during the Full Board Meeting on August 27, 2024. Additionally, an all-day FY 2025 Budget Meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 26, 2024.

Prior to moving forward with the Building & Historical Committee's report, Board Chairwoman Debbie Smith reiterated that when a few of the Members were elected to the Board in 2012 that there were issues. For example, the Courthouse's appearance outside and inside had not been maintained. There were financial problems that effected Marion County employees also. She stated that balancing the Budget was an issue and that everyone on the Board since that time has worked diligently along with the Elected Officials to get it where it is today. She commended the Elected Officials for maintaining their Budgets.

BUILDING & HISTORICAL COMMITTEE – CHAIRMAN CREIGHTON ENGEL:

Approval of Bills: \$58,360.77 Creighton Engel made a motion to approve bills and was seconded by Steven Whritenour. Roll Call Vote: All ayes – 0 nay. Motion passed.

Building & Historical Committee Chairman Creighton Engel reiterated that in 2021 a list of priorities was presented. He stated that obstacles, some relating to the COVID outbreak, occurred causing a delay to some of the repairs and renovations. After consulting with the architects and contractors, priority went to issues that had not been addressed for several years. Plans are in place to continue working on the list.

Next, the lone bid for the window replacements at the Public Service Building was discussed. Creighton Engel made a motion to accept the \$75,900.00 bid from Gardner/L & M Glass to replace the windows in the Marion County Public Service Building and was seconded by Steven Bradley. Roll Call Vote: 12 ayes – 1 nay (Tyson McHenry). Motion passed.

Dr. Engel continued by conveying that Tom Paulson, TOP Electric & Lighting President/Project Manager, has offered to prepare the Bid Specifications for the Electrical Backup and Generator at the Marion County Courthouse for a fee of \$2,500.00. If the TOP Electric & Lighting bid is accepted, the fee will be waived. A thorough explanation regarding the importance of this equipment was presented by Sheriff Kevin Cripps and Marion County Circuit Clerk, Tiffany Schicker. Sheriff Cripps indicated the advantages of having the equipment and the ability to continue with business at the Marion County Sheriff's Office while the opening of the Courthouse was delayed after the last storm. The postponement caused issues with a Jury Trial and with the Public not being able to pay the first installment of Property Taxes on its final due date. A motion for Tom Paulson, TOP Electric & Lighting, to draw up the bid specifications for the Electrical Backup and the Generator at the Marion County Courthouse for a fee of \$2,500.00 was made by Creighton Engel and seconded by Christopher Krupp. Roll Call Vote: 12 ayes – 1 nay (Tyson McHenry). Motion passed.

An update from Shores Builders Construction with regards to the Public Service Building and the Sheriff's Office was presented by Sheriff Kevin Cripps. He stated that he had spoken with one of their representatives and they had thought the information had previously been sent. Nothing has been

received, therefore Sheriff Cripps was told that they “would get right on that.” He also conveyed that the door issues are with the doors themselves and not the door frame. In addition, the company that repaired the handicap doors at the Public Service Building will be returning to correct the problem with its switches for one of the doors.

LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN STEVE WHRITENOUR

Approval of Bills: \$86,552.38 Steven Whritenour made a motion to approve the bills and was seconded by Judith Meeks-Hakim. Roll Call Vote: 12 ayes – 0 nays (Christopher Krupp had momentarily exited the room). Motion passed.

Marion County Sheriff Kevin Cripps presented his monthly report. He stated that the Marion County jail had responded to 727 calls. The Jail currently has 58 inmates with 37 being Federal and 2 Juveniles. The average costs per inmate’s meal was \$1.75. Sheriff Cripps commended the County’s First responders and Linemen for their work during the last 2 severe storms.

Next, Law Enforcement Committee Chairman Steven Whritenour expressed gratitude toward Sheri Barter, Marion County ESDA Coordinator, the Marion County ESDA, Salem and Centralia ESDA. Several Members of the Board concurred. Mrs. Barter then proceeded with her monthly report (see attachment). In addition, she had a question for the Board Members regarding a previous bill for her agency. Dr. Engel responded by stating that it had been turned over to Ameresco.

COUNTY & COMMUNITY COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN BILL HENSON

County & Community Committee Chairman Bill Henson echoed Steven Whritenour’s compliments and expanded it to all of the Department Heads, County Officials, and Elected Officials in Marion County.

Motion to approve the County & Community Committee Minutes dated July 23, 2024 was made by Bill Henson and seconded by Tracy Murray. Voice Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

Approval of Bills: \$13,179.89 Bill Henson made a motion to approve bills and was seconded by Judith Meeks-Hakim. Roll Call Vote: 13 ayes – 0 nays. Motion passed.

Ken Ferguson, Marion County Animal Control Administrator, presented his monthly report. He conveyed that an error occurred with the recording system and a total of over 200 dogs have been picked up thus far this year. He proceeded by stating that he picked up 10 dogs and had 4 dog bite incidents. Lastly, he stated that he will be having knee replacement surgery on September 16, 2024.

Sub-Committee Codification: Brock Waggoner

Sub-Committee Codification Chairman Brock Waggoner was absent. Board Chairwoman Debbie Smith stated that the spreadsheet still has not been sent to the Marion County Board Secretary. It was previously requested 3 ½ weeks ago, and an additional email has been sent to Sub-Committee Chairman Mr. Waggoner requesting this document. The Codification project may begin as soon as this is received. In addition, Mrs. Smith explained that Lori Linder, the Marion County Board Secretary is going into a busy period which may cause some delay in getting all of the materials to American Legal Publishing Company.

ROAD & BRIDGE COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN: STEVEN BRADLEY

Prior to Approval of the Bills, Road & Bridge Committee Chairman Steven Bradley stated that a correction is to be made on the total amount (see attachment).

Approval of Bills: \$653,704.32 This is a corrected total. Steven Bradley made a motion to approve bills and was seconded by Christopher Krupp. Roll Call Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed. Michael McCormick, Marion County Highway Engineer addressed the error and the corrected amount.

Mr. McCormick continued by requesting approval of eight Resolutions. He gave an explanation of Resolution 2024-26: Engineering Service Agreement/Gonzalez Companies \$60,250 Kinmundy RD Shanghal Rd 22-07009-00-BR was given and questions were answered.

Steven Bradley made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-26, but prior to a second being made, Board member Bill Henson questioned if an omnibus vote could be made. After a brief conversation between Board Chairwoman Debbie Smith and Steve Fox Marion County Clerk, it was determined that an omnibus vote could be made for Resolutions 2024-26 through 2024-31.

Resolution 2024-26: Engineering Service Agreement/Gonzalez Companies \$60,250 Kinmundy RD Shanghal Rd 22-07009-00-BR.

Resolution 2024-27: Engineering Service Agreement/Gonzalez Companies \$38,500 Alma Rd Williams Rd 13-01003-00-FL.

Resolution 2024-28: Engineering Service Agreement/Gonzalez Companies \$32,500 Odin Rd West Line Rd 24-09012-00-FL.

Resolution 2024-29: Engineering Service Agreement/Gonzalez Companies \$38,000 Alma Rd Laughman Road 24-01005-00-FL.

Resolution 2024-30: Engineering Service Agreement/Gonzalez Companies \$34,000 Kinmundy Rd Edgar Rd 24-07013-00-FL.

Resolution 2024-31: Engineering Service Agreement/Gonzalez Companies \$45,000 Patoka Rd Kline Rd 19-11004-00-BR.

An omnibus motion to approve Resolution 2024-26 through 2024-31 was made by Steven Bradley and was seconded by Deborah Reed. Prior to Roll Call Vote, a brief description of each was given. Roll Call Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

In addition, an explanation of the remaining Resolutions was given and questions were answered.

Resolution 2024-32: Bid Approval DMS Contracting, Foster Township Malone Rd 22-04036-00-MS \$188,906.13. Motion to approve Resolution 2024-32 was made by Steven Bradley and seconded by Steven Whritenour. Roll Call Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

Resolution 2024-33: ROW Permit-Furlong Excavating/Green Street Bore. Motion to approve Resolution 2024-33 was made by Steven Bradley and seconded by Sharon Woodward. Roll Call Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

Road & Bridge Committee – Continued:

Next, Mr. McCormick stated that the Department is currently fully staffed. He reported that the Green Street and Odin Road Safety Projects are progressing. In Patoka, the Kline Road Bridge repairs are to begin August 26, 2024, and in Sandoval, the Range Road bids are due August 16, 2024 and will be brought before the Full Board shortly thereafter. He conveyed that in October, 2024 that Marion County “will be able to be locked in for funding with IDOT” for the Route 161 Extension Skillet Fork Bridge, but the funding will not be available for 4 years. The State may allow the program to begin within 2 ½ - 3 years if all of the paperwork and departments are in agreement.

Prior to the 911/ESDA Committee’s Report, Board Member Tyson McHenry had questions regarding the first bridge on Meridian Road West of Sandoval. Mr. McCormick responded by conveying that the State has stated that Marion County has to have permanent closure of the bridge. This will cause 2 bridges to be closed on the Meridian Road which are located on the Marion/Clinton County line. After a discussion with Clinton County, they have elected to take the lead on taking care of the programming, the design, and the construction of both bridges.” Marion County will only be responsible for their share on the expenses according to the EAB.

911/ESDA COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN STEVEN WHRITENOUR

911/ESDA Committee Chairman Steven Whritenour stated that a 911/ESDA Committee Meeting was conducted prior to this evening’s Full Board Meeting. He conveyed that the information from that meeting and a quote from Braniff Communications will be discussed in 2 weeks.

PERSONNEL/LABOR RELATIONS COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN: ADAM SMITH

Personnel/Labor Relations Committee Chairman Adam Smith stated that the FOP Contract Negotiations will begin Wednesday, August 21, 2024, and Rick Stewart, Marion County’s Labor Attorney may be attending. Sheriff Kevin Cripps stated that clarification of a few issues will be discussed.

Next, Mr. Smith gave the floor to Michael McCormick, Marion County Highway Engineer. Mr. McCormick conveyed that he has been given the opportunity for the highway engineer’s position in Bond County. Additionally, he resides in that County and has been commuting daily. He stated that after thorough consideration, he will be resigning from his position as Marion County Highway Engineer effective August 30, 2024. He commended Marion County for allowing him to continue with his career for the last 12 years. The Board Members applauded him for his services. He has also offered to be a consultant for the County until a new Engineer is hired. His letter of resignation was received.

A Closed Committee Meeting regarding the Interim Engineer was scheduled for Monday, August 19, 2024 at 5:00 P.M.

BROADBAND COMMITTEE: CHAIRWOMAN: DEBORAH REED

Broadband Chairman Deborah Reed stated that Clearwave is still not interested after consulting with another individual from their company.

DECENNIAL COMMITTEE:

Full Board Committee Chairwoman Debbie Smith stated that there was nothing new to report.

LIQUOR COMMITTEE: CHAIRWOMAN DEBBIE SMITH:

Chairwoman Debbie Smith stated that The Wedding Barn renewed their liquor license.

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

Next Full Board Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 27, 2024 at 6:30 P.M.

Time: 8:23 P.M.

Approved: _____ ✓

Date: 8/27/24



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

8/13/24

Full Board Meeting

Guests

Bill Henson

~~Gary King~~

Bill Smith

Brookopp WJBD-WJ12

Amy Threlkell

Jeffrey Schickel

~~Club Inc~~

Tykon Melby

Shayaku Woodruff

~~Valerie Kellum~~

~~David Williams~~

~~Mike~~

Amy Telford

Thank you Ma'am Chairwoman, Board Members, Media and Guest For giving me this time to clear up a few things, to set the record straight and do some drama shut down with the public and a few Board Members.

Tonight, I have Doug Telford the Marion County Fair Board President and Colleen Miselbrook also a board member here tonight

1.) The Marion County Fair Grounds, it is actually on the county line. So, it is actually out of the city limits. Also Marion County Fairgrounds is a Privately owned property.

2.) With that being said Marion County ESDA works for the Fair Board the week of the fair, or any other time you see us out there.

They tell ME, the Marion County Coordinator, where and what we can or can not do, this includes park vehicles on the property. Like fair week, with all the rain there was so much water and mud, we could not park on the property like we normally have in the past.

I set down with the Fair Board President Doug Telford alongside Kirk Wilkins.

We came up with the plan of offsite parking, we did all we could to shuttle the public into the grounds.

I hope the public will see that we were all looking out for the interests and safety of the community.

So, for everyone that is upset because of the difficulties in parking please understand we were only trying to help the community.

I also want the community to understand something about Marion County Emergency Services and Disaster Agency (ESDA)

These people are out there working to help the community in all kinds of weather conditions as VOLUNTEERS. So please, the next time you see us out just remember we are out there helping the community, assisting the police and Sheriff's departments because we WANT to help our community.

(2)

3) Marion County ESDA also has boundaries set by the Region and state that we can not cross. We try to follow the state rules to the best of our abilities. With at said, it brings me to a big issue that I was faced with the night of the first storm that hit of the fair. Since the storm was already in the forecast, and the entertainment for the night was cancelled, I only had 2 other guys working that night, 1 stayed at the fairgrounds and the other along with myself, went on weather watch, meaning we left the grounds, we were not on duty for them, I called the President Doug Telford at 8:34pm to give him an update on the storm and told him he needed to move the people and shut down the rides, he hung up from me and got ahold of the Carnival owner to have the rides and mid-way shut down. 7 minutes after I called Doug, Sheriff Cripps also called him to advise him, Doug let him know that he had already spoken with me and the plan was in motion. The public were getting moved to the shelters by the fair board members. Doug called me at 9:03pm to let me know that all was ok.

Now you may be wondering while I told you all those details, well here is why. There is a Member that sits on this board that think they know all. And thinks they can start drama, with stating "Marion County ESDA Sheri did not do her job, that she was not out here shutting down the carnival. And that they had to make the decision on where a safe place would be for the public to go because Sheri's guy that was out there didn't know and neither did the President of the Board or any other board member. Well, I am here to call BULLSHIT! Mr. Brock Waggoner, you do not know how Marion County ESDA is ran, You do not know the first think about what or how things are set up for the Fairground. So let me make it clear again, The Fairgrounds is a privately owned property. This means I report to the Fair President in an emergency, as I did. Then Doug Telford controls the rest, as he did. He already had doors to the shelter unlocked and also had his wife ready inside the shelter to get the people in. So when you looked me in the face that night just after the storm had settled and told me if anyone had gotten hurt it would be on me, my fault, if you had not made the decision on where the public was to go. Sir, you out right lied. You might have told a couple of people to go to the shelter. BUT you sir did not make that decision. And then to start spreading crap about me and the job I do, Well Sir, I am not afraid of you, I will stand up to you, when it comes to having something to say to you, I will not go behind your back and start drama. If you were a good person as you want people to think you are, you would have spoken to me first, before you opened your mouth to others. Everything I have stated here can be backed up by Doug, Colleen and Sheriff Cripps.

So, Mr. Waggoner, maybe you should focus on getting the issues you think are wrong within your own house, meaning the board, before throwing stones at other people.

I usually keep my thoughts and opinions to myself, but I felt a line had been crossed. When you Sir start putting down Marion County ESDA, We are volunteering our time to do the things we do for the community.

Board members thank you for letting me say what I needed to say.

Correction

Insurance
Marion County
August, 2025
Invoice Amt

Open Invoices by Vendor (APLT20)

Invoice	Inv Date	Due Date	PO Number	Description
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Bank Account Totals				
2	2770340516			\$67,542.75

221345 Symetra Financial \$18,596.62

221344 All Counties Risk Mgmt Trust \$4,085.68

Total \$22,682.30

Grand Total \$90,225.05

MARION COUNTY ESDA Report August 13, 2024

Thank you, Ma'am Chairwoman, Board Members, Media and Guest

My unit and I have assisted in a couple accidents with the Sheriff Dept. this past month. For a total of 26.5 hours with 3 units

Also, as you know the Marion County Fair was July 26th – August 3rd. During that time, we parked approximately 40,000 to 40,500 vehicles. Putting about 162,000 people for the week at the fairgrounds. On Kids Day there were between 700 – 800 kids that attended plus their parents. This does not count the campers and the FFA members. I am happy to say there were no major instances other than a couple trucks and cars getting stuck in the mud due to the storms which made parking a challenge. But that to was worked out and handled with me and the Fair Board President Doug Telford and Kirk Wilkens. We were able to park at the Meador Brothers Trucking Parking lot just across the street from the Fair grounds and at the Orchard Shopping Center also known as Southern Gardens Shopping Center. But on Demo night we had to expand the parking to the Schutt Helmet Factory parking lot. There were shuttles going into these parking lots and brought the people to the front gate. I even got to drive a tractor with a people hauler. (We do whatever we can to help)

My unit and I put in 267.5 hours just at the fair with traffic, this does not include the 2 storms that hit. I had 6 to 10 people every night working doing whatever needed to be done to make sure the fair ran as smoothly as it possibly could.

I just want to say for the record I am very proud of my people.

Being a volunteer for Marion County ESDA is not an easy job, we get called out all hours of the night and day, cold weather and 100-degree weather to do a job for free. I have been asked and so have my team, why do you do all you do for free? That is crazy. Well, our answer is always the same, to be a Volunteer for Marion County ESDA, you need to want to help in a time of need and want to give back to your community. I guess that is why it is so hard to find volunteers.

The Mission of the Marion County ESDA is to develop, coordinate and lead the local program in enabling effective preparation for the county and response to emergencies and disasters to save lives, reduce property loss and stop human suffering.

The Vision of the Marion County ESDA is to strive to be the most effective multi-agency for the Marion County Community at large.

Ask about the part of my Turner/AC System is it approved?

Fw: R & B Bills

Steve Fox <countyclerk@marionco.illinois.gov>

Tue 8/13/2024 9:34 AM

To: Lori Linder <llinder@marionco.illinois.gov>

Update to the Highway bills.

Thanks,

Steve Fox

From: High Department <highwaydept@marionco.illinois.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, August 13, 2024 9:30 AM

To: Steve Fox <countyclerk@marionco.illinois.gov>

Subject: Re: R & B Bills

Steve,

\$171,828.59 is correct. I must have forgotten to redo the total after I added the top 2 enteries.

Thanks,

Marilea

From: Steve Fox <countyclerk@marionco.illinois.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, August 13, 2024 8:24 AM

To: High Department <highwaydept@marionco.illinois.gov>

Subject: Re: R & B Bills

Good Morning Marilea,

We had a question about the bills before we cut checks today. Under 07 County Motor Fuel Tax Fund the total on the spreadsheet is \$123,823.03. We are only coming up with \$171,828.59 for the total. Would you take a look at it and let me know.

Thanks,

Steve Fox

Marion County Clerk

From: High Department <highwaydept@marionco.illinois.gov>

Sent: Thursday, August 8, 2024 1:00 PM

To: Lori Linder <llinder@marionco.illinois.gov>; Steve Fox <countyclerk@marionco.illinois.gov>

Subject: R & B Bills

I'm sending the bills so I won't hold you up on getting them entered.

The rest of my packet will have to wait till tomorrow. Mike is out office and he has access to some items I need.

Thanks,

Marilea