

MARION COUNTY FULL BOARD MEETING

MINUTES

April 11, 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 Steve Fox, Marion County Clerk.

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

RECOGNITION OF GUEST: Guest: Kevin Cripps, Marion County Sheriff, Troy Reed, Marion County Jail Administrator, Renee Pride, Marion County Probation Director, Sheri Brooks-Barter, Marion County ESDA Coordinator, Michael McCormick, Marion County Highway Department Engineer, Ken Ferguson, Marion County Animal Control Officer, Tiffany Schicker, Marion County Circuit Clerk, Mark Miller, Marion County Supervisor of Assessments, Stacey Arenas, Marion County 911, Bruce Kropp, Dennis Rosenberger, Bill Smith, and Gene Mackey, Ameresco.

THOSE WHO WISH TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

Mark Miller, Marion County Supervisor of Assessments, addressed the County Board in regards to the tornado on March 31, 2023. He stated that Governor J.B. Pritzger included Marion County in the disaster area for the state of Illinois, which affects the assessment process. He stated that PTAX 245 (Disaster Area Application for Reassessment) forms are available for victims of this storm. He needs to inform people and get their information of damage caused by the tornado no matter how big or how small. The reassessment will stay in effect until the issues are resolved. In addition, he thanked Terry Mulvaney, Coordinator of the Marion County Civil Defense, for his assistance in retrieving information such as phone numbers from these people. He stated that there are thirty-nine properties impacted by this disaster so far, which includes commercial and residential. He wants to inform the public that property assessment is also very important. He stated that there are two different preferential assessments. The first example is the Natural Disaster Homestead Exemption. It relates to a property that has been completely destroyed or deemed inhabitable and that needs to be rebuilt. The assessment value right before the disaster would be used for a new home on said property until it is sold or the people move from the property. Secondly, the Home Improvement Exemption may apply if any upgrades are made on the effected property. David Iossi, County Board member, questioned if these relate to solar. Mr. Miller stated that it has a different preferential assessment.

Those Who Wish to Address the Board – Continued

Marion County Board Chairwoman, Debbie Smith commended Marion County Circuit Clerk, Tiffany Schicker for her involvement in cleaning the Moose Building. Mrs. Schicker added that she had assistance from Dave Daniels, Marion County maintenance/ janitorial personnel, three Marion County Probation Public Service workers, and Renee Pride, Marion County Probation Director.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to approve Full Board minutes dated March 28, 2023 made by David Iossi with second by Deborah Reed. Roll Call Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

COUNTY CLERK STEVE FOX CORRESPONDENCE

Illinois Department of Revenue

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
¼%	\$74,589.19	\$72,280.97
1%	\$37,302.56	\$34,034.10

Motion request from Patoka Fire Protection District to reappoint Zeb Jolliff to the position of Trustee of the Patoka Fire Protection District for a three year term commencing May 1, 2023 was made by Tracy Murray with second by Bill Henson. Voice Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

Motion request from Salem Fire Protection District to reappoint James T Somer to the position of Trustee of the Salem Fire Protection District for the next term was made by Adam Smith with second by Deborah Reed. His current term expires 5/1/23. Voice Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES

FINANCE & INSURANCE COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN CHRISTOPHER KRUPP

Approval of Bills

General: \$87,690.53 Christopher Krupp made a motion to approve bills and was seconded by Steven Bradley. Prior to Roll Call Vote Adam Smith questioned Mr. Fox about the Livestock payment. Mr. Fox recommended that Ken Ferguson, Animal Control Officer explain that it involved a dog killing a person’s livestock (chickens). Brock Waggoner inquired about a \$17.00 charge that was paid to Tarrant County Texas. It was verified that it was for Court records for the Marion County State’s Attorney. Roll Call Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

Insurance: \$32,627.99 Christopher Krupp made a motion to approve bills and was seconded by David Iossi. Prior to the Roll Call Vote, Brock Waggoner questioned HIPA laws in regards to the recipient’s name on the bills. It was determined that the name only being listed is not under HIPA protection. Roll Call Vote: All ayes – No Nays. Motion passed.

Financial & Insurance Committee - Continued

Judicial: \$625,595.02 Christopher Krupp made a motion to approve bills and was seconded by Steven Whritenour. Roll Call Vote: All ayes – No Nays. Motion passed.

Christopher Krupp made a motion to approve the Bellwether LLC Letter of Agreement (Budget Services 2023) for the amount of \$13,000.00 and was seconded by Steven Bradley. Roll Call Vote: All ayes – No Nays. Motion passed.

Next, Mr. Krupp addressed the 2023 Quarterly Budget Variance Report. He stated that they are not seeing any major concerns, but he did indicate that there are costs increases in various items. This situation may need to be addressed towards the end of the year. Brock Waggoner had questions on a few issues. He began with the Marion County Jail's expenditures. Troy Reed, Marion County Jail Administrator, mentioned that new mats for the inmates were purchased which was a major portion of their expenses. Mr. Waggoner also questioned the Marion County Jail's Cook and part time cook line item. Sheriff Kevin Cripps also has questions because their hours and wages have to be altered. Mr. Krupp will be checking into the situation. Next, he addressed the Marion County Supervisor of Assessments office expenses. He felt that they were higher than normal for this time of year. Mark Miller, Marion County Supervisor of Assessments, asked if he was still within his budget and Mr. Waggoner stated that he is. Mr. Miller's response was "then we are good." In addition, he stated that the Moose Building's expenses indicate that it is over budget. Sheriff Kevin Cripps suggested that the bill increase may be due to the new units for heating and cooling for this year and that they may need to adjust the budget in the future. Lastly, he stated that the Marion County Health Department is over budget in some of their areas. It was verified that they have their own budget that the County Board has no control in setting or spending of their budget. Creighton Engel added that they are very well funded and in good standings.

Resolution 2023-19: Permanent Parcel Number 14-009-040-00- Acceptance of full payment of delinquent taxes, penalties, interest and costs from the owner of an interest in said property and request for surrender of the tax sale certificate. Marion County is to receive \$912.93 with remaining monies distributed according to law. Motion to approve this resolution on said property was made by Christopher Krupp and seconded by Deborah Reed. Voice Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

In conclusion, the Funding Agreement for the Fiscal Year 2023 Illinois Extension \$153,000.00 was discussed. Steve Fox, Marion County Clerk and Clerk of the County Board, stated that this is their Levee. Brock Waggoner had concerns with Illinois cutting of the extensions and their programs that they provide. County Board Chairwoman recommended that a representative from the U of I Extension come and address the Board with their information. Bill Henson made a motion to approve the Funding Agreement for the Fiscal Year 2023 Illinois Extension \$153,000.00 and was seconded by Steve Bradley. Roll Call Vote: 11 ayes – 1 nay (Brock Waggoner). Motion passed.

BUILDING & HISTORICAL COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN CREIGHTON ENGEL

Approval of Bills: \$26,537.20 Creighton Engel made a motion to approve bills and was seconded by David Iossi. Roll Call Vote: All ayes – No Nays. Motion passed.

Committee Chairman Creighton Engel addressed the bid for repairing Judge Stedlein's office restroom that was brought forward from the March 28, 2023 meeting. Sheriff Kevin Cripps stated that it was brought to his attention that there was a water leak that damaged the restroom wall and ceiling. The bid request from Henson Painting was made while they were there painting the Judge's Chambers and the other Judge's office. The total amount of the bid is \$1,465.25. Motion to approve Henson Painting's bid in the amount of \$1,465.25 was made by Creighton Engel and seconded by Steve Whritenour. Prior to Roll Call Vote, Brock Waggoner questioned if this project was advertised for other bids. The Board verified that due to the amount of the bid it does not have to be. Roll Call Vote: 11 ayes – 1 nay (Brock Waggoner). Motion passed.

Next, Gene Mackey from Ameresco addressed the Board with updates and a small presentation. He stated that the construction of the restrooms on the first floor are currently underway and the Marion County State's Attorney's office renovation has been completed. He continued with information of the future projects that are to be done. David Iossi questioned if the elevator noise issues in the Treasurer's office have been resolved. Mr. Mackey stated that unfortunately Ameresco can only help dampen and buffer the noise due to this being an issue prior to their involvement at the Marion County Courthouse. The slide show which included a survey of the work in progress, the work that has been completed and the value of the added services that have been done at no costs to the County was presented. The Revenue was also addressed.

The Capital Expenditure (Ameresco) Ordinance 2023-1 was not addressed at this meeting, but will be carried forward.

In conclusion, an update on the Moose Building cleanup was given by Sheriff Kevin Cripps. He stated that Tiffany Schicker, Marion County Circuit Clerk, David Daniels, Marion County Maintenance Personnel, and Public Service workers from Marion County Probation assisted in filling two dumpsters with discarded items. Probation Public Service workers will complete the deeper cleaning process in the non-secured area this week. Sheriff Cripps followed up with information that the camera and key fob system should be completed by the end of this month.

LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN STEVE WHRITENOUR

Approval of Bills: \$67,095.30 Committee Chairman Steve Whritenour commented that this amount is down about \$30,000.00 this month is within the normal range. Steve Whritenour made a motion to approve bills and was seconded by Christopher Krupp. Roll Call Vote: All ayes – No Nays. Motion passed.

Security Automation Systems' status was addressed. Sheriff Kevin Cripps previously stated that the Moose Building's security system should be completed by the end of this month. He added that the main goal is for every County Building to be on the same system in the future.

### Law Enforcement Committee -- Continued

Sheriff Kevin Cripps gave the report on the Jail: 75 inmates of which are 19 Federal, 2 Juvenile, 1 Housed in Jefferson County - 719 Incidents, 28 Traffic Citations were issued. 8,131 Meals were served at a cost of \$2.08 per meal. He added that he has been advertising employment opportunities for Deputies and Correctional Officers. He stated that has had a good response with 24 people applying.

### COUNTY & COMMUNITY COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN BILL HENSON

Approval of Bills: \$15,935.95 Bill Henson made a motion to approve bills and was seconded by David Iossi. Prior to Roll Call Vote, Brock Waggoner had concerns in regards to a couple of the A/C bills. The questions were resolved. He also commented on a couple of the Election charges, for example the paper publication expenses and the Web site notifications. Roll Call Vote: All ayes – No Nays. Motion passed.

The Broadband update was presented by Bill Henson. A Committee meeting was held prior to the Full Board Meeting this evening which included Broadband. He will be scheduling an additional Committee meeting in regards to forming a Sub Committee for Broadband in the near future. Mr. Henson will be in discussion with Matt Schmidt from the Office of Illinois Broadband in order to obtain information on a few unanswered questions prior to this meeting. He will also be in touch with George Evans of Kaskaskia College. He welcomed everyone to attend the next meeting and to present any input.

In addition, a Flagpole update was given by Committee Chairman Bill Henson. He stated that he sent a request for information on 30 feet flagpoles which will hold 5 feet by 8 feet flag to Wilson and Wilson and is waiting on a response. He will forward this information to the County Board Secretary for distribution as soon as it is received.

Sub-Committee Codification Chairman Brock Waggoner verified that the next meeting will be scheduled in May, 2023.

A report from Ken Ferguson, Animal Control Officer was given. Mr. Ferguson stated that eleven dogs were picked up in the county and taken to the Centralia Animal Shelter. The shelter had to turn down approximately a dozen dogs due to lack of space at the shelter. Some of the dogs had to be fostered or a lengthy search for their owner had to be conducted. He also stated that he has been questioned when the county will be getting their own facility. Chairwoman Debbie Smith stated that Marion County only has a contract with the City of Centralia for this facility and that they would be the ones to address the overcrowding issue. He praised the management and its employees for their diligence effort in finding the animal's previous homes and any adoption homes. County Chairwoman Debbie Smith and Committee Chairman Bill Henson will be in touch with the City of Centralia to discuss options with the issue of the over population of the shelter. Mr. Ferguson addressed combining dog certifications to one monthly list instead of individual certifications per animal. County Chairwoman Debbie Smith and Committee Chairman Bill Henson were in agreement that if it would benefit Mr. Ferguson's recording keeping he may accept the combined list. A meeting with the Veterinarian in question will be arranged in the near future. In addition, he would like the County Board to consider veterinary care assistance for the elderly and low level income families. Mrs. Smith gave direction to Mr. Ferguson to address the Committee prior to bringing this subject to the Full Board.

ROAD & BRIDGE COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN STEVEN BRADLEY

Approval of Bills: \$319,793.76 Steven Bradley made a motion to approve bills and was seconded by David Iossi. Roll Call Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

Resolution 2023-20: County Bituminous 23-00000-00-GM Bid Approval. Motion to approve County Bituminous 23-00000-00-GM Bid made by Steven Bradley and seconded by Christopher Krupp. Prior to Roll Call Vote, Mr. Waggoner was questioning usage in regards to the Motor Fuel Tax. Michael McCormick, Marion County Highway Engineer, responded to the question. Vote Roll Call Vote: 11 ayes – No nays (County Chairwoman Debbie Smith excused herself from the meeting prior to Roll Call Vote).

Resolution 2023-21: Township Bituminous 23-(01-17)000-00-GM Bid Approval. Motion to approve County Bituminous 23-(01-17)000-00-GM Bid made by Steven Bradley and seconded by Steve Whritenour. Vote Roll Call Vote: 11 ayes – No nays (County Chairwoman Debbie Smith excused herself from the meeting prior to Roll Call Vote).

In conclusion, Mr. McCormick stated that the Highway Department is starting their maintenance programs for this year. He also reiterated that the weight limit restrictions will be lifted as of April 15, 2023.

MARION COUNTY BICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN ADAM SMITH

Prior to Committee Chairman Adam Smith addressing the Board, Chairwoman, Debbie Smith stated that she conducted a presentation at the Grace United Methodist Church. In addition, another one will be presented on Thursday, April 13, 2023 at Sharon's Café for the Retired Teachers Organization. Mr. Smith continues with information in regards to the time capsule. For example, he is obtaining instructions for the exhibit of the time capsule at the Marion County Fair. He continues to gather data to be placed in the time capsule. He stated that he will provide information as it develops for this Committee.

911/ESDA COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN STEVE WHRITENHOUR

Committee Chairman Steve Whritenhour stated that the next meeting is scheduled April 18, 2023. An update of the Nexel/Everbridge Project will be presented. Brock Waggoner commended the Centralia Officers and their participation in relief of the Salem Officers and the Sheriff's Department in the disaster area after the tornado in Salem. He and Chairman Steve Whritenour feel that the multi-community agreement is working well.

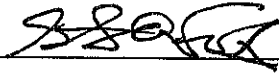
PERSONNEL/LABOR RELATIONS COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN ADAM SMITH

Chairmen Adam Smith stated that the Committee needs to conduct a meeting in the near future to discuss the maintenance and custodial responsibilities of the Sheriff. Marion County State's Attorney Tim Hudspeth is in the process of obtaining any information of the rules and regulations that are already in place. Mr. Smith also conveyed that a meeting in regards to the payment issues with the Labor Relations for the State's Attorney's Office will be conducted prior to April 18, 2023.

Nothing further to come before the Board, Motion to Adjourn with mileage and per diem was made by Creighton Engel and seconded by Steve Whritenour. Roll Call Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

Time Adjourned: 8:47 P.M.

Next meeting: TUESDAY APRIL 25, 2023 AT 7:00 P.M.

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

