

MARION COUNTY FULL BOARD MEETING

MINUTES

Tuesday, May 14, 2024

6:30 P.M.

Basement of Sheriff's Office

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

Invocation presented by Wayne Walker.

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

RECOGNITION OF GUEST

See attached list.

THOSE WHO WISH TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

Renee Pride, Marion County Probation Director, advised the Marion County Board Members that she will be signing a new lease with GFI for the copiers in her Department. She stated that the current monthly fee is \$496.71, but will be reduced to \$463.97 for 2 copiers. The Lease Agreement will be good for 5 years, and she prefers to be under a lease agreement due to it including free toner and a service agreement. She wanted the Board to be aware of this matter due to having to sign the Lease Agreement.

Next, County Board Chairwoman Debbie Smith acknowledged Shelby Zellers, Marion County 4-H Extension Program Coordinator. Ms. Zellers addressed the Board and introduced 3 Federation Club Members of the program that were present. They were Norah Cox, Hallie Borcharding, and Tommy Cox. Each representative was given an opportunity to speak with regards to their involvement in 4-H. At the conclusion of their presentations, they distributed Thank you cards to each member of the Marion County Board and thanked them for their support of the Program.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to approve minutes from the Full Board Meeting held on April 23, 2024 made by David Iossi with second by Sharon Woodward. Prior to Voice Vote, Full Board Member Brock Waggoner expressed that the minutes were incorrect with regards to his view of hiring a financial person. Marion County Board Chairwoman Debbie Smith stated "So noted." Voice Vote: 10 ayes – 1 nay (Brock Waggoner). Motion passed.

COUNTY CLERK STEVE FOX CORRESPONDENCE

Illinois Department of Revenue:

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
¾%	\$78,175.84	\$74,589.19
1%	\$33,760.87	\$37,302.56

REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES

FINANCE & INSURANCE COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN CHRISTOPHER KRUPP

Marion County Board Chairwoman Debbie Smith announced that the items on the Agenda will be attended to out of order due the WIPFLI representatives appearing via ZOOM for the completed FY 2021 Audit presentation. Prior to their introduction, Committee Chairman Christopher Krupp requested to address Resolution 2024-16: Establishing the Compensation of the Marion County Assessor as Director of GIS. Marion County Supervisor of Assessments Mark Miller responded to questions asked by Full Board Member Brock Waggoner regarding “the required additional payment as GIS Director versus his current duties as Assessor.” Approving Resolution 2024-16 will equalize all of the County Officials’ salaries. In addition, he gave details of his position as GIS Director which included him announcing that he will soon be overseeing a new website with a Company named Beacon. The pay will come out of the GIS Fund and not from any property tax monies. Full Board Member Adam Smith stated “as a realtor that Marion County has one of the best websites.” He commended Mr. Miller with respect to his involvement with the site. Christopher Krupp made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-16: Establishing the Compensation of the Marion County Assessor as Director of GIS and was seconded by David Iossi. Roll Call Vote: 9 ayes – 2 nays (Brock Waggoner and Tyson McHenry). Motion passed.

Finance & Insurance Committee Chairman Christopher Krupp continued with the subject of the completed FY 2021 Audit. Introduction of Josh Faivre, WIPFLI Senior Manager and Certified Public Accountant, and Hope Friday, WIPFLI Certified Public Accountant and Manager. WIPFLI is currently the Auditor for Marion County. The WIPFLI Representatives appeared remotely. A copy of the FY 2021 Audit was provided to each Full Board Member via email and a physical copy prior to this night’s meeting. Mr. Faivre’s slide presentation consisted of the Audit Recap (see attachment) of the completed FY 2021 Audit. He thoroughly addressed each page of the report and answered all questions. Overall the Auditor’s Reports were reported as clean “unmodified” opinion with the exception of a couple of segregation of duties. This was the ultimate goal. Full Board Member Brock Waggoner questioned these results. Mr. Faivre explained the process of attaining the results of the clean “unmodified” opinions and how to resolve the issues with the segregation of duties. In addition, Mr. Faivre stated that it was not uncommon for small governmental units to have internal control issues. He explained that the ones found with payroll and the ones in the Circuit Clerk’s office can be easily resolved. He has agreed to work with the County to obtain proper controls.

Finance & Insurance Committee – Continued:

Furthermore, Mr. Waggoner questioned the ARPA Funds and if there is a requirement for itemized receipts, for example from Amerseco, the main company that Marion County worked with for several expenditures. Mr. Faivre announced that only the COVID pay from the ARPA Funds was handled with during the FY 2021 audit. He did continue to address Mr. Waggoner's comment with regards to the detailed itemized invoices by stating that they "should be itemized to an extent, showing specific things that you are paying for." Discrepancies with respect to Ameresco's billing process were noted by Board Member Mr. Waggoner, therefore, Chairwoman Mrs. Smith stated that this issue will be addressed at a meeting in the future due to this being an audit presentation.

Next, Josh Faivre addressed the Changes in General Fund – Current Year to Prior Year. Examples of the changes were discussed; the Intergovernmental Revenue was due to the decrease in prisoner income, and the Judiciary and Courts increasing because of the Gasb 84 Implementations. Additionally, corrections were made from reports that they received.

Continuing with the topic of the changes in Governmental Funds – Current Year to Prior Year transpired. A significant increase of the Governmental Revenue was mentioned, and due to the second half of cash payments from the ARPA Funds.

Lastly, the Revenue and Expenses were demonstrated by percentages and discussed; along with the Assessed Valuation by Levy Years 2017 through 2020 and Real Estate Tax Rates for the same years.

Board Member Brock Waggoner acknowledged that members of the public were present. He conveyed his concerns to the length of time that Marion County took to complete the FY 2021 Audit; as well as acquiring a document with information of how to prevent any previous issues from happening with future audits. Mr. Faivre reported that at the end of the Audit that there is a Corrective Action Plan for Current Year Findings. This page will contain any business advice comments for any Segregation of Duties that are not considered to be significant findings for the Audit, but are ways to improve. He reiterated that he is available to answer any other questions or concerns for the Board.

Full Board Member Steven Whritenour inquired if Mr. Faivre felt that it was necessary for Marion County, considering its size, to hire a County Financial Person. His response included that out of the 16 counties that WIPFli deals with only one has a Finance Director, and it is not feasible for Marion County at this time. He advised examination the people that are already involved with the County to see if there is a need for more supervision of the accounting information to help prevent and detect any variabilities when dealing with the County's accounting and financial reporting prior to hiring a new Financial Director. Mr. Whritenour conveyed that the need may be already happening. He expressed that due to the delays with the Audits, grants for Marion County have been hindered. Mr. Waggoner "challenged" Mr. Faive's response.

Committee Chairman Christopher Krupp communicated his gratitude to Josh Faivre and Hope Friday for their presentation.

Board Chairwoman Debbie Smith reiterated that there were issues with the accounting software conversion and the figures not conforming with one another that were causing issues with not getting the Audit completed in a timely manner. Mrs. Smith continued by stating that it was no fault of the Marion County Board or any of the Marion County Office Holders. In addition, she relayed that Marion County's previous auditor quit without efficient notice and expressed the difficulties of finding a

### Finance & Insurance Committee – Continued:

qualified and certified accountant. During this time, WIPFLI was contacted and accepted to work with Marion County. Board Member Brock Waggoner criticized Mrs. Smith's comments by stating "these steps taken to get here, you left out several of those steps." He continued that "at the end of the day it's irresponsible and devious of you to not inform the public correctly of what has actually happened and trying to hide the truth." Mrs. Smith responded, "I'm sorry, that's not me. I'm not going to address that, because I don't lie."

Guest Josh Dunahee persistently questioned Mrs. Smith with regards to the number of auditors in the State of Illinois. Chairwoman Mrs. Smith responded that she was not aware of the number. She proceeded with an explanation of contacting 10-12 auditors that are qualified to work with the County, and that none of them would accept. WIPFLI was the only one to take on the responsibilities. Mr. Dunahee moved forward with a question regarding the amount of money lost from grants due to the Audits not being completed. Mr. Waggoner stated that an amount is not known due to Marion County being on the "Stop Pay List." Committee Chairman Mr. Krupp emphasized that WIPFLI is in contact with the State of Illinois and that the State is aware that Marion County is in the process of rectifying these issues.

WIPFLI has completed the FY 2021 Audit and will be starting on the FY 2022 Audit very soon and have it completed within the next couple of months. Furthermore, the FY 2023 Audit will be addressed and completed before the end of Marion County's fiscal year on November 30, 2024.

Continuing with the Finance & Insurance Committee's old business report, Mr. Krupp stated that the hiring of the County Finance Person is being examined. WIPFLI is in the process of working with the County with regards to designing procedure/accounting manuals which may eliminate the necessity to hire an additional person to help identify any deficiencies that the County may have. In addition, Board Chairwoman Mrs. Smith stated that WIPFLI is working with County Elected Officials and creating manuals to help streamline their procedures in their offices. The costs for this process is being explored.

Next, a motion to approve the Finance & Insurance Committee Meeting dated April 22, 2024 was made by Christopher Krupp and seconded by David Iossi. Voice Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

### Approval of Bills

General: \$148,542.62 Christopher Krupp made a motion to approve bills was seconded by Adam Smith. Prior to Roll Call Vote, Marion County Board Member Brock Waggoner questioned if the amount included the Glass Doctor bill, and it did. Christopher Krupp questioned the manual check to Shores Builders. Marion County Clerk Steve Fox responded that it was for counter tops for his 2 offices and was not paid from the General Fund, but from his recording fund account. The Glass Doctor bill was also paid with this special fund account. He welcomed everyone to come by and see them. All of the offices in the Courthouse are now secured. Roll Call Vote: 10 ayes – 1 nay (Brock Waggoner). Motion passed.

Insurance: \$36,568.95 Christopher Krupp made a motion to approve bills and was seconded by Sharon Woodward. Roll Call Vote: 10 ayes – 1 nay (Brock Waggoner). Motion passed.

Judicial: \$731,605.65 Christopher Krupp made a motion to approve bills and was seconded by David Iossi. Prior to the Roll Call Vote, Marion County Board Member Steven Whritenour commented that the

Finance & Insurance Committee – Continued:

amount was a little higher than usual. Roll Call Vote: 10 ayes – 1 nay (Brock Waggoner). Motion passed.

Next, the New Business items were addressed. Mr. Krupp conveyed that the subject of Chaney & Karch Insurance and the increase or decrease in coverage costs for the Jail, Public Service Building, and Courthouse will be discussed at a Combined Finance & Insurance Committee and Building & Historical Committee Meeting next week. Consideration of coverage for the Marion County Highway Department buildings will be debated also.

Chairman Christopher Krupp then addressed the Resolutions on the Agenda. He stated that the amount of money that Marion County will receive from the Resolutions is \$1,628.00. Motion to approve Resolutions 2024-17 through 2024-20 was made by Christopher Krupp and seconded by Sharon Woodward. Voice Vote: 10 ayes – 1 nay (Brock Waggoner). Motion passed.

This would only cover the 12 sirens that Marion County is responsible for. Motion to approve the Marion County ESDA Tower Schedule Increase Limit to \$55,000.00 for each siren with an annual premium increase of \$1,467.00 was made by Christopher Krupp and seconded by David Iossi. Roll Call Vote: all ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

BUILDING & HISTORICAL COMMITTEE – CHAIRMAN CREIGHTON ENGEL:

Due to Committee Chairman Creighton Engel being absent, Committee Member Deborah Reed presented the Building & Historical Committee Report.

Approval of Bills: \$47,503.12 Deborah Reed made a motion to approve bills and was seconded by Adam Smith. Prior to Roll Call Vote, Full Board Member Jack Riley questioned what they are for. A report was included in each of the Full Board Member's packet that was emailed to them prior to the meeting and Mrs. Reed had all of the monthly invoices with her. Board Member Brock Waggoner relayed concerns with Full Board Members not having the ability to see the individual invoices and not having Committee Meetings. Board Chairwoman Debbie Smith stated that this would be addressed at a later date. Roll Call Vote: 9 ayes – 2 nays (Brock Waggoner and Jack Riley). Motion passed.

In conclusion, other than State's Attorney Tim Hudspeth stating that the renovation has not started, the ADA Remodel in the Courtroom was not available.

LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN STEVE WHRITENOUR

Approval of Bills: \$86,234.70 Steven Whritenour made a motion to approve the bills and was seconded by Christopher Krupp. Roll Call Vote: 10 ayes – 1 nay (Brock Waggoner). Motion passed.

Marion County Sheriff Kevin Cripps was absent; therefore, no report was given with regards to his department.

The subject of CommanderOne Emergency Warning System Control was addressed during the 911/ESDA Committee's report later in the Meeting.

Sheri Barter, Marion County ESDA Coordinator thanked the Board for their thoughts and prayers after the passing of her mother. Mrs. Barter continued by relaying that Braniff Communications conducted

Law Enforcement Committee – Continued:

inspections on the Marion County Emergency Outdoor Warning Sirens. She reported that out of 24 sirens only 4 are currently not working at this time, 1 in Salem, 2 in Centralia, and 1 in Alma. The one in Alma has been turned over to the insurance company. Braniff is waiting on parts for the others in Salem and Centralia. Board Member posed a question with respect to reports on the sirens. Mrs. Barter stated that she does have a full report with a breakdown of each siren. She described the process of Braniff's rectification of a siren in Centralia that GTIS had repaired with a "lamp cord" as a jumper wire. In addition, Braniff was able to put 2 non-working Salem sirens in working order during their inspections. She also acknowledged that when she was out, the ESDA crewmembers assisted with storm damage and with the Sheriff's Department on a few wrecks during the month. They also provided service at the Coon Hunters Hunt this month.

COUNTY & COMMUNITY COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN BILL HENSON

Approval of Bills: \$7,110.09 Bill Henson made a motion to approve bills and was seconded by Deborah Reed. Roll Call Vote: 10 ayes – 1 nay (Brock Waggoner). Motion passed.

Prior to Ken Ferguson, Animal Control Officer presenting his monthly report, he commended the 4-H Members. He proceeded by stating that he picked up 8 dogs during the month, but 13 was indicated in his report. He apologized for the error. Board Member Brock Waggoner interjected by stating that he had received several questions regarding County employees using the County vehicles for personal usage, and in addition, concerns of the amount of dogs being picked up and the expenditures being paid out. Mr. Ferguson stated that he uses his truck every day. Committee Chairman Bill Henson emphasized that Mr. Ferguson is on call 24/7 and that the expectation is that he responds to all calls. Board Chairwoman Debbie Smith conveyed that he is in compliance. Mr. Henson continued to enforce that Mr. Ferguson is adequately performing his duties as required by the Board. Referring to the bills, Mr. Henson brought attention to several animals needing medical care. Mr. Henson commended Mr. Ferguson for his services. Mr. Waggoner additionally commented that as a member of the County & Community Committee he was not well informed of information with regards to Animal Control and a job description for the Animal Control Administrator. Mr. Ferguson stated that he receives calls from the Sheriff's Office and calls directly to his cell phone. Mr. Waggoner requested that records of all calls be reported. After being told that this subject would be discussed at another meeting since it was not on the Agenda, Mr. Waggoner continued to interrupt. Committee Chairman Bill Henson announced that a County & Community Committee Meeting will be scheduled in the near future.

Next, Mr. Henson made a Motion to go into Closed Session – Opioid Litigation and seconded by Christopher Krupp. Voice Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

Closed Session began at 7:46 P.M.

Bill Henson made a Motion to come out of Closed Session and seconded by Sharon Woodward. Voice Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

Came out of Closed Session at 8:04 P.M.

County & Community Committee – Continued:

Sub-Committee Codification: Brock Waggoner

Sub-Committee Codification Chairman Brock Waggoner stated that he had nothing new to report. Prior to moving to the next Committee's report, State's Attorney Tim Hudspeth questioned a time or date that contact from American Publishing Legal will occur. Mr. Waggoner's responded that it was just brought to his attention that a questionnaire was received and returned without his knowledge. In addition, he explained that due to his "personnel schedule" that he had been unable to follow through with the codification process. Board Chairwoman Debbie Smith elaborated that the questionnaire was received by the Marion County Board Secretary, Lori Linder, and she and Steve Fox, the Marion County Clerk and Clerk of the Marion County Board completed and returned it to American Legal Publishing.

ROAD & BRIDGE COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN: STEVEN BRADLEY

Due to Committee Chairman Steven Bradley being absent, Committee Member Bill Henson presented the Road & Bridge Committee Report.

Approval of Bills: \$247,915.32 Bill Henson made a motion to approve bills and was seconded by David Iossi. Roll Call Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

A written report (see attachment) from Michael McCormick, Marion County Highway Engineer was included in each Board Member's Packet prior to the meeting.

Finance & Insurance Committee Chairman Christopher Krupp announced that he will be meeting with Mr. McCormick on May 16, 2024 to discuss insurance coverage on a few of the Highway Department buildings. After their conversation, Mr. Krupp will schedule a Finance & Insurance Committee Meeting. He mentioned this subject to the Full Board for informational purposes. Board Member David Iossi questioned if there were any issues with the insurance on the buildings. Mr. Krupp relayed that there were no issues; that the question from Chaney & Karch Insurance is the type of coverage that is needed for these buildings.

911/ESDA COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN STEVEN WHRITENOUR

911/ESDA Committee Chairman Steven Whritenour made a motion to approve the 911/ESDA Committee Meeting Minutes dated April 23, 2024 and seconded by Christopher Krupp. Voice Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

Mr. Whritenour proceeded with a brief discussion with respect to the 911/ESDA Committee Meeting held prior to this evening's Full Board Meeting. He conveyed that the key issue of the unification of the activation between the Salem and Centralia Emergency Outdoor Sirens was discussed. Mr. Whritenour had a conversation with GTSI, the vendor for the 911 Centers in Salem and Centralia. This company presented a up to \$500.00 estimate to unify the communications. The Committee has voted to bring this matter before the Full Board on Tuesday, May 28, 2024 for approval. In addition, the CommanderOne Emergency Warning System Control was talked over during the Committee Meeting. Mr. Whritenour relayed that Braniff Communications will be attending the next Committee Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, May 28, 2024 at 6:00 P.M. to further discuss this service that they offer. He conveyed that Braniff had repaired and restored activation to 2 sirens in Salem during their recent inspections of the sirens in Marion County.

PERSONNEL/LABOR RELATIONS COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN: ADAM SMITH

Personnel/Labor Relations Committee Chairman Adam Smith stated that a Closed Committee Meeting was conducted on Wednesday, May 7, 2024 at 6:30 P.M. An additional Closed Committee Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 15, 2024. The time stated on the Full Board Agenda was corrected to 4:30 P.M. A request for Steven Whritenour to appear remotely was made by Adam Smith. Chairwoman Debbie Smith stated that it would be beneficial for him to attend and approved to make arrangements with the Committee Chairman.

BROADBAND COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN: DEBORAH REED

Chairman Deborah Reed stated that there was nothing new to report.

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 Twisted Sisters renewed their license. They have had a Liquor License with Marion County since 1995.

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

Next Full Board Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 28, 2024 at 6:30 P.M.

Time: 8:11 P.M.

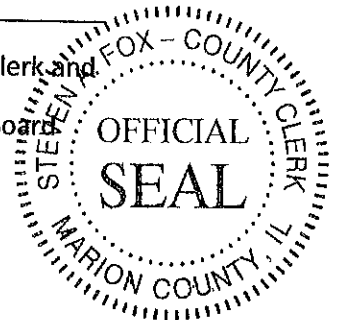
Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ ✓

Date: 5/28/24

\_\_\_\_\_

Steve Fox, Marion County Clerk and

Clerk of Marion County Board





5/14/24

# Full Board Meeting

## Guests

Steve Dink  
Genea Brude - MCCSB - Probation  
Bill Smith  
John M. [unclear]  
[unclear]  
Paula Rouse  
Mike & Eliza Hays  
Wayne S. Walker  
Randy Herpen  
Karl Dunham  
Kayma Dunham  
Mabel Douglas  
Sheri Butler Marion County ESA Corp.  
Jenny G. Marion County 4-H  
Hallie Borcharding  
Narah Cox  
Shelby Zellers  
Bruce Kropp  
Dennis Rosenberger  
Janet Carter - Queen

*Marion County Highway Department  
901 West Elm Street  
Salem, Illinois 62881  
Phone 618-548-3887  
Fax: 618-548-3895*

May 8, 2024

Marion County Board  
Highway Dept Project Update

Honorable Board Members,

The Green Street Road/Odin Road is scheduled to begin on May 20<sup>th</sup>. (weather pending). Green Street Road will not be closed during the project, but the department encourages those that travel Green Street Road to take extra precautions if traveling through the project. It is anticipated that the number of accidents will increase if not paying attention to traffic control or distracted driving.

Kline Road Bride project was let at the end of April. C-Hill Civil Contractors was the apparent low bidder at \$670,000.00. The project has not been scheduled for construction. A July/August start date is expected.

Range Road Bridge design is finishing up. Still hopeful for a Fall letting.

Racetrack Road Bridge design is finishing up. Hopeful for a Spring 2025 letting

Medlin Road Bridge is under design.

There are a number of RR crossing projects coming up. These include Curry Road, Basom Road, Laughman Road, West Line Road, Williams Road, Edgar Road, and Dusty Road. The department received word that the ICC is considering a project at Gessel Road (UPRR) just East of the Log Cabin Village.

The Highway Department is getting roads ready for oiling, which starts June 5<sup>th</sup>. All County oiling dates are on Wednesdays through the season.

Thank You,



Michael McCormick, P.E.  
Marion County