

MARION COUNTY FULL BOARD MEETING

MINUTES

Tuesday, August 26, 2025

6:30 P.M.

Marion County Courthouse, Room 302

Meeting convened at 6:30 P.M. with Steve Whritenour, Marion County Board Chairman, leading the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Invocation presented by Marion County Coroner Claude Howell.

Roll Call taken by Lori Linder, Marion County Board Secretary. Present were Tracy Murray, Brock Waggoner, Sharon Woodward, Dr. Mike Douglas, Jack Riley, Deborah Reed, Timothy McCance, Josh Dunahee, Steven Whritenour, Cody Rose, Chris Krupp, Adam Smith, Debbie Smith, and David Iossi. Absent was Judith Meeks-Hakim.

RECOGNITION OF GUEST: See attached list.

THOSE WHO WISH TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

Marion County Board Chairman Steve Whritenour announced that as soon as State's Attorney Tim Hudspeth arrives, the meeting will immediately be going into closed session for his presentation.

Next, Mr. Whritenour introduced Matt Renaud, Regional Office of Education 13 (ROE 13) Superintendent. His assistant John Conselino was also present. The ROE 13 represents 45 public school districts within Marion, Jefferson, Clinton, and Washington Counties. In addition, they serve 11 non-public schools and support home schooling families. Mr. Renaud presented a description of the services and support that the Department provides. Afterward, he revealed that he will be retiring at the end of the 2025-2026 school year, and he requested that Mr. Conselino be considered to complete the last portion of his term. A petition is currently circulating to allow John Conselino to run for the ROE 13 Superintendent in the November, 2026 election cycle. All questions and comments from the Board Members were responded to. Lastly, Chairman Steve Whritenour conveyed that the recommendation regarding Mr. Conselino will be presented at the Full Board Meeting scheduled on Tuesday, September 23, 2025.

Marion County State's Attorney Tim Hudspeth arrived. Mr. Whritenour entertained a Motion to go into Closed Session for discussion regarding Opioid Litigation. Adam Smith made the Motion and was seconded by Sharon Woodward. Roll Call Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

Closed Session began at 6:47 P.M.

Chris Krupp made a Motion to come out of Closed Session and was seconded by Debbie Smith. Roll Call Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

Came out of Closed Session at 7:08 P.M.

Roll Call taken by Lori Linder, Marion County Board Secretary. Present were Tracy Murray, Brock Waggoner, Sharon Woodward, Dr. Mike Douglas, Jack Riley, Deborah Reed, Timothy McCance, Josh Dunahee (briefly stepped out of the room, but re-entered), Steven Whritenour, Cody Rose, Chris Krupp, Adam Smith, Debbie Smith, and David Iossi. Absent was Judith Meeks-Hakim.

Marion County State's Attorney Tim Hudspeth requested a "Motion to approve joining the settlements with Purdue Pharmaceutical and the Opioid Litigation any amount recovered by the Plaintiffs" will be distributed as the previous lawsuits that Marion County has been involved in. He anticipates that Marion County will be receiving approximately \$20,000. Chris Krupp made the Motion and was seconded by Debbie Smith. Roll Call Vote: 13 ayes- 1 nay (Adam Smith). Motion passed.

Continuing with the guest speakers, Paul Irby, Dimension Energy Project Development Manager presented information with respect to the Sandoval CSG 1 Solar Project. He had previously spoke at the County & Community Committee Meeting conducted on Tuesday, August 12, 2025. A binder containing the project's location and information was distributed to each Board Member this evening. He provided details regarding the plan and how Ameren customers will be able to sign up for savings on their electric bills as a result of this being constructed. In addition, Mr. Irby conveyed that he is requesting acceptance of Dimension Energy's application before the September 2, 2025 State funding deadline. A brief discussion transpired and further consideration was addressed during the County & Community portion of the meeting.

MARION COUNTY BOARD CHAIRMAN STEVE WHRITENOUR

Marion County Board Chairman Steve Whritenour asked Marion County Clerk Steve Fox if he would convey the Illinois Department of Revenue figures. Mr. Fox stated that the figures are for informational purposes and are located on this evening's Meeting Agenda.

Mr. Fox continued and addressed the email from Brooke Frederick, South Central Regional Planning & Development Commission EDA Planner/Loan Portfolio Manager regarding the appointment of Billy Halfacre as a Marion County Representative to the Governing Board of the South Central Regional Planning & Development Commission. Adam Smith made a Motion to appoint Billy Halfacre as a Marion County Representative to the Governing Board of the South Central Regional Planning & Development Commission and was seconded by Sharon Woodward. Voice Vote: 13 ayes – 1 nay (Brock Waggoner). Motion passed.

VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

Finance Committee Chairman Chris Krupp stated that there was nothing new to discuss this evening.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

David Iossi made a Motion to approve the Full Board Meeting Minutes dated July 22, 2025 and was seconded by Debbie Smith. Voice Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed. Motion passed.

REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES

FINANCE COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN CHRISTOPHER KRUPP:

Finance Committee Chairman Christopher Krupp noted that the Resolution numbers on the Agenda were inadvertently misnumbered. He stated that the second Resolution 2025-44 should be Resolution 2025-45. The amount of money that Marion County will receive from the Resolutions is \$600.00.

Omnibus Motion to approve Resolutions 2025-44 and 2025-45 was made by Chris Krupp and seconded by Sharon Woodward. Voice Vote: 8 ayes – 6 nays (Brock Waggoner, Mike Douglas, Tim McCance, Josh Dunahee, Cody Rose, and Adam Smith). Motion passed.

Next, Mr. Krupp addressed Resolution 2025-48: Animal Control Officer's Pet Population Fund. Board Member Adam Smith asked if the balance was ever determined. Marion County Treasurer Gary Purcell responded that there is approximately \$48,000.00. A brief conversation regarding who is eligible for the use of the funds occurred and was verified by Board Member Tracy Murray. Chris Krupp made a Motion to approve Resolution 2025-48 and was seconded by Debbie Smith. Mrs. Smith questioned if a Roll Call Vote was required to pass this Resolution. Marion County Clerk Steve Fox provided clarification. Voice Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed. Committee Chairman recommended publicizing the Resolution of the Marion County Animal Control Facebook page. Animal Control Administrator Ken Ferguson stated that the funds have been utilized in the past, but only one veterinarian in the County honors the discount.

Continuing with New Business, Mr. Krupp conveyed that he was not aware of an update on the FY 2024 Audit. Board Chairman Mr. Whritenour relayed that his last contact with WIPFLI indicated that it should be completed by late October, 2025. The Integrity Investment Fund was addressed in the Closed Session portion earlier in this Meeting.

Under Old Business, after a brief discussion regarding the Audit FY 2023, it was determined that it had previously been accepted.

Prior to the Budget Committee's report, Marion County Supervisor of Assessments Mark Miller communicated that he had been informed of an issue with a Trustee's property and conveyed the information. Board Chairman Mr. Whritenour stated that no action could be taken this evening, but further discussion will take place during the Finance Committee Meeting scheduled for Monday, September 8, 2025.

BUDGET COMMITTEE – CHAIRMAN BROCK WAGGONER:

Budget Committee Chairman Brock Waggoner reported that representatives from Property Evaluation and Tax Advisors, LLC attended the Budget Committee Meeting on Monday, August 11, 2025 at 6:30 P.M. A contract agreement had been emailed to Mr. Waggoner, and he discussed the details of the commitment. Board Chairman Steve Whritenour informed the Board that Clinton County is now

Budget Committee – Continued:

interested in utilizing their services also. Board Member Debbie Smith brought attention to the fees, and the line item for the payment of \$14,800. This matter was debated and Marion County Treasurer Gary Purcell shared his concern.

Josh Dunahee made a “Motion to approve Property Evaluation & Tax Advisors LLC in the amount of \$14,800.00 to come from Contingency Funds to assess the Assessor’s Office in regards to equalize the assessed values that we are currently ranked 98 of 102” and was seconded by Cody Rose. Board Member Adam Smith voiced his concerns with hiring this company and how the results will affect the Community. An additional debate was conducted with respect to the funds for this project. Josh Dunahee then made “a Motion to approve Property Evaluation & Tax Advisors LLC for the amount of \$14,800.00 with the understanding that that money comes from CURES Fund to Contingency Fund for them to assess the Assessor’s Office in regards to equalize the assessed values. Further discussion regarding the funds transpired. Afterward, Josh Dunahee made a “Motion to approve Property Evaluation & Tax Advisors LLC in the amount of \$14,800.00 to come from Contingency Funds to come in and evaluate the Assessor’s Office in regards to equalize the assessed values” with the understanding that \$31,000.00 “is being transferred to the Contingency Fund and was seconded by David Iossi. Roll Call Vote: 13 ayes – 1 nay (Adam Smith). Motion passed.

Mr. Waggoner shared that the all-day Budget Meeting was conducted on Friday, August 22, 2025. He commended the Office Holders for working with the Board. Other Board Members expressed their gratitude. Bellwether will be providing a Draft FY 2026 Budget after the Labor Day weekend, and a Budget Committee Meeting will be scheduled after it is received.

INSURANCE COMMITTEE – CHAIRMAN DAVID IOSSI:

Insurance Committee Chairman David Iossi announced that there is nothing new to report, and a Quorum was not met for the Monday, August 11, 2025 Insurance Committee Meeting.

BUILDING & HISTORICAL COMMITTEE – CHAIRWOMAN DEBORAH REED:

Building & Historical Committee Chairwoman Deb Reed began by addressing the topic of the Courthouse First Floor Window Safety Film. A brief description of its features was presented. Debbie Smith made a Motion to approve the \$11,490.00 purchase of the film from the Building/Maintenance Fund and was seconded by David Iossi. Roll Call Vote: 11 ayes – 3 nays (Josh Dunahee, Cody Rose, and Adam Smith). Motion passed.

Next, the details to bring a resolution to the Marion County Employee Parking Lot were discussed. Board Chairman Steve Whritenour shared the information that he received from a meeting with Brent Hunter, Engineer from Environmental Audits & Consultants, who has been involved with the project. All costs involving the last steps to complete the project with the EPA are reimbursable. Former Board Chairwoman Debbie Smith conveyed that this procedure has been

Building & Historical Committee – Continued:

previously approved by the past Board; therefore, the current Board is not expected to do anything other than budget monies for the final process in the FY 2026 Budget. In addition, Road & Bridge Committee Chairman Adam Smith addressed the estimates from Highway Department Engineer Alex Kreke for the resurfacing of the lot after remediation is finalized. A brief discussion transpired.

Lastly, Committee Chairwoman Deb Reed addressed the Activity Update. She conveyed that the Generator and UPS System project process is continuing, and on Friday, September 26, 2026 the Marion County Courthouse will be closed for testing on the connections. This project was completely funded from a grant received by Marion County Circuit Clerk Tiffany Schicker. Next, Mrs. Reed stated that the previous Pre-Trial Services Office is now being occupied by Marion County Coroner's Secretary, Lisa Morris. She also relayed that the Board was provided a copy of the results from the Fire Alarm Inspection for the Marion County Courthouse in their Meeting Packet.

LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE: CHAIRWOMAN SHARON WOODWARD:

Law Enforcement Committee Chairwoman Sharon Woodward began by allowing Marion County Sheriff Kevin Cripps to present his report.

Sheriff Cripps began by conveying that testing for Correctional Officer and Deputy had taken place this evening in the basement of his Department. He had provided a written Marion County Sheriff's Department report (see attachment) prior to the meeting, and reviewed the items with the Board. He highlighted that the two transportations of prisoners were conducted by himself and a couple of his own officers. By doing this, the total savings for the County was a little more than \$6,000.00. Committee Chairwoman Sharon Woodward commended Sheriff Cripps. In addition, Brock Waggoner and several other Board Members expressed appreciation for his written reports.

Next, Marion County Coroner Claude Howell presented his July, 2025 report. He conveyed that he and his staff have been continuing with training. He then stated that there were a total of 37 deaths; 34 natural (including 11 cancer related), 1 accidental, and 2 suicides. Coroner Mr. Howell expressed gratitude to the Board for their support for his office and allowing him to utilize the previous Pre-Trial Office.

Under New Business, Sheriff Cripps addressed the Board with regards to the AED Professionals Invoice and the Surplus of 2 Ford Explorers from his Department. He explained that the defibrillators would be for the Courthouse and the Jail. He had spoken with Marion County State's Attorney Tim Hudspeth regarding the payment for the items, and it was determined that it would qualify to be covered by the Opioid Settlement Fund. Sharon Woodward made a Motion to approve the \$10,650.00 AED Professionals invoice and payment from the Opioid Settlement Fund and was seconded by Chris Krupp. Roll Call Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

The Surplus of two 2016 Ford Explorers (from the Sheriff's Office) was discussed. The business that Sheriff Cripps is purchasing new vehicles from has offered to pay \$2000.00 for one and \$3,000.00 for the other. He spoke with ESDA Coordinator Sheri Barter, and he felt that these were not feasible for ESDA

County & Community Committee – Continued:

Marion County State's Attorney Tim Hudspeth to analyze the conditions, and Attorney Hudspeth has approved a conditional letter with the understanding that Solar Energy will meet those requirements. A brief discussion transpired regarding SKS Engineers' services for the County and the conditional letters that have been requested. Brock Waggoner made a Motion "for the Solar Generation Project on Community Beach Road and give a conditional approval for them pending" SKS Engineers LLC "issue a certificate of permitting and was seconded by David Iossi. Voice Vote: 11 ayes – 3 nays (Sharon Woodward, Josh Dunahee, and Adam Smith). Motion passed.

Following, Committee Chairman Mr. Murray asked for Marion County Clerk Steve Fox to convey information regarding Ordinance 2025-08: Ordinance Requiring the Parcel Identification Number and Common Mailing Addresses on All Documents Recorded and Resolution 2025-47: Polling Place Change. Mr. Fox provided the details of each of them.

Committee Chairman Tracy Murray entertained a Motion to approve Ordinance 2025-08: Ordinance Requiring the Parcel Identification Number and Common Mailing Addresses on All Documents Recorded. Brock Waggoner made a Motion to approve Ordinance 2025-08 and was seconded by Sharon Woodward. Roll Call Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

Committee Chairman Tracy Murray entertained a Motion to approve Resolution 2025-47: Polling Place Change. Chris Krupp made a Motion to approve Resolution 2025-47 and was seconded by Sharon Woodward. Roll Call Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

The Real Estate – Closed Session item was moved to the end of this meeting.

Sub-Committee Codification: Brock Waggoner

Sub Committee Chairman Brock Waggoner stated that, with the exception of the last 2 years, everything is ready to be forwarded.

Sub-Committee Broadband:

Nothing new to report.

ROAD & BRIDGE COMMITTEE: CO-CHAIRMEN: ADAM SMITH & TIMOTHY MCCANCE

Road & Bridge Committee Co-Chairman Adam Smith allowed Marion County Highway Engineer Alex Kreke to review his report that was included in the Full Board Meeting packet (see attachment). He briefly discussed each item listed on the report. He emphasized that when oiling is taking place on a road and the road has been closed, people are not to drive around the Department's vehicles and proceed through this area. The Sheriff's Office has been contacted twice within the last 2 weeks with respect to this issue.

Road & Bridge Committee – Continued:

Next, Mr. Kreke addressed the Resolution listed on the Agenda and presented a brief description. A question from Committee Co-Chairman Mr. Smith was responded to.

Adam Smith made a Motion to approve Resolution 2025-46: Removal of Additional Marion County Highway Department Equipment and was seconded by Tim McCance. Voice Vote: All ayes - No nays. Motion passed.

All equipment that was previously approved to be auctioned off by Purple Wave has been purchased and removed from the Department's facility.

There were no new updates regarding the roof's replacement.

PERSONNEL/LABOR RELATIONS COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN: ADAM SMITH

Personnel/Labor Relations Committee Chairman Adam Smith stated that there is nothing new to report.

LIQUOR LICENSE COMMITTEE – STEVE WHRITENOUR

Marion County Board Chairman Steve Whritenour stated that The Wedding Barn's Liquor License was renewed.

REPORTS FROM SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

911

Marion County Board Representative Steven Whritenour stated that there was nothing new to report.

708 MENTAL HEALTH BOARD

Marion County Board Representative David Iossi stated that the next Meeting is scheduled for September 4, 2025 at 5:30 P.M. at the Community Resource Center in Centralia.

MARION COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Marion County Board Representative Dr. Mike Douglas stated that there was nothing new to report.

SCIRPD

Marion County Board Representative Debbie Smith stated that there was a meeting this evening.

MARION COUNTY HOUSING AUTHORITY

Marion County Board Representative Chris Krupp stated that a meeting was conducted last week with nothing new to report.

Reports from Special Committees – Continued:

WIB (WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD)

Marion County Board Representative Deb Reed stated that there will be a meeting within the next couple of weeks.

ENTERPRISE ZONE

Marion County Board Representative Chris Krupp acknowledged that the last meeting was cancelled.

BCMW

Marion County Board Representative Adam Smith stated that the last meeting was cancelled and the next meeting is scheduled for September 8, 2025.

Marion County Board Chairman Steve Whritenour entertained a Motion to go into Closed Session to discuss Real Estate. Chris Krupp made the Motion and was seconded by Debbie Smith. Roll Call Vote: 13 ayes – 1 nay (Adam Smith). Motion passed.

Closed Session began at 9:03 P.M.

Chris Krupp made a Motion to come out of Closed Session and was seconded by Debbie Smith. Roll Call Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

Came out of Closed Session at 9:28 P.M.

No action was taken after the Closed Session.

Prior to adjournment, Board Member Debbie Smith addressed the issues that some Board Members are having with their IPADS. She requested consideration with having XT Solutions gather all of the IPADS after a meeting to “get them all on line” and the possibility of purchasing new ones or a different tablet-style computing device. Board Member Brock Waggoner voiced his opinion of resolution to the issues.

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

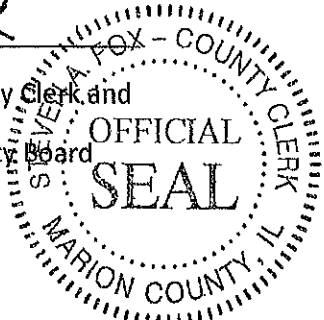
Next Full Board Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 26, 2025 at 6:30 P.M.

Time: 9:30 P.M.

Approved: _____ ✓

Date: _____ 9-23-25

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

The seal is circular with a double-lined border. The outer ring contains the text "STEVE A. FOX - COUNTY CLERK" at the top and "MARION COUNTY, IL" at the bottom. The inner circle contains the text "OFFICIAL SEAL" in the center.

8-26-25

Full Board Meeting

Guests

MARK MILLER

Jeff Barten Marion County ESA Coordinator

Judy Fark Danny Fark

Doc Huebskretter

Matt Huebskretter

Wayne S. Walker

Matt Kinard

John Consolino

Jeannine Munahsee

~~Jeff~~
~~Doc~~

Karna Dugan

Carmel White

Robert H. H. H.

Sheaf Smith

Paul Irby

Keene Capps-Sheriff

OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF



SHERIFF KEVIN CRIPPS MARION COUNTY, ILLINOIS

Dear Marion County Board,

08/26/25

From 7/22/25 to 8/26/2025, the Marion County Sheriff's Office handled;

1704 Calls for Service (average 49 calls per day)
70 Prisoner transports
117 inmates booked into the jail
5324 meals prepared and served at an average cost of \$2.63 each.

As of today, 08/26/2025, we have 75 inmates and 37 federal inmates, 5 Juveniles.

My office conducted two long and fast prisoner transports in the last month.

We transported a prisoner which was wanted on a No Bond Marion County warrant from the State of New York to the Marion County jail.

The second transport was the recently convicted murderer from our Jail to New Jersey (Fort Dix Federal penitentiary). We first transported him here 3.5 years ago to stand trial for the murder charges. These trips are directly to the locations and back with a quick turnaround return. We chose to do the transports ourselves to save money.

Total cost savings to the County was just over **\$6,000.00** dollars.

COURTHOUSE AND JAIL BUILDING UPDATES

Courthouse generator has been installed and TOPPs is working to get things finished. The Courthouse will be closed Sept. 26th to allow the power to be disconnected at the Courthouse to test load the generator.

No other activity to be reported at this time and I will try and give updates as the projects go along.

Hope you all have a great meeting.

Sheriff Kevin W. Cripps

Road and Bridge Committee

08/12/2025

Discussion items

- ❖ Road items
 - Business as usual
 - Oiling roads
 - Oiled Medlin RD and Walnut Hill through town
- ❖ Equipment
 - New items to auction
 - Dump Truck: Sterling LT7500
 - Trailer: Tag-A-Long Trailer king 18Ton
 - PurpleWave Auction
 - Pulled in roughly \$45,000
- ❖ Misc
 - Back shed is down,
 - Working on clean up
 - 2026FY budget