

## MARION COUNTY FULL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

August 8, 2023

7:00 P.M.

Basement of Sheriff's Office

Meeting convened at 7:00 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, County Board Secretary. Present were Tracy Murray, Brock Waggoner, Sharon Woodward, Creighton Engel, Jack Riley, Bill Henson, Steven Whritenour, Steven Bradley, Christopher Krupp, Adam Smith, Debbie Smith, and David Iossi. Absent were Deborah Reed, Tyson McHenry, and Judith Meeks-Hakim.

### RECOGNITION OF GUEST

Guests: Renee Pride, Marion County Probation Director, Ken Ferguson, Animal Control Officer, Kevin Cripps, Marion County Sheriff, Gary Purcell, Marion County Treasurer, Matt Packman, Morning Sentinel, Wayne S. Walker, Tim Hudspeth, Marion County State's Attorney, Sheri Barter, Marion County ESDA Coordinator, Stacey Arenas, Marion County 911, Claude Howell, Michael McCormick, Marion County Highway Department Engineer, Bill Smith, Judy Shafer, and Bruce Kropp.

### THOSE WHO WISH TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

Stacey Arenas from Marion County 911 addressed the Full Board Members with concerns in regards to the Audit and its issues. She began by discussing the challenges she is having with receiving two grants. The most recent is a \$80,000.00 grant for municipal equipment that she required to have by 2025. She stated it has been denied due to Marion County being on the stop pay. The second is for a \$215,000.00 reimbursement grant that was awarded over a year ago for previously purchased equipment. This was going to be for a radio project for the County which is no longer going to occur due to not receiving the monies again due to the stop pay. Ms. Arenas has spoken with the State's 911 Administrator who stated that payments were processed in July, 2023 and directed her to speak with the Comptroller's office. Unfortunately, their office was not able to give out any information. She conveyed that this is an abundant amount of funds that she is deprived of. Christopher Krupp, Finance & Insurance Committee Chairman, replied that a phone conversation with the Auditors is scheduled for the following day for an update on any audit issues. The delay is caused by reconciliation of a couple of accounts. Once resolved the Auditors feel that the final process will be completed fairly quickly. Mr. Krupp will notify the Department Heads after their conversation.

Chairwoman, Debbie Smith, relayed that the Marion County Board is not to be blamed and requested that Gary Purcell, Marion County Treasurer, address the matter at hand. Brock Waggoner cut in and stated that he disagreed. Mrs. Smith clarified that she had asked Mr. Purcell for his input. Gary Purcell reiterated that the Auditor, the County Board hired, will be conducting a meeting the following day.

## Re: Full Board Meeting Agenda 8/22/23

Brock Waggoner <bwaggoner@marionco.illinois.gov>

Fri 8/18/2023 2:50 PM

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

Cc:Tim Hudspeth <thudspeth@marionco.illinois.gov>;Steve Fox <countyclerk@marionco.illinois.gov>;Debbie Smith <dsmith@marionco.illinois.gov>

Lori,

I will not be at the meeting on Tuesday as I will be out of town on Business.

For the public comment period concerning the audits that it leaves out many things that occurred.

- 1) Mr. Waggoner raised the issue of there being 4 years of previous audits that showed that the accounting was an ongoing issue.
- 2) Gary Purcell was not recognized prior to my comment to the chair.
- 3) Sharon Woodward made public comments concerning the problems with finding auditors after the previous auditors quit.
- 4) Brock Waggoner gave a public comment period after the chair tried to gavel him down. A point of order was inquired of to the parliamentarian Mr. Tim Hudspeth who confirmed that Mr. Waggoner had the ability to speak.
- 5) Mr. Waggoner's called on the board to quit playing political games and fix the significant issue occurring for years as reported by previous auditors.
- 6) Mr. Claude Howell also provided public comments concerning his candidacy for Marion County Corner and that he planned to work with the board if elected.
- 7) Mr. Waggoner called for a point of order concerning him giving an election speech as his public comment and the chair not recognizing this point of order.

I have included a link to a recording of the audit portion of the meeting for referencing as the current record does not reflect actual events. <https://fb.watch/mvxcOhdbXJ/>

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fb.watch

Brock Waggoner  
Marion County, IL Board Member  
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### Those Who Wish to Address the Board – Continued

He would like to wait and see what is discussed at that time. Chairwoman, Debbie Smith, explained that after the balancing issues are resolved that the remaining portions of the Audit should be completed directly. Mr. Waggoner raised concerns with issues from the past four years.

Mrs. Smith proceeded and asked if there was anyone else who wished to address the Board. Full Board Member, Sharon Woodward emphasized that hiring someone to conduct the Audit in the past was a difficult task. Brock Waggoner continued with voicing his concerns in regards to the Audit. He called for a Point of Order for a public comment from State's Attorney, Tim Hudspeth. Attorney Hudspeth voiced that he may be entitled to a short public comment. Mr. Waggoner proceeded with his view of what the County Board should follow through with. He Stated "as a Board, we need to do better. We need to identify the issues with correcting this." In his opinion, this is not an issue with finding an Auditor and not correcting Audit findings prior to that. He expressed that complications were previously occurring for four years, and the County is losing a substantial amount of dollars from funds currently due to this difficult situation. Chairwoman, Debbie Smith took notice and stated that solutions are being addressed and the corrections should resolve any future obstacles.

The meeting continued with guest, Claude Howell introducing himself as a candidate for the Marion County Coroner in 2024. Brock Waggoner called for a Point of Order that the Board should not allow campaigning during a meeting. Chairwoman, Mrs. Smith took notice. Bill Henson clarified that Mr. Howell was only introducing himself to the Board and that he is willing to work with the Board. Mr. Howell did not state a political party he was running under.

Next, Tiffany Schicker, Marion County Circuit Clerk, relayed that she has received approval for a \$8,800.00 grant. She stated that the monies will be used for a reception desk for the check in area for the Courtrooms on the third floor. This locale will also provide self-help information to the public. She intends to use a portion of the amount for signage on the third floor also. Furthermore, she announced that Marion County is getting a Justice Fellow from another Grant Program. This person will be working with seven Counties in the Circuit and provide assistance with people representing themselves.

Lastly, Gary Purcell, Marion County Treasurer, disclosed that the Marion County Mobile Home Taxes are due Friday, August 11, 2023. His office is processing the first installment of the Marion County Real Estate Taxes and will have the distribution by the end of the month. Board Member, Creighton Engel commended Gary Purcell for offering various types of options to the Community to pay their taxes.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to approve the Full Board Meeting Minutes dated July 25, 2023 was made by David Iossi and seconded by Christopher Krupp after correction was addressed. Prior to the second, Sharon Woodward noted a correction needed to be made in regards to the name of the Salem High School Resource Officer. His name should be corrected from "Greg" to "Craig". Voice Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

### COUNTY CLERK STEVE FOX CORRESPONDENCE

Due to the absence of Steve Fox, Gary Purcell, Marion County Treasurer, announced the Illinois Department of Revenue figures.

County Clerk Steve Fox Correspondence – Continued

Illinois Department of Revenue:

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
¼%	\$92,915.55	\$86,940.72
1%	\$40,043.58	\$26,491.74

REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES

FINANCE & INSURANCE COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN CHRISTOPHER KRUPP

Approval of Bills

General: \$123,259.66 Christopher Krupp made a motion to approve bills and was seconded by Steven Bradley. Roll Call Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

Insurance: \$79,140.46 Committee Chairman Christopher Krupp explained that the slight increase was due to the Cyber Liability Statement. Christopher Krupp made a motion to approve bills and was seconded by Steven Bradley. Prior to the Roll Call Vote, Brock Waggoner inquired if any relief was received due to the Cyber upgrades that were done. Creighton Engel spoke that this is bid out once a year. Mr. Waggoner continued by questioning a \$1,500.00 payment for County Services. Christopher Krupp responded that this charge is for a representative's services that is working with WIPFLI on the reconciliation of the accounts on the audit. He was also concerned with the bills that have past due balances. This matter will be addressed after consulting with Steve Fox. Roll Call Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

Judicial: \$625,474.20 Christopher Krupp made a motion to approve bills and was seconded by Steven Whritenour. Roll Call Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

Committee Chairman, Christopher Krupp proceeded with the subject of the U of I Extension Levy increase from \$153,00.00 to \$160,000.00 effective their fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024 for 2025. Steven Bradley, Marion County Board Member had attended their meeting where this was addressed. He conveyed that there was not an increase last year, and they are asking for a 4.9% increase. This amount is still slightly lower than what is needed due to their agency being fully staffed at this time. Chairwoman, Debbie Smith also attended the meeting and relayed that it pays for their rent and local employees. Prior to Roll Call Vote, Mrs. Smith commented that this is paid out in payments which Gary Purcell verified that it is paid out by the distributions. Brock Waggoner asked if a budgetary item list is available from the Extension. Mr. Bradley's and Mrs. Smith's response was that information is available in the packet from their meeting and is included with the Full Board Meeting packet. Steven Bradley reiterated that being fully staffed at this time is a main cause. Motion to increase U of I Extension Levy from \$153,00.00 to \$160,000.00 was made by Steven Bradley and seconded by David Iossi. Roll Call Vote: 11 ayes – 1 nay (Brock Waggoner). Motion passed.

Finance & Insurance: Chairman Christopher Krupp - Continued

Lastly, Committee Chairman Christopher Krupp announced that a Finance & Insurance Committee Meeting with Bellwether and County Officials re: FY24 proposed Budget is scheduled Thursday, August 17, 2023 from 8:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. in the Marion County Board Room at the Marion County Sheriff's Department. Chairwoman, Debbie Smith directed any questions in regards to rescheduling be discussed with Bellwether.

BUILDING & HISTORICAL COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN CREIGHTON ENGEL

Approval of Bills: \$131,086.98 Committee Chairman Creighton Engel gave an explanation of the Security Alarm System and Top Electric bills. Creighton Engel made a motion to approve bills and seconded by David Iossi. Roll Call Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

Dr. Engel continued with conveying that a Combined Finance & Insurance and Building & Historical Committees' Meeting was held on Thursday, August 3, 2023. A topic of discussion was the purchase of new furnishings for the Marion County Boardroom. Dr. Engel explained that the tables' dimensions are 5 foot by 24 inches and collapsible. The podium is mobile and can be stored when not in use. Motion to approve the purchase of 10 new tables (344.37 each) and a new podium (\$94.99) was made by Creighton Engel and seconded by David Iossi. Roll Call Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

Ordinance 2023-04: Capital Expenditure Ameresco (\$523,483.76) was tabled.

Old Business topics were next addressed. Sheriff Cripps conveyed that the subject of security cameras at the Public Service Building will be discussed at his next meeting with Security Alarm Systems in the near future.

Committee Chairman, Creighton Engel proceeded with the recommendations and bids for the completion of the Meeting Room at the Courthouse. Chairwoman, Mrs. Smith clarified that the bids will be for flooring and painting in the room and that Mark Miller, Marion County Supervisor of Assessments, is gathering the information. Approval of expenses to not exceed \$10,000.00 for the completion was questioned by Christopher Krupp and Brock Waggoner. Dr. Engel and Mrs. Smith attempted to provide an explanation. However, this subject was tabled.

Continuing, the Marion County Employee Parking Lot resurfacing project was analyzed. Dr. Engel divulged that five potential contractors have been contacted for bids. In advance of considering bids from them, Michael McCormick, Marion County Highway Department Engineer highly suggested speaking with Consultant Brent Hunter of Principal of Environmental Audits & Consultants, Inc. Mr. McCormick addressed the Board and explained that he was able to obtain past and current information from IEPA pertaining to the parking lot and forwarded that data to the consultant. His understanding that since the area is owned by a Government Entity this service may be refundable through IEPA. Once cleared through the IEPA, the County can move forward. Any information obtained by Mr. McCormick will be forwarded to the Building & Historical Committee. He also conveyed that all contractors will be bidding for identical restoration with either asphalt or concrete. Chairwoman Debbie Smith responded to Steven Whritenour with clarification of the ownership of the lot, which is Marion County. Sharon Woodward had concerns with the City of Salem recycling bins and which will be taken into consideration.

### Building & Historical Committee – Continued

Next, Dr. Engel requested an update on the odor in the Marion County Public Service Building. Christopher Krupp, Finance & Insurance Committee Chairman, shared that he had spoken with Dave Daniels, Marion County Maintenance, and it was determined that the attempt to resolve the problem with the camera was unsuccessful. After another consultation with Tate's Plumbing and an additional plumber, they feel that the issue may be caused by the air intake pulling the vent air back inside the building. It was suggested that the vent pipe be extended ten foot to avoid the air from being recycled. Renee Pride, Marion County Probation Director, explained that there are two issues with the odor, although the upstairs' issue has been resolved. The smell in the Mechanical Room and the first floor Employees Woman's Restroom remains. In effort to find a solution in the restroom, a seal and caulking was placed around the toilet. This has improved the aroma in this area. This will be further analyzed.

A follow up report in regards to the restrooms in the Marion County Courthouse was presented by Sheriff Kevin Cripps. He stated that the projects are nearing completion. In addition, he has not signed off, because there are a few things of concern that are being addressed. He reiterated that the woodworking for the first floor restrooms at the Courthouse is very attractive. Sheriff Cripps is still attempting to reach out to Gene from Ameresco in reference to the flooring in the third floor restrooms.

Sheriff Kevin Cripps continued with reference to the bids for the Safety Entrance renovation. His intention is to flip flop the area to aid in eliminating blockage to the Marion County Supervisor of Assessment's side office doors. The design will also prevent his officers' backs from being exposed to the staircases and Mark Miller's main office door. He is requesting a substantial amount less than the Ameresco bid to complete this project. Motion for the renovation costs of the Safety Entrance to not exceed \$7,000.00 was made by Creighton Engel and seconded by Adam Smith. Prior to the Roll Call Vote, Brock Waggoner again had concerns with not obtaining bids prior to approval. Sheriff Cripps gave an explanation of his intentions for the area. He plans to move the metal detector over slightly, purchase an adjustable desk, and mounting a security television on the wall. Therefore, bids are not required. Roll Call Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed. Sheriff Cripps concluded by stating that the glass for the Handicap Entrances is still on backorder.

### LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN STEVE WHRITENOUR

Prior to approving the bills, Law Enforcement Committee Chairman, Steven Whritenour addressed the past due amounts previously questioned by Brock Waggoner.

Approval of Bills: \$99,702.55 Steven Whritenour made a motion to approve bills and was seconded by Christopher Krupp. Prior to the Roll Call Vote, Sheri Barter, Marion County ESDA Coordinator, acknowledged that some of her bills do not arrive in her office until after the date that they need to be turned in. Chairwoman, Debbie Smith stated that this will be discussed with Steve Fox at the next Full Board Meeting. Roll Call Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

Committee Chairman Mr. Whritenour asked Sheriff Kevin Cripps to discuss the Cushing Systems, Inc. Invoice. Sheriff Cripps explained that the request to pay half of the bill was approved due to the Sheriff's Department hiring a new record management system before the end of the year. Motion to pay the half year payment of \$4,429.69 (\$2,214.85) was made by Steven Whritenour and seconded by Christopher Krupp. Roll Call Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

In reference to the School Resource Officer, Sheriff Cripps relayed that there is nothing new to discuss, and he anticipates hearing from the Union.

Sheriff Kevin Cripps presented the report on the jail: 85 Traffic Stops, 34 Citations – 72 Inmates of which are 16 Federal and 1 Juveniles. The Sheriff's Department served 7,174 meals with a cost of \$1.81 each.

Marion County State's Attorney, Tim Hudspeth had questions for Sheriff Cripps in regards to Juvenile Detention. A decision was made to have a meeting with Judge Stedelin and themselves.

In conclusion, Sheriff Cripps addressed the repaving and restriping of the Sheriff Department's front parking lot. It is scheduled to be done on Friday, August 11, 2023. The Sally Port project is nearing completion and is scheduled to reopen Thursday, August 10, 2023 afternoon.

#### COUNTY & COMMUNITY COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN BILL HENSON

Approval of Bills: \$4,140.36 (amount corrected from \$3,302.50 typed on the Agenda) County & Community Chairman, Bill Henson made a motion to approve the bills and was seconded by Steven Bradley. Chairman Bill Henson clarified that a portion of the total amount was elevated due to the City of Centralia Housing bill and for veterinary care of a stray dog that was hit by an automobile. Prior to the Roll Call Vote, Brock Waggoner brought the attention to an error typed on the Agenda. The total amount of the bills should have been \$4,140.36 instead of \$3,302.50. Correction was made. Amended motion was made by Brock Waggoner to approve the corrected amount (\$4,140.36) of the bills and was seconded by Steven Whritenour. Roll Call Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

Ken Ferguson, Animal Control Administrator, reported that eleven dogs were picked up during the month. The Animal Shelter remains full. Mr. Ferguson announced that more veterinary care bills will be coming in the future. He continued with an explanation of the bills accrued from the dog that was hit by a car on Bell Club Road.

Mr. Henson and Chairwoman Debbie Smith are still attempting to arrange a meeting with the City of Centralia to discuss the Animal Shelter.

Chairman Bill Henson continued with the next topic of discussion, which was the flagpole area at the Marion County Courthouse. He stated that Wilson & Wilson Monuments will offer a bid when a decision is made in reference to the bricks and pavers. An option to sell Commemorative Bricks to the public was considered. The installation would be the only cost for the County. Mr. Henson, Christopher Krupp, and Creighton Engel gave recommendations of how to pave the area. Chairwoman Debbie Smith advocated to have this matter tabled until the first of the year. With agreement, this subject is tabled until January, 2024.

#### Sub-Committee Codification: Brock Waggoner

Chairman Brock Waggoner had nothing new to report. He stated that American Legal Publishing is in agreement of split (40%-40%-20%) payments.

#### ROAD & BRIDGE COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN: STEVEN BRADLEY

Approval of Bills: \$914,676.90 Road & Bridge Chairman, Steven Bradley made a motion to approve bills and was seconded by Jack Riley. Roll Call Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

### Road & Bridge Committee - Continued

Resolution 2023-39: Approval to sell 2012 Kubota M1085 Tractor (VIN 73669) and 20XX Bush Hog 2615 Legend 15ft Rotary Mower. Motion to approve Resolution 2023-39 was made by Steven Bradley and seconded by Tracy Murray. Roll Call Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

Mr. McCormick continued with project updates. Hienzmann Road is nearing completion and should be opened up by the start of school. He did receive a denial letter for a grant for the Route 161 Extension/Skilletfork Bridge project. He stated that he did receive one grant last year and that it is very difficult to be approved two years in a row. He is attempting to find another grant option at this time. The Green Street/Odin Road Safety Project will be put out for bids in November, 2023.

### MARION COUNTY BICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN: ADAM SMITH

Bicentennial Committee Chairman, Adam Smith relayed that the Marion County Fair Exhibit had a very good turnout. Congressman, Mike Bost presented the Bicentennial Proclamation to Committee Chairman Adam Smith and Marion County Board Chairwoman.

David Iossi inquired the status of the Bicentennial coin proposal. Committee Chairman, Adam Smith replied that the Marion County Farm Bureau is interested in funding this project and selling them throughout the County. Mr. Smith will inform the Board of any additional information.

### 911/ESDA COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN: STEVE WHRITENOUR

Committee Chairman Steve Whritenour acknowledged Sheri Barter, Marion County ESDA Coordinator. She continued with a report from the Marion County Fair. She stated that there were approximately 65,000 people in attendance this year throughout the week.

Mr. Whritenour provided an update on Nixle which was bought out by Everbridge. The process of the individual Community portal set ups is continuing. He commended Andrew Strong, Marion County Emergency Management Agency Director, for his aid and support for this project.

Lastly, Committee Chairman Steven Whritenour shared information in regards to the ATI presentation on the Tornado Sirens for Marion County that was conducted prior to the Full Board Meeting this evening. He expressed that this system is the "Cadillac" of the systems, and that it is being utilized in St. Clair County, Illinois. The final presentation from a Tornado Siren agency is scheduled for Tuesday, August 22, 2023 at 6:00 P.M. The determination of a company will be presented to the Full Board in September, 2023.

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

Committee Chairman Adam Smith announced that a Closed Committee Meeting will be conducted on Wednesday, August 9, 2023 at 6:30 P.M. The subject of discussion is the Marion County Board Secretary.

Marion County Board Chairwoman, Debbie Smith disclosed that she had received a Union Proposal from the Marion County Highway Department. A meeting will be scheduled in the near future to discuss this topic.



BROADBAND COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN: CHRISTOPHER KRUPP

Committee Chairman Christopher Krupp made a motion to approve the Broadband Meeting Minutes dated July 25, 2023 was made and seconded by Tracy Murray. Voice Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

Mr. Krupp continued with an update concerning the Resolution for Broadband and including the Marion County Townships. A meeting was scheduled for Monday, August 14, 2023 at 6:00 P.M.

He announced that Wabash Communications was approved for a \$24 million grant for Jefferson and Clinton Counties. Brock Waggoner stated that these grants were for unserved areas. He continued by relaying that large portions of Marion County are considered underserved and these areas do not take priority.

DECENNIAL COMMITTEE:

No report.

LIQUOR COMMITTEE: CHAIRWOMAN DEBBIE SMITH

Committee Chairwoman Debbie Smith stated that there is possibly one application pending.

Prior to the Motion to Adjourn, Christopher Krupp announced that an Enterprise Meeting is scheduled Thursday, August 10, 2023.

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

Time: 8:43 P.M.

Approved: ✓  
Date: 8/22/23

[Signature]  
Steve Fox, Marion County Clerk and  
Clerk of Marion County Board

