

MARION COUNTY FULL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

September 12, 2023

7:01 P.M.

Basement of Sheriff's Office

Meeting convened at 7:01 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, Jack Riley, Deborah Reed, Bill Henson, Tyson McHenry, Steven Whritenour, Steven Bradley, Judith Meeks-Hakim, Debbie Smith, and David Iossi. Absent were Sharon Woodward, Creighton Engel (arrived late), Christopher Krupp, and Adam Smith.

RECOGNITION OF GUEST

Guests: Renee Pride, Marion County Probation Director, Bill Smith, Ken Ferguson, Animal Control Officer, Kevin Cripps, Marion County Sheriff, Michael McCormick, Marion County Highway Engineer, Tiffany Schicker, Marion County Circuit Clerk, Gary Purcell, Marion County Treasurer, Dennis Rosenberger, Wayne Walker, Mark Miller, Marion County Supervisor of Assessments, Sheri Barter, Marion County ESDA Coordinator, Claude Howell, and Bruce Kropp.

THOSE WHO WISH TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

Mark Miller, Marion County Supervisor of Assessments, stated that the Meeting Room (Room 103) in the Courthouse is nearing completion. The flooring, painting, plumbing, and countertops have been finished. The top cabinets and trim need installed, and mounting the television is all that needs to be done.

Gary Purcell, Marion County Treasurer, stated that the next installment of Property Taxes is due on September 27, 2023.

Renee Pride, Marion County Probation Director, stated that a few of the issues in the Public Service Building have been rectified within the last couple of weeks.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to approve minutes from the Full Board Meeting held on August 22, 2023 made by David Iossi with second by Judith Meeks-Hakim. Voice Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

COUNTY CLERK STEVE FOX CORRESPONDENCE

Illinois Department of Revenue:

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
¼%	\$90,304.39	\$83,499.07
1%	\$37,862.27	\$35,995.80

## REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES

### FINANCE & INSURANCE COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN CHRISTOPHER KRUPP

Finance & Insurance Committee Chairman Christopher Krupp was absent. Committee Member Deborah Reed conducted the Committee's report.

Motion to approve Finance & Insurance Committee Meeting Minutes dated August 30 2023 was made by Deborah Reed and seconded by Steven Bradley. Voice Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

#### Approval of Bills

General: \$120,669.67 Deborah Reed made a motion to approve bills and was seconded by Judith Meeks-Hakim. Prior to the Roll Call Vote, Brock Waggoner questioned the written figures on the Open Invoice Report for the Finance bills. He would like to see a resolution to the Audit dilemmas and prevent any future concerns. He asked if these amounts being omitted on the computer generated report could be an issue, and if there is a better software program or record keeping process available for Marion County. Steve Fox, Marion County Clerk responded that there are different Batch processes. He explained that Batch AP is currently being used with a bill due date on the first Tuesday of the month. His office has three days to enter the bills into a Batch. This has previously been approved. He continued to clarify that any bills that come in after this date will be paid by a manual check and those entries are written in by the County Secretary to be presented to the Board Members. Further explanation was conveyed that the amounts are visible in the accounting system, but they are not included in the Batch report. Mr. Waggoner queried if two Batches could be processed in the same month. Mr. Fox further explained that it is not an accounting problem, but that it has to do with how the Board wants to view the amounts of the manual checks. Mr. Waggoner inquired if there was any discussion from other Board Members. Chairwoman Debbie Smith reiterated that the additional invoices that come in after the due date for the Batch have to be paid appropriately for the month, therefore, the manual checks are distributed and recorded. Steve Fox relayed that an example is the County Health Insurance check. The invoice does not arrive prior to the accounts receivable Batch due date, and is a monthly obligation that has to be paid. It will always be paid by manual check. Mr. Fox will explore if a report can be run with manual checks included, and then present to the Board. Roll Call Vote: 10 ayes – 1 nay (Brock Waggoner). Motion passed.

Insurance: \$41,157.91 Deborah Reed made a motion to approve bills and was seconded by Judith Meeks-Hakim. Prior to Roll Call Vote, Brock Waggoner had the same questions and concerns previously mentioned. Chairwoman Debbie Smith made note of them. Roll Call Vote: 10 ayes – 1 nay (Brock Waggoner). Motion passed.

Judicial: \$642,953.87 Deborah Reed made a motion to approve bills and was seconded by David Iossi. Prior to Roll Call Vote, Brock Waggoner questioned the variance in the total generated on the Open Invoice Report and the handwritten figure. Steve Fox explained that the Batch Report includes other departments' payroll that are not paid out of the Judicial fund that are the County's responsibility. Mr. Waggoner requested a computer generated report in the future with this information. Mr. Fox will research this possibility. Mr. Waggoner repeated his concerns that were previously noted. He voiced his opinion in regards to the Audit and how the County Board is failing in their responsibilities. Chairwoman Debbie Smith stated that the Board is not failing, and they have hired WIPFLI, who is diligently working to resolve the issues with the Audit. Mr. Waggoner continued to be outspoken, and Mrs. Smith called "Out of Order" several times. Roll Call Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

## Finance & Insurance Committee – Continued

Deborah Reed and Mrs. Smith reiterated that the Budget process is continuing and is expected to be completed in the near future.

Deborah Reed made a motion to approve the Letter of Agreement Bellwether Budget Services (Annual costs \$13,000.00) and seconded by Judith Meeks-Hakim. Prior to the Roll Call Vote, Brock Waggoner questioned how Bellwether can be used to resolve the Budgetary issues. Chairwoman Debbie Smith stated that Bellwether was so noted with the discrepancies, and this topic will be addressed at the next Full Board Meeting. Roll Call Vote: 11 ayes (Creighton Engel arrived prior to the Motion being made) – 1 nay (Brock Waggoner). Motion passed.

## BUILDING & HISTORICAL COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN CREIGHTON ENGEL

Approval of Bills: \$33,279.04 Creighton Engel made a motion to approve bills and seconded by David Iossi. Roll Call Vote: 11 ayes – 1 nay (Brock Waggoner). Motion passed.

Committee Chairman Creighton Engel continued with the Building & Historical Committee's report. To begin, he again tabled Ordinance 2023-04: Capital Expenditure Ameresco (\$523,483.76). A checklist of the final issues being resolved has not been completed and not signed off. He questioned Renee Pride, Marion County Probation Director, if the matters in the basement in her building have been addressed. She stated that the area was to be steam cleaned, but that has not happened. He continued with discussion of the Woman's Restroom Door on the first floor of the Courthouse. He explained that a door will be installed inside the entrance area, and that it will be done free of charge. Sheriff Cripps conveyed that the glass in the Men's and Women's restrooms on the third floor of the Courthouse will be replaced to match each other. In addition, the floors in these rooms have also been resurfaced and look very nice and it has been reported that they are easier to clean. He continued by saying that Mark Miller and Gary Purcell have been working in the Meeting Room of the Courthouse. He commended them for their assistance. Next, he will be having a conversation with Security Alarm Systems in regards to the Security Cameras in the Public Service Building tomorrow and is expecting bids in the near future. The Handicap Doors at the entrance of the Courthouse will be installed tomorrow also. He has forwarded information via email to County Offices and Office Holders that the West Entrance doors will be open for public entry with the East doors being closed. He has also contacted the Public by Social Media and with a news release. The Sally Port Project is closer to being completed. The upside down window issue has been corrected and the installation of the entry door will soon follow. In conclusion, he is still waiting on bids for the Security Entrance Desk area.

Michael McCormick, Marion County Highway Engineer, proceeded with an update on the Marion County Parking Lot repairs. He commenced by announcing that the paperwork to show the ownership of the lot by Marion County has been completed. This information was forwarded to the IEPA. He is awaiting a response of how to proceed.

In addition, Sheriff Cripps shared that all of the outside lighting at the Courthouse is now identical. The installation of the matching lightbulbs in the Courthouse is in the process of being accomplished.

Committee Chairman, Creighton Engel also conveyed that the repainting and repairs to the Rotunda in the Courthouse will begin after Christmas. He is hopeful that professionally the cleaning the floors will also be a project for next year.

### Building & Historical Committee - Continued

Tracy Murray communicated that he has been questioned as to why the estimated costs of the Parking Lot repairs and resurfacing is \$500,000.00. To put in perspective, Dr. Engel gave an example of the Hawthorn School's parking lot project was a costs of between \$1.2 and \$1.3 million and Franklin Park School's was \$1.5 million. Mark Miller reiterated that the three contractors that submitted bids were all in approximate agreement of the \$500,000.00 estimate. Chairwoman Debbie Smith and Mr. Miller explained that the area does include the front and back portions of the lot.

Prior to the next Committee's report, Dr. Engel explained the reason that he is tabling Ordinance 2023-04. He stated that he is waiting for the completion of the Elected Officials' priority lists. He added that one of the items, the Men's Restroom sink issue, has been rectified. Brock Waggoner inquired if there was a list of all the remaining matters to be done. Dr. Engel affirmed that he has been in contact with each of the Elected Officials and their projects. He expressed if completion or if any of the items still need to be done they relay that information to him. Chairwoman Debbie Smith specified that a check list will be provided to the Board Members prior to the approval of the Ordinance.

### LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN STEVE WHRITENOUR

Approval of Bills: \$149,981.12 Steven Whritenour made a motion to approve bills and was seconded by Tyson McHenry. Roll Call Vote: 11 ayes – 1 nay (Brock Waggoner). Motion passed.

Committee Chairman Mr. Whritenour began by allowing Sheri Barter, Marion County ESDA Coordinator, to address the County Board. She stated that she had attended a GATA meeting in Springfield, Illinois and was approved for a waiver for grant money. Ms. Barter distributed a copy of the correspondence from the Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity that she received via an email today. It included information of going back on the No Pay List due to the FY2021 Audit not being completed. She will be appealing this decision. She has been in contact with them and they verified that it will affect the waiver. She also sent a copy to the Auditor to address the matter. Marion County Board Chairwoman Mrs. Smith relayed that a conference call with the Auditor is scheduled for the morning of September 13, 2023 and this issue will be discussed. Brock Waggoner again brought the attention to the Audit issues. Mrs. Smith reiterated that the County Board is managing rectification of the concerns with Auditors. Mr. Waggoner continued with his arguments. Mrs. Smith called for Out of Order several times. Eventually she requested instruction of how to remove a person if they are not adhering to her. Mr. Waggoner responded that the entire Board will have to vote after a Motion has been made. Mrs. Smith stated that she did not want to go to that extreme with the Board Members. She repeatedly stated that the meeting needed to proceed. Bill Henson affirmed that the issues have been addressed and questions have answered.

Motion to moving forward with the Full Board Meeting was made by Bill Henson and seconded by Judith Meeks-Hakim. Roll Call Vote: 11 ayes – 1 nay (Brock Waggoner). Motion passed.

Committee Chairman Steven Whritenour continued with the Law Enforcement Committee's New Business. Sheriff Kevin Cripps communicated that he and Marion County States Attorney Tim Hudspeth had recently spoken in regards to additional Detention housing for Juveniles. Shortly thereafter, Renee Pride, Marion County Probation Director confronted Sheriff Cripps with the suggestion of working with Madison County Detention Center, Edwardsville, Illinois. She provided an example of an Agreement, and it was reviewed by States Attorney Tim Hudspeth and Sheriff Cripps. Sheriff Cripps explained that

### Law Enforcement Committee – Continued

this facility would be used as a backup to the Franklin County Detention Center in Benton, Illinois. He did convey that it will be \$30.00 more per Juvenile. Renee Pride expressed that Juvenile Detention availability for Marion County and the entire state of Illinois is an issue. Therefore, she spoke to Madison County Detention Center and proposed an agreement between them and Marion County. It was now brought to the Full Board for approval. Committee Chairman Steven Whritenour described that there are strict Juvenile detaining rules and time to find a facility is an issue. The sheriff will be required to do the transports.

Motion to approve Resolution 2023-44: Intergovernmental Agreement between Madison County and Marion County re: Juvenile Detention was made by Steven Whritenour and seconded by Bill Henson. Roll Call Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

Sheriff Kevin Cripps presented the report on the jail: 75 Traffic Stops, 27 Citations – 74 Inmates of which are 19 Federal and 1 Juveniles.

In conclusion, Committee Chairman, Steven Whritenour announced that a discussion in regards to the Safety Act which goes into effect Monday, September 18, 2023 will take place at the next Full Board Meeting scheduled Tuesday, September 26, 2023 at 7:00 P.M.

### COUNTY & COMMUNITY COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN BILL HENSON

Approval of Bills: \$48,269.92 Bill Henson conveyed that a little less than \$45,000.00 is to be paid for updated software from Platinum Technology Resource, Inc. and Election Systems & Software for the Marion County Clerk. Bill Henson made a motion to approve bills and was seconded by Tyson McHenry. Prior to the Roll Call Vote, Brock Waggoner asked Ken Ferguson, Marion County Animal Control Officer, the amount of dogs taken to the facility in Centralia during the past month. Mr. Ferguson's response was fourteen dogs. Mr. Waggoner had concerns of paying \$3,000.00 per month to the shelter if there are constant issues with overpopulation. Chairwoman Mrs. Smith reiterated that the County has had a contract with the City of Centralia for upwards of ten years to house their animals. Bill Henson and herself have attempted to meet with the City of Centralia Officials to discuss the overcrowding issues with no success. Mr. Ferguson explained his situation with housing a dog that has been turned away from the shelter. The dog will actually stay in the Dog box in his truck overnight and then he continues to find its home or a place to stay the following day. Mr. Waggoner stated that he has reviewed the Animal Control Act and requested a copy of the Contract with the City of Centralia. He suggested penalizing them if they are not taking in dogs from Marion County. Mr. Ferguson and Chairwoman Mrs. Smith were opposed to this idea due to the fact that the City of Centralia could increase their fee or opt out of the contract. Consequently, Marion County would be required to build their own facility and provide staff. Steven Whritenour, Bill Henson, Debbie Smith, and Ken Ferguson commended Kim Abbott and her staff for all of their diligent work at the shelter. Roll Call Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

Ken Ferguson, Animal Control Officer, had nothing additional to report.

### Sub-Committee Codification: Brock Waggoner

Committee Chairman Brock Waggoner reported there was nothing new to report until after the Budget is finalized.

ROAD & BRIDGE COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN: STEVEN BRADLEY

Approval of Bills: \$657,215.24 Steven Bradley made a motion to approve bills and was seconded by David Iossi. Roll Call Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

Michael McCormick, Marion County Highway Engineer, requested approval of two Resolutions.

Resolution 2023-41: Raccoon Water Company – At intersection of 8004 Exchange Road. Motion to approve Resolution 2023-41 made by Steve Bradley and seconded by David Iossi. Prior to Roll Call Vote, Brock Waggoner questioned the initials on the copy of the Resolution. Mr. McCormick acknowledged that they were his. Roll Call Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

Resolution 2023-42: Purchase of a Used John Deere HX15 Rotary Mower from Riechmann Bros, Inc. (\$16,500.00). Motion to approve Resolution 2023-42 made by Steve Bradley and seconded by David Iossi. Roll Call Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

Mr. McCormick continued by conveying that the equipment that was approved to sell at the auction house was sold for approximately \$22,000.00. He stated that Heinzmann Road project is nearing completion, Cline Road is ready to purchase right away for that bridge, and Range Road is still being implemented for mid spring or early summer of next year. He continued by relaying that the Green Street and Odin Road Safety projects remain. In conclusion, the progress for the new facility remains to be years out.

In conclusion, Mr. McCormick brought the attention to the term of the current Marion County Engineer will expire December 31, 2023. Chairwoman Debbie Smith expressed that a Road & Bridge Committee Meeting is scheduled Tuesday, September 26, 2023 at 6:00 P.M. to address this matter, and then it will be brought to the Full Board that evening. He will be given the information by the end of the month.

MARION COUNTY BICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN: ADAM SMITH

Chairman Adam Smith was absent, therefore nothing to report.

911/ESDA COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN: STEVE WHRITENOUR

Chairman Steve Whritenour communicated that a presentation by Chris (“Chopper”) Overbeck, Account Executive from Global Technical Systems which took place on Tuesday, August 22, 2023 without a Quorum. In addition, a 911/ESDA Committee Meeting was conducted prior to this Full Board Meeting to continue the discussion of the Tornado Sirens for Marion County. The next Committee Meeting is scheduled on Tuesday, October 10, 2023 at 6:00 P.M.

PERSONNEL/LABOR RELATIONS COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN: ADAM SMITH

Personnel/Labor Relations Committee Chairman Adam Smith was absent. Committee Member Bill Henson continued with the report. Chairwoman Debbie Smith conveyed that Mr. Smith had reviewed the Committee Meeting Minutes and that he felt that they were ready to approve. Motion to approve Closed Personnel/Labor Committee Meeting Minutes dated August 9, 2023 made by David Iossi and seconded by Deborah Reed. Brock Waggoner questioned why the Board is not seeing the Closed Meeting Minutes. Board Chairwoman Debbie Smith stated that there are strict rules in regards to this type of meeting minutes. Brock Waggoner requested that they be provided. Voice Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

Personnel/Labor Relations Committee – Continued

Motion to approve Closed Personnel/Labor Committee Meeting Minutes dated August 16, 2023 made by David Iossi and seconded by Deborah Reed. Voice Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

Committee Meeting Member Bill Henson carried on with the Committee's report. He stated that a closed meeting is scheduled on Tuesday, September 26, 2023 at 6:30 P.M.

BROADBAND COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN: CHRISTOPHER KRUPP

Broadband Chairman Christopher Krupp was absent, therefore, Board Chairwoman Debbie Smith announced that there were Committee Meeting Minutes to be approved.

Motion to approve the Broadband Committee Meeting Minutes dated August 14, 2023 was made by Brock Waggoner and seconded by Jack Riley. Voice Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

DECENNIAL COMMITTEE:

No report.

LIQUOR COMMITTEE: CHAIRWOMAN DEBBIE SMITH

No report.

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

Time: 8:20 P.M.

Approved: yes

Date: 9/26/23

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

