

MARION COUNTY FULL BOARD MEETING

MINUTES

Tuesday, September 24, 2024

6:30 P.M.

Marion County Courthouse, Room 301

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

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Invocation presented by Claude Howell.

Marion County Board Chairwoman announced that Board Member Brock Waggoner is appearing via Zoom for tonight's meeting.

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

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RECOGNITION OF GUEST

See attached list.

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THOSE WHO WISH TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

Libby Moeller, CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) Deputy Director was given the floor. She introduced Tavan Hiestand, CASA Program Director for Marion and Clinton Counties. An informative pamphlet was distributed prior to the meeting (see attachment). Ms. Hiestand delivered a presentation and conveyed the importance of CASA in Marion County for the children and youth who have experienced abuse and neglect. Marion County currently has 244 children residing in Foster Care in which CASA is serving 80 children and 35 families. Consideration for support from the Marion County Board and allocating funds to CASA was requested.

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Next, State's Attorney Tim Hudspeth expressed his endorsement of CASA. He addressed the Opioid Settlement funds and how it could be used. A List of Opioid Remediation Uses handout was included in the Full Board Meeting Packet. Attorney Hudspeth encouraged a donation to CASA and support of their services. Sharon Woodward made a Motion to contribute a \$25,000.00 donation to CASA and was seconded by Judith Meeks-Hakim. Roll Call Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

The Elected Officials were given an opportunity to address the Board.

Marion County Supervisor of Assessments Mark Miller communicated that a presentation titled "The Property Tax Cycle" will be taking place on September 26, 2024 at 6:30 P.M. at the Centralia American Legion. He continued by conveying that he had a ZOOM meeting today with Trueroll, a company that reviews property tax exemptions. He had hired the company and is funding their services through the GIS funds. The company was able to return \$1.7 million in equalized assessed valuation to the tax rolls

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Finance & Insurance Committee – Continued:

Historical Committees Meeting Minutes dated September 4, 2024 and was seconded by Deborah Reed. Voice Vote: All ayes – No nays. Motion passed.

In conclusion, the FY 2022 Audit is ongoing.

LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN STEVE WHRITENOUR

Law Enforcement Committee Chairman Steven Whritenour stated that Sheriff Kevin Cripps was absent, but that he had relayed that there was nothing new to report.

Next, Sheri Barter, Marion County ESDA Coordinator presented her monthly report. Her agency had worked with Raccoon School during their Grandparent's Day, the Applefest in Salem, the Youth and Senior Coonhunters Hunt at the Fairgrounds, the Drew Baldrige Bonfire Concerts, and the luka Demolition Derby on Saturday morning. She proceeded to convey that they are scheduled to help with the Dustin Rhodes' Memorial in Odin this upcoming weekend. ESDA had also assisted the Marion County Sheriff's Office with an overturned semi accident on the Route 161 Extension. Mrs. Barter relayed that in October the Agency is scheduled to assist with the Little Egypt Parade and with Halloween Events in Salem.

COUNTY & COMMUNITY COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN BILL HENSON

County & Community Committee Chairman Bill Henson was absent.

County & Community Committee Member Tracy Murray presented the Committee's report.

Motion to approve the County & Community Committee Meeting Minutes dated September 10, 2024 was made by Tracy Murray and was seconded by Jack Riley. Voice Vote: All ayes – 0 nays. Motion passed.

Mr. Murray conveyed that a meeting with the City of Centralia, Board Chairwoman Debbie Smith and Committee Chairman Bill Henson occurred regarding the Animal Control Contract and a report will be given at a future meeting. In addition, Mr. Henson and Mr. Murray are anticipated to attend informal meetings in Fayette and Clinton Counties to discuss Animal Control in their counties.

Sub-Committee Codification: Brock Waggoner

Sub-Committee Codification Chairman Brock Waggoner stated that there was nothing new to report.

BUILDING & HISTORICAL COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN CREIGHTON ENGEL

Building & Historical Committee Chairman Creighton Engel stated that an additional Combined Committee Meeting with the Finance & Insurance Committee was conducted on Wednesday, September 18, 2024. Building & Historical Co-chairwoman Deborah Reed conveyed that the topic of discussion was the Elected Official's Priority List. A revised copy of the list prioritizing the projects was distributed and discussed. The revised copy will be sent out to the Full Board Members with their Marion County Board Payroll for this month.

ROAD & BRIDGE COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN: STEVEN BRADLEY

Road & Bridge Committee Chairman Steven Bradley was absent; therefore, no report was given.

911/ESDA COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN STEVEN WHRITENOUR

911/ESDA Committee Chairman Steven Whritenour stated that there was nothing new to report.

PERSONNEL/LABOR RELATIONS COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN: ADAM SMITH

Personnel/Labor Relations Committee Chairman Adam Smith was absent. Marion County Board Chairwoman Debbie Smith relayed that a Closed Combined Personnel/Labor Relations and Finance & Insurance Committees Meeting will be conducted on Wednesday, October 2, 2024 at 5:00 P.M. regarding the FOP Labor Contract. Negotiations are ongoing.

BROADBAND COMMITTEE: CHAIRWOMAN: DEBORAH REED

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

DECENNIAL COMMITTEE:

Full Board Chairwoman Debbie Smith stated that there was nothing new to report.

LIQUOR COMMITTEE: CHAIRWOMAN DEBBIE SMITH:

Chairwoman Debbie Smith stated that there were not any renewals of the license during the month.

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 Bill Henson was absent; therefore, no report was given.

MARION COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Marion County Board Representative Creighton Engel stated that the next meeting is scheduled for December, 2024.

SCIRPD

Marion County Treasurer Gary Purcell is attending the meeting scheduled this evening.

MARION COUNTY HOUSING AUTHORITY

Marion County Board Representative Judith Meeks-Hakim stated that a meeting is scheduled Thursday, September 26, 2024 at 12:00 P.M. at the Centralia Chamber of Commerce.

WIB (WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD)

Marion County Board Representative Deb Reed stated that there was a meeting conducted last Monday. She conveyed that reorganization is occurring with the new agent. Their Budget was also approved.

ENTERPRISE ZONE

Marion County Board Representatives Christopher Krupp stated that the next meeting is scheduled for November, 2024.

BCMW

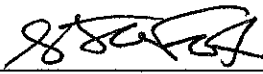
Marion County Board Representative Adam Smith was absent; therefore, no report was given.

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.

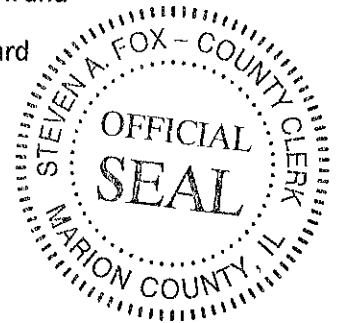
Next Full Board Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 8, 2024 at 6:30 P.M.

Time: 7:12 P.M.

Approved: _____ ✓
Date: 10/8/24



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



9-24-24

Full Board Meeting

Guests

Jeff Sel

Jeanne Runaker
Jeff

Wayne J. Walker
Theresa Dunaker

Randy Kemper

Sheri Butler Marion Co. ESA

Sue Huelstetter

Mark Miller

Jim

Tracy Huelstetter

Karna Dunham

W. G. L.

Harl Dunham

MARK MILLER

Jason M. S. G.

Josh Rely

Shawn Woodward

Jawan Hiestand

Libby Moeller

Mariah Hayes

SHERRY WAIGHT

Bob Reed

Debbie Smith

My Reed

Cindy Webb

Sh. D.

Dave Lossi

Clark Havel

Belinda

Prother

Bruce Kiffe



COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATES

Children and Youth in Care in Marion County as of 8/31/2024: 234*

88 FOSTER HOME 134 RELATIVE HOME 10 GROUP HOME 2 OTHER**

- CASA of South Central Illinois was established in 2019 and started serving children in 2020
- volunteer based organization, 501c3, operates by state statute
- member of Illinois CASA Association and National CASA/GAL Association
- began steps towards regionalization in fall of 2023 to merge with CASA of Effingham County and CASA of Franklin and Hamilton Counties, including expansion into Clay, Fayette and Jasper counties, this effort is almost complete and will soon operate as CASA for Kids
- diverse revenue streams support our 501c3: pass thru funding from Illinois CASA, federal grants, county support, corporate donations, private donations and fundraising events
- spending is prioritized on maximizing talent in each local county, technology for staffers and volunteers to carry out their work and travel to ensure child visits every 30 days per National CASA standards

CASA of South Central Illinois/Current Marion County Program Stats:

# of Children Serving	80
# of Families	35
# of Children being Serving w/ Volunteers	48
# of Children being Served by Staff	32

2 Full Time Local Staffers:

Program Director, 80% Marion County/20% Clinton County
Lead Supervisor 100% Marion County

Local In-Kind Donation:

Grace United Methodist Church provides all office space and utilities for local staff

*Illinois DCFS website **OTHER examples: college, independent living

The goal of CASA for Kids is to help build stronger families and stronger communities.

We are dedicated to providing highly trained volunteers to advocate for the best interests of children and youth who have experienced abuse and neglect.

Often times when a family experiences chronic crisis, child welfare services may need to intervene. We work collaboratively by recruiting, training and supporting volunteers who are community members from all walks of life. We seek to serve 100% of children and youth in care in our communities.

CASA volunteers work cooperatively with the Juvenile Court System to ensure prompt delivery of services and to make independent recommendations to the court concerning the child or youth's well-being. CASA volunteers stay with each case until it is closed and the child is in a safe, permanent home. CASA volunteers work with legal and child welfare professionals, educators, and service providers to ensure that the courts have all the information they need to make the best decision for the child.

Tavan Hiestand, Program Director
Alex Coleman, Lead Supervisor
Libby Moeller, Deputy Director
Mariah Hayes, Executive Director

CASA4CHANGE.ORG
855-484-6403

