

COUNTY OF MENARD)
) SS.
STATE OF ILLINOIS)

The Menard County Board of Commissioners met on Tuesday, January 13, 2009, at 7:00 p.m. in the Commissioners' Room of the Menard County Courthouse, Petersburg, Illinois. Commissioners Merle Kirby, Ed Whitcomb, Barb Kyes, Jeff Fore and Bob Lott were present. County Treasurer Jackie Horn, County Clerk Gene Treseler, State's Attorney Ken Baumgarten and County Coordinator Steve Duncan were also in attendance.

Commissioner Kirby called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Commissioner Fore moved to approve the consent agenda which included the regular minutes from the December 30, 2008 Board meeting, a Bruce Harris & Associates invoice for GIS parcel map maintenance and the Menard County Community Services Monthly Report. Commissioner Whitcomb seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Highway Department Report/Requests for Board Action

County Engineer Tom Casson was in attendance and provided a list of monthly bills for December 2008.

Mr. Casson presented a county maintenance resolution to appropriate motor fuel tax funds to be used for maintenance operations during calendar year 2009. Commissioner Kyes moved to approve the resolution, as presented. Commissioner Lott seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously and shall be known as **Resolution 01-09**.

Mr. Casson presented a county maintenance resolution to appropriate motor fuel tax funds for the payment of the salary of the County Engineer during calendar year 2009. Commissioner Whitcomb moved to approve the resolution, as presented. Commissioner Fore seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously and shall be known as **Resolution 02-09**.

Mr. Casson stated that Road District #10 had to close a bridge on Levee Street and were looking at ways to replace the bridge. Chairman Kirby inquired whether Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) "day labor" forces could be utilized on road and bridge repair projects. Mr. Casson stated that he was not aware of IDOT "day labor" forces doing work for local agencies at this time but that he would check with IDOT.

Sunny Acres/Countryside Estates Report/Requests for Board Action

Sunny Acres Administrator Lester Robertson was in attendance and gave an overview of Sunny Acres operations, highlighting that the census at Sunny Acres was 90. He stated that staff retention had been better and that they were conducting exit interviews with employees, if possible, to determine why they were leaving Sunny Acres' employment. He presented an update on the status of the heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) project at Sunny Acres, informing the Board that the Henson Robinson (the contractor) had been sent a letter informing them to proceed with the project. He stated that the sprinkler system was being repaired. He gave a brief overview of Illinois Department of Public Health complaint survey and a licensure/certification survey. He informed the Board that he had been given contact information for firms that may be interested in receiving the request for proposal to perform planning consultation for Sunny Acres & Countryside Estates. He informed the Board that 23 employees had perfect attendance in the last quarter and 4 employees had perfect attendance for the year. He stated he would be putting together risk management initiatives for the Board's review. He stated that he was looking at changing pharmacy services, mainly due to cost factors. He informed the Board of rate increases at Sunny Acres that were being driven by the increased cost of providing nursing home care. He provided a brief overview of the status of Intergovernmental Transfers. Mr. Robertson stated that the census at Countryside Estates was 21, that the kitchen floor installation was near completion and that they were looking to replace the front door at that facility.

Resolution – Appointment of Terry Entwistle to the Menard County Planning Commission

Commissioner Kyes moved to approve a resolution to appoint Terry Entwistle to the Menard County Planning Commission for a three-year term that began January 1, 2009 and ends on December 31, 2011. Commissioner Lott seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously and shall be known as **Resolution 03-09**.

Unscheduled Public Comments/Requests for Board Action

Animal Control Administrator Dr. Brad Willis was in attendance to discuss an incident involving the Animal Control vehicle. He stated that there had been a minor accident where the Animal Control vehicle had backed into another vehicle. He stated that the estimates he had been given to repair the vehicle that had been hit were from out-of-county companies and that they were a little over \$1,000 in estimated repair cost. County Coordinator Duncan stated that the County had a \$1,000 deductible for such incidents. Commissioner Kyes moved to have Dr. Willis seek estimates from in-county businesses and seek a waiver from any additional claims, before proceeding with any repairs, in amount not to exceed \$1,067 (the lowest of the submitted bid estimates). Commissioner Lott seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Willis informed the Board that he was seeking bid estimates to have some repair work on the Animal Control facility, related to some minor water leaks into the facility.

County Treasurer's Report/Request for Board Action

County Treasurer Horn passed out financial reports, for December 2008, for the Board's review.

County Clerk's Report/Request for Board Action

County Clerk Treseler was in attendance and said all County Road District levies were submitted and were available for public inspection.

State's Attorney Report/Request for Board Action

State's Attorney Baumgarten presented a brief overview of a property tax appeal's board hearing that was recently held, challenging farmland assessment. He stated that it was really a challenge of State of Illinois regulations (Bulletin 810 provisions) and not local farmland assessment methods, per se.

County Coordinator's Report/Request for Board Action

County Coordinator Duncan presented executive session minutes from June 30, 2008 for consideration to be opened to the public. On the advice of legal counsel, Commissioner Whitcomb moved to keep these executive session minutes from June 30, 2008 closed, for another six months, as this union-related issue was still pending. Commissioner Lott seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Duncan presented a request from the Menard County Tourism Council seeking release of hotel/motel tax revenues, in the amount of \$4,300, to fund two, tourism-related projects. These projects include funding a tourist/visitors coupon book and helping to fund the maintenance and telephone costs associated with the 1610 AM radio station that broadcasts throughout Menard County and parts of Sangamon County and highlights tourists about events and tourist attractions in Menard County. Commissioner Lott moved to release the funds, as requested. Commissioner Fore seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Duncan provided a brief overview of various mailings that his office had received on behalf of the Board.

Mr. Duncan informed the Board of information that had been given to him by Sheriff Jones regarding the need for plumbing work in the Courthouse. The consensus of the Board was for Sheriff Jones, as custodian of the Courthouse, to proceed as needed.

Mr. Duncan stated that he would like the Board's authority to recycle computer and office equipment at BLH Computers in Springfield. He stated that BLH would strip the hard drives for free but would charge \$10 for "white" monitors as there was no market for such devices. He stated that he would like to pay mileage, if a County employee uses their pick-up truck to haul such equipment to Springfield on behalf of the County. The consensus of the Board was to proceed, as presented.

Mr. Duncan reminded the Board that review and discussion of the current Menard County Comprehensive Plan would be placed on the January 27, 2008 County Board meeting agenda (For review and discussion only with no final action regarding the document). Commissioner Lott stated that he would like to get new demographic information and see how many building permits had been issued prior to the new zoning regulations being adopted, versus what happened after it was adopted. Mr. Duncan stated that there may be factors, in addition to or in lieu of the zoning ordinance, which may have affected growth in the County, such as a decrease in state government jobs in Springfield and a slowing economy.

Individual Board Members - Report/Requests for Board Action

Commissioner Kyes provided an update on her efforts to try to get recycling re-instated in the County, informing the Board that Area Disposal would recycle paper-products only, for free, and aluminum/metal recycling for a fee. After a brief discussion, Commissioner Kyes stated that she would investigate some additional options involving County municipalities.

Executive Session

Commissioner Whitcomb moved to adjourn to executive session at 8:45 p.m. to discuss matters related to personnel and union issues. Commissioner Lott seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

The regular meeting reconvened at 9:02 p.m.

Adjournment

With no other business coming before the Board, Commissioner Kyes moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:03 p.m. Commissioner Fore seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.