

COUNTY OF MENARD)
) SS.
STATE OF ILLINOIS)

The Menard County Board of Commissioners met on Tuesday, March 10, 2009, at 7:00 p.m. at the Oakford Village Hall, Oakford, Illinois. Commissioners Merle Kirby, Ed Whitcomb, Barb Kyes and Jeff Fore were in attendance. Commissioner Lott was unable to attend the start of the meeting. A quorum was present. County Treasurer Jackie Horn, State's Attorney Ken Baumgarten, County Clerk Gene Tresler and County Coordinator Steve Duncan were also in attendance.

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

Commissioner Whitcomb moved to approve the consent agenda which included the minutes from the February 24, 2009 regular, Board meeting; the minutes from the March 4, 2009 special, Board meeting; and the Menard County Community Services monthly report. Commissioner Kyes seconded the motion. The motion carried with four "ayes", no "nays" and one "absent".

Sunny Acres Report/Requests for Board Action

Sunny Acres Administrator Lester Robertson was in attendance to give an overview of Sunny Acres and Countryside Estates operations. He stated that the census at Sunny Acres was 90. He highlighted that some minor asbestos abatement would need to be done in conjunction with the roof and the installation of HVAC equipment at Sunny Acres. He provided updates on Illinois Department of Public Health surveys. He informed that he had received many responses to the request for proposals to provide planning consulting services for the facilities. He stated that he was working to put together Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) training classes to be offered to interested, local students. He highlighted that Sunny Acres would be working with the Illinois Pioneer Coalition, a group organized to provide long-term care settings with the education and tools needed to effect culture change within the nursing home.

Mr. Robertson stated that the census at Countryside Estates was 21. He stated that the new front door would be installed in the next few weeks.

Highway Department Report/Requests for Board Action

County Engineer Tom Casson was in attendance and presented the Highway Department bills for the month of February, 2009.

Mr. Casson presented a resolution to participate in the State of Illinois Federal Surplus Property Program for the Menard County Highway Department. Commissioner Fore moved to approve the resolution, as presented. Commissioner Whitcomb seconded the motion. The motion carried with four "ayes", no "nays" and one "absent". The resolution shall be known as **Resolution 04-09**.

Mr. Casson presented a resolution, on behalf of several of the County's road districts, to participate in the State of Illinois Federal Surplus Property Program for these participating road districts. Commissioner Whitcomb moved to approve the resolution, as presented. Commissioner Kyes seconded the motion. The motion carried with four "ayes", no "nays" and one "absent". The resolution shall be known as **Resolution 05-09**.

There was a discussion about pursuing Federal "stimulus" funds for County Highway Department projects. After discussion, the consensus of the Board was that they would prefer Mr. Casson to pursue funds for doing road overlays, if deemed possible, or seek funds for engineering services, for future road projects, if deemed the best option available to the County due to the time constraints to apply and receive such funds.

Snedeker Risk Management

Jonathan Fields, representing Snedeker Risk Management, was in attendance to present the concept of creating self-insured, health insurance coverage for employees. Commissioner Lott arrived during this portion

of the meeting. After discussion, the consensus of the Board was that they would give consideration of the concept upon receiving more information about the cost to the County. Mr. Fields informed the Board that he would need to survey employees to help determine such costs.

Unscheduled Public Comments/Requests for Board Action

There were no unscheduled public comments.

Animal Control Ordinance & Regulations

Commissioner Fore moved to approve a new animal control ordinance to reflect management changes and responsibilities in the Animal Control Department. Commissioner Kyes seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. The ordinance shall be known as **Ordinance 06-09**.

County Treasurer's Report/Request for Board Action

County Treasurer Horn was in attendance and informed the Board that she was working on getting some pictures hung in the Courthouse.

There was discussion about getting the Health Department to provide more timely financial reports using the accrual basis method. The consensus of the Board was that they would request that the Board of Health require this method be used by staff.

Ms. Horn requested, on behalf of the Animal Control Department, for the transfer of \$27,000 from the General Fund to the Animal Control Fund, as budgeted for Fiscal Year 2009, and to provide resources for Animal Control Department operations. Commissioner Kyes moved to approve this request, as presented. Commissioner Fore seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Horn passed out financial and budget reports (copies on file) and gave a brief overview.

County Clerk's Report/Request for Board Action

County Clerk Gene Treseler was in attendance and gave a brief overview of his preparations for the April elections.

State's Attorney Report/Request for Board Action

No report.

County Coordinator's Report/Request for Board Action

County Coordinator Duncan presented a letter from the County to the Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Development requesting grant funding, in the amount of \$70,000, to have individuals from the University of Illinois develop a new comprehensive plan for the County. The consensus of the Board was to send the letter, as presented.

Mr. Duncan informed the Board that the Menard County Housing Authority would be seeking to have two individuals re-appointed to the Housing Authority Board, Thala Jean Stewart and Elizabeth Roberts, if they were willing to serve. The consensus of the Board was for the County Coordinator's office to contact them to ensure they were willing to be re-appointed.

Mr. Duncan presented a written request from the Menard County Tourism Council for release of hotel/motel tax revenues, in the amount of \$1,165, to fund two grant proposals. Commissioner Lott moved to approve releasing the requested funds but that the money approved for Abe's Mini & Pioneer Spirit event should be used for tourism-related activities (e.g., advertising the event or expenditures directly related to bringing visitors into the County for this event). Commissioner Fore seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Duncan informed the Board of his meeting with a local website designer to create a County government website to convey information to the public. He stated that he had an upcoming meeting with another local website designer too. Commissioner Kyes moved to approve spending up to \$1,500 on the creation of such a website, if deemed necessary. Commissioner Whitcomb seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Individual Board Members - Report/Requests for Board Action

Commissioner Fore stated that he had a discussion with the landlord of the EMS facility about getting the garage doors replaced. He stated that the landlord was willing to discuss replacing the garage doors but that he would have to charge more for rent of the facility. Commissioner Kyes moved to enter into a new lease for the facility, contingent upon the State's Attorney finding the new lease agreement acceptable. As there was additional discussion about what options to pursue for housing the EMS Department, the motion died for lack of a second.

Commissioner Whitcomb presented information about participating with the Soil & Water Conservation District to fund soil conservation projects on the County-owned farm ground. He stated that the County's participation cost would be approximately \$1,500. Mr. Duncan informed the Board that there was money in the County's budget to perform such a project under the County farm maintenance line item. Commissioner Lott moved to approve spending the approximately \$1,500 on the soil conservation projects, or additional County farm maintenance funds if deemed necessary. Commissioner Fore seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Executive Session

There was no executive session.

Adjournment

With no other business coming before the Board, Commissioner Lott moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:36 p.m. Commissioner Fore seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.