

COUNTY OF MENARD)
) SS.
STATE OF ILLINOIS)

The Menard County Board of Commissioners met on Tuesday, August 25, 2009, at 10:00 a.m. in the Commissioners' Room of the Menard County Courthouse, Petersburg, Illinois. Commissioners Merle Kirby, Ed Whitcomb, Barb Kyes and Bob Lott were present at the opening of the meeting. Commissioner Jeff Fore was not in attendance. County Clerk Gene Treseler, County Treasurer Jackie Horn, State's Attorney Ken Baumgarten and County Coordinator Steve Duncan were also in attendance.

Commissioner Kirby called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Commissioner Lott moved to approve the consent agenda which included the minutes from the August 11, 2009 regularly scheduled Board meeting and the monthly department expense report for July 2009, as presented. Commissioner Kyes seconded the motion. The motion carried with four "ayes", no "nays" and one "absent".

Unscheduled Public Comments

There were no unscheduled public comments heard at this point of the meeting.

EMS/Community Services Department Report/Requests for Board Action

EMS Administrator Larry Graf and Community Services Administrator/EMS Fiscal Officer Dara Worthington were in attendance. Ms. Worthington presented EMS Department financial report handouts. Mr. Graf presented information pertaining to third-party collection agencies.

Commissioner Lott moved to rescind a previous motion, made at the June 30, 2009 Board meeting, that directed the EMS Department to engage National Credit Systems, Inc., to perform third-party collections. Commissioner Whitcomb seconded the motion. The motion carried with four "ayes", no "nays" and one "absent". The Board directed the EMS Department to report back within 90 days or less on a recommendation to engage a third-party collections agency.

Mr. Graf asked for authorization to spend approximately \$2,100 on a type of drill that can be used for certain medical situations. He said that he had a video of the procedure that was available for the Board to review, if interested. Mr. Graf estimated that this equipment could be used, on average, a couple of times a month. The Board directed Mr. Graf to ensure that money was available in the budget for such a purchase.

Ms. Worthington informed the Board that she was beginning to prepare the budget for Fiscal Year 2010. She took a personal moment to thank the County for their support after her mother's passing and praised Sunny Acres Nursing Home employees as being wonderful to deal with in the care of her mother.

Mr. Graf asked for authority to proceed with submitting a grant request through FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Grant program. The consensus of the Board was to proceed, as needed.

Health Department Report/Requests for Board Action

Health Department Administrator Alicia Davis was in attendance. Ms. Davis presented an unaudited balance sheet showing a Health Department fund balance of \$133,227 for the end of July. She informed the Board that the State of Illinois had been able to issue the entire grant funding that the Health Department had been relying upon in previous years. She informed the Board that she was working on her Fiscal Year 2010 budget. She informed the Board that the budget that would be proposed would be for full staffing of the Health Department.

Ms. Davis introduced Alexandria Reed, the new Emergency Response Coordinator for the Health Department. Ms. Davis informed the Board that Ms. Reed is also a licensed environmental health practitioner. She said that grant funding had provided for this position and would be good for one year and, hopefully, more if the grant funding could be obtained in future years.

County Treasurer's Report/Request for Board Action

There was no report.

County Clerk's Report/Request for Board Action

County Clerk Gene Treseler presented a resolution to approve grand and petit jurors to serve the County. Commissioner Kyes moved to approve the resolution, as presented. Commissioner Lott seconded the motion. The motion carried with four "ayes", no "nays" and one absent and shall be known as **Resolution 36-09**.

State's Attorney Report/Request for Board Action

State's Attorney Baumgarten updated the Board on the Fraternal Order of Police Correctional Officer grievance with the Sheriff's Department. The Union argued that Menard County was obligated to provide retroactive longevity pay. The county disagreed. Mr. Baumgarten represented the county at a hearing before an arbitrator and filed a closing argument brief. The Union did not file a brief and moved to withdraw the grievance after the county's brief was filed. Mr. Baumgarten insisted the withdrawal be with prejudice meaning the matter cannot be raised again. Effectively the county won the issue. He informed the Board the County was required to pay one-half of the arbitrator's costs by terms of the union contract even though the county prevailed. He stated this amount was approximately \$800.

County Coordinator's Report/Request for Board Action

Mr. Duncan reminded the Board that there are two vacancies on the Menard County Planning Commission. He provided a brief update on the County's website development. He stated that currently the project was coming in slightly under budget but there would be ongoing website hosting costs and, at least until County staff was trained to perform it, content management costs.

There was discussion of what role the County would be willing to play in assisting the Menard County Rescue Squad. After discussion, the consensus of the Board was to budget \$7,500 to grant to the Rescue Squad, an increase of \$2,500. Commissioner Lott stated that he would contact their representatives to inform of the Board's intentions to budget this amount.

Mr. Duncan informed the Board that he had received notice that Illinois Extension was working to replace the local crops' educator.

The Board discussed how to proceed with the farm lease that was expiring in early 2010. After discussion, it was the consensus of the Board to send out a bid notice to seek sealed bids for a two-year lease of the farm ground with the County retaining the right to accept the bid it believes is in the best interest of the County.

Mr. Duncan brought up a proposal from Revere Healthcare to provide accounting and financial consulting services to Sunny Acres Nursing Home.

Unscheduled County Staff - Report/Requests for Board Action

Pat McNeal, new Sunny Acres Nursing Home Administrator, Leslie Walsh and Jim Harkness, representing the County's interim management team from Revere Healthcare, were in attendance.

Ms. Walsh informed the Board that the census at Sunny Acres Nursing Home was at 94. She informed the Board that a new door alarm system had been ordered.

Commissioner Lott moved to approve a proposal from Revere Healthcare to provide accounting and financial consulting services to Sunny Acres Nursing Home, as presented. Commissioner Whitcomb seconded the motion. The motion carried with four "ayes", no "nays" and one absent

Individual Board Members - Report/Requests for Board Action

There were no individual Board member reports or requests for Board action.

Executive Session

Commissioner Lott moved to adjourn to executive session at 11:24 a.m. to discuss matters related to personnel, real estate and potential litigation, as needed. Commissioner Whitcomb seconded the motion. The motion carried with four "ayes", no "nays" and one "absent".

The regular meeting reconvened at 12:02 p.m.

Discussion of Fiscal Year 2010 Budget Preparation

County Treasurer Horn presented a handout giving a budget summary for Fiscal Year (FY) 2009. County Coordinator Duncan informed the Board that it was his understanding that State Statutes required the County to perform a study before implementing new fees. After discussion, the State's Attorney stated that he would have to research what constituted an allowable study.

Mr. Duncan asked for direction on whether the Board wanted to budget to fly new aerials for the County's GIS system as they were five plus years old. He stated that the County may wish to get on a rotation to fly aerials every five years so as to ensure more accuracy in the information available. The Board stated that they would give consideration to a budget proposal to provide for such a project cost.

The Board spent meeting time discussing how they wished to budget for certain line items in FY 2010. Mr. Duncan presented a budget request from Lower Sangamon River Resource, Conservation & Development in the amount of \$200. There were no objections to tentatively budget this amount. The Board directed the County Coordinator to tentatively budget for similar expenditures in the County Farm Fund, County Fair Fund and Building Improvement Fund, as done in FY 2009. Commissioner Kyes stated that a decent sign needed to be erected for the Animal Control Facility, highlighting pet adoption. The Board stressed that they wanted all fees to be studied and evaluated.

Adjournment

With no other business coming before the Board, Commissioner Lott moved to adjourn the meeting at 12:52 p.m. Commissioner Whitcomb seconded the motion. The motion carried with four "ayes", no "nays" and one "absent".