

COUNTY OF MENARD)
) SS.
STATE OF ILLINOIS)

The Menard County Board of Commissioners met on Tuesday, February 23, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. in the Commissioners' Room of the Menard County Courthouse, Petersburg, Illinois. Commissioners Merle Kirby, Barb Kyes, Jeff Fore and Ed Whitcomb were present at the meeting. Commissioner Bob Lott arrived after the consent agenda was passed and during the EMS/Community Services report/requests for Board Action. 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 Fore moved to approve the consent agenda which included the minutes from the February 9, 2010 regularly scheduled Board meeting; the February 16, 2010 special Board meeting that was held to discuss constructing County facilities for the EMS, Health and other County Departments, as deemed needed; and, the monthly department expense report for January 2010, as presented. Commissioner Whitcomb seconded the motion. The motion carried with four "ayes", no "nays" and one "absent".

Unscheduled Public Comments/Requests for Board Action

There were no unscheduled public comments made at this 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 financial information for the EMS Department. Ms. Worthington presented an evaluation of what would be needed to purchase a new "Medivan" for the EMS Department. She highlighted that the current Medivan has approximately 185,000 miles on it and needs to either be repaired (at an estimated cost of \$6,000) or a new/used vehicle purchased (estimated to cost \$23,000 used, \$40,000 new). Mr. Graf indicated that the County has gone from around 300 calls for Medivan service to 600 calls for service. Ms. Worthington pointed out that Senior Transportation vans were restricted to transporting individuals 60 years of age and over and were not approved to receive Department of Public Aid reimbursement. The EMS Department-run "medivan" does not have such restrictions. The consensus of the Board was that EMS staff could continue to solidify the costs of replacement but that they wanted to further study options for delivery of this service.

Ms. Worthington informed that County staff members were going to be meeting with Carl Fischer, architect, to discuss what department needs should be included in any design of a building to house county agencies such as EMS and/or Health. She informed that she is still evaluating what Menard County's role would be in the creation of a rural mass transit system, along with Mason and Logan counties.

Health Department Reports/Requests for Board Action

Health Department Administrator Alicia Davis was in attendance. She informed the Board that \$6,000 from a grant was available to be transferred for use by the Sheriff's Department to purchase software. She informed that the Health Department was looking for a Medical Advisor, a required position for the Health Department Board. She informed that the medical advisor did not have to reside in the County. She alerted the Board to State Senate Bill 2797 that would, if passed by the State, require a ninth member to be appointed to the Board of Health with that appointment being a chiropractor.

Highway Department Report/Requests for Board Action

County Highway Engineer Tom Casson presented three items to the Board for action, as follows:

1. A request for a motion to approve material letting bids for various aggregates (rock & oil) for Road Districts One, Two, Three, Four, Five, Six, Seven, Nine and Ten. Commissioner Kyes moved to approve the bid tabulations, as presented. Commissioner Lott seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

2. A request for a motion to approve material letting bids for various aggregates (rock & oil) for the Menard County Highway Department. Commissioner Whitcomb moved to approve the bid tabulations, as presented. Commissioner Fore seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

3. A request to accept a bid from Nikles Chevrolet and purchase a new Chevrolet pick-up truck in the amount of \$18,259. Commissioner Lott moved to accept the bid, as presented. Commissioner Fore seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Casson informed that road oil was bid on February 9, 2010 but recommended waiting for another 30 days or less before locking in prices as it may change. The consensus of the Board was to wait to see if lower prices could be obtained.

County Treasurer's Report/Request for Board Action

County Treasurer Horn presented a request for a budget revision to line item 654-00-090, to go from \$0 to \$2,200, so as to replace the sound system in the courtroom that is not functioning. Commissioner Lott moved to approve the budget revision, as requested. Commissioner Kyes seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Horn informed that she had sent a thank you concerning funds donated to Sunny Acres Nursing Home in the name of an area resident

Ms. Horn presented a financial report indicating reimbursements for various sales, income and local use tax reimbursements to the County, including declines in some categories such as income tax. She also presented some handouts for the Board's information about how the taxing process worked in regard to reimbursements from the State of Illinois.

County Clerk's Report/Request for Board Action

There were no County Clerk's report/requests for Board action.

State's Attorney Report/Request for Board Action

There were no State's Attorney report/requests for Board action.

County Coordinator's Report/Request for Board Action

County Coordinator Duncan presented executive session minutes from the August 11, 2009 Board meeting to be considered for opening to the public. Commissioner Whitcomb moved to open the August 11, 2009 executive session minutes to the public, as prepared. Commissioner Kyes seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

There was further discussion about creating a GIS (geographic information systems) Coordinator position. Mr. Duncan stated that he could not recommend hiring such a position unless another revenue source was identified than that currently generated from document recording fees. He stated that partnering with other County-entities, who required such GIS services, seemed to be the best hope for funding such a position in Menard County. The consensus of the Board was that it would be best, in light of the current financial climate, to evaluate what the County's current, third-party GIS vendor begins charging for GIS services in the next fiscal year and if the County's ability to fund such a position, in the future, makes more financial sense.

Mr. Duncan informed that his office had been contacted by a company called All American Sports soliciting the County to purchase a \$250. ad on a poster that was being created as a fund-raiser for PORTA sports teams. The consensus of the Board was that this proposal should be declined as not an appropriate use of tax dollars. Mr. Duncan informed the Board of the 2010 UCCI/University of Illinois Leadership Academy that was designed to educate and train public officials. He presented a copy of the recently sent press release, highlighting the electronics recycling opportunity for County residents and businesses and a copy of an email from the State of Illinois highlighting that, beginning January 1, 2012, it would be illegal to place electronic devices in landfills.

Mr. Duncan informed that he had been contacted by a County resident that lives in the R-1 Single-Family zoning district and wants the County to provide for the ability to erect a freestanding, private-electricity generating, wind turbine. There was discussion that setbacks would make it difficult to erect such a structure in the R-1 district unless a property owner had a large parcel to meet setbacks. Mr. Duncan pointed out that private subdivision covenants could prohibit such structures but that he expects opposition from some in the public on providing for such structures in the R-1 single-family district which is where you find higher density development in the County. The Board spent much time discussing the request, and zoning in general, but no direction was given at this meeting to take steps to provide for private wind turbines in R-1 or change any other zoning regulations.

Individual Board Members - Report/Requests for Board Action

Chairman Kirby informed that he would talk with Sunny Acres Nursing Home regarding the van services that they are currently providing for residents. Commissioner Kyes stated that she did not want to leave Sunny Acres Nursing Home with no van services which would potentially hurt an existing resident service.

Executive Session

There was no executive session held at this meeting.

Adjournment

With no other business coming before the Board, Commissioner Fore moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:45 a.m. Commissioner Whitcomb seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.