

COUNTY OF MENARD)
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STATE OF ILLINOIS)

The Menard County Board of Commissioners met on Tuesday, March 8, 2011, at 7:00 p.m. in the Commissioners' Room of the Menard County Courthouse, 102 S. Seventh Street, Petersburg, Illinois. Commissioners Merle Kirby, Barb Kyes, Jeff Fore, and Bob Lott were present. Commissioner Ed Whitcomb was unable to attend. 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 February 22, 2011 regularly scheduled Board meeting and the Menard County Community Services Monthly Report for February 2011. Commissioner Lott seconded the motion. The motion carried with four "ayes", no "nays" and one "absent".

Old Business – Resolution to Adopt a Menard County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan

A resolution to adopt a Menard County multi-hazard mitigation plan, which was tabled at the February 22, 2011 Board meeting, was presented for adoption. Commissioner Lott moved to approve the adoption of the Menard County multi-hazard mitigation plan, 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 03-11**.

Unscheduled Public Comments/Requests for Board Action

There were no unscheduled public comments or requests for Board action.

Highway Department Report/Requests for Board Action

Tom Casson, County Engineer, was in attendance. He presented Highway Department bills for February 2011.

Mr. Casson informed that he was recommending entering into a contract for diesel fuel with LincolnLand FS. The contract would provide diesel fuel at a fixed cost of \$3.395 and with a limit on the number of gallons. The consensus of the Board was to accept the terms of this contract, up to eight thousand (8,000) gallons.

Sunny Acres/Countryside Estates Report/Requests for Board Action

Sunny Acres Nursing Home Administrator Pat McNeal was in attendance and gave an overview of Sunny Acres operations, highlighting that the census at Sunny Acres was at 98 and the Countryside Estates census was 23 residents. She informed that the pay mix at Sunny Acres was Medicare A -10; Private Pay – 35; and, Public Aid - 53.

Ms. McNeal provided an update on the amount to be paid out by the insurance for tornado damage incurred at both the nursing home building and independent living building, in the total amount of \$72,689.25. The Board directed Ms. McNeal to contact FWAI Architects to evaluate the cost of engaging them to help as the project manager for the needed repairs. It was also the consensus of the Board that Commissioner Fore should meet with FWAI Architects to discuss other repairs that may be needed to the nursing home building, that were unrelated to the tornado damage, but may need to be coordinated with the tornado damage repairs.

The Board directed Ms. McNeal to discuss with the Highway Department their capability to remove damaged trees and to contact Guy Sternberg to see if he would be able to assist in the evaluation of the condition of the trees that may be able to be retained on the property.

Ms. McNeal informed that the Medicare Long Form report was due by May 2, 2011 and that the nursing home's financial consultant, John Smith, would begin working on it in April, pursuant to a contract to engage him to do so in the amount of \$4,000. The consensus of the Board was to engage Mr. Smith to perform the work, as has been done in previous years.

Commissioner Kyes asked about the status of the generator for Countryside Estates. There was discussion that Countryside Estates was an independent living facility and that an expensive generator was not required for an independent living facility. There was discussion that residents should be made aware that they are renting to live in an independent living facility.

County Treasurer's Report/Requests for Board Action

County Treasurer Jackie Horn presented various financial reports to the Board. She informed that the County had received past due salary reimbursements, from the State of Illinois, in the amount of \$19,558. She informed that the State of Illinois was still behind on what they owed the County's General Fund in the amount of \$169,734.

County Coordinator Duncan highlighted that the County's self-funded health insurance program, had a fund balance of approximately \$29,000, as of the end of February 2011.

Ms. Horn asked the Board to transfer \$25,000 from the General Fund to the Animal Control Fund, as budgeted, to cover operational expenses. Commissioner Lott moved to approve the transfer of funds, from the General Fund to the Animal Control Fund, as requested. Commissioner Kyes seconded the motion. The motion carried with four "ayes", no "nays" and one "absent".

County Clerk's Report/Requests for Board Action

The Board and County staff spent meeting time discussing commissioner district re-apportionment and potential precinct changes. No action was taken at this meeting.

State's Attorney Report/Requests for Board Action

There was no report/request for Board action.

County Coordinator's Report/Requests for Board Action

County Coordinator Duncan informed the Board that there may be a request to do a partial vacation of Plat #2 of the Barber's Glenn Subdivision. Mr. Duncan pointed out that the letter of credit for required construction improvements was coming due and that the County needed to decide whether they were going to extend the letter of credit or take action to use the funds. After discussion, it was the consensus of the Board that an updated letter of credit needed to be brought before the Board, for consideration to be extended, by their March 29, 2011 meeting or the Board may exercise its right to utilize the letter of credit and complete the construction improvements. It was also the consensus of the Board that the developer would need to make a formal presentation of any request to give consideration to a full or partial vacation of any plat that had received final plat approval.

Mr. Duncan informed the Board that the employee health insurance committee had met with representatives of the WellTrak program.

Individual Board Members - Report/Requests for Board Action

There were no reports/requests for Board action.

Zoning Ordinance Discussion

The Board and County staff spent meeting time discussing zoning ordinance issues related to the following: Continued requests to be allowed to put up private wind turbines for personal usage; whether the County wanted to continue to require permits/fees for structures that are 8 ½ feet by 10 feet in size and not located on a permanent foundation (e.g., yard sheds); clarify that playground/playhouse equipment does not need a permit for erection; raising the allowable height for fences to eight (8) feet; and a brief discussion about a complaint regarding the permit fee structure.

Mr. Duncan presented the Sangamon County zoning regulations as written for wind turbine/wind farm issues. The consensus of the Board was that these regulations should be presented to the Menard County Zoning Board of Appeals and Planning Commission to prepare an advisory opinion on the Sangamon County zoning regulations for wind turbine/wind farms and what should and should not be adopted by Menard County.

After more discussion, Commissioner Fore moved to direct the County Coordinator/Zoning Administrator to draft language to not require structures that are 8 ½ feet by 10 feet in size and not located on a permanent foundation (e.g., yard sheds) to get a permit (but with setback and height requirements of a zoning district still applicable); clarify that playground/playhouse equipment do not need a permit for erection; and raise the allowable height for residential fences to eight (8) feet. Commissioner Kyes seconded the motion. The motion carried with four “ayes”, no “nays” and one “absent”.

Executive Session

There was no executive session held at this meeting.

Adjournment

With no other business coming before the Board, Commissioner Lott moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:43 p.m. Commissioner Kyes seconded the motion. The motion carried with four “ayes”, no “nays” and one “absent”.