

COUNTY OF MENARD)
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STATE OF ILLINOIS)

The Menard County Board of Commissioners met on Tuesday, September 29, 2009, at 10:00 a.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 all present at the meeting. 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 Whitcomb moved to approve the consent agenda which included the minutes from the September 8, 2009 regularly scheduled Board meeting and the monthly department expense report for August 2009, as presented. Commissioner Lott seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Request to Amend Zoning Ordinance to Provide for a Recycling Center/Facility in the B-1 Downtown Business Zoning District

Menard County resident Terry Bacon was in attendance to ask the Board to amend the zoning ordinance to provide for recycling centers as an allowable business in the B-1 Downtown Business zoning district. A letter of support from the Village of Tallula was provided for the Board's consideration.

Commissioner Lott moved to direct the County Coordinator/Zoning Administrator to initiate the text amendment process to provide for recycling centers in the B-1 Downtown Business Zoning District, by special use permit only and a definition of recycling center. Commissioner Fore seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Application for Funding of County Facilities

Anne Smith, Menard County Housing Authority, and Ed Goodwin, Goodwin Consulting were in attendance to provide a brief overview of efforts to obtain funding to help fund county facilities related primarily to finding a permanent home for the EMS Department and perhaps the Health Department. Mr. Goodwin stated that they were hopeful a Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity program could be used to help get funds for the space planning and construction design phases. He stated they were still evaluating programs to actually build the facility.

Unscheduled Public Comments

Penny Hoke, Menard County Circuit Clerk, was in attendance and spoke during the unscheduled public comments portion of the meeting. She informed the Board that Illinois Circuit Clerks' stipend funding had been pulled by the State of Illinois. She asked the Board to help support getting this funding restored by the State of Illinois.

There was discussion about the need to raise various fees, which had not been raised in some time and in lieu of tax increases, to help fund County services. No action was taken.

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 \$141,120 for the end of August. She

provided an overview of various grants that help fund Health Department programs. She provided an overview of upcoming flu clinics. She presented the Health Department budget that the Board of Health had recently approved for the upcoming fiscal year, along with the Tuberculosis Fund budget.

Ms. Davis asked the Board to transfer \$895 from the County's General Fund to purchase software for the Health Department's computer server. Commissioner Lott moved to transfer \$895, as requested. Commissioner Fore seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

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. She informed the Board that the county's third-party billing company had been bought out by EMS-Management Consultants.

Ms. Worthington presented a job description for the position of EMS Fiscal Officer. Commissioner Kyes moved to accept the job description, as presented. Commissioner Lott seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Worthington presented budget proposals to provide office staff for both Community Services and the EMS Department. No final action was taken at this time. She informed the Board that she believed the EMS budget had funds available to purchase laptops and associated software that would be placed in the ambulances to expedite reports and billing. She indicated that further information regarding this subject will be brought before the board prior to the end of the current fiscal year.

Mr. Graf presented transport logs to the Board for their information. He presented bids that were received for a Ford E-350 ambulance. Commissioner Lott moved to accept the high bid received from Jason Foulk in the amount of \$1500.99. Commissioner Whitcomb seconded the motion. The motion carried with four "ayes" and one "nay" (Commissioner Fore voted "nay").

County Treasurer's Report/Request for Board Action

County Treasurer Horn provided an overview of various financial reports (copies on file).

County Clerk's Report/Request for Board Action

County Clerk Gene Treseler informed the Board that he had attended a meeting informing about a new requirement to have Illinois Counties' personnel attend training on the Freedom of Information Act. State's Attorney Baumgarten advised the Board of the need to ensure that, if the training was not provided by the State as had been mentioned, the County should provide the training to ensure compliance with the Act.

Mr. Treseler advised the Board that he had to replace a computer for the County Clerk's office due to it malfunctioning.

State's Attorney Report/Request for Board Action

There were no report/requests.

County Coordinator's Report/Request for Board Action

Mr. Duncan presented the remaining executive session minutes from September 25, 2007 for consideration to be opened to the public (a portion of the minutes had been previously opened to the public). Commissioner Fore moved to open these executive session minutes, as prepared. Commissioner Whitcomb seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Duncan reminded the Board that there are two vacancies on the Menard County Planning Commission. He asked if the Board would be inclined to provide for a budget request, in the amount of \$3000, to provide for consumer electronics/computer recycling events to be sponsored by the County. Commissioner Kyes moved to tentatively approve including such an amount in the Fiscal Year 2010 budget. Commissioner Fore seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

As Commissioners Kirby and Kyes were not in attendance at the September 8, 2009 Board meeting, Mr. Duncan asked the Board to give thought to whether or not they wanted to provide for agri-businesses as a principal use of a property in the Rural Residential zoning district. He stated that, currently, the Rural Residential zoning district regulations allowed for agri-businesses, as an allowable accessory use to a farm and by special permit only, but did not allow for agri-business as the principal use of a property. No action or direction was given at this time.

Mr. Duncan presented a request from the Menard County Tourism Council to release hotel/motel taxes, in the amount of \$3,827, to help fund the county-wide radio station 1610 am and provide funds to hold a symposium to provide education on methods of promoting tourism in the County. Commissioner Lott moved to tentatively approve the release of hotel/motel taxes, as proposed. Commissioner Fore seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Duncan provided various mailings information to the Board.

Do to other obligations, Commissioner Kyes left the meeting at this point.

Individual Board Members - Report/Requests for Board Action

Commissioner Lott asked the County Coordinator to prepare an updated memorandum of understanding, outlining the reimbursement budget amount to be requested from the 911 Board.

Commissioner Whitcomb presented an amendment to the current County farm lease that had been signed by the current tenant. The amendment allowed for the possibility of a new tenant being able to fertilize or do field preparation, in advance of the actual expiration date of the current lease agreement (March 1, 2010). Chairman Kirby signed the amendment agreement.

Commissioner Whitcomb presented bid prices to provide a utility tractor to be used to mow grass and remove snow at Countryside Estates and Sunny Acres Nursing Home. Commissioner Fore moved to accept the bid proposal and price from Rholf's Implement to provide a new, Kubota compact utility tractor for \$12,995. Commissioner Lott seconded the motion. The motion carried with four "ayes", no "nays" and one "absent".

Commissioner Kirby stated that all the County Department's needed to evaluate their fee structure. He also stated that, if the County bought or constructed new County facilities, that meeting ADA requirements would need to be included in any such project.

Discussion of Fiscal Year 2010 Budget Preparation

The Board spent time discussing the Fiscal Year 2010 budget. After discussion of increases for non-union/non-contractual employees, the Board stated that they were inclined to give consideration to a 3% increase in such personnel costs.

County Coordinator Duncan asked the Board if there would be any objections to Jeff Leonhard, Pictometry International Corp., coming to a Board meeting to give a presentation on flying aerial photography for the County's GIS system and other products and services. There were no objections to such a presentation.

There was a lengthy discussion of raising fees, particularly zoning fees. After discussion, the consensus of the Board was that they wanted to give consideration to zoning fee proposals that were based on a fee per sq. foot basis.

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 1:35 p.m. Commissioner Whitcomb seconded the motion. The motion carried with four "ayes", no "nays" and one "absent".