

COUNTY OF MENARD)
) S.S.
STATE OF ILLINOIS)

The Menard County Board of Commissioners met on Tuesday, September 9, 2025, at 6:00 PM at the Menard County Courthouse, 102 South Seventh Street, Petersburg, Illinois. Commissioners Troy Cummings, Rich Brauer, and Dalton Whitley were present. A quorum was present. County Clerk Marty Gum, County Coordinator Dara Worthington, State's Attorney Gwen Thomas, and County Treasurer Molly Bettis were also present. Chairperson Lott and Commissioner Whitcomb were absent. Acting Chair Cummings called the meeting to order.

Commissioner Brauer moved to approve the Consent Agenda which consisted of the Regular Board Minutes and the Executive Session Minutes from the August 28, 2025. Commissioner Whitley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Scheduled/Unscheduled Guests

There were no scheduled or unscheduled guests.

County Zoning Officer's Report/Request for Board Action

County Zoning Officer Joe Crowe was in attendance and provided a brief overview of plans that RCM had proposed to the county for their planned expansion.

County Engineer's Report/Request for Board Action

Engineer Dowd was in attendance and put forth Resolution 19B-25 – Appropriation of Local Matching Funds for Section 21-00056-09-PV 9Athens Blacktop, Segment F) Construction. Dowd reported that the county's local commitment for this segment as \$177,777.77. Commissioner Brauer made a motion to approve the resolution and Commissioner Whitley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. This shall be known as Resolution 19B-25.

Engineer Dowd presented a Joint Funding Agreement for Federal Funded Construction with IDOT for Section 21-00056-09-PV (Athens Blacktop, Segment F) Construction for board approval. Commissioner Brauer made a motion to approve the agreement while Commissioner Whitley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

An update was also provided on departmental projects and activities.

County Sheriff's Report/Request for Board Action

Sheriff Mark Oller was in attendance and reported that the current jail census stood at 13 inmates with those inmates being from Cass, Sangamon and Menard Counties.

Oller reported that the house his department had been willed was taken down the previous week. There was a discussion on plans for the lot. Sheriff Oller posed questions to the commissioners about the FY26 budget and funding for different projects.

County Treasurer's Report/Request for Board Action

County Treasurer Bettis was in attendance and gave a brief overview of her office activities. Bettis stated that FY26 budget worksheets had been distributed and that the deadline for the second installment of property taxes was September 12. Treasurer Bettis announced that she would be running for the office of Menard County Treasurer.

County Clerk's Report/Request for Board Action

County Clerk Marty Gum was in attendance and requested approval of a liquor license for Josie's Nest on October 11. Commissioner Brauer made a motion to approve the license and Commissioner Whitley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. Gum reported that the Supreme Court holiday calendar for 2026 noting that the November election had erroneously been omitted from the calendar and needed to be added.

County State's Attorney's Report/Request for Board Action

State's Attorney Gwen Thomas was in attendance and reported that her office would have an opening as of the end of the week as she would be losing an employee. An overview of departmental cases was given.

County Coordinator's Report/Requests for Board Action

Coordinator Dara Worthington was in attendance. The October 2025 month payment to Sangamon County Department of Public Health was presented for payment. Commissioner Whitley made a motion to proceed with payment. Commissioner Brauer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Worthington presented Executive Session minutes from 08/29/2023, 08/29/2024, 01/30/2024, 02/27/2025B, and 07/25/2024 for opening along with 07/25/2023 and 02/27/2025A to remain closed. Commissioner Brauer made a motion to open the minutes, and Commissioner Brauer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Worthington proposed setting a special meeting for the purpose of FY26 budget planning with the selection of Tuesday, October 21, 2025, at 6:00 PM being set. She reported on the following: 2025 Employee Flu Clinic, Property Maintenance Specialist allowance, Public Building Study Group Walkthrough, and the Menard County Trails and Greenways scheduled Ribbon Cutting.

Individual Board Members - Report/Requests for Board Action

Commissioner Cummings reported that he would be attending a Workforce Investment and Opportunity Act board meeting the following day.

Other Scheduled Topics

Approval of Menard County EMS Local 4622 Collective Bargaining Agreement – The action was tabled for further review of the final draft due to time constraints.

Resolution 20-25 – Reappointment of Jerry Brooks to the North Sangamon-Lattimore Creek Mutual Drainage District for a Three-Year Term Expiring the First Tuesday in September 2028. Commissioner Brauer made a motion to approve the reappointment and Commissioner Whitley seconded. The motion carried unanimously. This shall be known as Resolution 20-25.

Resolution 21-25 – Reappointment of Ty Willis to the Grove Creek Drainage District for a Three-Year Term Expiring the First Tuesday in September 2028. Commissioner Brauer made a motion to approve the reappointment while Commissioner Whitley seconded. The motion carried unanimously. This shall be known as Resolution 21-25.

Resolution 22-25 – Authorization of Zoning Board of Appeals and Planning Commission to Hold Joint Meetings. Commissioner Brauer made a motion to approve the resolution as presented. Commissioner Whitley seconded. The motion carried unanimously. This shall be known as Resolution 22-25.

Resolution 23-25 – Reappointment of Mark Stewart to the Menard County Cemetery Maintenance District Board for a Three-Year Term Expiring the First Monday in May 2028. Commissioner Whitley made a motion to approve the reappointment and Commissioner Brauer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. This shall be known as Resolution 23-25.

Resolution 24-25 - Appointment of Joe Crowe as Menard County Zoning Administrator – Commissioner Brauer made a motion to approve the appointment. Commissioner Whitley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. This shall be known as Resolution 24-25.

Executive Session

Commissioner Whitley made a motion to enter Executive Session as allowed by (5 ILCS 120/2)(C)(11) Litigation and (2) Collective Bargaining. Commissioner Brauer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously at 7:13 PM.

Adjournment

With no other business coming before the Board, Commissioner Brauer moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:24 PM. Commissioner Whitley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.