

COUNTY OF MENARD)
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STATE OF ILLINOIS)

The Menard County Board of Commissioners met on Tuesday, December 9, 2025, at 6:00 PM at the Menard County Courthouse, 102 South Seventh Street, Petersburg, Illinois. Commissioners Ed Whitcomb, Troy Cummings, Rich Brauer, and Dalton Whitley were physically 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 physically present. Commissioner Bob Lott was absent. Acting Chair for the meeting, Ed Whitcomb called the meeting to order.

Commissioner Cummings moved to approve the Consent Agenda which consisted of the Regular Board Minutes and Executive Session Minutes from November 25, 2025. Commissioner Cummings made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as noted and Commissioner Whitley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Scheduled/Unscheduled Guests

There were no guests present at the meeting.

Scheduled County Elected Officials & Staff

County Zoning Administrator's Report/Request for Board Action

Zoning Administrator Joe Crowe was in attendance. Mr. Crowe provided an overview of his department's ongoing activities which included information on the upcoming public meeting regarding ENGIE, the status of RCM, and the proposed enterprise zone. It was the consensus of the commissioners to hold on moving forward with the proposed enterprise zone.

County Engineer's Report/Request for Board Action

Engineer Dowd was in attendance.

Resolution 37-25 – Maintenance Under the Illinois Highway Code – FY26 Motor Fuel Tax Maintenance Expenditures. Commissioner Brauer made a motion to approve the resolution. Commissioner Cummings seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. This shall be known as Resolution 37-25. Dowd provided a briefing on departmental activities.

County Sheriff's Report/Request for Board Action

Sheriff Oller was in attendance and reported the current jail census being at eight males and two females. A briefing was provided on current schooling and staffing of employees.

County Treasurer's Report/Request for Board Action

Treasurer Molly Bettis was in attendance and provided an update on activities within her department.

County Clerk's Report/Request for Board Action

County Clerk Gum was in attendance. Gum shared that the UCCI salary survey had been completed and submitted. Liquor licenses for three establishments were presented for approval. Commissioner Brauer made a motion to approve the licenses and Commissioner Whitley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

County State's Attorney/Request for Board Action

State's Attorney Gwen Thomas was in attendance. Thomas provided a brief update on her department's activities.

County Coordinator's Report/Requests for Board Action

Coordinator Dara Worthington was in attendance. Worthington presented the December 2025 and January 2026 invoices for the provision of Public Health Services for board approval. Commissioner Whitley made a motion to approve payment. Commissioner Cummings seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Executive Session minutes from May 13, 2025 and May 29, 2025 were presented to the commissioners with recommendation that they remain closed. Commissioner Cummings made a motion for both sets of minutes to remain closed. Commissioner Brauer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Worthington provided an update on issues coming before the commissioners.

Individual Board of Commissioners' Reports/Requests for Board Action

Commissioner Whitley inquired about the possible need for additional staffing needs in the zoning office as a result of the large-scale projects being introduced into the county. A brief discussion ensued about needs for the Zoning Department and Highway Department and billing for the additional costs incurred with that staffing.

Other Scheduled Topics

Resolutions 38-51 – 25 – Fiscal Year 2026 Budget & Appropriations Ordinance and Tax Levies

A motion was made by Commissioner Brauer to approve Resolutions 38 through 51 for fiscal year 2026. Commissioner Whitley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. These shall be known as Resolutions 38-51/25.

Executive Session

Commissioner Whitley made a motion to enter into Executive Session at 7:10 PM for the purpose of discussing litigation as allowed by ILCS 120/2(c)(11). Commissioner Cummings seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment

With no other business coming before the Board, Commissioner Cummings moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:19 PM. Commissioner Whitley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.