

CASS COUNTY BOARD MEETING

April 12, 2021

The Cass County Board met in the Courthouse, in the Courtroom, on Monday, April 12, 2021 at the hour of 7:00 P.M.

Present: Michael Barnett
Chairman

Attest: Shelly Wessel
Cass County Clerk

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Barnett, who directs the Clerk to call roll.

The Clerk calls roll.

Roll Call:

Barnett	Present	Hance	Present	Noe	Present
Gibson	Present	Hagloch	Present	Starkey	Present
Schaefer	Present	Douglass	Present	Merriman	Present
Wessel	Present	French	Present		

As a result of the roll call the Clerk states that all board members are present.

Chairman Barnett declares there is a quorum.

Chairman Barnett now leads the board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Barnett next reads the Resolution of Recognition for Alec Bunfill. Merriman makes a motion to approve the Resolution and Douglass seconds the motion.

The Chairman directs the Clerk to call roll.

The Clerk calls roll.

Roll Call:

Barnett	Yes	Hance	Yes	Noe	Yes
Gibson	Yes	Hagloch	Yes	Starkey	Yes
Schaefer	Yes	Douglass	Yes	Merriman	Yes
Wessel	Yes	French	Yes		

As a result of the roll call, the Clerk states that all members present have voted in the affirmative. Chairman Barnett declares the motion carried.

(See Attached Resolution)

Barnett states that Bunfill went above and beyond the call of duty by answering a 911 call at a residence where a 9 month old was in distress. Bunfill was able to save the child's life.

Chairman Barnett presents Bunfill with the plaque.

Sheriff Ohrn presents Bunfill with a pin of recognition and a glass award. Ohrn thanks Bunfill for his service.

Teresa Armstrong, Administrator of the Cass County Health Department, presents an update on the latest information related to the Coronavirus Covid-19 Pandemic. Cass County has seen an increase in the last few weeks. Cass County has had a total of 1,950 positive cases, with 33 fatalities and 1,906 individuals have recovered. Armstrong states the test positivity 7-day rolling average for Cass County is currently 2.7%.

Armstrong reports that 30% of the residents in Cass County are fully vaccinated.

Chairman Barnett next presents the minutes of the Cass County Board Meeting held on March 8, 2021. Gibson makes a motion to approve the minutes and Douglass seconds the motion. The vote is by acclamation and declared carried.

Barnett presents the minutes from the special meeting held on March 18, 2021. Douglass makes a motion to approve the minutes and Noe seconds the motion. The vote is by acclamation and declared carried.

Under correspondence, Clerk Wessel states she received a letter from the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity. They have received the final financial status report for 88 Bar and Grill LLC, Triple Creek and Kathy's Kitchen.

Chairman of the Courthouse and Jail Committee, reports the committee met on April 8th and approved all bills.

Hagloch, Chairman of the Road & Bridge Committee, reports the committee met on April 6, 2021 and approved all bills.

Merriman, Chairman of the Public Safety, Environment and Housing Committee, reports the committee met on March 22, 2021.

A report was received by the E.S.D.A. Director, Roger Lauder.

Animal control met on March 25, 2021. The Animal Control Commission is looking for property in Beardstown to be used for a dog pound.

Cass Rural Water met on March 16, 2021. There are 10 new people signed up on Centinary Road.

Starkey reports that Cass-Schuyler Public Transit met virtually on March 11, 2021. They are still looking for a new director to replace Jean Jumper. Jean Jumper plans to retire in a couple of years and they would like to have her replacement trained by the time she retires.

Merriman reports the committee discussed the issue of driving side by sides on county roads and the committee recommends not getting involved and leaving it up to the township officials.

Schaefer reports that Arenzville Rural Water met and they are on Phase 3 of the water project.

Barnett states there is no report for Finance and Judiciary, but he would like to call a Finance Committee meeting for April 21, 2021 at 7:00 p.m., to start discussing next year's budget.

Merriman, Chairman of the Supervisor of Assessment's Committee, reports the committee met on March 15, 2021. The County Assessor received the JBS's appraisal from Kristina Clore of LKG Valuation last week and that appraisal came in at 11.2 million. The property is currently assessed at 11.5 million. The Assessor is going to lower the assessment to match the appraisal.

Hagloch, Chairman of Renovation Committee, reports most of the courthouse work has been completed. Invoice #3 in the amount of \$729.00 remains open. Hagloch makes a motion to approve paying invoice #3 in the amount of \$729.00 and Douglass seconds the motion.

The Chairman directs the Clerk to call roll.

The Clerk calls roll.

Roll Call:

Barnett	Yes	Hance	Yes	Noe	Yes
Gibson	Yes	Hagloch	Yes	Starkey	Yes
Schaefer	Yes	Douglass	Yes	Merriman	Yes
Wessel	Yes	French	Yes		

As a result of the roll call, the Clerk states that all members present have voted in the affirmative. Chairman Barnett declares the motion carried.

Chairman Barnett thanks board member Hagloch for all of his work during the renovations.

(See Attached List of Completed Projects)

Hagloch reports that E-9-1-1 met on March 28, 2021, and approved all bills. They will be looking at next year's budget at the next meeting on April 19, 2021.

Schaefer reports that Cooperative Extension met on March 25, 2021. The programs have not stopped and they have had as many as 950 participants on different webinars. The Extension is looking for funds to help start a public gardening project.

Noe, reporting for OEDC, states the committee met on March 25, 2021. Dustin Fritsche helped with the Beardstown Easter egg hunt and the Mayoral debate.

Hance reports that the Cass County Health Department received a grant and has purchased a piece of property in Virginia with the funds. Kesterson's in Virginia has sold and Hollywood's in Chandlerville is now for sale.

Schaefer, Liason for the Mental Health Board, states the board did not meet, but Director Diana Feigl is planning to resign. Feigl will stay until her replacement is hired.

There are no reports from the following committees:

Housing

Finance and Judiciary

Legislative

Liquor Control

Economic Development

Policies and Procedures

Insurance and Bonds

Mental Health

MCS

OEDC Tourism

Beardstown TIF

The Chairman now moves on to New Business:

Chairman Barnett presents the Appointments of the Beardstown Rural Fire District, South Beardstown Drainage and Levee District and the Beardstown Sanitary District. A motion to approve the Appointments is made by Merriman seconded by Wessel. The vote is by acclamation and declared carried.

(See Attached Appointments)

Chairman Barnett presents the Letter of Support to extend Beardstown TIF District #1 for 12 years. Barnett states that JBS has conducted a survey which shows that Beardstown is 140 housing units short.

JBS and Beardstown School District employees would like to live in the Beardstown area, but suitable housing is not available.

A resolution allocating 45% of the TIF funds will go to housing development. JBS has agreed to donate one million dollars to start the housing project.

Barnett states that as each home is built and sold, those funds will be used to build the next house.

The Beardstown City Council has also approved a resolution to return 20% of the TIF funds to be declared as "Surplus" and returned to each taxing body within the TIF District.

Barnett presents the Letter of Support to extend Beardstown TIF District #1 for 12 years. A motion to approve the letter of support is made by Starkey seconded by Noe. The vote is by acclamation and declared carried.

The Chairman directs the Clerk to call roll.

The Clerk calls roll.

Roll Call:

Barnett	Yes	Hance	Yes	Noe	Yes
Gibson	Yes	Hagloch	Yes	Starkey	Yes
Schaefer	Yes	Douglass	Yes	Merriman	Yes
Wessel	Yes	French	Yes		

(See Attached Letter of Support)

County Highway Engineer Tim Icenogle presents culvert bids for consideration. Metal Culverts submitted the lowest bid.

A motion to accept the culvert bid from Metal Culverts is made by Merriman seconded by Schaefer. The vote is by acclamation and declared carried.

The Chairman directs the Clerk to call roll.

The Clerk calls roll.

Roll Call:

Barnett	Yes	Hance	Yes	Noe	Yes
Gibson	Yes	Hagloch	Yes	Starkey	Yes
Schaefer	Yes	Douglass	Yes	Merriman	Yes
Wessel	Yes	French	Yes		

As a result of the roll call, the Clerk states that all members present have voted in the affirmative. Chairman Barnett declares the motion carried.

(See Attached Bids)

Icenogle next presents bids for bridge work on Eckman Road in Philadelphia Township. The lowest bid was submitted by Yamnitz and Associates.

A motion to accept the low bid from Yamnitz and Associates is made by Douglass seconded by Hance. The vote is by acclamation and declared carried.

The Chairman directs the Clerk to call roll.

The Clerk calls roll.

Roll Call:

Barnett	Yes	Hance	Yes	Noe	Yes
Gibson	Yes	Hagloch	Yes	Starkey	Yes
Schaefer	Yes	Douglass	Yes	Merriman	Yes
Wessel	Yes	French	Yes		

As a result of the roll call, the Clerk states that all members present have voted in the affirmative. Chairman Barnett declares the motion carried.

(See Attached Bids)

Clerk presents the monthly reports of the County Clerk, Circuit Clerk, Treasurer, Sheriff, Zoning Officer, Death Examiner and Maintenance. A motion to receive the monthly reports is made by Hagloch and seconded by Hance. The vote is by acclamation and declared carried.

The approval of claims is next presented to the board. A motion to approve the claims is made by Hagloch and seconded by Starkey.

The Chairman directs the Clerk to call roll.

The Clerk calls roll.

Roll Call:

Barnett	Yes	Hance	Yes	Noe	Yes
Gibson	Yes	Hagloch	Yes	Starkey	Yes
Schaefer	Yes	Douglass	Yes	Merriman	Yes
Wessel	Yes	French	Yes		

As a result of the roll call, the Clerk states that all members present have voted in the affirmative. Chairman Barnett declares the motion carried.

Chairman Barnett states there are no matters to discuss in Executive Session.

At approximately 8:00 p.m. a motion to adjourn and reconvene on the night of May 10, 2021 is made by Wessel and seconded by Gibson. The vote is by acclamation and declared carried.

Shelly Wessel, Clerk