

CASS COUNTY BOARD MEETING

February 13, 2023

The Cass County Board met in the Courthouse, in the Courtroom, on Monday, February 13, 2023 at the hour of 7:00 P.M.

Present: Bill Merriman  
Chairman

Attest: Shelly Wessel  
County Clerk

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

The Clerk calls roll.

Roll Call:

Merriman	Present	Wessel	Present	Douglass	Present
French	Present	Starkey	Present	Noe	Present
Hance	Present	Schultz	Present	Gibson	Absent
Ruppel	Present	Snellgrove	Present		

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

Chairman Merriman declares there is a quorum.

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

Under Public Comment, Dave Ballance shared some of his concerns.

Chairman Merriman next presents the minutes of the January 9, 2023, Cass County Board meeting. Douglass moves to approve the minutes and Schultz seconds the motion. The vote is by acclamation and declared carried.

Noe, reports the Courthouse and Jail Committee met on February 9, 2023, and approved all bills as presented.

The committee approved the purchase of a metal detector and bag scanner for the south entrance to the courthouse.

Douglass, Chairman of the Public Safety Committee, reports the committee met on January 23, 2023. Roger Lauder gave an E.S.D.A. report.

The pump in Chandlerville has been installed.

Ruppel reports the Arenzville Rural Water Board met on January 17, 2023. A 7% water loss was reported.

Hance, Liason of the Health Board, states that Teresa Armstrong would like to thank the board for the loan for the renovation of the new facility in Beardstown.

Snellgrove reports the Animal Control Commission met on January 26, 2023, but did not have a quorum. Tracey plans to retire on May 1, 2023. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 22, 2023.

Wessel, Chairman of the Road and Bridge Committee, reports the committee met on February 6, 2023, and approved all bills.

Wessel, Chairman of the Insurance and Bonds Committee, reports the committee met on January 30, 2023. Dan Snodgrass attended the meeting to propose other health insurance options.

The Insurance Committee will meet again on February 21, 2023, for a presentation of the county's current health insurance plan by Alex Snedeker and Jacob Janssen of Snedeker Risk Management and to discuss other plan options.

French, Chairman of the Renovation Committee, reports that the committee met on January 27, 2023 and approved an Amendment to the Agreement with Hanson Professional Services Inc. in the amount not to exceed \$12,500.

French reports that the E-9-1-1 board met and approved all bills and discussed the radios.

Noe reports that OEDC met on January 26, 2023. The Health Department is coming along. JBS donated \$30,000 to the Village of Chandlerville to be used for updates at Nate's Park

Starkey reports the Beardstown TIF board received a request from the Kitchen and Bath Shop in the amount of \$30,600 for roof repairs. The Beardstown City Council recommended giving \$15,300 for the roof repairs.

Starkey reports a TIF meeting is scheduled to review the policies and procedures of the TIF Board.

There are no reports from the following committees:

Housing

Legislative

Policies and Procedures

Finance and Judiciary

Liquor Control

Economic Development

Policies and Procedures

MCS

Mental Health 708

OEDC Tourism

The Chairman now moves on to New Business:

Chairman Merriman presents for approval the Agreement with BLH Computers Inc. for Electronic Recycling in Cass County on April 1, 2023. The cost is not to exceed \$12,000. A motion to approve the agreement is made by Hance and seconded by Douglass.

The Chairman directs the Clerk to call roll.

The Clerk calls roll.

Roll Call:

Merriman	Yes	Wessel	Yes	Douglass	Yes
French	Yes	Starkey	Yes	Noe	Yes
Hance	Yes	Schultz	Yes	Gibson	Absent
Ruppel	Yes	Snellgrove	Yes		

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

(See Attached Agreement)

Icenogle requests funding for an Aid to Bridge Project in Philadelphia Township. The township was not able to clean under the bridge with their own equipment and asked the county to assist. The total cost of the project was under \$15,000. If approved, half of the cost will come out of the County Bridge Fund. A motion to approve the funding is made by Noe and seconded by Douglass.

The Chairman directs the Clerk to call roll.

The Clerk calls roll.

Roll Call:

Merriman	Yes	Wessel	Yes	Douglass	Yes
French	Yes	Starkey	Yes	Noe	Yes
Hance	Yes	Schultz	Yes	Gibson	Absent
Ruppel	Yes	Snellgrove	Yes		

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

Under Other New Business, Chairman Merriman presented the Aggregation Program Agreement to continue offering an acceptable rate to Cass County residents and small businesses who wish to participate, starting in July. The winning bidder was Illinois Power Company d/b/a Homefield Energy.

(See Attached Agreement)

The Chairman next 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 Douglass and seconded by Starkey. 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 Douglass and seconded by French.

The Chairman directs the Clerk to call roll.

The Clerk call roll.

Roll Call:

Merriman	Yes	Wessel	Yes	Douglass	Yes
French	Yes	Starkey	Yes	Noe	Yes
Hance	Absent	Schultz	Yes	Gibson	Absent
Ruppel	Yes	Snellgrove	Absent		

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

At 7:29 p.m. a motion to go out of open session and into executive session to discuss personnel was made by Douglass and seconded by Starkey. The vote is by acclamation and declared carried.

At 8:02 p.m. a motion to come out of executive session and back in open session is made by Hance and seconded by Douglass. The vote is by acclamation and declared carried.

A motion to table the Amendment to the Supervisor of Assessments Agreement/Contract until next budget is made by Douglass and seconded by Snellgrove. The vote is by acclamation and declared carried.

At approximately 8:05 p.m. a motion to adjourn and reconvene on the night of March 13, 2023, is made by French and seconded by Douglass. The vote is by acclamation and declared carried.

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Shelly Wessel, Clerk