

CASS COUNTY BOARD MEETING

March 14, 2022

The Cass County Board met in the Courthouse, in the Courtroom, on Monday, March 14, 2021 at the hour of 7:00 P.M.

Present: Michael Barnett
Chairman

Attest: Shelly Wessel
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	Absent	Douglass	Present	Merriman	Present
Wessel	Present	French	Present		

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

Chairman Barnett declares there is a quorum.

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

Teresa Armstrong, Administrator of the Cass County Health Department, was not able to attend the meeting but provided handouts of the updates for the Coronavirus Covid-19 Pandemic. Cass County has had 51 fatalities and there is currently no one in the hospital. The fully vaccinated rate for Cass County is 59%.

Tom Allen, Chief Operating Officer of Cass Communications, is here to talk about fiber services. Allen has been with Cass Communications for 42 years. Casey French, Director of Marketing, is also present. Cass Communications serves 9 counties in Illinois and has 17,000 customers.

The type of fiber services provided by Cass Communications are TV Services, Broadband and Phone Services.

Broadband service is provided in symmetrical download and upload speeds and increases wireless internet speeds.

Allen shares a map of the areas that already have broadband coverage and areas that will be completed in 2022.

Allen states that grant funds will be available in 2023. There is no plan to ask the county board for funds.

Judge Wessel reports that Cass County has received a Court Improvement Program Grant. Cass County requested \$144,559.62 and received approval for \$85,685.62. Judge Wessel states they resubmitted their request for \$92,000 due to inflation.

The Circuit Clerk's office will be getting a new server computers and scanners.

The courtroom will have an 86" TV that will have zoom capabilities. A document camera will be purchased. The document camera will allow evidence to be scanned in and displayed on the TV screen.

The second courtroom will have a 65" TV with the same capabilities. The jury room will have a 65" tv with zoom capabilities.

There will be two computers installed in the law library for two public access points.

The grant funds will also be used to reimburse the county for the conference phones and the installation of the conference phone lines.

Thompson Electronics will be completing the installation of the tv's and cameras. Thomson Electronics have completed the same work in Pike, Schuyler, and Adams Counties.

Judge Wessel thanks Circuit Clerk Brad Parlier and Sheriff Ohrn for their assistance with the grant.

Judge Wessel states that it could take 2-3 months to get all of the items for installation.

Chairman Barnett next presents the minutes of the February 14, 2021, Cass County Board meeting for approval. Merriman moves to approve the minutes and Douglass seconds the motion. The vote is by acclamation and declared carried.

Noe, reports the Courthouse and Jail Committee met on March 10, 2022, and approved all bills as presented.

Hagloch, reporting for the Road and Bridge Committee, reports the committee met on March 7, 2022 and approved all bills.

Icenogle reports that he expects to receive two new dump trucks in June or July. The trucks will be fitted with beds, plows, etc.

Roger Lauder, Cass County ESDA Director, sent a proposal to the Road and Bridge Committee for a new water pump for the Village of Chandlerville. The new pump would be paid for out of the ESDA fund. The purchase price is not to exceed \$70,000.

Chairman Barnett states the purchase of the water pump was discussed at the Courthouse and Jail Committee meeting on March 10, 2022.

Both committees recommend the purchase of the water pump. A motion to purchase the new water pump is made by Wessel and seconded by Douglass.

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	Absent	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.

Merriman, Chairman of the Public Safety, Environment and Housing Committee, reports the committee received a report from Roger Lauder, ESDA Director. The Chandlerville water pump was discussed.

Merriman, Chairman of the Animal Control Commission, reports they met on February 24, 2022 and it was a very short meeting.

Chairman Barnett, reporting for the Finance and Judiciary Committee, reports there will be a special board meeting on Thursday, March 17, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. to discuss the budget and levies.

Merriman, Chairman of the Supervisor of Assessments Committee, reports the Assessor's office has received 29 complaints and the Board of Review Hearings will start tomorrow. The next meeting will be held on Monday, March 21, 2022, at 6:00 p.m.

Hagloch reports E-9-1-1 met remotely on February 28, 2022 and approved all bills.

There are no reports from the following committees:

Housing

Legislative

Transit

Economic Development

Policies and Procedures

Cass Rural Water

Insurance and Bonds

MCS

Arenzville Rural Water

OEDC

OEDC Tourism

Mental Health

Liquor Control

The Chairman now moves on to New Business:

Chairman Barnett next presents the appointment of Keri Mason to the Overall Economic Development Commission. A motion to approve the appointment is made by French and seconded by Gibson. The vote is by acclamation and declared carried.

(See Attached Appointment)

Chairman Barnett next presents a Resolution Transferring Funds in the County Treasury. A motion to approve the resolution is made by Merriman and seconded by Hance.

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	Absent	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)

The Amendment to Consulting Services Agreement with SIMEC is presented for approval. A motion to approve the agreement 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	Absent	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 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 Hance and seconded by Gibson. 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 Noe and seconded by Hance.

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	Absent	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.

At approximately 8:12 p.m. a motion to adjourn and reconvene on the night of April 11, 2022 is made by Wessel and seconded by Douglass. The vote is by acclamation and declared carried.

Shelly Wessel, Clerk