

CASS COUNTY BOARD MEETING

August 10, 2020

The Cass County Board met in the Courthouse, in the Courtroom, on Monday, August 10, 2020 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
Massey	Present	Hagloch	Present	Starkey	Present
Schaefer	Present	Douglass	Present	Merriman	Present
Wessel	Absent	Brannan	Present		

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

Chairman Barnett declares there is a quorum.

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

Chairman Barnett introduces Teresa Armstrong, Administrator of the Cass County Health Department. Armstrong presents an update to the board on the latest information related to the Coronavirus Covid-19 Pandemic. Armstrong states that Cass County currently has 234 cases and has the 3<sup>rd</sup> highest case rate/100,000 in the state. Cass County is in the "orange" warning level.

Armstrong states that a long term care facility in Beardstown has had a staff member test positive and another staff member is showing symptoms. Armstrong states that this is being treated as

an outbreak and all residents and staff will continue to be tested weekly per CDC and IDPH guidelines. All test results have been negative except for the one staff member.

JBS has started doing random testing of their employees. They will be reporting positive results to the Cass County Health Department (CCHD).

The CCHD has reached out to the area Mayors and the Beardstown Chamber of Commerce asking that all area businesses require masks of their employees and customers. Cass County Health Department continues to test 30-40 individuals a day.

Armstrong stresses that we need to continue to ask everyone to wear a mask, socially distance, and stay home if they, or someone in their household is ill.

The Cass County Health Department is still looking for a French speaking Contact Tracer. Chairman Barnett suggests contacting Chelsea at JBS to have her speak with Willie. Willie might be able to help find someone to fill that position.

Chairman Barnett states that Todd Volker from the US Census Bureau is unable to attend tonight's meeting and hopes to make it to the board meeting in September. The deadline for the Census is September 30, 2020.

Chairman Barnett next presents the minutes of the Cass County Board Meeting held on July 13, 2020. Noe makes a motion to approve the minutes and Schaefer seconds the motion. The vote is by acclamation and declared carried.

Under correspondence, Clerk Wessel reads a thank you note from Sarah Evans, Cass County Citizens Scholarship winner.

Clerk Wessel also states that she received a copy of the lease agreement between the Cass County Highway Department and the Cass County Health Department.

(See Attached Lease)

Noe, Chairman of the Courthouse and Jail Committee, reports the committee met on August 6, 2020, and approved all bills as presented.

Hagloch, Chairman of the Road & Bridge Committee, reports the committee met on August 3, 2020 and approved all bills.

Hagloch reports the Road and Bridge Committee discussed the acquisition of a new dump truck with/snow plow, in the amount of \$185,000. The purchase was approved by both the Road and Bridge Committee and the Courthouse and Jail Committee, but Hagloch felt the full board should vote on the purchase.

A motion to approve the purchase of a new dump truck/snow plow in the amount of \$185,000.00 is made by Douglass and seconded by Merriman. The vote is by acclamation and declared carried.

Merriman, Chairman of the Public Safety Committee, reports the committee met on July 27, 2020.

Cass Rural Water met on July 21, 2020.

Merriman, Chairman of the Animal Control Commission, reports that there were 4 dogs picked up, 1 was returned to its owner, 3 were adopted out.

Brannan, reports that the Housing Authority Board met. Brannan reports that as of August 1, 2020, maintenance work was to begin on all non-emergency repairs. The next meeting will be held on August 19, 2020.

Chairman Barnett, reporting for the Finance and Judiciary Committee, reports we have signed off on the payment release forms for Triple Creek Farms and Mile 88 for the Downstate Small Business Stabilization Grant. The next meeting to be held on Tuesday, September 8, 2020, at 6:00p.m.

Chairman Barnett reports that the liquor license for Stop Light Liquors was renewed on July 28<sup>th</sup>. The liquor license remains in Bobbie Patel's name until the background check results are received for his nephew, Meet.

Hagloch reports that E-9-1-1 met on July 27th and approved all bills. They are waiting on bids for a new front door for the Sheriff's Annex.

Merriman, Chairman of the Supervisor of Assessments Committee, reports that they met on July 20, 2020 and reviewed budget items. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 17, 2020, at 6pm.

Noe reports the OEDC Commission met and Dustin Fritsche is working with the school districts to assist them with reopening in August. The OEDC Commission would like to acknowledge Teresa Armstrong for the great job she is doing during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Schaefer reports that the Mental Health Board met on Wednesday, July 29, 2020 and went over the finances. Snedeker Risk Management has contacted the mental health facility about the Hope Trust and asked if they would like to be a part of their program by providing counseling to their patients. The counselors are also currently working with the Morgan County Jail by providing counseling to inmates.

There are no reports from the following committees:

Legislative

Policies and Procedures

Economic Development

MCS

Insurance & Bonds

OEDC Tourism

TIF

The Chairman now moves on to New Business:

Clerk Wessel presents the Appointments to Lost Creek Drainage and Levee District, Old River Drainage and Levee District, Meredosia Lake Drainage and Levee District, Hager Slough Special Drainage District, South Sangamon Drainage and Levee District and New Pankey Pond Special Drainage District. A motion to approve the appointments is made by Schaeffer and seconded by Massie. The vote is by acclamation and declared carried.

(See Attached Appointments)

Chairman Barnett next presents for approval the Preliminary Engineering Agreement with Hutchison Engineering. A motion to approve the resolution is made by Merriman and seconded by Brannan. The vote is by acclamation and declared carried.

(See Attached Agreement)

The Clerk next presents the Cass County Trustee Resolution for approval. A motion to approve the resolution is made by Hagloch and seconded by Starkey. The vote is by acclamation and declared carried.

See Attached Resolution)



Other New Business:

A resolution transferring funds within the County Treasury is next presented to the board for approval. The transferred funds will be put towards the cost of the electrical renovation project at the courthouse. A motion to approve the resolution by Starkey and seconded by Hagloch. The vote is by acclamation and declared carried.

(See Attached Resolution)

The 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 Noe 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 Hagloch and seconded by Douglass.

The Chairman directs the Clerk to call roll.

The Clerk calls roll.

Roll Call:

Barnett	Yes	Hance	Yes	Noe	Yes
Massey	Yes	Hagloch	Yes	Starkey	Yes
Schaefer	Yes	Douglass	Yes	Merriman	Yes
Wessel	Absent	Brannan	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.

Starkey then asks about conducting the county meetings remotely. Following discussion the Chairman asked each board member their preference and it was decided to begin meeting remotely through the month of September. The board will decide month to month how the meetings will be conducted.

At approximately 7:53 p.m., a motion to adjourn and reconvene via teleconference on the night of September 14, 2020 is made by Hagloch and seconded by Douglass. The vote is by acclamation and declared carried.

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Shelly Wessel, Clerk