

CASS COUNTY BOARD MEETING

May 13, 2024

The Cass County Board met in the Courthouse, in the Courtroom, on Monday, May 13, 2024 at the hour of 6:00 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	Absent	Douglass	Present
French	Present	Starkey	Present	Noe	Present
Hance	Absent	Schultz	Absent	Gibson	Present
Ruppel	Present	Snellgrove	Present		

As a result of the roll call, the Clerk states that all board members are present except for Schultz, Hance and Wessel.

Chairman Merriman declares there is a quorum.

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

Chairman Merriman presents the minutes of the April 8, 2024, Cass County Board meeting. French moves to approve the minutes and Douglass seconds the motion. The vote is by acclamation and declared carried.

Clerk Wessel reports she received a resignation letter from Ann Jurgens for the Mental Health 708 board and from John Samuel Brannan for the Beardstown Rural Fire District. Chris McClenning of the Beardstown Rural Fire District submitted the recommendation

to appoint Sylvia Klumpp to the Beardstown Rural Fire District to replace Brannan.

Noe reports the Courthouse and Jail Committee met on May 9, 2024, and approved all bills as presented.

Douglass, Chairman of the Public Safety, Environment and Housing Committee, reports her committee met on April 22, 2024. Roger Lauder reported that he is working with Genasys to get the system up and running in Cass County.

Snellgrove reports the Animal Control Commission met on April 24, 2024. Snellgrove reports that there were 15 dogs picked up, 5 were adopted, 5 were returned to their owners and 1 was euthanized. There are 4 dogs still being held in the pound.

Gibson reports the Health Department Board met on April 24, 2024. They have hired 2 new Behavioral Health counselors and a new Environmental Health employee. The Hospice fundraiser was held on April 21, 2024. Two new dentists were hired and will start in July.

Gibson reports that Mass Transit met on May 9, 2024. They did not have a quorum. The next meeting will be held on June 13, 2024.

Cathy Gibson and Kim Hance have been working together to try to get a daycare center started up in Beardstown. They have formed a potential board (6 members). Embrace Life Daycare has contacted JBS about starting up a migrant Head Start Program that would include daycare. The LLCC building is the proposed location for the Head Start Program and daycare.

Douglass reports the Road and Bridge Committee met on May 6, 2024 and approved all bills. Kevin Krohe reports that the Newmansville bridge project is going to cost more to complete. IDOT will be submitting a final bill in the next few days. Krohe asks the board for approval to allow Chairman Merriman to sign the

final paperwork. A motion to approve the authorization of Chairman Merriman's signature is made by Douglass and seconded by French. The vote is by acclamation and declared carried.

French reports that the E-9-1-1 Board met and voted to get a new CAD system.

Noe, reporting for O.E.D.C. reports that the Brown Bag Lunch Program will begin at the end of May. Cass Communications gave a demonstration on Fiber Optic Internet.

Starkey, reporting for Tourism states the online postings look great.

There are no reports from the following committees:

Legislative

Supervisor of Assessments

Policies and Procedures

Finance and Judiciary

Liquor Control

Economic Development

Insurance and Bonds

MCS

Cooperative Extension

Mental Health 708

TIF

The Chairman now moves on to New Business:

The appointments to the Arenzville Fire District, Hager Slough Special Drainage District, Lost Creek Drainage and Levee District, Cass County Board of Review, and Cass Rural Water are presented for approval. A motion to approve the appointments is

made by Gibson and seconded by Starkey. The vote is by acclamation and declared carried.

The appointment of Sylvia Klumpp to the Beardstown Rural Fire District is presented for approval. A motion to approve the appointments is made by Starkey and seconded by Douglass. The vote is by acclamation and declared carried. Board Member French abstains from voting.

(See Attached Appointments)

Chairman Merriman next presents for approval Contract Bonds for MFT work for County and Townships. A motion to approve the contract bonds is made by Douglass and seconded by Gibson. The vote is by acclamation and declared carried.

(See Attached Contract Bonds)

Chairman Merriman presents the monthly reports of the County Clerk, Treasurer, Circuit Clerk, Sheriff, Zoning Officer and Maintenance. A motion to receive the monthly reports is made by Snellgrove and seconded by French. 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 French and seconded by Snellgrove. The Chairman directs the Clerk to call roll.

The Clerk calls roll.

Roll Call:

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

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 approximately 6:29 p.m. a motion to adjourn and reconvene on the night of June 10, 2024, is made by Gibson and seconded by Noe. The vote is by acclamation and declared carried.

Shelly Wessel, Clerk