

CASS COUNTY BOARD MEETING

August 11, 2025

The Cass County Board met in the Courthouse, in the Courtroom,
on Monday, August 11, 2025 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	Present	Douglass	Present
French	Present	Lunsford	Present	Noe	Present
Hance	Absent	Schultz	Present	Brown	Present
Ruppel	Present	Snellgrove	Present		

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

Chairman Merriman declares there is a quorum.

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

Under correspondence Chairman Merriman asks Clerk Wessel to
read a letter that had been mailed to most of the county board
members. The letter was in regards to Eric Snellgrove posting
his personal opinion on his social media page about the new
Athletic Director at Beardstown CUSD #15. After the letter was
read Chairman Merriman states that the post reflected the
opinion of Eric Snellgrove and not the position of the full
county board. Merriman called Mr. Blakeman twice but was unable
to reach him.

Snellgrove states that he was glad that Mr. Blakeman felt comfortable enough to reach out to the board members to express his opinion.

Chairman Merriman presents the minutes of the July 14, 2025 Cass County Board meeting. Douglass makes a motion to approve the minutes and Noe seconds the motion. The vote is by acclamation and declared carried.

Noe reports the Courthouse and Jail Committee met on August 7, 2025, and approved all bills as presented.

Douglass reports the Public Safety, Housing and Environment Committee met on July 28, 2025. Roger Lauder was not present. The next meeting will be held on August 25, 2025.

French reports E9-1-1 met on July 28, 2025 and approved all bills and discussed the radios.

Lunsford reports the Animal Control Commission, met on July 23, 2025. There were 34 calls, 18 dogs were picked up, 11 dogs were returned to their owners, 5 are being fostered and 2 are still at the pound.

Douglass reports the Cass County Health Board met on July 23, 2025. There are no major changes to report. The next meeting will be held on August 27, 2025.

Merriman reports the Cass Rural Water Board met. The computerized meter system is up and running and the public can pull their bill up on their phone. The City of Virginia is still having trouble with billing.

The Supervisor of Assessment Committee met on July 21, 2025. The TrueRoll software has helped the Assessor locate \$236,000 in unqualified exemptions. At this time there is \$1,356,930 in assessed value to roll for 2025.

Wessel reports the Road and Bridge Committee met on July 31, 2025 and approved all bills. The next meeting will be held on September 4, 2025, following the Courthouse and Jail Committee meeting.

Wessel reports the Finance and Judiciary Committee met on July 23, 2025 to discuss a grant and employee salary. The next meeting will be held on August 19, 2025 to review the budget.

Wessel reporting for the Insurance and Bond Committee reports the annual meeting was held in St. Charles on July 24, 2025 and 25, 2025. The fall meetings will be held September 24-25, 2025 in Peoria. Springfield Clinic has been added as a preferred provider.

MCS met on June 26, 2025 and discussed the bills. The application process was discussed

There was one eviction reported at the Housing Authority meeting. The interest from the CD's was used to pay the summer help.

The following committees have no report:

Legislative

Policies and Procedures

Liquor Control

Economic Development

Cooperative Extension

OEDC

Mental Health 708

Tourism

TIF

The Chairman now moves on to New Business:

The appointments to the Oakford Fire Protection District and Clear Lake Special Drainage District are presented for approval. A motion to approve the appointments is made by French and seconded by Brown. The vote is by acclamation and declared carried.

(See Attached Appointments)

Chairman Merriman presents a Resolution for the County Clerk's Office to be open for Election Purposes Only on March 17, 2026 for the General Primary Election. A motion to approve the resolution is made by French and seconded by Snellgrove. The vote is by acclamation and declared carried.

(See Attached Resolution)

Chairman Merriman presents for Approval the Appointment of Mid-America Intermodal Authority Port District Board Member Blake E. Roderick. A motion to approve the appointment is made by Douglass and seconded by French. Nine board members vote in favor of the appointment and board member Snellgrove votes nay. The motion carries.

(See Attached Resolution)

Chairman Merriman presents the monthly reports of the County Clerk, Treasurer, Circuit Clerk, Sheriff, and Zoning Officer. A motion to receive the monthly reports is made by French and seconded by Wessel. 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 calls roll.

Roll Call:

Merriman	Yes	Wessel	Yes	Douglass	Yes
French	Yes	Lunsford	Yes	Noe	Yes
Hance	Absent	Schultz	Yes	Brown	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 this time the Cass County Treasurer Travis Cox addresses the board. Cox has decided not to seek re-election as Treasurer. Cox will retire at the end of November 2026 after 32 years in the Treasurer's office, 8 of those years as the Treasurer. Cox will be available to help with the transition of the new Treasurer. Cox thanks the former and current board members, the former and current county officers and the people of Cass County for their support.

At approximately 6:25 p.m. a motion to adjourn and reconvene on the night of September 8, 2025 is made by French and seconded by Douglass. The vote is by acclamation and declared carried.

Shelly Wessel, Clerk