

CASS COUNTY BOARD MEETING

July 10, 2023

The Cass County Board met in the Courthouse, in the Courtroom, on Monday, July 10, 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	Absent	Starkey	Absent	Noe	Present
Hance	Present	Schultz	Present	Gibson	Present
Ruppel	Present	Snellgrove	Present		

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

Chairman Merriman declares there is a quorum.

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

During public comment Jack and Terri Cassidy asks the county board to reconsider the current ordinance and allow residents to have chickens at Lou Allen Court in Beardstown. The area is currently zoned residential. Chairman Merriman states a zoning meeting will be scheduled to revisit the ordinance.

Reg Ankrom, President of Simec Energy, is here to speak about electric aggregation and the current rates. When the

county board signed the one year agreement with Homefield the rate per KWH was 8.663 which was a lot lower than Ameren's rate. On July 1, 2023 Ameren's rate dropped to 7.877 per KWH. Ameren's rate will adjust again in October. Individuals may stay with Homefield and wait to see what the rates are going to be in October or they may opt out now. If you choose to opt out now and Ameren's adjusted rate in October comes in higher than Homefield's rate you can opt back in as long as you do it prior to the meter read in October.

Chairman Merriman presents the minutes of the June 12, 2023 Cass County Board meeting. Hance moves to approve the minutes and Wessel seconds the motion. The vote is by acclamation and declared carried.

Clerk Wessel states she has no communications this month.

Clerk Wessel reminds everyone that the officers budget meeting will be held on July 28, 2024, from 8:30 - 12:00 p.m.

Douglass, reports the Courthouse and Jail Committee met on July 6, 2023, and approved all bills as presented.

Douglass, Chairman of the Public Safety, Environment and Housing Committee, reports the committee met on June 26, 2023. Roger Lauder attended a special meeting on Tier 2 Chemical Storage.

Hance reports that the Housing Authority wants to express their appreciation to the Cass County Health Department for their help during the fire at Parkside Apartments.

Hance, reporting for the Health Department Board wants to remind everyone about the Open House on Wednesday, July 12, 2023, from 4-6 p.m.

Snellgrove reports the Animal Control Commission met on June 21, 2023 and approved all bills. Two candidates have interviewed for a part-time position.

Douglass reports the Supervisor of Assessment Committee met on June 22, 2023. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, June 17, 2023.

Douglass reports that the Road and Bridge Committee met on July 5, 2023, and approved all bills. The oil and chipping on the Chandlerville/Oakford blacktop is complete.

The committee discussed purchasing a generator for the courthouse. The new salt storage building should be done by the end of the month.

Gibson, Liason for MCS, reports they met on June 15, 2023. New board members from Cass County were appointed and scholarship applications were approved.

Gibson states that Mass Transit was named Business of Month. Transit has two full time dispatcher positions open.

Gibson, Liason for Coop Extension, reports they met on June 22, 2023. We conducted regular business and discussed campus funded internships.

Noe reports that OEDC met on June 22, 2023, but did not have a quorum. On July 10th they hosted a tour with the 99th District Representative, Randy Frese.

Ruppel reports the Mental Health 708 board met on June 28, 2023. The board discussed the budget proposal. The Mental Health Director will not be reinstating the Day Training Program.

There are no reports from the following committees:

Legislative

E-9-1-1

Policy and Procedures

Finance and Judiciary

Liquor Control

Economic Development

Insurance & Bonds

OEDC Tourism

TIF

The Chairman now moves on to New Business:

Chairman Merriman presents appointments to the Cass County Health Board, Council on Aging Advisory Council, and Arenzville Rural Water. A motion to approve the appointments is made by Wessel and seconded by Noe. The vote is by acclamation and declared carried.

(See Attached Appointments)

The Clerk presents the Resolution for the 2024 Holiday Calendar. A motion to approve the Resolution is made by Hance and Schultz seconds the motion. The vote is by acclamation and declared carried.

(See Attached Resolution)

Chairman Merriman presents for approval the Chautauqua National Refuge Resolution. A motion to approve the resolution is made by Douglass and seconded by Wessel. The vote is by acclamation and declared carried.

(See Attached Resolution)

County Clerk Wessel presents two Resolutions Transferring Funds in the County Treasury A motion to approve both resolutions is made by Wessel and seconded by Schultz. The Chairman directs the Clerk to call roll.

The Clerk call roll.

Roll Call:

Merriman	Yes	Wessel	Yes	Douglass	Yes
French	Absent	Starkey	Absent	Noe	Yes
Hance	Yes	Schultz	Yes	Gibson	Yes
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 declares the motion carried.

(See Attached Resolutions)

Chairman Merriman presents the Wind and Solar Zoning Ordinance Updates. A motion to approve both ordinances is made by Douglass and seconded by Hance. The vote is by acclamation and declared carried.

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

The Clerk call roll.

Roll Call:

Merriman	Yes	Wessel	Yes	Douglass	Yes
French	Absent	Starkey	Absent	Noe	Yes
Hance	Yes	Schultz	Yes	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 7:37 p.m. a motion to adjourn and reconvene on the night of August 7, 2023, is made by Wessel and seconded by Douglass. The vote is by acclamation and declared carried.

Shelly Wessel, Clerk