

CASS COUNTY BOARD MEETING

April 13, 2026

The Cass County Board met in the Courthouse, in the Courtroom, on Monday, April 13, 2026 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
Williams	Present	Lunsford	Present	Noe	Present
Hance	Absent	Schultz	Absent	Brown	Present
Ruppel	Present	Snellgrove	Present		

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

Chairman Merriman declares there is a quorum.

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

A moment of silence is held in honor of former Cass County Sheriff Bob Fair.

The minutes of the March 9, 2026 Cass County Board meeting are presented for approval. Wessel makes the motion to approve the minutes and Douglass seconds the motion. The vote is by acclamation and declared carried.

Noe reports that the Courthouse and Jail Committee met on April 9, 2026 and approved all bills as presented.

Douglass reports the Public Safety, Environment and Housing Committee met on March 23, 2026. There are currently 450 people signed up for Genasys.

Chairman Merriman reports Cass Rural Water had a 14% loss last month. A new motor has been installed.

Lunsford, Chairman of the Animal Control Commission, reports there was no meeting in March. There were 37 calls, 16 dogs were picked up, 3 were relinquished by the owners, 6 were returned to their owners, 6 dogs were transferred to rescue, 4 were adopted out.

Douglass reports that the electronic pickup was appreciated by the citizens of Cass County. Chairman Merriman asks Clerk Wessel to contact BLH to set up the event for next year.

Noe reports that the Housing Authority Board met and reported that they have 5 CD's valued at \$20,000 each. Their audit came out great and all expenses are paid.

The Supervisor of Assessments Committee met on March 16, 2026. They have received 45 complaints. The final hearing was held on March 27, 2026. Clerk Wessel reports the 260 was submitted to the Department of Revenue and the Final Multiplier was received. The next meeting will be held on May 19, 2026 at 6:00pm.

Douglass reports the Road and Bridge Committee met on April 9, 2026 and approved all bills. Tim Icenogle reported that the new building construction is in progress. All the plumbing is done and they are ready to pour the floor.

Chairman Merriman reports that Kevin Krohe is working on a plan to get the broken sidewalk fixed on the north side of the courthouse.

Under Insurance and Bonds Mike Kirchner announces that a Hope Trust Meeting will be held in Pleasant Plains on March 20, 2026. Updates on the Hope Trust and upcoming education opportunities will be presented.

Brown reports E-9-1-1 met on March 23, 2026, The Starcom radio system is up and running. They are working on a new CAAD replacement project.

The Health Department Board met on March 25, 2026. Nicole Archer is the new Chief Financial Officer. The Health Department has several positions open. There are 2 TB cases (1 was a previous case) and 3 latent cases.

Tim Icenogle reports the Mental Health 708 board discussed expanding services. Icenogle reports they discussed asking the Health Department to provide some services. The next meeting of the 708 Board will include representatives from the Health Department and other agencies that might want to provide services.

Brown reports MCS met on March 19, 2026. A presentation was given on how the MCS program works.

The following committees have no report:

Legislative

Policies and Procedures

Finance and Judiciary

Liquor Control

Economic Development

Tourism

TIF

The Chairman now moves on to New Business:

Appointments to the Beardstown Sanitary District and the Advisory Committee for the County Waste Management Plan are presented for approval. A motion to approve the appointments is made by Douglass and seconded by Noe. The vote is by acclamation and declared carried.

(See Attached Appointments)

Chairman Merriman presents the MCS Funding Request for approval. Snellgrove makes the motion to approve the request for funds and Ruppel seconds the motion. The Chairman directs the Clerk to call roll.

The Clerk calls roll.

Roll Call:

Merriman	Yes	Wessel	Yes	Douglass	Yes
Williams	Yes	Lunsford	Yes	Noe	Yes
Hance	Absent	Schultz	Absent	Brown	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 Merriman declares the motion carried.

(See Attached Funding Request Letter)

Chairman Merriman next presents for approval a Resolution urging the State of Illinois to Opt into the Federal Scholarship Tax Credit Program. A motion to approve the resolution is made by Douglass and seconded by Brown. The vote is by acclamation and declared carried.

(See Attached Resolution)

Chairman Merriman presents for approval the County and Township Bids Pending Concurrence with IDOT and Townships. A motion to approve the bids is made by Wessel and seconded by Brown. The vote is by acclamation and declared carried.

Chairman Merriman presents for Approval the Purchase of a New Snow Plow/Truck for 2027. The truck will be budgeted in 2027. A motion to approve the purchase is made by Douglass and seconded by Wessel. The vote is by acclamation and declared carried.

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 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 Brown and seconded by Snellgrove. The Chairman directs the Clerk to call roll.

The Clerk calls roll.

Roll Call:

Merriman	Yes	Wessel	Yes	Douglass	Yes
Williams	Yes	Lunsford	Yes	Noe	Yes
Hance	Absent	Schultz	Absent	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 approximately 6:41 p.m. a motion to adjourn and reconvene on the night of May 11, 2026 is made by Wessel and seconded by Douglass. The vote is by acclamation and declared carried.

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Shelly Wessel, Clerk