

CASS COUNTY BOARD MEETING

December 13, 2021

The Cass County Board met in the Courthouse, in the Courtroom, on Monday, December 13, 2021 at the hour of 7:00 P.M.

Present: Michael Barnett
Chairman

Attest: Shelly Wessel
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
Gibson	Absent	Hagloch	Present	Starkey	Present
Schaefer	Present	Douglass	Present	Merriman	Present
Wessel	Present	French	Present		

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

Chairman Barnett declares there is a quorum.

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

Brandi Hymes of the Cass County Health Department, presents an update on the latest information related to the Coronavirus Covid-19 Pandemic. Hymes states that the number of Covid-19 cases are increasing in Cass County. To date Cass County has had 44 fatalities and there are currently 4 people in the hospital.

The Health Department continues to offer clinics weekly in both Virginia and Beardstown, as well as the pop-up clinics

throughout the county. The fully vaccinated rate for Cass County is 54.8%.

Chairman Barnett states that Katie Vitale, Director of the Beardstown Chamber of Commerce and Connect is not able to attend tonight's meeting, but she will be here in January to discuss the Countywide Chamber of Commerce.

Chairman Barnett next presents the minutes of the November 8, 2021, Cass County Board meeting for approval. Hance moves to approve the minutes and Merriman seconds the motion. The vote is by acclamation and declared carried.

Douglass, reports the Courthouse and Jail Committee met on December 9, 2021, and approved all bills as presented.

Merriman, reporting for the Road and Bridge Committee, reports the committee met on December 9, 2021 and approved all bills.

Merriman, Chairman of the Public Safety and Housing Committee, reports the committee met on Monday, November 22, 2021. A report was received from ESDA Director, Roger Lauder.

Gary Noe and Bill Merriman toured the IEMA building and they both said it was very impressive.

Two representatives from the Chandlerville Fire Association attended the meeting to voice their concerns about Ashland Fire Protection District servicing all of Jim Edgar Panther Creek State Park.

Merriman, Chairman of the Animal Control Commission, reports they did not have a quorum on November 18, 2021.

Merriman reports the Cass Rural Water Board met on November 15, 2021. They still have a 4% water loss. The next meeting will be held on December 21, 2021.

Starkey reports that they hired a person to train for Jean Jumper's position, but the individual backed out.

Hance states there has been no further discussion of the dog pound at the Beardstown City Council meetings.

Barnett suggests discussing the dog pound at the next Public Safety meeting to see what the county can do to get the process started and then go back to the Beardstown City Council to discuss specifics.

Merriman reports that the Supervisor of Assessments Committee met on November 15, 2021. The Assessor has mailed the invoices for assessing of all townships. The total amount due from all townships is \$36,000.

The next Supervisor of Assessments meeting will be held on Monday, December 20, 2021, at 6:00 p.m.

Hagloch reports that the E-9-1-1 board met on November 22, 2021, and they approved all bills.

Two representatives from the Chandlerville Fire Association attended the E-9-1-1 meeting to share the same concerns they shared at the Public Safety meeting. They were advised to take their concerns to the Ashland Fire Protection District Board.

Schaefer, reporting for Arenzville Rural Water, states that all easements have been received and they will be requesting bids.

Noe reports that the Overall Economic Development Commission met on November 18, 2021. Dustin Fritche is working on USDA grants for Chandlerville.

Katie Vitale gave a report on all of the activities going on in Beardstown during the Christmas Season.

Schaefer reports the Mental Health Board met on Wednesday, November 17, 2021. Betsy Brown, Brian Deloche and Anna Chisolm

have been appointed as new members of the Mental Health Board. The appointment of Tim Icenogle to the Mental Health 708 Board was discussed.

Starkey, Liaison of OEDC Tourism, reports Beardstown held their Christmas Parade on Friday, November 27th and they had a great turnout with approximately 30 parade entries.

Hance reports that the TIF Board held an emergency meeting to discuss funding for roof repair for the El Pueblito Mexican Restaurant (former café from yesterday).

There are no reports from the following committees:

Housing

Health Department

Finance

Legislative

Liquor Control

Economic Development

Policies and Procedures

Insurance and Bonds

OEDC Tourism

The Chairman now moves on to New Business:

Chairman Barnett presents for approval the States Attorneys Appellate Prosecutor Resolution. A motion to approve the resolution is made by Merriman and seconded by Schaefer.

The Chairman directs the Clerk to call roll.

The Clerk call roll.

Roll Call:

Barnett	Yes	Hance	Yes	Noe	Yes
Gibson	Absent	Hagloch	Yes	Starkey	Yes
Schaefer	Yes	Douglass	Yes	Merriman	Yes
Wessel	Yes	French	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.

(See Attached Resolution)

Chairman Barnett next presents the Pehlman and Dold P.C. Services Agreement. A motion to approve the Agreement is made by Douglass and seconded by French.

The Chairman directs the Clerk to call roll.

The Clerk call roll.

Roll Call:

Barnett	Yes	Hance	Yes	Noe	Yes
Gibson	Absent	Hagloch	Yes	Starkey	Yes
Schaefer	Yes	Douglass	Yes	Merriman	Yes
Wessel	Yes	French	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.

(See Attached Agreement)

The Cass County Highway Inventory is next presented. A motion to receive the Inventory is made by Wessel and seconded by Starkey. The vote is by acclamation and declared carried.

Tim Icenogle, Cass County Highway Engineer presents a copy of the lease agreement with the Cass County Health Department. The new monthly rate is \$700 and includes utilities and maintenance. (The lease is recorded in County Clerk Misc. Book O, pgs.25-26)

Icenogle next presents for consideration a contract for various services with Hutchinson Engineering and Artison Consulting Engineers LLC. A motion to approve both contracts is made by Merriman and seconded by Wessel. The vote is by acclamation and declared carried.

(See Attached Contracts)

Tim Icenogle, Cass County Highway Engineer, next presents a Resolution Transferring Funds within the County Highway Fund. A motion to approve the Resolution is made by Noe and seconded by Douglass.

The Chairman directs the Clerk to call roll.

The Clerk call roll.

Roll Call:

Barnett	Yes	Hance	Yes	Noe	Yes
Gibson	Absent	Hagloch	Yes	Starkey	Yes
Schaefer	Yes	Douglass	Yes	Merriman	Yes
Wessel	Yes	French	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.

(See Attached Resolution)

Icenogle next presents the Motor Fuel Tax Maintenance Resolution. A motion to approve the Resolution is made by French and seconded by Schaefer.

The Chairman directs the Clerk to call roll.

The Clerk call roll.

Roll Call:

Barnett	Yes	Hance	Yes	Noe	Yes
Gibson	Absent	Hagloch	Yes	Starkey	Yes
Schaefer	Yes	Douglass	Yes	Merriman	Yes
Wessel	Yes	French	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.

(See Attached Resolution)

Icenogle next presents for approval the County Engineer Salary Resolution and the Agreement for Cass County Engineer Salary. A motion to approve the Resolution and Agreement is made by Hagloch and seconded by Starkey.

The Chairman directs the Clerk to call roll.

The Clerk call roll.

Roll Call:

Barnett	Yes	Hance	Yes	Noe	Yes
Gibson	Absent	Hagloch	Yes	Starkey	Yes
Schaefer	Yes	Douglass	Yes	Merriman	Yes
Wessel	Yes	French	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.

(See Attached Resolution and Agreement)

Chairman Barnett presents a letter along with a small token of his appreciation to the board members. The letter includes a list of many of the accomplishments made by the county board during the pandemic. Barnett states that not one board member has ever refused when he has asked for their help.

Barnett gives a special thank you to County Highway Engineer, Tim Icenogle. Barnett is thankful for Icenogle's knowledge and long list of contacts that have been very useful throughout the years.

Barnett thanks Treasurer, Travis Cox and County Clerk, Shelly Wessel for their assistance with the Small Business Grant Applications. The county received \$200,000 in grant money.

Barnett also thanks Cass County Zoning Officer, Denzil Lorton for being the lead person for the solar farm project. The Cass County Solar Farm is set to break ground in 2022 with completion in 2023. The solar farm will provide power to 22,000 homes and generate 1 million dollars in property taxes.

Barnett states that JBS has recently purchased 40 acres across from Walmart for a housing development. JBS has committed several million dollars. Cass County will set up a \$500,000 revolving loan to help with the cost of building the houses.

Barnett states that he has only mentioned some of the great things this board has accomplished during the pandemic and that he has great appreciation for all 10 other board members. The Chairman next 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 Douglass and seconded by Schaefer. The vote is by acclamation and declared carried.

The Clerk presents the Semi-Annual Reports of the County Clerk, Circuit Clerk, Treasurer and Sheriff. A motion to receive the Semi-Annual Reports is made by Noe and seconded by French. The vote is by acclamation and declared carried.

(See Attached Semi-Annual Reports)

The approval of claims is next presented to the board. A motion to approve the claims is made by Hagloch and seconded by Starkey.

The Chairman directs the Clerk to call roll.

The Clerk calls roll.

Roll Call:

Barnett	Yes	Hance	Yes	Noe	Yes
Gibson	Absent	Hagloch	Yes	Starkey	Yes
Schaefer	Yes	Douglass	Yes	Merriman	Yes
Wessel	Yes	French	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.

At approximately 7:55 p.m. a motion to adjourn and reconvene on the night of January 10, 2022 is made by Wessel and seconded by Douglass. The vote is by acclamation and declared carried.

Shelly Wessel, Clerk