

CASS COUNTY BOARD MEETING

March 11, 2024

The Cass County Board met in the Courthouse, in the Courtroom, on Monday, March 11, 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	Present	Douglass	Present
French	Present	Starkey	Present	Noe	Absent
Hance	Present	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 Noe and Schultz.

Chairman Merriman declares there is a quorum.

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

Board Member Schultz arrives at 6:02 p.m.

Chairman Merriman requests a moment of silence to honor those affected by the tragedy that occurred in Schuyler County.

Under Public Comment Denzil Lorton states he is planning to retire after 31 years. Lorton thanks the board for their support throughout the years. Lorton recommends hiring Dave Mayes as his replacement. Mayes has worked for the county all of his life and he recently retired from the County Highway Office.

Next, Fadra Birdsell shares her concerns in regards to the Ordinance for Intercity Buses. County Clerk Wessel explains that the ordinance is not an invitation for buses to come to Cass County. The ordinance has been written in order to establish some guidelines if an unscheduled intercity bus arrives in Cass County. Ms. Birdsell states she understands why the ordinance following the explanation.

Andrew Desollar speaks about the zoning of his property. Mr. Desollar is directed to share his contact information with Clerk Wessel and she will contact him after speaking with the county zoning officer.

Chairman Merriman presents the minutes of the February 12, 2024, Cass County Board meeting. French moves to approve the minutes and Douglass seconds the motion. The vote is by acclamation and declared carried.

A letter was received from the Virginia BBQ requesting official permission to hold the Annual Virginia BBQ on the courthouse lawn. Wessel moves to allow the Virginia BBQ to be held on the courthouse lawn and Douglass seconds the motion. The vote is by acclamation and declared carried.

Wessel reports the Courthouse and Jail Committee met on March 7, 2024, and approved all bills as presented.

Douglass, Chairman of the Public Safety, Environment and Housing Committee, reports her committee met on February 26, 2024, and discussed the Intercity Bus Ordinance. Roger Lauder gave his report.

Snellgrove reports the Animal Control met on February 27, 2024. There were 13 dogs picked up, 11 dogs returned to their owners and 2 dogs were adopted.

Hance reports the Health Department Board met on February 28, 2024. Franci Sweetin has resigned as the Environmental Health

Director. The Health Department will be working with Morgan County Health Department until a replacement can be found. The next meeting is scheduled for March 27, 2024.

Gibson reporting for MCS states they were having problems receiving checks. A phone call was made to the Comptroller's Office and the checks are coming in on a regular basis now.

French reports the Supervisor of Assessments Committee met on February 20, 2024. Brian Millard has been sworn in as a member of the Board of Review.

Wessel, Chairman of the Road and Bridge Committee, reports the committee met and approved all bills. Tim Icenogle reported that a bridge near Newmansville will be closed for repairs starting March 25, 2024.

French reports that E-9-1-1 met on February 26, 2024 and approved all bills. The board discussed going to Bi-Monthly meetings.

Starkey, reporting for the Tourism Committee, reports the Instagram and Facebook pages are up and running. They have received more likes and shares on both pages.

There are no reports from the following committees:

Housing

Transit

Rural Water

Legislative

Policies and Procedures

Finance and Judiciary

Liquor Control

Economic Development

Insurance and Bonds

Mental Health 708

OEDC

TIF

The Chairman now moves on to New Business:

The appointment of Alan Bell to the Beardstown Sanitary District is presented for approval. A motion to approve the appointment is made by French and seconded by Gibson. The vote is by acclamation and declared carried.

(See Attached Appointment)

Chairman Merriman presents the request for approval of an Interfund Loan for a new Animal Control Truck. The cost of the truck and topper is \$52,000. A motion to approve the request for the Interfund Loan is made by Starkey and seconded by Hance. The Chairman directs the Clerk to call roll.

The Clerk calls roll.

Roll Call:

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

Chairman Merriman next presents for approval the Genasys Protect Agreement. A motion to approve the agreement is made by Wessel and seconded by Douglass. The Chairman directs the Clerk to call roll

The Clerk calls roll.

Roll Call:

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

(See Attached Agreement)

Chairman Merriman next presents the Ordinance for Intercity Buses. A motion to approve the ordinance is made by Douglass and seconded by Snellgrove.

Board Member Gibson states she is concerned about safety and Board Member Hance states that she doesn't think the board has the expertise to vote on the ordinance.

The Chairman directs the Clerk to call roll.

The Clerk calls roll.

Roll Call:

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

As a result of the roll call, the clerk states that 7 board members have voted in the affirmative, 3 board members voted "present" and one board member is absent. Chairman Merriman declares the motion carried.

(See Attached Ordinance)

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 Starkey and seconded by Douglass. 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 Wessel. The Chairman directs the Clerk to call roll.

The Clerk calls roll.

Roll Call:

Merriman	Yes	Wessel	Yes	Douglass	Yes
French	Yes	Starkey	Yes	Noe	Absent
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 6:44 p.m. a motion to adjourn and reconvene on the night of April 8, 2024, is made by Wessel and seconded by Gibson. The vote is by acclamation and declared carried.

Shelly Wessel, Clerk