

CASS COUNTY BOARD MEETING

June 9, 2025

The Cass County Board met in the Courthouse, in the Courtroom,
on Monday, June 9, 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	Present	Schultz	Present	Brown	Present
Ruppel	Present	Snellgrove	Present		

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

Chairman Merriman declares there is a quorum.

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

Under public comment, Maggie Hea, representative from the
Animal Rescue states that the Cass County Animal Control is
doing a great job but she is concerned about Animal Control's
proposed policy to euthanize dogs after 7 weeks. Hea also
encourages good communication between the Animal Rescue and
Animal Control.

Chairman Merriman presents the minutes of the May 12, 2025
Cass County Board meeting. French makes a motion to approve the

minutes and Snellgrove seconds the motion. The vote is by acclamation and declared carried.

Noe reports the Courthouse and Jail Committee met on June 5, 2025, and approved all bills as presented.

Douglass reports the Public Safety and Environment Committee met on May 27, 2025 and discussed Genasys.

Cass Rural Water met and elected the same officers. Jeff Cosner - President, Laymon Carter - Vice President, Pam Wessel - Secretary and Eric Hayes - Treasurer. New meters have been installed.

Noe, Liaison for the Cass County Housing Authority, reports the interest from 5 cd's was put into the operating expense account.

Lunsford, Chairperson of the Animal Control Commission, reports the commission met last weekend and paid all bills. They are currently gathering opinions on the Hold and Euthanasia Policies. There was a total of 54 calls, 15 dogs were picked up, 9 dogs were returned to their owners, 2 were euthanized, 1 is being fostered, and 3 are at the animal rescue shelter.

Lunsford reported that based on a dog weighing 50 pounds the cost to euthanize is \$73.00. The vet costs to get a dog ready for adoption is \$182 for a male and \$200 for a female. If the dog is sick or injured the vet care can cost up to \$200. The cost to feed a dog is approximately \$45.00 a month. These costs do not include utilities, baths or grooming.

Douglass reports the Health Department Board met on May 19, 2025 and they are working on the budget. The board discussed the Medicaid cuts and how it will affect the Health Department. No active TB cases in Cass County.

Wessel, Chairman of the Road and Bridge Committee, reports the committee met on May 5, 2025 and approved all bills.

Wessel, reports the Finance and Judiciary Committee will meet on June 20, 2025.

Wessel, Chairman of the Insurance and Bonds Committee, reports that the Sheriff's Department has had 4 vehicle accidents with no injuries. We have 34 employee participants in the Health Insurance Plan. Springfield Clinic is now a preferred provider as of June 1, 2025.

Noe, Liaison for OEDC, reports that they met on May 21, 2025. Chandlerville has 2 newly certified firemen.

Katie Vitale is doing a great job as Beardstown City Clerk.

The Brown Bag Lunch in the park is every Wednesday in Beardstown.

Crystal Bell, the new Executive Director of Beardstown Chamber of Commerce and Beardstown Connect, introduces herself to the board. Bell is loving her new position.

French reports that E-9-1-1 met on May 19, 2025 and discussed radio upgrades and approved all bills.

The following committees have no report:

Legislative

Supervisor of Assessments

Policies and Procedures

Economic Development

MCS

Cooperative Extension

Mental Health 708

Tourism

TIF

The Chairman now moves on to New Business:

The appointment of Peggy Scheer to the Cass County Housing Authority is presented for approval. A motion to approve the appointment is made by Noe and seconded by Ruppel. The vote is by acclamation and declared carried.

Chairman Merriman presents for approval a Resolution for the 2026 Holiday Calendar. A motion to approve the Resolution is made by French and seconded by Hance. The vote is by acclamation and declared carried.

(See Attached Resolution)

Chairman Merriman next presents the Liquor License for Stop Light Liquors. A motion to approve the Liquor License for Stop Light Liquors is made by Ruppel and seconded by French. The vote is by acclamation and declared carried.

Chairman Merriman next presents for Final Approval the Amendments to the Highway Fund and Public Safety Fund Budgets. A motion to approve the Amended Budgets is made by Douglass and seconded by Ruppel. Ten members voted in the affirmative and one member voted no. The Chairman declares the motion carried.

(See Attached Amendments)

Chairman Merriman presents the proposal to extend the Agreement with Erin Brown (Social Media). A motion to extend the Agreement for another 6 months is made by French 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	Lunsford	No	Noe	Yes
Hance	Yes	Schultz	Yes	Brown	No
Ruppel	No	Snellgrove	No		

As a result of the roll call, the Clerk states that 7 members voted in the affirmative and 4 members voted no. Chairman Merriman declares the motion 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 Douglass and seconded by French. The vote is by acclamation and declared carried.

Chairman Merriman presents the semi-annual reports of the County Clerk, Treasurer, Circuit Clerk, Sheriff. A motion to receive the semi-annual reports is made by Snellgrove and seconded by Noe. The vote is by acclamation and declared carried.

(See Attached Semi- Annual Reports)

Chairman Merriman presents the Inventories of all County Offices. A motion to receive the Inventories is made by Brown and seconded by Snellgrove. The vote is by acclamation and declared carried.

(See Attached Inventories)

The approval of claims is next presented to the board. A motion to approve the claims is made by French 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	Lunsford	Yes	Noe	Yes
Hance	Yes	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 approximately 7:02 p.m. a motion to adjourn and reconvene on the night of July 14, 2025 is made by Douglass and seconded by Hance. The vote is by acclamation and declared carried.

Shelly Wessel, Clerk