

**MINUTES OF A BUILDING, GROUNDS, INSURANCE, AND SAFETY MEETING
OF THE COUNTY OF HANCOCK, STATE OF ILLINOIS, TO BE HELD IN THE
CITY OF CARTHAGE, ON APRIL 8, 2026**

The meeting was called to order by Mark Hanson at 6:30 p.m. Members in attendance included Steve Finney, Michelle Merritt, Lee Ann Lambert, Tom Rodgers, and Mark Menn. Ryan Weeks and Josh Turner were absent. Visitors included Justin Greeley, Wayne Bollin, Mark Harrison, Steve Lucie, and Alex Blythe.

The worker's comp list was passed around.

Regarding the statue of Abraham Lincoln for the courthouse, the money is in hand and will be dispersed to the artist. Motion to approve this was made by Ms. Lambert, seconded by Ms. Merritt. All members present voted aye.

Mr. Greeley discussed the new solar ordinance in which we will need to be in compliance with by June 1, 2026. Decommissioning is the biggest concern. A state licensed engineer is the one to state how much decommissioning will cost. In the new ordinance the solar company will have an upfront 10% cost of the total decommissioning cost, then at no later than the sixth year 50%, and before the eleventh year 100%. Does the board want to take a stance? Could a resolution be written where the landowner is responsible for cleanup in case of a weather emergency. There was lengthy discussion regarding this. If we take a stand against this liability insurance would not cover us, we would be using taxpayer money. The solar company could sue us. Other counties are being compliant. Ms. Merritt motioned to ask the States' Attorney to retain a solar and wind attorney for advice, Mr. Finney seconded. All members present voted aye.

Any questions are to be submitted to Justin regarding solar.

The closed session minutes were gone over and Mr. Rodgers motioned to keep them closed. Ms. Merritt seconded the motion. All members present voted aye.

Claims were gone over. Ms. Merritt moved to approve the claims, Mr. Rodgers seconded. All members present voted aye.

Mr. Finney moved to recess until May 12 at 6:30 p.m. Ms. Merritt seconded. All members present voted aye. Meeting adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Hanson