**MINUTES OF A BOARD MEETING OF THE COUNTY OF HANCOCK, STATE OF ILLINOIS, HELD AT THE COUNTY COURTHOUSE, IN THE CITY OF CARTHAGE ON JULY 15, 2025**

STATE OF ILLINOIS )

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COUNTY OF HANCOCK )

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The meeting was called to order by chairman Mark Menn at 6:30 p.m. The invocation was given by Thomas Rodgers. The clerk led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Those present included: Mark Menn, Chairman

Holly A Wilde-Tillman, County Clerk

Joe Boyles Thomas Rodgers

Alex Blythe Steven Lucie

Wayne Bollin Mark Hanson

Joshua Turner Stephen Finney

Michelle Merritt, Lee Ann Lambert, Harry Douglas, Dennis Castlebury, Ryan Weeks, and Mark Harrison were absent. Visitors included Justin Greeley, Bobi James, Deb Roskamp, Justin Hawes, and other members of the community.

Mr. Turner motioned to approve the June minutes and special finance minutes, Mr. Blythe seconded. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting “yes”. Motion carried.

Deb Roskamp from West Point would like to speak to the board about a problem in the village.

Mr. Menn stated that the county is fortunate enough to have the Daughters of the American Revolution pop up display in our county. The county is 1 of 7 counties throughout the state of Illinois that have this honor and would like to thank them for providing this for the county.

Mr. Menn stated that the Memorial Hospital board would like to have a dinner with the county board. No business would be discussed. Motion to have a special meeting on August 19 at 5:15 to have dinner with the Memorial Hospital board, place to be later determined, and to extend the next board meeting to 7:15 was made by Mr. Rodgers, seconded by Mr. Lucie. All members present voted aye.

The committee reports were gone over. Mr. Boyles moved to approve the committee reports consent agenda. Mr. Blythe seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting “yes”. Motion carried.

The consent action items were gone over. There was a question about the building permit inspector. There is a need for somebody to go to the solar sites and make sure that these companies are abiding by the ordinance. Mr. Greeley stated he did not believe that ground cover would be part of our ordinance, that it should be Hancock County Soil and Water who would be in charge of making sure this was checked off. Mr. Rodgers motioned to remove recommendation for cool-season grass with shrubs and trees for the solar projects off the consent agenda. Mr. Blythe seconded. All members present voted aye.

Mr. Lucie made a motion to approve the rest of the consent agenda, Mr. Bollin seconded. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting “yes”. Motion carried. This included:

1. Authority for the County Board Chairman to consult with individuals as the building permit inspector.
2. Approval of Keara Weber as a signor for Hancock County Checking Accounts

Mr. Blythe made a motion to approve the bid letting of microsurfacing of Bluff Road in Warsaw by Microsurfacing Contractors, LLC, for a total of $172,022.20. This was seconded by Mr. Bollin. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting “yes”. Motion carried.

Motion to approve Bellwether revising the language on the solar ordinance to state $1,000,000 escrow for solar projects under 10 mW and $1,500,000 for any solar project over 10 mW instead of a bond was made by Mr. Lucie, Mr. Finney seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting “yes”. Motion carried.

Mr. Lucie made a motion to return the road use agreement back to committee for review. Mr. Turner seconded. Mr. Boyles stated he did not see an exhibit B in this. Holly believed it was submitted previously with the application. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting “yes”. Motion carried.

The FOP contract was approved in May but there were a couple of changes of language. Motion to approve was made by Mr. Bollin, Mr. Boyles seconded. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting “yes”. Motion carried.

Deb Roskamp spoke to the board about a problem in West Point. She believes that Kathy Sparrow is sending emails for the village on county time.

Motion to appoint Gary Akers as a trustee to the Dallas Rural Water District for a 5-year term was made by Mr. Finney. Mr. Bollin seconded. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting “yes”. Motion carried.

Mr. Turner made a motion to move in to executive session at 7:07 p.m. This was seconded by Mr. Boyles. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting “yes”. Motion carried. Motion to move out of executive session was made at 7:25 p.m. by Mr. Hanson, seconded by Mr. Lucie. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting “yes”. Motion carried.

Motion to recess until the special board meeting at 5:15 on August 19 was made by Mr. Hanson, seconded by Mr. Turner. All members present voted aye. Meeting adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Holly A. Wilde-Tillman

Hancock County Clerk