**MINUTES OF A HEALTH AND MISCELLANEOUS MEETING OF THE COUNTY OF HANCOCK, STATE OF ILLINOIS, HELD AT THE COUNTY COURTHOUSE IN THE CITY OF CARTHAGE ON MARCH 3, 2025**

The meeting was called to order by Steve Finney at 6:30 p.m. Members in attendance included Mark Menn, Joe Boyles, Michelle Merritt, and Steve Lucie. Absent was Mark Harrison, Harry Douglas, and Josh Turner. Visitors included Andrew Asbury and Aaron Feagain.

Mr. Asbury from the City of Hamilton was inquiring about a letter he had sent to the board asking for reimbursement for animal control. The letter had been sent to the states’ attorney and she was to discuss this with Tom Hartzell their city attorney. There was a question about who pays for the rabies vaccine if the city picks up a dog. The dog owner should pay for the vaccines. Mr. Lucie states he was supposed to meet with Maggie Harrell the Hancock County Animal Control Administrator and will try to get in touch with her this month to discuss animal control.

Mr. Feagain went over the EMS report. There were 107 calls, 94 billable, 73 transports, 26 BLS, 38 ALS, and 7 no treatment/no transport. He has hired 1 fulltime medic, 1 parttime medic, and 1 parttime EMT. His budget is on track so far this year. The new building is in progress. The interior is framed. Then they will remove the siding, finish framing and re-side the building. The old ambulance went to Sullivan Auctioneers. The auction will be held on March 18.

The new hire was pulling the ambulance out of the building and cut it too sharp, caught the bumper on the tin, and ripped the tin off. The owner of the building was notified. Hopp Construction will come and give a quote which will be taken out of EMS building repair budget.

Triple H installed the Starcom radios on the new ambulances. These had been taken off the old ambulances. The radio guys came and stated that the ambulance’s Starcom radios are outdated and parts can no longer be ordered. He got quotes and new radios would cost approximately $8000/ambulance. Mr. Feagain will be looking for grants to replace these. The heart monitor lease payment of $14,000 will be coming up in the next month or so. This is in his budget.

Mr. Finney emailed Jessica Croy of the Health Department to see if she has anything to notify the board of. The dental clinic is open and taking appointments. The receptionist will start next week. Mr. Douglas is out sick and there was discussion of Mr. Finney going in his place to the next Board of Health meeting. There was discussion regarding the COVID vaccine. Mr. Lucie would like a resolution drawn up stating that the county board is opposed to the covid experimental shot. Ms. Merritt and he stated there is not any FDA approved dose that are being given, and that it is an experimental shot. They believe the people receiving the shots are not being accurately informed of the potential side effects. Mr. Boyles stated he believes everybody should have their own options if they want to have a COVID vaccine or not, there are positives and negative effects of all shots, and should be a choice between the individual and their healthcare provider.

ESDA is now being switched to the Finance Meeting.

Mr. Boyles asked if the opioid money could be spent on radios for the ambulances. Mr. Menn will ask Ms. James regarding this. Maybe the worker’s compensation grant could be used for part of this.

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

Motion to recess was made by Ms. Merritt. Mr. Boyles seconded the motion. All members present voted aye. Meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Finney, Committee Vice Chair