

MINUTES OF A BUILDING, GROUNDS, SAFETY, AND INSURANCE MEETING OF THE COUNTY OF HANCOCK, STATE OF ILLINOIS, HELD AT THE COUNTY COURTHOUSE IN THE CITY OF CARTHAGE ON JULY 9, 2024

The meeting was called to order by chairman Mark Hanson. Members in attendance included Tom Bergmeier, Tom Rodgers, Michelle Merritt, Stephen Finney, and Mark Menn. Absent was Mark Turner and Ryan Weeks. Visitors included Bernardo Uncinata from Cultivate Power, Jeff Totten of ESDA, and Sheriff Travis Duff.

Mr. Uncinata talked to the committee about Cultivate Power. They are a Chicago-based company. They have developed 14 solar projects in Illinois across 10 counties. They are looking to build a 2.5-megawatt solar project in Niota. They have a lease agreement with Mark Gnann for 35 acres. Cultivate Power will fence off 17.5 acres for the facility with 12.5 acres being solar panels. This will provide local residents the ability to pay for power at a 5-10% discount of the standard electric rates. This is enough wattage to provide power to 550 homes. He will be submitting an application for the solar project by the end of the month.

Mr. Totten would like to get a public hearing set for 22c's solar projects in Augusta. Ms. Merritt made a motion to schedule a public hearing for 22c on July 23 at 6:30 p.m. with Mr. Farkas contacting the nearby landowners ahead of time. Mr. Bergmeier seconded the motion. All members present voted aye.

Mr. Menn stated that Mr. Ramsey was not able to attend the meeting. From here on out him or someone from their office will be at the meetings to update the committee on reports and address risk management and what can be done to reduce worker's comp.

Sheriff Duffy informed the committee that they help Henderson County out with 911 dispatch. Henderson County is down to only 2 dispatchers and no jailers at this time. He stated Hancock County dispatch will be covering one 8-hour shift per night and will split the cost of this 50/50.

Ramsey's did a risk assessment of the jail. They were told that the Hancock County jail is way ahead of the curve and in good shape.

Mr. Menn stated there will be 2 resolutions at full board, 1 for the solar administrator contract and 1 for animal control. There was discussion regarding a solar project at Windy Hills in Hamilton.

There will be an ambulance transfer negotiation meeting on Wednesday, July 10, 2024. There will be a meeting Thursday, July 11, 2024, with Kris Pilkington, Kasey Mehaffy, and Holly Wilde-Tillman to discuss property taxes and working together on these. The Connable Road project is underway.

Claims were gone over. Motion to pay the claims was made by Mr. Bergmeier and seconded by Ms. Merritt. All members present voted aye.

Mr. Finney made a motion to recess until August 13, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. Ms. Merritt seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Hanson, Committee Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Hanson".

7-16-24