

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COUNTY OF HANCOCK, STATE OF ILLINOIS, HELD AT
THE COURTHOUSE IN THE CITY OF CARTHAGE ON JUNE 18, 2024**

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
)
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 Dennis Castlebury. The "Pledge of Allegiance" was led by the County Clerk.

Those present were: Mark Menn, Chairman
 Holly A Wilde-Tillman, County Clerk

Dennis Castlebury	Mark Turner
Michelle Merritt	Tom Rodgers
Steve Finney	Mark Harrison
Wayne Bollin	Tom Bergmeier
Alex Blythe	Patsy Davis

Absent was Steve Lucie, Mark Hanson, Ryan Weeks, and Harry Douglas

Visitors included Blake Roderick and Alex Farkas.

Ms. Merritt made a motion to approve the May full board meeting minutes. Ms. Davis seconded. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting "yes". Motion carried.

Mr. Roderick from the Mid-America Port Commission gave information on their organization. This consists of 26 counties through Illinois, Iowa, and Missouri. This reaches from Mercer County to Pike County. They help commission work on the locks for lock expansion, fish ladders, and maintenance. They advocate for port development. They work on improved flood control. There are 3 commissioners from each state, 1 is appointed by the governor while the other 2 are appointed by the county boards which is then sent to the governor for final approval.

Mr. Farkas of 22c spoke to the board regarding his work on solar farms in the county. He has been doing this for 10 years and started his own business in 2022. The solar farm in Augusta that he is working towards can power 10 times the amount of power usage of Augusta. This would run to the substation in Macomb. He hired an engineering firm to follow the rules and apply them to the county. He has his applications turned in and has paid the application fees and would like to schedule a public hearing. This needs to be put in the newspapers and letters sent to neighbors of the planned solar farms.

Committee reports were gone over. It was asked if the Connable Road would be closed at any time. There will be detours when the culverts are being placed. Mr. Harrison motioned to approve the minutes with Mr. Bergmeier seconding the motion. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting "yes". Motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Turner to approve the consent agenda. Mr. Bergmeier seconded. This consists of the demolishing and sell of the county pound. The highway department had been asked if they would demolish the county pound but they are busy with road projects. It was decided to let the county attorney put the pound up for sealed bids. It also consists of a Ford Ambulance being given to ESDA, approval of the resolution appointing board members for Mid-America Intermodal Authority Port District, and a second credit card for the sheriff's department. There was to be a repeal of the ordinance of 2008 but this was tabled. A roll call vote was taken with Mr. Rodgers and Mr. Bergmeier voting "no" and all other members present voting "yes". Motion carried.

Mr. Bollin made a motion to approve the administrative contract with Bellwether for 5 months. Ms. Davis seconded the motion. Mr. Bollin informed the board what is involved with this agreement. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting "yes". Motion carried.

A motion was made by Ms. Davis to approve up to a \$5000 monetary donation to the Hancock County Historical Society Bicentennial Celebration. Mr. Finney seconded. All receipts will be brought to the clerk's office for payment. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting "yes". Motion carried.

Mr. Castlebury made a motion to go into executive session. Ms. Merritt seconded. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting "yes". Motion carried. Ms. Merritt made a motion to come out of executive session with Mr. Blythe seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting "yes". Motion carried.

Mr. Menn asked that if anybody is not able to make it to the committee meetings or the full board meeting to let Ms. Wilde-Tillman or himself know so we can insure to have a quorum. Motion to recess was made by Mr. Finney, seconded by Ms. Merritt. All members present voted aye. Meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m.



Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Holly A. Witde-Tillman".

Holly A. Witde-Tillman, County Clerk