

**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 MAY 12, 2026**

The meeting was called to order by Mark Hanson at 6:37 p.m. Members in attendance included Michelle Merritt, Steve Finney, and Mark Menn. Ryan Weeks, Lee Ann Lambert, Josh Turner, and Tom Rodgers were absent. Visitors included Gary Anderson, Camden Knights and Carlton Shaw. Mr. Greeley was called on the phone.

Mr. Anderson spoke regarding the solar ordinance. Could a rated capacity be put in the ordinance? If a data center comes in and supplies their energy it would be enormous. There is a 20 foot height requirement, he was wondering about the bottom clearance. Mr. Menn stated that there is discussion about doing quarterly visits to the solar sites. Pictures would be taken and they would keep track if they are in compliance or not. Mr. Dale would do the ground work and Mr. Greeley would keep track of this. Mr. Anderson asked who measures the noise level, who is an expert on this, who pays for the upgrades? On the special use permit he thought a community benefit agreement should be added.

Mr. Knights of Linea Energy stated that the developer would be in charge of any upgrades. His company is in the early stages of a wind project. He was wondering about the new wind ordinance that could be passed this month. There was lengthy discussion regarding solar and wind power and battery storage.

Mr. Finney voted to approve the commercial wind and solar siting ordinances, Ms. Merritt seconded. All members present voted aye.

Ms. Merritt moved to approve the Hamilton Sun, LLC, commercial solar building permit. Mr. Finney seconded the motion. All members present voted aye.

Mr. Greeley was called. Mr. Menn asked him about a community benefit agreement. He will see if we can enforce this. He stated it can be done in terms of road use agreements and drainage agreements. He will check and see if the county can put a limit to the capacity of solar.

Mr. Finney moved to approve the tax deed for 15-10-954-000, Ms. Merritt seconded. All members present voted aye.

Ms. Merritt moved to put the trash collection up for bid, Mr. Finney seconded. All members present voted aye.

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

Motion to recess was made by Mr. Finney, seconded by Ms. Merritt. All members present voted aye. Meeting adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Hanson