

MINUTES OF A BOARD MEETING OF THE COUNTY OF HANCOCK, STATE OF ILLINOIS, HELD AT THE COUNTY COURTHOUSE, IN THE CITY OF CARTHAGE ON APRIL 21, 2026

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 Stephen Finney. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the county clerk. Roll call was taken.

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

Wayne Bollin	Stephen Finney
Steve Lucie	Alex Blythe
Joe Boyles	Harry Douglas
Tom Rodgers	Michelle Merritt
Lee Ann Lambert	Mark Hanson
Mark Harrison	Joshua Turner

Ryan Weeks and Dennis Castlebury were absent. Visitors included Justin Greeley, Bobi James, Elgin Berry, and Emily Flynn.

Ms. Merritt motioned to approve the March minutes, special minutes, and executive session minutes. Mr. Blythe seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting “yes”. Motion carried.

Mr. Menn stated he received two invitations for the board for the Treatment Court Team.

Emily Flynn introduced herself as running as an independent for the Treasurer’s position in November.

The highway and finance minutes were gone over. Mr. Menn informed the board that he received an email stating that the county has made the cut with the grant for the Connable

Road. The building minutes were gone through. Mr. Greeley stated that he and Ms. James had spoken with the solar attorney on the phone and he answered their questions. He stated that an escrow is able to be done but it will be done in percentages instead of the full amount up front. Bonds are believed to be more beneficial. It was noted that there is no decommissioning plan for any neighboring landowner who may be involved in case of a tornado, derecho, etc. Drainage is covered. If a solar company sells to another solar company that company will take over the responsibility. The state statute is designed to have regulations on the solar companies but not the landowners. If anything is done contrary to the state statute we will be sued. Could we put more expense on the landowners? This will be further discussed in committee. The health minutes were gone over. Motion to accept the consent agenda was made by Mr. Boyles. Ms. Merritt seconded. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting "yes". Motion carried.

Mr. Bollin moved to approve the consent action agenda, Mr. Blythe seconded. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting "yes". Motion carried. This included:

- 1) Approval of Resolution for Tax Deed 15-10-954-000
- 2) Approval of Certificate of Authority by Vote to Enable the County Engineer to Purchase Road Salt

The certificate of authority for the county engineer to purchase salt is a new requirement from management services. There is nothing new from 17 years ago.

Ms. Merritt motioned to approve the bronze statue of Abraham Lincoln to be put in the bottom floor rotunda area, Mr. Lucie seconded. Mr. Greeley stated there was no restriction on how long it would take to deliver to statue. He updated the contract from the artist. He wants to ensure taxpayer dollars are protected. Mr. Finney motioned to approve Mr. Menn to sign the artists contract if he will not sign ours, Mr. Hanson seconded. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting "yes". Motion carried.

Mr. Blythe moved to approve WL Miller's bid for bituminous materials for county and township projects. Mr. Lucie seconded. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting "yes". Motion carried.

Mr. Douglas motioned to approve the bid of Metal Culverts for township culverts. Mr. Harrison seconded. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting "yes". Motion carried.

Motion to approve the resolution for improvement under the Illinois Highway Code to appropriate funds for the south end portion of the Connable Road was made by Mr. Bollin. This was seconded by Mr. Boyles. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting "yes". Motion carried.

Approval for the States' Attorney to seek outside counsel for solar was tabled.

The claims had been passed around. Motion to approve the claims was made by Ms. Merritt. Mr. Lucie seconded. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting "yes". Motion carried.

Mr. Lucie would like to thank Mary Miller for all of her work on the grant for the Connable Road. This will be a big asset to the county.

Mr. Boyles made a motion to approve the appointments of William Shanks to the Nauvoo FPD, George Salrin to the Dallas Rural FPD, Steve Haney to Blandinsville-Hire FPD, Tony Koehler to the Warsaw Rural Fire Department, Keith Bruns and Tammy Dighton to the West Point Fire Department. Mr. Finney seconded. All members present voted aye.

Ms. Merritt moved to recess, Mr. Finney seconded the motion. All members present voted aye. Meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Holly A. Wilde-Tillman, County Clerk