

May 7, 2024: Chairman Brad Marcuson opened the regular meeting of the Decatur County Commission at 9:00 am with the flag salute on the second floor of the Courthouse with members Karen Larson and Stan McEvoy. Also present was County Clerk Nora Urban, Attorney Steve Hirsch, and Oberlin Herald reporter Destry Jackson.

Joe Mondero was also present at this meeting.

9:00 Ernie Sheets, Road & Bridge said they are doing roads and have a project in Cook Twp, however it is too muddy right now.

He has a bid from Foley on some new machines; he will get additional bids for comparison. He said we currently have no machines under warranty right now. A new machine will run approximately \$300,000. He said he has the funds to do a couple of the machines at a time.

Next, he hired a new employee yesterday and still has openings for two more.

Ernie said he put grass out by the new county building.

Last, he said they are getting gravel and will start delivering some soon.

9:15 David Wachendorfer, Sheriff dropped in to check in.

He said Brady Ginther is at the academy and they are down another, so it is just him and Ed Temmel right now.

Commissioner Stan McEvoy asked about the plumbing. He said he is still waiting on Glassman's but will reach out to them again.

Jason Berry, Sportsman Assn called and asked about using the transportation bus for a youth trip to Atwood on June 15th for a day of fishing. He said lunch will be provided. County Clerk, Nora Urban said she will look into this with it being funded by the state she would have to provide a driver, so she will see if one of her drivers is available to do this.

Steve Hirsch, Attorney said that attorneys across the state have been discussing the current process of tax sale. Currently if they are over 3 years past, they go on the tax sale, however people will come in and pay one year, usually the oldest to keep them under that 3-year mark. He said as allowed by law he has created a charter resolution that says if they come into pay, they must pay the most recent year first, therefore in order to avoid the tax sale they would have to pay all three years. Commissioners agreed this sounds good. Commissioner Karen Larson moved to approve charter resolution 13. Commissioner Brad Marcuson gave the second, called for the vote and the motion carried.

Commissioners reviewed correspondence and signed prepaids.

Stan moved to sign the agreement for EMS and Sheriff with Compliance One for random drug/alcohol testing. Karen gave the second. Brad called for the vote and the motion carried.

Nora had estimates for the roof of the courthouse from the wind damage. She also had the information from KCAMP. Commissioners reviewed this and agreed to table this to see if MVP provides an estimate as they have not showed up yet.

Stan requested an executive session for non-elected personnel.

9:56 Karen moved for the 20-minute session. Brad gave the second, called for the vote and the motion carried. Those present were the three commissioners, Nora and Steve.

10:16 No action was taken.

Nora continued with Jennings alumni association requested 4 history books to be donated for their alumni. Commissioners agreed to this.

Next, she said her bus grant was approved for next year's funding.

Then she said over the weekend the waterline in the break room broke and the floor was soaked.

Culligan came in and repaired the line and the carpet is drying now.

Last, she had the EM Agreement Steve prepared. Stan moved to approve the agreement with Norton County pending their approval. Karen gave the second. Brad called for the vote and the motion carried.

10:30 Gene and Buddy Plotts came in to discuss the roads by them again. They said even though the commissioners were out and looked at the situation at the house they did not go further down the road to the west where there is still an issue. Gene said if you compare them to Larry Roe, you can see a difference. Commissioners said they will be going back and finishing up on west and if they have any other issues, they need to address it with the township officers for Sherman Twp.

Nora requested a 5-minute executive session for non-elected personnel.

10:55 Karen moved for the session. Brad gave the second, called for the vote and the motion carried.

Those present were the three commissioners, Steve and Nora.

11:00 No action was taken.

Alan Hale, Appraiser came in to talk to the commissioners regarding staffing concerns. He said Bryan Richards gave his two weeks and so he will figure something out to cover the office.

Steve asked about valuations in relation to sales tax. Discussion followed regarding valuations.

Alan then said he will be taking vacation coming up soon.

Ernie dropped back in and asked if he needed to do anything regarding the roads in Sherman. They told him what they told Plotts.

11:55 Brad adjourned the meeting.

MINUTES APPROVED: *MUL* , *GL* , *SAM*

ATTEST: *Nora Wilson* , County Clerk DATE: *3/21/24*