

DEWITT COUNTY BOARD MEETING
Sept 21, 2023
6PM
DEWITT COUNTY BUILDING

Meeting was called to order at 6:00pm by Chairman Matthews.

Roll call was answered by Werts, Witte, Carter, Deerwester, Ferguson, Matthews, Myers, Prestegaard, Riddle, Ryan, Tilley. Farris was absent.

Ryan Tozer addressed the Board. He introduced himself as the Manager of Local Government Affairs with Constellation Energy Corporation at the Clinton Power Station. He wanted to share a few facts about the Clinton Power Station with the Board, such as how they employ 500 residents, supply energy to 800,000 customers and will be asking to extend their operating license for 20 more years which would keep them operating until 2047. He shared examples of how the Clinton Power Station supports local causes such as the Apple and Pork Festival and the Boy Scouts, just to list a few that he mentioned. He also wanted the Board to know if they ever need anything or have questions, to please reach out to him.

Motion by Tilley second by Ferguson to approve the August 24, 2023, County Board meeting minutes. Aye: Werts, Witte, Carter, Deerwester, Ferguson, Matthews, Myers, Prestegaard, Riddle, Ryan, Tilley. Motion Carried.

Carter gave the Board a brief description of what was discussed at the current month's Land Use meeting. He said the committee is still working on wind ordinance updates and that was all he had to report at this time. Minutes from the Land Use meeting are filed with these minutes.

Myers gave the Board a brief description of what was discussed at the current month's Public Safety meeting. She advised the Board that they have talked with Tony Harris about taking on the Animal Control Administration position as well as him keeping his current position as 911/CenCom Supervisor. The committee feels he will be a good fit to help get the Animal Shelter back up and running like it should be. Myers asked if they wanted to discuss the pay for Mr. Harris to take the Administrator position, but Tilley said she would handle that in next month's Finance meeting. Minutes from the Public Safety meetings are filed with these minutes.

Motion by Myers second by Carter to appoint Tony Harris as Animal Control Administrator. Aye: Werts, Witte, Carter, Deerwester, Ferguson, Matthews, Myers, Prestegaard, Riddle, Ryan, Tilley. Motion Carried.

Sheriff Walker stopped in to discuss the shooting incident that occurred on Sunday, September 3, 2023, Labor Day Weekend, in Kenney, that left one person injured and one person dead. He said the call came in as an active shooter and the dispatcher could hear the shots being fired while she was on the phone with the caller. The Sheriff happened to already be in the Kenney area and was able to stop at the intersection of Rt54 and the old Kenney bank where the injured victim was able to escape and drive himself to. Not knowing where the shooter had gone, they set up a perimeter around the area. Members of the City Police Department, State Troopers and our County Deputies helped in setting up the perimeter. Eventually they were able to make contact with the victims still inside the trailer who confirmed one person was dead. When they felt safe, they drove themselves to where law enforcement

was set up. The SWAT team cleared the house. Later in the evening they deemed the suspect to no longer be in the area. The Sheriff wanted to publicly thank everyone involved. He thanked Clinton Police Chief Lowers and the City of Clinton Police Officers, Illinois State Police, the FBI, Department of Conservation, Decatur Police Department, Macon County Sheriff's Office, Decatur Park District, Clinton Fire Department and Kenney Fire Department, who opened their station as a place for law enforcement to set up and supplied food and supplies as needed. He also thanked Pastor Scott Marsh from the Texas Christian Church in Clinton for talking to the Dispatcher who took the call and to the family involved. He was also thankful for surrounding Counties who called to offer their help if needed, such as McLean County, Logan County and Piatt County. Walker did mention that he will be back hopefully next month to discuss with the Board purchasing a drone for the department.

Ferguson gave the Board a brief description of what was discussed at the current month's Property meeting. He said they had discussed removing old landscaping around the building and that the new roof should start next Tuesday, Sept 26, 2023, on the Sheriff's side. Minutes from the Property meeting are filed with these minutes.

Motion by Ferguson second by Prestegaard to approve the estimate from Wall to Wall Flooring in the amount of \$9,775.00 to replace the flooring in both of the back restrooms and hallway. Aye: Werts, Witte, Carter, Deerwester, Ferguson, Matthews, Myers, Prestegaard, Riddle, Ryan, Tilley. Motion Carried.

Motion by Ferguson second by Myers to approve the estimate for insulation at the ambulance building from Sealtite Insulation in the amount of \$13,383.34. Aye: Werts, Witte, Carter, Deerwester, Ferguson, Matthews, Myers, Prestegaard, Riddle, Ryan, Tilley. Motion Carried.

Prestegaard gave the Board a brief description of what was discussed at the current month's Road and Bridge meeting. He updated the Revere Road project and said shoulder work and grass seeding is all that's left to be done on the first section of the project. Minutes from the Road and Bridge meeting are filed with these minutes.

Motion by Prestegaard second by Werts to approve BLR 09110 Resolution for Improvements, Section 20-00044-05-RS (Revere Rd). Prestegaard stated these are bond funds received from Rebuild Illinois. The County must state what the bonds are being used for and these bonds will be used for the second section of the Revere Rd project that will take place next year. Aye: Werts, Witte, Carter, Deerwester, Ferguson, Matthews, Myers, Prestegaard, Riddle, Ryan, Tilley. Motion Carried.

Motion by Prestegaard second by Tilley to approve the quote from Varsity Striping & Construction Co. in the amount of \$44,613.79 for paint pavement marking. Aye: Werts, Witte, Carter, Deerwester, Ferguson, Matthews, Myers, Prestegaard, Riddle, Ryan, Tilley. Motion Carried.

Motion by Prestegaard second by Ferguson to approve the rental of a boom mower from Rahn Equipment in the amount of \$8,900.00 to cover one month of rental. Prestegaard said this will be used in bushy areas around the County, around guardrails and right-aways. Townships will be able to use the mower as well and will reimburse the County their portion for time used. Aye: Werts, Witte, Carter, Deerwester, Ferguson, Matthews, Myers, Prestegaard, Riddle, Ryan, Tilley. Motion Carried.

Matthews gave the Board a brief description of what was discussed at the current month's Marina meeting. He said they are doing end of the season maintenance. Minutes from the Marina meeting are filed with these minutes.

Tilley gave the Board a brief description of what was discussed at the current month's Finance meeting. She said they have been going over budgets and have a meeting on Oct 11 with the County Auditor and will have the budget to the Board at the Oct 19 Co Board Meeting. Minutes from the Finance meeting are filed with these minutes.

Motion by Tilley second by Ferguson to pay all bills. Aye: Tilley, Werts, Witte, Carter, Deerwester, Farris, Ferguson, Matthews, Myers, Prestegaard, Riddle, Ryan. Motion Carried.

Motion by Tilley second by Ferguson to adopt a revised 2024 holiday schedule. This now includes Nov 5, 2024, (General Election Day) that the State added as a holiday after the Board approved the first holiday schedule. Aye: Werts, Witte, Carter, Deerwester, Ferguson, Matthews, Myers, Prestegaard, Riddle, Ryan, Tilley. Motion Carried.

Motion by Tilley second by Werts to set the compensation for the part-time Animal Control Administrator at \$22,000. Aye: Werts, Witte, Carter, Deerwester, Ferguson, Matthews, Myers, Prestegaard, Riddle, Ryan, Tilley. Motion Carried.

Motion by Matthews second by Tilley to approve the Letter of Understanding between the Illinois F.O.P. and the County of DeWitt/DeWitt County Sheriff's Office regarding wage amendments to the Labor Agreement. Aye: Werts, Witte, Carter, Deerwester, Ferguson, Matthews, Myers, Prestegaard, Riddle, Ryan, Tilley. Motion Carried.

Motion by Matthews second by Prestegaard to approve Resolution to authorize to execute a deed of conveyance of the County's interest on parcel number 04-35-000-014, located in Rutledge Township with tax certificate number 201900008 sold in October 2020 for the sum of \$471.01. Aye: Werts, Witte, Carter, Deerwester, Ferguson, Matthews, Myers, Prestegaard, Riddle, Ryan, Tilley. Motion Carried.

Motion by Matthews second by Ferguson to approve Resolution to authorize to execute a deed of conveyance of the County's interest on parcel number 11-15-319-002, located in Tunbridge Township with tax certificate number 201900073 sold in October 2020 for the sum of \$627.00. Aye: Werts, Witte, Carter, Deerwester, Ferguson, Matthews, Myers, Prestegaard, Riddle, Ryan, Tilley. Motion Carried.

Witte wanted to discuss the next steps for zoning of CO₂ injection wells. He believes additional discussion is needed and wants to make sure the aquifer is protected. He wanted to know if any other Board members had any other concerns and recommended looking at available resources to help answer questions anyone on the Board may have. He wanted to know the Board's opinion on doing additional research. He also wanted to make clear that his vote was not necessarily meant to be permanent, he just wants to do more research. The Board had a brief discussion about other concerns and several feel more education about the wells would be beneficial.

Motion by Witte second by Ryan to notify Enel/Alta Farms per DeWitt County Ordinance §153.26(C) for non-compliances of S-250-2019. Witte would like to send them a letter outlining issues of non-compliance and give them 90 days to address the issues and/or come to the County with plans to correct the issues. Witte named the issues he feels needs addressed:

1. ADLS System
2. Post Construction Noise Study
3. Curtailment
 - a. Auto Curtailment for Logan County.
 - b. Is Curtailment automatic.
 - c. Curtailment shall continue for the duration of the warning.

Myers agreed a letter should be sent. Witte will draft the letter and share it with the Board before sending. Aye: Werts, Witte, Carter, Deerwester, Ferguson, Matthews, Myers, Prestegaard, Riddle, Ryan, Tilley. Motion Carried.

Deerwester asked about the guillotines and fencing updates at the Animal Shelter.

Ryan updated the Board on the new website design. He said within the next few weeks they will start the QA testing to check to see if things are working properly. He said things are moving along quickly.

Motion by Tilley second by Ferguson to adjourn at 6:56pm with all in favor.