

Stark County Board Meeting Minutes  
January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024

The Stark County Board met in the Courthouse for the January 10<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting at 6:30 pm. Chair Bush called the meeting to order. Roll call shows Howes, Schaffer, Loane, Wilson, Orwig, Nowlan, and Bush present. Absent was McMillen. A quorum was established, and Chair Bush led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Nowlan made a motion to approve the agenda with a second from Howes with all present voting aye, motion carried.

No Public Comment.

A motion was made by Orwig to approve the minutes from the December 12<sup>th</sup> board meeting with a second by Loane with all six ayes and 1 abstains, motion carried.

**Committee Reports**

Police-Mr. Loane informed the board that he received an email from the Sheriff that he would not be attending tonight's meeting. Several board members noted the hazardous conditions of the sidewalks and parking lot regarding snow and ice removal and asked Mr. Loane to convey this to the Sheriff.

Legislative-Mr. Howes has contacted UCCI and ICRMT for guidance on the board's responsibilities regarding the Sheriff's Office. They may be able to aid with a proposed audit of the office.

Economic Development-Mr. Orwig reported there is an upcoming SCCI meeting he plans to attend.

Health Board-Ms. Bush reported that The Stark County Health Department satellite office in Toulon has officially opened. There is no opening date for the pharmacy or a ribbon-cutting ceremony.

Road & Bridge-None.

Finance-The monthly bills were presented for approval. After discussion, a motion was made by Loane with a second from Orwig to approve the payment of the bills with all present voting aye, motion carried.

**Highway Report**

The County Engineer did not have a written report for the board due to computer issues. He did mention work that he has been working on bridge inspections and the employees have been busy with plowing the roads due to a recent snowstorm. He addressed the board on his request for changes to the employee handbook regarding highway employee overtime.

**Finance Report**

County Treasurer Paula Leezer went over the financial report with the board. There were 3 pay periods last month causing all offices to be over budget but the year to date is fine. There is a

negative balance in the miscellaneous income for the Sheriff. This was due to a deposit into the general fund that should have been deposited into the Sheriff's account.

**Sheriff's Report**

None

**New Business**

- I. The annual noxious weed control plan required by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources was presented for approval.  
Motion made by Nowlan to approve the plan and seconded by Wilson with all present voting aye, motion carried.
  
- II. A special use permit for a cell phone tower from The Towers LLC was presented for approval.  
Motion made by Wilson to approve the resolution and seconded by Loane with all present voting aye, motion carried.
  
- III. A resignation letter from State's Attorney Caroline Borden Campion was read to the board. She is resigning to accept a judicial appointment to the 10<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit.  
Motion made by Orwig to accept the resignation and to officially declare a vacancy in the office of Stark County State's Attorney and seconded by Howes with all present voting aye, motion carried. The board will begin the process of appointing an interim State's Attorney to complete the term of State's Attorney Campion which will expire on November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

**Old Business**

- IV. Handbook Amendment.  
The County Engineer would like to amend the employee handbook section regarding overtime pay. After discussion with the State's Attorney giving their approval of the changes, a motion was made by Howes to approve the handbook revision and seconded by Nowlan with all present, voting aye.

At 7:08 pm Howes made a motion to adjourn the meeting with a second from Loane with all present voting aye, meeting **adjourned**.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather L. Hollis  
County Clerk