

Stark County Board Meeting Minutes
July 9th, 2024

The Stark County Board met in the Courthouse for the July 9th Board Meeting at 6:30 pm. Chair Bush called the meeting to order. Roll call shows Schaffer, Loane, Wilson, Orwig, Nowlan, and Bush present. Absent were Howes and McMillen. A quorum was established, and Ms. Bush led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

No public comment.

A motion was made by Loane to approve the minutes of the June 11th board meeting with a second by Orwig with all present voting aye, motion carried.

A motion was made by Nowlan to approve the minutes of the June 26th special meeting with a second by Orwig with all present voting aye, motion carried.

Committee Reports

Police-Mr. Schaffer reported that the new E911 Communications Center will hopefully be done soon. He also spoke with the Sheriff concerning the overtime issue with the secretary. He indicated this was because she had to fill in as a dispatcher for employees on vacation or ill.

Legislative-None

Economic Development-Mr. Orwig reported on the upcoming opening of Butchie's Gym in Toulon. The owner is offering a flat rate fee to the county for Sheriff's Office employees.

Health Board-Ms. Bush read an email update from the health department. They are waiting for the release of the state budget to see what is being allocated to health departments. They are working to prepare the FY 25 budget to be presented in August. They are watching an H5N1 avian outbreak in dairy herds.

Road & Bridge-None

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

Finance Report

County Treasurer Paula Leezer reported that the first tax distribution of 8.6 million to taxing bodies was done on July 3rd. Sheriff Department salaries were over budget which was mostly attributed to a former employee receiving their remaining vacation time in one bulk payment.

Sheriff's Report

There was no report, but board member Wilson brought up several properties in Castleton that were derelict and needed to be addressed.

Highway Report

The County Engineer gave the monthly report. He reported that he was able to finally secure a meeting with IDOT to resolve several issues. There will be several resolutions up for approval later in the meeting that stemmed from this meeting. All 77 bridge inspections have been done with assistance from Giffin Engineering to be able to meet the deadline.

New Business

There were several highway department resolutions to be approved:

- 1) Resolution #24-20 MFT Maintenance-Motion by Orwig and seconded by Nowlan with all present voting aye, motion carried.
- 2) Resolution #24-21 appropriating funds for the County Engineer's Salary-Motion by Orwig and seconded by Loane with all present voting aye, motion carried.
- 3) Resolution #24-22 Seal coat Castleton Road-Motion by Orwig and seconded by Nowlan with all present voting aye, motion carried.
- 4) Resolution #24-23 Colgan Bridge Replacement-Motion by Orwig and seconded by Loane with all present voting aye, motion carried.
- 5) Resolution #24-24 Amendment to Colgan Bridge Resolution-Motion by Orwig and seconded by Wilson with all present voting aye, motion carried.

Old Business

The discussion regarding the purchase of real property for county highway facilities was the only item to be discussed during old business. At 7:03 pm Nowlan made a motion to close the open session and go into a closed session to discuss this agenda item. Orwig seconded the motion with a voice roll call indicating that all were in favor of this motion.

At 7:30 pm the meeting was reopened. No action was taken at this time on the purchase of the proposed land acquisition. Chair Bush announced that the board would no longer be pursuing the purchase of farmland at the end of Union Street in Toulon for County Highway Facilities.

Before adjournment, Chair Bush informed the board that there would be a finance committee meeting before the next regular meeting at 6 pm for budget presentations.

At 7:32 pm Nowlan made a motion to adjourn the meeting with a second from Orwig with all present voting aye, meeting **adjourned**.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather L. Hollis
County Clerk