

Stark County Board Meeting Minutes
October 8th, 2024

The Stark County Board met in the Courthouse for the October 8th Board Meeting at 6:30 pm. Chair Bush called the meeting to order. Roll call shows Howes, Loane, Orwig, Nowlan, and McMillen physically present and Bush present remotely. Absent were Schaffer and Wilson. Motion made by McMillen with a second from Howes to allow Chair Bush to participate remotely with all present voting aye, motion carried. A quorum was established, and Mr. Howes led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

No Public Comment

Motion was made by Orwig with a second from McMillen to approve the minutes of the September 10th board meeting with all present voting aye, motion carried.

Committee Reports

Police-None

Legislative-Mr. Howes attended a meeting and reported that the Farm Bureau has significant funds for grant money at the state level and that the county should look into some of the grants.

Economic Development-None.

Health Board-The Health Department will be hosting several clinics throughout the area that will be offering Flu and COVID booster shots.

Road & Bridge- None

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

Finance Report

County Treasurer Paula Leezer gave the finance report. Sheriff's Department salaries were again over budget but were offset by ARPA salaries. The Public Defender's Office was once again the recipient of a grant from the state.

Sheriff's Report

The Sheriff reported that he is having no luck getting a response from the union lawyer to begin contract negotiations. This contract is holding up the completion of the fiscal year 24/25 budget that will need to be tentatively adopted at the November board meeting.

Highway Report

The County Engineer gave the monthly report. IDOT has completed the audit of bridge inspection records and found no issues. Township seal coat work is complete, and the county will be letting out their seal coat bids for work to be completed next year. Despite ongoing issues with Cloudpoint, their contract has been renewed with the hopes they can resolve these issues. Heaters will be installed at the highway building for the coming winter months. Bridge inspections will start this month. Bids for a survey of county highway property will be accepted to solve a dispute with a neighboring landowner who claims the county has a building on his property.

New Business

- 1) A resolution to appoint Janelle Down to fill a vacancy on the health board was presented for approval. Motion made by Orwig to approve the resolution with a second from Loane with all present voting aye, motion carried.
- 2) A resolution to appoint Jay Iliff to fill a vacancy on the board of review was presented for approval. Motion made by Orwig to approve the resolution with a second from Howes with all present voting aye, motion carried.
- 3) Last month Sam Rice addressed the board regarding the repairs needed on the artillery rifle owned by the County. Mr. Howes reached out to Bob Rouse, the owner of Green Gables, to see if he could be of assistance. Mr. Howes reported he would be willing to do the repairs and Mr. Howes will be contacting Mr. Rice to coordinate this effort.

Old Business

- 1) A rezoning permit for TLS Properties was presented for approval. Motion made by Orwig to approve the permit with a second from Howes with all present voting aye, motion carried.

At 6:55 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