

Minutes of the
Makanda Township Board Meeting
Tuesday, July 9, 2024

1. Supervisor Lipe called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. Present were Supervisor Lipe; Trustees Holub, Kolar, Stanley, and York; and Clerk Einig.
3. Clerk comments. Regina reported that she is continuing to work on a tree dedicated to the memory of Dennis Leitner. People who have pledged money but have not yet made their donation can do so tonight. She also asked for a show of hands as to how many people would like our very earliest records returned to us after IRAD digitizes them. A sufficient number of people indicated they would like that to happen. I will communicate that to IRAD.
4. Trustee comments. None.
5. The agenda was approved.
6. Public comments on Agenda items. None.
7. The minutes for the June 11, 2024 Board meeting were approved.
8. Fund Balances and Revenue. **See attachments.**
9. Approval of bills by fund:
Township Bills, Fire Department Bills, Fire Protection Capital Fund Bills, Road and Bridge Bills, New Bridge Bills, General Assistance Bills, Connect Humanity Bills. Clay requested that the AEC bill be voted on separately. Clay moved and Debbie seconded a motion to pay all the bills except the AEC bill. **The motion passed unanimously.** Sara moved to pay the AEC bill. **The motion died for lack of a second.** Sara read a statement defending the payment of the bill and Chief Lipe added his comments. Mike clarified that the problem was not that the trustees didn't want to pay for the extrication equipment, but rather that the process of submitting the bill violated protocol. No bids were solicited, as would have been required for a purchase of \$30,000 or more. Clay clarified that the extraction tool was ordered and delivered before the budget was approved, which is also against protocol. The AEC invoice was for \$29,941.
10. Reports:
 - A. Fire Department Report (Josh Lipe); 1 fire call, 4 medicals, 3 call for service for a total of eight calls. We have 19 firefighters currently.
 - B. Road Commissioner's Report (Ed Hoke); **See attachments.** Ed added that he will be writing the owner of the Stone Creek property to inform him officially that the purchase of the property has been approved and we will be exercising our option to buy in October. This will allow us to have all the paperwork in place by the actual date of the purchase. Laura Lipe asked if he had notified the board about his purchase of a tractor today. Ed said that he had not. The tractor was in his budget. He also clarified that the board does not have oversight of his budget. They approve his bills but that's all.
 - C. CWPP Report (Sara Lipe); None.

D. Supervisor's Report (Sara Lipe); One general assistance inquiry and one emergency assistance applicant.

E. Assessor's Report (John Dickson); . Tax bills have gone out. The Board of Review hasn't scheduled their meetings yet and that will be the next step in the tax process. The total tax levy is over 9% this year.

F. General Assistance Committee Report (Debbie Stanley) None.

G. Broadband committee report (Michael Holub) Robert Henderson reported on progress in the township. **See attachments.**

H. Building, Usage & Planning Committee report (Jim Renshaw).

I. Grant Committee Clay reported that we did receive the State Fire Marshall's grant Also, the preliminary review for the FEMA grant has taken place. We should know sometime in August if we will get that grant. Debbie asked how much it was for. Clay said a little over half a million dollars.

11. Old Business:

A. Update on transfer of official Township files to Station 1 for review by and transfer to IRAD. Several suggestions or requests were made to clarify where some records belonged. Further study will be pursued.

12. New Business:

A. Does the Board wish to renew the Medical Assistance Catastrophic insurance? Michael moved and Debbie seconded a motion to not renew the Medical Assistance Catastrophic Insurance. **The motion passed unanimously.**

B. August regular monthly Board meeting moved to Thursday, August 8 due to venue scheduling conflict on Tuesday, August 13.

13. Public comments. A lengthy discussion regarding the non-payment of the bill for the extrication equipment was held. During this discussion Dan Chester resigned as parliamentarian. Also, Sara made two motions: 1. To pay the AEC bill, and 2. To approve buying the demo set for \$29,941 if Josh can get it back. Both motions failed for lack of a second.

14. Adjournment. Meeting was adjourned at 8:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Regina Einig, Clerk

Makanda Township Fund Balances as of 7/9/24

		Receipts since 6/11/24	Remaining Budget
Brian R Pierce Jr 517 Memorial Fu	2,749.42	4.21	4,725.00
Building Capital Fund	141,975.68		145,000.00
Connect Humanity Grant Fund	19,009.37	12.93	19,166.56
Fire Protection	110,900.36	26,336.35	182,398.84
Fire Protection Capital Fund	125,826.84	1.15	33,600.00
Foreign Fire Insurance Fund	579.66	0.03	1,155.00
General Assistance	14,526.63	22.25	14,595.00
New Bridge	114,854.68	297.03	79,000.00
Road & Bridge	177,361.50	973.58	136,626.75
Town	172,680.64	829.16	180,441.12
	<u>880,464.78</u>	<u>28,476.69</u>	<u>796,708.27</u>

Town

Payroll		588.68
Verizon	Assessor monthly service	25.02
Banterra	Arthur Agency-monthly website fee	99.99
Edward Jones	Devin's retirement contribution	300.00
Postmaster General	stamps	68.00
IL Dept of Employment Security	unemployment tax	95.67

R&B

Payroll		
IL Dept of Employment Security	unemployment tax	17.76

Assessor Expenses 2024

Verizon	Assessor monthly service	1,407.97
John Dickson	training, mileage, meal, mileage re	150.12
		1,257.85

Makanda Township Fire/Rescue
June 2024 Call Volume

Fire Calls	1
Medical	4
Calls for Service/Alarm	3
Traffic Crash	0
Total	8

8 calls EOM

Makanda Township Highway Commissioner Report

July 9, 2024 Meeting

Short explanation of some of the bills are that I had bought a used diesel fuel tank that sprung a leak and ended up buying a new one. Office now has a combo air conditioner/heater. I went to SIU Surplus Property and purchased metal storage cabinets & other storage units and office supplies that would have cost over \$1K but I got for \$100.

I purchased a 2019 Kyoti 5510 utility tractor just today. I paid \$21,000 equipped with dual rear remote hydraulics which is what we need. It has a loader on it which will save us \$1500/year on the lease tractor. This tractor only has less than 300 hours so it is practically new. A new version of this tractor is over \$35K. This tractor is for the small jobs that the lease tractor is just too big to handle. Until now I have donated the use of my own personal tractor at no cost to the township. I am beginning to use it enough that I am not willing to donate my tractor anymore. I use this tractor to spray, to remove trees and brush from roads, to do light grading, etc. The other reason this tractor is necessary is that I can load it on a trailer and haul it to the site of need with my pickup truck or the township truck. The trailer necessary to do that with the big tractor would be cost prohibitive. This also makes response time to a down tree much faster and easier. Many times when storms are predicted with damaging winds, I will go ahead and load the tractor ahead of time and have it at my house so I can just get in and go to the downed tree. This tractor should last the township for 20 years.

Just so you will know, we are, this year, reaping the benefits of a leased tractor for mowing. The tractor we were using lost 2nd gear. Sydenstricker/Nobbe brought us a replacement tractor while ours was being repaired. That was over a month ago. If we owned that tractor we would be renting another one to get our mowing done or not mow.

Also FYI, for next year I am leasing a 5 M series tractor instead of the 6 E series. Now that we have a 540 rpm PTO mower the series 5 will work (the 6 series tractor is the only one with a 1000 rpm PTO). The difference is the M designation versus the E. E stands for economy which is a cheaper tractor & lesser quality. The M series is a much more substantial tractor that should not have these problems. The lease amount will be the same.

I have done extensive cleaning up of the building and shop. We are throwing away stuff we will never use and it has no value.

I have also purchased for my own use a vertical sickle mower to clip branches from along my personal lane. I have experimented with this mower on township roads. I'm not totally sold on it, but it does work. I'm not buying one yet for the township until I know it will work out.

Raccoon Valley Road has been dropped from this years Oil & Chip list. The Jackson County Highway Department does not have time to install the two culverts that desperately need replaced this year. It will be at the top of the list for next year.

**Makanda Township Highway
Road and Bridge Bill & New Bridge Bill Summary
8/08/2024**

Company	Amount	Reason	Budget Item
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Auto Deduct from R&B Account:

Road & Bridge Bills:

Jim Crane 66.25 hrs @\$22/hr	\$ 1,457.50	Labor	Labor
David Totzell 23 @\$20/hr	\$ 460.00	Labor	Labor
City of Carbondale	\$ 504.94	Fuel	Fuel
Frontier	\$ 159.81	Fiber Optic/July-Aug	Utilities

Credit Card Bills:

Murdale Ace Hardware	\$ 14.02	Duplicate Keys	Repairs & Maintenance
Plaza Tire	\$ 27.00	Tire repair	Repairs & Maintenance
NAPA	\$ 752.51	Hydraulic hoses for new Bucket	Equipment & Tool Purchase
Little Tractor Equipment	\$ 1,339.00	Grapple bucket for new tractor	Equipment & Tool Purchase

Total Credit Card: \$2,132.53

New Bridge Bills:

Midwest Materials	\$ 1,870.74	Patch material	Road Maintenance & Repair
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Jackson County officials, WK&T partner to bring high-speed fiber internet to the county

- By THE SOUTHERN STAFF
- Jun 24, 2024 Updated Jun 24, 2024

MAYFIELD, Kentucky — WK&T will expand fiber broadband into unserved portions of Jackson County IL thanks to a Connect Illinois State Grant and a strategic partnership with Jackson County officials.

The Connect Illinois award will cover \$4.4 million of the costs for the fiber build project, with WK&T and Jackson County partnering to fund the remaining \$5.1 million. The Connect Illinois broadband investment is a crucial and strategic part of the extensive 2019 Rebuild Illinois infrastructure initiative and the state's five-year economic strategy.

With an allocation of \$400 million for competitive broadband grants, Connect Illinois stands as the most extensive state broadband matching grant program to date, offering the substantial funding required to achieve statewide broadband access and ensure enduring equity in broadband services.

Jackson County, through the Accelerate Illinois grant process, has built strong relationships with residents, economic development groups, schools and healthcare providers with the mission to build resilient, scalable, wireline broadband service. In August 2023, the Jackson County Broadband Committee selected WK&T as their broadband partner by competitive process.

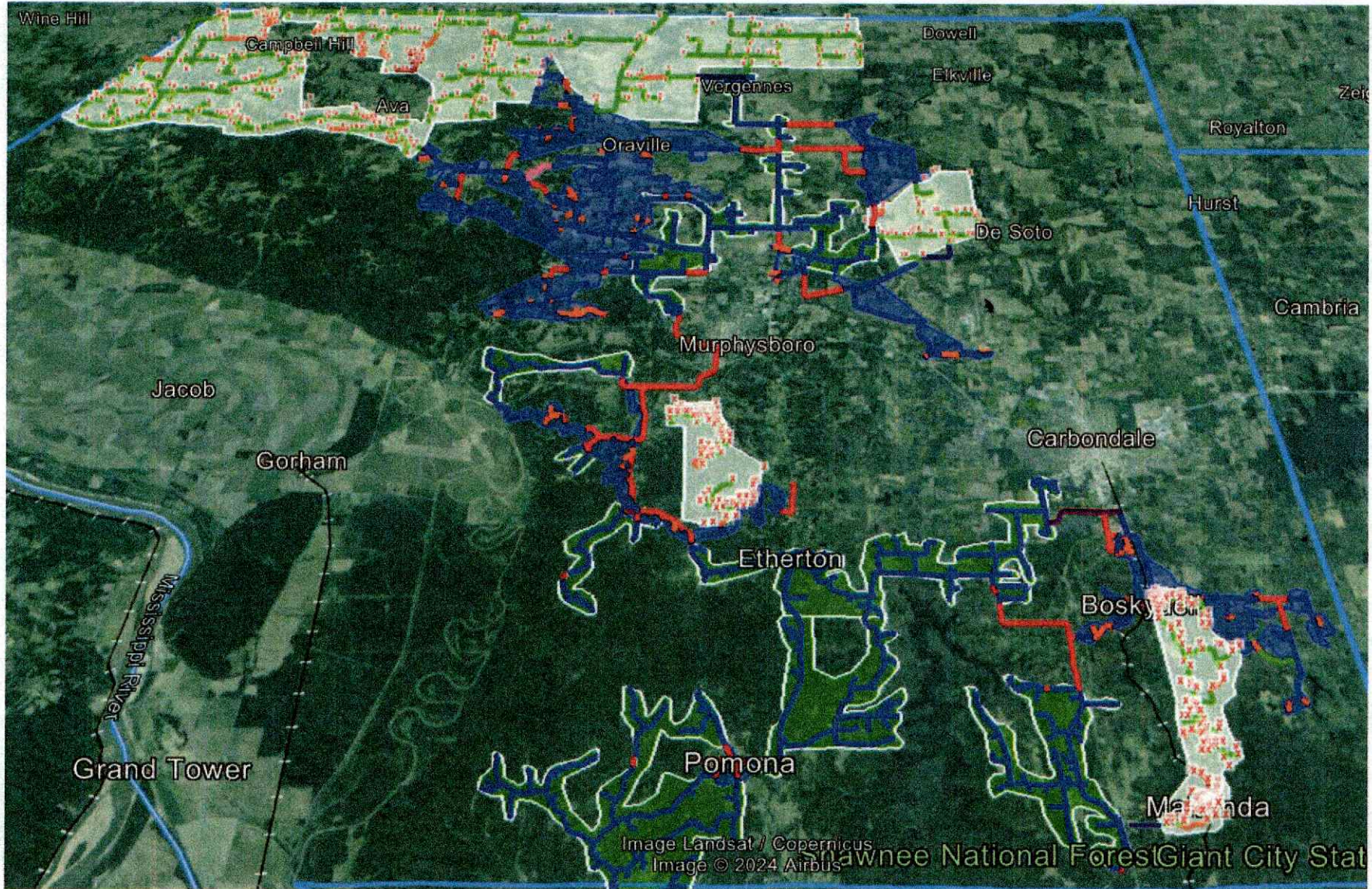
In this first project, plans call for the construction of 150 miles of buried fiber optic cable, passing 1,242 locations. The Fiber-to-the-premises (FTTP) build will provide scalable symmetrical service up to 2 Gbps to 853 residents, 181 farms, 205 businesses, and 3 school locations located within rural areas of southeast central Jackson County, Illinois.

“This grant award means that residents of Jackson County are one step closer to having access to the fastest, most reliable internet technology available,” WK&T CEO Trevor Bonnstetter said. “Access to reliable high-speed internet brings limitless opportunity and improves our members’ daily lives.”

C.J. Calandro, County Board Chair, highlighted the significance of this project for Jackson County.

“The County Board has been working hard to bring high speed internet to all Jackson County residents, especially to those who are unserved or underserved. Thanks to our partnership with WK&T and this grant through the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, we can begin to address the digital disparities in Jackson County,” he said.

All Together



Your Trusted Connection