

Minutes of the
Makanda Township Board Meeting
Tuesday, January 14, 2025

1. Supervisor Lipe called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.
2. Present were Supervisor Lipe; Trustees Holub, Kolar, Stanley, and York. Clerk Einig arrived minutes later
3. Clerk comments. None
4. Trustee comments. None.
5. The agenda was approved.
6. Public comments on Agenda items.
7. Minutes of the December 10, 2024 meeting were approved.
8. Fund Balances and Revenue.
9. Approval of bills by fund: Clay moved and Mike seconded a motion to pay all the bills. **Motion passed unanimously.**
10. Reports:
 - A. Fire Department Report : ~~Josh presented Sara with a check for \$4,345.32, representing a donation from Josh's employer,~~
 - B. Road Commissioner's Report (Ed Hoke); Ed was not present. Jim Crane distributed his report. **See Attachments.**
 - C. CWPP Report: None.
 - D. Supervisor's Report: W-2's are done. Workers' comp audit compensation documents have been submitted. SAM has been renewed. No GA or EA applications have been received. TOI is offering seven \$2,000 scholarships to high school seniors attending college in Illinois. Application deadline is March 1st. Details on TOI website.
 - E. Assessor's Report: **See Attachments.**
 - F. General Assistance Committee Report; None.
 - G. Broadband Committee report: None.
 - H. Building, Usage & Planning Committee report: None.
 - I. Grant Committee Report: The deadline for the fire station rehabilitation grant is February 28th, so the grant committee needs to get together with Devin and Josh to see what we are going to do. Sara said that Devin and Josh had already done some work on this. Josh said that they had ideas on how to use the grant.
 - J. Financial Planning Advisory Committee Report: The committee will meet next Tuesday, at 4 p.m. at fire station two. They will probably look at possible budget6 models.
11. Old Business:
 - A. Update on transfer of official Township files to Station 1 for review by and transfer to IRAD. Regina reported that she had spoken with Barbara Heflich from IRAD. She said that all of our old records had been prepped and are ready for microfilming. She said that we are next on the list to get microfilmed. She also said that she couldn't say how long the microfilming would take, but that the materials would come back to us when they were finished. When she brings the old records back to us she will take the remainder of the materials that we want to give to IRAD to Springfield for processing.

B. Options for spending Connect Humanity grant by the deadline of June, 2025. Sara reported for Mike that he had decided to do as we discussed at last month's meeting. She also stated that we were limited by the budget. Accordingly, Sara moved that we give Unity Point School \$12,777.71 and Giant City School \$6,388.85. That will use up all the money in that fund for this fiscal year. Clay seconded the motion. **Motion passed unanimously.**

12. New Business:

13. Public comments. Jim Renshaw asked how the schools have said they will use the money. Sara said that Unity Point said they would "assist in the purchase of twenty Latitude 33 40 13" laptops. This upgrade will improve teachers' access to high-speed internet, enabling them to conduct research, complete assignments, and use e-learning platforms." Giant City said "they would buy nine durable mobile tables that can be easily arranged for individual groups or class wide activities and buy ergonomic chairs to ensure comfort and focus during extended periods of learning and collaboration." Jill Adams asked if Mike had consulted Connect Humanity about the use of funds. Sara said she didn't know but Regina remembered that Mike had specifically mentioned his consulting Connect Humanity.

14. Clay moved to adjourn and Debbie seconded it. **Motion passed unanimously.** We adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Regina Einig, Clerk

DRAFT

Makanda Township Fund Balances as of 1/14/25		Receipts since 12/10/24	Remaining Budget
Brian R Pierce Jr 517 Memorial Fu	2,949.99	4.54	4,725.00
Building Capital Fund	2,014.00	6.85	886.90
Connect Humanity Grant Fund	19,395.71	29.87	19,166.56
Fire Protection	151,612.35	583.09	106,806.90
Fire Protection Capital Fund	122,684.29	1.09	28,353.42
Foreign Fire Insurance Fund	1,458.81	0.06	1,155.00
General Assistance	14,215.31	21.89	14,145.00
New Bridge	143,299.62	363.01	53,574.09
Road & Bridge	204,055.48	3,191.00	67,794.58
Town	<u>263,945.36</u>	<u>917.11</u>	<u>133,840.58</u>
	<u>925,630.92</u>	<u>5,118.51</u>	<u>430,448.03</u>

Town		486.81
Payroll		
Verizon	Assessor monthly service	25.02
Banterra	Arthur Agency-monthly website fee	99.99
Edward Jones	Devin's retirement contribution	300.00
IL Dept of Employment Security	unemployment tax	61.80

R&B
Payroll

Assessor Expenses 2024		1,648.87
Verizon	Assessor monthly service	300.24
John Dickson	training, mileage, meal, mileage re	1,348.63

Vendor	Description	Cost
Mediacom	Station 1	318.75
Mediacom	Station 2	89.99
South Highway Water	Station 1	22.25
South Highway Water	Station 2	22.25
Ameren	Station 1 Electric/Gas	366.06
Ameren	Station 2 Gas	386.2
Frontier	Station 2 Phone	56.11
Egyptian Electric	Station 2 Electric	153.13
Orkin	Station 1	88
Orkin	Station 2	106
Bound Tree	AED Pads	380.44
Bound Tree	Medical Supplies	212.88
Sensit	Gas Meter Maintenance	608.6
Walmart	Station Supplies	132.97
Rural King	Station Supplies	121.84
Lowes	Ice Melt	79.68
Napa	Battery 581 Pump	68.38
Credit Card		
Banterra	AED Battery	484
	Total	3697.53

Makanda Township
Highway Commissioners Monthly Report
1/14/2025

We completed the curtain install at the building. We used an old tent that was in the building when we bought it. The curtain is to contain heat in the smaller end of the building so we can keep the truck warm in snow plow mode and also to give us a warmer place to work on things without heating the entire building. We can pull it up out of the way when it is not needed.

Most of what I have to report concerns the ice/snow storm we just experienced. It will be impossible to give all the details, except to report we had problems. Sunday night a hydraulic line on the transmission of the truck was torn in two. Most likely a limb caused the damage. We got the truck back on Thursday. On Tuesday the Jackson County Highway Department was able to start plowing/salting and finished up Wednesday morning. It was fortunate for the township they were available to assist. The other breakdowns included breaking two hydraulic lines on the chip/salt spreader and then the last break down is still in the process of being accessed and fixed. I think the water pump went out on the truck.

Meantime we spent a lot of time cutting limbs & trees to keep the roads open. This was not small task. Myself, Jim Crane and David Totzell, who are the part time employees of the township worked long hours to get this done. A big thank you goes out to Dan Chester who had earlier in the week contacted me to let me know that if I needed help to call on him. Dan put in a lot of time assisting the township workers and time on his own, clearing debris from the road ways. He also spent a lot of time helping neighbors. But I also want to thank countless residents of Makanda Township & others who anonymously cut numerous trees throughout the township. The volunteer fire people put in many hard hours in this effort. All of these people put themselves on the line. This is dangerous work. We were all in danger of being hit by falling trees and limbs in the effort to clear the roads. Thank you, thank you, thank you to everyone. It would have been a daunting task without the team effort. I really appreciate the patience and kindnesses of all of the residents of Makanda Township.

I wish to take this time to give a big shout out of gratitude to Today's Technology, a vehicle repair business on Walnut Street behind the Carbondale Mall. They treated the truck with a #1 priority of getting it fixed as fast as possible so we could continue to use it. Even with whatever is wrong with it now, they are looking at it will get it repaired as fast as possible. This commitment to assisting the township with it's needs is just another example of people working together for the betterment and safety of all. Thank you guys!!

Let's hope this is the worst 2025 has to throw at us.

Makanda Township Highway
Road and Bridge Bill & New Bridge Bill Summary
1/14/2025

Company	Amount	Reason	Budget Item
Road & Bridge Bills:			
Auto pay:			
Buncombe Water Dist.	\$ 39.40	Water bill/Sept	Utilities
Frontier	\$ 90.98	Fiber Optic/Nov	Utilities
Egyptian Electric	\$ 70.30	Electric Bill/Oct	Utilities
Checks:			
David Totzell 9hrs@\$22/hr	\$ 198.00	Labor	Labor
Credit Card Bills:			
Harbor Freight	\$ 49.99	Battery Charger	Equip. & Tool Purchase
Rural King	\$ 199.99	Shop Heater	Building Repairs & Maint.
WalMart	\$ 19.97	Labeler tape	Office Supplies
Lowe's	\$ 25.00	Board	Repairs & Maint
Murdale Ace	\$ 25.19	Box fan	Building Repairs & Maint.
Murdale Ace	\$ 20.32	Brass fittings	Building Repairs & Maint.
Murdale Ace	\$ 4.49	Gate hook	Building Repairs & Maint.
Lowe's	\$ 45.52	Gas fittings & hose	Building Repairs & Maint.
Egyptian Electric	\$ 64.10	Utilities	Utilities*
Dollar General	\$ 24.67	Propane cylinder	Utilities
Murdale Ace	\$ 60.00	Rental of portable heaters	Equipment & Tool Rental
Murdale Ace	\$ 25.19	This is a duplicate charge.	I'll take care of this later
Lowe's	\$ 9.96	Fittings	Building Repairs & Maint.
Mid America Appliances	\$ 26.30	LP gas regulator	Building Repairs & Maint.
E-Z Rental	\$ 30.00	Heater Rental	Equipment & Tool Rental
Credit Card Total: \$630.69			

*This invoice was in last months bills.

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.

