

COUNTY OF MENARD)
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STATE OF ILLINOIS)

The Menard County Public Building Study Group (PBSG), an advisory board appointed by the Menard County Board of Commissioners, met on Wednesday, August 5, 2026, at the Menard County Courthouse, 102 South Seventh Street, Petersburg. PBSG Members Dan Ortgessen, Joe Hemberger, and Steve Ozella were in attendance. Menard County Commissioner Rich Brauer, Menard County Sheriff Mark Oller, and Menard County Coordinator Dara Worthington were also in attendance.

PBSG Chair Ozella called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

PBSG Member Ortgessen made a motion to approve minutes from July 1, 2026. Commissioner Brauer seconded the motion. Motion carried.

There were no citizens for public comment.

Discussion was held in the following areas:

Courthouse Truss -

Information from the engineer received from architect Joe Petty was reviewed and discussed by members present. It was the consensus of the members present that they would view the truss system again and try and schedule a meeting with the engineer so that possible alternate repairs could be made that would work and be more cost effective. It was noted that a warranty on the work might be impacted if a different method was utilized.

Courthouse –

Sheriff Oller noted that the exterior around each of the courthouse exits had been repaired and painted. He also indicated that squirrels had damaged the new work twice resulting in the need for touchups to the paint.

Annex –

Sheriff Oller reported that shelving would be built in the basement level by the back stairs, basic weeding and landscaping had taken place, and the parking lot had been sealed. There was discussion about the possible need for a fence between the annex parking lot and Dairy Queen parking lot due to high usage per a neighbor. Oller reported that they are still working on plans for an open house to be held during the day.

Sunny Acres Nursing Home –

Coordinator Worthington reported that the majority of the doors and large windows had been replaced throughout the building and that the contractor had been given a reprieve to work on damages done to other customers by a recent storm. The contractor should have started working on finishing up the installation of the remainder of the windows. PBSG Member Ortgessen inquired about work being done on the exterior of the building. Worthington will look into that and get back with the members.

Impound Shed –

Sheriff Oller indicated that there was no progress with proposed impound shed. The neighboring property owner had not responded to his outreach. Oller intends to research possibilities for a new building, including features, usage, pavement, garage door height, storage loft, and cost. It was noted that this will have to go to bid and that he will address this with the county board for the new FY27 budget year.

Having no further discussion, PBSG Member Hemberger made a motion to adjourn the meeting, and PBSG Member Ortgessen seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 9:51 AM.

Respectfully submitted,
Dara Worthington