



Effingham County Board
101 N. 4th Street, Suite 301, Effingham, IL
217.342.4990

**Administrative Committee
of the Whole of the Effingham County Board
3rd Floor Board Room, Effingham County Building
Monday, April 13, 2026 at 2:00 p.m.**

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE: David Campbell; Chairman, Sandra Rich; Vice Chair, Josh Douthit, Tim Ellis, Chris Keller, Sandi Rich, Norbert Soltwedel, Doug McCain, Mike Buzzard

Committee Members Present: N. Soltwedel, J. Douthit, T. Ellis, D. Campbell, M. Buzzard, D. McCain, S. Rich, J. Deters

This meeting was called to order by Chair David Campbell.

1. Approve Minutes

- Member J. Deters made a motion to approve the Administrative Committee minutes. Member T. Ellis seconded. Unanimous ***Motion carried.***

2. Unfinished Business

- Opioid Funding
Member T. Ellis gave an update on Opioid Funding. He stated there were no new requests for funding and no changes for any incoming settlement funds. The remaining fund balance was \$83,163.69.
- Nuisance Ordinance
It was noted several offices assisted with the amended Nuisance Ordinance. An updated and amended draft was presented to the board members. This draft addressed several concerns by those offices. Those changes were highlighted and reviewed. Some of the changes included the sections of Jurisdiction and Inoperable Vehicles The fine will remain at \$500.00 for each violation. It was noted the Nuisance Ordinance pertains to the small subdivisions not the small farms in the county. There was board discussion on various topics of grass height, derby cars, some grammar cleanup and Section 140.07 extending time from 24 hours to longer. A final draft will be presented at the May Administrative meeting.

3. New Business

- Hotel/Motel Funding
 - Mill Road Thresherman's Association

Taylor Feldkamp, Treasurer of MillRoad Thresherman's Association, was present at the meeting and gave a brief history of the event which will take place on September 10-13, 2026. She requested \$10,000.00 from the hotel/motel funding. The funds will go towards advertising and rental of the fairgrounds. The board requested a more detailed breakdown of how the funds would be utilized. Member J. Douthit made a motion to recommend to the full board a disbursement of hotel/motel funding to Mill Road Thresherman pending a detailed submission on how the funds would be used. Member S. Rich seconded. Unanimous. **Motion carried.**

- More for Montrose

Trisha Funneman and Holly Herboth, with More for Montrose, were present at the meeting requesting funding for the 4B Rodeo. They requested \$1,000.00 for the rodeo event which is the main fundraiser for More for Montrose. The funding will be used for entertainment. Member N. Soltwedel made a motion to recommend to the full board to approve the disbursement of \$1,000 from hotel/motel funding for the More for Montrose rodeo event. Member D. McCain seconded. Member J. Deters abstained. **Motion carried.**

- Request for \$500.00 to Support America's 250th Celebration Hosted by Rotary
Becky Brown stated Sunrise Rotary was planning a celebration for America's 250th Birthday on Friday, July 3, 2026. She requested \$500.00 in hotel/motel funds for the cookout which will take place on the courthouse square. The board requested she fill out the application for hotel/motel funds before the monthly board meeting. Also, there was board discussion if this contribution would be allocated from another line item. This agenda item will be placed on the county board monthly meeting agenda without committee recommendation.
- Approval for Probation to Arm Officers in Accordance with Chief Judge's Recommendation
The Chief Circuit Judge has given order authorizing Probation Officers to carry firearms. The Probation Officers must be qualified and pass statutory requirements in order to carry arms. Member J. Douthit verified this would be covered under the county's liability insurance. Aaron Jones, States Attorney, stated there is a formal policy that has been adopted in regards to the requirements and certifications. Molly Webb, Chief Probation Officer, requested the board approve annually two probation officers to bear arms. This will be approved annually each December. Member J. Douthit made a motion to recommend to the full board approve Probation to arm officers per the Chief Judge's recommendation. Member N. Soltwedel seconded. Unanimous. **Motion carried.**
- Proclamation – National Police Week
This is an annual proclamation. National Police Week will take place May 10-16, 2026. Member J. Douthit made a motion to recommend to the full board to approve the Proclamation for National Police Week. Member S. Rich seconded. Unanimous. **Motion carried.**
- Resolution and Proclamation for Law Day
Law Day will take place on Thursday, May 7, 2026. Member J. Douthit made a motion to recommend to the full board to approve the Resolution and Proclamation for Law Day. Member J. Deters seconded. Unanimous. **Motion carried.**
- 2026 NACo Annual Conference & Exposition

Board Member Norbert Soltwedel requested permission to attend the 2026 NACo Conference in New Orleans, Louisiana. An UCCI member from DeKalb County, Illinois is running for the position of second vice-president on the NACo board. Nobert is attending to show support for this member. He requested to sign up for the early bird registration and reimbursement up to \$5,000.00 for the conference registration and expenses. Member J. Douthit made a motion to recommend to the full board approval for the early bird registration for the 2026 NACo Conference and reimbursement up to \$5,000.00 for conference expenses. Member D. McCain seconded. Unanimous. **Motion carried.**

- Intergovernmental Agreement on north parking lot resurfacing
This agreement is with the City of Effingham for the resurfacing of the parking lot north of the County Building. The county is responsible for their portion of the parking lot since the city owns the west lot. This is a preliminary agreement which will be reviewed by Aaron Jones, States Attorney. The cost will be based on a percentage of the overall parking lot and the parking lot will be done in asphalt. This agenda item will be placed on the county board monthly meeting agenda without committee recommendation.
- Updated Commercial Wind Ordinance
The updated Commercial Wind Ordinance is based on statutory updates. A new ordinance will need to be adopted so the county's ordinance is statutorily compliant. It has been reviewed. Member J. Douthit stated the changes are minor. He then reviewed the process for any applications. Member J. Douthit made a motion to recommend to the full board to approve the updated Commercial Wind Ordinance. Member M. Buzzard seconded. Unanimous. **Motion carried.**
- Updated Commercial Solar Ordinance
The updated Commercial Solar Ordinance is based on statutory updates. A new ordinance will need to be adopted so the county's ordinance is statutorily compliant. It has been reviewed. Member J. Douthit stated the changes are minor. Member J. Deters made a motion to recommend to the full board to approve the updated Commercial Solar Ordinance. Member T. Ellis seconded. Unanimous. **Motion carried.**

4. **Appointments**

- Altamont Fire Protection District – Dan Roedl (05/04/2026 – 05/06/2029)
It was noted to verify the spelling of the last name. Member J. Deters made a motion to recommend to the full board to approve the appointment of Dan Roedl to the Altamont Fire Protection District. Member M. Buzzard seconded. Unanimous. **Motion carried.**
- Dieterich Fire Protection District - Paul Niemerg (05/04/2026 – 05/06/2029)
Member S. Rich made a motion to recommend to the full board to approve the appointment of Paul Niemerg to the Dieterich Fire Protection District. Member J. Deters seconded. Unanimous. **Motion carried.**
- Watson Fire Protection District – D. Alan Davis (05/04/2026 – 05/06/2029)
Member D. McCain made a motion to recommend to the full board to approve the appointment of D. Alan Davis to the Watson Fire Protection District. Member T. Ellis seconded. Unanimous. **Motion carried.**
- Sigel Fire Protection District – Robert Hoene (05/04/2026 – 05/06/2029)

Member J. Deters made a motion to recommend to the full board to approve the appointment of Robert Hoene to the Sigel Fire Protection District. Member M. Buzzard seconded. Unanimous. **Motion carried.**

- Ethics Board

- Tom Freeman (05/01/2026 – 04/30/2028)

Member J. Douthit made a motion to recommend to the full board to approve the appointment of Tom Freeman to the Ethics Board. Member T. Ellis seconded. Unanimous. **Motion carried.**

- Bill Passalacqua (06/01/2026 – 04/30/2028)

Member D. McCain made a motion to recommend to the full board to approve the appointment of Bill Passalacqua to the Ethics Board. Member J. Deters seconded. Unanimous. **Motion carried.**

5. **General Information/Public Comments**

- Health Department Update

It was noted the Illinois Director of Public Health may visit the Effingham Health Department in early May. The Health Department is working on their Illinois Project Local Assessment of Needs which is completed every five years. A community survey is available for the data collection for the IPLAN. Member N. Soltwedel questioned if mental health was addressed thru the survey. The next scheduled Board of Health meeting will take place on May 4, 2026.

- Mary Ann Hoeffliger inquired about any upcoming applications from any wind or solar companies and if the public would be notified of any applications or public hearings. She also inquired about data centers. The board informed her of the process.

6. **Closed Session**

None

7. **Adjourn**

Member J. Deters made a motion to adjourn this meeting. Member J. Douthit seconded. Unanimous. **Motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle M. Kollmann
Effingham County Clerk