



Effingham County Board  
101 N. 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 301, Effingham, IL  
217.342.4990

February 10, 2026 8:30 AM  
**Transportation & Infrastructure Committee Meeting**

**MINUTES**

Committee Members Present: Norbert Soltwedel, Doug McCain, Tim Ellis

Other Board Members Present: Joshua Douthit

Committee Member Absent:

Others Present: Travis Buhnerkempe, Jill Schultz (Downtown Business Group)

**Minutes**

- Minutes from January 13, 2026 Transportation & Infrastructure Committee meeting were approved. T. Ellis motioned/D. McCain seconded. Unanimous. **Motion carried.**

**Unfinished Business**

- Effingham County Public Transportation (ECPT)
  - January report provided by B. Beck-Marts.
    - Service report of 2210 total passenger trips, 18 new riders, 237 non-ambulatory rides, 505 special assistance, 18 sponsored medical (Modivcare), 14 unmet rides, 21 no-shows, and 481 cancellations.
    - Demand response trip purpose report of 278 medical, 1531 employment, 30 nutrition, 50 business, 65 shopping, 43 social/recreational, 0 other, and 0 educational purposes.
    - Reduced fair report of 281 seniors, 220 disabled residents, 30 veterans for demand response.
  - January E-Trax report provided by B. Beck-Marts.
    - 213 total units with 10.65 as the average per day and 1.33 as the average rides per hour.
    - Reduced fair for E-Trax of 20 seniors, 23 disabled residents, and 14 veterans with \$0 in donations received.
  - Rebuild Round 3 Grant (Maintenance Facility) – K. Lockhart reported no update as continued wait on IDOT review for architect approval.
- Government Center
  - Control Systems – T. Buhnerkempe stated he reviewed all RFP's alongside IT and maintenance and they have narrowed it down to two bidders: SEICO and Fieldwrxs. T. Buhnerkempe recommended SEICO bid of \$19,239.63 as is the lowest bidder. T. Ellis motioned recommendation of accepting SEICO, Inc. bid of \$19,239.63 for control systems in government center. D. McCain seconded. Unanimous. **Motion carried.**
  - Elevators – T. Buhnerkempe reported parts have not yet arrived for elevator repair.
  - Flag Pole – T. Buhnerkempe reported no update as city will install once weather is better.
- County Building
  - Parking Lot – J. Douthit reported City has confirmed spearheading project and recommended an intergovernmental agreement with City on renovations. J. Douthit stated City would likely pay for project and expect county to reimburse county portion of project. J. Douthit shared County Treasurer and County Clerk would like to have a drive up drop off box added on parking lot that they would like included in project. J. Douthit estimated City will begin project in May. J. Douthit to update committee with estimated cost.

**New Business**

- Historic Courtyard – Bunny Bash – Downtown Effingham Business Group requested permission for use of Historic Courtyard for their Bunny Bash on Saturday March 28, 2026 from 8am-11am. J. Schultz stated is an open event for community and should not require any closing of streets. J. Douthit requested trash receptacles be available for event. J. Schultz confirmed they will have some provided. J. Schultz inquired on ability to put a banner on corner across from city hall for advertising. T. Ellis motioned to approve use of historic courtyard for Bunny Bash event along with signage. D. McCain seconded. Unanimous. **Motion carried.**

- Historic Courtyard – Halloween in Downtown – Downtown Effingham Business Group requested permission for use of historic courtyard for Halloween in Downtown event on Saturday, October 24, 2026 from 12pm – 4pm. J. Schultz stated is an open event for community and should not require closing of streets. J. Douthit requested trash receptacles be available for event. J. Schultz confirmed they will have some provided. J. Schultz requested ability to advertise on courtyard prior to event. T. Ellis motioned to approve use of historic courtyard for Halloween in Downtown event along with signage. D. McCain seconded. Unanimous. **Motion carried.**

#### **General Information/Public Comments**

- Beth Beck-Marts shared the following additional updates to committee via report provided:
  - FY27 appropriations of \$109,161 appropriated for 5311 federal grant and \$935,773 available for drawdown on DOAP state grant which was a \$157,773 increase.
  - January service disruptions on January 26<sup>th</sup> along with limited service on January 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> due to weather.
  - Current staffing standing at 4 full time, 4 part time and 1 substitute with 1 full time position open.
  - Compliance renewed with Modivcare & MTM
  - Training Program Redevelopment & SOP completed
  - IDOT shared south town shuttle may boarder on being a deviated route rather than meet shuttle qualifications, so waiting on clarification from IDOT.
  - Completing retention studies and tracking denials after 4pm to see if a need for additional driver after 4pm.
  - No update on IDOT audit review with RLS findings.
  - Grant paperwork will need added to March agenda with updates to purchase for service agreement in regards to PCOM reporting which no longer applies.
- Discussion on advantages and disadvantages of contracts in relation to DOAP funding.
- PCOM Update – K. Lockhart stated he completed rounds last month to dispatch and all is well. No other updates.
- CSS Update – P. Niccum shared mileage update showing total 5,503 miles for all three buses with a few days of no service due to weather conditions.
- Capital Improvement List and Investment Schedule – Committee reviewed list.

#### **Closed Session**

#### **Adjournment**

- T. Ellis motioned and D. McCain seconded that the meeting be adjourned. Unanimous. **Motion carried.**

Minutes submitted by Angie Thompson, County Board Administrator