



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

EFFINGHAM COUNTY BOARD

REGULAR MEETING

March 18, 2024 – 4:00 p.m.

MINUTES

EFFINGHAM COUNTY BOARD MEMBERS: Joshua Douthit-District B, Chair, David Campbell-District D, Vice Chair, Norbert Soltwedel-District A, Tim Ellis-District C, Christopher Keller-District E, Elizabeth Huston-District F, Doug McCain-District G, Sandra Gillet-District H, Jeremy Deters-District I.

1. ROLL CALL, PLEDGE, PRAYER

The County Board of Effingham County, Illinois met pursuant to a regular meeting on Monday, March 18, 2024 at 4:00 p.m. in the County Board Room, County Building, City of Effingham, and State of Illinois.

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Joshua Douthit. Roll call was taken with the following Board Members present: Joshua Douthit, David Campbell, Norbert Soltwedel, Tim Ellis, Christopher Keller, Doug McCain, Sandra Gillet, Jeremy Deters. Pledge of Allegiance was said. Chairman J. Douthit gave the prayer.

2. RECOGNIZE PERSONS WHO WISH TO SPEAK ON AGENDA/NON-AGENDA ITEMS

- None

3. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

APPROVE MINUTES

ACCEPT OFFICER'S MONTHLY REPORTS

APPROVE BILLS – COUNTY BOARD PER DIEM & EXPENSES

COMMITTEE AGENDA CONSIDERATIONS

- Approve Resolution – Uncoordinated Stops by Buses
- Appointments
 - Board of Health ▪ Grant Bushue (3/18/2024-6/30/2026)
 - Edgewood Bi-County Fire Protection District ▪ Steve Robinson (5/1/2024-4/30/2027)
 - Housing Authority ▪ Steve Miller (5/1/2024-4/30/2028)
- Approve Addendum to PE Agreement for Liberty Township Bridge along 400th Street, Section 21-05108-00-BR

- Approve Use of Historic Courthouse Courtyard for Chamber of Commerce HAM JAM on Friday, July 12, 2024
- Approve Use of Historic Courthouse Courtyard for Effingham Farmer’s Market for Saturdays May 25, 2024 – October 5, 2024
- Approve Replacement Chairs for County Boardroom
- Approve Tabling Centrica Windows/Solar Project and County Board Chairman Signature Requests for Documentation in Relation to Centrica Windows/Solar Project
- Approve Resolution Authorizing Execution & Amendment of Section 5311 Grant Agreement
- Approve Ordinance Authorizing Execution & Amendment of Section 5311 Grant Agreement
- Approve Resolution Authorizing Execution & Amendment of DOAP Agreement
- Approve Purchase of Service Agreement Between CEFS and Effingham County
- Approve Vehicle Lease Agreement Between Effingham County and CEFS
- Approve Memorandum of Understanding Vehicle Use Agreement with Shelby County
- Approve Disbursement of \$1,748.14 in Earmarked ARPA Funding for TREC Trail Maintenance
- Approve Disbursement of \$2,595.11 in Earmarked ARPA Funding for County Board Member Tablets
- Approve Denial of Disbursement of \$10,000.00 in ARPA Funding to One Hope United as Recommended by 708 Board
- Approve up to \$3,600.00 Disbursement in Earmarked ARPA Funding for Effingham Childcare Gap Scholarship Applicant
- Approve Certificate of Authority by Vote for Effingham County Engineer
- Approve Amended Ordinance – FY24 Salary Schedule to Include State’s Attorney Confidential Secretary
- Approve Amended Ordinance – FY24 Salary Schedule to Include VAC Superintendent

CONSENT AGENDA CONSIDERATIONS

- Member T. Ellis pulled item “Approve Tabling Centrica Windows/Solar Project and County Board Chairman Signature Requests for Documentation in Relation to Centrica Windows/Solar Project.” Chairman placed item as #4B.
- Member J. Deters pulled item “Approve Replacement Chairs for County Boardroom.” Chairman placed item as #3L.

CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL

- Member C. Keller made a motion to approve the consent agenda except items pulled under the consent agenda considerations. Member S. Gillet seconded. Motion carried on a roll call vote 7 ayes; 0 nays; 1 absent; 0 abstain.
- **#3L - APPROVE REPLACEMENT CHAIRS FOR COUNTY BOARDROOM**
Member J. Deters pulled this agenda item per request of Aaron Jones, States Attorney. It was brought to Aaron’s attention the donation of the County Boardroom chairs could be subject to the gift ban. He stated the gift ban ordinance is for employees and elected officials. He will review this issue. Member J. Deters made a motion to table the replacement of the County Boardroom chairs until the April Regular board meeting without committee recommendation. Member C. Keller seconded. Unanimous. ***Motion carried.***

4. APPROVE MODIFYING WINDOWS/SOLAR PROJECT TO WINDOWS REPLACEMENT ONLY PROJECT TO BE FUNDED FROM CAPTIAL IMPROVEMENT FUNDING AND SEEK RFP'S WITHOUT COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

#4B - APPROVE TABLING CENTRICA WINDOWS/SOLAR PROJECT AND COUNTY BOARD CHAIRMAN SIGNATURE REQUESTS FOR DOCUMENTATION IN RELATION TO CENTRICA WINDOWS/SOLAR PROJECT

Member T. Ellis pulled the consent agenda item of approve tabling Centrica windows/solar project and County Board Chairman signature requests for documentation in relation to Centrica windows/solar project. He stated since the last meeting new information has been presented on the cost of the window replacement project. With the solar project, the estimated cost for the windows only would be around \$300,000.00. It is now estimated with a new quote the windows only replacement project for all vented windows will cost around \$150,000.00. Member Ellis stated with the lower estimate for the windows project that the solar project may not be necessary. It was noted the county would send out RFP's on the windows only project. Member C. Keller made a motion to send the windows preplacement only project back to Building and Grounds to seek RFP's. Member D. Campbell seconded. Unanimous. ***Motion carried.***

Member N. Soltwedel made a motion to suspend any further action with Centrica. Member J. Deters seconded. Unanimous. ***Motion Carried.***

5. APPROVE DISTRIBUTION OF \$5,500.00 FOR ELECTRICAL WORK IN THE EFFINGHAM COUNTY COURTROOMS WITHOUT COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION.

It was stated a grant was received for upgrades to the courtrooms however there was some extra electrical work that needs done. It was determined this action will be put hold until more information is gathered. Member T. Ellis made a motion to table this agenda item until the April regular board meeting without committee recommendation. Member D. McCain seconded. Unanimous. ***Motion carried.***

6. ELECTION OFFICIALS REPORTS

- Michelle Kollmann, County, Clerk, gave a reminder tomorrow is the General Primary Election and the polls open at 6:00 a.m. and close at 7:00 pm. The clerk's office has been very busy with election preparation. There have been around 1,250 early voters and vote by mail ballots returned. Also, on election night results will be available on the county website. The ability to report election results on election night is possible because of our new voter registration software. She also thanked the board for the new software. Also, last week they mailed approximately 625 Statement of Economic Interest forms and those are due on May 1.
- Paul Kuhns, Sheriff, gave an update on the body cameras which will be worn by the deputies. He stated they have tested and completed trails on three different brands. The department has settled on one company and the contract will be reviewed by the States Attorney.
- Aaron Jones, States Attorney, stated a new staff member will be starting soon. Also, he gave some statistics on the Safe-T Act.

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- None

8. PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Lucinda Hart informed the board the PAVE Community breakfast will be held on Tuesday, April 16 at 7:30 a.m. at the Carriage House in Altamont. Also, the career fair will be held on

Thursday, March 21 at Keller Convention Center. There will be around 26 employers taking part in the career fair.

- Courtney Yockey noted the monthly webinar will be held on March 28.
9. Josh Douthit congratulated several local sport teams on their accomplishments and hard work.

10. CLOSED SESSION

- None

11. ADJOURN

- Member C. Keller motioned to adjourn this meeting. Member S. Gillet seconded. Unanimous.
Motion carried.