



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

EFFINGHAM COUNTY BOARD REGULAR MEETING April 21, 2025 – 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, Mike Buzzard-District F, Doug McCain-District G, Sandra Rich-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, April 21, 2025 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, Norbert Soltwedel, Tim Ellis, Christopher Keller, Mike Buzzard, Doug McCain, Sandra Rich, Jeremy Deters. Pledge of Allegiance was said. Chairman J. Douthit gave the prayer. A moment of silence was held for former county board member Charles A. Hartke later in the meeting.

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

- Courtney Yockey spoke to the board about the Village of Teutopolis Comprehensive Planning meeting that will take place on April 23, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. Courtney informed the board the City of Effingham Comprehensive planning meeting will take place with an open house on May 15, 2025.

3. SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH PROCLAMATION

Chairman J. Douthit read the proclamation stating April is Sexual Assault Awareness month. Melissa and Donna was present and spoke about the S.A.F.E program. Agenda item was approved with the consent agenda.

4. NATIONAL POLICE WEEK PROCLAMATION

Chairman J. Douthit read the proclamation for National Police Week. This will take place May 11 – 17, 2025. Agenda item was approved with the consent agenda.

5. LAW DAY PROCLAMATION

Chairman J. Douthit read the proclamation for Law Day and declared May 1, 2025 as Law Day. Agenda item was approved with the consent agenda.

6. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

APPROVE MINUTES

ACCEPT OFFICER'S MONTHLY REPORTS

APPROVE BILLS – COUNTY BOARD PER DIEM & EXPENSES

COMMITTEE AGENDA CONSIDERATIONS

Health and Insurance Committee

- None

Legislative/Personnel Committee

- Approve Sexual Assault Awareness Month Proclamation
- Approve National Police Week Proclamation
- Approve Law Day Proclamation and Resolution
- Approve Hazardous Materials Emergency Planner Part-Time Position
- Approve Appointments
 - Dieterich Fire Protection District – Gary Horn (5/5/2025 – 5/1/2028)
 - Watson Fire Protection District – Steven L. Rudolphi (5/5/2025 – 5/1/2028)
 - Tri-County Fire Protection District – William Evans (5/5/2025 – 5/1/2028)
 - Altamont Fire Protection District – L. Brian Lustig (5/5/2025 – 5/1/2028)

Road and Bridge Committee

- Approve Joint Funding Agreement for Federally Funded Construction, Resurfacing South Altamont, Section 20-00099-00-RS

Building and Grounds Committee

- Approve City of Effingham Adding Anchored Benches to Historic Courtyard Grounds

Transportation Committee

- None

Tax and Finance Committee

- Approve \$9,000.00 Disbursement in Hotel/Motel Funding to Mill Road Thresherman Association
- Approve \$9,000.00 Disbursement in Hotel/Motel Funding to Effingham County Fair for Sponsorship Level and Other Expenses
- Approve Return of Childcare Research Committee Gap Scholarship Earmarked Funds in amount of \$11,400.00 to ARPA Funding
- Approve \$3,040.00 Allocation in ARPA Funding to Repair North Approach Sidewalk for Historic Gazebo and Courtyard Project
- Approve \$566.32 Disbursement in Capital Improvement Funding for Health Department Infrastructure Improvements
- Approve \$3,750.00 Disbursement in Capital Improvement Funding for County Building 1st Floor Window Caulking
- Approve \$300,000.00 Disbursement in Capital Improvement Funding for Purchase of Property for Effingham County Morgue

Ambulance Oversight Committee

- None

Public Safety Committee

- None

CONSENT AGENDA CONSIDERATIONS

- None

CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL

- Member J. Deters motion to approve the consent agenda. Member M. Buzzard seconded. **Motion carried** on a roll call vote 7 ayes; 0 nays; 1 absent; 0 abstain.

7. EXTRACTED CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

- None

8. APPROVE ALTERNATIVE FAX OPTIONS WITHOUT COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

It was noted the monthly cost for 5 fax lines with Consolidated has increased greatly in the last several years. Jason Repking, IT, stated the county will eliminate the fax lines and switch to an internet type fax option. No action needed.

9. APPROVE \$1,000.00 DISBURSEMENT IN HOTEL/MOTEL FUNDS TO VILLAGE OF MONTROSE FOR MONTROSE RODEO WITHOUT COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Member J. Deters noted an amendment to the wording of the agenda item. This request is with More 4 Montrose which is non for-profit group. This groups helps to promote growth and development for the Village of Montrose. Trisha Funneman, committee member, informed the board of a fundraiser which will take place on June 7, 2025 at the Montrose Park. The organization More 4 Montrose will be hosting a rodeo and they requested a \$1,000.00 sponsorship to help offset some of the cost associated with the rodeo. Proceeds from the rodeo will help with some improvement projects including entrance signs into Montrose and a concession stand at the park. Member S. Rich made a motion to approve the disbursement of \$1,000.00 from the hotel/motel fund for More 4 Montrose for the rodeo. Member C. Keller seconded. Member J. Deters abstained. **Motion carried** on a roll call vote 6 ayes; 0 nays; 1 absent; 1 abstain

10. ELECTION OFFICIALS REPORTS

- Michelle Kollmann, County, Clerk, stated election results were finalized from the Consolidated Election. The abstract of votes will be sent out with the certificates of election for the winning candidates. The voter turnout for the Consolidated Election was 15.62%. Also, a reminder the deadline to file your Statement of Economic Interest is next week on May 1st. After that date the office will impose the late penalty of \$15.00.
- Paul Kuhns, Sheriff, stated the RFP's have been sent out for the remodeling project.
- Kim Rhodes, Coroner, thanked the board for the county morgue. The support is appreciated.

11. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Norbert Soltwedel had attended a CIRMA meeting. He noted three years' worth of claims have been completed and the county received a refund of approximately \$2,300.00. He reminded the board about safety to keep the insurance claims down.
- Chris Keller congratulated Cayla's Power Tumbling who attended Walt Disney World and are World Champions in cheerleading
- Sandi Rich congratulated Ryan Rich Sr. who is a Senior at Dieterich High School. Ryan is a three time champion in computer science with ACES statewide competition.

12. PUBLIC COMMENTS

- None

13. CLOSED SESSION

- None

14. ADJOURN

- Member C. Keller motioned to adjourn this meeting. Member J. Deters seconded. Unanimous.
Motion carried.