



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

December 10, 2025 1:30 P.M.
Transportation Committee Meeting
MINUTES

Committee Members Present: Norbert Soltwedel, Jeremy Deters, Mike Buzzard

Committee Member Absent:

Other Board Members Present:

Others Present: Pete Niccum (CSS), Kelly Lockhart, Beth Beck-Marts (CIPT)

Minutes

- Minutes from November 12, 2025 were approved. M. Buzzard motioned/N. Soltwedel seconded. Unanimous. ***Motion carried.***

Unfinished Business

- Effingham County Public Transportation (ECPT)
 - November report provided by B. Beck-Marts.
 - Service report of 1875 total passenger trips, 9 new riders, 197 non-ambulatory rides, 556 special assistance, 14 sponsored medical (Modivcare), 26 unmet rides, 8 no-shows, and 602 cancellations.
 - Demand response trip purpose report of 233 medical, 1277 employment, 22 nutrition, 31 business, 43 shopping, 31 social/recreational, 4 other, and 2 educational purposes.
 - Reduced fair report of 290 seniors, 181 disabled residents, 25 veterans for demand response.
 - November E-Trax report provided by B. Beck-Marts.
 - 232 total units with 12.89 as the average per day and 1.61 as the average rides per hour.
 - Reduced fair for E-Trax of 49 seniors, 11 disabled residents, and 2 veterans with \$12,966.60 in donations received from the City of Effingham.
 - Rebuild Round 3 Grant (Maintenance Facility) – K. Lockhart reported conversation with IDOT confirming new grant money moved into grant and available for spending. K. Lockhart stated he is still waiting for approval of all documents for engineering. N. Soltwedel inquired on next step. K. Lockhart responded architect to be hired and draw up plans with goal to bid early spring for construction, however depends on IDOT approvals. K Lockhart has already spoken to local construction companies to give a heads up of project.

New Business

General Information/Public Comments

- B. Beck-Marts provided report to committee.
 - Current Staffing – Looking to fill 1-2 more full time driving positions with one full time driver in training and 1 substitute in pre-employment processing.

- Vehicle Disposal – Waiting on Midwest to give an estimated value on SC-1, SC-2, 22-1 to submit paperwork to IDOT. 22-1 possibly to be donated to Effingham Fire Dept for training purposes
- 5310 Annual Certification Report has been submitted
- South town shuttle – No update
- Mobile Advertising – Midland Area on Aging 1 year, 2 buses, large passenger side window is \$900.
- J. Deters inquired on Shelby County transportation audit updates. B. Beck-Marts stated FY23 and FY24 still needs completed at this time. Discussion on any disruption in services for Effingham County if audits not completed. B. Beck-Marts confirmed no disruption in services for Effingham County since Effingham and Shelby County funding is separate.
- N. Soltwedel inquired on transportation for ROSC clients. Discussion on need and inability to provide services.
- Vehicle Update – P. Niccum provided bus mileage and client transportation needs report with buses adding another 6,000 miles since last meeting.
- N. Soltwedel inquired on new construction of CSS facility. P. Niccum reported contractors anticipating May completion date. P. Niccum stated CSS is excited to have all operations under one roof which will reduce costs in vacating rented properties. P. Niccum stated CSS has had a steady stream of new clients placing over 50 people in community jobs with 11 students in transition services from high school into community jobs. N. Soltwedel inquired on future needs for transportation. P. Niccum stated population coming from Newton is increasing dramatically and they may need to add a second route or get a bigger bus, so they are investigating alternative transportation through ideas like buddy systems.
- PCOM Update – K. Lockhart reporting PTA account through the county has gone well and has the GTXS project on website.
- B. Beck-Marts stated still paying insurance on excess vehicle. N. Soltwedel recommended to no longer carry insurance on excess vehicle since is not Effingham County property. Committee agreed and requested topic added to County Board meeting agenda without recommendation.
- Committee Restructuring – J. Deters stated Transportation Committee will be getting absorbed into Building and Grounds Committee and will have new title of Transportation and Infrastructure Committee and shared gratitude for all attending and sharing in discussion. B. Beck-Marts shared gratitude to committee for assistance in getting donations and legislative changes. N. Soltwedel shared gratitude with J. Deters and his work as chair of committee.

Closed Session

Adjournment

- N. Soltwedel motioned and M. Buzzard seconded. Unanimous. ***Motion carried.***

Respectfully submitted,
 Angie Thompson, County Board Administrator