



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, January 12, 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, C. Keller, M. Buzzard, D. McCain, S. Rich, J. Deters

This meeting was called to order by Chair David Campbell.

1. Approve Minutes

- Member N. Soltwedel made a motion to approve the Health & Insurance committee minutes. Member T. Ellis seconded. Unanimous ***Motion carried.***
- Member J. Deters made a motion to approve the Legislative/Personnel committee minutes. Member S. Rich seconded. Unanimous ***Motion carried.***
- Member N. Soltwedel made a motion to approve the Tax & Finance committee minutes. Member M. Buzzard seconded. Unanimous ***Motion carried.***

2. Unfinished Business

- Opioid Funding
The Opioid Settlement Fund spreadsheet was submitted to the board. Member T. Ellis updated the board on the Opioid Settlement funds and noted the remaining available fund balance is \$83,163.69. Currently there are no new request for Opioid funds. Member N. Soltwedel was concerned about the funding for the ROSC salary and a replacement for this position will be needed. He feels there needs to be some oversight on the use of the funds with ROSC. There was board discussion on an amended proposal from ROSC. A letter will be sent to ROSC for an update.
- County Board Representative for UCCI, CIRMA and HopeTrust.
Member N. Soltwedel made a request to assign board members to be a representative for UCCI, CIRMA and HopeTrust. He noted the benefits and the importance to attend the

trainings and meetings hosted by these organizations. Most counties have a county representative assigned. Norbert's term ends in November 2026 and he is willing to attend until his term ends. There were concerns about requiring board members to attend these meetings. Member T. Ellis was willing to assist or volunteer to go to these meeting or trainings as his schedule allows.

3. New Business

- End-of-Life Options for Terminally Ill Patients Act (SB1950/HB1328)
This act will take effect in September 2026. It is optional for physicians and health care entities to participate. Member N. Soltwedel suggested that Effingham County or the Health Department to not take a position on the End-of-Life Options for the Terminally Ill Patients Act. Since this should be between the patient and the physician. Kim Rhodes, Coroner, and Jeff Workman, Health Dept Administrator, spoke on this bill. They voiced their concerns about the language, the importance to educate the public, control and tracking of the medication, cause of death on the death certificates, oversight and documentation. The board requested the Health Department to draft a policy or procedure on how to handle inquiries into this law.
- Ordinance for Small Subdivision Upkeep and Appearance Requirements
Chairman D. Campbell stated this issue was presented several months ago. This property falls within the county's jurisdiction. There was some improvement and clean up of the property but it has become an issue again. Two residents in this subdivision came to the board to address the ongoing situation and the hazards of the unkept property. The County has exhausted several attempts to remedy the problem. Currently the Subdivision Ordinance doesn't address nuisance. There was discussion to review the subdivision ordinance for nuisances for small subdivisions. It was suggested that Aaron Jones, States Attorney, possibility to amend the subdivision ordinance. The next step for this current situation would be possible civil action. The board will confer with Aaron Jones and follow up with the residents.
- Resolution – Personal Property Replacement Tax Distribution
Deb Ruholl, Treasurer, discussed the Personal Property Replacement Tax Distribution resolution. The tax money received for 2025 was \$319,738.69. The tax money that was abated for the tax levy was \$110,00.00. Member J. Douthit made a motion to recommend to the full board to approve the Personal Property Replacement Tax Distribution resolution. Member J. Deters seconded. Unanimous. **Motion carried.**
- Amended FY26 Salary Ordinance
The Probation officers are no longer under a union contract. Their salary information would fall under the non-union employee Salary Ordinance. This amendment is to include their title and salary information. Member J. Douthit made a motion to recommend to the full board to approve the amended FY26 Salary Ordinance. Member seconded. Unanimous. **Motion carried.**
- Online Code of Ordinances
A cost agreement for Code of Ordinances Online was submitted to the board. The agreement includes a one-time set up fee of \$495.00 with an indexing fee of \$1.95/page and an annual hosting fee of \$595.00. The one-time fee will be paid from the Administration budget and the annual fee will be paid from the IT budget. This would allow the ordinances to be available online for the public to search and view. Member S. Rich made a motion to recommend to the

full board for consideration to approve the Online Code of Ordinances. Member J. Douthit seconded. Unanimous. ***Motion carried.***

- 2026 Mileage Rate

Member C. Keller made a motion to recommend to the full board approve the IRS 2026 mileage rate. Member D. McCain seconded. Unanimous. ***Motion carried.***

4. **Appointments**

- SIEDA – Todd Hull (01/20/2026-01/2029)

This appointment to SIEDA was confirmed with Todd Hull. Member J. Douthit made a motion to recommend to the full board to approve the appointment of Todd Hull to SIEDA. Member C. Keller seconded. Unanimous. ***Motion carried.***

5. **General Information/Public Comments**

- Health Department Update

Jeff Workman, Administrator, noted some changes to the food ordinance. Also, the department is considering online information about food inspection reports and exploring ideas about displaying plaques in the restaurants about their food inspections. It was noted Jeff Workman was the Health Department Administrator of the Year.

- Brent Williams and Kevin Kern with Snedeker Risk Management were present at the meeting to present a dividend check to Effingham County. The check was in the amount of \$2,700.00.

- Member J. Douthit stated he received notification the community solar program is online and rebates should be reflected on the billing soon.

- Member J. Douthit stated IACBM sent out information about the new law to amend wind and solar provisions and sample Wind and Solar Ordinances for unzoned and zoned counties would be available soon. He will verify Effingham County's ordinance match the suggested updates. There was also information addressing the Energy Storage Ordinance for zoned counties with a side note that unzoned counties do not have the authority to zone energy storage systems under this new act. IACBM will host a seminar about the new state statute and the process for a county to go from unzoned to zoned. Effingham County does not have zoning. It was stated that Effingham County should concern possible zoning. Pam Braun noted this change would require a department to oversee and police the zoning.

6. **Closed Session**

None

7. **Adjourn**

Member C. Keller made a motion to adjourn this meeting. Member T. Ellis seconded. Unanimous. ***Motion carried.***

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle M. Kollmann
Effingham County Clerk