

**DON GRAY****SANGAMON COUNTY CLERK**

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WEBSITE: [countyclerk.sangamonil.gov](http://countyclerk.sangamonil.gov)**MINUTES****SANGAMON COUNTY BOARD****MAY 14, 2024**

The Sangamon County Board met in Reconvened Adjourned September Session on May 14, 2024. Chairman Van Meter called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Sangamon South Auditorium. Ms. Scaife gave the Invocation and Mr. Fraase led the County Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

Chairman Van Meter asked County Clerk Gray to call the roll. There were 23 Present – 6 Absent. Mr. Ayers, Mr. Constant, Ms. Deaner, Ms. Deppe, Mr. O’Neill, and Mr. Stumpf were excused.

**PROCLAMATION**

Mr. Truax presented a Proclamation in recognition of National Community Action Month and the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of community action. Director of Community Resources Dave MacDonna accepted the Proclamation. He stated today they want to recognize the incredible work of Community Resources, authorized by the Sangamon County Board, as they celebrate 60 years of community action. The incredible work this department does creates opportunities for people to move from poverty to financial independence. Sangamon County Community Resources administers federal funds from the Community Services Block Grant, which continues to be the only federal program with the explicit goal of reducing poverty regardless of its cost. Community Resources uses these flexible funds to tailor a unique response to poverty in our county. Since the County Board encourages their work, they are highly successful at using our CSBG allotments to obtain an array of public and private dollars. For the past 60 years, Sangamon County Community Resources has inspired a spirit of hope, helping thousands of people to change their lives and improve communities across Sangamon County. He introduced his staff CSBG Coordinator Angela Daugherty and Weatherization Coordinator Lenny Hamende. These two members, and many more, are caring and passionate individuals that serve Sangamon County families. The agency works with low income people to help them overcome barriers and improve their lives. They meet individuals in crisis and offer them hope through rental assistance, scholarships, senior food boxes, employment support,

utility assistance, and weatherization of their homes. They live their mission of changing people's lives, improving communities and making America a better place to live. They are dedicated to helping people help themselves. He thanked them for their support over the past 60 years.

Chairman Van Meter stated last year or the year before the State asked if they could help Macon County out with their project. He applauded our Community Resources department for doing such a good job that they have come to the attention of the State. Keep up the good work!

### **GROW OUR OWN PRESENTATION**

Kevin Seals, from Hanson Professional Services, Inc., gave a presentation on the Grow Our Own Minority Participation Program. This program began in 2013 with the initiation of the Springfield Rail Improvement Project. At that time, under the guidance of Chairman Van Meter and then Mayor Mike Houston, they came up with a program to try to integrate Springfield and Sangamon County's minority youth with opportunities to get into STEM curriculum, which is science technology, engineering, and mathematics, and maybe pursue careers as well as education and then pursue jobs in that field and stay here in the Springfield area. The Grow Our Own title came when former Alderwoman Gail Simpson came up with it. Looking at the numbers over the past 10 years, not including this year, they've had a little over 250 students enrolled in this program. Again, this is from middle school through the college age level students.

One of the more popular program is the Engineering Open House at the University of Illinois. That is their biggest program with over 200 students enrolled in it. There is also a longer program with a total of around 20 students. They have college internships, not only at Hanson, but with the County and City as well. Hanson has committed to at least 3 minority internships every summer. Hanson's had just over 30 internships. They average about one per year of students that get through the program, get a college degree, and are then hired full time at Hanson. That doesn't include members or students that have been hired at the City or County.

They have a website that is there for your convenience and information. The website is [growourown.net](http://growourown.net). It has a lot of information on the various programs they offer. There are referral forms for anyone that has minority students they would like to refer to the program. There are a lot of news articles, photographs, and other program documentation on that as well. The program follows the school year. They start off in the fall when school starts. They make contact with some of the school principals, guidance counselors, as well as other minority organizations through town asking and soliciting for referrals for any students that have an interest in getting into the STEM curriculum kind of careers. Most of these programs start in January and extend through July. They do interviews for their internships at the beginning of the year in January and February. There is a bridge building competition held every year for more middle school students. They have a program at Hanson called Shadow Hanson. They have area wide schools in Sangamon County come to Hanson or to another location and talk about the projects such as the Springfield Rail Project. They also have the U of I Open House as well as a summer camp they do up at Michigan Tech University.

The U of I Open House is the largest program they do offer. They work with Frontiers International in Springfield. They have been very helpful over the course of ten plus years assisting with this program. They rent a charter bus and have all the students (15 to 20) meet at our office on a Saturday, give them a light breakfast, and have the charter bus take them to Champaign, IL. They do various activities and are back here by 5:00 p.m. A lot of these students are minors, so they make sure they get parental permission. They just went the first part of April. There has been a little set back with the program since COVID because a lot of people just want to stay at home now. They are trying to revamp that program. There are over 250 engineering type projects on display at U of I. This gives the students a great overview of all the different types of engineering and science they could be involved with for careers, so there is something for everybody. They also give them all a sweatshirt to take. Robotics is another thing kids are fascinated with. There is also race cars/high performance vehicles. These are among the 250 different things they can interact with. It's a great opportunity to inspire students to pursue these types of careers.

One of the longest programs they have is in the summer months, and is coming up in July. There are usually two to three students and it is for high school students only. It is a one week class in Michigan on the Canadian Border, and we fly those students up there. One thing we do is make sure there are no costs to the student for administration fees, registration fees, or travel arrangements. The program provides all that for the students as well. They get to spend a week in a college campus, stay at the dorms, and eat the college food, and all come back with smiles on their faces. This program is primarily for railroad engineering and is hands on. They get to put on railroad ties and build sections of railroad tracks. There is also classroom activities and field trips to training facilities included.

The internship program is also hands on. The interns they hire at Hanson will go out in the field and have hands on experience with the actual projects they are working on. There was a gentleman they just had that worked on the bridge underpasses for the rail project doing bolt testing and tightening. They put them right to work to get the experience to help them in their future endeavors as they get their engineering degrees. They had a unique opportunity a couple years ago, when the Governor was in town, to sign the Capitol bill, which gave a large sum of money to help them with the railroad project here in town. Their three interns got to be involved with the Governor and stand there front and center as he signed that Capitol bill at the old Lincoln Depot in town. They also got a nice photo opportunity with the Governor as well as the IDOT Secretary and Hanson CEO.

For students that don't really want to go to college, there is an opportunity for them as well. It is with IDOT in a highway construction career. There is a 10-week training program at Lincoln Land. They help those students get enrolled and pay their application fees so they can get union trade jobs in skid steer operation, carpentry, concrete work, welding, and some of the different various trades. This will prepare them to go out and get nicely paid union jobs here in Springfield.

They put the full-time hires to work, and they had a few working on the rail project. Jordan Stapleton got to meet Congressman Rodney Davis when he was in town a couple years ago.

The ultimate reward is to mentor these students through their educational years and hopefully they will want to stick around town, get good paying career jobs and a home for their families here in Springfield.

This program has acquired quite a bit of national reporting, and they have been in some national magazines. They like the way it has been set up and formatted for the various communities. They have been contacted by other communities as well to start similar type programs with youths in their communities as well. They have gotten a lot of good attention and it has been a great program. They have received an award from Frontiers a couple years ago. They do a lot of work with them and they have been a fantastic group to work with. They provide a lot of students through the pipeline into this program.

A couple years ago they started with the arts. They have been doing a lot of recruiting through events like the State Fair, AACP Conference, and other events in town to try and solicit students for the program. The bottom portion of the mural on the Transportation Center was painted by area students. They are looking at other opportunities to get more art students. They are also looking to maybe expand this program into areas outside of the STEM curriculum. They would be working with other entities around town such as the hospitals, insurance companies, and others.

He thanked them for their support. They have this program on a two-year cycle for their contract purposes. The City, County, and Hanson all contribute \$20,000 per year for the program. They hope to have a lot of future years with this program.

Ms. Lathan stated she had the opportunity to facilitate a webinar about the benefits of engineering and she spoke with one of your students, Corbin Doss, who gave great reviews of the program.

### **MINUTES**

A motion was made by Mr. Bunch, seconded by Mr. Madonia, for approval of the Minutes of April 8, 2024. A voice vote was unanimous.

MOTION CARRIED  
MINUTES ADOPTED

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

A motion was made by Mr. Madonia, seconded by Mr. Bunch, to place any correspondence on file with the County Clerk. A voice vote was unanimous.

**RESOLUTION 1**

1. Resolution approving a joint funding agreement with the Illinois Department of Transportation for a pavement preservation project on CH 37-Cardinal Hill Road, CH 43 East Lake Shore Drive, and CH 56 Rochester Road.

A motion was made by Mr. Fraase, seconded by Mr. Bunch, to place Resolution 1 on the floor. Chairman Van Meter asked the County Clerk to call the roll. Upon the roll call vote, there were 22 Yeas – 0 Nays.

MOTIONS CARRIED  
RESOLUTION ADOPTED

**RESOLUTIONS 2 – 5**

2. Resolution approving the FY2024 County Highway bituminous materials contracts.

A motion was made by Mr. Fraase, seconded by Mr. Hall, to place Resolution 2 on the floor. A motion was made by Mr. Bunch, seconded by Mr. Madonia, to consolidate Resolutions 2 – 5. Chairman Van Meter asked the County Clerk to read Resolutions 3 – 5.

3. Resolution approving the FY2024 County Highway aggregate material contracts.
4. Resolution approving the FY2024 County Highway miscellaneous material contracts.
5. Resolution approving the FY2024 Township bituminous material motor fuel tax contracts.

A voice vote was unanimous on the consolidation. A motion was made by Mr. Madonia that the roll call vote for Resolution 1 stands as the roll call vote for Resolutions 2 – 5, as consolidated.

MOTIONS CARRIED  
RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED

**RESOLUTION 6**

6. 2024-011 – RPIL Solar 16, LLC, 17530 Sangamon-Menard County Rd., Ashland, IL 62612 – Granting a Siting Approval Permit with a Variance. County Board Member – Tom Fraase, Jr., District #1.

A motion was made by Mr. Fraase, seconded by Mr. Mendenhall, to place Resolution 6 on the floor. A motion was made by Mr. Mendenhall to waive the reading of the professional staff’s report. There were no objections. A voice vote was unanimous for the adoption of Resolution 6.

MOTIONS CARRIED  
RESOLUTION ADOPTED

## OLD BUSINESS

A motion was made by Mr. Mendenhall, seconded by Mr. Bunch and Mr. Madonia, to take Resolution 8, tabled April 8, 2024, off the table. A voice vote was unanimous. A motion was made by Mr. Mendenhall to waive the reading of the professional staff's report. There were no objections.

### RES. 8 – TABLED APRIL 8, 2024

2024-009 – Pivot Energy IL 60 LLC, 3300-3400 Blocks of Mt. Pulaski Rd. & 18,500-18,600 Blocks of Borden Rd., Illiopolis – Granting a Siting Approval Permit. County Board Member – David Mendenhall, District #3.

A voice vote was unanimous for the adoption of Resolution 8.

#### MOTIONS CARRIED

#### RESOLUTION ADOPTED

### RESOLUTIONS 7 – 11

7. Resolution amending Chapter 6.04.120, Adoption Policy and Fees, of the Sangamon County Code on Animal Control.

A motion was made by Mr. Schackmann, seconded by Mr. Truax, to place Resolution 7 on the floor. A motion was made by Mr. Bunch, seconded by Mr. Madonia, to consolidate Resolutions 7 – 11. Chairman Van Meter asked the County Clerk to read Resolutions 8 – 11.

8. Resolution amending Chapter 6.04.095, Animals Considered a Nuisance, of the Sangamon County Code on Animal Control.
9. Resolution amending Chapter 6.04.072, Impoundment and Redemption of Straying Animals, and Section 6.04.110, Impoundment Notification Procedures, of the Sangamon County Code on Animal Control.
10. Resolution approving a Grant Application for the Springfield-Sangamon County Regional Planning Commission from IDOT for the West Loop and South Growth Area Transportation Study updates in the amount of \$240,000.
11. Resolution granting a 6-month extension of the audit of the Circuit Clerk's Office.

A voice vote was unanimous on the consolidation. Mr. Cahnman asked if Resolutions 8 and 9 are amending the code or adding new. Assistant State's Attorney Joel Benoit answered they are amendments.

A motion was made by Mr. Madonia that the roll call vote for Resolution 1 stands as the roll call vote for Resolutions 7 – 11, as consolidated.

MOTIONS CARRIED  
RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED

#### **WAIVER OF TEN-DAY FILING PERIOD**

A motion was made by Mr. Madonia, seconded by Mr. Bunch, to waive the ten-day filing period. A voice vote was unanimous.

MOTION CARRIED  
TEN-DAY FILING PERIOD WAIVED

#### **RESOLUTIONS 12 – 17**

12. Resolution setting the salaries for the Circuit Clerk, Auditor, Coroner, and Recorder.

A motion was made by Mr. Madonia, seconded by Mr. Bunch, to place Resolution 12 on the floor. A motion was made by Mr. Bunch, seconded by Mr. Madonia, to consolidate Resolutions 12 – 17. Chairman Van Meter asked the County Clerk to read Resolutions 13 – 17.

13. Resolution approving a Grant Application for Public Health from the Illinois Department of Public Health for the Respiratory Surveillance and Outbreak Response Grant in the amount of \$740,000.
14. Resolution approving a Grant Application for Public Health from the Illinois Department of Human Services for the Early Intervention Grant in the amount of \$1,123,762.
15. Resolution approving a Grant Application for Public Health from the Illinois Department of Human Services for the State Opioid Response Grant in the amount of \$675,000.
16. Resolution approving a Grant Application for Public Health from the Illinois Department of Public Health for the Firearm Safe Storage Strategies Grant in the amount of \$60,000.
17. Resolution approving a Grant Application for the Sangamon County Child Advocacy Center from the Department of Children and Family Services for the FY2025 Child Advocacy Program in the amount of \$291,365.28.

A voice vote was unanimous on the consolidation. Mr. Cahnman stated in regard to Resolution 15, Public Health does a great job of education on opioid overdoses and with the distribution of Narcan. He asked if this is a new grant. County Administrator Brian McFadden stated it is a continuation of a current grant. Mr. Cahnman asked if the Director of Public Health could come to a future meeting to give a presentation on the opioid crisis in our county and how they educate people and distribute Narcan. Chairman Van Meter stated they could.

A motion was made by Mr. Madonia that the roll call vote for Resolution 1 stands as the roll call vote for Resolutions 12 – 17, as consolidated. A voice vote was unanimous.

MOTIONS CARRIED  
RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED

**NEW BUSINESS**

A. Resolutions

There were no new resolutions.

B. Appointments

Appointment of Dick Ciotti to the Sangamon County Water Reclamation District for a term expiring May, 2027.

Appointment of David Mendenhall to the Sangamon County Extension Board for a term expiring May, 2025.

Appointment of Brad Miller to the Sangamon County Extension Board for a term expiring May, 2025.

Appointment of Mike Burg to the Athens Fire Protection District for a term expiring May, 2027.

Appointment of Don Dufour to the Auburn Fire & Rescue District for a term expiring May, 2027.

Appointment of Joe Lester to the Buffalo Fire Protection District for a term expiring May, 2027.

Appointment of George Perkins to the Chatham Fire Protection District for a term expiring May, 2027.

Appointment of Jamie Petitt to the Dawson Fire Protection District for a term expiring May, 2027.

Appointment of Keith Crain to the Dawson Fire Protection District for a term expiring May, 2027.

Appointment of Bill Beaty to the Divernon Fire Protection District for a term expiring May, 2027.

Appointment of David Ball to the Eastside Fire Protection District for a term expiring May, 2027.

Appointment of Rod Mitchell to the Illiopolis Fire Protection District for a term expiring May, 2027.

Appointment of Josh Crammond to the Lake Springfield Fire Protection District for a term expiring May, 2027.

Appointment of Tom Everhart to the Northside Fire Protection District for a term expiring May, 2027.



Appointment of Eric Mills to the Pawnee Fire Protection District for a term expiring May, 2027.

Appointment of Kenneth Mendenhall to the Pleasant Plains Fire Protection District for a term expiring May, 2027.

Appointment of David Hermsmeyer to the Sherman Fire Protection District for a term expiring May, 2027.

Appointment of Chris Cole to the Sherman Fire Protection District for a term expiring May, 2027.

Appointment of Gary Fraase to the Western Fire Protection District for a term expiring May, 2027.

Appointment of Jim Hofferkamp to the Williamsville Fire Protection District for a term expiring May, 2027.

Appointment of Michelle Edwards to the Williamsville Fire Protection District for a term expiring May, 2027.

Appointment of Dan Noll as the Sangamon County Hearing Officer for a term expiring May, 2026.

Appointment of David White as the Sangamon County Hearing Officer for a term expiring May, 2026.

A motion was made by Mr. Madonia, seconded by Mr. Bunch, for approval of the appointments. A voice vote was unanimous.

**MOTION CARRIED**  
**APPOINTMENTS ADOPTED**

The nominations for appointment in June were also submitted.

**C. Procurement/Grant Notifications**

-Emergency Approval-Circuit Clerk-2024 IL Court Technology Modernization Program-\$861,848.77.

-Emergency Approval-Court Services-Secure Technology Value Solutions Agreement-X-Ray Body Scanner-\$132,500.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

**REPORTS OF COUNTY OFFICIALS, REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES,  
REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES, COMMITTEE REPORT ON CLAIMS**

A motion was made by Mr. Bunch, seconded by Mr. Madonia, to place reports on file with the County Clerk. A voice vote was unanimous.

MOTION CARRIED  
REPORTS FILED

**RECESS**

A motion was made by Mr. Madonia, seconded by Mr. Bunch, to recess the meeting to June 11, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. A voice vote was unanimous.

MOTION CARRIED  
MEETING RECESSED

***Don Gray***  
***Sangamon County Clerk***