

DON GRAY**SANGAMON COUNTY CLERK**200 SOUTH NINTH STREET – 1st FLOOR

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WEBSITE: countyclerk.sangamonil.gov**MINUTES****SANGAMON COUNTY BOARD****JULY 8, 2025**

The Sangamon County Board met in Adjourned June Session on July 8, 2025 in the Sangamon County Board Chambers. Chairman Van Meter called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Ms. Small asked for a moment of silence in the memory of Sonya Massey and her family. Ms. Small gave the Invocation. Mr. Krell led the County Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Chairman Van Meter asked the County Clerk to call the roll. There were 27 Present – 2 Absent. Mr. Constant and Mr. Thomas were excused.

Mr. Hall wanted to thank Kelley Bergae, Director of Vital Records with the County Clerk's Office, for her 35 years of service to Sangamon County and mentioned that tonight is her final meeting, as she is retiring, and he appreciates her. The County Board stood and gave Ms. Bergae a round of applause.

PROCLAMATIONS

There were no proclamations for this meeting. Chairman Van Meter mentioned we are live for audio tonight but not for video. There was a glitch in the last meeting that cut the broadcast in the middle of the meeting and they are unable to retrieve it.

SANGAMON MENARD AREA REGIONAL TRANSIT PRESENTATION

SMART Director Kate Downing addressed the Board. She states they are a County-to-County system of rural transit. She says one end or the other of their trips have to be to a rural area, which is defined by the consensus. They finished their year on June 30th, and this year they provided 7,135 trips. There were 5,220 trips for Sangamon County and 1,374 were for Menard County. She notes something interesting for them is that even though the majority of rides in Sangamon County are for medical reasons there are some that are used for work-related trips. They have seven young

adults, who will never be able to drive themselves, using their service to get to work. She says, at the minimum they use the service three times a week. She says they are proud that it is bringing up the next generation getting them used to rural transit.

She says they have two grants they use. One is Federal and one is a State of Illinois grant. They have used all of their federal money and their State grant. They used an ICR, Indirect cost rate, to fund themselves as well. She notes that they plan to expand and will eventually have to talk to the County Board about how to proceed with that. She offered to email all of this information to the County Board. She says they've provided 12,000 rides for people with Springfield addresses that are split between east and west Sangamon County. They provided 843 trips to Pawnee. This morning they had three vehicles that had to go to Pawnee. She says they typically have three to four drivers most days, which is a lot of travel for them. Most rides are between 17-24 miles. She asked the County Board to encourage people in their area to use their services. The more rides there are in an area the more chances there are to get a ride.

They also provided 1,136 wheelchair rides for people who cannot take their own vehicles. They had 150 no-shows, which is a good percentage for them. Since July of 2019, in Sangamon County, they have provided 28,287 rides. Of that number, 7,346 were work related and 8,144 were medical. She mentions Springfield has great medical facilities but they can only help if you can get there. She acknowledges her team does a great job. They have six vehicles past their useful life, but they take good care of them. She asked for a round of applause for her team who were present at the meeting.

In closing, she states they would like to do even more than what they are doing currently. They will be closer to the HUB, which will help get all of Sangamon County moving. She thanked the County Board for listening. She mentioned a couple of County Board members who have stopped by their office.

Mr. Stumpf mentioned to Dawn that at their public hearing she mentioned a special rider. Dawn says she was her first rider. She lived to 100 years old and passed away. She wanted it included in her obituary that she was the first rider for SMART.

MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. Madonia, seconded by Mr. DelGiorno, for approval of the Minutes of June 10, 2025. A voice vote was unanimous.

MOTION CARRIED

MINUTES ADOPTED

CORRESPONDENCE

A motion was made by Mr. DelGiorno, seconded by Mr. Madonia, to place correspondence on file with the clerk. A voice vote was unanimous.

RESOLUTION 1

1. Resolution approving a Joint Funding Agreement for Federally Funded Construction with the Illinois Department of Transportation for the MacArthur Boulevard Extension Project in the amount of \$5,200,000.

A motion was made by Mr. Fraase, seconded by Mr. Miller to place resolution 1 before the Board. A voice vote carried. Mr. Schackmann asked to be shown as voting Present on Resolution 1.

MOTION CARRIED
RESOLUTION ADOPTED

RESOLUTION 2

2. Resolution approving a Preliminary Engineering Contract with Lochmueller Group, Inc for the replacement of the Island Grove Township structure on McQueen Road (SN 084-3086) in the amount of \$170,460.

A motion was made by Mr. Fraase, seconded by Mr. Hall, to place Resolution 2 before the Board. The County Clerk called the roll. Upon the roll call vote, there were 26 Yeas – 0 Nays.

MOTION CARRIED
RESOLUTION ADOPTED

RESOLUTION 3

3. Resolution approving the Right-of-Way settlements for the MacArthur Boulevard extension in the amount of \$665,684.

A motion was made by Mr. Fraase, seconded by Mr. Miller, to place Resolution 3 before the Board. Mr. Madonia motioned that the roll call vote for Resolution 2 stand as the roll call vote for Resolution 3. A voice vote was unanimous.

MOTIONS CARRIED
RESOLUTION ADOPTED

RESOLUTION 4

4. 2025-009 Text amendment to the Sangamon County Zoning Ordinance amending Chapter 17.04, amending Section 17.10.020, adopting Section 17.10.030, amending Section 17.28.020, adopting Section 17.28.030, adopting Section 17.30.030, adopting Chapter 17.35-Battery Energy Storage Systems, and adopting Chapter 17.39-Data Centers.

A motion was made by Mr. Mendenhall, seconded by Mr. Forsythe, to place Resolution 4 before the Board. Mr. Madonia moved that the roll call vote for Resolution 2 stand as the roll call vote for Resolution 4. A voice vote was unanimous.

MOTIONS CARRIED

RESOLUTION ADOPTED

RESOLUTION 5

5. 2025-011 – Haley Smith, 1914 N. Dirksen Parkway, Springfield - Granting a Rezoning. County Board Member – Paul Truax, District #10.

A motion was made by Mr. Mendenhall, seconded by Mr. Truax, to place Resolution 5 before the Board. The Chairman noted that we are now entering the zoning portion of the meeting and it is the Board's policy to ask if there are members of the audience who wish to speak in opposition or in support of the proposed rezoning and variances. There were none. Mr. Mendenhall moved to waive the staff report since there were no objections. The motion was ordered. A voice vote was unanimous for the adoption of Resolution 5.

MOTIONS CARRIED

RESOLUTION ADOPTED

RESOLUTION 6

6. 2025-012 – Ninus McLean, 2704 Sandhill Road, Springfield - Granting a Rezoning. County Board Member – Paul Truax, District #10.

A motion was made by Mr. Mendenhall, seconded by Mr. Truax, to place Resolution 6 before the Board. Mr. Mendenhall moved to waive the staff report since there were no objections. The motion was ordered. A voice vote was unanimous for the adoption of Resolution 6.

MOTIONS CARRIED

RESOLUTION ADOPTED

OLD BUSINESS

A motion was made by Mr. Fraase to take Resolution 7 from the May 13, 2025 meeting off the table. Mr. Madonia and Mr. DelGiorno seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous. The Resolution was taken off the table. The Chairman asked the County Clerk to read Resolution 7 from the May 13, 2025 meeting.

Resolution 7 – Tabled 5/13/25

2025-004 – Jesse Staab, 2248 W State Route 29, Athens - Denying a Rezoning and Granting a Use Variance with a Condition and a Variance. County Board Member – Tom Fraase, District #1.

Mr. Mendenhall motioned to waive the staff report since there were no objections. The motion was ordered. Mr. Fraase had an amendment for the resolution, proposing a change from Ag to I-1. The motion was seconded by Mr. Madonia and Mr. DelGiorno. A voice vote was unanimous in support of the amendment.

Mr. Fraase explained that the original variance would not allow the sign to be put up unless it is zoned I-1. Because of that, the original variance would not work for this situation. A voice vote was unanimous in support of adopting Resolution 7.

MOTIONS CARRIED

RESOLUTION ADOPTED

RESOLUTION 7

7. Resolution approving the Walker Country Heights Minor Subdivision-Lots 1 and 2-Partial Plat of Vacation.

A motion was made by Mr. Mendenhall, seconded by Mr. Rader, to put Resolution 7 before the Board. Mr. Madonia moved that the roll call vote for Resolution 2 stand as the roll call vote for Resolution 7. A voice vote was unanimous.

MOTIONS CARRIED

RESOLUTION ADOPTED

RESOLUTION 8

8. Resolution approving the Revised Final Plat of Lots 1 and 2 of Walker Country Heights Minor Subdivision.

A motion was made by Mr. Mendenhall, seconded by Ms. Scaife, to place Resolution 8 before the Board. Mr. Madonia moved that the roll call vote for Resolution 2 stand as the roll call vote for Resolution 8.

A voice vote was unanimous.

MOTIONS CARRIED

RESOLUTION ADOPTED

RESOLUTION 9

9. Resolution authorizing the issuance and sale by the County of its Economic Development Revenue Bonds (Young Men's Christian Association of Springfield, Illinois Project), Series 2025, authorizing the execution of a Loan Agreement, an Assignment and Agreement, and a Bond Purchase Agreement, all relative to said bonds, and authorizing other action to be taken with respect to the issuance, sale and delivery of said bonds in the amount of \$2,000,000.

A motion was made by Mr. Madonia, seconded by Mr. DelGiorno, to place Resolution 9 before the Board. Mr. Cahnman asked if we had \$8,000,000 left in bond authority or if bonds were tied up in other entities. The County Administrator confirmed this. Chairman Van Meter added that our year is half over.

Mr. Hall stated he respectfully has to vote no on this resolution on the grounds of faith and parenting. He states when it first started out there were men in the girl's locker rooms who were dressed as women. He says it was a big issue and affected some of the families in his district and they chose to go to the Jacksonville YMCA due to this. He says he cannot put his name on it. A voice vote carried. Mr. Hall voted Nay.

MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION ADOPTED

RESOLUTION 10 - 14

10. Resolution approving a grant application for the Land of Lincoln Workforce Alliance from the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity for the PY 2025 WIOA Formula Grant in the amount of \$2,843,504.

A motion was made by Mr. Truax, seconded by Ms. Deppe, to place Resolution 10 before the Board. Mr. DelGiorno, seconded by Mr. Madonia, moved to consolidate Resolutions 11-14 with Resolution 10. The Chairman asked the County Clerk to read Resolutions 11-14.

11. Resolution approving a grant application for Community Resources from the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity for the LiHeap Grant #26-254038 in the amount of \$1,471,992.

12. Resolution approving a grant application for Land of Lincoln Workforce Alliance from the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity for the PY 2025 Apprenticeship Specialist Grant in the amount of \$100,600.
13. Resolution approving a contract with Land of Lincoln Workforce Alliance and Fishes & Loaves Vocational and Literacy Center for the purpose of providing out-of-school youth services to 24 youth participants in the amount of \$192,126.
14. Resolution approving a contract with Land of Lincoln Workforce Alliance and the Capital Area Career Center for the purpose of providing out-of-school youth services to 25 youth participants in the amount of \$90,974.

On the motion to consolidate, a voice vote was unanimous. Mr. Madonia moved that the roll call vote for Resolution 2 stand as the roll call vote for Resolutions 10-14, as consolidated. A voice vote was unanimous.

MOTIONS CARRIED

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED

WAIVER OF TEN-DAY FILING PERIOD

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

MOTION CARRIED

TEN-DAY FILING PERIOD WAIVED

RESOLUTIONS 15 - 31

15. Resolution approving the procurement of goods and/or services for Public Health from Seico Inc. for the purpose of an upgrade to their security system in the amount of \$39,790.

Ms. Deppe, seconded by Mr. Davsko, motioned to place Resolution 15 before the Board. Mr. DelGiorno, seconded by Mr. Madonia, moved to consolidate Resolutions 16-31 with Resolution 15. Chairman Van Meter asked the County Clerk to read Resolutions 16 - 31.

16. Resolution approving a grant application for Public Health from Start Early (a contractor to DHS Healthy Families Division) for the Start Early program in the amount of \$623,322.
17. Resolution approving the procurement of goods and/or services for Court Services from Gateway Foundation, Inc. for the purpose of providing recovery coaching to problem-solving court participants in the amount of \$60,470.

18. Resolution approving the procurement of goods and/or services for Court Services from Gateway Foundation, Inc. for the purpose of substance abuse treatment services in the amount of \$52,000.
19. Resolution approving the procurement of goods and/or services for Court Services from the Springfield Urban League for the purpose of case management services, assessment services and mentoring services in the amount of \$310,327.
20. Resolution approving the procurement of goods and/or services for Information Systems from ConvergeOne for the purpose of renewing the Proofpoint Encryption Software in the amount of \$41,379.57.
21. Resolution approving a change in the public parking lot visitor fee from \$1.25 per hour to \$2.00 per day, and the leased monthly fee from \$55.00 to \$30.00.
22. Resolution establishing the Farm to Table Committee to facilitate agricultural development, connect the agricultural community with all parts of Sangamon County, establish local food supply networks, and promote healthy eating.
23. Resolution authorizing the Sangamon County Administrator to execute, when applicable, the quote from Ace Sign Company to print and install graphic panels for the exhibit for the new Atrium in the amount of \$32,309.93.
24. Resolution approving the annual salary for the State's Attorney, Chief Public Defender, and Sheriff of Sangamon County effective July 1, 2025.
25. Resolution approving the FY2026 County Budget Policy Guidelines.
26. Resolution approving a grant application for the Regional Planning Commission from IDOT, City of Springfield, Sangamon County, the Village of Chatham, and SMTD for the Springfield Area Transportation Study PY2026 in the amount of \$795,419.40.
27. Resolution approving the renewal of an insurance policy with The Hartford for the next two years at no additional cost to the County.
28. Resolution amending the current Sangamon County, Illinois Schedule of Selected Fees to exempt Sangamon County Departments and County-affiliated departments from being charged for access to Recorder services, including Laredo subscription access.
29. Resolution approving contract supplement #2 to Hanson Professional Services for the construction engineering at the Sangamon Mass Transit District building in the amount of \$42,000.

30. Resolution approving contract supplement #5 to Hanson Professional Services for design services on The HUB resulting in a net decrease of \$382,500 for Sangamon County.
31. Resolution approving a construction engineering services contract to Hanson Professional Services for The HUB in the amount of \$3,500,000.

A voice was unanimous for the motion to consolidate. Mr. Madonia moved that the roll call vote for Resolution 2 stand for the roll call vote for Resolutions 15 – 31 as consolidated. A voice vote carried. Mr. Schackmann asked to be shown as voting Present on Resolution 26. Ms. Lathan asked to vote Present on Resolution 19.

MOTIONS CARRIED

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED

NEW BUSINESS

Chairman Van Meter stated that Mr. Ayers has volunteered to serve on the Board of Managers. Noting that Democrats have a new board member for the Board of Managers, and now the Republicans need one.

Chairman Van Meter also announced that Mr. Mendenhall, Mr. Thomas, Ms. Lathan, Ms. Small, Mr. Schackmann, Mr. Constant, and Mr. Rader have agreed to serve on the new Farm-To-Table Committee. Mr. Mendenhall will be the Chairman of that committee.

A. Appointments

Appointment of Cathy Crammond to the Lake Springfield Fire Protection District for a term expiring May, 2026.

Appointment of Ron McDonald to the Historic Preservation Commission for a term expiring June, 2030.

Appointment of Aakash Raut to the Historic Preservation Commission for a term expiring June, 2030.

Appointment of Brad Miller to the Workplace Safety Board for a term expiring July, 2028.

Mr. Cahnman noted that at one point in time the Board would get the appointments when they received the agenda, he notes now they get it the day of the meeting. He wondered if in the future these could be provided with the agenda, or the day before the meeting.

Chairman Van Meter says it is possible to do and he will talk to staff about those being submitted with paperwork.

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

MOTION CARRIED
APPOINTMENTS ADOPTED

B. 2026 County Holiday Schedule

A motion was made by Mr. Madonia, seconded by Mr. DelGiorno to approve the 2026 County Holiday schedule. A voice vote was unanimous.

MOTION CARRIED
HOLIDAY SCHEDULE ADOPTED

Before starting the public comment section of the meeting, the Chairman encouraged the Board members to direct any questions or suggestions on rules or procedures to Mr. DelGiorno, Mr. Madonia, Mr. Miller, Mr. Tjelmeland, or Mr. Sheppard.

Mr. Cahnman asked where a citizen would go if they wanted to listen to the live audio of the board meeting. The professional staff answered they could go to the County website or it is being live streamed on YouTube.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Van Meter noted there were four people signed up to speak tonight. The first was Mr. James Sampson. He was not present.

The next person in order was Sean Miller, speaking on the VAC. Mr. Miller addressed the County Board. He says he is proud to serve as the Chairman of the VAC. He began by thanking every Veteran, Sangamon County, and the support continually received by the Commission. He says the VAC exists for one simple reason, to ensure no Veteran is left behind. Whether navigating the VA system, assessing emergency relief, or someone who understands, the VAC is there to serve those who have served us.

He is proud to report today that they have made major strides, and their backlog of Veterans needing assistance has been reduced. This is significant, considering where they were a short time ago. This is a direct result of their service officers and resources in place. This shows they can make things happen, when a government body works together with purpose.

From 2023 to the present, their interactions have gone up 70% year after year. From 2024 to now, they have increased their claims over 100%. This has happened with a concerning budget and not having the resources they asked for. Think of what the VAC can do if they were operating at full capacity. He wants to raise a concern. There have been moments where speakers cannot respond to

Board members after their time to speak has expired. They are unable to clarify or correct. He says this can be frustrating not only for him but any citizen trying to engage in good faith.

Transparency and accountability are values they hold dear. These are the same values Veterans fought to protect. He asked the Board how to create a space for respect and 2 way communication when those in the community raise concerns. In closing, he affirmed the VAC is committed to this work. Every Veteran who walks through their doors deserves dignity, respect, and timely support. He hopes they have opened their ears to the success they've shown. He ended by saying that their lawyers have not been paid since November. He says it keeps adding up and their constituents are now paying additional fees because it has not been paid by this leadership. He thanked the Board for their time.

The next up to speak was Ashti Dawson. She is a Sangamon County resident and the Superintendent of the VAC. She recognizes she has three minutes of the Board's time. With that in mind, she has chosen to follow the example of her VAC Chairman and speak to them regularly, not only as a resident of Sangamon County, but as a Veteran and the Superintendent of the VAC. She would like to highlight three key issues that she is seeking the support of the Board.

Several constituents who rely on the VAC, including their own staff, have expressed concerns about the temperature in their office. She has heard descriptions ranging from uncomfortable to exacerbates a service connected disability, to simply damn cold. She agrees, it is uncomfortable. OSHA doesn't mandate a specific temperature, but it recommends a range between 68 and 76 degrees. The only way they reach the lower end of that range is through the use of space heaters that they had to purchase themselves.

Over the past week there has been a 30 degree difference between the outdoor temperature and the indoor temperature of the office. She mentions while we can't control the outdoor temperature, we should control the indoor temperature especially when Veterans are coming to them for help while dealing with physical or mental health challenges. It is disheartening to watch them shiver while asking for help. She asks, how she can count on the Board to help fix this.

She adds that the bright walls and harsh overhead lighting have proven to be triggering for some Veterans dealing with traumatic brain injuries, chronic headaches, and migraines. She has been informed that the lighting system in the office can be dimmed or adjusted rather than diverting funds to purchase light covers, a simple adjustment that can be made to make a meaningful difference.

Lastly, she has a 2-part request. She believes there is a breakdown in communication between their offices. To help improve transparency and collaboration, she respectfully asks that the Board consider adding the VAC to the monthly agenda allowing them to provide a brief report and keep the Board informed on their activities and needs. Her second request is for all County Board members as well as elected and appointed officials be required to attend the Illinois military Veteran's Assistance Act Webinar hosted by the Illinois Attorney General's office. This training is

essential for understanding the legal framework and responsibilities that guide their work in serving veterans.

The next person signed up to speak was Ken Pacha. He was not present.

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

A motion was made by Mr. DelGiorno, seconded by Mr. Madonia, to put 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. DelGiorno, for the Board to stand in recess until its regularly scheduled August meeting. A voice vote was unanimous.

MOTION CARRIED
MEETING RECESSED

Don Gray
Sangamon County Clerk