

DON GRAY
SANGAMON COUNTY CLERK



SANGAMON COUNTY COMPLEX
200 SOUTH NINTH STREET – 1ST FLOOR
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62701
TELEPHONE: 217-753-6700/FACSIMILE: 217-535-3233
WEBSITE: www.sangamoncountyclerk.com

MINUTES

SANGAMON COUNTY BOARD

MAY 13, 2025

The Sangamon County Board met in Reconvened Adjourned September Session on May 13, 2025 in the Sangamon County Board Chambers. Chairman Van Meter called the meeting to order at 6:00pm. Ms. Scaife 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. Ms. Fulgenzi and Mr. Stumpf were both excused.

Chairman Van Meter had a few bits of business before proceeding. He regrets to report to Mr. Cahnman that the afternoon spent in here in makeup will not be in avail this evening. He says we are not live streaming yet, we continue to have problems with our video. We use a broad spectrum view which has the effect of cutting off the far right and left sides of the video. We are trying another system which is a split-screen presentation tonight. But the audio of our meeting will be posted sometime tomorrow. Mr. Cahnman suggested doing the audio live until we can get the video live. Chairman Van Meter states we are moving towards that for the next meeting.

PROCLAMATIONS

There are no proclamations for this meeting.

PHARMACY BENEFIT MANAGER (PBM) PRESENTATION-DAVE BAGOT

Dave Bagot was called to the well for a presentation. Chairman Van Meter notes that we work directly with the Menard County Public Health Department. Garth Reynolds is here on behalf of Dave Bagot, he states Dave Bagot is at the Menard County Board meeting tonight. He introduces himself to the County Board. He is a Springfield resident and he is the Executive Director of the Illinois Pharmacists Association. He is also a pharmacist. He is here to bring a complicated issue into a very concise discussion about Pharmacy Benefit Managers.

He wants to share the concerns that the association has regarding the escalating crisis of pharmacy access and affordability in Sangamon County and respectfully request the County Board's support for legislation being considered in Illinois General Assembly. Particularly, the Prescription Drug Affordability Act. It does not have an official bill number yet and is still in discussion with the Governor's office and interested parties. They are here as a proactive step in that manner. Pharmacy closures are rising at an alarming pace across the state. Last year we had 85 pharmacies close, in the decade prior we had already lost 400 pharmacies. Across the country last year we lost 3100 pharmacies, not just independent pharmacies but also chain operations. In Sangamon County alone, we have lost 6 pharmacies since the pandemic. Downtown Springfield is considered a pharmacy desert, meaning we do not have enough pharmacy service available to its citizens and residents.

Here in Sangamon County we have lost trusted long-standing pharmacies that have been forced to shut their doors leaving entire communities without reliable, local prescription medications. These closures are not isolated, they are a result of a systemic abuse by Pharmacy Benefit Managers or PBM who control prescription drug pricing, steer patients to their own affiliates and reimburse county pharmacies well below the cost of care. As a result, deserts are growing. 74/102 counties in Illinois are pharmacy deserts, this includes rural and urban areas. With this growing, it threatens public health, it's increasing ER visits and adds unnecessary burdens to patients and providers alike. This had an impact on fiscal costs as well. The State of Illinois on an Auditor General's report for Medicaid saw that there was \$200,000,000 misappropriated by the PBM for dollars that were to go to pharmacies to pay for the services that were rendered. This resulted in 2 settlements, a \$56,000,000 settlement with Centene for mismanagement in Medicaid and one in the state employee program with CVS Caremark for \$46,700,000. He states that's a lot of money for most of us in this room. With the quarterly revenue that CVS Caremark made that quarter, \$92.3 billion dollars, it was their pocket change to pay the State of Illinois.

The PDAA directly confronts these abuses by banning spread pricing where PBMs charge health plans more than they pay the pharmacy. It mandates a 100% pass through on rebate savings back to health plans and to patients and not to profit margins of the PBMs. It prohibits steering of practices that undermine patient choice, eliminating restrictions on access to critical therapies that are usually passed off to higher priced specialty pharmacies, and requiring annual audits and transparency to the State of Illinois.

What they are asking, respectfully, is the board to consider support letters to Senators Turner and McClure, and Representatives Rosas, Hall, and Coffey because this is a nonpartisan issue. This is an issue they are advocating for on a state, local, and national level. Pharmacy access is a community health issue. It's about ensuring patients get their medications and the patient care they need from providers they trust. They gratefully will work with you for your continued leadership and service to the county. They stand ready to help and assist. He brought Angela Peroni here, who's a co-owner of Curry's Pharmacy, to add a couple of statements.

Angela Peroni addressed the County Board. She and her partner Jacob are the new owners of Curry's Family Pharmacy, located in Riverton. One of their goals when they became small business owners was to make an immediate impact in their community. As a pharmacy owner, one of the ways that they can do that is patient access to their medication.

Ms. Peroni shared a story from the first couple of weeks of them owning the business. They had a patient walk in whose PBM Pharmacy Benefit manager was requiring her to use a mail-order pharmacy, in order for her medications to be covered. Now, this patient had early-onset Parkinson's, she could barely walk inside of the doors, let alone open up bottles of her medications to be able to take every day to stay compliant with her plan. They stayed for a couple hours after close that day and hand counted her medication; they put them into blister packs for her and gave her those medications free of charge.

Her prescription plan would not cover those medicines at their pharmacy and like the stories that Garth shared with the Board. These are the people they are trying to help in our community, and we need your help in order to do that. Allowing these PBMs to expand their coverage so patients can use their local pharmacies rather than being forced to use mail-order or specialty pharmacies that are located 20-30 minutes away when they don't have access to get to those pharmacies is crucial. They're really looking forward to the opportunity to make an impact here, and ask for the County Board's help in doing so. She thanked Chairman Van Meter.

Mr. Cahnman asked what the bill they are asking support for actually does. Mr. Reynolds explained that the bill bans many common practices being used that decrease access and raise prescription prices. He says it bans what is called "spread pricing", which is a manipulation tactic between PBMs, pharmacies, and health plans where they mischarge for medication and keep the difference between the pharmacy and the health plan for their own gain. Mr. Reynolds states that you don't become the Fortune 416 and have 6 companies in the Fortune 20 without having a couple of maneuvers. Mr. Cahnman asked if it prohibits what Angela Peroni previously said, about it forcing patients to get prescriptions through a mail-order pharmacy. Mr. Reynolds responds saying it prohibits something called steering, where people are forced to use specialty or mail order pharmacies for their medications allowing free reign access to the patient again and taking control of their care working with a pharmacist of their own choice.

Chairman Van Meter asked if there were any other questions. Mr. Fulton had one. He says he is trying to wrap his head around this and that it's a complex issue. He feels that a lot of citizens are very concerned, seeing the prices rise. Then seeing all the information, the news has been talking about insurance companies and trying to figure out what to do next. He states here in Sangamon County, there are a couple of issues in which there is only one pharmacy that handles diabetic medication, Walgreens on Koke Mill. His roommate has had diabetes for years, and has been shuffled back and forth between different providers and different protocols in getting insulin pumps and getting device management accessories. He says it seems there isn't a unified or a standardized protocol in place. He asks Mr. Reynolds if he anticipates that this legislative movement would standardize not only the way we relate to patients but also the way the pharmacies fulfill these orders in a timely manner. Mr. Reynolds answers eventually yes. He would not say this bill would address that specifically, but it will help open the doors for additional transparency so they can open up some of these policies. A lot of these policies depend on the health plan, or if it's a government related plan, because there's more complex issues that will have to be addressed.

He says as a pharmacist, it's been very difficult over the years, specifically in the realm of diabetes where he's had to make really hard choices with the patient and try to figure out how to address them in the complexities of the barriers that the plans established, and sometimes through government mandates as well. Mr. Reynolds states especially within Medicare because Medicare will want a patient to go to a specific Pharmacy because they have the regional contract and that may be the situation that one is looking at. Depending on Medicaid, some pharmacies may not participate in that because of the reimbursement components of it. He says it's really hard because they took an oath to serve. He states that he didn't take an oath to choose, and that's what he is being asked and pushed into right now, being forced to choose what patients are served. And that's not what he went to school for and dedicated his life to do.

Mr. Fulton thanked him for his statement. He thinks it's important to highlight that, not only because people are dealing with chronic conditions every day, but he also feels like the amount of people that are affected by chronic conditions increases daily. He states we're finding out new information and new ways to deal with and mitigate these conditions, yet things happen. He mentions an example of a patient that may be going through a situation in which they have to use more insulin than they had the previous month. They're affected and they have to try and figure out this issue. Are they going to cut the insulin dosage down? Or are they going to take their correct dosage and then run out towards the end of the month? He thanked Mr. Reynolds for raising these issues and talking to them about it and gave his support.

Mr. Reynolds thanked him and encouraged the County Board to listen to the hearing on this topic from earlier today with the US Senate Judiciary Committee. Senator Durbin, who's the ranking member, brought forward issues and they had a pharmacy colleague, who is an independent owner in Iowa, speak on a lot of similar concerns that we're facing here in Illinois. It is a good listen that much can be learned from.

Chairman Van Meter addressed Mr. Ayers stating he was patient. Mr. Ayers thanked the Chairman and Mr. Reynolds for the presentation. He proceeded to ask Mr. Reynolds if any other state has done something similar to the concept the general assembly is considering and if there has been success in that. Mr. Reynolds states yes, there's been a number of states that have passed a number of the provisions and a couple of states that have done all of the provisions. West Virginia in particular, in their Medicaid Program, saw a savings of over a billion dollars since they've implemented the program a couple of years ago. The state of Arkansas and Ohio have also seen significant savings in the hundreds of millions of dollars. He says he knows Kentucky did something on the commercial side that effected commercial insurance programs, and they've seen a savings of over 50 million dollars.

Mr. Ayers asked if the pharmacies are in support of the concept and if it's the giants who are opposed? Mr. Reynolds confirmed yes, it's the insurance lobby that is against this. Mr. McGuire asked for the name of the bill. Mr. Reynolds responded that it's the Prescription Drug Affordability Act. Mr. Reynolds was hoping to have a bill number but states there's been a couple of last-minute adjustments that are trying to be finalized. Chairman Van Meter asked Mr. Reynolds to state his name one more time for the record. Chairman Van Meter asked if there were any other questions for Mr. Reynolds. There were none.

Chairman Van Meter thanked Mr. Reynolds. Mr. Reynolds states they have a letter to hand out for an official request. Chairman Van Meter asks if it is only one letter. Mr. Reynolds responds saying no, it's four letters drafted for the County Board to consider examining. Chairman Van Meter asks Mr. Reynolds if he wants these letters to go to the Board members. Mr. Reynolds states it would be for the County Board to sign to ask the Senators for support. The Chairman states normally what is done is to pass that out to the board members. Mr. Reynolds confirmed he can provide additional copies by email. Chairman Van Meter states that would be the best way to get the letters to everyone.

Chairman Van Meter states that there is a committee they're going to put together to handle this kind of issue and that emailing the letters would be best. Mr. Reynolds thanked the County Board for their time.

CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Madonia motioned to place correspondence on file with the clerk and was seconded by Mr. DelGiorno. A voice vote was unanimous.

MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. DelGiorno seconded by Mr. Madonia, for approval of the minutes of April 7, 2025. A voice vote was unanimous for the adoption of the Minutes of April 7, 2025.

MOTION CARRIED

MINUTES ADOPTED

RESOLUTION 1

1. Resolution approving the FY2025 County Highway bituminous material contracts.

A motion was made by Mr. Fraase, seconded by Mr. Cahnman, 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 27 Yeas – 0 Nays.

MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION ADOPTED

RESOLUTIONS 2 – 4

2. Resolution approving the FY2025 Township bituminous material motor fuel tax contracts.

A motion was made by Mr. Fraase, seconded by Mr. Schackmann, to place Resolution 2 on the floor. Mr. DelGiorno moved to consolidate Resolutions 2-4, seconded by Mr. Madonia. Chairman Van Meter asked the County Clerk to read Resolutions 3-4.

3. Resolution approving a Winter Maintenance Policy for multiuse trails owned and maintained by Sangamon County.
4. Resolution approving a force account work payment from the Construction & Maintenance Agreements with the Union Pacific Railroad for the Woodside Road and Iron Bridge Road grade separation project.

A voice vote was unanimous on the consolidation. Mr. Hall asked County Engineer Brian Davis to explain Resolution 3. Mr. Davis explained that it was a policy researched by the County Highway Department. They reached out to agencies statewide including County Highway Departments, County Park Districts, and municipalities about the maintenance of multi-use trails during the winter. He states that with the information acquired in conjunction with consulting with their insurance company, they decided to put out a written policy stating they will not plow trails in the winter to allow those who enjoy winter sports to use them. Mr. Hall confirmed the Resolution is not to provide

snow removal and questioned if there was anything else being asked for. Mr. Davis stated he believes the primary concern is that some constituents wanted the County to consider plowing those specific trails. Mr. Hall asked about insect sprays to make the trails less infested, but stated he hopes we don't spend money on that. Mr. Davis stated they do not have pesticide licenses to address those issues.

Mr. Cahnman asked if this would protect the County from any liability in the event somebody were to fall on the trail and allege the County was negligent in not plowing the trails. Mr. Davis said he would defer that to an attorney. Assistant States Attorney Joel Benoit answered and stated he is not familiar with this resolution, but he thinks if the County took the approach to not plow snow then they would not be held liable for negligently plowing snow. He adds he thinks it is safe to not plow the snow.

Chairman Van Meter adds that liability was not the primary motivation here. It was a research project to be in concert with other communities who have multi-use trails. Their general policy has been to let winter sports enjoyers use those trails when there is snow.

Mr. Davis confirms that was not the primary reason, he states as a part of their research they inquired about that potential with their insurance provider for the County, but they did seek a practical application standard from the other agencies they consult with.

Mr. Madonia moved that the roll call vote for Resolution 1 stands as the roll call vote for Resolutions 2-4, as consolidated. A voice vote was unanimous.

MOTIONS CARRIED

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED

RESOLUTION 5

5. 2025-002 – Mindy Pusch & Kevin Sullivan, 7100 Block of Minder Road, Rochester - Granting a Rezoning and Variances. County Board Member - Jeffrey Thomas, District #4.

Chairman Van Meter noted that as we move into the zoning portion of the meeting, it's the Board's policy to ask if there are members of the audience who wish to speak in opposition to the proposed rezoning and variances. There were none. Mr. Mendenhall moved to waive the staff reports since there was no objection. The movement was ordered. Mr. Mendenhall seconded by Mr. Thomas motioned to place the Resolution before the board. A voice vote was unanimous for the adoption of Resolution 5.

MOTIONS CARRIED

RESOLUTION ADOPTED

RESOLUTION 6

6. 2025-003 – Emily Gillman, 5038 Wolf Creek Road, Sherman – Granting Variances. County Board Member - Casey Constant, District #2

A motion was made by Mr. Mendenhall, seconded by Mr. Constant, to place Resolution 6 on the floor. Mr. Mendenhall motioned to waive the staff reports since there is no objection. A voice vote was unanimous.

MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION ADOPTED

RESOLUTION 7

7. 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

A motion was made by Mr. Mendenhall, seconded by Mr. Fraase, to place Resolution 7 on the floor. Mr. Fraase motioned to table Resolution 7 to give more time to work on the issue. He was seconded by Mr. Mendenhall. A voice vote was unanimous to table Resolution 7.

MOTIONS CARRIED

RESOLUTION TABLED

OLD BUSINESS

Resolution 4 – Tabled March 11, 2025

Denying a Variance of Chapter 16.72 “Development in Special Flood Hazard Areas” for certain property located at 2890 West Jefferson Street, Springfield – Salvatore Moriconi on behalf of Connor Properties, LLC.

Chairman Van Meter asked Mr. Mendenhall if he had a motion with respect to Resolution 4 from the March 11, 2025 meeting. He motioned to bring Resolution 4 off the table and was seconded by Mr. Madonia and Mr. DelGiorno. A voice vote was unanimous to bring the Resolution off the table.

Mr. Mendenhall commented saying he would recommend, based on the staff report, that the County Board deny this variance. He has built this in a floodplain, and he knew it was in a flood plain. He has proceeded with his construction with no permit. Mr. Mendenhall moved that the County Board deny the variance.

Chairman Van Meter asked if there are any members of the audience who wish to speak in support of the zoning. There were none. Chairman Van Meter asked if there were any in opposition to the zoning. Chairman Van Meter asked the professional staff to give the County Board further background on this matter.

A staff member addressed the Board saying they had gone out a little bit before Christmas and discovered this violation. The gentleman built this building without permits, as was noted by Mr. Mendenhall. All this would also set a precedent, which is inconsistent with federal and state floodplain guidelines. He states they would recommend this be denied by the County Board because it sets a negative precedent and has been built without permits.

Chairman Van Meter asked Mrs. Scaife if she wanted to ask her question again from Caucus. She asked what is intended to be done to carry this out since he has already built it. Professional staff stated the next step is to take civil matter and take this to court. At that point, it would be up to the judge. They would ask the judge to impose the appropriate sanctions under the ordinance and establish fines as with any other violation.

Mr. Cahnman asked what it is the developers are trying to build at this location. Professional staff explained that he's trying to build a garage that's approximately 2,000 feet. The issue is that where he is at, the ordinance requires you be at least one foot above the base flood elevation or the 100-year flood elevation. He's trying to build this property without any permits in an elevation that is 7 feet below the elevation requirement. So if there were seven feet of water that would come through this property, it would have a much greater chance of potentially causing damage or taking it out. Mr. Cahnman asked if in order to be out of the flood zone he would have to build it seven feet higher than where he currently is. The staff member clarified it would have to be eight feet because he has to comply with their ordinance. The staff member added this is one of the primary reasons that the staff is against this because there are other locations on this property where he could build this that are outside the flood plain and would be at the required elevation.

Mr. Cahnman asked how much has been built so far. The staff member responded about three-quarters of what he would like to build. He was stopped midway through his progress. Mr. Cahnman asked for clarification that it was built without permit. The staff member confirmed.

Mr. Schackmann asked if it's true that the owner was told to stop building and continued building. Professional staff confirmed this has happened twice. He's enclosed the property now and has completed his roof. Mr. DelGiorno asked what the maximum fine is under the ordinance that could be pursued in court. The staff member answered that would be established by a judge, but the minimum is \$25 per day. \$500 per day is the maximum, and each day is a separate offense.

A voice vote was unanimous to approve Resolution 4, denying the variance.

MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION ADOPTED

RESOLUTION 8

8. Resolution approving the procurement of goods and/or services for the Auditor's office from CliftonLarsonAllen, LLP for the purpose of financial audit services for fiscal year 2025 in the amount of \$156,535.

A motion was made by Mr. Constant, seconded by Mr. Davsko, to place Resolution on the floor. Mr. Madonia moved that the roll call vote for Resolution 1 stand as the Roll call vote for Resolution 8. A voice vote was unanimous.

MOTIONS CARRIED

RESOLUTION 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 9-21

9. Resolution approving an extension up to 6 months for the completion of the audit of the Circuit Clerk's office.

A motion was made by Mr. Rader, seconded by Mr. Tjemeland, to place Resolution 9 on the floor. Mr. DelGiorno motioned to consolidate Resolutions 9-21, seconded by Mr. Madonia. Chairman Van Meter asked the clerk to read Resolutions 10-21.

10. Resolution approving the procurement of goods and/or services for the Election Office from Platinum Technology Resource, LLC for the purpose of a 2-year software renewal license for voter registration including security service, election judges, same day and voter information portal software, and application printing for 2026 & 2027 in the amount of \$229,186.

11. Resolution approving the procurement of goods and/or services for the Auditor's Office from Triune Health Group, Ltd. for the purpose of Workers Compensation Medical Nurse Case Management Services in the amount of \$48,937.14.
12. Resolution approving the procurement of goods and/or services for the Information Systems Department from CDW Government for the purpose of renewing the CrowdStrike Falcon & Spotlight software licenses in the amount of \$64,600.
13. Resolution amending the professional services agreement between Charles Joseph Pell Architects Incorporated and Sangamon County to provide design services amended by an additional \$50,000.
14. Resolution authorizing participation as a member in the Illinois Emergency Management Mutual Aid System Response pursuant to an intergovernmental agreement for the establishment of a Mutual Aid Intergovernmental Service Agreement.
15. Resolution approving construction contracts for The HUB.
16. Resolution approving a grant application from the Illinois Department of Public Health for the Department of Public Health for the Comprehensive Local Health Protection Grant – Sangamon in the amount of \$479,110.
17. Resolution approving a grant application from the Illinois Department of Public Health for the Department of Public Health for the Comprehensive Local Health Protection Grant – Menard in the amount of \$105,461.
18. Resolution approving a grant application from the Illinois Department of Human Services for the Department of Public Health for the Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children in the amount of \$639,730.
19. Resolution approving a grant application from the Illinois Department of Human Services for the Department of Public Health for the WIC Breastfeeding Peer Counselor program in the amount of \$59,376.
20. Resolution approving a grant application from the Illinois Department of Human Services for the Department of Public Health for the State Opioid Response Grant in the amount of \$675,000.
21. Resolution amending the Sangamon County Code in regard to the regulation of massage establishments.

Mr. Cahnman asked the Director of Public Health John Ridley a question about Resolution 20. He asked if the Resolution includes fentanyl test strips for substances. Mr. Ridley confirmed it does. Mr. Cahnman asked if it was for a 1-year period and if it was for the calendar year or the fiscal year. Mr. Ridley confirmed it is for a 1-year period for the fiscal year starting July 1.

Mr. Cahnman asked if this was the same amount as last year's grant or a different amount. Mr. Ridley was unsure, but said it is very close to last year's amount. Mr. Cahnman noted this is a very much needed thing for our county.

Chairman Van Meter asked Ms. Small if she wanted to comment on Resolution 21. She declined. Mr. Ayers commented and praised Ms. Small for her work on this Resolution. He states he is proud to be supporting it. He said it's unfortunate we have to be in this place but it is much needed. He mentions he was reading an Illinois Times article noting that May 5th is Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women's Day. He says this is a timely ordinance and sex trafficking and human trafficking can play into that. He is proud were doing this as a body and thanked Ms. Small for spearheading this.

Mr. Cahnman asked what the difference between what the current Chapter 5.16 does in regards to this Resolution, and what the new one does. Assistant States Attorney Joel Benoit responded saying he believes they're designed to do the same thing. The current Chapter 5.16 was passed in 1977, which allowed the County to regulate the business and the people performing the services, but that is no longer the case. The current law allows the County only to regulate and license the business. The replacement is to allow the County to regulate the people providing the services as well. The old ordinance provided that some violations would be crimes but he notes we don't have the power to do that. This new one will be in accordance with Illinois law. It is based on the City of Springfield's ordinance over the same things.

It is set up so that the Public Health Committee will be the ones controlling this, and with that there are two things to go with it, which are licensing as well as regulating them. There will be inspections and if there is a problem, it will go before the Public Health Committee. In the event there is a serious problem with no time for the committee to act, there is a provision allowing the Director of Public Health to issue an order to cease operation. If the establishment refuses to, the State's Attorney can go to court and get injunctive relief to end things.

Mr. Cahnman asked to confirm that currently the County does not have the power to license massage therapists. Mr. Benoit confirmed. He mentions the state has the power to do so, but the County currently cannot regulate it. He says in this ordinance they can require that establishments hire a licensed massage therapist. Mr. Cahnman read the definition of a licensed massage therapist and questioned some of the exemptions that can be made. Mr. Benoit said if the state exempts one from having a license then the County would too. He gave an example of a barber who may rub ones neck, that wouldn't fall into this category. He states there are many exemptions, but if the state requires a license then the County will also.

Mr. Cahnman asked if generally the masseuses in these parlors would have to be licensed. Mr. Benoit answered yes. Mr. Cahnman asked if there is any significant difference between this and the city ordinance. Mr. Benoit answered that our application fee may be \$25 higher than theirs and there are minor differences, but notes it is designed the same and the requirements placed are almost identical. Mr. Cahnman says he thinks this is a good and needed ordinance and says he thinks we should have similar regulations to the City of Springfield. He says his only problem with this is the businesses this would affect were not informed we were considering passing this law and were not given an opportunity to weigh in at the Public Health Committee meeting. He says we did the same thing when passing the law to change the closing times of liquor establishments. He adds that whenever we regulate or do something affecting a business, we should inform them and let them give us input and weigh in. He says he will still vote for this but that is something to consider in the future.

Chairman Van Meter told Mr. Cahnman that all of his colleagues appreciate his desire to have a precise and concise knowledge of this new ordinance.

Chairman Van Meter had a question for Ms. Deppe or County Administrator McFadden. He asked when construction begins on the Hub. Ms. Deppe answers that when contracts are out they will start to formulate a plan. She says she has not seen the paperwork. Chairman Van Meter says that to his understanding bids are only good until the 15th. Mr. McFadden states they will execute the contracts tomorrow and he expects work to begin on the site within the next 2 weeks. Ms. Deppe says that is their game plan, but weather and other things can play a part in it. Chairman Van Meter says he is only asking because they have been waiting a long time for this.

A motion was made by Mr. Madonia, seconded by Mr. DelGiorno, the roll call vote for Resolution 1 stands as the roll call vote for Resolutions 9-21, as consolidated. A voice vote was unanimous.

MOTIONS CARRIED
RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Cahnman asked to bring new business to the Board's attention. He motioned to authorize Chairman Van Meter to write a letter to the legislatures in support of the Prescription Drug Affordability Act. Chairman Van Meter ruled the motion out of order stating that the policy has been to have a committee look into these things and for individual board members to support issues they want to support that aren't directly before the County Board. Mr. Cahnman interrupted stating they recently passed a resolution in support of Senate Bill 1954 giving them the authority to enact recall. Chairman Van Meter stated that was a specific issue that the Board had a specific stake in and interest in. Chairman Van Meter ruled his motion out of order.

Mr. Cahnman stated it is on the agenda and noted item 6 on the agenda. Chairman Van Meter ruled the motion out of order. Mr. Cahnman motioned to overrule the chair. There was no second to the motion.

A. Resolutions

There were no new resolutions.

B. Appointments

Appointment of David Mendenhall to the Sangamon County Extension Board for a term expiring May 2026.

Appointment of Brad Miller to the Sangamon County Extension Board for a term expiring May 2026.

Appointment of Bill Taft to the Sangamon County Deputy Merit Commission for a term expiring February, 2031.

Appointment of Richard Thompson to the Sangamon County Zoning Board of Appeals for a term expiring April, 2030.

Appointment of CJ Metcalf to the Sangamon County Water Reclamation District for a term expiring May, 2028.

Appointment of Andy Goleman to the Central Illinois Economic Development Authority for a term expiring May, 2031.

Appointment of James Roth to the South Sangamon Water Commission for a term expiring May 2027.

Appointment of Ben Ladage to the Auburn Fire & Rescue District for a term expiring May, 2028.

Appointment of Robbin Terry to the Auburn Fire & Rescue District for a term expiring May 2028.

Appointment of Scott Borntreger to the Auburn Fire & Rescue District for a term expiring May 2028.

Appointment of Richard Weekly to the Buffalo Fire Protection District for a term expiring May 2028.

Appointment of Gary Mueller to the Chatham Fire Protection District for a term expiring May 2028.

Appointment of James Standish to the Dawson Fire Protection District for a term expiring May 2028.

Appointment of Julie Kelley to the Dawson Fire Protection District for a term expiring May 2028.

Appointment of Dave Sisk to the Divernon Fire Protection District for a term expiring May 2028.

Appointment of Jim Price to the Divernon Fire Protection District for a term expiring May 2028.

Appointment of Jim Spelman to the Divernon Fire Protection District for a term expiring May 2028.

Appointment of Alan Dickson to the Eastside Fire Protection District for a term expiring May 2028.

Appointment of Randall Craig to the Illiopolis Fire Protection District for a term expiring May 2028.

Appointment of James Orr to the Lake Springfield Fire Protection District for a term expiring May 2028.

Appointment of C. Douglas Lewis to the Loami Fire Protection District for a term expiring May 2028.

Appointment of Bryan Megginson to the Pawnee Fire Protection District for a term expiring May, 2028.

Appointment of Erik Woehrmann to the Pawnee Fire Protection District for a term expiring May, 2028.

Appointment of Bob Earley to the Pawnee Fire Protection District for a term expiring May, 2028.

Appointment of Alison Miller Paul to the Sherman Fire Protection District for a term expiring May, 2028.

Appointment of Tom Jenkins to the Virden Fire Protection District for a term expiring May, 2028.

Appointment of Jack Hampton to the Western Fire Protection District for a term expiring May, 2028.

Appointment of Alex Wiley to the Williamsville Fire Protection District for a term expiring May, 2028.

Appointment of Jeff Menke to the Williamsville Fire Protection District for a term expiring May, 2028.

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

The nominations for appointment in June were also submitted.

C. Procurement/Grant Notifications

-CSL Consulting P3 Hotel Advisory Services in the amount of \$35,000.

The procurement notification was submitted.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Van Meter called Shawn Miller to speak, he was first in order to speak. The Chairman noted he has 3 minutes to speak.

Shawn Miller addressed the County Board first. He introduced himself and thanked the board for allowing him to be here tonight. He is thankful for being allowed to be here, but he is not thankful for being here. He doesn't want to be here but feels he has no other choice than to show up and voice concerns for the veterans. He is the chairman of the Veterans Assistance Commission of Sangamon County. He is here month after month because he promised the Veteran community he would stand for them.

He notes there are a handful of board members who are Veterans and he thanks them for their service. He says with Memorial Day right around the corner we know and feel the sacrifices we have made. He has become more dumbfounded each month as the tactics of the County have played out in regards to Veterans. He says there are a few board members that he does thank.

As for the others, he hopes they don't get reelected. They make him despise politicians more each month. He wants to set the record straight by saying that their goals are to help Veterans to the fullest. He says that the Chairman called them money-hungry and stated they have no oversight. That could not be farther from the truth. He says it is a tactic they use for their constituents to keep them from the real truth.

Each time the topic of money is brought up, they are told they have increased their budget 100-fold. He challenged the Board to review employees being paid for what they're doing. He says they have provided an annual report. He says they are not hiding anything from the Board, his passion for Veterans surpasses Sangamon County. His passion is to help Veterans worldwide. He says

he has talked to lawmakers and they are dumbfounded about the decisions this County is making to go to court.

He says every county should be putting in 2%. Sangamon County is only putting in 5%. He has asked the General Assembly and the Attorney General to look into this. They have not asked for the 2% that they could have asked for. He says the leadership has decreased what they are giving the VAC by \$2,000. He says by the time this is done, the cost will be well within the \$2,000 range. He asked who is spending taxpayer money efficiently.

Chairman Van Meter noted he has not said the VAC is money-hungry. They are a very good group of people and he is very supportive of their mission.

Naomi Miller next addressed the County Board. She is 13 years old. She thanked the Board for allowing her to speak. She is making this speech not because someone told her to but because her heart breaks every time a veteran is not being heard. She says she has seen and heard, over the last 6 months, that the Board doesn't listen to or have discussions when a Veteran tells them the truth.

She says she learned in school that if someone can show proof of something and back it up with data then it is correct. She has heard her father Shawn, tell the Board that he has provided them data, backed it up with data from the States Attorney and further reinforced his point with more data from lawmakers that wrote the law. She asks why we are spending community money on data that has already been provided to the Board.

She does not have a full understanding of the money being spent on this law, but she hears it all the time when we are wasting tax dollars in community funding so the County can find the same answers already provided by the VAC. To her, this is a waste of time and resources that should be provided to the people. She notes she may be young but she understands how important it is to support Veterans. Veterans are heroes, they gave up time with their families, comfort, and even their health to protect our freedoms. Some Veterans come home needing help with things such as filing claims for benefits, understanding the system, and even paying their bills.

She believes if someone is willing to risk everything for their country they should not have to fight a battle to get the support they were promised. Sangamon County has Veterans who are struggling. They face health problems, homelessness, and not knowing where to go for help. She believes we can do better for them. Whether it is more funding, easier access to help with claims, or programs supporting them financially. She says she may not be able to vote yet, but she cares deeply about this issue. Veterans are grandparents, neighbors, and friends and she hopes the Board will keep them in mind as they make decisions for our community. She thanked the Board for listening and what they do for Sangamon County.

Mr. Ken Pacha was next in line to speak. He was not in attendance.

The next person to speak was Julio Barrenzuela. He introduced himself and states he is here as a neighbor, a witness and a friend to the families impacted by the recent ICE raid at Edgewood Mobile Home Park. Fernando was getting his children ready for school. He wasn't hiding when ICE arrived, he was getting his children ready for school. After they detained him his wife Sonia was called home from work to take care of the children. Their family works at a Mexican restaurant in the area.

When she arrived, agents didn't hand over the children. They questioned her, asked for ID, and ran her information in front of her kids. She later told Julio that she was preparing for the worst to happen, and that her kids would become orphans that day. ICE held a photo op to showcase their arrests. When he showed Sonia the photos, she broke down. They had to hide the photos from the children, and they are now blaming themselves.

The next family, the Spars family, is still in mourning. He notes they held a vigil, as if somebody died. In many ways, something did die. He says these are not strangers; they are families who staff our restaurants, pay their traffic tickets, and show up for their responsibilities. They are a part of this community, and asks where that community is now. He walked the kids to the bus that morning on behalf of his friend. Juanito, Fernando, and Lucas, students at Southern View and Franklin middle school, are still carrying this trauma today.

They deserve access to school counselors at the minimum, and they deserve access to care. This is not about politics, it's about people. ICE may come and go through Sangamon County, but it is us in the county who carry the aftermath. He says we can't undo what happened but we can decide what happens next. He is here for the children because they need someone to tell them that their pain matters.

The next person to speak was Robert Frazier. Mr. Frazier was not in attendance.

**REPORTS OF COUNTY OFFICIALS, REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES,
REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES, COMMITTEE REPORT 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 to recess the meeting to June 10, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. A voice vote was unanimous.

MOTION CARRIED

MEETING RECESSED

Don Gray
Sangamon County Clerk