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**MINUTES**

**SANGAMON COUNTY BOARD**

**MARCH 23, 2026**

The Sangamon County Board met in Reconvened Adjourned September Session on March 23, 2026 at the BOS Center. Chairman Van Meter called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Mr. Stumpf gave the Invocation and Mr. Hall led the County Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

Chairman Van Meter asked the County Clerk to call the roll. There were 28 Present – 0 Absent. A motion was made by Mr. DelGiorno, seconded by Mr. Madonia to allow Mr. Krell to participate via telephone conference. Revised roll call was 29 Present – 0 Absent.

**PROCLAMATIONS**

There were no proclamations.

**MINUTES**

A motion was made by Mr. Madonia, seconded by Mr. DelGiorno, for approval of the Minutes of the January 13, 2026 meeting. 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 the Final Plat of Ginder Minor Subdivision.

A motion was made by Mr. Mendenhall, seconded by Mr. Tjelmeland to place Resolution 1 before the Board. Chairman Van Meter asked County Clerk Gray to call the roll. Upon the roll call vote, there were 28 Yeas – 0 Nays. Resolution 1 was adopted.

MOTION CARRIED  
RESOLUTION ADOPTED

The Chairman stated that, without objection, they would proceed out of the regular order for the convenience of the second zoning matter on the on the agenda so they may be considered first. He had the Clerk read Resolution 3.

### **RESOLUTION 3**

3. 2026-001 CSMB Investments LLC, 3491 Cockrell Lane, Springfield – Granting a Rezoning, Conditional Permitted Use, and a Variance. County Board Member Cathy Scaife, District #29.

A motion was made by Ms. Scaife, seconded by Ms. Deppe, to place Resolution 3 before the Board. The Chairman noted that they are 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. A motion was made by Mr. Mendenhall to waive the reading of the professional staff's report. A voice vote was unanimous for the adoption of Resolution 3.

MOTION CARRIED  
RESOLUTION ADOPTED

The Chairman reminded people with signs that signs aren't allowed under their rules but he let everyone hold up the signs for a minute so the room could see them. He reminded everyone to keep them down during the meeting.

The Chairman stated there would be an organizing motion to organize the evening's discussion of the zoning matter.

Mr. Madonia, on behalf of Mr. DelGiorno and himself, moved they modify the process set forth in Section 2.04.250 of the Sangamon County Code with regard to the data center resolution. Section 2.04.250 allows two minute initial presentations and one minute rebuttals to the proponents and opponents of the zoning resolution. Given the issues raised by the data center resolution, slightly modifying this process will allow the points of the proponents and opponents to be presented concisely, while still allowing others interests in offering non-repetitive public comment the opportunity they so deserve. Section 2.04.140 allows board members to speak, not more than two times on any given topic for a total speaking time not to exceed five minutes. Given the time expected to be consumed by those speaking on the data center resolution, it is important that the limits on board members be enforced so the total time spent on the resolution does not become excessive. Their motion was as follows:

1. The data center resolution is moved out of the regular order of business.
2. The petitioner will be allowed ten minutes for its initial presentation in support of granting the zoning request.

3. Lori McKiernan, on behalf of the Coalition for Springfield's Utility Future, be allowed ten minutes for the initial presentation in opposition to granting the zoning request.
4. The petitioner be allowed ten minutes for the second presentation in support of granting the zoning request.
5. Lori McKiernan, on behalf of the Coalition for Springfield's Utility Future, be allowed ten minutes for a second presentation in opposition to granting the zoning request.
6. The petitioner be allowed ten minutes for the third presentation in support of granting the zoning request.
7. Lori McKiernan, on behalf of the Coalition for Springfield's Utility Future, be allowed ten minutes for a third presentation in opposition to granting the zoning request.
8. All persons who have not spoken and wish to make public comment be allowed two minutes each to make public comment in favor of or in opposition to the zoning request.
9. All petitioners other than petitioner and Lori McKiernan, who wish to rebut statements previously made be allowed one minute to do so.
10. Lori McKiernan, on behalf of the Coalition for Springfield's Utility Future, be allowed a total of five minutes to rebuke statements previously made and to present concluding comments in opposition to the zoning request.
11. The petitioner be allowed a total of five minutes to rebut statements previously made and to present concluding comments in support of the zoning request.
12. That Section 2.04.140 requirement that board members not speak more than two times on any given topic for a total speaking time, not to exceed five minutes, be strictly enforced by the Chairman in regard to the data center resolution.
13. Time spent by board members in directing questions to any speaker and to any speaker responding to those questions not be considered when determining whether speakers allotted time has expired.

Mr. DelGiorno seconded the motion as read. A voice vote was unanimous on the motion.

The Chairman stated that under the rules, they have allotted up to thirty minutes in ten minute segments for the organized presentations for the proponents and the opponents but they do not need to use all of that time. Once that portion is finished, they will proceed to public comment and anyone present will be allowed to address the board. The Chairman stated they would proceed in regular order.

Ms. Deppe made a motion to table the resolution until they have more information from the State. Mr. Guyton seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote there were 13 Yays – and 15 Nays. Those voting YAY were: Ayers, Constant, Deppe, Douglas-Williams, Forsyth, Fulgenzi, Guyton, Hall, Mendenhall, Scaife, Sheppard, Small and Tjelmeland. Those voting NO were: Cahnman, Davsko, Deaner, DelGiorno, Fraase, Krell, Lathan, Madonia, McGuire, Miller, Rader, Schackmann, Stumpf, Thomas and Truax. Motion to table failed.

The Chairman stated they would proceed in regular order. According to the motion adopted by the Board, there will first be a 10 minute presentation from the proponents. Bradd Hout from CyrusOne addressed the Board.

He thanked them for spending time to hear their final presentation regarding the proposed data center in Sangamon County. Many of the slides he's already presented before at previous meetings,

including the public forum in December and the zoning hearing so he'll run through what he presented previously relatively quickly. As a matter of background, CyrusOne is a global data center owner, operator and developer based in Dallas, Texas, and they operate 55 locations across the globe. This opportunity presents an opportunity to expand their campus in Central Illinois. They currently operate a number of facilities in the Chicagoland region, where they also employ, over 100 employees and several hundred other contractors as well.

He thinks most people are familiar with the site, but for those that aren't, this is in the southern portion of the county, 280 acres on Thayer Road, approximately two miles west of Lowder, four miles southeast of Waverly and seven miles from Auburn, Thayer and Virden and is directly adjacent to the Double Black Diamond solar farm. They selected this site because of its proximity to infrastructure, noting the existing substation just a half mile south of their site and the 345 kV corridor is along there as well.

The site plan consists of four, 450,000 square foot buildings. These will be built out over multiple years. Each building will take about 12 to 15 months to construct from start to finish for a total of four to six years of construction to build out this campus. Previously they had a six building campus shown. They revised that to address some of the early concerns they heard about lack of open space. The new design allows them to free up about 20 acres at the western end of the campus. It allows them to consolidate much more under one roof and be more water efficient. This design is roughly 20% more efficient than their earlier design, which they did to help address some of the concerns they heard early on about water. Benefit of this site is it has significant setbacks from existing residential. The closest residences are actually unoccupied. The closest occupied residence is a little bit further to the south, at that 2510 foot dimension. They have cooperation with and understandings in place with the closest property owners. As they move around the site to the northern side, the setbacks get further and further but generally, they're well over 1000ft in all directions.

At their public forum, he talked a little bit about Aurora and they talked about it at the Zoning Board of Appeals meeting, but he thought it was important to bring it up again and address some information as it relates to the Aurora campus. They do have a noise issue on this campus they have been working to address over the past several months. They were made aware of an issue, back in April of last year and immediately went into action to put into place some remedial measures as it relates to noise. That project has been ongoing and will be completed in September. They bought that campus in 2016 and expanded through 2024. They have held five community meetings during this process and they have posted a full updates of that on their website over the course of the past year. If there are any questions about the process of the history on this, it's on their website and it has been for the last year. There is one important distinction to make between the Aurora campus and the one in Sangamon County. As they can see, within that half mile radius, there's 175 to 200 single family homes around that campus. When you contrast it to the site in Sangamon, that first circle is a half mile radius. There are zero occupied residences within a half mile radius of the campus in Sangamon County. This is intentional. They want to make sure their sites are well located, and that they are learning from other issues they've had in the past. Additionally, all of the measures they've taken to mitigate noise on the campus in Aurora are already in the design for the campus in Sangamon County.

This will be new construction. They are using state of the art methods, and they will have chiller walls and generator walls incorporated. They have done noise modeling to confirm that the design for this site will meet county and EPA noise standards, and they will do additional confirmatory measurements at building permit issuance and completion. He showed a slide rendering of what the site

looks like and another elevation of what it looks like showing the chiller mitigation walls and the generator walls.

They have talked many times about water usage. They will use 4616 gallons per day across the entire campus once completed. Water is provided by the Apple Creek Rural Water Cooperative. Around this time last year, the County Board started the process of enacting special requirements for data centers. That was passed and approved. The list was shown on the screen. This guided their design from the very beginning when they started the process several months ago. The proposed site plan meets all the existing ordinance requirements. The Planning Commission staff found that the application met all standards for approval. In February, the Zoning Board of Appeals approved the project 5-0. Additionally, they have been made aware of some additional changes being contemplated to the data center ordinance. They have had a chance to review these, and sent a letter on March 22nd confirming they are already meeting these regulations or will be complying with them in the future.

With respect to jobs, this is a 4 to 6 year project requiring the work of at least 500 skilled construction workers. It is part of the reason why they selected this site, because they knew the strong workforce that exists here and the population that's here today that can serve this project. They agreed to enter into a project labor agreement to make sure that all work provided on this project is by local labor unions. There may not be enough people to serve this project today and so they are supporting pre-apprenticeship programs to make sure that there is a new workforce that can come in and support this project as they build it out. Once it's operational, they have 100 permanent positions serving this data center campus on a daily basis. They are entry level to highly technical roles. There are salary positions paying \$65,000 to \$150,000 per year, and they have some hourly positions for people who are looking for more temporary work. There is a role for essentially everybody in all backgrounds with this project.

With respect to economic impact, a minimum \$500 million investment over that time period, a minimum. He says that because it could be much more than that. They did not ask for a property tax abatement for this. They never asked for an NDA to be signed by any of the county board members or any of the agencies that they have worked with. This investment produces \$6 million annually in property tax revenue for the tax taxing districts. That's over or close to \$100 million over 20 years. In addition to this, they are voluntarily contributing an additional \$15 million in community benefits that he's going to run through now.

They are investing \$7 to \$9 million dollars as part of their contract with Apple Creek to provide water to the facility. The bigger investment they are making is in the dredging of Waverly Lake. Waverly Lake has seen sediment introduced into the lake over time and requires dredging. There is no public funding currently available for that work. Their participation on the private side to get that job done is going to help everybody in that region that relies on that lake for water. It is incredibly impactful for the folks that are served by the rural co-op and by the city of Waverly water source. They are going to require two diverse fiber line extensions. Those unlock the possibility for fiber service along those routes. So places that didn't previously have fiber before can have it once the lines are put into place.

With respect to the fire protection district, they met with the Vernon Fire District who provides the fire prevention protection service to the campus. They have committed to fund the purchase of a new ladder truck. Some of the other surrounding fire districts currently do have ladder trucks. They did not. They have a clear need for that to serve this project. They have committed to purchase that for

them. Additionally, they are offering variable grants for equipment upgrades and training based on need to other MABAS (Mutual Aid Box Alarm System) Division 48 districts, and that will be facilitated with the help of the Sangamon County Office of Emergency Management.

Finally, they are making investments in nonprofit and educational support. They have allocated funds to provide multi-year commitments to fund the need based programming for existing early childhood STEM education programs. They have committed funding to accommodate ten new pre-apprenticeship participants annually over the next five years through the Springfield Project. They have committed technology grants to the Auburn and Chatham school districts to support the educational needs of their nearest neighbors, and they will hold a the career and job fair in Q3 or Q4 of this year to make sure people are aware of pathways to work on their project and in their buildings once this is complete. He thanked the Board.

The proponents ten minutes time expired and next to present were the opponents.

Thomas Davis addressed the Board. He is a retired lawyer with 34 years of experience solely for state and county governments. He says the Illinois Constitution guarantees that, "each person has the right to a healthful environment". State zoning laws give explicit priority to health, safety, and welfare. The Illinois County Code authorizes the county to regulate and restrict location and use of structures for the purpose of promoting the public health, safety, morals, comfort and general welfare, and conserving the values of property throughout the county with, "the power to regulate and restrict the intensity of such uses as to rural buildings....due allowance shall be made for existing conditions and the conservation of property values". The law requires "development must be to the best advantage of the entire county". The statute does not mention revenue or money. Any tax payments beginning a few years from now, would be one part of the general welfare analysis. Many county residents, especially people those living near the site, have serious concerns about quality of life as well as electric bills. The ordinance declares, "the intent of these regulations is to protect the public health, safety and community welfare". They are under no requirement to act by a date. After 15 county meetings on this controversy, there are still unanswered questions and concerns. There is no legal urgency. Tonight is merely a self-imposed deadline.

The zoning board last Thursday announced that it is seeking to amend the ordinance to better protect the public health, safety and community welfare. Any vote, any revote tonight ought to be delayed pending ordinance revision. However, there is apparently some suggestion that they must vote tonight to approve this proposal simply because it is recommended as meeting the minimum requirements. This is both false and wrong. They have the discretion to defer this vote. Try again. Thirteen to fifteen. Most of the members of the county board and the public were not well informed of this proposal until very recently. Take a few more months to implement what they have learned, and then review the proposal and vote with the new and improved regulations.

Getting back to the current ordinance, it's still in effect. It explicitly sets only "the minimum regulations required". It clearly prohibits approval unless, "such use will minimize the adjacent effects on the character of the surrounding area". Any facility must "be operated, designed, and located so that the public health, safety and welfare will be protected and that it will not cause substantial injury to the value of other property in the vicinity".

They are obligated to give due consideration of these criteria. Their constituents have a constitutional right to a healthful environment and deserve more than minimal protection requirements being permitted. No developer has a vested interest in the present regulations unless and until land acquisition and significant capital expenditures are made. That is his opinion. The design of the data center is modular. It's relatively off the shelf. It's easily changed. They are changing it as time goes by. The exercise of their discretion is controlled by state law, and their ordinance requires due consideration of the criteria that matter most, this being the public health, safety and welfare. No other issue or factor outweighs these. Certainly not the uncertain revenue stream to be shared with another county. Of course, the key issue is intensity of use. Current restrictions, such as setbacks and height, are inadequate to minimize adjacent effects with the other important unresolved concerns and now the plan to revise the ordinance. They are legally obligated, in his view, to defer a vote on the data center proposal. Minimal impact cannot be achieved through minimal protection. He thanked the Board.

The next opponent to address the Board, was Jim Applegate. He has been a resident of Sangamon County for more than a decade. He knows for many of them that makes him a newcomer, but he urges them to say no to this clear and present threat to their health and safety, or at least support a delay until they have legally binding agreements protecting all of them.

Over the last two years, \$68 billion data center proposals around the country have been denied or delayed, with the most intense opposition. This is important coming from areas already dealing with the negative impact of a data center on the health and quality of life in their communities. \$68 billion worth, and that number is accelerating in late 2025 and 26. Why, they may ask, is this happening? Because more and more communities are putting their health and quality of life ahead of the often unfulfilled or at least overstated promise of tax dollars being dangled in front of them by billionaire companies with no vested interest in them. As county board members, their number one priority should be, the health and quality of life of their constituents. And as they have heard, legally, they can say no or delay proposals if they feel they threatened by that. And if somehow they don't see the dropping of 420 diesel generators the size of semi-trucks into the middle of prime farmland, holding nearly 3 million gallons of diesel fuel, with as yet no legal guarantees for how much or how often the dangerous particulates from diesel fuel are released into our air, as a clear and present danger to their health and safety, he is not sure why?

The EPA states the impact of diesel emissions as, and he quotes, "exposure to diesel exhaust can lead to serious health conditions like asthma and respiratory illnesses can worsen existing heart and lung diseases, especially in children and the elderly". The elderly. That would be him. These conditions can result in increased numbers of emergency room visits, hospital admissions, absences from work and in school and premature deaths also produced as acid rain, which affects soil, lakes and streams. They have already seen the harmful impacts of these data centers in places like Aurora. But it's not just about a power failure like they had in Aurora with extended use of these generators. By law, they must be tested on a cycle basis, monthly, quarterly and annually testing each of these 420 diesel generators for even 30 minutes per month would equate to 210 hours per month of dangerous particulates entering our ecosystem. And for their friends from Dallas, he would point out they have wind in Illinois and those particulates will not be limited to whatever small area the data center takes up.

Given all this, the lack of a legally binding testing schedule for these 420 semi-truck sized diesel generators poses a clear and present threat to the health and well-being of their constituents. And as to those pictures of tax dollars dancing around in their head, just Google "appealing property taxes for data

centers” and they will immediately find at least five law firms that tout their ability to massively reduce property evaluations for these centers by hundreds of thousands of dollars through manipulation of things like depreciation schedules. These are massive for-profit companies and avoiding taxes is a great way to increase profits. Not to mention the fact that 70% of any revenue will not even go to Sangamon County, which they are supposed to represent. As of now, they get most of the risks to health and safety and not much of the reward. He urges them to vote NO on this data center, or at least support a delay in approval until the many issues being raised by your constituents are resolved and they have legally binding commitments. He thanked the Board.

Next, the proponents had ten minutes to address the Board.

Kyle Barry is an attorney with McGuireWoods, and he is representing the petitioner here tonight. He lives in Springfield and is a Sangamon County resident and taxpayer and his office is about four blocks away from the County Building. He wants to discuss a couple of legal issues that were just raised. First of all, neither Mr. Davis nor Mr. Applegate attended the public hearing last month in front of the Zoning Board of Appeals. He doesn't know why and says they'll have to ask them. That was an evidentiary hearing. The reason the state law and their ordinance requires a public hearing is because it is an evidentiary hearing where witnesses testify. They are under oath. They make statements. And when people do that, they tend to be a little more careful about what they say or they should. Evidence is considered. The zoning board considered the evidence and they voted 5 to 0 to recommend approval. The evidence that was submitted here tonight, anything that's new should not be considered under the law, because it was supposed to be done at the evidentiary hearing. When it comes to data centers, and the arguments that data centers are bad, the problem with that argument is that this board and this County adopted a data center siting standard last July. And 25 years ago, the Illinois Supreme Court said that once a permitting body adopts a standard and sets something up as a special or conditional use, then it essentially has made a determination that that use is compatible with the zoning district that it is being proposed in, in this case, at the Agricultural Zoning District. If the applicant meets the standards, then the permitting authority is under the law under the Supreme Court ruling, not his opinion, it is the Supreme Court's. The body is required to approve the ordinance and petition, if it meets the standards. In this case, as Mr. Hout already indicated, the petitioner has met those standards in the application and in the evidentiary hearing. By the way, the commitments made at the evidentiary hearing are binding. That was a recorded meeting. The planning staff has found that the petitioner has met those standards and the zoning board again voted to recommend 5 to 0 unanimously that those standards had been met. He wanted to make it clear that while the arguments were made that they are not required to consider that, he begs to differ. The hearing was properly noticed under Illinois law and the zoning board has made its recommendation which is front of you. They can ask them to delay it. This is common. He does a lot of hearings around the state. He's appeared in about half the counties, mostly on renewable energy projects, and it's a common tactic of opponents to ask for a delay because they know that delays can kill a project. He'll turn things over to Mr. Hout again but he wanted to address those legal issues.

Next to address the Board for the proponents, was Laura Cottrell the CyrusOne environmental expert, to talk about emissions.

She is the Senior Director of Environmental Compliance with CyrusOne. He's been with CyrusOne for about three years, and prior to coming to CyrusOne, she spent the majority of her career in environmental consulting and the latter part of that focusing on data centers. Supporting their

competitors and our customers and others in the data center industry with air quality and air permitting challenges and other environmental challenges. So she understands what everyone is thinking about.

She wanted to respond to some of the specific comments on air quality concerns. For this site and really for any site in Illinois, the overarching regulatory framework that helps ensure that they are protecting the health of the community really starts at the Clean Air Act. At its very simplistic state, the Clean Air Act sets ambient air quality standards for the entire country. The rest of the Clean Air Act makes sure that if there are certain areas of the country that are not meeting those clean air standards, there are more stringent rules to ensure that they get back within those standards. Those standards include ambient air quality standards for things like NO<sub>x</sub> (nitrogen oxides), ozone and particulate matter. The Clean Air Act, delegation of that is given to Illinois EPA in the state of Illinois. When they go in to permit this data center, they are securing a permit from Illinois EPA. Their rules are set up to ensure that they are complying with the Clean Air Act. And inherently, those rules are set up to ensure they are protecting ambient air quality standards. Those standards are set to ensure the health of the community. Layered on that, another overarching federal regulation is called NESHAP, or National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air pollutants. They are talking about diesel particulate matter and other air toxics. That's another federal rule that, in addition to permitting, requires certain emission standards for diesel generators. They are subject to Subpart Quad-Z under the NESHAP rule. That basically dictates they need what is called a tier two emergency generator for their data centers. US EPA has deemed that for backup purposes, because they do not operate their generators. Often a Tier 2 emissions are adequate to protect human health and the environment. For this site, they are going above and beyond those Tier 2 standards. They are using Tier 4 equivalent emergency generators. That is basically a Tier 2 generator with emissions controls to reduce things like NO<sub>x</sub> CO, VOC and diesel particulate matter. This facility, once permitted, will become what's called a "minor source" under Illinois EPA rules.

They do not operate our generators frequently. Their normal maintenance and testing schedule is typically just a half hour no load run each month. And then a four hour load bank test annually. Utility outages they work to design to ensure that those are minimal and hopefully never happen, but those in most cases are an anomaly. She thanked the Board.

Mr. Hout said they were happy to close their ten minutes and proceed to the next section. The Chairman said, under the rules, there will be another ten minute segment for the opponents.

Don Hanrahan addressed the Board. He is a retired attorney. He said there are a number of things that that need to be rebutted. First of all, why they have to regulate not just whether this is a permitted use, not just whether it meets narrow, minimal criteria in the zoning ordinance. The zoning ordinance says these are minimal requirements, minimal. What the county board's obligation is to evaluate the intensity of any permitted use to decide whether the specifics that it does meet are sufficient to protect the health, safety and general welfare of the community. That is their legal obligation. Saying again and again that all they have to do is to meet these narrow little requirements on a ten page document they filled out is baloney. They have to consider the health, safety and general welfare. To get to the last issue first, they are proposing the county and the EPA waive all the noise requirements every time they run their diesel backup generators for more than just testing. If the power goes out, 420 diesel generators each the size of a semi-truck trailer are going to be roaring away at full blast. It will sound like a helicopter landing on top of their house.

They are all for union jobs but if they are going to have 500 union jobs, for 4 to 6 years, that means not only are they going to have the data center noise, not only are they going to have the diesel backup generator noise, they are also going to have construction noise for equipment. That is immense going on for 4 to 6 years. He said here is the thing about the union jobs, the jobs that are being created to construct this thing are building a machine that is an AI machine which takes away jobs. It takes away jobs. They don't know how many, but it takes away the kinds of jobs they have in Sangamon County that other unions rely on such as their AFSCME workers, their Service Employees International Union. Those are the kinds of jobs that disappear with AI.

This company is owned by BlackRock, the biggest company on earth. He wants to mention too, that they talk about how they're going to be good neighbors and comply and deal with all the pollution regulations, but they promised that in Aurora too. Four buildings each 450,000ft<sup>2</sup>. The county board's staff claims that it's no bigger than a grain elevator. You know how big a grain elevator is? Ten acres, maybe 25 if there is a rail facility. This thing is gargantuan.

They talk about water efficiency. What they don't tell them and they refuse to answer is their indirect water use. 600MW of power requires generating power. It's the kind of power that consumes vast amounts of water. If you're running 600MW and you're drawing it off coal, gas and nuclear, they are using millions of gallons of water every day, millions. And they don't want to talk about indirect water use. And they don't. They tell them that Aurora is a legacy plant. It's all of eight years old. What they don't tell them is that phase three of the Aurora plant is brand new. Its construction started in 2024. Did they tell everybody they were going to meet the requirements then? That phase is one of the ones that's producing all the problems in Aurora. And there are no homes near, but there is livestock nearby. There's a livestock operation and a kennel near. How is that compatible? Under the regulations to consider compatible use, it's incompatible with those uses that were already permitted.

Mr. Hanrahan ceded some of his time to Gary Schulze, a homeowner in the area.

Mr. Schulze is a union laborer. He lives a mile and a half from the proposed area in Lowder. Noise is the second largest environmental cause of health problems just after air pollution and data centers. He's not here to tell them about how bad data centers are, because they already know from researching them. The low frequency hum is reported in homes seven miles away, and the solar panels surrounding over half of it amplify it, making it louder and travel further, causing sleep problems. Stress and anxiety makes people live in hell. For those 100 permanent jobs, three quarters of them are remote.

He doesn't know if it has been brought up, but there are train tracks out there and the trains pass and will sit for 15 minutes, sometimes two hours. What are they going to do if there is a fire in Virden and have to sit at the tracks and then back up for two and a half miles and drive eight miles around to get to where they are going. He says this because a child was having breathing problems seven years ago and almost died because the train had the tracks blocked and the rescue squad couldn't get through. What if Virden is busy on a fire call? They are going to call Springfield, and then they are going to pay for it because all this money is going to Macoupin.

Nobody seems to be concerned about the water table out there. The lime lining that covers it is about 20ft down. When they go punching their caissons in for the stand-up panels they are putting in, they're going to go 40 to 50ft. Just across the street, they are only 35 to 38ft, and they're going to punch

through it and they're going to damage the water. There are a lot of people out there still on wells, but he knows that's not a concern of theirs.

These used vacuum salesmen that work for CyrusOne who lie under oath are, are not your new AI data center buddies. They may have taken a few of them out for meals to convince them how wonderful it is, but they won't remember them after this. But they sure the hell will. The majority will. Most of the people crowding this building don't even know what an AI data center is.

CyrusOne wants to get this passed as soon as possible before some real guidelines are put on data centers. They know this because last at the last meeting, they were talking about putting amendments on more. So why can't we do it to this one? Saying NO right now doesn't mean forever on this. It just means they have time to make some more guidelines for this, not screw the people over that live out in that township. He thanked them for listening.

The Chairman stated the proponents have their final ten minutes.

Bradd Hout addressed the Board again. He said in the opening presentation he had a map showing some of the nearest neighbors. The people directly adjacent to the proposed campus they have met with and have their cooperation in the project. He wanted to bring up a few supporters to speak using our time. They brought a drone view video for a matter of perspective for those who have not been out there and seen the site. They also have a local landowner there to speak.

Darrel Thoma addressed the Board. He is there not only representing the family that owns the land for the proposed site, but also as a proud resident of Sangamon County. He would first like to express his appreciation to the board for being here tonight and investing a lot of time over the last 6 to 12 months in listening, learning and engaging in thoughtful discussions about this remarkable opportunity. He believes that all of them here are aware of the challenges faced by the community and attracting interest from a large commercial company to establish a presence here in Sangamon County. Therefore, he also wants to extend his appreciation to CyrusOne for being here tonight and presenting this opportunity to them.

His family has been farming in Sangamon County for nearly 100 years. There is nothing more important to them than farmland and maintaining a sustainable family farming operation. They approached this opportunity, like many of them, with an open mind and a desire to understand all the benefits this project would have on the community. While the immediate benefits of job creation and substantial tax revenue are evident, he would like to emphasize the significance of land and why this is the perfect location for the data center. When Ameren put in the 345 kV transmission from Indiana to Kansas, it was right through the southern part of this county. Although this development may have initially seemed disappointing at the time, it inadvertently opened up a significant amount of capacity to the MISO grid. This led to the creation of Double Black Diamond. Consequently, Double Black Diamond constructed a brand new substation and interconnection into the MISO. So the necessary infrastructure is already in place for this data center site. MISO, Ameren, REA and the independent expert that this board hired, have all done a comprehensive analysis of this project and have provided them with a report that this project will not have a detrimental impact on the grid.

Currently, there are 140,000MW of capacity in the MISO grid. This is 600MW. That's less than a half a percent of the available capacity. The site is also uniquely suited because it is entirely farmland. And as they can see, there are no houses, there are no trees, there are no waterways, no fence rows and

minimal wildlife. The closest house is over a half a mile, and there are only a couple others that are within a full mile. He would also like to point out that the southwest area of Sangamon County has emerged as a prominent commercial corridor, with businesses such as Scoular Grain, CHS, Springfield Plastics, Brandt Consolidated, Xcessories Squared and Double Black Diamond. This area has proven itself to be a great place to do commercial business. So with the existing interconnection infrastructure already in place and the minimal impact on the environment and surrounding neighbors and the positive effects of job creation, substantial revenue for the taxing bodies of this county he firmly believes this is a perfect site and presents an exceptional opportunity for the county. He thanked the Board.

Aaron Guernsey spoke next to provide a perspective on jobs. He is the President of the Central Illinois Building and Construction Trades Council, representing about 10,000 families who will be working on this project. He is also the Business Manager for the Plumbers and Steamfitter and HVAC/R techs for Local 137. Many, many people who want to work on this project are there tonight. Sitting in the audience, the men and women with union cards in their pockets who took time out of their day to show this board what this project means to them. It means having money to spend at local stores and restaurants. It means the ability to buy cars. Support their solid school districts and maintain community resources funded by the taxpayers. But more importantly, they are here tonight to see who supports them. To see which members care about the working men and women of this community. These workers care deeply about this region. They are the ones helping with the storm cleanup when disaster strikes. They are coaching the Little League teams, leading their 4H groups, volunteering in the churches and supporting countless other organizations that rely on people and will volunteer and step up right here. This project matters to them. The working class matters to this community. He urges them to vote yes and not disappoint these families who give so much to this project. He is in approval of it. He thanked the Board.

Sean Middleton next addressed the Board. He is the President and CEO of Rural Electric Convenience Cooperative in Auburn. They have heard him before, but the point remains the same that this data center represents a new era of investment. The existing transmission electrical infrastructure has been set. It was already paved. It already paved the way and it's allowed renewable energy development in solar and wind. Two different wind farms, one in place, one coming. Now it has allowed the advent of data center or load applications to be able to be built here. It invited them in a sense, and it showcases that Sangamon County is ready for high tech industrial growth. Reliability, he knows, is paramount to everyone. It is to him. He dedicated his entire utility career to it. Knowing that they are working with entities like CyrusOne to provide the cost framework to pay for the electrical infrastructure investments that need to be made and the fact that the electric substation apparatus, which is the biggest investment, already exists because it was built for the solar farm. It already is there to allow the interconnection. He did the application permits. Their local permitting authority, Ameren Transmission and the Mid-continental Independent System Operator, both signed off on this. They issued a no-harm, no impact transmission system reliability study. No one gets affordability more than their electric co-op that's been there for 80 some years. Why would they enter into an agreement that was going to raise their rates? He can only be emphatic about the fact that they are the Board of Directors and their local electric cooperative is intending to utilize the margins they received to take pressure away from future rate increases. And so the point is, a vote for this project is a strategic investment in not only Sangamon County's prosperity, but for the long term grid and other reliability of this area. He thanked the Board.

Mr. Hout said they would cede the rest of their time.

The Chairman stated the final ten minute segment would be presented by the opponents.

Dr. Catherine Campbell addressed the Board. Many of them know her. Not everyone realizes that she was a professor emeritus, distinguished scholar of SIU School of Medicine. She was Director of Audiology research. Her PhD was in hearing science. The biologic effects of environmental noise are very well known. They have known it for decades, but more information is coming out. Chronic noise exposure can negatively impact mental health, including depression, anxiety, behavioral problems and suicide, particularly in children and adolescents. Further, chronic environmental noise exposure can negatively impact cardiovascular health, ability to concentrate and sleep. It can even disrupt their circadian rhythms. The 24/7 year round noise exposure of data centers is unlike other rural noise exposures. She's heard the comparison to grain elevators. That's usually 4 to 6 weeks. It's seasonal and it's intermittent.

She's watched with admiration Sangamon County's work on mental health. Don't sacrifice the health and welfare of one segment of the population for the financial gain of another. They have had that vote. Please respect it. The backup generators. She has recordings from Aurora. The recordings are similar to a shop-vac. She will guarantee them that when her husband uses the shop-vac working on a project, she usually leaves the house. If that had gone 24/7, their marriage would not have lasted 50 years. The staff report says this isn't a problem. But as her colleague pointed out, with 420 generators, this works out to over seven hours of exposure, 365 days a year of one backup generator, and if they played two at once, it increases the intensity. So the noise samples that she can't play, she would like to, but she would tell them she has the recordings from 1375ft in Aurora. She did the calculation. They can still hear that at three quarter miles. Those people will be hearing it, and it will be at the level of about sitting next to their washer or dryer, not sitting in the other room, but sitting by their washer or dryer. Some of this will be higher if they are closer to it.

It also has adverse effects on livestock. It can decrease milk production in cows. Egg laying in chickens. So they are also susceptible to this. It could limit the development of the land next to it. Even if that livestock isn't there now, it would limit their ability to put in housing or livestock areas next to that property. The most constant noise is from the cooling systems, including fans and HVAC. For those of them that have gone to Aurora, keep in mind this facility is four times as large, and you get a doubling. Every doubling in noise generators gives them another three decibels increase. So this would be 60 B louder here compared to what is in Aurora. She wishes she could play the recordings again, but she will say that in Aurora they say, we've got problems, but have they shut down so that those people are not exposed to the over noise exposure that is not in compliance? They have not.

They said, they are ordering in more chillers. They are ordering in more insulation. Surely that will never happen here. When you look at a company, what happens when things go wrong? Do they shut it down and take care of the people? Or do they continue month after month saying, they'll take care of it and they'll make sure it doesn't happen at the next place? She always look at what comes first. So she's very concerned about this again. She had allotted some of her time for the noise recordings, but she assures them they would not want to live with the 24/7 noise that will come out from the fans. The HVAC systems in a facility this large will be louder than Aurora. The recordings that she had and did her measurements on, she has determined is not a place that they are going to want to live next to and she thinks it's going to inhibit other development up there. She doesn't think businesses are going to want to move close because of the noise exposure. She doesn't think they will want to put more livestock in because of the noise exposure and that is an inherent part of data centers. She is not trying to disparage

the people from CyrusOne. She knows they are trying to make money, but she does not think that this is in the best interest of their residents. She thanked the Board.

Mr. Hanrahan addressed the Board again. He said to address what Mr. Barry said regarding, Section 17.39, which regulates data centers. The ordinance states in no uncertain terms that the purpose of these regulations is to provide a uniform and comprehensive set of standards for the installation and location of a data center, which it defines. In the vaguest of terms, the intent of these regulations is to protect the public health, safety and community welfare of this community. That's what it says. So the public health, safety and community welfare have to be considered in making their decision.

When they talk about it's unbelievable that someone who claims to live there comes there and says, their family has been there for 100 years and there's no wildlife there. Ask the people who live there. He just talked to Gary Schulze about wildlife before this meeting started. There are coyotes, foxes, bats, and deer. There is also another corridor besides a business corridor and it's called the Mississippi Flyway. They are right in the middle of it. Lick Creek is right there. Guess what flies down Lick Creek and the Mississippi Flyway - endangered species. He says to not talk about how there is no effect on wildlife.

He was there at the Zoning Board of Appeals meeting. He says the health, safety and general welfare have to be considered. IEPA compliance. Do they know organizations like Sierra Club, NAACP, Prairie Rivers Network, those organizations know for a fact that the IEPA doesn't have the staff to go around checking noise levels and diesel levels. Someone has to file a complaint. Then there is a long regulatory process. This is not what this board should be considering - deferring to another agency that's understaffed underfunded, and incapable of doing their job, which is to protect the health, safety and general welfare.

He is happy and proud that Mr. Guernsey and his union do all the things that they do in this community, and he supports them and he hopes that one day he can look his other unionists in the eye when they're about to be laid off because AI took their jobs. Other unions are not being considered here, only the ones that get the temporary jobs for 4 to 6 years. Maybe 100, maybe 500 jobs that they don't even know whether they're full time or part time. They haven't told them.

The agricultural impact here is significant. This monstrosity is completely incompatible with the already existing adjacent agricultural use. They just heard from Cathy Campbell that the existence of this thing impairs the opportunity value of all the surrounding land. Those landowners can't subdivide it. They can't put housing there. They can't move a new livestock operation there. They have all kinds of diminution in their opportunities.

Why did the Sangamon County staff find it necessary to equate this to an agricultural use, like a grain elevator that benefits an agricultural area with a 10th of the space and not the 24/7 noise.

The Chairman called time and said the formal presentations were concluded.

County Board member Kevin McGuire, District 28 spoke. He wanted to share a couple of items before they get into the rest of the meeting. This was all proposed and shared at the Zoning and Land Usage Committee meeting last month. They have listened to the public concerns, including a proposed zoning ordinance that was provided to a number of board members related to data centers. They also worked

with professional staff, board leadership and several board members on where they can implement some of these requests and more of the items related in this zoning ordinance related actually to building permits and building code, but Zoning is the first step here. They still need to apply for building permits in order to move the project forward. This doesn't end after tonight. He just wanted to note that.

A few items that that he and Tom Rader brought to their committee to discuss were; requiring tier four generators dramatically limits the noise levels, complying with all EPA requirements and industry standards, which has changed significantly over the last several years, especially when compared to some older data centers that are continuously compared to this one. Requests for inspections will all be fulfilled at the developer's expense so there is no cost to the taxpayer. He wanted to note that as well. They also have ongoing discussions regarding setbacks. Looking at 1500 feet potentially, but this is being reviewed in committee. He would encourage other committee members and anyone else with an interest to come out and share their opinion while they draft an amendment to file at the committee level. Discussing how to approach enforcement of the energy code and several other items. CyrusOne has agreed in writing to comply with all of this. He would just make note of the correspondence they received from CyrusOne stating "CyrusOne Sangamon LLC has no objections to the proposed changes to the county's zoning or building code. In fact, CyrusOne either has already complied with or will comply with the requirements imposed by the proposed language at a later date, as appropriate". He next deferred to County Board Member Tom Rader who would explain the building code aspect of it.

County Board Member, Tom Rader, District 8 addressed the Board. He wanted to let them know they have professional staff check their ordinances and found they have met with what other counties have passed for zoning of data centers. They have found areas that needed different wording and as Kevin said, they as a County Board are working with changes. CyrusOne has signed a letter of compliance to their zoning and proposed change of language as of today. One of the changes they have made highlights a data center shall comply with noise limits established by the Illinois Pollution Control Board. A noise study shall be completed before and after each construction phase and is done at the expense of the developer with no expenses to the taxpayers of Sangamon County.

Chairman VanMeter thanked Mr. Rader and Mr. McGuire and stated they would be proceeding with the public comment portion of the zoning hearing. Any member of the public who wished to speak was allowed two minutes. He also asked everyone to be considerate of their fellow citizens who are speaking.

SPEAKER 1: Hello. My name is Silvia. I'm a teacher and I'm an unapologetic patriot and I'm a wife. I want to start with a joke about China once being addicted to opiates while America made things. And now that's quite the opposite. And let me make it clear, this proposed data center, the proliferation of AI and quantum computing is not a thing. It's not a tangible good or service, and that is why it is being packaged as a crafty bill of lies with an attempted sale to us. We are the product. Speaking of, I've been hearing talk of China eating our nation's proverbial lunch since I was a child, all from the mouth of citizens who will never say the words "dual citizens." Is China not our adversary? Do we model our own nation after a Communist society with surveillance capitalistic tendencies? In the PRC they abuse their citizens' rights through their vast digital infrastructure to the detriment of the individual, while easing governance for their regime. The phrase "Those who would give up essential liberty to purchase a little temporary safety deserve neither safety nor liberty" comes to life, while even Israel has the sense to bury their data centers deep underground because of their high terror potentiality and the effects on

all biological organisms. Everyone knows our greatest ally exports only one service, high technology theft, espionage, blackmail. By way of deception, thou shalt win wars. It's a former model of MOSSAD. Be fairly equivalent to the CIA. How fitting for the way this country is headed in to the false enlightenment of the smart city digital age. And Israel will never pay a red cent to see the construction of an iron dome equivalent for the United States. America, you are headed in to a technologically-facilitated police state, a panopticon or smart prison that gets reality out of fictions like Minority Report or the Terminator. Career diplomats like Brezinski and politicians like Henry Kissinger –

The Chairman stated the Speaker's time was up.

SPEAKER 2: My name's Carol Bergschneider. I'm a nurse. My husband is a city fireman. My son is a union worker. And I am a resident in the District 7 where they are planning to build this. The real issue is not whether Sangamon County is being asked to accept the wrong project for our land, our infrastructure, and our long term future. We support unions, we support workers, and we support good-paying jobs as many of us are workers that keep this county running every single day. That's exactly why the conversation around this proposed data center should not be reduced to a false choice between jobs and community responsibility. This project has not begun. No one's livelihood hinges on this project. As a bedside cardiac nurse, I work every day inside systems that cannot afford to fail. That perspective shapes how I evaluate the proposal of 280-acre data center with a power load of roughly 120,000 homes. I see risk, I see strain, and I see the waste that inevitably falls on the people who are closest and the ones who just can't relocate when the system fails. Using union workers against community workers is appalling. Members should not be in this situation. The appearance that rejecting this project should somehow threaten their ability to feed their families is repulsive. This job does not exist. Their employment does not rise or fall on this company's land acquisition. Union workers being the emotional buffer for a billion dollar corporation does not build support. It manufactures pressure and it divides our community.

The Chairman stated the Speaker's time was up.

SPEAKER 3: Good evening. My name is Ray Campbell. I have only two minutes. There are a lot of reasons to vote no on this data center or, at the very least, delay it. We don't have to do this right now. First of all, the AI and the data center revolution resembles the .com bubble of the early 2000s. And don't tell me I don't know what I'm talking about, because I lost a job I loved because of that. Second of all, this industry, the data center industry, wants our privacy laws weakened as documented in the February 8, 2026, Chicago Tribune. Why do you think that is? What do they want to do with our information, guys? We should not be voting for people that want to sacrifice our privacy. Thirdly, it makes me sick that this proposed site is on prime farmland. I'm the son of a farmer, and there are better places for this kind of thing, like industrial areas that are zoned for this kind of thing, not out in the middle of nowhere. And, fourthly, there is another county that is heavily impacted by this and is not even being considered, and that is Morgan County. Those people aren't even in the discussion. It's being shoved down their throats and with no input from them at all. Listen, I support union workers as well and construction workers. I know that jobs are important to you guys. But you know what, AI is taking over other union jobs, as was discussed recently in the State Journal - or in the Chicago Tribune on February 8. Let's learn from Aurora. If it could happen to Aurora, it could happen here. Let's not let it happen here. Let's vote no or at least delay this thing. Thank you very much.

SPEAKER 4: My name is Karen Campbell. I, too, would like to see this project voted down for many reasons. I know I only have two minutes, so I will make it brief. I do not believe that emergency personnel, that being fire, emergency, medical and law enforcement, have the resources or training to deal with something like this, either from a hazardous material incident or potential terrorism target. And, yes, folks, I believe this is a potential terrorism target. Also, I want to ask can this thing withstand a natural disaster. The reason I ask is this area is prone to tornados and, yes, earthquakes. We are not far from the New Madrid Fault. Has there been an answer on that question, especially the latter question about earthquakes? I support a no vote on this project and a moratorium so that more questions that are still out there can be answered. Thank you.

SPEAKER 5: My name's Anne Logue, and I want to just reiterate that the Iranian government bombed two Amazon data centers, so, you know, let's just put a target on our back. Anyway, I also wanted to say that the EPA currently is getting gutted with protections. So if the Sangamon County is depending on the EPA to do that, our current president -- and thank you very much for how he got there -- is gutting environmental protections when it comes to pollution, water, food, soil. In regards to the unions, I support unions. I think they are a great thing. I wouldn't have my healthcare if it wasn't for a union. I do think that it is wrong to sacrifice a lot of people's health in children. We have 15 times the rate of asthma in Sangamon County on the east side versus the west side. That's a lot of asthma. And these diesel generators are very disturbing. That's 400 generators. I put some information on your tables about the ion air battery which could replace the diesel generators, and it's cheaper, and it definitely wouldn't be putting particulates into the air. Koran Saines, who is on the board of directors in Leesburg, Virginia, is where data centers are saturated. And I called him not too long ago and had a discussion. And when I told him that there were 400 generators, he was shocked. He was like, oh, my god, you know. And this is a guy who deals with data centers all the time, including CyrusOne. So I just want to say this is not just one data center. This is a massive influx of them

The Chairman stated the Speaker's time was up

SPEAKER 6: First and foremost, show transparency by identifying any board members who signed an NDA or received campaign donations from CyrusOne, their affiliates or the owners of the land, the Dowson farm or family. Anyone who has signed an NDA or received donations should excuse themselves from voting. Secondly, the County Board needs to identify who they are consulting with when it comes to environmental matters or concerns. Third, regarding data center legislation, Illinois is working on current legislation and laws so that they are more in line with residents' interests. Part of that includes House Bill 4980 which AFSCME supports. It's such guidelines to how and when AI is used in the public sector. Another part is based on taxation for data centers which the governor is working on suspending for two years. If CyrusOne truly has our interests at heart, they should be fine with delaying the process until new legislation takes place. CyrusOne has made promises not to appeal taxation amounts. Sadly, promises aren't legally binding. Our current state laws give data centers exceptions for state tax up to 20 years and allows them a tax credit for 20 percent of construction labor. As it stands, the county will not receive their one percent sales tax for anything that CyrusOne purchases for 20 years. CyrusOne has claimed to show good will by signing a PLA with local unions. However, they failed to mention that a PLA is required for the current labor tax credit incentive. Fourth, Illinois is the first state to pass a wildlife protection. They are finally taking eco-friendly steps. Why do we have to wait until we decimate our eco system to straighten things out? Stop hurting our environment. Thank you.

SPEAKER 7: You know, usually when I get something or someone does something for me, I get them to sign a contract, you know, get deliverables phone numbers, not estimates that are constantly floating. I think I've seen estimates. Like we have talked about millions of gallons of water. But even in the newspaper, the information that the public is getting is pretty trickled out. Eleven hundred and twenty-eight gallons is no minor junk, if you are talking about water use consumption. And if we can keep up with all these generators, I haven't seen anything about actual hook-ups. How many hook-ups are you going to expect for this? This is a lot of -- the point is we are being asked to make a decision on minimal evidence, and that is problematic. Speculate -- like we are treating this as like we have to do this. And the problem is the consequences are going to keep rolling in, and the only response is going to be the decision was made, the decision was made. The momentum is going to working up the people here. And I'm not here to say all data centers are bad. What I'm trying to say is we should make decisions based on clear foundation. That's it.

SPEAKER 8: My name is Justin King. I'm a sixth generation farmer from western Sangamon County. On my farm we grow food, not concrete, not plastic panels, not miles of high rope and no trespassing fence. Five years ago I had a dream to build a house on my family farm so my kids could grow up there with me. Sangamon County almost crushed that dream. Sangamon County made it nearly impossible for me to set aside a few acres for my own family to build a house on our family farm. Sangamon County made it so hard, I almost gave up. Thankfully, I didn't. All the while, you seek to be so willing, so inviting, to make it so easy for solar, data center, AI to come in and destroy one of our most precious resources, our green fields, our fertile soils and our ability to produce food. You make it so easy to harm the majority of rural Sangamon County, rural Morgan County residents, for the gain of a small handful of the wealthy, some, most I'm guessing, not even residents of Sangamon County. I'm sure many short-term building jobs are created, but many long-term jobs are taken away. Agricultural jobs are lost. Local farmers, farm employees, ag equipment suppliers, grain elevators, equipment dealerships, rural banks and many others will lose. Rural Sangamon County will lose. Data centers come for AI. What is AI going to do for jobs? This is a short-term job gain for a long term job loss. There appears to be a large solar farm in operation in Sangamon County. I don't know how the tax revenue system works, but what I do know is my property taxes are the highest they have ever been. My electrical bill is the highest it has ever been. The rural roads I drive on are the worse I've ever seen. The presence of county police officers in rural Sangamon County is almost non-existent. I don't know where all the tax revenue goes, but it doesn't seem to be making a difference in the quality of life for rural people like me to live in rural Sangamon County.

The Chairman stated the Speaker's time was up

SPEAKER 9: Hi. I'm Danuta Dynda. I'm a medical researcher here at the School of Medicine. My speech is shot to all hell because everyone has already said things. What I can tell you is this: There is an economic researcher in Texas who for the last five years has been studying the effects of data centers within Texas. They do not create new jobs. It's oftentimes a transfer of jobs from other places that are temporary at best. There is no economic benefit because they will fight tooth and nail, once you approve this, to get whatever credits they have and to appeal whatever they can appeal with their multimillion dollar - thousand dollar lawyers making it happen. The only benefits in all of my research since I have heard about this is to the people and the industries whose pockets are being lined, and that includes committee members that are now being investigated in other states who are voting against the people who they have been elected to support, to be our voices, to vote on our behalf. There is a township in Michigan who is recalling their entire board, and that is now going through the legal

channels right now. You know what I find that is very, very interesting, every time I see pictures of datacenters where they show all of the fancy -- now nice the building looks, I never see any people that are supposed to be workers within that. You should fire your marketers. You should fire your marketers because that's exactly what it is. The vast majority of jobs are remote. Most of them are not local. And when they say an average of 83,000 salary, let's remember an average, you have one person making half a million and the rest doing minimum wage, there is your average of 83,000. I grew up in a construction site. My father was a contractor.

The Chairman stated the Speaker's time was up

SPEAKER 10: Martin Fairchild, Rochester Fire Protection District Board of Trustees. I think it's wonderful that you are helping out Virden Fire Protection District with a ladder truck, but you need to remember that there is multiple agencies, other fire districts in MABAS 48, and we will all be coming to the natural disaster that takes out your data center. You need to have ongoing training and equipment upgrades for all the fire protection districts in MABAS 48. I would strongly urge you to contact the command staffs and the boards of trustees of these fire protection districts in MABAS 48 for some guidance on training and personnel and equipment. Thank you.

SPEAKER 11: Good afternoon. My name is George Alexander, and I'm the Laborers Local 477's business manager. I heard someone say that a four to six-year job isn't really that much sustainability. But I will tell you right now, it means a lot to the men and women of my union because right now work is very scarce. You are not the one that's getting the calls saying they can't pay their bills or they are considering suicide. So I applaud CyrusOne for wanting to bring this job here and have local -- a work force with a PLA on it, you know what I am saying. So I want to say thank you to the men and women of my local that came tonight and other unions. But it's very detrimental to the unions here in this town that we get this job. There is very dire need of it because work is very scarce. And that's all I care about, is the men and women of Sangamon County and local areas working. It may not occur to you because you have a full time job and able to pay your bills. But when you get those notices of saying your electricity is about to get cut off and you can't feed your family, then maybe come to the union. Because we at the Laborers don't care, only if you have a high school diploma. And when this job comes four to six years, come see me; I will help you get in the union. Thank you.

SPEAKER 12: Good evening. My name's Chris Arnold. I'm the business manager for Operating Engineers Local 965. I came here tonight, but we've got many of our members here. A lot of the other building trades are here to represent. This puts our men and women to work for four to six years. There is maintenance that's going to come along behind it. It's not just a four to six-year project. It's going to last for years and years to come, to maintain and keep things running. I'm going to keep it short and sweet. It's been a long enough evening. It's going to be even longer. I respect and appreciate your guys' support for this project. Thank you.

SPEAKER 13: Hello. My name is Sarah Blanco. I am a resident of Springfield, and I am a member of AFCSME Local 3738. I am against this data center because I grew up in a small town, and this all looks so familiar in the attitudes I am seeing towards people who live in rural areas. The first meeting like this I ever attended, I was probably in about fifth grade. General Electric was coming to town and trying to put in a nuclear reprocessing project that had just messed up the water in a town a little ways away. Thankfully, it did not go through. But I am no stranger how -- to how these corporations see rural areas and are like, oh, we will put this dangerous thing there; the people there don't matter. And I think that's

disgusting. Also speaking as a union member, I am a librarian. I work in a job that cannot be replaced by AI. I work with people on a daily basis who struggle with technology. My job requires sharp critical thinking and customer service skills. I know that my job can't be replaced by AI. I also know that that is not going to stop some corner-cutting bureaucrats at some point from trying to replace my job with AI. And I -- I ask everyone who is claiming to care about workers when they are making their decision on this, think about how AI is being rolled out, how it's expected to put so many people out of work, which isn't just bad for the workers, but bad for everyone they serve. So I am going to ask the same question I have asked in probably most of my public comments at this point. Who does the County Board work for? Do you work for the Springfield Sangamon Growth Alliance, for your donors, for the moneyed interests.

The Chairman stated the speaker's time was up.

SPEAKER 14: Good evening. It has been said you can't build long-term futures from short-term thinking. Say no to short-term tax breaks from a \$16 billion out-of-state company that will further raise our electric bill, take farmland permanently out of production, and eventually give us another property that will sit for decades as an eyesore with the burden on us to clean up. CyrusOne's community promises remind me of Nestle. They built playgrounds and infrastructure locally while draining the aquifer and selling your water back to you. And similar to the CO2 pipeline, only those making money off of the project are in favor of the project. If they care so much about union labor, they wouldn't use prefab modules for construction. I certainly hope everyone thinking about voting yes tonight has each of those bribes in legally-binding writing. I'm here tonight calling for a 90-day pause on this vote, as Chairman Andy Van Meter himself said is a legal option, specifically, to give the Illinois State Legislature an opportunity to pass data center regulation next month. This is not a kick-the-can without end, but a meaningful pause with a definitive end. We are addressing this project at the county level, but the strain on our electric grid is a larger issue. Seventy percent of the rise in our electric costs across the nation last year were from data centers. Remember, this center's specifically planned to use the same amount of energy as hundreds of thousands of homes. Sangamon County has fewer than a hundred thousand, so that's about four times as much energy used as all of the homes in our entire county. And as we all know, adding to demand without adding to supply will increase costs, period. CyrusOne's employer fails to mention the majority of County Board members had no idea this project would come to light three months after the essentially non-regulatory zoning ordinance was snuck in. That was not an informed decision. There might not have been an NDA, but SSGA certainly held that information tightly. They also failed to mention they are currently being sued in Aurora, because that's the only recourse. Let's not be next. The County Board members whose districts are in closest to the center don't want it.

The Chairman stated the speaker's time was up

SPEAKER 15: Hello. My name is Brent Coleman, and I usually only come up here and talk about community things. So all the numbers that are going on with all the lawyers, don't really much mind. But what is abhorrent to me is the psychological game play of bringing all of our labor workers in here in order to try to put them against our communities and everything that goes along with it. We absolutely love our labor workers. We are all labor workers. We do our best to get by any way that we can. Making it us versus them is simply abhorrent. Someone trying to live their lives and get money and pay their bills is what everybody is trying to do. Our communities that go along with it are also trying to live their lives and make their families happy and have the posterity -- why do you keep breaking -- the posterity and words to go through and live, everything that goes along with it. I am upset about this,

about the fact that a giant corporation can come in and try to say that it is your guys' fault if they are not able to get their job done. That is ridiculous.

The Chairman stated the speaker's time was up

SPEAKER 16: Hi. My name is Clara from the community. I'm going to echo what many people have said here tonight about mental health and wellness. First I would like to acknowledge the hard work of the Massey Commission for getting 708 Mental Health Board on the ballot and for Sangamon County coming out and voting and showing that we care about mental health and wellness. This company doesn't. Data centers are exactly the opposite of mental health and wellness. We've heard all of the research tonight. You can just go and do more. It disrupts sleep cycles. It disrupts -- it causes anxiety. It causes stress. Long-term noise exposure does that. There is not a need to vote on this tonight other than no. When we reach out to you as community members, we expect a response. The response we expect tonight is a no vote on this. We need more time to do more research. Short-term gains should not be traded for long-term destruction. You are beholden to your county constituents. You need to remember we will hold you accountable. In closing, I would like just to remind you of BP, Exxon, and Pond, Three Mile Island and CyrusOne.

The Chairman stated the speaker's time was up

SPEAKER 17: Good evening. My name's Mike Murphy. I'm president and CEO of the Greater Springfield Chamber of Commerce. I want to thank the Board members for allowing me the opportunity to talk in favor of this project. I look forward to the beginning of construction when we will have, as been mentioned several times, 500 local union jobs that will give them the opportunity to support all of our businesses in our community. I talk all the time do business with somebody who can do business with you. And that's exactly what this project will do. Once it's completed, I look forward to having the technology that we will need to make sure our businesses can advance and stay competitive. I started in business in 1979. I sold my last business in 2017, and I can tell you the biggest change was technology, and that's not going to stop. So we need this, whether -- you know, I hear some arguments against it, but we will need this to stay competitive. Finally, I want to thank CyrusOne for picking our community for a \$500 million investment plus. I really appreciate that. I also want to thank the Springfield Sangamon Growth Alliance for their hard work on bringing this project to where it is today. And they haven't put a penny in my pocket. And, once again, thank you, Board, and I appreciate a yes vote.

SPEAKER 18: All righty. Can everybody hear me? Okay. Good. Now, my name is Rubin. I'm a Springfield resident. I am an animator. I upload cartoons and stuff online. And as much as I am in massive support with union construction jobs, I feel like building a data center is severely misguided for many of the reasons that have been brought up tonight, also in addition to the fact that these kind of centers, they produce like AI-generated art and cartoons and stuff, that that's just -- that would put me out of a job. However, like I said, I do support union construction jobs. And I think we should be using that energy to build affordable housing right here on all these barren lots downtown. All of our local businesses in downtown will finally get daily foot traffic to keep their doors open, and it would also-- all these new people living in downtown would create a tax basis Sangamon County has never seen before that could fund so many local stuff like schools, libraries, the rail improvement project, which could eventually lay the groundwork for high speed rail connecting us to some of our biggest cities in the region. It's your choice, Sangamon County. We can build the data center or we can build something that could benefit everybody.

SPEAKER 19: Good evening. My name's Amy McDaniels, and I am a nearly lifelong Sangamon County resident and a member of a union household. I am here tonight because there is nothing about this data center project that benefits Sangamon County. If the Board approves this project, you will be selling us out for \$30 million over 20 years or \$1.5 million, while Macoupin County receives nearly \$70 million and none of the overly harmful environmental damages this project will cause to the people of Sangamon County. This supposed financial windfall from this project is a farce, just like so many of the other promises made by CyrusOne who, as a reminder, is a multibillion dollar out-of-state company who is beholden only to their shareholders and clients and not to this community. It takes a simple Google search to see their blatant lack of care for the communities they place these centers in. The people of Aurora are tormented day and night by the incessant noise pollution produced by the CyrusOne data center. Aurora is in the midst of re-writing their regulations due to the disturbances caused by the CyrusOne data center, and the Aurora director of sustainability admits that the changes to regulations will only impact new projects. If this board votes yes on this project, you will be setting a precedent that is so harmful, it is truly difficult to fully realize. I attended the Zoning Board meeting last week and was beyond dismayed to learn that the current zoning rules which this project falls under will be -- will not protect us when CyrusOne goes back on their promises. The County Board does not have the administrative infrastructure in place to take on CyrusOne or to hold them accountable when that time comes. We have no reason to believe CyrusOne will be a good neighbor. In fact, we have all of the information needed to see that it will be the opposite. And we only need to look to Aurora. We aren't special. This project isn't special to them. This is just another day for CyrusOne, but this is a monumental day for Sangamon County.

SPEAKER 20: Good evening. My name is Jordan Shaw. I am, to be honest, a recent resident of Sangamon County, but before that I had lived my entire life in Virden, Illinois, Macoupin County. So I'm here tonight not only as a Sangamon County resident, but a previous Virden resident. I urge and recommend you to vote no on the data center, not only for Sangamon County but also the neighboring counties. Apologies for having to repeat what somebody else previously stated, but not only is it going to affect Morgan County as in Waverly, but also Macoupin County, because Virden, the majority of it is in Macoupin. There is only just a little spot of it that's technically Sangamon. I am very concerned about what is going to happen not only with the noise pollution and the pollution, but also what's going to happen to the workers. When things eventually start to fall apart, they will be blamed for it, and it is not their fault. I do not want anybody to discourage or to reprimand union workers, because we are from a union town. We love union. We are pro-union, of course. But I am deeply concerned that when this falls and they completely go back on their word or things go awry, they are going to blame the workers. They are going to blame the unfortunate people who are in this situation who just want to get a job and be able to take care of their family. So, respectfully, I am asking for you to vote no on the data center, and not only care for the citizens of Sangamon County, but also care for the rural towns that is not just Lowder but Waverly, Auburn, Thayer, Virden and Divernon, all of them. Don't care just about the big cities. Also care about the small ones. Thank you for your time.

SPEAKER 21: Hello. My name's Ron Fisher. I'm from Waverly, Morgan County. This whole thing came on. We learned about it or I did about four weeks ago, and it just seemed like you people knew about it in October, I understand. They are looking to us to supply water out of Waverly Lake. Waverly Lake right now is the lowest it's been in about 12 years. I've done a lot of research with the Department of Conservation and with the water survey company. We don't have the water to supply this. But their response is that they have a sealed system that they use in some of these plants where they don't have to draw it. After they initially fill it up, that they can use it. But they don't explain that they also have to

go through and clean them pipes out once in a while. It's actually an antifreeze like you use in your automobile. It creates scale and different pollutants in that. They don't explain what they will do with it. All I'm asking is somebody needs to answer some more questions. When they purchase it, they say they are buying the water from Apple Creek Water District. Apple Creek Water District actually buys water from the City of Waverly. I was involved when there was two sections of it. It was Apple Creek 1 which is south of Waverly and Apple Creek 2 which is north. We take a big, large area of drainage all the way from the city of Ashland to Waverly. We rebuilt the dam twice since they installed the lake. And here about -- Apple Creek takes 385 customers on it. We have 600 and something customers on it. That amounts to 1,007 customers on that lake. And according to 2012 assessment by the Illinois Water thing, it's only supposed to support 770 residents. So we've already overdrawn that, but we're selling water. I don't know where the contract came through or who is involved with it. But, like I say, it doesn't seem like our city officials knew too much about this until four or five weeks ago.

The Chairman stated the speaker's time was up

SPEAKER 22: My name is Ashraf Tamizuddin. I live in Springfield. I am here to request you to reject, not only delay, the proposal. I have had the opportunity of living in a city for a few days where air pollution level is the highest in the world, and I can tell you from my personal experience that that's not a good place to be. You would like to stop breathing. People were calling in sick. Young people, they were calling in sick because of the air pollution. The children are kept out of school because of the air pollution. So all the promises of good jobs and schools that are being made, there will be no people to go to the jobs. There will be no children to go to their school. So I humbly request you to, please, absolutely reject this. I'll finish with two quotes from local American Indians. One is "We'll always be remembered by the tracks we leave." So, please, be on the right side of history. The second is that "We do not inherit this earth from our ancestors; we borrow it from our children." So, please, look out for the children. Thank you.

SPEAKER 23: Hi. My name is Andrea Walters. I do live here in Springfield. Thank you for allowing me to address the council this evening. I sent an e-mail last week with numerous articles containing information from professionals addressing the risks associated with data centers. I can provide those references for any of the facts that I mention. I am opposed to moving forward with the CyrusOne data center near Auburn. I would, at the very least, ask that you reverse decision and approve a moratorium to allow time for the state legislature to be discussed that would provide guardrails and protection for the counties where data centers are built. It's only a month. There is a belief about what -- you know, what you can expect when you are looking for scams. And when somebody is trying to push something quickly, that's a red flag. There is no reason why this shouldn't be delayed until our legislature has a chance to catch up. I will skip the part about the noise because I think that's been covered tonight. Increasing dependence on fossil fuels is driving climate change, and this is wrapped around fossil fuels. An increase in extreme temperatures and weather events, we are experiencing a drought in Illinois at this time. Anyone that has been near Springfield Lake recently can clearly see how low it already is. Yes, we need progress in business, but not at the cost of our environment. The pollution risks that come from data centers admitting nitrogen dioxide and tiny inhalable particles that can harm people's lungs is a big problem. According to the National Institute of Health, the tiny inhalable particles cause between 100 and 200,000 premature deaths each year. What about the financial risk? There is always a risk with investment. Numerous sources warn of huge amounts of debt companies are incurring in the race to build more data centers. One expert stated this is a business model that hasn't exactly proved it can generate revenue or has a stable core to its demand.

The Chairman stated the speaker's time was up

SPEAKER 24: Oh, I'm Robert Oxley. I live in District 7. I'm actually an IBEW and AFSCME union member. My greatest question is why is there such a big rush, because this is a huge commitment for all the residents in Sangamon County. One of the things I see is right now there is an incentive program from the State of Illinois for data centers that the data center gets tax exempt. They get a tax credit for 20 percent of the construction labor that is spent on the job. And for my union members, this PLA, it's not like they gave it to you out of good heart. It's because it had to be part of the PLA to do this. The second thing is this House Bill HB2789, that's in committee right now, and this is for keeping the Soldier Field in Chicago. Now, they included this to any project over \$100 million. They get to keep the tax -- probably tax free, and where is that right now? So that tax rate is going to be what they are paying for that land right now. There is some caveats. I won't go in to all that. But there is so many issues and unknowns. You know, if you can't vote no, then I recommend you at least delay a vote 'til all these issues are squared away. CyrusOne states they want to be good neighbors, which I hope so. But the old saying is "Good fences make good neighbors." The fence here is a signed written contract to keep all the promises they have made here.

SPEAKER 25: My name is Alexa Martinie. I am a resident of Auburn and owner of a home built in 1877 that sits along Route 104 just a few miles from the proposed data center site. It feels hard to trust this as a big break for Sangamon when 70 percent of the tax breaks are leaving our county, even though many of these trucks will drive directly past my house on Route 104 with a home that sits less than 22 feet from the highway. My sister lives in Auburn with my niece and brother-in-law, which was a huge draw to the area for me. I worry about how this will impact my niece in ways we still don't fully understand. I worry about my neighbor who earns just \$750 per month in Social Security benefits and \$120 a month in food stamps. My energy bills have doubled since moving to Auburn, and that is before the data center is here. Where is my neighbor expected to go when she is priced out of living in Auburn, a town she has lived in most of her life. Do we care about her health and her future or just 600 jobs? Because I am very worried about my community, my family, and the future of rural America. My mom lives in nearby Thayer where she reads books she checks out from Auburn Library and has wild foxes that visit her. She's counted 20 different bird species -- 20 different bird species this year alone. She's built herself quite the sanctuary out there. She is worried about her foxes, and I don't blame her. In nearby Lowder my husband and I drive out to see the northern lights when they are visible. That site can now turn in to CyrusOne, and it's devastating. There are so many downsides, and seemingly very few positives, and the positives seem to touch very few people. Please, don't let your vote tonight be one that we regret and feel forever. Sangamon deserves better. Our children deserve better. This is not our legacy. No industry has successfully self-regulated, and it won't start here. Please, vote no on CyrusOne. Thank you.

SPEAKER 26: Good evening. My name is Eliot Clay. My wife is Alexa. As she said, we live down in Auburn. Just as some background, I worked for Senate Republican staff for four years on the agriculture committee and the environment and conservation committee. I worked for an environmental non-profit for six years and now I am executive director for a group that advocates for soil and water districts. I am speaking on my behalf as just a private citizen right now. But having worked in the policy field regarding environment issues in agriculture, to reiterate what my wife Alexa just said, there has never been an industry in the history of the world that has self-regulated, period. And I want to say something, just a couple -- or one main thing that I think really just needs to be hammered home. The laborers that are here tonight, you've heard from a lot of people that say they

support you, and we do. I also want to reiterate the fact that the reason that the Environmental Protection Act, the Clean Water Act, the Clean Air Act, and a number of these other things actually exist is because of issues that were brought forward by Labor. I think about Peabody Coal. I think about everything that has happened in southern Illinois and the amount of thousands of acres of abandoned un-reclaimed mine land that is down there. The reason it is sitting is because the companies that did that don't exist any more. We don't even require that CyrusOne is going to file a surety bond on this thing to cover the deconstruction or contamination or anything that can happen. I mean, we do it for a lot of other industries, and it seems reasonable. I'm not against -- I mean, I'm not against this happening, necessarily. I just want to know that there is assurance in there legally that we're going to be protected in the event that something does happen. I think that's a very reasonable thing to ask.

SPEAKER 26: I appreciate the Board. Thank you.

SPEAKER 27: Good evening, everybody. My name is Marcus Robinson. I am a student at Lincoln Land Community College as well as a resident of Sangamon County. I am here tonight in staunch opposition to this proposed data center. I don't believe that this data center should be built at all. And to start with, I need to address the energy grid concerns. There is no established energy grids for data centers that I know of. Where are they going to get the energy from? It's kind of hard to tell, especially considering that Ameren just had a price hike last year. Also last year the state experienced a 15 percent increase in costs throughout the entire state. So with all of that being said, do you want this to end up like another Pillsbury plant on the north side of Springfield where it's left abandoned and it's just going to rot and leak and contaminate the community around it and ruin it? Like the Pillsbury plant, it's going to have its labor outsourced. But this time it's going to be by AI and not by outsourcing to other countries. Four to six years of labor, but what about in four to six years when this data center creates an unreparable environmental impact and also causes AI corporations to dominate the job market? Don't sentence the younger generations to a death mark of AI overlordship. And, instead, you should focus on what the people actually want. And to signify what the people want, I have a petition here of over 700 signatures that I am willing to hand to you right here.

SPEAKER 28: Hello again. My name is Jill Krippel. I'm sure you're sick of seeing me. I'm tired of speaking to you. But I can't stand by and stay silent. None of us can. And unlike these data centers, we are not going anywhere. The last time that we were here, CyrusOne was asked to set a minimum amount of local labor they would use. Building trades had already walked out so didn't hear that CyrusOne couldn't guarantee they would hire even a single local laborer. They weren't sure if our people could handle the job. In their oral testimony at the Zoning Board's appeal hearing, they said that they had a commitment to bargain a project labor agreement in their application, but their slides submitted in evidence, the same ones we saw today, implied that they already have a project labor agreement. If there is conflicting testimony on labor, what else are they being shady about? Speaking of the Zoning Board's appeal hearing, what was going on with their chair stating that no one could get sworn in under penalty of perjury, that people had to swear to God or they wouldn't be able to speak, and then he went on some weird rant about foxes and deer not existing? We know these data center companies already think that we are just some backwoods idiots that believe anything they tell us, so way to lean in to that stereotype. Anyway, anything living near this data center, the plants, the cattle, the humans, may see health problems from noise and polluted air due to the hundreds of generators and the giant diesel tanks they each have. They are the kind that are legally allowed to run 24/7 to sell energy back to the grid. And the 1.8 gigawatt data center was just approved to be built a couple hours up the road. So who knows? The solar farm across the street will cause the noise to carry for miles. We

know that CyrusOne will violate our rules and regulations like they have been doing at all of their other locations in Illinois. Sangamon County isn't even getting much tax money from this. So how are we going to pay to effectively combat violations? CyrusOne's property tax incentives were backdated at their other sites, so a larger part of the tax might not be enough, anyway. And they have no clue about a decommissioning plan. They have never done it before. He urges them to vote NO.

SPEAKER 29: Good evening. Thank you. My name's Steven Lambert. I am a resident of Sangamon County. I actually live in Loami. I'm a volunteer firefighter. I'm a father, most importantly. My daughter is eight. She's a Pretzel over in New Berlin. And I have a lot of vested interest. And tonight I just wanted to share really news. And we keep talking about bringing some new things. If you didn't know, I am really speaking to you as the mayor of Loami. I don't represent every single idea, every person. But about three weeks ago in our board meeting, we passed a resolution which was our moratorium preemptively. And I want to point out, if you know our board, we have vastly different opinions and political ideologies. All six of them unanimously said we should do this. We should get ahead and at least take the time to do our research, look at what the state does, look at what their county does. I'm really proud of our community, and I want to give you a reason to delay. If Loami can do it, as someone said, the county can do it, too. And so that's me delivering the news today. Thank you as always for your time and thank you for thinking of our future generations.

SPEAKER 30: Hello. Terry Arnold. I live in northern Macoupin County, and I've got a couple things here that haven't really been discussed too much. And one was the gentleman from Waverly about the water and also the contamination of if they have a leak. According to what I've read on the closed loop systems, which is the water keeps circulating and they put additives in it, once a month they do what they call a blow down. Okay. Where does this blow down chemicals -- there is nitrates, glycol and metals in this stuff that is circulating around. When they do a blow down once a month, where does that go? That's what I want to know right now. Then also I read unplanned drain down, if they have an issue like maybe up in Aurora where the lines froze and then you are having liquid spilling out. What are they going to do with the contaminated ground water? And then the next thing, on Sangamon County's website they said that the data center was zoned agricultural. Well, why is it zoned agriculture? It should be zoned commercial. In Aurora, the citizens there said that their data center was zoned as a warehouse. That's not a warehouse. That's a business, a commercial business which has industrial stuff in it with chemicals. So we need to address these things here. And then getting back to the zoning Thank you.

The Chairman stated the speaker's time was up

SPEAKER 31: Hi there. My name is Todd Brummett. My wife and I live in rural Auburn. Listen, I understand that data centers are a necessary evil. And speaking here, I hope this is not just a formality speaking against it. But after seeing the Auburn Citizen, I saw there was a letter paid by the zoning and planning staff, written in a positive spin for the data center. Listen, despite that, I'm hoping to reach enough of you to say no on this Board and consider other options that do not involve swallowing up farmland in chunks. People who are already out there have to look at a three-mile by eight-mile solar farm and plenty of red blinking lights from the windmills. When is enough enough? Ironically, the farmers involved and his family, you don't have to look at these things. And most of you on the zoning and planning staff on the Sangamon County Board, I bet you don't, either. There are -- wouldn't we rather use existing buildings or have buildings that are already established in industrial areas to be used? Build in those areas. Listen, the definition of a farmer, a farmer is a person who manages or operates a

farm engaging in the cultivation of land, crops and raising livestock and animals for food and fiber and other agriculture products. You know, you are called to be good stewards of your land if you are a big farmer or a small farmer. Listen, Dowson's website even says they farm and lead with integrity, honesty and advanced agronomy. No, they don't. This is not it. The zoning and staff letter says they have 200 acres, is one drop of water to a 16-ounce bottle of water since we have 453,000 tillable acres. Listen, it's already filled up with 232 other data centers.

The Chairman stated the speaker's time was up

SPEAKER 32: Hello, everyone. My name is Greta King, and I am 15 years old. I'm not quite old enough to vote or drive on my own, but I am old enough and smart enough to care about future generations. And as a lifelong resident of Sangamon County, chances are I have shared green space and fresh air with your children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews and neighbors in soccer, basketball, Girls on the Run, and now track and field over the course of our lives. If we want to live a long, healthy life like those of you that are making decisions about our future, please, vote no tonight on the proposed data center resolution so we can take a more thoughtful approach to protect our environment which will position us for better economic growth in the future. Thank you for considering the future and quality of life for young people like me and, please, vote no.

SPEAKER 33: My name is Ruth Taylor, and I actually live in Rochester. I've lived there for more than 30 years. And what I am most concerned about is this amount of water that they may need to use. My house is over a hundred years old, and it didn't start leaking until the people just before I bought the house tried to improve the basement and they drove the wrong nails into the foundation. There was no sign of water in my basement ever before. In the first year or two that we were there, it would come up through the floor, run across the floor. So, basically, I had water in my whole basement, and that went on for years. To use the basement, I put the blocks and boards in my basement. Unfortunately, our water table must have gone down over the years because, like I said, I have been there 30 years, same house, nothing has really changed much. You know, Rochester has had a couple of subdivisions there and things, but I have not had water in my basement for over five years. So the water, because it's coming from the floor and not the sides, it's water table. And so I worry about will we have enough water. I mean, if you've been to your doctor, he urges you to drink more water. Everything needs more water. So I really think that we need some sort of study, you know, how much has the water table gone down with what we have got and how is the data center going to impact the water that he have. You know it will accelerate it, but how much will it accelerate it. It's something to really worry about, I think. So that's my main concern, is that water. We need to get a study to see what's going to happen. Also because of climate change, the soil is drying out faster, so we're losing water in the soil, too. So we're losing water everywhere and we need to address it before we give it away.

SPEAKER 34: So the data centers plan to follow the national emission standards for hazardous air pollutants, was mentioned earlier. For a little context, according to EPA.gov, quote, National emission standards for hazardous air pollutants are stationary source standards for hazardous air pollutants. Hazardous air pollutants are those pollutants that are known or suspected to cause cancer and other serious health effects, such as reproductive effects or birth defects or adverse environmental effects, end quote. As you can see, these standards are quite low. The truth is, even though this data center won't cause cancer and birth defects, it will still threaten our air quality, hurt our community and its animals with low frequency noises, increased electricity demand, and generally disrupt everyday life for the residents of Sangamon County. We deserve better. As well as this, it was claimed that construction

workers would gain jobs from the building of this data center. And while this is true, let me provide you with a few facts by National University. Thirty percent of union jobs could be automated by 2030. Three hundred million jobs could be lost to AI globally, representing nine percent of jobs worldwide. By 2030 14 percent of employees globally will be forced to change their career because of AI. Entry level jobs are especially vulnerable with 50 million U.S. jobs at risk in coming years. As entry level roles decline, salary expectations are also shifting downward. AI's impact is expected to be most disruptive in the next 10 to 30 years, with a possible 50 percent of jobs automated by 2045. So, yes, short-term jobs will be given to construction workers. However, long-term effects include job loss due to AI and an expected decline in entry level wages. No matter what party you belong to, what your class or job is, what label you assign yourself or what labels others assign you, we all deserve a healthy environment, a stable income and a good quality of life. This data center directly revokes these rights. It is our right to disallow any policies or center which directly negatively affects us and our community. So let's utilize that right. Thank you.

SPEAKER 35: Hello. I'm Keith Tuxhorn. I first would think you would want to delay at least one meeting because you need to go home and listen to the financial news of the day, which had a focus on the type of credit payments that Black Rock uses to finance all their vast projects and how it is crumbling fairly rapidly right now. So perhaps you need to check that. You have had -- for three months now, you have had access to assistance to research on 15 years of history of these centers from all the people who've been speaking in opposition, good and bad news. The concerns of county citizens were covered in detail in this, on water and power use, noise and other pollution, shutdown and cleanup costs, and economic compensation and guarantees to the county. The research showed hundreds of problems on these topics which have led to lawsuits, economic deception and disappointment, continuing damage to our air, water and lifestyles, and increased disrespect of elected officials who took little or no action to protect their citizens. Some places have banned data centers completely, as you know. This company is no different from those that have gone before. They play the same games. They are not building their own safe energy sources. They will be reducing our tax benefits very quickly, and their sales pitch includes plenty of little lies that just won't happen because we don't have them under any kind of contract. You can delay this vote for a while and do the right thing, make a revised agreement that will protect our county. Let me give you three places to start. They have been mentioned. Guarantee annual payouts, guarantee them none of this diminishing stuff, require onsite solar and/or wind power for this facility, and shutdown guarantees to make sure we are not stuck with a -- stuck with that kind of cost.

SPEAKER 36: My name is Salem Addison King. I'm a resident of Sangamon County, an environmental scientist, and the youngest person in the United States who still reads newspapers. As such, I saw the recent reports from the -- the recent staff report from Sangamon County that was published in the Illinois Times last week. Reading through it was a very frustrating experience, but as I have only got two minutes, I'm going to focus on the question in that staff report, how much noise do data centers typically generate and what measures are used to manage or reduce noise levels; a very important question. Look at their answer. The county ordinance regulates permissible noise. That is what an ordinance does, yes. The issue of noise has focused on the backup generating that these data centers require. Very true. Under normal conditions each diesel generator is tested on one day a month for 30 minutes. Neat. How much noise is generated by them? Our building code requires that the noise be baffled. Neat. How much noise does it generate then? Data centers must operate within state EPA regulations. Neat. How much noise does it generate, though? Not once has that been answered by CyrusOne or Sangamon County. Decibels are a form of measure we have access to. They are not providing that number for a reason. CyrusOne is lying to us. And, most egregiously, they are

lying to the union workers in the audience tonight. Unions exist for one reason and one reason only. Unions exist because you can't trust corporations to keep their promises. So I urge the Sangamon County Board tonight to vote no on this data center and any other data center that might come before you in the future.

SPEAKER 37: Sure. I'm the owner of Joette Kennel located very close to this site. I'm very concerned on how the noise is going to impact the dogs that I care for. People bring their dogs to me because I am in a quiet country setting, and now that's proposed to change. I also live there on my 176-year-old property that was bought by my great, great, great, great grandpa on January 23, 1850. And I'm really sad to see if this is what it's going to be coming to, that I won't be able to enjoy the property any more, that I won't be able to give the care that I have always promised to my clients. I mean, I'm afraid this will be the end of my business, and I was here first. That's all I have to say.

SPEAKER 38: I'm Shane Bettis, Kathy's husband, country boy born and bred. She has to buy a license for her kennel, commercial. Why aren't these people buying a commercial license? Next thing, my son is an operator in this union. I'm a hundred percent behind unions, but not for people like this. Also, I know we're not supposed to keep talking about the noise. I'm a mechanic for a living. I work on generators. And if you think that one mile from this CyrusOne going in, I'm not going to hear that? It's actually just under one mile. Then you can blow smoke up somebody else's ass, because I am hearing it. I guarantee you. And I have got one question for all you Sangamon County people board members, appreciate everything all of you do, but do the right thing. If that was you that lived one mile away, would you want to sit out in the backyard with your grandkids, which is -- was going to be their property one day? You wouldn't want it. You wouldn't want it there. Have a nice evening.

SPEAKER 39: Good evening, everyone. Many of you have heard the terms, well, it's not in my area, so it's not my concern. Well, with everything going on in the world, the threat to the homeland is also a concern. A soft target is defined as a minimally-secured location that is vulnerable to attack. So why would they put a soft target in the middle of nowhere? Courthouses and government buildings have armed guards and countermeasures to protect the facilities. Now, they may have some. They might keep them secret, but right now I am talking. Imagine that -- imagine what would happen if hackers attacked the power grid and what they would just hit. That building, no. They would attack the Lincoln Land Power Plant because that is something bigger, and it would affect all of us. Same thing with the water districts and distributions. Attack that, not there, all over. Let's bring everyone down, not just that small little building. Also what about physical attacks? Just recently a man drove a vehicle into a power substation in Las Vegas. Imagine an attack where thousands of gallons of fuel and chemicals were released and drained into our water table and possibly Springfield Lake. Could the local first responders, who are some of our volunteers, handle the incident? And if it's an active threat, they will not be going in there until our local law enforcement neutralizes the problem. So the whole time those chemicals are going into the water. Well now, it's now in your area, so now it is your concern. I only have 27 seconds. I think that thing stopped, but who cares. Also electromagnetic fields and the noise, we talked about the noise. I was a beekeeper in California. I had a hundred hives. I lost my hives to the hive collapse syndrome. Thank you very much.

SPEAKER 40: CyrusOne is a multibillion dollar corporation with a major private equity shareholder. They don't care about us. They only care about maximizing shareholder value. And late 2025 reports indicate CyrusOne has moved towards using more third-party personnel rather than in-house staff at their data centers, a shift which only benefits Black Rock. They may have a PLA

agreement. But if CyrusOne actually cared about union labor like they claim, they'd have a permanent job guarantee. However, that would be a poison pill to their Black Rock shareholders since CyrusOne plans f\*#@#-a-duck us all to maximize the profits for shareholders. I urge Sangamon County Board to vote no on this proposition.

SPEAKER 41: I'm Sam Sinclair, a 33-year member of Local 137. So this to me, first I want to say thank you, CyrusOne and Sangamon County Board. Vote yes. This is the largest building boom the United States has seen since the end of World War II. So it's going to happen. Whether it happens in Illinois or it happens somewhere out in the country, we have to have data centers. Who's got an iPhone in here? Who's got a phone in here? All of you looked at your speeches or wrote on ChatGPT, I guarantee you. So there is that. The second thing is, I mean, there is a lot of hard work done by you guys, by us, by everybody. It's not about the job. I'm doing a job in North Dakota right now, a data center, in Springfield, Illinois. So I get the work. That's not the problem. The problem is we need this kind of industry in Illinois, and this county will be lucky to have it here. We pushed away more business than we brought in, so. I don't have much else to say. I'm just saying that this is going to happen whether you want it or not in the United States. So I say vote yes and let's get this done and thank CyrusOne. Thank you.

SPEAKER 42: Good evening. My name is Laurie McKiernan. Most of what I was going to say tonight has already been said, so I want to thank our coalition team and all the residents who have researched this project and made statements tonight. I do need to respond to the iPhone, iPhone/AI thing. So the only thing that uses my phone for AI is Apple tracking my data, listening to my phone calls, and translating it in to texts, massaging that data, and selling it and making a profit off of it. So the only thing I'm going to repeat is the intent of these regulations is to protect the public health, safety and community welfare. If you vote yes on this permit based solely on the fact that it meets zoning regulations, then you, obviously, don't give a damn about our health, safety and welfare. Approving this for tax revenues and jobs takes in to consideration the welfare of the minority residents. Don't be bullied into protecting the few when the health and welfare of the many must be protected. I will say that, if this permit is approved, we will be researching other means of protecting our health, our safety, and welfare of community members. People that are in adjacent areas where the business is need to be compensated for the damage to their business. And then, finally, I'm going to formally ask for a copy of the community benefits agreement signed for this project. I tried to get one for the Double Black Diamond. I was told it doesn't exist. I was told I couldn't have it because the Springfield Growth Alliance negotiated it. So this was also mentioned tonight. There is a community benefits agreement. If you allowed this to be negotiated with the Growth Alliance, you have done us a disservice because we can't see that. It's a community benefits agreement. The community should be able to see what's been negotiated for them. Thank you.

SPEAKER 43: To the Sangamon County Board, you guys are from the area. I want you to picture something. I grew up in the shadow of Fiat Allis. I grew up in the shadow of the Pillsbury plant. I live in an area affected by the mine that was there over a hundred years ago. These are the shortsighted visions of men who couldn't think bigger than right now. These are the effects that I live with. My house has had to be fixed from that subsidence. We already know what happened with Pillsbury. How long is that going to take? How much work has already been put in? How many generations have suffered from the ground water pollution, the offshoots from that asbestos? You need to think long and hard about what you are asking from the generations ahead of you, not the people that live there now. I worry about them as well, but we are talking decades from now. Do you know how long it took to clean

up Fiat Allis? Generations. Do you know how long it took to clean up Pillsbury? Generations. Still not done. And that's where you need to really consider that when we talk about what this really means for the community, not a windfall in taxes, not about the noise level, but what it means for your children's children. Because that is the effect it will have. You -- most of you, impolitely saying this, will be long gone by the time those effects land. I will, if I'm lucky, be a very old man to see your mistake come to fruition if you choose to move ahead on the technology. And a choice that is moving so rapidly, you should be questioning why. When people move with haste, errors are made. And when they want to move that fast with that much money involved, with every problem that arises more money comes out of their pocket, shake that piggy bank, see what else shakes loose. Because I guarantee you they will keep paying. Because there are billionaire-size level pockets behind these movements, and they don't care about our environment. They don't care about your kids' kids. And if we are going to talk about labor, I know you guys are a long way from Blair Mountain. Your relatives, your ancestors, it's a shame to see you selling out.

SPEAKER 44: I am Breeanna Day. So I first want to thank the laborers who are here. Thank you for coming out and showing your support, whatever that support may be. I want to thank everybody who is also in yellow for coming out, and thank you for showing your support, whatever your support may be. With that said, the reason why I take that stance is because the things that you are fighting against have been happening for decades. So the fact that we are just now having these very heated arguments is kind of frustrating. And so I encourage everyone, if you don't want a data center built, the easiest way to do it would be to regulate your data. Go to your senators and talk to them about it. Because then we wouldn't even have a data center because the people who are collecting your data wouldn't have it in the first place. As somebody who tried to stay in a hotel that P. Diddy stayed in and I wasn't even allowed to stay in it, my son and I were literally sitting on the street of Chicago. I was bawling my eyes out because I thought we were going to have to go to a homeless shelter for a night because we were going to a doctor's appointment. But because of all of everything that is going on, we weren't allowed to stay at that one hotel. So I implore everybody in yellow, please, contact your senators. Please, start focusing on data regulation. All of you laborers, please, just continue to still fight for jobs. We need both. And to all of our politicians, don't be an octopussy -- start voting for your citizens.

SPEAKER 45: My name is Julia Rozier, and I think also a lot of the points that I wanted to make have been covered. I think Bree was getting at was the question of sustainability, and I just want to remind everybody the Indigenous People Act was passed for the first time this year in Springfield, and I learned that the Potawatomi word "sangamon" actually means land where there is plenty to eat. It does not mean a land where there is plenty of data centers. And I also want to address the fact that we have a few false dichotomies going on, you know, like the idea that Carol brought up about it being union versus non-union. That's a false dichotomy. I also want to bring up the false dichotomy about AI versus not. I actually -- you know, AI was actually very helpful in coming up with my original prepared remarks, which I have changed, but it very quickly listed all of the places that have successfully blocked data centers. It very quickly pointed out all of the egregious reasons that a data center might choose to place a mark on a place like Lake Springfield, a place that they, frankly, see as vulnerable. They want to make you feel like you're the prettiest girl at the ball. They want to make you feel special. And I would just ask that you -- that you realize the dignities and the stories of what Sangamon County actually -- and Springfield -- truly deserves. Think of the long-term sustainable impact. Don't have to look at all these union workers five years from now and look at the disappointment and the anger in their eyes and, you know, don't be like the sad lonely girl at the bar. Don't give it up for CyrusOne.

SPEAKER 46: Hi. I'd like to thank Sangamon County Board members that are here that are paying attention to their constituents, listening to what we have to say and not playing Snake on your phone or texting your wife. I do appreciate you guys. I do appreciate you guys. I also want to say that several years ago Ameren came to this area and they built the high voltage power line that you saw in that drone footage, and that was scheduled to go right through my front yard. And I turned down a very large sum of money because I did not want to be that close to a power line. I pushed them as far as they can, and they moved it 260 feet from my front door. I had no say in that. I tried to fight against it. Nobody listened. Then there was a solar farm built. I had no control over that, over where it went, where it was going to be or how large it was going to be. And now, living in tornado alley, if a tornado were to hit that solar farm, it would rain glass and all the toxic elements that are in the solar panels right on my property and ruin it forever. There is also solar -- or the wind farm that is also new out there. Same thing. If a tornado were to hit that and shred those blades, it's going to rain that carbon fiber all over my property, possibly, and it would ruin it forever. And I do not want that for my house, for your house, for anybody near this place. It scares me, and I do not want to be around it. As for the data center, I am not interested in having more infrastructure in that area. When Ameren brought that power line in, they said it would be great for business. My small business saw nothing from it. When they brought the solar farm, it will be great for local business. My small business saw nothing. When they brought the wind farm in, you will see business. My small business sees nothing.

SPEAKER 47: To the point of saying something that no one -- no one here has heard, my name is Christopher Sims and I represent Illinois People's Action as a community organizer. I just moved here about two months ago from Rockford, Illinois. At this very moment Rockford, Illinois, is fighting a \$12 million data center. So is Beloit, Wisconsin, just north of us. So is Janesville, Wisconsin, just north of Beloit. So I want to be able to go back to Rockford one weekend and say that this Board said no to a data center that nobody in this -- probably in this state or in this area wants. And that's all I need to say. Thank you.

SPEAKER 48: My name is Elizabeth Swihart. I did not plan to talk tonight. I planned to listen. But I want to say something that very few people have said. You've heard about the environmental costs. You've heard about the sound and the noise and the pollution, the damage that it will do to farm ground. I grew up 30 minutes north of here in the middle of a corn field. I know what it's like to not feel like I have a voice in this state. The local elections are the only place that my vote has ever counted for anything in this state because everything else is decided by the big cities. And when you live out in the country, it doesn't matter. You are going to get outvoted. Whether you agree or disagree, the city is going to win the vote. You have heard hundreds of people raise their voice tonight to voice their concerns. I beg you, this is the one level of government in central Illinois that our voice is guaranteed to be heard and not outsource our vote to Chicago. So, please, please, listen to these votes. I grew up on a well. I know what it's like to live through a drought and have to shut the water off as soon as you get wet to shower, turn it back on to rinse once you have soaked. I know what it's like when you have to haul in water because your well is contaminated and you can no longer drink it. I know that if you have diesel generators, incidental spills are going to happen, because that happens when you fill up your car with gas at a gas station. And I also know that Illinois passed Oklahoma as the number one state for tornados last year. It is not a question of if a tornado comes through central Illinois; it is question a when, especially in the middle of a corn field. I know. I watched many from my front yard as a kid 30 minutes up the road. So, please, please, be the people that I think you are. Please, hear these concerns and, please, act in the best interests of your constituents.

SPEAKER 49: Hello. My name is Dalton Iocca. I'm a lifelong resident of Sangamon County. I'm a part of a family of farmers of eight generations. We have been here since 1811, and this is going to be right next to our family farm. We put blood, sweat and tears in to this area for generations. And I work in the IT industry. I work in data centers. It doesn't take that much to maintain them, but it sure is a pain in the ass when you try to get rid of them. Because we don't know where to put them. I don't -- I'm speaking for my whole family, and I don't know -- I get what you have been saying, but we need to say no to this. Because if we don't say no now, they will keep coming, and we will no longer be the identity of a place where there is plenty to eat. It will be a place of metal and a place of things that we can't get rid of, just like the Pillsbury plant. Thank you.

SPEAKER 50: Hi, everybody. I'm extremely familiar with the area that this facility is proposed to be in, and I just want to point out something that I don't think anyone has mentioned yet tonight. If this facility were to move three miles west, it would be in Morgan County which has absolutely no unincorporated ordinances or restrictions. So the same people who are going to be immediately impacted by this location that's being proposed are going to be -would still be impacted if it were to simply move three miles west, and none of you would have a single thing to say about it. It would be using the same high voltage transmission lines. It would still be using Apple Creek Water District, which is coming from Waverly Lake. I'm not asking you to vote yes. I'm not asking you to vote no. I just want to point out that what you're arguing for and against may be a moot point by them simply moving it three miles to the west, and it still impacts the same people. Thank you.

SPEAKER 51: Hi. My name is Noah Thuma. I'm 27 years old. I'm a homeowner. I've been in Springfield since I was an infant. I'm also an Eagle Scout. This data center is not too far removed from Camp Bunn where we frequently spend summers, and I would hate to see any downwind effects from this project affect that area and future scouts. I'm also terrified by the environmental impact of this project and other data centers. We need to shrink this down. We need to not allow this in our area. We don't even know if the AI boom is going to last. We don't know if these data centers are going to do anything other than take our data and leave us with a lot of concrete that we have to tear down later. I'm not worried about four to six years from now. I'm worried about 10 years from now when I'm hoping to start a family, 30 years from now when I might still be in the area and having grandchildren, 100 years from now when no one in this room is still here, and we're left with this blight that certainly will not be around. Empires always fall. Businesses will fail. I implore you to vote this down. I think I encountered no more than five, maybe six, people in this line that have been speaking in favor of it. I urge the members of the Board, please, listen to the people. We are vastly against this. If you are voting yes, you are showing that you are not listening to the people. Thank you.

SPEAKER 52: Hi. My name is Evan. I just wanted to firstly thank all of the union folks who stayed, you know, after their side spoke. My grandfather was a chairman of the UAW Local 1027. He was part of the bargaining committee at the Fiat Allis plant in Springfield for a very long time. In 1977, I do believe, he died in his 40s due to colon cancer caused by asbestos. Now, that just kind of goes to say it's happened a lot to many people that worked in that plant. These folks are going to tell you guys whatever you want to hear to get you to be on their side and to work against other working class folks and work against your own best interests to build this giant plant that is not going to benefit anybody in the long term besides them, because they make more money an hour than any of us do in a year. That's the only thing that matters to them, is money. None of us matter. None of these people are from here. The only thing that they care about is making money off of us. They want to come into our small

communities and try and put this on us before we can research the things properly, before we know anything about the long-term effects of this. And I'm at a loss for words, honestly. Sorry. Yeah, they just want to throw this in our laps and then run away once everything is all f@3%ed up in ten years, you know what I mean. It's going to completely destroy the environment. There is not going to be any long-term jobs. They are going to outsource all that. Who knows what else they are going to outsource? These people lie constantly. They lied about the plant in Aurora. That's their entire job, is to lie to people like you and me so they can get what they want. Don't pass this. Don't build this s@\*# in our f@3%ing state, please.

SPEAKER 53: Hi. My name is Trey Caruthers. We live on a farm. We have land adjacent to the proposed data center. We've been there for a long time, a 152 years, not us personally, but the family has. We raise livestock. There is a lot of livestock down Caruthers Road, which I assume we've been there long enough that they named the road after us, so. I can't imagine that the noise -- I mean, it's peaceful out there. We've lived there late at night and hear the animals a long ways away, dogs barking, coyotes barking. The diesel noise will be terrible. I know they say it's going to be EPA compliant, but it's still noise. And I'm sure most of you -- when I talked at the last meeting, the Zoning Board meeting, the -- you know, Finn Lake watershed -- or Lake Springfield watershed, so I know a couple of other people said that, but the main thing that happens there will end up in Lake Springfield, so I would think people in Springfield would be nervous about the drinking water or people on the council would be concerned about that. Accidents happen. When the solar farm went in, there is, you know, 4,000 acres. You know, you guys, the union did a good job putting it in. It's nice and straight, looks nice. But the council, I don't know if it was the same members or not, but, you know, you guys approved that. But there is a million bushel of corn that didn't come out of that. Every year that affects a lot of jobs.

The Chairman stated the speaker's time was up.

SPEAKER 54: Hello. My name is Gabu-Saba. I'm a resident of Springfield and a farmland owner in North Macoupin County, also from a union household, so I respect what the unions are here for and for their jobs. But when I look at this and I look at the Sangamon County Growth Alliance, I don't see much that they have done for Sangamon County. The two big things they tout on their website are for the Dowson and Thoma family, the Black Diamond Mine, and now for this data center project. Mike Murphy, our senator, is here. You are advocating for this project. What have you all done in the past four or five years, whenever you have been in charge, to get more actual good manufacturing jobs or real tech jobs in Sangamon County? Illinois doesn't have the energy -- the energy capacity going forward to even support this place, either. So it's very ironic to me that the only people we have heard talk for this to go through are people that are profiting from it. The union leaders, the construction leaders and the Thoma and Dowson family, that's it. Everybody else that has spoken against this, we've got sales people, we have healthcare people, we have teachers, we have doctors, we have farmers, from not just Sangamon County, but Macoupin County and Morgan County. If this isn't enough for our Sangamon County Board to realize we need to pause this, then you all are getting voted out. And 30 years from now, maybe 10 years from now, 20, 30, when people are driving around what used to be a beautiful part of Illinois but now looks like it is from a movie, and they see that, they are going to be like who were these idiots that decided this was a good idea, and it's going to be all of you.

SPEAKER 55: Hello. My name is Kayla. I am a 2019 graduate of Waverly High School. I grew up one mile from the proposed site, and I urge you guys to vote no. I have some serious concerns as well as everybody else. But I want you guys to know that we have a 16-head herd of cattle one mile from there

and we have a building that holds 13,000 chickens. We could put 13,000 chickens right back in that building tomorrow. We could sell as many livestock that we want. We are not going anywhere. Please, please, please, protect this land that is going to be eradicated forever. Thank you.

SPEAKER 56: Hello, everyone. My name is Joe Bates. I'm a proud teamster member. I thought I'd get up and be the last one to talk. Looks like no one else. But I see my friends coming up, so I appreciate you coming up, too. First of all, I would like to ask the Board members to raise their hand. Who of you would live within a mile of this data center? Raise your hand. For my brothers and sisters, union members, who of you would live within a mile of this data center? Please, raise your hand. One, two, three, four, five, okay. I'm sure we can get a Go Fund going for you guys to move there. I've learned a lesson a long time ago, don't shit where you eat. So think about that. One last thing, if it quacks like a duck, if it walks like a duck, it's a duck. This company has been all over. Everywhere it's gone -- nobody's going around and saying, oh, bring this to your town, it's been great. Oh, my God, we made so much money out of taxes. You only see people complaining about it. So I first tell you to vote no. But if you are not going to vote no, at least put a pause on it for 90 days. Think about it a little more. Thank you everyone.

SPEAKER 57: Hi. My name's Arnold Boyle of Local 477. I didn't plan to talk tonight, but I just heard some things and I just want to say my feelings back to what was said. To start, you know, I've learned something a long time ago, too, and it was from my parents. Everything I heard up here, most of the things I heard up here and the concerns I've seen are very valid. But most that I heard were what ifs, what ifs, what ifs. My dad taught me when I was five, you can what if all the way out the f@\*#ing door, you know what I mean. You got to know what's going on. You can't just what if, what if and I'm sorry your grandfather suffered from something like mesothelioma. As a union worker, we get trained in taking asbestos out. So if you have a problem with the Pillsbury building, that's being taken down by asbestos workers, union workers that are certified and trained through the state to take that down properly so no one else gets sick in our community. That's us taking it down for you. The jobs being temporary, I have a union -- you know, my family is union. I have a union state employee that is in my family, also. Your guys' jobs are permanent. You know where you are going to go to work tomorrow. Right now -- right now I haven't been to work since November. I have three children, one's in college, one's four and one's 16, a range of children. I haven't been to work since November. You think this job is just temporary, but that's where we get our work. Our work is temporary. My last job was a two-year job, and I was happy it was two years. We get six-month jobs, three-month jobs, one-year jobs. To see something so large that can benefit so many people in your community, you think it's just temporary, but that five-year job would make so many people comfortable, not having anxiety about how to pay their bills, not having anxiety about how to feed their children, not having anxiety about how to put gas in their cars. I didn't come here to talk, but I just want everyone to think about those things, also. I think your concerns are very valid. I think your environmental concerns are very valid.

The Chairman stated the speaker's time was up.

SPEAKER 58: Hi, guys. My name is Josh. I have a family that has been in paving, Meyers Paving. Maybe you know them, maybe you don't. My dad and his close friend used to work with asbestos. It's actually what gave me cancer when I was two. And that's not a what if. This is what happened because of shortsightedness in our city. And this is continued shortsightedness because there are so many issues that are going to occur with very, very little benefit. I get it that the six years is going to be good for the 100 people, but it's not going to be good for anyone else. Why are we focusing on uplifting a

corporation when we should be worrying about locally? That is what we need to be focusing on. Yes, we need jobs. Yes, that is vital to making sure that families survive. But what is not vital is uplifting Black Rock even more. I don't want to see my nephews get sick from these installations like I got sick from asbestos. That is what is the most important thing, is the future generations, not today and what we can benefit from a data center that we do not need. We do not need AI stealing ideas from us, stealing our information, stealing everything that makes us us. Because it does not create. It just destroys.

SPEAKER 59: Hi there. My name's Lisa Harding. I'm a proud member of the IOUE Local 965. I didn't intend as well to speak tonight. The first thing I would like to mention is I am very proud of how all the tradespeople in this room were very respectful as opposed to some of the other people in here. We would all like to have healthy, safe families and be able to support our families. Whether we like it or not, this data center will be built in Illinois. It's going to be built. It's a chance to put many, many people to work. If anyone -- I have heard a doctor up here earlier talking about decibels and how loud it was and how far away it was. I teach safety and health to our members, okay. We're the ones in the big machines with the diesel engines, okay. What I would ask of everybody in here is to do a little more research, okay. See how many decibels and how it goes down the further away you get from it. Bottom line, I just want to say I am very proud of the union members that were in this room and very respectful tonight, and I really hope this project goes through. We need this. Thank you.

SPEAKER 60: Testing. Hello. My name is Luke. I am 34, and I have never used ChatGPT in my life, but I don't expect everybody to be on that standard. I wasn't going to speak tonight, either, but then that ChatGPT clown came up here and just lit a little fire under my ass to come on up. I'm going to be as nice as I can. I think this is a terrible idea. I could repeat myself and probably should, because we have to keep doing this. We have to keep reminding these guys why we don't want this data center here. So feel free to repeat yourself if you have an important message to say about your community, and it's going to take our community to get through this. Now, I don't have a script in front of me. This is kind of off the cuff, but thanks to the guy who inspired me to come up here.

SPEAKER 61: Hi, everyone. My name is Ashton Baskett. I have some family that are in the union, so I am supportive of the unions. However, I also do worry and have concerns about their health. Obviously, you guys risk a lot by going into these jobs, but I also wonder if CyrusOne has anything in their contract for accidents or deaths that happen on the job as well. And I hope that there is something in the contract, but I know from doing my research without ChatGPT, you can see it's really hard, but it's annoying, but you can, that a lot of times when these data centers are going through and there are deaths or accidents on the job, not related to the job, but leads to where -- I don't know if you guys are getting paid during that, you know, delay in that time. But then like with the big companies, they don't always pay out to the families as well. I think that should be a concern as well. I think there is a lot of good points made here tonight, and I hope, you know, if you are a union worker, please, do have an open mind and try to, you know, be open to other opinions and things like that. There are a lot of good points on both sides. I really think both from an environmental and impactful impact on any individuals working there and work that will be affecting the community at large, it's going to affect everyone. So do your part for your community and really try hard for it. That is what I think.

The Chairman stated that concluded the public speaking portion of the meeting by the rules adopted earlier. There would now be five minutes for the opponents and proponents to make final statements.

Don Hanrahan addressed the Board. He said they have three choices. Yes, no or pause. What is their real job? It is to evaluate this using standards Illinois laws required for 70 years. They're called the LaSalle factors named after the name of the case. They have to consider this along with what is the existing use and zoning. They know what that is. It's agricultural. They have to consider it along with the impact on property values. They heard from the folks that live around there. They know what that impact is. They have to make a decision as to the public welfare. But the first question they have to ask is whose welfare? The single property owner selling off the land for money. The billionaire tech bros from Texas. Or is it the residents of Sangamon County? They have to do a balancing of benefit and cost benefit for Sangamon County. Not Macoupin County, not Morgan County. They have to determine the suitability of the property for its currently zoned purpose. It's currently zoned purpose is for agriculture. This is a use entirely inconsistent with that. Entirely inconsistent. They have to look at community need. Neither Cyrus nor the county staff have produced any shred of evidence that there's a community need for this proposed use. Staff claims no need to pause. They have already had 15 board meetings and endless debate. Yet key questions are still not answered, precisely because staff and board leaders are trying to suppress getting answers about anything that matters under the rubric of "that's not specifically mentioned as a factor in our narrowly drawn minimal zoning ordinance". They have a job to do and it's not easy. Approve it. Deny it. Delay it.

Lots of talk about energy tonight. Every single piece and shred and megawatt of power that they have constructed with solar and wind in three counties is going to be eaten up completely and entirely by this one project to make money for CyrusOne. That's not what we built that for. They are told that you have to say yes because the ZBA approved it. Their only job is to rubber stamp it YES, because they filled out a ten page form. He is telling them, there is an immense difference between a data center defined in the zoning regulation that may be small enough, quiet enough, clean enough to operate consistently with already permitted uses in this district and one that is proposed that is so almost staggeringly, incomprehensibly immense that it's entirely inconsistent, obliterating 280 acres forever that can never be reclaimed. Causing constant noise 24/7 365 days to the adjacent livestock farms and its ill effects on livestock and people. The already permitted uses.

They have risks that are real and benefits that are not guaranteed. They don't know what jobs are going to be provided, just what they promise. What about Aurora? What about all the noise and problems and lawsuits there? They are afraid of being sued by CyrusOne. They ought to be more afraid of being sued by the residents of Sangamon County. Their job tonight is to consider the health, safety and public welfare of the citizens of this county, not the profits, not the tax revenues for North Mac schools in Macoupin County, not repairs to Waverly Lake in Morgan County, but for Sangamon County. He thanked the Board.

Chairman VanMeter stated the proponents would have five minutes.

Bradd Hout addressed the Board. He wanted to say thank you to everyone who has come out tonight to oppose or support the project. It's an impressive showing of interest and passion in this consideration. He appreciates all of the opinions shared and thoughts shared tonight. He also thanked the County Board members for all of their time throughout the past several months.

He has heard bare minimum mentioned a couple times with respect to what they have tried to bring here. He would hope that would not be the adjective they would use to describe this process. He

knows the amount of interest they've shown in this is far beyond that. And they have tried to match that in their meetings with community members, stakeholders, the utilities, the fire district, to find ways to solve problems together. There is a way to align a private investment with a public need. Waverly Lake was just mentioned. That Lake serves 900 people from what he also learned tonight. Those are people in Sangamon County and Morgan County because the lake serves the Apple Creek Water Cooperative, which serves residents in both counties. They want reliable water. They need water as well. Their facilities are built for 30, 40, 50 years. A lake that is becoming, less and less, available in terms of capacity is obviously, not great for them as well. They have a real need to restore the capacity of the lake and to improve the overall ability of that lake to serve its residents. There is no funding available for that right now. There are not programs available to accomplish that. They are aligning their private investment in that public project to take that water scarcity and that water risk off of the table. Sure, it benefits them, but it also benefits the 900 people that are served by that lake.

The same can be said for their commitments to the fire districts. They want the first responders coming to their facility to have the equipment and the things they need to serve the project. They have committed to buying a ladder truck for Virden, and that will give them the resources they need to serve their facility and the other residents that they serve throughout the area.

Their investments in fiber, obviously, they serve them, but they unlock the ability for residents all throughout the county and neighboring counties to access high speed internet service so they can do the things that they want to do, or increase their capacities to work from home or do other things they want to do.

And finally, their alignment with the unions and labor. They do require their work, but these are 4 to 6 year commitments. He's heard it before in these conversations about temporary workers. These are temporary jobs. The entire construction industry is temporary in nature. Providing people a place to work for the next 4 to 6 years is unusual and valuable to the people coming to work. It is vastly important for the people that that work in this industry. They see it every single day because these are people they see every single day. They are 700 people. They are some of 700 people that work for CyrusOne. They are regular people doing a job and doing a job to serve the digital economy that they all operate within. They see the impact they have on the unions and on our tradespeople. It is work they are proud of and they are proud to bring to this community.

Being able to bring additional investment to the local nonprofits and feed a new workforce. New apprentices to come into the trades is important. Also supporting early childhood STEM education programs for people who maybe won't work in the trades, but might work as a tech or might work in an AI related industry. These are things where they are aligning their private investment up with public needs. It's the idea of bringing good partnerships together. There is a way to have responsible, transparent development without NDAs, without tax abatements. This is possible. It's what they've achieved to do throughout this entire process. Once again, he sincerely thanks the County Board members for their attention, time and discussions they have had individually and as a group and throughout the course of these various public meetings. He sincerely thanks them. He thanked everybody who came out tonight. They greatly appreciate it.

Chairman VanMeter said there has been much conversation over the past 14 public hearings but it is also his obligation to ask if there are members of the Board who have questions or comments they wish to make.

The Chairman recognized Mr. Craig Hall from District 7. He lives in Talkington Township. He knows these neighbors. He knows this land. He knows the smell of this land. Their township is doing well. They did not increase their tax levy this year and the year before because they don't need to. They don't have a spending problem or an earning problem. Some people have spending problems. Their township is frugal. That's who they are. And he's thankful for them to go to the fire departments and to other bodies to offer equipment. He asked the board of trustees of their township if they want to approach the company to see if there's anything from which they could benefit. He was really proud when they said, "they aren't for sale". He would like to ask this board to listen tonight, and he would like to please ask if they could take another vote to table this.

The Chairman said a motion to table is always in order, it just needs a second. Mr. Guyton made the second. Upon a roll call vote there were 15 Yeas and 13 Nays. Those voting YAY were: Ayers, Cahnman, Constant, Davsko, Deppe, Douglas-Williams, Forsyth, Fulgenzi, Guyton, Hall, Mendenhall, Scaife, Sheppard, Small and Tjelmeland. Those voting NO were: Deaner, DelGiorno, Fraase, Krell, Lathan, Madonia, McGuire, Miller, Rader, Schackmann, Stumpf, Thomas and Truax. The matter was tabled.

#### **RESOLUTION 4**

4. Resolution approving the procurement of goods and/or services for the Sheriff's and State's Attorney's Office from Axon Enterprises for the purpose of BWCs, Tasers, In Car Video Cameras, and Justice Software in the amount of \$2,423,815.67.

A motion was made by Mr. Tjelmeland, seconded by Mr. Stumpf to place Resolution 4 before the Board. Mr. Madonia moved that the roll call vote for Resolution 1 stand as the roll call vote for Resolution 4. A voice vote was unanimous.

MOTION CARRIED  
RESOLUTION ADOPTED

#### **RESOLUTION 5**

5. Text Amendment to Sangamon County Liquor Ordinance Chapters 5.04 and Amending Sections 5.04.040; 5.04.050; and 5.04.080.

A motion was made by Ms. Scaife, seconded by Mr. Schackmann to place Resolution 5 before the Board. A motion was made by Mr. DelGiorno, seconded by Mr. Madonia, to consolidate Resolutions 6 - 8 with Resolution 5. Chairman Van Meter asked County Clerk Gray to read Resolutions 6 - 8.

#### **RESOLUTIONS 6 - 8**

6. Resolution approving a grant application for the Sheriff's Office from Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board for the Camera Grant in the amount of \$1,438,457.96.
7. Resolution approving the procurement of goods and/or services for the Treasurer from QuickSilver Mailing Services for the purpose of mailing tax bills in the amount of \$89,570.85.

8. Resolution approving a grant application for the Child Advocacy Department from The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention for the 2026 CoreDirect CAC Services in the amount of \$46,407.00.

On the motion to consolidate, a voice vote was unanimous.

Mr. Madonia moved that the roll call vote for Resolution 1 stand as the roll call vote for Resolutions 5 - 8. 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

### **RESOLUTION 9**

9. Resolution approving the procurement of goods and/or services for the Sheriff's Office from Motorola Solutions for the purpose of procuring new radios for Deputies and Court Security in the amount of \$525,926.

A motion was made by Mr. Tjelmeland, seconded by Mr. Mendenhall, to place Resolution 9 before the Board. Mr. Madonia moved that the roll call vote for Resolution 1 stand as the roll call vote for Resolution 9. A voice vote was unanimous.

MOTION CARRIED  
RESOLUTION ADOPTED

### **RESOLUTION 10**

10. Resolution authorizing the County Administrator to settle Sangamon County's claim in the opioid lawsuit against various defendants in the amount of \$21,085 and execute on the County's behalf any documents necessary to effectuate and finalize the settlement.

A motion was made by Ms. Fulgenzi, seconded by Mr. Stumpf, to place Resolution 10 before the Board. Mr. Madonia moved that the roll call vote for Resolution 1 stand as the roll call vote for Resolution 10. A voice vote was unanimous.

MOTION CARRIED  
RESOLUTION ADOPTED

**OLD BUSINESS**

No Old Business.

**NEW BUSINESS**

No New Business,

A. Appointments

Appointment of Leslie McCarthy, to the Sangamon Mass Transit District Board, for a term expiring February, 2031.

Appointment of Justine Macklin, to the Sewer Rebate Board, for a term expiring September, 2026.

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

MOTION CARRIED  
APPOINTMENTS ADOPTED

The nominations for appointment in April were also submitted.

A. Ratification of Deputies Collective Bargaining Agreement

Mr. Madonia made a motion to approve the ratification between the County and the Deputies, seconded by the Collective Bargaining Committee. It's a three year contract and 3% raise across the board. They brought up the salaries to comparable counties. A voice vote was unanimous.

B. Emergency/Procurement Notifications

There were no procurement or grant notifications.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

The Chairman said they are now entering the public comment portion of the meeting. They will call them up by name. The public comment period works on a system where they sign up in advance, and every person who signed up in advance has four minutes for a presentation. They take the speakers in the order they signed up to speak.

First to speak was Danuta Dynda. She said now that they have this moratorium for 90 days. Please make a wish list. If they proceed, they have to have concessions. Do not sell them out for a quick 20 bucks. It has to be done, right? If they bring this here. She doesn't want it here and the vast majority of people in this room do not want it here. But she is very scared about having a bunch of politicians that came up and talked and said, it's happening whether you like it or not, which to her gives the impression there are backdoor deals happening to make it happen. She's curious to see if it would be the same number who voted no today and who voted yes to stop it. She says to please get the information and

force them to give answers. Ask them about the decibels. She drove by Joliet. They have data centers. She wanted to see what it felt like being three miles away. She sat there for 20 minutes and was about three miles from the data center. She said it was god awful. She can't imagine in the summer going in her backyard and listening to that stuff. She's from Chatham. This is still going to affect them. They have had problems in Europe. They have had problems in every location they have been at. They will sell them these fancy looking buildings and then go back on it. And the same thing with him pushing no abatement. Increase their tax rates by seven and a half to 10% like they do to her every year when she appeals, it goes down. The minute they throw in the township multipliers, she's right back where she started. They are raising her house at levels that are like 50,000 to 100,000 within two years. Make them pay for it. Raise their interest rates by 10% every year, year over year. If their electricity goes up, make them pay for the overage. The closed water loop system. They have a hired gun. Environmentalist that's going to tell them all the good stuff. There are two women in Michigan going from community to community, who are environmentalists, who have dealt with these centers, have dealt with these cleanups, and they're telling the truth. Look them up. They will tell you the closed loop system is a farce. They do dump that water back into the community, and it's atrocious. She doesn't care if it's three houses. It will affect Lake Springfield. Once they let you in, they are like leeches. The number one thing data centers are looking for when people have analyzed it, is to look for weak communities that have weak board members who they can think that they can take advantage of and then you know what happens. They're like cockroaches. More data centers show up and show up and show up. That's why Aurora, as the woman said, they are looking at putting some of the harshest regulations on all future data centers. Virginia's drowning in them and the billions of dollars they are losing from taxes, because these data centers are now going back and trying to get these assessments. The Chairman called time.

Next to speak was Ken Pacha. They just recently saw what the voters passed for them, right? That referendum. So the clock begins. When are they going to start naming these members? When are they going to start moving forward on getting the mental health board active and moving? It has been far too long that Sangamon County has been without a mental health board, and now the voters have delivered to them whether that 4% difference matters or not. It passed. So now they really need to start moving on that immediately. This shouldn't take a year or two to get through committees and figure it out, I would hope. Maybe they have bigger plans he's unaware of. Maybe there's something waiting in the wings to roll out as soon as the referendum passed. He sincerely hopes so, because the mental health board is desperately needed around here, and he really hopes that some of the whispers he's heard that that money may be diverted, that the county board members will fight extremely hard to make sure that every dollar that comes from that sales tax increase goes to the mental health board, and it's guided needs, period. That's not an attack on the board. He doesn't think they are going to misappropriate it. He trusts their judgment, but they need to be very careful about how that money is used and appropriated, especially when it comes to the mental health concerns here in Sangamon County.

He also wants to take a minute to touch on the Massey Commission. He spends a lot of time over at Council, as he's sure some of them know, and they're pretty recalcitrant to work with them, which he finds very strange. There is part of the CTAs that there be a framework established between Sangamon County and the city of Springfield, both within law enforcement, first responders, as well as other pieces that would lead to better outcomes and coordination. He's said it before at these meetings. Springfield is most of the County. That's not an attack on the other pieces of the County, but most of the population problems and money gets spent here. He would expect the City of Springfield to maybe be a little bit more willing to work with them and stop being so avoidant of it. They haven't even been willing to listen

to the Massey Commission CTAs. He knows not everybody on the Board agrees with all 26 of them, but at least they've been willing to listen. Listen to Dr. Hurst, listen to Adam, listen to the people that were actually involved in that process and what they were recommending. The city has absolutely refused to do that. And he would ask them to start questioning why they seem so avoidant of those things. They still stand on the statement that Sonya didn't die due due to the city of Springfield. Do we genuinely believe that? Do the people on this Board really believe that just because Laketown and the Patch is patrolled by county that that's not in Springfield.

That should appall them they would leave that at their feet for them to solve, as though somehow that's their problem now, as though the city of Springfield doesn't have enough problems to solve. Such is the idea that they leave little patchwork sections to the County to take care of. All he's asking is that they put a lot more work into those recommendations in terms of forcing the city and the board itself, in terms of the referendum that just passed into making them a lot more concrete. They have to see those changes. They can walk right outside the store anytime and see the mental health care needs that are absolutely, desperately needed, both in the city of Springfield and in the surrounding county. There is a severe need for people to receive that help, and he sincerely hopes that the referendum, even though it only passed by a little bit, doesn't matter if they cross home plate, you made it. And that's what happened with that referendum. So it's up to them to take what the voters said and really use that money for the important stuff that has been outlined by people far beyond them. Whether any of them have great expertise, he would think that the collective work of the Mental Health Commission and the Massey Commission would override any of their individual preferences and recognize that those are broad ideas that have been implemented elsewhere successfully to great effect. He thanked the Board.

Jordan Shaw next addressed the Board. She honestly wanted to thank everybody for listening to everybody who was either pro-data or anti-data. That sounds a little weird, but she does appreciate them taking their time and listening to everybody and then voting on a leave. She really does appreciate that and it feels nice to be heard. She thanked and wished them all a good evening.

Justin King spoke next. He said if the data center was left to a vote to the people of Sangamon County, it would fail miserably. The people you represent don't want this.

The Chairman said that concludes the public comment.

#### **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. Stumpf, 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. Stumpf, seconded by Mr. DelGiorno, to recess the meeting to April 7, 2026. A voice vote was unanimous.

MOTION CARRIED  
MEETING RECESSED

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