DON GRAY
SANGAMON COUNTY CLERK
200 SOUTH NINTH STREET – 1st FLOOR
SPRINGFIELD, IL 62701
PHONE: (217)753-6700/FAX: (217)535-3233
WEBSITE: *countyclerk.sangamonil.gov*

MINUTES

SANGAMON COUNTY BOARD

SEPTEMBER 1, 2026

The Sangamon County Board met in Regular Statutory Session on September 1, 2026 in the County Board Chambers. Chairman Van Meter called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Ms. Deaner gave the Invocation and asked for a moment of silence to acknowledge the passing of Board Member Craig Hall's father, Richard Hall. Mr. Rader led the County Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Chairman Van Meter asked the County Clerk to call the roll. There were 26 Present – 2 Absent. Mr. Fraase and Mr. Tjelmeland were excused.

PROCLAMATIONS

No proclamations.

PRESENTATION – RECOGNITION OF THE LABORERS DISASTER RESPONSE TEAM AND PETERSBURG PLUMBING – SHERIFF PAULA CROUCH

The Sangamon County Sheriff recognized the Laborers' Disaster Response Team and Petersburg Plumbing and Excavating for their strong partnership with the county during emergencies and special investigations. Following a tornado that damaged several homes in Pawnee, the response team quickly assessed the situation and deployed crews to assist the village. The sheriff praised the team's availability, responsiveness, and willingness to help on short notice.

The organizations also provided critical assistance in a 40-year-old missing-person investigation near Auburn. Acting on information that the person's remains might be located in an abandoned well, the response team partnered with Petersburg Plumbing to supply specialized equipment, machinery, and experienced personnel. Working alongside the Sheriff's Office, Illinois State Police, and the coroner, the crews conducted searches at two wells over multiple days, with an additional excavation planned.

Although the searches had not yet resolved the case, they produced information that allowed investigators to continue pursuing leads and gave hope that the family might eventually receive closure. The donated labor and equipment also saved the county substantial expense and demonstrated to the community that investigators remain committed to long-term missing-person cases. In appreciation, the sheriff presented certificates of recognition to both organizations for their professionalism, generosity, and continuing support.

Aaron Gurnsey, President of the Central IL Building and Construction Trades Council addressed the Board. He praised the Laborers' Disaster Response Team (LDRT). Established by Laborers Local 477 in Springfield in 2006, the team has expanded to include Operating Engineers Local 965 and other area unions. It now has more than 300 volunteers and has responded to 15 disasters, including 10 tornadoes. Mr. Gurnsey emphasized that team members volunteer because they care about their neighbors and communities. They leave their families—often during the night and in severe weather—to clear roads, remove trees from buildings, and help communities begin recovering. Their services are provided at no cost, saving affected residents thousands of dollars and protecting them from contractors who might take advantage of a disaster.

He thanked the Sangamon County Board and Sheriff Crouch for recognizing the volunteers, while adding that meaningful appreciation also includes providing union workers with fair wages and benefits through project labor agreements on county projects. Chairman Van Meter also described how the team's rapid cleanup following the Pawnee tornado lifted the community's spirits during a difficult time.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Van Meter stated they would go out of the regular order and proceed with public comment. Speakers are limited to four minutes.

Speaker 1: Brad Schaive, discussed the broader economic benefits of the proposed Bank of Springfield project and other major construction projects in Sangamon County. He explained that the economic impact extends far beyond the workers visible at a construction site. Local companies supply ductwork, drywall, concrete, trucking, fuel, and other materials and services, creating a much larger network of jobs and economic activity throughout the county.

Drawing on 25 years of experience with the Laborers' union, he described how steady, well-paying construction jobs improve workers' lives by allowing them to buy homes and vehicles, support their families, and send their children to college. He argued that gainful employment strengthens both individual households and the overall direction of the county.

He used Des Moines, Iowa, as an example of how strategic development can transform a community. He recalled visiting when the city was undertaking extensive construction and connecting downtown buildings to attract conventions and year-round business. He said that investment contributed to population growth, increased revenue, demand for approximately 1,100 new homes, and interest from high-quality restaurants seeking downtown locations.

He encouraged board members to consider these wider effects when evaluating future development proposals. A construction project should not be viewed only in terms of the workers physically present at the site, but also the local suppliers, businesses, workers, and families who benefit from the economic activity it generates.

Speaker 2: Darin Dame, representing the Springfield Hotel and Lodging Association, expressed concern about the proposed three-percentage-point hotel-motel tax increase. While emphasizing that the association supports tourism, conventions, economic development, and investment in the community, Mr. Dame objected to the speed and lack of public review surrounding the proposal. The association recently learned of the vote and believes a permanent tax increase of this size should be supported by detailed studies, financial projections, and public discussion.

He questioned why the full three-percentage-point increase is necessary, particularly when earlier discussions reportedly considered lower rates. The proposal would raise Springfield's combined lodging tax to approximately 17%, which he said would make it one of Illinois' highest hotel-tax markets, behind only Chicago. The association is concerned that higher lodging costs could cause meeting planners, tournament organizers, and visitors to choose competing communities.

The association also questioned why hotels and their guests would bear the entire financial burden for a project expected to benefit the broader community. A decline in hotel business would also affect restaurants, retailers, attractions, and other local businesses. The association requested evidence of the project's expected return on investment, an explanation of how Springfield would remain competitive, consideration of broader funding sources, and clear accountability protections.

He urged the board to delay the vote until these questions are answered and the public can assess the proposal's long-term consequences. If the board proceeded with the vote that evening, the association asked members to vote against the increase—not in opposition to progress, but in support of transparency, due diligence, and fair treatment of the lodging industry.

Speaker 3: Aaron Gurnsey. He supported the proposed hotel-motel tax increase to fund the BOS Center expansion and help revitalize downtown Springfield. He also emphasized the importance of using project labor agreements, arguing that local construction and facility workers spend their earnings within the community and contribute to the local economy.

Speaking as president of the Illinois Pipe Trades Association, which represents approximately 30,000 plumbers, pipefitters, and HVAC technicians statewide, he described why the organization stopped holding conventions and legislative gatherings in Springfield. According to him, the decisions were based on deteriorating hotels, inadequate facilities, fewer active downtown businesses, and an unsatisfactory overall visitor experience—not the hotel-motel tax rate.

He argued that expanding the BOS Center could begin a broader downtown revitalization effort, improving Springfield's ability to attract conventions, events, and visitors. He urged the County Board to approve the tax increase as an investment in the long-term economic future of Springfield and Sangamon County.

Speaker 4: Caitlin Rydinsky. She is an area director of sales for Ambridge Hospitality, who supports hotels in Illinois, Missouri, and California, and urged the board to delay the proposed three-percentage-point hotel-motel tax increase. Drawing on more than 10 years of experience in Springfield's hotel and tourism market, she said the proposal was introduced only about a week earlier, leaving insufficient time for meaningful collaboration with hotel professionals and customers.

She criticized the process as inconsistent and said similar proposals have repeatedly resurfaced at the last minute without adequate participation from people who manage hotel operations, group bookings, and visitor demand. Because Springfield's hotel market has experienced considerable year-to-year volatility since the pandemic, she argued that any permanent tax increase should be based on current data, transparent financial information, and substantial industry input.

She warned that the increase could make Springfield's combined lodging tax among the highest in the country. She argued that comparisons with Chicago and major tourism or technology centers are inappropriate because Springfield primarily competes with nearby markets such as Bloomington, Peoria, and Champaign. Higher costs could cause conventions, school groups, student travelers, and other visitors with limited budgets to select those competing communities instead.

She asked the board to review the project's financial assumptions, determine the actual tax rate required, examine the effect on Springfield's competitiveness, and obtain an updated feasibility study because the hotel industry's most recent study dates from 2024. If those questions could not be answered before the vote, she urged the board to vote against the proposal until a complete review is conducted.

Speaker 5: Alan Filer. He is the general manager of the Crowne Plaza and Holiday Inn Express on South Dirksen Parkway and opposes the proposed hotel-motel tax increase, arguing that the projections supporting it do not accurately reflect Springfield's hotel market. Having previously overseen the same hotels from 2015 to 2020, he said the county's feasibility assumptions incorrectly suggest that Springfield lacks sufficient meeting space.

He stated that the Crowne Plaza alone offers approximately 73,000 square feet of meeting space, in addition to the existing BOS Center. He specifically challenged a feasibility study that reportedly lists only 13,500 square feet of continuous space at the hotel, noting that the first-floor plaza level is nearly 30,000 square feet and the second-floor ballroom is approximately 15,000 square feet, not including third-floor meeting rooms and pre-function areas. Because these foundational figures appear inaccurate, he questioned relying on the study to approve a permanent tax increase.

He also disputed projections that expanding the BOS Center would substantially increase hotel occupancy. Springfield's occupancy is expected to remain flat or decline in 2027 and 2028, while the Crowne Plaza is projected to operate at only about 52% occupancy in 2026 and the overall market at approximately 58%. According to him, about 95% of lost convention bids result from scheduling conflicts or hotels already being full on requested dates—not insufficient meeting space.

Although supportive of reasonable development, he argued that adding more meeting space and another downtown hotel without proven additional demand could further dilute the existing market. He requested updated projections, transparent feasibility data, and a more realistic assessment of Springfield's hotel industry. If the vote proceeded that evening, he urged board members to reject the three-percentage-point tax increase.

Speaker 6: Keenan Irish. He is the vice president of the Illinois Hotel and Lodging Association and spoke on behalf of its Springfield and Sangamon County members in opposition to the proposed three-percentage-point hotel tax increase. Mr. Irish emphasized that the hotel industry supports tourism, conventions, sporting events, and investments that attract visitors. However, the association objects to placing the financial burden of the proposed development primarily on hotels and their guests without the support of local hotel operators.

He contrasted the proposal with tourism improvement districts being considered in other central Illinois communities. Such districts may also assess hotel guests, but local hoteliers help establish the district, determine how revenue is spent, and oversee its performance. The funds are generally used to directly generate hotel demand through incentives for conventions, meetings, tournaments, and other events. These arrangements also provide ways to revise or eliminate a district if it does not produce results.

Under the Springfield proposal, the additional hotel-tax revenue would instead be pledged toward bond payments. He argued that once the bonds are issued, the revenue would be committed to paying debt for many years, with less flexibility or accountability regarding whether the investment actually generates additional hotel business. Meanwhile, competing communities such as Peoria, Bloomington-Normal, Champaign-Urbana, and Chicago-area suburbs could use their tourism funds more directly to attract events away from Springfield.

Although officials reportedly suggested that the tax might eventually be reduced, he expressed skepticism, noting that taxes are rarely lowered or eliminated once imposed. The association urged the board to reject the increase, arguing that Springfield should pursue a tourism-funding approach that has the support of local hotels, directly generates visitor demand, and provides meaningful industry oversight and accountability.

Speaker 7: Ryan McCrady. He is the president of the Springfield Sangamon Growth Alliance and expressed the organization's support for expanding the Bank of Springfield Center and adopting the proposed three-percentage-point hotel operators' occupation tax. He argued that delaying the project would likely increase construction costs, causing the community to pay more for the same expansion in the future.

He said Springfield must increase demand for hotel rooms by attracting more conventions, events, and other activities. According to the Growth Alliance, expanding the BOS Center would help generate that demand and support growth in the local lodging and tourism industries.

The organization also supports reviewing the three-percent tax after additional information becomes available, including possible state action and updated cost estimates. It asked the County

Board to follow through on its commitment to reconsider the rate when appropriate. He emphasized that the tax revenue should be used only for the BOS Center expansion and not for a privately operated conference-center hotel that might be connected to it.

The Growth Alliance concluded that tourism has long benefited the local economy and continues to offer opportunities for future growth. For those reasons, it supports both the tax and the BOS Center expansion.

Speaker 8: Ken Pacha. He first raised concerns about the Sangamon County Mental Health Board, arguing that it has made little progress during its first four months. He criticized the lack of a dedicated website, email address, or other public communication portal and questioned whether the board's meeting schedule—3 p.m. on the fourth Wednesday of each month—is accessible to working residents.

He also alleged that the board chair acted without the full board's prior approval when providing a letter supporting a grant application. He expressed concern that large institutions, including Memorial Health and the Sangamon County Jail, may receive greater access to the board and its funding than smaller community organizations. He urged county officials to monitor the board and ensure that funding decisions are transparent, community-driven, and accessible to organizations unfamiliar with the grant process.

He was also disappointed that Dr. Kemia Sarraf, identified by the speaker as a leader of the Massey Commission, was limited to three minutes when addressing the Mental Health Board. He argued that the board repeatedly cites the Massey Commission's recommendations but did not provide sufficient time to hear directly from one of its representatives.

Turning to the proposed hotel tax and BOS Center expansion, he argued that downtown Springfield already has struggling hotel properties and questioned the need for another hotel within a small area. He warned that a higher lodging-tax rate could make Springfield less competitive for conventions and give neighboring communities an advantage when offering incentives. He characterized the proposal as unfairly requiring existing privately owned hotels to help finance a potential competitor and argued that alternative funding should be pursued through the state legislature.

Speaker 9: Scott Dahl. He is the director of the Springfield Convention and Visitors Bureau and spoke in support of expanding the BOS Center and increasing the hotel tax by three percentage points. Drawing on previous experience operating hotels and working for a hotel and lodging association, he acknowledged the industry's concerns but argued that Springfield's convention market is in serious danger of losing business to cities with better facilities.

He cited the Illinois FFA convention, which has been held in Springfield for approximately 20 years but is expected to move to Peoria in 2028 because it has outgrown the BOS Center. At least seven other conventions have reportedly made similar announcements. He said the existing facility lacks the modern, flexible space expected by major conventions, noting that some general sessions currently take place on concrete floors surrounded by temporary drapery and permanent seating.

Addressing concerns about Springfield's proposed 17% combined lodging-tax rate, he discussed tourism improvement districts authorized in Illinois in 2023. Because those districts can impose hotel assessments of up to 5%, he predicted that total lodging charges of 15% to 17% will become increasingly common across Illinois within the next several years.

He also described Sangamon County's hotel market as stable, reporting that it has averaged nearly 800,000 occupied room nights annually since 1993, with additional growth from sports tourism. He argued that Springfield cannot replace convention business entirely with other tourism markets and that failing to expand the BOS Center would result in further convention losses. He urged the board to approve both the expansion and the hotel-tax increase.

Speaker 10: Freddy Rocha. He introduced himself as the new superintendent of the Sangamon County Veterans Assistance Commission, a position he began on August 3. He thanked several county employees, including Charlie Stratton, Eric Black, and Mary Carter, for helping him learn county policies and procedures and making his transition into the position easier.

Mr. Rocha also thanked Sangamon County for providing the commission with office space at Sangamon County South, which he said is a significant improvement over its former offices on 11th Street. Speaking as a veteran who previously visited the old location, he expressed appreciation for the improved setting.

The commission looks forward to moving into its permanent offices once renovations to the Community Resources Building are completed. Mr. Rocha recognized John Ridley for helping design workspaces that will serve both the commission and Sangamon County veterans for years to come. He concluded by expressing optimism about a productive, continuing partnership between the county and the Veterans Assistance Commission.

MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. Madonia, seconded by Mr. DelGiorno, for approval of the Minutes of the August 11, 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 procurement of goods and/or services for the Sheriff's Office from Wireless USA for the purpose of upgrades to the Jail Radio Communications Network in the amount of $41,700.

A motion was made by Mr. Madonia, seconded by Mr. DelGiorno to place Resolution 1 before the Board. Chairman Van Meter asked the Clerk to call the roll. Upon the roll call vote, there were 25 Yeas – 0 Nays. Resolution 1 was adopted.

MOTION CARRIED
RESOLUTION ADOPTED

RESOLUTION 2

2. Resolution approving the procurement of goods and/or services for the Sheriff's Office from Tyler Technologies for the purpose of upgrading the Integrated Criminal Justice Systems in the amount of $1,457,740.

A motion was made by Ms. Deaner, seconded by Mr. Davsko to place Resolution 2 before the Board. Mr. Madonia moved that the roll call vote for Resolution 1 stand as the roll call vote for Resolution 2. A voice vote was unanimous.

MOTIONS CARRIED
RESOLUTION ADOPTED

WAIVER OF TEN-DAY FILING PERIOD

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

MOTION CARRIED
TEN-DAY FILING PERIOD WAIVED

RESOLUTION 3

3. A Resolution amending the text of the Sangamon County Code and Sangamon County Zoning Ordinance regarding commercial solar energy facilities and commercial wind energy facilities.

A motion was made by Mr. Mendenhall, seconded by Mr. Rader to place Resolution 3 before the Board. Mr. Madonia moved that the roll call vote for Resolution 1 stand as the roll call vote for Resolution 3. A voice vote was unanimous.

MOTIONS CARRIED
RESOLUTION ADOPTED

RESOLUTION 4

4. 2026-022 Bobby Howe & Dawna Hull, 7425 Mechanicsburg Road, Springfield – Granting Variances. County Board Member Tom Rader, District #8.

A motion was made by Mr. Rader, seconded by Mr. Forsyth to place Resolution 4 before the Board. The Chairman asked if there were members of the audience who wished to speak in opposition or in support of the proposed rezoning and variances. A motion was made by Mr. Mendenhall to waive the staff report. A voice vote on the adoption of Resolution 4 was unanimous. Resolution 4 was adopted.

MOTIONS CARRIED
RESOLUTION ADOPTED

RESOLUTION 5

5. 2026-023 Daniel & LeeAnna Ward, 6109 and 6111 Mechanicsburg Road, Springfield – Granting a Rezoning and a Conditional Permitted Use with conditions. County Board Member Tom Rader, District #8.

A motion was made by Mr. Rader, seconded by Mr. Truax to place Resolution 5 before the Board. The Chairman asked if there were members of the audience who wished to speak in opposition or in support of the proposed rezoning and variances. A motion was made by Mr. Mendenhall to waive the staff report. A voice vote on the adoption of Resolution 5 was unanimous. Resolution 5 was adopted.

MOTIONS CARRIED
RESOLUTION ADOPTED

RESOLUTION 6

6. 2026-024 Henkle Branch Solar, LLC, 1000-2000 Block of E. Divernon Road, 500-1000 Block of E. Hogan Road, 16000 to 17500 Block of Henkel Creek Road, and 16000-17500 Block of Sheedy Road, Divernon – Granting a Siting Approval Permit. County Board Member Lanae Clark, District #4.

A motion was made by Ms. Clarke, seconded by Mr. Schackmann to place Resolution 6 before the Board. The Chairman asked if there were members of the audience who wished to speak in opposition or in support of the proposed rezoning and variances. There were. The Chairman asked for the procedural history of the case.

The petition seeks approval under Chapter 17.37 for a commercial solar energy conversion facility siting permit. Planning Commission staff recommended approval subject to two conditions: the site plan must be corrected to accurately identify all nonparticipating buildings and residences, and the landscaping screen must be extended along the south side of parcel 23-30.0-001.

Staff also identified an occupied residence on Hogan Road, located on parcel 35-28.0-200-015, and noted that the petition does not explain what will happen to that residence. In addition, portions of the proposed solar array appear to fall within the petitioner’s stated 300-foot residential setback. Although this setback is not required by Illinois law or the Sangamon County Zoning Ordinance, staff highlighted the inconsistency for clarification. The Zoning Board of Appeals concurred with the staff's recommendation and proposed conditions.

Mr. Mendenhall suggested postponing consideration of the solar facility petition for approximately 90 days to obtain additional information from the developer. Although the developer reportedly gave a strong presentation to the Zoning Board of Appeals, the member remained concerned about the supporting impact studies.

He questioned the relevance of studies conducted in distant states, reportedly including Michigan, California, and Colorado, and whether their conclusions could be reliably applied to Sangamon County. The proposed delay would provide time to gather more locally relevant information and address the remaining questions before the board makes a final decision. He was going to make a motion to postpone, but instead he thought they should move forward and would recommend a roll call vote.

There were two speakers in favor of the project.

Attorney Kyle Barry, representing the petitioner, urged the board to approve the proposed solar project. He said the development would represent an investment of more than $140 million in Sangamon County and create more than 120 construction jobs.

Mr. Barry estimated that the project would generate approximately $13 million in property-tax revenue over its lifetime. More than half—about $7 million—would reportedly go to the Auburn School District, including approximately $350,000 during the first year. The Pawnee School District would also receive some property-tax revenue based on the locations of the project's parcels.

Mr. Barry noted that county staff recommended approval and that the Zoning Board of Appeals voted 5–0 in favor. He emphasized that no members of the public testified in opposition at the hearing and asserted that no evidence was presented to contradict the petitioner's materials and testimony.

Addressing concerns about sheep grazing, Barry explained that the developer sometimes partners with local livestock producers to reduce mowing needs. However, he said the developer would agree not to use sheep if the county opposed that practice. He concluded that the application satisfies the requirements of the Sangamon County ordinance and the applicable legal standards and requested approval of the permit.

Mr. Hall described visiting a solar project in northern Illinois that incorporated sheep grazing beneath the panels. He was impressed by the amount of meat produced and viewed the arrangement as an agricultural opportunity, particularly because demand for sheep meat is increasing among certain cultural and faith communities.

Although the member had initially planned to oppose the project, the possibility of combining solar development with livestock production changed their perspective. He suggested that the developer work with local farmers who could use the land beneath the panels for grazing, allowing the project to support both renewable energy and small-scale agriculture.

A roll call vote on the adoption of Resolution 6 yielded 23 YES votes – 1 NO vote and 1 voting PRESENT. Ms. Fulgenzi voted Present and Mr. Mendenhall voted No. Resolution 6 was adopted.

MOTIONS CARRIED
RESOLUTION ADOPTED

RESOLUTION 7

7. 2026-025 Norma J. Brunner, 1970 Winch Road, Springfield – Granting a Rezoning and Variance. County Board Member James Schackmann, District #11.

A motion was made by Mr. Schackmann, seconded by Ms. Scaife to place Resolution 7 before the Board. The Chairman asked if there were members of the audience who wished to speak in opposition or in support of the proposed rezoning and variances. A motion was made by Mr. Mendenhall to waive the staff report. A voice vote on the adoption of Resolution 7 was unanimous. Resolution 7 was adopted.

MOTIONS CARRIED
RESOLUTION ADOPTED

RESOLUTION 8

8. Resolution approving the payment of surplus equity claims by the Tort Liability fund partially offset by fees deposited to the County's general fund as allowed by Public Act 104-0553.

A motion was made by Mr. Stumpf, seconded by Mr. Madonia to place Resolution 8 before the Board. Mr. Madonia moved that the roll call vote for Resolution 1 stand as the roll call vote for Resolution 8. A voice vote was unanimous.

MOTIONS CARRIED
RESOLUTION ADOPTED

RESOLUTION 9

9. Resolution enacting a county wide hotel operators occupation tax.

A motion was made by Mr. Stumpf, seconded by Mr. DelGiorno to place Resolution 9 before the Board.

Brian McFadden, County Board Administrator, addressed the Board. He provided a history of the proposed Bank of Springfield Center expansion, beginning with planning for the rail relocation and transportation center in 2018 and 2019. As the county recognized the need for a parking structure and the eventual loss of its existing visitor parking lot, officials began considering how the property could be reused. After delays during the pandemic, representatives from the county, city, state, and Springfield Metropolitan Exposition and Auditorium Authority began discussing an expansion of the BOS Center.

In 2023, CSL was retained to conduct a feasibility study. Completed in 2024, the study reportedly found that expanding the BOS Center would produce economic benefits, with even greater potential benefits if a new full-service headquarters hotel were included. The county initially pursued a private-development model, but prospective developers reportedly sought approximately $25 million in public assistance. When the state declined to provide a one-time subsidy, officials began pursuing legislation to create a public authority and establish a continuing revenue source for the larger project.

Mr. McFadden said the necessary public-authority legislation passed the Illinois Senate in 2026 but stalled in the House. Meanwhile, the county retained Garfield Public/Private for preconstruction services, including parking, environmental, design, engineering, and an independent second feasibility study required by potential bond underwriters. According to Mr. McFadden, that second study validated the findings of the original study. With the state legislation still pending, officials had to decide whether to stop the project or proceed with a smaller BOS Center-only expansion.

The county chose to continue because delaying construction was estimated to increase costs by approximately $700,000 per month. He cited the county's transportation hub project, where an earlier delay reportedly added nearly $12 million in costs, as evidence of the financial risks of waiting. The proposed three-percentage-point hotel-motel tax would provide a stable revenue source needed to continue planning and finance the BOS Center expansion.

The resolution would restrict the additional revenue to the BOS Center expansion and commit the county to reconsidering the tax rate if state legislation permits the larger hotel project or if updated financial projections show that the full increase is unnecessary. He emphasized that some level of hotel-tax revenue has consistently been included in the project's financing plans and said the proposal has received bipartisan support from the County Board Finance Committee, as well as support from the city, SMEAA, state officials, labor organizations, and business groups.

Bill Krueger, Senior Vice President with CSL International (Convention, Sports and Leisure) spoke to the Board via Zoom. He is a convention and hospitality consultant with more than 30 years of experience and described the findings of the feasibility study commissioned by Sangamon County in late 2023. Having participated in more than 500 studies involving convention centers, hotels, arenas, and similar facilities, he concluded that Springfield's ability to expand its convention business is limited by both the existing BOS Center and the absence of a modern headquarters hotel downtown.

As part of the study, the firm contacted hundreds of meeting planners and completed detailed interviews with 75 planners representing more than 130 rotating conventions, conferences, and other events. According to the Mr. Krueger, planners generally considered Springfield's existing convention facilities inadequate. Some organizations that previously met in Springfield have moved to other communities because their events have grown and the local facilities have become outdated. Springfield's role as the state capital could produce additional government-related business, but only if the city has facilities capable of accommodating it.

He acknowledged that the Crowne Plaza has served the community for many years but said it is outside the downtown business district and does not meet modern design expectations. In particular, its ceiling heights and configuration are less suitable for contemporary conventions. The BOS Center faces similar limitations, including low ceilings, insufficient breakout rooms, and an arena floor that must serve conventions, trade shows, sporting events, and entertainment. These competing uses can create scheduling conflicts, while the arena setting is less attractive to planners seeking a modern ballroom or exhibition hall.

The study therefore recommended modern convention space with properly balanced ballrooms, exhibit areas, and meeting rooms. Although the current discussion concerned only the BOS Center expansion, he said combining the expanded center with a new headquarters hotel would produce the strongest results. Building the convention space first could also make the proposed hotel easier to develop later.

He projected that the expansion would attract additional conventions, generate new hotel stays and visitor spending, support jobs, and produce tax revenue. The benefits would extend beyond a single downtown hotel because large events can create demand for rooms throughout the local market. Most importantly, he said the project could bring hundreds of thousands of additional visitors into downtown Springfield, increasing activity at restaurants, stores, and other businesses and encouraging further downtown development over time.

During board questioning, Ms. Lathan asked whether raising Springfield’s combined lodging-tax rate from 14% to 17% would make the city less competitive with nearby convention markets such as Bloomington, Peoria, and Champaign. The consultant responded that communities planning convention-center construction or expansion commonly use hotel-tax revenue because it is paid by visitors and reinvested in facilities intended to attract additional tourism and convention business.

The consultant said a three-percentage-point increase would add approximately $4.50 to a $150 hotel room or $6 to a $200 room. Based on his experience, he did not believe a 17% combined rate would materially harm Springfield’s competitiveness. He predicted that many Illinois convention markets will eventually have effective lodging-tax rates between 15% and 17% and said tax levels generally begin drawing significant concern when they exceed approximately 20%.

Mr. Cahnman asked whether Springfield would have enough hotel rooms to accommodate additional conventions before a new headquarters hotel is constructed. The consultant said the existing DoubleTree, with approximately 310 rooms, could serve temporarily as the BOS Center’s headquarters hotel. Because conventions generally book several years in advance, a new hotel could potentially be announced or under development before the expanded convention space opens. However, without a modern headquarters hotel, Springfield would remain unable to attract certain larger events during the project’s early years.

The consultant added that new convention space would allow meetings, trade shows, and similar events to move off the BOS Center’s arena floor. This would free the arena to pursue more profitable spectator events, including concerts, sports, and family entertainment, while the new space accommodates convention business.

The board also discussed whether the closed Wyndham hotel might be purchased and renovated. The consultant said it could potentially reopen in some form, but its age, construction, room sizes, ceiling heights, and configuration would make it difficult to convert into a modern, full-service convention headquarters hotel. A renovated Wyndham could provide supplemental rooms, but the consultant maintained that a newly constructed hotel would ultimately be needed to complete a competitive convention complex.

Ms. Fulgenzi described downtown Springfield as facing a “catch-22.” The city needs restaurants, nightlife, retail, and other visitor amenities to attract conventions, but those businesses may be reluctant to invest without greater convention traffic. She also raised concerns about limited evening activity, homelessness and loitering downtown, airport access, and the history of financial difficulties among downtown hotels.

The consultant responded that a major public investment, such as expanding the BOS Center, could help break that cycle. A large, modern convention facility would serve as a visible commitment to downtown’s future, attract more events and visitors, and encourage private investors to consider opening restaurants, bars, shops, and other businesses in the surrounding area.

However, the consultant said the expansion must be accompanied by coordinated city and county planning. That could include reviewing zoning, creating favorable investment conditions, and developing a broader strategy for the area surrounding the convention center. Over time, increased visitation and carefully coordinated development could make downtown more active, attractive, and economically successful while producing benefits for the wider community.

Steve Galbreath, a partner and chief development officer with Garfield Public/Private, described his firm’s role as Sangamon County’s development manager for the BOS Center expansion via Zoom. He argued that the project’s economic benefits would extend beyond construction jobs to businesses such as food and beverage distributors, laundries, florists, photographers, and equipment-rental companies. The county also identifies Garfield Public/Private as its development partner for the expansion.

Mr. Galbreath said the additional three-percentage-point hotel tax would be paid by visitors and would help finance a modern facility capable of competing with convention markets such as Peoria and Bloomington. He characterized the expansion as a potential “front porch” and gathering place for downtown Springfield, with public food-and-beverage areas, a coffee shop, restaurant, lounge, and spaces that could be used even when no convention is underway.

The proposed facility would include flexible meeting rooms, boardrooms, a junior ballroom, a roughly 30,000-square-foot grand ballroom, outdoor terraces, and spacious pre-function areas. Mr. Galbreath emphasized high ceilings, natural light, modern finishes, and adaptable spaces suitable for conventions, receptions, dinners, charitable events, and inaugural celebrations. Current county plans similarly contemplate a new ballroom and approximately 30,000 to 40,000 square feet of additional meeting and event space.

Mr. Galbreath argued that Springfield’s aging hotels and existing convention facilities are no longer meeting planners’ expectations for technology, design, and overall experience. He said the BOS Center expansion, together with the nearby transportation hub, could become a catalyst for private investment and additional downtown development. In his view, beginning the public project would encourage nearby businesses and developers to invest as construction progresses.

County Board Member Tim Krell, a longtime Springfield resident and former city firefighter reflected on the city's hotel and convention industry during the 1970s. After returning from military service in 1972, he worked at several local hotels and recalled a period when the Holiday Inn East, Forum 30, and downtown hotels regularly hosted conventions and attracted significant activity. Those hospitality jobs provided him with a good living as a young man.

He contrasted that period with downtown Springfield's decline in more recent decades, including the loss of state government jobs and reduced evening activity. Drawing on a recent trip to Cincinnati, where he spent approximately $700 to $800 on a hotel, meals, and entertainment, he argued that travelers are willing to pay higher prices when a destination offers convenience and worthwhile attractions.

Although he generally dislikes imposing taxes, he supports the proposed BOS Center expansion and three-percentage-point hotel tax. He suggested that convention organizers can negotiate group room rates and said hotel guests may focus more on the total experience than individual taxes on their bills. He would nevertheless prefer the tax to include a sunset provision or end after the project's bonds are repaid.

He expressed hope that the expansion will help restore activity and investment in downtown Springfield. He emphasized that the city already has strong tourism assets, particularly Abraham Lincoln historic sites and Route 66, and believes an improved convention center could build upon those attractions and contribute to downtown revitalization.

Mr. Guyton, as the board's youngest member, offered a generational perspective on the proposed BOS Center expansion. He said Springfield has lost much of the nightlife, festivals, and community events that once made the city welcoming and enjoyable for both residents and visitors.

While viewing the expansion as a potentially positive investment, he cautioned that a convention center alone will not guarantee success. Springfield must also have enough quality hotels, restaurants, attractions, and entertainment to accommodate visitors and encourage them to remain downtown. He specifically questioned whether visitors would find restaurants and other businesses open after 8:30 or 9 p.m.

He urged the board to consider these supporting amenities when discussing the tax and expansion. To compete effectively with Peoria, Bloomington, and destinations outside Illinois, Springfield must provide a complete and comfortable visitor experience. He supported a progressive approach but emphasized the need to be realistic about what the city currently lacks and what additional improvements will be necessary.

Mr. Galbreath explained that the BOS Center expansion would be a lengthy process, potentially requiring about a year of design work followed by additional years of construction. That timeline would give nearby businesses and investors considerable notice and an opportunity to prepare before the expanded facility opens.

As construction becomes visible, he expects interest in nearby restaurant, bar, and retail development to increase. Existing hotels would also have time to complete renovations and other property improvements. If a headquarters hotel is eventually added, he believes it could establish higher market rates and encourage improvements throughout Springfield's hotel industry.

He emphasized that a headquarters hotel could accommodate only a portion of the guests attending a large convention. For example, an event with 1,000 participants might reserve only 200 to 300 rooms at the headquarters hotel, leaving the remaining visitors to stay at hotels throughout the community. The increased demand could therefore benefit existing hotels rather than concentrating all business in one property.

As an example, he cited a convention-center development in Irving, Texas, where estimated visitor spending reportedly increased from approximately $30 to $300 per day after an adjacent hotel and related amenities were added. Although some Springfield hotel operators currently oppose the proposal, he predicted that they would eventually benefit from the additional visitors and economic activity generated by the expansion.

Mr. Hall said the proposed BOS Center expansion could be worthwhile but expressed concern that local hotel and lodging organizations were not sufficiently involved in developing the proposal. After hearing industry representatives request greater participation, he questioned whether county officials or project consultants failed to seek their input. Before proceeding, he would like additional feedback from the businesses that would be most directly affected.

He also raised concerns about long-term planning and used the new transportation center as an example. Although the facility had been planned for years, officials were reportedly still discussing how it would be patrolled shortly before opening. He warned that the BOS Center project must include early planning for security, operations, maintenance, and responsibility for the surrounding area.

A major concern was the absence of a sunset provision for the proposed hotel tax. He argued that future boards and taxpayers should have an opportunity to reconsider the tax after the construction bonds are repaid. Without a definite ending or review date, the tax could become permanent and eventually be redirected toward repairs or other expenses as the facility ages.

Finally, he questioned whether expanding the convention center alone would be enough to revive downtown Springfield. Comparing the proposal to other large projects built on promises of future economic benefits, he said officials must clearly explain how the broader revitalization will occur. Based on recent visits downtown, he believed the area's present condition demonstrates the need for a more complete and accountable plan.

Ms. Fulgenzi questioned whether revenue projections for the hotel tax properly account for tax-exempt government travel. Because Springfield hosts many state and federal employees, she was concerned that a significant number of occupied rooms might not generate hotel-tax revenue. Board members disagreed about whether state employees generally pay lodging taxes, and the issue was left for further review.

She also expressed concern that Sangamon County would be committing to a roughly $60 million convention-center expansion without substantial financial participation from the city or state. County officials responded that the project would be financed through hotel-revenue bonds secured solely by the new hotel-tax revenue, rather than the county's general funds, property taxes, or other revenues. SMEAA may contribute approximately $2 million toward construction, although the amount has not been finalized, while the City of Springfield has indicated it cannot contribute hotel-tax revenue.

County officials said the state specifically authorized Sangamon County to impose the countywide hotel tax for this type of tourism-related project. They argued that the county must take the lead because downtown Springfield needs investment and the county has been working with the city, state, and SMEAA on the proposal since 2018. A countywide tax could also support future lodging development outside Springfield.

When asked why the county could not wait for additional state legislation and funding, officials said they were confident the legislation would eventually pass but uncertain when that would occur. The measure has reportedly become entangled with discussions involving the Chicago Bears, although a standalone version passed the Senate. Waiting for the veto or spring legislative sessions could delay the project by several months, with estimated escalation costs of approximately $700,000 per month.

Officials therefore recommended proceeding with the BOS Center expansion using the existing county authority. If the state later approves legislation allowing the proposed headquarters hotel or other project components, the county could then reevaluate the financing and overall development plan.

The discussion clarified that the immediate vote concerns establishing the three-percentage-point hotel tax, not authorizing the full estimated $60 million cost of the BOS Center expansion. Project representatives said the county would continue with design, engineering, cost estimates, and revenue analysis over the coming year. The County Board would later have to separately approve construction contracts and the issuance of bonds, likely sometime the following summer.

Supporters argued that beginning the process now would reduce the risk of construction-cost inflation. Although current escalation was estimated at approximately 1.25% per quarter, even that rate could add substantial costs to a project of this size. As the design progresses, officials expect to refine the project's cost and determine how much tax revenue is actually needed. More efficient designs or updated financial information could potentially allow the tax rate to be reduced from 3% to a lower rate before bonds are issued.

Ms. Fulgenzi nevertheless emphasized that approving the tax would represent a meaningful commitment because the resolution restricts the revenue to the convention-center expansion. Officials agreed that the money could be used only for that purpose, but maintained that the county could still decide not to proceed because additional board votes would be required before construction and bond financing are authorized.

If the board eventually abandoned the expansion, it would have to decide through a separate vote what to do with the hotel-tax revenue already collected. This exchange highlighted the distinction between beginning the project's dedicated funding process and giving final authorization to construct and finance the expanded facility.

The discussion continued with a suggestion that the City of Springfield should assume responsibility for additional downtown police patrols once the BOS Center expansion is completed, particularly because the city would benefit financially from increased activity. County officials acknowledged the concern but said the county generally avoids directing city operations. They also clarified that the expanded convention facility would be operated by a contracted professional management company because the county does not have the necessary expertise to manage it directly.

Garfield Public/Private representatives said they are working on similar projects in Albany, New York, and Jefferson City, Missouri. Both projects reportedly rely significantly on hotel-tax revenue. Jefferson City was expected to begin construction soon, while Albany was further behind and focused primarily on a hotel component.

Several board members questioned whether local hotel operators had been sufficiently involved in planning the Springfield proposal. Officials responded that hotels participated extensively during earlier discussions about a tourism improvement district and in feasibility work conducted over the previous three to four years. Consultants also interviewed numerous meeting planners and business associations. Nevertheless, officials acknowledged that hotel representatives are now requesting additional discussion.

Mr. Hall criticized the absence of Springfield's mayor, aldermen, and SMEAA representatives from the meeting, arguing that officials from other communities would attend if a comparable investment were proposed in their jurisdictions. Mr. Guyton questioned the permanence of the three-percentage-point hotel tax. Officials explained that the tax would have to remain in place while the bonds are outstanding—possibly for about 25 years—but a future County Board could reduce or reconsider it afterward. Under the current resolution, the revenue may be used only for constructing the BOS Center expansion.

Project representatives said the financing plan would include reserve and capital-improvement funds for periodic renovations, including replacement of carpeting, furniture, fixtures, and other building components. Bond-rating agencies would also expect the county to demonstrate that the facility will be properly maintained. They contrasted this public financing model with privately financed hotels, which often carry higher borrowing and investor-return costs and may change ownership repeatedly, resulting in deferred maintenance and declining conditions.

Board members also questioned who would own and control the new facility. Under the model currently being considered, Sangamon County would retain ownership of both the land and the new expansion and lease it to SMEAA for operation. The existing and new portions would remain legally distinguishable even if physically connected, with documents allocating ownership and shared costs such as utilities and security. The amount of rent has not yet been determined.

If proposed state legislation creates a new public authority, that organization could eventually assume control. As discussed, its board would include three county appointees, one city appointee, and one SMEAA appointee. Officials said moving forward with the expansion should also prompt broader discussions about convention-center management, tourism promotion, event incentives, the state hotel rate, and better coordination among the county, city, SMEAA, hotels, and the visitors bureau.

There were no further questions.

Mr. Madonia had an amendment for Resolution 9 which was seconded by Mr. Stumpf and Mr. DelGiorno. Chairman VanMeter said this was introduced at the recommendation of the county's bond counsel. He said county officials generally discourage making substantive amendments during a board meeting, but this change was necessary to preserve the board's flexibility while meeting future financing requirements.

Under the amendment, the County Board could reduce or otherwise adjust the hotel-tax rate until bonds are issued for the BOS Center expansion. Once the bonds are issued, however, the rate established at that time would remain fixed because the county would have pledged that revenue to repay the project debt. The amendment therefore attempts to balance the board's desire to reconsider the tax rate with the assurances required by bond counsel and potential underwriters.

Mr. Cahnman explained that he had proposed an amendment to end the hotel tax after construction was completed and all project bonds were fully repaid. The chairman confirmed that county officials submitted the proposal to bond counsel and the bond underwriters for review.

According to the county administrator, both advisers described the proposed sunset provision as "fatal" to the project because the county would be unable to sell or later refinance the bonds under that language. Refinancing is important because declining interest rates could allow the county to reduce its debt payments or shorten the repayment period.

Bond counsel instead recommended an amendment allowing the County Board to reconsider and adjust the hotel-tax rate until the bonds are issued. After issuance, however, the county would be committed to maintaining the rate pledged to repay the debt. Mr. Cahnman asked whether the tax could terminate after the original and any refinanced bonds were paid, but officials said bond counsel had determined that such a restriction would still be unacceptable.

A voice vote was unanimous on the amendment.

Mr. DelGiorno spoke in support of the hotel tax and BOS Center expansion, framing the decision as an investment in Springfield's future. The member said a central reason for serving in public office is to help create opportunities that will encourage younger residents—including the member's teenage daughter—to return to Springfield after college.

Reflecting on returning to Springfield after law school 23 years earlier, he argued that the city has been declining and has too often hesitated when opportunities for improvement arise. He characterized the hotel tax as primarily affecting visitors rather than local residents and said elected officials should be willing to take political risks when pursuing projects they believe could strengthen the community.

He urged colleagues to consider the expansion's potential to create construction jobs, educational and economic opportunities, and a broader tax base that might reduce pressure on property owners. Concluding that inaction would allow Springfield's decline to continue, he called on the board to demonstrate confidence in the city and county by moving the project forward.

Upon a roll call vote, the Resolution passed with 20 YES votes and 5 NO votes. Those voting NO were; Ms. Clarke, Ms. Deppe, Mr. Hall, Ms. Scaife and Ms. Sheppard.

MOTIONS CARRIED
RESOLUTION ADOPTED

RESOLUTION 10

10. Resolution approving the procurement of goods and/or services for the ETSD from Priority Dispatch for the purpose of annual contract for Emergency Medical Dispatch in the amount of $31,000.

A motion was made by Mr. Rader, seconded by Ms. Lathan to place Resolution 10 before the Board. Mr. DelGiorno made a motion, to consolidate Resolutions 11 – 17 with Resolution 10. Chairman Van Meter asked the Clerk to read Resolutions 11 – 17.

RESOLUTIONS 11 - 17

11. Resolution approving the procurement of goods and/or services for Public Health from Lamar Texas Limited Partnership for the purpose of Narcan advertising services in the amount of $50,000.

12. Resolution approving the procurement of goods and/or services for the Public Defender's Office from Axon Enterprises, Inc. for the purpose of Axon Justice software in the amount of $110,557.

13. Resolution approving the procurement of goods and/or services for Information Systems from Norseman Defense Technologies for the purpose of replacing switch hardware that is coming to end of life in the amount of $220,421.88.

14. Resolution approving the procurement of goods and/or services for Information Systems from Watts Copy Services for the purpose of a new 3 year extended maintenance agreement for all copiers in the amount of $107,014.32.

15. Resolution approving the procurement of goods and/or services for Building & Grounds from Mid-Illinois Companies for the purpose of the 4th floor Clerks painting in the amount of $33,700.00.

16. Resolution approving the procurement of goods and/or services for Building & Grounds from Patterson Commercial Flooring Inc for the purpose of 7th floor Lobby/Corridor & 4 courtrooms carpeting in the amount of $219,760.00.

17. Resolution to accept the low bids from approved various contractors in the amount of $7,525,552 for the demolition, construction and remodeling of Sangamon County Community Services Building.

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 10 - 17. A voice vote was unanimous. Resolutions 10 – 17 were adopted.

MOTIONS CARRIED
RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED

PRESENTATION – CHUCK PELL, CJP ARCHITECTS

Chuck Pell of CJP Architects presented plans to renovate the Sangamon County Health Building, which will be renamed the Community Services Building. The former grocery store will be transformed into a more professional office and service facility. The existing front canopy and entrance will be replaced, and the building will have one clearly defined public entrance leading into a redesigned lobby where visitors can easily identify the available county services.

The project includes three additions. New space will accommodate the WorkNet Center, the Illinois Department of Employment Security, and the Veterans Assistance Commission, which is currently located at Sangamon South. A new multipurpose community room will also provide space for meetings, employee gatherings, classroom instruction, training sessions, and other events.

The renovated building will house numerous organizations and programs, including Sangamon County Public Health, environmental health services, community resources, the county clinic, an SIU clinic, employment services, and veterans' services. Administrative space may also be shared with Heartland Housed, although those arrangements are still being developed.

The overall goal is to create a convenient "one-stop shop" for residents seeking assistance. By bringing public health, employment, veterans, township, clinical, housing, and other community services into one location, the county hopes to make those programs easier to find and reduce the need for residents to travel to multiple offices throughout the community.

Ms. Lathan asked whether the agencies located in the new Community Services Building would coordinate their work so residents could access multiple services during a single visit. Chairman Van Meter said that coordination is already beginning, with staff directing clients between programs and connecting them with additional assistance available in the building. He emphasized that interaction among the different service providers is a central purpose of bringing them together in one location.

Ms. Lathan also asked whether the building would have expanded operating hours. Mr. McFadden said flexible hours are anticipated, particularly for the community room, which is intended to host public meetings and events. The exact schedule has not yet been determined. Planning has taken longer than expected because additional agencies—including the Veterans Assistance Commission and potentially Heartland Housed—have requested space, requiring numerous revisions to the building design.

Finally, Ms. Lathan recommended evaluating the need for on-site security because of the number and variety of people and organizations using the facility. The building currently has unarmed security personnel at the front entrance, but officials agreed to assess whether stronger security measures or a Sheriff's Office presence may be appropriate. That review could occur alongside the county's ongoing security planning for the nearby transportation hub.

OLD BUSINESS

No Old Business.

NEW BUSINESS

No New Business.

A. Appointments

Appointment of Rick Coon, to the Emergency Telephone System Board, for a term expiring September, 2027.

Appointment of Dick Rentschler, to the Emergency Telephone System Board, for a term expiring September, 2027.

Appointment of Joseph Powell, to the Emergency Telephone System Board, for a term expiring September, 2027.

Appointment of Joseph Behl, to the Emergency Telephone System Board, for a term expiring September, 2027.

Appointment of Mike Gardner, to the Emergency Telephone System Board, for a term expiring September, 2027.

Appointment of TJ Henson, to the Emergency Telephone System Board, for a term expiring September, 2027.

Appointment of Lisa Konzelman, to fill the unexpired term of Rusty Edwards, to the Williamsville Fire Protection District, for a term expiring May, 2029.

Appointment of Linda Douglas-Williams, to the Sewer Rebate Board, for a term expiring September, 2027.

Appointment of Paul Truax, to the Sewer Rebate Board, for a term expiring September, 2027.

Appointment of Justine Macklin, to the Sewer Rebate Board, for a term expiring September, 2027.

Appointment of Sunshine Clemons, to the Sewer Rebate Board, for a term expiring September, 2027.

Appointment of Shannan Karrick, as Executive Regional Planning Director.

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

MOTION CARRIED
APPOINTMENTS ADOPTED

The nominations for approval in October were also submitted.

B. Emergency/Procurement Notifications

C. 2027 County Board Dates

A motion was made by Mr. Madonia, seconded by Mr. DelGiorno, for approval of the 2027 County Board Dates. A voice vote was unanimous.

MOTION CARRIED
COUNTY BOARD DATES ADOPTED

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

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

MOTION CARRIED
REPORTS FILED

RECESS

A motion was made by Mr. Madonia, seconded by Mr. DelGiorno, to recess the meeting to October 13, 2026. A voice vote was unanimous.

MOTION CARRIED
MEETING RECESSED

Don Gray
Sangamon County Clerk