



CHAMPAIGN COUNTY BOARD
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
Finance/ Policy, Personnel, & Appointments/Justice & Social Services
County of Champaign, Urbana, Illinois
Tuesday, October 15, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.
Shields-Carter Meeting Room
Brookens Administrative Center
1776 East Washington Street, Urbana, Illinois

OPEN MINUTES – Approved as Distributed on November 12, 2024

Members Present:	Lorraine Cowart, Aaron Esry, John Farney, Stephanie Fortado, Carolyn Greer, Jennifer Locke, Jenny Lokshin, Donald Owen, Brett Peugh, Emily Rodriguez, Jilmala Rogers, Tom ‘Ed’ Sexton, Mike Smith, Chris Stohr, Leah Taylor, Bethany Vanichtheeranont and Samantha Carter
Members Absent:	Elly Hanauer-Friedman, Diane Michaels, Jennifer Straub, Eric Thorsland, and Jeff Wilson
Others Present:	Michelle Jett (Director of Administration), Travis Woodcock (Budget Director), Julia Rietz (State’s Attorney), Joel Fletcher (Assistant State’s Attorney), Cassandra Johnson (Treasurer), DeShawn Williams (Chief Deputy Treasurer), George Danos (Auditor) and Megan Robison (Recording Secretary)

Agenda Items

I. Call to Order

Chair Carter called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

II. Roll Call

Roll Call was taken, and a quorum was declared present.

III. Approval of Agenda/Addenda

MOTION by Mr. Owen to approve the agenda; seconded by Ms. Rogers.

MOTION by Ms. Locke to **AMEND** the agenda to move items IX. F. 2 & 3 after item H; seconded by Ms. Lokshin. Upon vote, the **MOTION to AMEND CARRIED** unanimously.

Upon vote, the **MOTION to approve the agenda as amended CARRIED** unanimously.

IV. Approval of Minutes

A. September 10, 2024 – Regular Meeting

MOTION by Ms. Locke to approve the minutes of September 10, 2024; seconded by Mr. Sexton. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

B. September 24, 2024 – Special Finance Meeting

MOTION by Ms. Cowart to approve the minutes of September 24, 2025; seconded by Mr. Stohr. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

V. Public Participation

George Danos spoke about the many disagreements he has had with the County Board. He listed some of the duties of the County Board and the County Executive. He said he leaves it to the voters to decide if he has served them well as the County Auditor.

VI. Communications

Mr. Stohr spoke about a recommendation from the October Environment and Land Use Committee meeting to establish a safety moratorium on carbon sequestration in Champaign County. This item will now go to the Zoning Board of Appeals and will likely come to the County Board in February.

Ms. Taylor read an announcement from Mr. Thorsland with details about the upcoming events of the Lincoln Legacy Committee.

Ms. Carter has received many questions that she is unable to answer. She believes they need to pay better attention to the County business. She is not angry; she is just disappointed with the lack of communication. She is embarrassed to be a part of a public body and not have answers for her constituents.

VII. Policy, Personnel, & Appointments

A. County Executive

1. Monthly HR Report – September 2024

Received and placed on file

2. Resolution Authorizing an Agreement for a Joint Labor/Management Deferred Compensation Committee

MOTION by Mr. Farney to recommend County Board approval of a resolution authorizing an agreement for a Joint Labor/Management Deferred Compensation Committee; seconded by Ms. Locke. Discussion continued regarding the need for this committee, the member list and the task of the committee. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

3. Appointments/Reappointments (*italics indicates incumbent*)
 - a. Resolution Appointing Lloyd Estry to the St. Joseph #3 Drainage District, term 9/1/2024-8/31/2027

MOTION by Mr. Farney to recommend County Board approval of a resolution appointing Lloyd Estry to the St. Joseph #3 Drainage District; seconded by Ms. Lokshin. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

- b. Resolution Appointing Neil Sharma to the Developmental Disabilities Board, unexpired term ending 6/30/2027

MOTION by Ms. Vanichtheeranont to recommend County Board approval of resolution appointing Neil Sharma to the Developmental Disabilities Board; seconded by Mr. Owen. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

- c. Currently vacant appointments – full list and information is available on the County’s website

Information only

- d. Applications for open appointments

Information only

B. County Clerk

1. Monthly Fee Reports – September 2024

Received and placed on file

C. Other Business

None

D. Chair’s Report

None

E. Designation of Items to be Placed on the Consent Agenda

VII. A. 2, 3a-b

VIII. Justice and Social Services

A. Monthly Reports – All reports are available on each department’s webpage through the department reports page

- Emergency Management Agency – August & September 2024
- Public Defender – September 2024

Received and placed on file

B. Rosecrance Re-Entry Reports

- Financial Report – August 2024
- Program Report – August 2024

Information only

C. Other Business

None

D. Chair’s Report

None

E. Designation of Items to be Placed on the Consent Agenda

None

IX. Finance

A. Budget Amendments/Transfers

1. Budget Amendment BUA 2024/9/443

Fund 2091 Animal Control / Dept 047 Animal Control

Increased Appropriations: \$42,410

Increased Revenue: \$0

Reason: Increased operational costs and the cost to replace mobile field radios.

MOTION by Mr. Esry to recommend County Board approval of a resolution approving budget amendment BUA 2024/9/443; seconded by Ms. Taylor. Ms. Fortado requested that staff review the FY2025 proposed budget and add funds for these anticipated costs if not already done. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

2. Budget Amendment BUA 2024/10/69
Fund 1080 General Corporate & 2106 Public Safety Sales Tax / Dept 071 Public Properties & 010 County Board
Increased Appropriations: \$17,078.75
Increased Revenue: \$0
Reason: To repay the accounts used for the cost of the boiler burner replacement project and for completion of the recommended boiler boil out procedure.

MOTION by Ms. Lokshin to recommend County Board approval of a resolution approving budget amendment BUA 2024/10/69; seconded by Mr. Sexton. Ms. Smith explained the boil out process and why this is necessary. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

3. Budget Transfer BUA 2024/10/168
Fund 2500 County Grant Fund / Dept 075 General County
Amount: \$13,000
Reason: Reallocation of fringe benefit appropriation to prevent loss of funds.

MOTION by Ms. Lokshin to recommend County Board approval of a resolution approving budget amendment BUA 2024/10/168; seconded by Ms. Locke. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

B. Auditor

1. Monthly Report – August 2024 – are available on the Auditor’s webpage

Received and placed on file

C. Treasurer

1. Monthly Report – August 2024 – Reports are available on the Treasurer’s webpage

Received and placed on file

2. Resolution Authorizing the Cancellation of the Appropriate Certificate of Purchase, permanent parcel 30-059-0057
3. Resolution Authorizing the Cancellation of the Appropriate Certificate of Purchase, permanent parcel 04-006-0247
4. Resolution Authorizing the Cancellation of the Appropriate Certificate of Purchase, permanent parcel 14-024-0004

OMNIBUS MOTION by Mr. Sexton to recommend County Board approval of resolutions authorizing the cancellation of the appropriate certificate of purchase on the above listed parcels; seconded by Mr. Smith. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

5. Resolution Authorizing the Execution of a Deed of Conveyance of the County’s Interest on Real Estate, permanent parcel 20-03-34-480-003
6. Resolution Authorizing the Execution of a Deed of Conveyance of the County’s Interest on Real Estate, permanent parcel 41-20-11-226-019

7. Resolution Authorizing the Execution of a Deed of Conveyance of the County's Interest on Real Estate, permanent parcel 42-20-12-203-012

OMNIBUS MOTION by Mr. Smith to recommend County Board approval of resolutions authorizing the execution of a deed of conveyance of the County's interest on real estate on the above listed parcels; seconded by Ms. Locke. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

8. Resolution Authorizing the County Executive to Assign a Mobile Home Tax Sale Certificate of Purchase, permanent parcel 11-013-0055
9. Resolution Authorizing the County Executive to Assign a Mobile Home Tax Sale Certificate of Purchase, permanent parcel 15-025-0700
10. Resolution Authorizing the County Executive to Assign a Mobile Home Tax Sale Certificate of Purchase, permanent parcel 30-057-0005
11. Resolution Authorizing the County Executive to Assign a Mobile Home Tax Sale Certificate of Purchase, permanent parcel 30-057-0008
12. Resolution Authorizing the County Executive to Assign a Mobile Home Tax Sale Certificate of Purchase, permanent parcel 30-058-0295

OMNIBUS MOTION by Mr. Sexton to recommend County Board approval of resolutions authorizing the County Executive to assign a mobile home tax sale certificate of purchase on the above listed parcels; seconded by Mr. Owen. Mr. Stohr brought up the lack of assistance for mobile homeowners who do not own their land and believes that work needs to be done at a federal level to make changes. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

D. County Clerk

1. Approval to Release RFP 2024-005 Champaign County Clerk Voter Registration and Pollbook Software and Vendor Support

MOTION by Mr. Farney to approve the release of RFP 2024-005 Champaign County Clerk Voter Registration and Pollbook Software and Vendor Support; seconded by Ms. Vanichtheeranont. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

E. State's Attorney

1. Resolution Agreeing to Participate in the service program of the Office of the State's Attorney's Appellate Prosecutor for 2025

MOTION by Ms. Taylor to recommend County Board approval of a resolution agreeing to participate in the service program of the Office of the State's Attorney's Appellate Prosecutor for 2025; seconded by Ms. Rogers. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

F. County Executive

1. Recommendation to the County Board to receive and place on file the FY2025 Tentative Budget

MOTION by Mr. Esry to recommend County Board approval of a resolution receiving and placing on file the FY2025 Tentative Budget; seconded by Ms. Greer. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

2. Closed Session Pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11) to consider litigation which is pending against or on behalf of Champaign County, and litigation that is probable or imminent against Champaign County

MOTION by Ms. Locke to enter CLOSED session pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11) to consider litigation which is pending against or on behalf of Champaign County, and litigation that is probable or imminent against Champaign County and that the following parties remain present: State's Attorney, Assistant State's Attorney, Director of Administration, Budget Director, Treasurer and recording secretary; seconded by Mr. Esry. Upon roll call vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

The Committee entered Closed Session at 8:55 p.m.

Mr. Peugh left at 9:00 p.m.

The Committee resumed Open Session at 9:11 p.m.

3. Resolution Approving Amended Judgment in 2008-L-202

MOTION by Mr. Farney to recommend County Board approval of a resolution approving amended judgment in 2008-L-202; seconded by Ms. Greer. Members requested to keep this item off the consent agenda. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

G. Other Business

None

H. Chair's Report

1. Investment Policy

Treasurer Johnson stated the missed opportunity to gain additional interest is definitely an oversight on her part. This was not intentional; she just had several other projects she was focused on. She was investing the money properly and did not lose any money but rather they missed an opportunity to gain additional funds from the investments. Ms. Johnson would like to implement an investment policy committee, comprised of investment professionals, to assist with editing the current policy.

Board members continued to discuss when this was discovered, what actions were taken when it was discovered and why the media was the first to learn of this information. Ms. Fortado reminded the Board that the interest earnings are public information and where that information can be found. During agenda review they discussed adding investments to the agenda on a biannual basis to bring it to everyone's attention.

Ms. Fortado compared the County's interest earnings to other entities. She clarified the initial investment was solid but in 2023 the market changed, and the funds could have been moved to a higher earning account.

2. ACFR Update

Ms. Fortado gave a brief overview of the deadline for the audit and what happens when the County does not meet that deadline. The last memo from the Auditor gave an updated timeline for completion and unfortunately those dates were not met. She now knows the audit will not be complete by the end of the month, so the County will receive the consequences for being 30 days past due. They hope they do not reach the next level of consequences for being 60 days past due. Ms. Fortado is joining all of the meetings to receive the updates on the status of the audit.

Auditor Danos agrees on the timeline that was described but asked that everyone maintain perspective because this is just a way for the State to keep the pressure on entities to complete their audits. He predicts that DCEO will not impose any consequences on the County. He thinks worst case scenario is that the

November 1st payments won't be received until December 1st. He said RPC has ample reserves to cover just one month of payments.

Ms. Fortado clarified that the Auditor is not doing the work to complete the audit, but rather he is contracting with a former employee to complete this work. She asked some status questions of the Auditor, but he was unwilling to respond to those questions. Ms. Locke suggested the Auditor be a bigger pest to each department, so he can receive the outstanding items in a timelier fashion.

3. Bond Refinancing Update

Originally, they were scheduled to select a winning bid on October 8th but due to the delay in the audit they pushed back that date. Once they discovered that the audit was not going to be completed by the timeline provided by the Auditor, they moved the date back up to October 16th. The market conditions are always changing so Mr. Woodcock provided updated information about the potential savings that will be gained.

Ms. Fortado mentioned that the County has maintained their high bond rating from Moody's. She listed the positive and negative impacts on the bond rating.

4. Delayed Invoice Payments

Ms. Fortado mentioned the issue of departments entering delayed invoices for payments. She would like for each department to submit a memo or come to the meeting to discuss why these invoices are being paid so late.

I. Designation of Items to be Placed on the Consent Agenda

IX. A. 1-3, C. 2-12, D. 1, E. 1, F. 1

X. Other Business

A. Approval of Closed Session Minutes

1. September 10, 2024

MOTION by Ms. Locke to approve the closed session minutes of September 10, 2024; seconded by Ms. Vanichtheeranont. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

XI. Adjournment

Chair Carter adjourned the meeting at 9:14 p.m.

Please note the minutes reflect the order of the agenda and may not necessarily reflect the order of business conducted at the meeting.