



**CHAMPAIGN COUNTY BOARD  
LABOR COMMITTEE**

**County of Champaign, Urbana, Illinois**  
Wednesday, January 8, 2025 – 4:30 p.m.

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Jennifer Putman Meeting Room  
Brookens Administrative Center  
1776 E. Washington St., Urbana

**OPEN MINUTES – Approved as distributed February 18, 2025**

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**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Aaron Esry, John Farney (Vice Chair), Stephanie Fortado, Emily Rodriguez (Chair), and Daniel Wiggs

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

**COUNTY STAFF:** Steve Summers (County Executive), Michelle Jett (Director of Administration), Travis Woodcock (Budget Director), Andrew Bequette (Assistant State’s Attorney), Melvin Stevens (Assistant State’s Attorney), Laurie Brauer (Coroner) and Megan Robison (Recording Secretary)

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Jeff Wilson (County Board Member), and Barb Mann (Legal Counsel)

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**Agenda Items**

**I. Call to Order**

Chair Rodriguez called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

**II. Roll Call**

A verbal roll call was taken, and a quorum was declared present.

**III. Approval of Agenda**

**MOTION** by Mr. Esry to approve the agenda; seconded by Mr. Farney. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

**IV. Approval of Minutes**

A. October 22, 2024

**MOTION** by Ms. Fortado to approve the minutes of October 22, 2024; seconded by Mr. Esry. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

**V. Public Participation**

None

**VI. Closed Session Pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)2 to Consider Collective Negotiating Matters Between the County and its Employees or their Representatives**

**MOTION** by Mr. Farney to enter into closed session pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c) 2 to consider collective negotiating matters between Champaign County and its employees or their representatives. He further moved that the following individuals remain present; Legal Counsel, Assistant State's Attorneys, Budget Director, Director of Administration, County Executive, County Board Member Wilson and recording secretary; seconded by Mr. Esry. Upon roll call vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

The committee entered into closed session at 4:48 p.m.

The committee resumed open session at 6:54 p.m.

**VII. Other Business**

A. Approval of Closed Session Minutes

1. October 22, 2024

**MOTION** by Mr. Farney to approve the closed session minutes of October 22, 2024; seconded by Mr. Esry. Upon vote the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

Before entering closed session Ms. Jett requested for the Committee to hear a request from the Coroner. Ms. Brauer asked for an additional staff member to be added to her budget. She wants to make a change in how the shifts work because the current schedule is not sustainable. This position would require an additional \$65,000-75,000 with benefits. Committee members asked how the hours were covered previously, about the increase in staff a couple years ago and if there has been an increase in workload.

Ms. Brauer shared that McLean County, a smaller county, has four more staff members than Champaign County. Ms. Jett also explained the additional work that comes from having a level one trauma center in our community. Mr. Wilson would like to see more data to backup this request.

**VIII. Adjournment**

Chair Rodriguez adjourned the meeting at 6:55 p.m.