

RESUME OF MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE
COUNTY BOARD, CHAMPAIGN COUNTY, ILLINOIS
May 22, 2025

The County Board of Champaign County, Illinois met at a Regular Meeting, Thursday, May 22, 2025, at 6:30 PM in the Shields-Carter Meeting Room, Brookens Administrative Center, 1776 East Washington Street, Urbana, Illinois, with County Executive Steve Summers presiding and Matthew Cross as Clerk of the meeting.

ROLL CALL

Roll call showed the following members present: Hanauer-Friedman, Lokshin, Rogers, Stohr, Sullard, Thorsland, Vanichtheeranont, Wiggs, Wilson, Cagle, Cowart, Esry, Farney, Fortado, Greer, and Locke – 16; late: Carter (arrived at 6:34, during the reading of Resolution No. 2025-164) and Rodriguez (arrived at 6:37 during the discussion of Resolution No. 2025-164) – 2; absent: Peugh, Sexton, Crane, and Fava – 4. County Executive Summers declared a quorum present and the Board competent to conduct business.

PRAYER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

County Executive Summers recited a prayer, and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was recited.

READ NOTICE OF MEETING

The Clerk read the Notice of the Meeting, said Notice having been published in the *News Gazette* on May 8, May 15, and May 21, 2025.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA/ADDENDA

Board Member Vanichtheeranont offered a motion to adopt the Agenda; Board Member Lokshin seconded. The motion as amended carried by unanimous voice vote.

DATE/TIME OF NEXT MEETINGS

STANDING COMMITTEES

A. County Facilities Committee

Tuesday, June 3, 2025 at 6:30 PM
Shields-Carter Meeting Room

B. Environment and Land Use Committee

Thursday, June 5, 2025 at 6:30 PM
Shields-Carter Meeting Room

C. Highway and Transportation Committee
Friday, June 6, 2025 at 9:00 AM
1605 E Main Street, Urbana

Committee of the Whole:

A. Justice and Social Services: Policy, Personnel, and Appointments; and Finance
Tuesday, June 10, 2025 at 6:30 PM
Shields-Carter Meeting Room

County Board:

A. Regular Meeting
Thursday, June 26, 2025 at 6:30 PM
Shields-Carter Meeting Room

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

Board Member Stohr offered a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2025-164 honoring county employees for years of service; Board Chair Locke seconded. Board Member Stohr read the entire text of the resolution. Probation and Court Services Director Shannon Slider was invited to join the discussion; she spoke about Amanda Wells' service and accomplishments. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

PUBLIC INPUT

Jim Goss of Mahomet spoke about the poor performance of the County Treasurer and County Auditor and spoke negatively about the County Clerk and Recorder regarding a lawsuit about Drainage District tax disbursements; he blamed voters for electing incompetent leaders and chastised the County Auditor over his refusal to move his office to County Plaza.

Jen Straub of Urbana praised Board Member Stohr's service on the Board.

CONSENT AGENDA

Board Member Vanichtheeranont offered a motion to adopt the Consent Agenda; Board Member Sexton seconded. Board Member Wilson requested that Item B. 1. (Resolution No. 2025-148) be removed from the Consent Agenda to enable discussion; County Executive Summers stated it would be addressed immediately following the Consent Agenda vote. The motion consisting of 16 resolutions (Nos. 2025-147, 2025-149, 2025-150, 2025-151, 2025-152, 2025-153, 2025-154, 2025-155, 2025-156, 2025-157, 2025-158, 2025-159, 2025-160, 2025-161, 2025-162, and 2025-163) and one ordinance (No. 2025-9) carried by unanimous roll-call vote:

Yeas: Hanauer-Friedman, Lokshin, Rodriguez, Rogers, Stohr, Sullard,
Thorsland, Vanichtheeranont, Wiggs, Wilson, Cagle, Carter, Cowart, Esry,
Farney, Fortado, Greer, and Locke – 18

Nays: none

Board Member Farney offered a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2025-148 authorizing County Executive signature on Annual Facility Inspection Report required for M.S.4 Stormwater Permit with I.E.P.A. for program year April 2024 through March 2025; Board Member Esry seconded. Planning and Zoning Director John Hall was invited to join the discussion. Board Member Wilson asked what had changed from the prior year; Director Hall stated the stormwater survey was successfully completed and included in the report and distributed to all the environmental justice programs. Board Member Wilson asked about the next steps following the survey; Director Hall stated that the findings are passed on to the relevant township and municipal highway jurisdictions for them to act on the findings. Board Member Wilson asked if the county does any work after the report; Director Hall stated that is under the jurisdiction of townships and municipalities. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

PROCLAMATION

Board Member Lokshin offered a motion to adopt a proclamation declaring the first Friday in June to be National Gun Violence Awareness Day; Board Member Cowart seconded. Board Member Hanauer-Friedman read the entire text of the proclamation. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

COMMUNICATIONS

Board Member Rogers noted the June 7, 2025 Health Awareness Fair at Emmanuel Memorial Episcopal Church in Champaign, and she thanked Board Member Stohr for his service on the Board.

Board Member Carter noted the June 3, 2025, Community Violence Prevention program at the Champaign Public Library. She discussed a recent constituent complaint that Starks Construction was flying American flags on their equipment; she stated that this was disrespectful to the community and urged the county to not contract with Starks Construction in the future.

Board Member Stohr read a statement announcing his resignation from the Board following the meeting.

Board Member Wilson spoke about Edge Scott Fire Chief Mark McDuffy and his years of service as a fire fighter; he also spoke about the upcoming Memorial Weekend and the sacrifice of slain service members.

Board Member Sullard noted an Illinois High Speed Rail online survey.

Board Chair Locke praised Board Member Stohr and thanked him for his service.

Board Member Lokshin read a statement from constituent Mike Ingram praising Board Member Stohr.

Board Member Stohr noted the upcoming May 28, 2025, Carbon Sequestration Task Force meeting that will feature presentations from experts on the Mahomet Aquifer.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

County Executive Summers noted that the minutes of the Regular County Board Meeting of March 20, 2025, were not available for review and would be on the Agenda of the next regular Board meeting.

Board Member Farney offered an omnibus motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the County Board on April 24, 2025, *and* the Special Meeting of the County Board on May 13, 2025; Board Member Sullard seconded. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

STANDING COMMITTEES

County Executive Summers noted the Summaries of Action Taken at the May 6, 2025, County Facilities Committee Meeting; the May 8, 2025, Environment and Land Use Committee; and the May 9, 2025, Highway and Transportation Committee were received and placed on file.

AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY

County Executive Summers noted the Summary of Action Taken at the May 13, 2025, Committee of the Whole Meeting (Justice and Social Services; Finance; and Policy, Personnel, and Appointments) was received and placed on file.

Board Member Wilson offered a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2025-165 appointing Christopher Stohr to the Urbana-Champaign Sanitary District, term 6/1/2025-5/31/2028; Board Member Rogers seconded. Board Member Wilson read the entire text of the resolution. Board Member Wilson praised Board Member Stohr and thanked him of his service on the County Board. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

NEW BUSINESS

Board Member Vanichtheeranont offered an omnibus motion to adopt Resolution No. 2025-166 authorizing payments of claims and Resolution No. 2025-167 purchases not following purchasing policy; Board Member Hanauer-Friedman seconded. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Board Member Sullard offered an omnibus motion to adopt Resolution No. 2025-168 authorization of signatures for the Champaign County Treasurer's accounts, Champaign County Collector's accounts, and investment instruments or investment accounts *and* Resolution No. 2025-169 authorization of facsimile signatures for the Champaign County Treasurer's accounts and the Champaign County Collector's accounts; Board Member Rogers seconded. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Board Member Farney offered a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2025-170 appointing Matt Sullard to the Broadband Task Force; Board Member Lokshin seconded. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Board Chair Locke offered a motion appointing Beth Vanichtheeranont as the Deputy Chair of Policy, Personnel, and Appointments; Board Member Thorsland seconded. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

OTHER BUSINESS

County Executive Summers raised the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Update discussion. ARPA Project Manager Kathy Larson was invited to join the discussion. Board Member Wilson asked for an update on the Rural Broadband project; Project Manager Larson stated that Volo is working with contractors; County Executive Summers stated that Volo sent 100 letters to landowners for easement approval and received 50 positive responses; Board Member Esry added that the in-ground work can start once Volo has seven or eight contiguous easement approvals. Board Member Fortado asked if the county had dispersed 80 percent of its budget to Volo and all of the rural housing broadband funds; Project Manager Larson stated that only \$3 million of the \$9 million budgeted to Volo had been disbursed but that all of the housing funds had been spent. Board Member Carter asked for an update on the Regional Planning Commission's Safety, Lighting, Energy Efficiency Program (SLEEP); Project Manager Larson stated that 31 households had been services. Board Member Carter asked how the households have been contacted; Project Manager Larson stated it has been a combination of social media outreach and direct mailings. Board Member Carter asked about the Chamber of Commerce small business program; Project Manager Larson stated that only one of the three had been launched and she did not have any new information about the other two; County Executive Summers stated he would reach out for information about the others; Project Manager Larson stated that if the programs do not come to fruition, the funds can be reallocated to similar projects; County Executive Summers noted that the Chamber of Commerce already has some similar programs.

County Executive Summers noted the memorandums in the Agenda Packet for the County Executive's Annual Report and the Grant Coordinator Update.

County Executive Summers noted the Summary of Action Taken at the May 20, 2025, Opioid Settlement Task Force was received and placed on file.

Board Chair Locke offered a motion to adopt resolution No. 2025-172 authorizing an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Probation and Court Services Department for Transportation to Treatment; Board Member Vanichtheeranont seconded. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Board Member Sullard offered a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2025-173 approving Master Agreement for Transportation; Board Member Rogers seconded. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Board Member Farney offered a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2025-174 authorizing an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Coroner's Office for a Radox Evidence MultiSTAT Analyzer; Board Member Lokshin seconded. Board Chair Locke stated the machine will allow for toxicology analysis that is significantly quicker and less costly than outsourcing to a laboratory. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Board Member Wiggs offered a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2025-175 approving agreement with CUPHD for purchase of harm reduction equipment and supplies; Board Member Rodriguez seconded. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Board Chair Locke offered a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2024-172 honoring County Board Member Christopher Stohr; Board Member Cowart seconded.

Board Chair Locke offered a motion to amend the resolution to add "as the Chair of the Carbon Sequestration Task Force" to the fifth paragraph; Board Member Sullard seconded. The motion to amend the resolution carried by unanimous voice vote.

Board Members Fortado and Thorsland thanked Board Member Stohr for his service on the Board. Board Member Vanichtheeranont read the entire text of the amended resolution. The motion as amended carried by unanimous voice vote.

ADJOURN

County Executive Summers adjourned the meeting at 7:32 PM.



Aaron Ammons, Champaign County Clerk
and ex-Officio Clerk of the Champaign County Board
Champaign County, Illinois