



**CHAMPAIGN COUNTY BOARD
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

Finance/ Policy, Personnel, & Appointments/Justice & Social Services

County of Champaign, Urbana, Illinois

Tuesday, November 12, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.

Shields-Carter Meeting Room

Brookens Administrative Center

1776 East Washington Street, Urbana, Illinois

MINUTES – Approved as Distributed on January 14, 2025

Members Present: Aaron Esry, Stephanie Fortado, Carolyn Greer, Jennifer Locke, Jenny Lokshin, Diane Michaels, Donald Owen, Brett Peugh, Jilmala Rogers, Mike Smith, Chris Stohr, Jennifer Straub, Leah Taylor, Eric Thorsland, Bethany Vanichtheeranont, Jeff Wilson and Samantha Carter

Members Absent: Lorraine Cowart, John Farney, Elly Hanauer-Friedman, Emily Rodriguez, and Tom ‘Ed’ Sexton

Others Present: Steve Summers (County Executive), Michelle Jett (Director of Administration), Travis Woodcock (Budget Director), Liz Pollok (Public Defender), George Danos (Auditor), Tami Ogden (RPC – Director of Operations), Brandi Granse (RPC – Head Start Director) and Megan Robison (Recording Secretary)

Agenda Items

I. Call to Order

Chair Carter called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

II. Roll Call

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

III. Approval of Agenda/Addenda

MOTION by Mr. Thorsland to approve the agenda; seconded by Ms. Vanichtheeranont.

MOTION by Mr. Stohr to **AMEND** the agenda to correct the numbering under item VII. A; seconded by Ms. Fortado. 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. October 15, 2024 – Regular Meeting

MOTION by Ms. Locke to approve the minutes of October 15, 2024; seconded by Ms. Lokshin. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

V. Public Participation

John Bambenek, representing the find-out wing of Champaign County politics, came to point out a few things from the sales tax referendum. He called the County a dysfunctional unit of government and the reason why they were not able to pass the sales tax referendum. He does not believe the campaign materials were legal, the State Board of Elections ruled they do not have jurisdiction on that matter, and he is speaking to the Attorney General. He stated this has prompted a need to change legislation. He will also be collecting signatures to add the question of removing the County Executive position to the 2026 ballot.

VI. Communications

Mr. Stohr stated that November 19th is World Toilet Day. This is something that is highly desired in third world countries and he wanted to remind everyone of the luxuries we have here.

Mr. Thorsland mentioned that some of the live-streamed videos did not have any audio. Our County IT found the issue and they have fixed the problem. He appreciates the citizens letting us know.

Ms. Straub reminded everyone that Cunningham Township is collecting gently used winter coats, hats and gloves.

Ms. Locke gave details of a mixer being held by Experience Champaign Urbana for people that are new to the area. She also reminded Board Members that if they have discussion about closed session minutes, they will need to enter closed session to do so.

Ms. Carter thanked the Veteran's and stated she was unable to attend any events but wanted to express her thanks to everyone that has served.

VII. Finance

A. Budget Amendments/Transfers

1. Budget Amendment BUA 2024/11/38
Fund 2634 Public Defender Grant Fund / Dept 036 Public Defender
Increased Appropriations: \$157,422.41
Increased Revenue: \$157,422.41
Reason: Appropriation of grant funds from AOIC.
2. Budget Amendment BUA 2024/11/41
Fund 1080 General Corporate / Dept 031 Circuit Court
Increased Appropriations: \$26,102.17
Increased Revenue: \$26,102.17
Reason: Appropriation of grant funds from AOIC.

OMNIBUS MOTION by Ms. Michaels to recommend County Board approval of resolutions approving budget amendment BUA 2024/11/38 and BUA 2024/11/41; seconded by Mr. Esry. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

B. Auditor

1. Reports are available on the Auditor's webpage
 - September 2024 Monthly Report
 - 2024 Third Quarterly Report

Received and placed on file – Discussion followed regarding the status of the FY2023 Audit. They will be bringing the results of the Audit to the December County Board meeting. This does mean they will not be done by the end of the month and will cross the 60-day penalty threshold. The Auditor was not concerned but would let everyone know if they experience a delay in payments. Ms. Fortado asked Auditor Danos to let them know by Friday, so they can offer a liquidity float to RPC if needed.

Mr. Thorsland asked about the payroll recording issue that was caught by Mr. Smith in RPC and asked why this wasn't caught by the Auditor's Office. Auditor Danos believes this was just an IT Coding issue but didn't know the details. Ms. Taylor was concerned about this oversight from a watchdog perspective. Ms. Fortado encouraged everyone to read the reports and noted a few other items that were not recorded correctly. Ms. Michaels asked the Auditor if he will be correcting reports, he would see if they could run the reports again.

Ms. Jett asked for clarity on the payroll recording issue and Auditor Danos stated he needs to have additional conversations and he would be able to explain in better detail later this week. Ms. Fortado asked the Auditor to come to the December meeting with the additional information he gathers about this issue.

Mr. Wilson asked about the penalties, and it was explained that they may or may not experience locks on execution of new grants, cannot pull administrative fees and the stop payment gets more serious. Ms. Fortado explained why these penalties can be a big deal for RPC and Auditor Danos stated that at the very most, we would only see one month worth of delays.

Ms. Carter asked how the search for new staff has been going and Auditor Danos explained that he will be having an interview with a very well-qualified candidate this week.

C. Treasurer

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

Received and placed on file

2. Resolution Authorizing the County Executive to Assign Mobile Home Tax Sale Certificate of Purchase, permanent parcel 15-025-0102
3. Resolution Authorizing the County Executive to Assign Mobile Home Tax Sale Certificate of Purchase, permanent parcel 14-019-0031
4. Resolution Authorizing the County Executive to Assign Mobile Home Tax Sale Certificate of Purchase, permanent parcel 20-032-0213

OMNIBUS MOTION by Mr. Thorsland to recommend County Board approval of resolutions authorizing the County Executive to assign mobile home tax sale certificate of purchases for the above-mentioned parcels; seconded by Ms. Vanichtheeranont. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

D. County Executive

1. Request approval of Property, Auto, Liability, Workers’ Compensation and Cyber Security Insurance Policies

MOTION by Mr. Smith to recommend County Board approval of a resolution approving the property, auto, liability, workers’ compensation and cyber security insurance policies; seconded by Ms. Locke. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

2. Annual Tax Levy Ordinance

MOTION by Ms. Straub to recommend County Board approval of an ordinance approving the annual tax levy; seconded by Ms. Lokshin. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

3. Annual Budget & Appropriation Ordinance

MOTION by Mr. Smith to recommend County Board approval of an ordinance approving the annual budget and appropriations; seconded by Ms. Greer. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

E. Regional Planning Commission

1. Approving the Application for, and if awarded, acceptance of the Head Start and Early Head Start Grant for Champaign County (05CH011410)
2. Approving the Application for, and if awarded, acceptance of the Early Head Start Expansion Grant for Champaign County (05HP000539)

3. Approving the Application for, and if awarded, acceptance of the Head Start and Early Head Start Grant for Ford, Iroquois and Vermilion Counties (05CH012823)
4. Approving the Application for, and if awarded, acceptance of the Head Start and Early Head Start Additional Funding Grant (HHS-2025-ACF-OHS-CH-0124)

OMNIBUS MOTION by Mr. Owen to recommend County Board approval of resolutions approving the application for, and if awarded, acceptance of the Head Start and Early Head Start Grant for Champaign County, Early Head Start Expansion Grant, Head Start and Early Head Start Grant for Ford, Iroquois and Vermilion Counties and Head Start and Early Head Start Additional Funding Grant; seconded by Ms. Michael. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

F. Other Business

1. Semi-Annual Closed Session Minutes Review

MOTION by Ms. Locke to follow the State’s Attorney’s recommendation for all closed session minutes to remain closed; seconded by Mr. Esry. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

G. Chair’s Report

Chair Fortado let everyone know she would not be able to attend the November County Board meeting.

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

VII. A. 1-2, C. 2-4, D. 1, E. 1-4

VIII. Policy, Personnel, & Appointments

A. County Executive

1. Monthly HR Report – October 2024

Received and placed on file

2. Appointments/Reappointments (*italics indicates incumbent*)
 - a. Resolution Appointing Bryan Holderfield to the Zoning Board of Appeals, term 12/1/2024-11/30/2029

MOTION by Ms. Rogers to recommend County Board approval of a resolution appointing Bryan Holderfield to the Zoning Board of Appeals; seconded by Mr. Smith. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

- b. Resolution Appointing Chelsea Angelo as the Interim Animal Control Administrator, term ending February 28, 2025

MOTION by Ms. Straub to recommend County Board approval of a resolution appointing Chelsea Angelo as the Interim Animal Control Administrator; seconded by Ms. Taylor. Mr. Stohr spoke about the commendable work Ms. Angelo is doing and stated they need money for more training. 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

3. Request approval of the 2025 Holiday Calendar

MOTION by Ms. Carter to recommend County Board approval of a resolution approving the 2025 holiday calendar; seconded by Ms. Locke. Discussion continued about possibly offering a floating holiday in the future. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

4. Request approval of the 2025 County Board Calendar of Meetings

MOTION by Mr. Esry to recommend County Board approval of a resolution approving the 2025 County Board Calendar of Meetings; seconded by Ms. Vanichtheeranont. Discussion continued about the September Special Finance Meeting landing on a holiday.

MOTION to AMEND by Ms. Locke to move the September Special Finance Meeting to September 30, 2025; seconded by Ms. Michaels. Upon vote, the **MOTION to AMEND CARRIED** unanimously.

Upon vote, the **AMENDED MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

B. County Clerk

1. Monthly Fee Reports – October 2024

Received and placed on file

C. Sheriff

1. Sheriff's Merit Commission Appointment

MOTION by Mr. Thorsland to recommend County Board approval of a resolution appointing Cynthia Cunningham to the Sheriff's Merit Commission; seconded by Ms. Straub. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

D. Other Business

1. Semi-Annual Closed Session Minutes Review

MOTION by Ms. Locke to follow the State's Attorney's recommendation for all closed session minutes to remain closed; seconded by Ms. Greer. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

E. Chair's Report

None

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

VIII. A. 2a-b, 3, 4, C. 1

IX. Justice and Social Services

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

- Emergency Management Agency – October 2024
- Public Defender – October 2024

- Animal Control – September 2024
- Veteran’s Assistance Commission – June, July, August & September 2024

Received and placed on file

B. Rosecrance Re-Entry Reports

- Financial Report – September 2024
- Program Report – September 2024

Information only

C. Other Business

1. Semi-Annual Closed Session Minutes Review

MOTION by Ms. Locke to follow the State’s Attorney’s recommendation for all closed session minutes to remain closed; seconded by Ms. Lokshin. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

D. Chair’s Report

Ms. Taylor mentioned the upcoming resolution to name the adult detention center and stated that ceremony information will be forthcoming.

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

None

X. Other Business

A. Approval of Closed Session Minutes

1. October 15, 2024 – Regular Meeting

MOTION by Ms. Locke to approve the closed session minutes of October 15, 2024; seconded by Ms. Taylor. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

XI. Adjournment

Chair Carter adjourned the meeting at 7:40 p.m.