



**CHAMPAIGN COUNTY BOARD
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

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

County of Champaign, Urbana, Illinois

Tuesday, May 12, 2026 at 6:30 p.m.

Shields-Carter Meeting Room

Bennett Administrative Center

102 E. Main Street, Urbana, Illinois

MINUTES – Approved as Distributed on June 9, 2026

Members Present: **Dennise Arres, Jon Cagle, Samantha Carter, Lorraine Cowart, John Farney, Stephanie Fortado, Elly Hanauer-Friedman, Jenny Lokshin, Brett Peugh, Emily Rodriguez, Jilmala Rogers, Ed Sexton, Matt Sullard, Bethany Vanichtheeranont, Daniel Wiggs, Jeff Wilson, and Jennifer Locke**

Members Absent: **Ben Crane, Aaron Esry, Jake Fava, and Monique Settles**

Others Present: **Steve Summers (County Executive), Michelle Jett (Director of Administration), Susan McGrath (Circuit Clerk), George Danos (Auditor), Laurie Brauer (Coroner), Aaron Ammons (County Clerk & Recorder), Dalitso Sulamoyo (Chief Executive Office for RPC), and Megan Robison (Recording Secretary)**

Agenda Items

I. Call to Order

Chair Locke called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

II. Roll Call

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

III. Approval of Agenda/Addenda

MOTION by Mr. Wilson to approve the agenda; seconded by Ms. Vanichtheeranont. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

IV. Approval of Minutes

A. April 14, 2026 – Regular Meeting

MOTION by Mr. Farney to approve the minutes of April 14, 2026; seconded by Mx. Arres. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

V. Public Input

Gabriel Dunn spoke about the proposed pay increase for the County Executive position.

VI. Communications

Ms. Carter repeatedly made disparaging remarks about the Board members and other officials that work closely with the Board.

Mr. Wilson spoke about the Police Memorial Ceremony, and the lifelong impact police work can have on officers and their families.

Mr. Peugh thanked Senator Faraci, Representative Ammons and the Regional Planning Commission for working to guarantee funding for programs. He does not believe the County will make the July 1st deadline for grants. He also shared event details for the Peace & Love Barbeque.

VII. Policy, Personnel, & Appointments

A. County Executive

1. Monthly HR Report – March & April 2026

Received and placed on file

2. Request to update the job description for Board of Review Members

Ms. Jett detailed the conflicting historical information surrounding these positions and requested the Board give guidance to administrative staff. Committee members discussed statutory requirements, the work schedule, and cost of living adjustments. Ms. Jett will draft a resolution from the guidance provided and present it to the Board at the next meeting.

3. Appointments/Reappointments (*italics indicates incumbent*)

a. Appointing Clayton Coulter to the Sadorus Fire Protection District, term ending 04/30/2029

b. Appointing *Rodney Loschen* to the Ludlow Fire Protection District, term ending 04/30/2029

c. Appointing *Brian Thode* to the Broadlands-Longview Fire Protection District, term ending 04/30/2029

OMNIBUS MOTION by Mr. Sullard to recommend County Board approval of resolutions appointing Clayton Coulter, Rodney Loschen and Brian Thode to their respective fire protection districts; seconded by Mr. Cagle. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

d. Appointing Wallace Southerland to the Zoning Board of Appeals, term ending 11/30/2027

MOTION by Mr. Sullard to recommend County Board approval of a resolution appointing Wallace Southerland to the Zoning Board of Appeals; seconded by Ms. Locke. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

e. Applications for open appointments

Information only

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

Information only

B. County Clerk

1. Fee Report – April 2026

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. 3a-d

VIII. Finance

A. Budget Amendments/Transfers

1. Monthly General Corporate Budget Amendment Report – April 2026

Information only

2. Budget Amendment BUA 2025/12/1688
Fund 2107 Geographic Info System Fund / Dept 010 County Board
Increased Appropriations: \$597
Increased Revenue: \$0
Reason: Appropriation to cover budget shortfall for GIS dues.

MOTION by Ms. Vanichtheeranont to recommend County Board approval of a resolution approving budget amendment BUA 2025/12/1688; seconded by Mr. Sullard. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

3. Budget Amendment BUA 2026/5/27
Fund 2075 Regional Planning Commission / Dept 100 Regional Planning Commission
Increased Appropriations: \$400,000
Increased Revenue: \$400,000
Reason: Appropriation of ATLAS grant funds.

MOTION by Ms. Carter to recommend County Board approval of a resolution approving budget amendment BUA 2026/5/27; seconded by Mr. Sexton. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

B. Auditor

1. Monthly Reports through June 2025 are available on the Auditor's webpage

Information only

C. Treasurer

1. Monthly Report through March 2026 – Reports are available on the Treasurer's webpage

Received and placed on file

D. County Executive

1. Available Budget Report – April 2026

Information only

2. FY2024 Audit Update

Mr. Peugh asked if the FY2025 audit has been started and Ms. Hanauer-Friedman explained that staff are trying to catch up on the reconciliations that were not completed in the first nine months before the work was transferred to a different office.

County staff have made it clear to the outside auditor that the FY2024 audit needs to be completed by the end of June. The outside auditor has been very vague and have not provided a timeline for completion. Ms. Carter would like to see some collaboration with the County Auditor in this process. Ms. Hanauer-Friedman reminded Ms. Carter why this work was removed from the Auditor's Office.

Currently the Grant Coordinator is working with departments to create a centralized database to better understand how many grants we have throughout the County.

3. GIS Fees

The fees have not been raised in several years and the proposal is to raise the current fee from \$15 to \$25. The revenue from these fees has significantly declined in recent years and is no longer covering the expenses. Mr. Ammons explained where this fee is charged and believes the increase should move gradually.

Committee members discussed the options for a waiver, a fixed percentage or to use a tiered option. Administration will check with the State's Attorney's Office to see if this option is a possibility. The County is currently covering the shortfall and they would like to get closer to being able to cover those expenses.

4. Establishing Salaries of Countywide Elected Officials (County Executive, County Clerk, Treasurer)

Mr. Farney shared a memo with statistics from other counties compared to the salaries in Champaign County. Mr. Peugh noted the current structural deficit and would like to see the salaries remain the same. Ms. Carter believes only County Board members deserve a raise because the current per diem does not cover the cost of childcare for each meeting. Ms. Locke suggested the Board consider a stipend for Committee Chairs.

Mr. Sullard left the meeting at 7:46 p.m.

Committee members discussed the history of the County Executive salary and the desire to make it more equitable to other countywide elected officials. Ms. Carter and Mr. Peugh believe the County Executive salary should remain the same. Ms. Rogers suggested stair-stepping the salary increase.

Ms. Rogers left the meeting at 8:13 p.m.

MOTION by Mr. Farney to forward to the County Board without recommendation; seconded by Mr. Wilson. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

5. Board of Review Member Salaries
 - a. Salary grade range
 - b. Cost of living adjustments

Ms. Jett would like some clarification to determine if it is the desire of the Board to provide the cost of living adjustments and how to determine the starting salary. Mr. Farney would like for them to receive the cost of living adjustment and 80% of Grade Range I. Ms. Jett will draft a resolution from the guidance provided and present it to the Board at the next meeting.

E. Regional Planning Commission

1. Approving Application, and if Awarded, the Acceptance of the Advanced Transportation and Land-Use Analysis Suite (ATLAS) Grant

MOTION by Ms. Lokshin to recommend County Board approval of a resolution approving the application, and if awarded, the acceptance of the Advanced Transportation and Land-Use Analysis Suite (ATLAS) Grant; seconded by Ms. Vanichtheeranont. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

2. Amendment to the Intergovernmental Agreement by and between County of Cook, Illinois and the Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois and County of Champaign, Illinois

MOTION by Mx. Arres to recommend County Board approval of a resolution amending the intergovernmental agreement by and between County of Cook, Illinois and the Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois and County of Champaign, Illinois; seconded by Mr. Sexton. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

F. Other Business

None

G. Chair's Report

None

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

VIII. A. 2-3, E. 1-2

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 – April 2026
- Probation & Court Services – March 2026 & First Quarter Statistics
- Public Defender – April 2026

Received and placed on file

B. Other Business

None

C. Chair's Report

None

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

None

X. Other Business

None

XI. Adjournment

Chair Locke adjourned the meeting at 8:31 p.m.