

Proceedings of the County Board of Gallatin County, IL

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
)SS
COUNTY OF GALLATIN)

The members of the County Board in and for the County of Gallatin, State of Illinois, met at the courthouse in Shawneetown, Illinois on Thursday, April 16th, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. for a regular meeting.

Roll Call Present: Andrew Lunsford, Chairman; Gary Vickery, Vice Chairman; Terry Schmitt; Randy Drone; Warren Rollman

Absent: None

Others; Kate Rollman, Del R. Willis, Jami Crest, David Crest, Marty Wooden (EMA), Douglas Dyhkopp(States Attorney), Justin Hastie, David Barker(Treasurer), Shaun Duvall

Attest: Pamela Duvall, County Clerk and Recorder

Chairman Andrew Lunsford called the meeting to order.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Motion #1 by Randy Drone, seconded by Terry Schmitt to approve the minutes of the March 19th, 2026 meeting. Motion carried. Aye- 5 Nay- 0

The Financial Report was given by David Barker, County Treasurer. He reported the County Corporate Fund had an ending balance of \$1,017,665,98 for the month ending March 31th, 2026. Receipts total for the month of March was \$185,040.28 and expenditures in the amount of \$190,125.37.

Motion #2 by Gary Vickery and seconded by Terry Schmitt to accept the Financial Report for the month ending, March 31st, 2026. Roll Call Vote. Motion Carried. 5-0

Motion #3 by Terry Schmitt and seconded by Randy Drone to pay the bills as presented. Roll Call Vote. Motion Carried. 5-0.

Motion #4 by Randy Drone seconded by Terry Schmitt to pay Road and Bridge bills. Roll Call Vote. Motion Carried. 5-0

Public Comment:

Judge Foster addressed the Board over the Amendment to pay the Circuit Clerk Deputy out of the Circuit Clerk Automation Fund that was on the agenda for vote. Warren addressed Judge Foster and said the incorrect account was put on the Amendment, it should not be the Circuit Clerk Automation Fund but Circuit Clerk Fee's Fund. Chief Justice Morgan addressed the Board on the Amendment which stated the Chief Judge approved to move the funds from the Circuit Clerk Automation Fund to General Fund to pay for the Circuit Clerk Deputy. She stated the wording was a lie on the Amendment she never gave her approval or had any knowledge of the

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document. Warren said the amendment would be amended to change the fund to the correct fund.

In Old Business:

Justin Hastie, County Engineer provided meeting agenda see attached Exhibit A.

Motion#5 by Randy Drone, seconded by Gary Vickery to Approve County Highway Rock and Oil Bids. Roll Call Vote. Motion Carried. 5-0.

Motion #6 by Randy Drone seconded by Warren Rollman to Approve Construction engineering Agreement Section 23-01119-00-BR Downen Road Bridge. Motion Carried. Roll Call 5-0

In New Business:

Jane Baglio decided to attend a meeting at a later date.

A project manager from Phoenix Elevator joined the meeting to go over warranty options. They have a three year or a five year both will cost a couple 1,000. The gentleman did not think the electrical would cost us anything extra.

Voting on Phoenix Elevator was tabled to the next meeting so they can get more information on cost of the extended warranty and loan options.

EMA Updates- Working with the county Firefighters to get a new program where you can use your phone as a radio. DHS is still shutdown so there is no hazard mitigation grant. Nicole Horn from FEMA said we can enter re-imburements in July for expenses. GCHS and the Ridgway Nursing home have a new emergency operation plan. On March 15th, Nick Capeheart did tactical training with the State for schools it lasted around 8 hours. We now have around 40 Firefighters trained in basic spotting after attending a training with the National Weather Service. Marty has achieved accreditation with his training. 911 signs are missing from township roads. Historically the county pays for 911 signs on township roads.

Motion #7 by Gary Vickery, seconded by Terry Schmitt to Approve the Mutual Aid Agreement with IESMA. Motion Carried. Roll Call 5-0

No motion was made to pay Circuit Clerk Deputy benefits (IMRF and SS) from the Circuit Clerk Fees Fund.

Board Member Terry Schmitt and Randy Drone offered to do the County Budget for free and not the County Treasurer or Bellwether. Discussion was made over past mistakes made by the County Board when doing the Budget and Bellwethers mistakes with the budget. Audience member, David Crest, suggested board members with different terms work on the board.

No motion was made for Board Members to do the budget.

Motion #9 by Warren Rollman, seconded by Gary Vickery to approve Bellwether, LLC to prepare the budget for Fy27 for the Sum of 12,000 paid in Two Installments. Roll Call Vote. Motion carried. 3-2.

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Treasurer David Barker, spoke on the Resolution to Create Separate Sheriffs Vehicle, E-Citation and Public Safety Tax Fund. Sheriffs Vehicle has its own fund, in a savings account. E-citation has 4-6 dollars deposited every month. The General Fund has its own line item in the Budget to show the Public Safety Tax Fund to show what the amount is and how much is spent. He did not care to create a new account for the Public Safety Fund.

Motion #10 by Warren Rollman, seconded by Terry Schmitt to Create a Separate Public Safety Tax Fund. Motion Carried. Roll Call Vote. 5-0.

Chairman Lunsford Appoints Lori Downen to the Housing Authority Board Beginning May 15th, 2026.

Lori Hise the County Assessor addressed the Board on the resolution for the Elected Officials Salaries. The elected officials asked for a 3% raise same as the Employees and the County Engineer was approved. County Board member Warren Rollman, said we can't afford the salary raise because the \$40,000 from Saline Valley is not coming in. He looked at the least populated counties in the state and what they pay their elected officials. Most of them are less than what Gallatin pays. He states the salary of the elected officials can't be paid because we are missing the \$40,000. Chairman Lunsford does not know why we have not received the \$40,000 from Saline Valley.

Warren wants to cut Elected Officials Salaries to \$50,000, with the exception of the Assessors to remain the same due to special qualifications which he thinks it worth something extra. He mentioned the elected officials getting an additional \$6500 stipend in addition to their salaries.

Motion #11 by Randy Drone, seconded by Terry Schmitt to leave the County Elected officials' salary the same for the next four years with no raise. Motion Did Not Carry.

Motion #12 by Warren Rollman, no second to give the assessor 2% raise on their current salary and put the other three at 50k with 3% raise a year. Motion Did Not Carry.

Andrew mentioned leaving the Assessor the same and the other three at \$55,000. Terry disagreed to the possible motion not wanting to cut salaries and that the responsibilities of the elected officials is more than other smaller counties. Lori and David spoke on their responsibilities that other counties do not have. Terry said he would second the salaries to stay the same but does not agree to a pay cut.

Board members could not get the votes to pass the resolution on the elected officials' salary; it was tabled until the next meeting.

The Ordinance "Ordinance to Amend Budget Funding of a Personnel Position Through the Circuit Clerk Automation Fund" will be amended to the correct fund, Circuit Clerk Fees Fund and voted on at the next board meeting.

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Motion #13 by Gary Vickery, seconded by Randy Drone to Send a Letter Requesting the Illinois Department of Agriculture Not Hold a Public Meeting in Regards to the Livestock Facility being Constructed on Elby Road.

Motion to adjourn made by Randy Drone. Motion Carried. Ayes 5-Nay 0.

- **General Updates:**
 - The new Mack truck was delivered to Woody's Municipal Supply to be outfitted with snow plow, bed, etc. delivery is expected to be
 - Currently patching Peabody Haul Rd, Big Hill Rd, Washington Rd, and Buffalo Rd will follow
- **22-00086-00-BR: Peabody Haul Road Bridge Replacement**
 - Cultural Clearance: Critical path – working with IDOT and IDNR to expedite
 - IDOT and State Historic Preservation Office concur that the bridge is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places and that its removal and replacement would constitute an Adverse Effect to the historic resource
 - Consulting party letters were sent from IDOT on 10/31
 - Require a 30-day comment period
 - Coordination with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
 - FHWA - Section 106 Implementation for Federal-Aid Transportation Projects
 - This historical finding does not mean that replacement of the bridge is not an option, but other options will need to be considered and compiled into a Section 4(f) report for consultation with Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).
 - Detail design is nearing 95% complete
 - **Fracture Critical Inspection performed on May 13th**
- **23-09127-00-BR: Ridgway Township Bridge - Jackson New Hope Road**
 - Revised plans to change from bridge to double box culvert (2) 10' x 5'
 - Increased waterway opening with no change to existing road height
 - ROW documentation preparation and review complete
 - Need signatures from property owners
- **23-01119-00-BR: Asbury Township Bridge - Downen Road**
 - Bid Opening scheduled for April 7th
 - Samron Midwest Contracting: \$435,343.28
 - AR Martin Construction: \$431,675.77
 - Dees, Inc.: \$394,701.00
 - Contract being finalized
 - Construction is tentatively scheduled to begin in July and is expected to take approximately three weeks.
- **25-00091-00-SD: Shawneetown New Haven Blacktop - Safety Shoulders**
 - Expedite design engineering in anticipation of potential election year funding opportunity
 - Scheduled for FY 2028
 - **Target is to have plans complete in June**
 - Environmental Survey Request submitted
- 23-00087-00-RS: Gold Hill Rd – Resurface – Scheduled for FY 2031
- 23-00089-00-RS: Forrest Rd – Resurface – Scheduled for FY 2034
- 23-00088-00-RS: Shawneetown New Haven Blacktop – Resurface - Scheduled for FY 2038
- **Resolution(s)/Signatures(s):**

