

HEATHER BOWMAN
HAMILTON COUNTY CLERK & RECORDER

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR HAMILTON COUNTY BOARD MEETING ON:
JUNE 17, 2026**

The Hamilton County Board convened at the Hamilton County Courthouse in the City of McLeansboro, State of Illinois, on Wednesday the 17th day of June, at 6:00 p.m. and was called to order by Chairman Kelly Woodrow.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

On roll call, the following board members responded as being present, which represented a quorum: Kelly Woodrow, John Mead, Adam Little, John Carrell, and Landon Vaughan.

State's Attorney Sarah Mead, Circuit Clerk Beth Sandusky, Coroner Robert Miller, and County Highway Engineer Rick Coronado were also in attendance.

MOTION was made by Landon Vaughan, seconded by Adam Little, to approve the minutes of the May 20, 2026 Regular Hamilton County Board Meeting, the May 27, 2026 Public Hearing, the May 27, 2026 Special Hamilton County Board Meeting, and the May 27, 2026 Emergency Hamilton County Board Meeting as presented. Vote by acclamation. All voting aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Chairman Woodrow thanked everyone for coming and asked if there were any public comments. Paula Hatfield asked to give an update on the 4H/Extension programs. Paula said they survived fair week with good numbers, great weather, and cooperation from the fair board. She also reported great attendance at their recent farmer's market, including 175 women and 119 men. Last, Paula noted that their summer garden and cooking classes were going well, with approximately 30 kids each Tuesday and Thursday. Chairman Woodrow and the rest of the board thanked her for the update. There were no other public comments.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Treasurer's Report: Chairman Woodrow noted that Treasurer, Sarah Kelly, provided her written monthly report and a copy was in the board packet.

Sheriff's Report: Chairman Woodrow said he spoke with Sheriff Lakin a few days ago about having work done on a couple of the entry doors. He also mentioned he wasn't sure where Tracy was with the bid process on the excess vehicles.

County Clerk & Recorder's Update: Clerk Bowman noted that a copy of her monthly financial report was in the board packet. She then briefly hit on her Semi-Annual Report listed later in the agenda and reminded the board that her totals on the monthly Treasurer's report run a month behind for her fee fund. Bowman said she calculated her current FY revenue at 44% of the budgeted amount, with hopes that the recordings would pick up in the second half of the year. Last, the Clerk noted that she was finalizing the reporting for her IVRS and PPA grants and would expect to see the checks come in next month.

EMA Report: EMA Director, Jason Stewart, said they had 2 calls for lift assistance this month. He also briefly talked about the emergency planning meeting they had with the new Dolan Lake Site Superintendent. This concluded Jason's report.

ETSB Report: ETSB Chairman, Dorothy Smith, said Hamilton County 911 will be celebrating its 10th birthday on June 8th, noting that their live date wasn't actually until July 5th. She said all of their equipment remains up-to-date and they are very proud of that. Dorothy said they were able to get permission to place a repeater on the water tower, which would be completed when the weather was right. She also talked about their FEIN & SAM

number changes in order to receive federal grants. Last, Dorothy briefly touched on the ambulance GPS systems, their upcoming CPR classes, and their plans to move the voice recorder to the basement.

Health Department Report: There was no update.

Animal Control Update: None.

Ambulance Service Update: There was no update.

Administrative Services: Dustin Harmon, with Bellwether, said he would have the next budget variance report ready soon. He also noted that they have the FY27 budget template ready and would be entering the 6-month data from Sarah before separating into department packets. Last, Dustin gave a brief update on the status of the County's Waste Management plan addressed in a recent letter from the EPA. Dustin explained that the correspondence has been confusing and conflicting; first noting that our plan had not been updated since 2006 and later stating that we never had a plan. He said they contacted the Egyptian Health Department for examples from surrounding counties, with plans to reverse engineer a plan to satisfy the requirement.

MOTION was made by Landon Vaughan, seconded by John Carrell, to approve the department reports. Vote by acclamation. All voting aye, none nay. Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

The consent agenda was read by Heather Bowman, County Clerk.

1. Accept checks from the Hamilton County Health Department for the month of May, 2026.
Salaries: \$7,872.00 Fringes: \$925.74 Unemployment: \$138.24 Insurance: \$1,158.14.
2. Accept check # 8213 in the amount of \$285.00 from the Hamilton County Health Department for reimbursement of Kunce Managed Services through the end of May 2026.
3. Accept check #48506 in the amount of \$5,208.33 from the City of McLeansboro per the Central Dispatching agreement for the month of June 2026.
4. Accept check # 6013312 from Hamilton County Coal, LLC in the amount of \$7,774.80 for the product of lease dated 06/01/2009.
5. Accept check #40687 in the amount of \$500.00 from UCCI for Q2 meeting attendance.
6. Review the 1% school facilities tax schedule in the amount of \$65,403.74.
7. Review the Hamilton County Public Safety Tax Payment received in the amount of \$64,978.12.
This is liability MO- Mar 2026, Collected MO- Apr 2026 Vouchered MO- June 2026.

MOTION was made by Adam Little, seconded by John Carrell, to approve the consent agenda as read. Vote by acclamation. All voting aye, none nay. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Discussion was opened regarding the update on the Courthouse 2nd Floor Bathroom Project.

Landon Vaughan noted that there were no bids turned in for the bathroom project. He said the contracted architect did reach out to the companies that requested a bid packet to see why they did not follow through. He reported that both contractors said they were just too busy right now.

NEW BUSINESS

2. The board was presented with a copy of the County Clerk's Semi-Annual Report (December 1, 2025 through May 30, 2026).

MOTION was made by John Mead, seconded by Adam Little, to approve the County Clerk's Semi-Annual Report (December 1, 2025 through May 30, 2026) as presented. Vote by acclamation. All voting aye, none nay. Motion carried.

3. The Board was presented with Resolution #2026-06-01 pertaining to Juror Pay.

Chairman Woodrow reviewed the proposed numbers from the Circuit Clerk, which included increasing the first day pay from \$8 to \$25, second day pay from \$15 to \$50, and the lunch stipend from \$5 to \$10. John Carrell asked where the numbers came from. Circuit Clerk Beth Sandusky said she provided them and noted that they were supposed to be updated last year, but never were. She also added that the higher rate would not require a budget increase. Chairman Woodrow asked how many jury trials they have in a years' time. Sandusky said the schedule has a place for them on a monthly basis, but she has only had 5 jury trials in her 14 years. She also noted that the low check amounts create a problem for Treasurer Kelly, because many people don't cash them. Dustin Harmon also clarified that the first two amounts are set by state statute and would bring the county in compliance. He said the last two for lunch and mileage are set by the county.

MOTION was made by John Carrell, seconded by Landon Vaughan, to approve Resolution #2026-06-01 as presented. On roll call the vote was as follows: Yes- John Carrell, Landon Vaughan, Adam Little, John Mead, and Kelly Woodrow. 5 yes, 0 nays, motion carried.

4. Discussion was opened regarding the request for authorization from the Hamilton County Clerk to enter a Software License and Maintenance Services Agreement with Governmental Business Systems, Inc.

Clerk Bowman said the agreement referenced is for voter registration services. She noted that they have had a good amount of trouble with their current vendor since she took office in 2022, along with many other counties. Bowman said she thought around 50% of their customers had already left and would have made the switch about a year ago herself, but delayed due to some employee health issues in her office. The Clerk said she is now comfortable with moving forward and noted that she needed approval from the board to sign the (1) year agreement, due to it falling outside of her current term. Last, Bowman said the services are a little cheaper than the current provider and are covered by her IVRS grant.

5. Discussion was opened regarding the request from Shyla Wagner-Hernandez for support from the County Opioid Funds for her Recovery Month Community Event.

Chairman Woodrow invited Mrs. Wagner-Hernandez to address the board. She brought additional packets of information from the Opioid Settlement that described the acceptable uses for the funds. Dustin Harmon, with Bellwether, asked Shyla if she was looking for a particular dollar amount. She said between the venue (fairgrounds), food, vendors, and speakers, she was expecting the event to cost between \$7,000 and \$10,000. Shyla noted that she would return any remaining funds, all supply receipts, and provide an impact report following the event. Mrs. Wagner-Hernandez said she would have peer support professionals on site and was hoping to hold the event in September or October; right around the time of recovery month. Dustin Harmon commented to State's Attorney Sarah Mead that his only concern was the broad scope of the event covering other drugs instead of 100% opioid topics. He noted that he could see partially funding the event based on the % pertaining to opioids. State's Attorney Mead agreed. Dustin Harmon asked Shyla if she thought other groups would go in on the expenses. She confirmed. Chairman Woodrow said he didn't have a problem with giving the donation as long as it went with the recommendation from the county's legal counsel. Dustin Harmon said the reporting side of things for the county would have to reflect opioid expenses and used an example to make sure Shyla understood. Dustin asked the members if they had any thoughts on an amount. Adam Little suggested an amount half way between Shyla's estimates, which would be \$8,500. Shyla confirmed she could make 80% of

the event pertain to opioid related topics, so the funding amount was based on 80% of \$8,500, or \$6,800. The last recommendation from Bellwether was to fund the amount after an agreement was drafted by the Hamilton County State’s Attorney and signed.

MOTION was made by Adam Little, seconded by John Mead, to approve a donation of \$6,800 to Shyla Wagner-Hernandez for her Recovery Month Community Event upon execution of an agreement to be drafted by Hamilton County State’s Attorney Sarah Mead. On roll call the vote was as follows: Yes- Adam Little, John Mead, John Carrell, Landon Vaughan, and Kelly Woodrow. 5 yes, 0 nays, motion carried.

- 6. The board was provided with a list of Claims, including any Late Claims and Highway Claims.

MOTION was made by John Mead, seconded by John Carrell, to approve all claims as presented. On roll call the vote was as follows: Yes- John Mead, John Carrell, Adam Little, Landon Vaughan, and Kelly Woodrow. 5 yes, 0 nays, motion carried.

HIGHWAY RECOMMENDATION

- 7. The board was presented with the Engineering Services Agreement with HLR, Inc for future structure #033-3339, South Twigg Township 700 E.

MOTION was made by John Mead, seconded by Landon Vaughan, to approve the Engineering Services Agreement with HLR, Inc for future structure #033-3339, South Twigg Township 700 E as presented. On roll call the vote was as follows: Yes- John Mead, Landon Vaughan, John Carrell, Adam Little, and Kelly Woodrow. 5 yes, 0 nays, motion carried.

APPOINTMENTS

The following motions were also made in accordance with the member’s recommendations:

- 8. **MOTION** was made by Landon Vaughan, seconded by John Carrell, to reappoint Carrie Ragan to the Hamilton Memorial Hospital Board for a (3) year term to expire June 30, 2029. All voting aye, none nay. Motion carried.
- 9. **MOTION** was made by Adam Little, seconded by Landon Vaughan, to reappoint Wayne Morris to the Hamilton Memorial Hospital Board for a (3) year term to expire June 30, 2029. All voting aye, none nay. Motion carried.
- 10. **MOTION** was made by Adam Little, seconded by John Carrell, to appoint Josh Lemke to the Hamilton Memorial Hospital Board for a (3) year term to expire June 30, 2029. All voting aye, none nay. Motion carried.

MOTION was made by John Carrell, seconded by Landon Vaughan, to adjourn the meeting. Vote by acclamation. All voting aye, none nay. Motion carried.

MINUTES APPROVED ON:_____

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COUNTY CLERK	CHAIRMAN