

**MINUTES OF A FINANCE, FEES, AND SALARY MEETING OF THE COUNTY
OF HANCOCK, STATE OF ILLINOIS, HELD AT THE COUNTY COURTHOUSE,
IN THE CITY OF CARTHAGE ON SEPTEMBER 10, 2026**

The meeting was called to order by Wayne Bollin. Members in attendance included Harry Douglas, Joe Boyles, Dennis Castlebury, and Mark Menn. John Mason, Keara Weber, Mike McVey, Jordan Hawes, and Holly Wilde-Tillman.

Ms. Weber passed around her circuit clerk budgetary report. The office is staying consistent at \$37,000 in fines being collected. The next jury trial is next week.

Mr. McVey stated Sidwell will have the data next week and will start testing it out. The portal for communication has been up for a couple of weeks. His office is running smoothly.

Mr. Hawes is starting to transition into the role of sheriff. The current sheriff has allowed him to get his feet in the door, starting the budget, he has been talking to Justin Greeley with Bellwether. Several deputies need new vests and a new deputy will need uniforms. He thanked the committee for allowing them to purchase a vehicle this year. Mr. Douglas stated that he would appreciate it if the board would be notified of who is at the sheriff's department and any promotions, etc. He stated eventually he will need to hire a chief deputy.

Ms. Wilde-Tillman stated she received a letter of resignation from Kurt Dittmer, the conflict public defender. His last day will be November 30, 2026. Her office is working with insurance regarding vehicles, etc. There was a new executive order signed in June which states there needs to be an IMB, intelligent mail barcode, on each ballot that is mailed out. This is still in the process of being decided upon. She has been investigating this and has been to the UPS store to see how much it would cost to get these mailed out in bulk versus hiring somebody to do this inhouse. There will be a decision made on September 14. Mr. Douglas made a motion to allow Ms. Wilde-Tillman to use \$20,000 out of contingencies to use towards this. Mr. Castlebury seconded. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting "yes". Motion carried.

There was discussion regarding the servers, having a separate server for Devnet and county wide or having one for everything. Mr. Greeley recommends that this be paid for out of this year's budget.

Keith Krohe states the county is currently running at 51% of the claim factor. He will come in next month to sign a new contract. He believes a 4-6% reinstatement would be best.

Mr. Castlebury moved to approve the resolution appointing Joseph E. Meyer and Associates to as the designated tax sale representative for Hancock County, Mr. Douglas seconded. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting "yes". Motion carried.

Motion to approve the resolution for the county to acquire all tax certificates was made by Mr. Boyles, Mr. Castlebury seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting "yes". Motion carried.

Mr. Greeley will start the budget at a 3% increase for salaries for now and can be decreased or increased.

The Memorial Hospital and EMS contract has been agreed upon at \$265,000 with a 4.75% increase yearly. This is an open-ended contract.

Claims were gone over. Mr. Douglas moved to approve the claims, seconded by Mr. Boyles. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting "yes". Motion carried.

Mr. Boyles moved to recess until 11 a.m. Mr. Douglas seconded. All members present voted aye. Meeting adjourned at 10:08 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Wayne Bollin