

**MINUTES OF A BOARD MEETING OF THE COUNTY OF HANCOCK, STATE OF  
ILLINOIS, HELD AT THE COUNTY COURTHOUSE, IN THE CITY OF  
CARTHAGE, ON JANUARY 20, 2026**

STATE OF ILLINOIS            )  
  )  
COUNTY OF HANCOCK        )  
  )

The meeting was called to order by chairman Mark Menn at 6:30 p.m. The invocation was given by Ryan Weeks. The Pledge of Allegiance was lead by the County Clerk. Roll call was taken.

Those present were:                               Mark Menn, Chairman  
  Holly Wilde-Tillman, County Clerk

Michelle Merritt	Lee Ann Lambert
Thomas Rodgers	Joe Boyles
Alex Blythe	Steve Lucie
Harry Douglas	Mark Hanson
Mark Harrison	Wayne Bollin
Steve Finney	Josh Turner
Dennis Castlebury	Ryan Weeks

Visitors included Justin Greeley, Bobi James, Donna and Pat Cramer, and Elgin Berry.

Motion to approve the December minutes and executive minutes was made by Mr. Finney, seconded by Ms. Merritt. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting “yes”. Motion carried.

Mr. Menn acknowledged Pat Cramer who was on the board for several years.

Committee reports were gone over. Ms. Merritt motioned to approve the committee minutes, Mr. Lucie seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting “yes”. Motion carried.

Mr. Weeks made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Ms. Merritt seconded the motion. There was discussion regarding increasing the microfilm copies to \$2.00. This way she can have \$1.00 go into record preservation to have a company come in to make hard copies of all microfilm images. When the project is finished this will go back down to \$1.00 and the resolution will be rescinded. If this money goes into the general fund it can be used for anything. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting “yes”. Motion carried. The consent agenda included:

- 1) Approval of tax deeds 06-21-000-931, 09-17-000-451, 11-29-907-000, 11-29-908-000
- 2) Approval of Resolution to Amend Hancock County Recorder’s Fee Schedule to Charge \$2.00 for Microfilm Copies
- 3) Supplemental Budget and Appropriations Ordinance of Hancock County for the Fiscal Period of 2025
- 4) Declaring Desk, Book Cases, and Bicentennial Banners as Surplus

Mr. Blythe moved to approve the highway department to have security cameras for the recycling site. Mr. Weeks seconded. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting “yes”. Motion carried.

Mr. Castlebury motioned to approve the resolution for Fountain Green Township Bridge with Federal Funds and TBP Funds. Mr. Douglas seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting “yes”. Motion carried.

Mr. Lucie would like the board to be aware that there is a proposed senate bill 2820 that will restrict counties, sheriffs, state police from hiring a qualified person who had been hired as an ICE agent until the end of President Trump’s term.

Mr. Finney moved to approve the appointment of Madisyn Bell to the Western Illinois Economic Development Authority. Mr. Boyles seconded. All members present voted aye.

Mr. Douglas motioned to move into executive session at 7:00 regarding litigation. Ms. Merritt seconded the motion. Justin Greeley was invited in by the chairman. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting “yes”. Motion carried. Mr. Castlebury motioned to move out of executive session at 7:26. Ms. Merritt seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting “yes”. Motion carried.

Ms. James met with Mr. Poncin and Mr. Berry regarding the amount of dirt that was needed for the Connable Road. Ms. James is unable to establish how much money would have

been saved had accurate specifications been provided through the use of traditional measurements instead of the lidar method. She does not feel she has sufficient evidence to file a suit. She has drafted a letter of dissatisfaction that she could send to Klingner if the board would like. Mr. Boyles moved to send the letter to Klingner, Mr. Blythe seconded. All members present voted aye. Mr. Finney would like it noted that this was a unanimous vote.

Motion to recess was made by Ms. Merritt, Mr. Finney seconded. All members present voted aye. Meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Holly A. Wilde-Tillman, County Clerk