

CARROLL COUNTY BOARD MEETING
301 N. MAIN ST., MT. CARROLL, IL
SMALL COURTROOM
FEBRUARY 19, 2026, AT 9:30 A.M.

INVOCATION was given by County Board Member William Iske.

CALL TO ORDER - Chair Bickelhaupt called the Board meeting to order at 9:32 a.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL-Roll call shows Julie Bickelhaupt, Susan Jacobs, Christopher Flikkema, David Soldat, Jason Beyers, Melinda Appel, William Iske, and Judy Fitzpatrick were all present. Kevin Barnes was absent.

PUBLIC COMMENTS-None

CONSENT AGENDA-

1. Approval of February 5, 2026 meeting minutes
2. Approval of Bills Paid in Vacation
3. Approval of Committee on Claims

Motion by Jacobs, seconded by Soldat to approve the consent agenda. Roll call voted shows Iske, Fitzpatrick, Beyers, Bickelhaupt, Jacobs, Soldat, Flikkema, and Appel all voting aye. Motion carried.

TABLED ITEMS- None

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Animal Control- ACO Lisa Larson was not present.

Assessor- Deputy Assessor Koltin Dimmick reported that the Board of Review has 44 appeals filed. He also stated that the office sent out Senior Citizen Assessment Freeze letters last week.

Circuit Clerk- Circuit Clerk Patty Hiher reported she will be cashing in a CD following the advice of the Auditors to cover a shortage in Account P. The Safe-T Act has caused a decrease in bonds, fees and fines collected for this account.

County Clerk-County Clerk Amy Buss reported the office has been busy with early voting and processing returned Vote by Mail Ballots.

Emergency Management-Emergency Management Director Jim Klinefelter was not present.

GIS-GIS Director Jermey Hughes was present advised no report.

Health Department- Dawn Holland was not present.

Highway-County Engineer Sara Renkes was present advised no report.

Probation- Chief Probation Managing Officer Steve Brown was present advised no report.

Sheriff-Sheriff Ryan Kloepping submitted a Monthly Statistics report for January 2026. His office will provide this monthly report in the future.

He reminded the Board that he is offering a tour of the jail to see the new renovations immediately following the Board meeting.

State's Attorney-State's Attorney Aaron Kaney was present advised no report.

Transit- PCOM Mary Maszk reported that she will be attending a conference. She reported that the amount Transit will receive from Grant 5311 is \$155,652 and from Grant DOAP is \$1,066,978.

Treasurer- Treasurer Lydia Hutchcraft reported that an email was sent out to all department heads with a training video on how to add employee information for payroll.

Zoning/Zoning Board of Appeals-Zoning Officer Jaicee Buckner was present advised no report.

County Administrator- County Administrator Jachnicki reported that he will be out of the country from February 24th thru March 3rd. If any assistance is needed during this time, contact Jeremy Hughes.

AFFILIATE REPORTS

Blackhawk Hills Regional Council-No report.

Business Employment Skills Team/Workforce-No report.

Community Mental Health-No report.

Emergency Telephone System-No report.

Health Board-No report.

Hotel/Motel Board-Monthly report submitted.

Jo Daviess/Carroll Co. Joint Action Solid Waste Agency- No report.

LRA-Monthly report was submitted.

NWILED- No report.

Senior Services Board-No Report.

Tri-County Opportunities Council-No Report.

United County Council of Illinois-No Report.

Veterans Assistance Commission-Monthly report submitted.

Whiteside/Carroll & Jo/Carroll Enterprise Zones-No Report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Ad Hoc Inmate Housing Committee- Vice Chair Iske advised no report.

Ad Hoc Transit Garage Committee-County Board Member Flikkema advised no report.

Ad Hoc Planning and Development Committee-Chair Bickelhaupt reported that the next meeting will be March 28, 2026. The committee will be moving forward on the 2026 Operational Plan.

Ad Hoc Highway Committee- Board Member Appel reported the last meeting scheduled was cancelled due to illness and will be rescheduled soon.

BUSINESS

1. Chair Bickelhaupt presented for Approval of Raffle License for Jackson Kradle Memorial Fund. Motion by Jacobs, seconded by Flikkema to approve. Motion carried.
2. Karla Belzer, Illinois Extension gave a quarterly update. A handout was included in the Board packet.
3. Chair Bickelhaupt stated she would like to table the Approval of Illinois Fraternal Order of Police Labor Council Collective Bargaining agreement, the Approval of Mid-America Carpenters Regional Council-Carpenters Union Local Union No. 790 Collective Bargaining Agreement and Approval of Teamsters Local Union No. 722 Collective Bargaining Agreement until the March 5, 2026 Board Meeting. Motion by Jacobs, seconded by Iske to table until the next Board Meeting. Motion carried.
4. Chair Bickelhaupt presented for Approval of the Carroll County 2026 Operational Plan. County Administrator Jachnicki explained the Plan. Motion by Iske, seconded by Beyers to approve. Motion carried.
5. Chair Bickelhaupt presented for Approval of Baranski Hammer Moretta & Sheely (BHMS) architectural proposal for exterior repairs to Carroll County Courthouse of \$25,000 to be funded out from Capital Projects Fund. County Administrator Jachnicki explained the need to hire a professional architect for this project. Motion by Jacobs, seconded by Soldat to approve the agreement. Roll call vote shows Bickelhaupt, Fitzpatrick, Iske, Flikkema, Jacobs, Appel, Beyers, and Soldat all voting aye. Motion carried.
6. Chair Bickelhaupt presented for Approval to select Aerial Services, as the lowest responsible bidder for the 2026 Multi-County Aerial Imagery Project. GIS Director Hughes explained the bid process and the bid. Motion by Iske, seconded by Jacobs to approve Aerial Services, Inc. as lowest responsible bidder. Roll call vote shows Jacobs, Flikkema, Iske, Beyers, Bickelhaupt, Fitzpatrick, Appel, and Soldat all voting aye. Motion carried.
7. Chair Bickelhaupt presented for Approval of Building Setback Variance Request 2025207 for Bookman Property at 5658 Riverview Rd., Thomson, IL. Zoning Officer Buckner explained. Motion by Iske, seconded by Jacobs to approve. Motion carried.

8. Chair Bickelhaupt presented for Approval of Special Use Permit 2026003 for Steidinger Property at 23917 Zier Rd., Lanark, IL for Boat and RV Self-Storage Units. Zoning Officer Buckner explained the Special Use Permit. Motion by Jacobs, second by Appel to approve. Motion carried.
9. Chair Bickelhaupt presented Review and Discussion of Proposed Amendments for Chapter 700 Zoning Ordinance. Zoning Officer Buckner went over the proposed changes and corrections. She encouraged the Board to review and contact her with any questions or concerns. She will be presenting it at the March 5th County Board meeting for possible approval.
10. Chair Bickelhaupt presented for Motion and consideration for Resolution declaring vacancy in the office of State's Attorney. State's Attorney Kaney announce he has accepted the appointment as Associate Judge in Jo-Daviess County. Chair Bickelhaupt and County Board members thanked him for his years of service as State's Attorney as well as Assistant State's Attorney. Motion by Iske, second by Soldat to approve the Resolution declaring a vacancy for State's Attorney. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION- None

Chair Report-No report.

APPOINTMENTS- Chair Bickelhaupt presented for Approval of Reappointment to Zoning Board of Appeals-Paul Skoog with term ending 2030. Motion by Beyers, second by Flikkema to approve. Motion carried.

Chair Bickelhaupt reminded that upcoming Board Meetings are as follows:

Regular Board Meeting on Thursday, March 5, 2026, at 4:00 p.m. in the small courtroom.

Motion by Jacobs, seconded by Flikkema to adjourn at 10:46 a.m. Motion carried.

Minutes submitted by Amy R. Buss, County Clerk and Recorder