

CARROLL COUNTY BOARD MEETING

301 N. MAIN ST., MT. CARROLL, IL

SMALL COURTROOM

FEBRUARY 5, 2026, AT 4:00 P.M.

INVOCATION was given by County Board Member David Soldat.

CALL TO ORDER - Chair Bickelhaupt called the Board meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS-None

CONSENT AGENDA-

1. Approval of the January 15th and January 29th Meeting minutes
2. Approval of Bills Paid in Vacation
3. Approval of Committee on Claims

Motion by Jacobs, second by Beyers to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Roll call vote shows Beyers, Fitzpatrick, Barnes, Appel, Bickelhaupt, Jacobs, Soldat and Flikkema all voting aye. Motion carried.

TABLED ITEMS- None

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Animal Control- ACO Lisa Larson was not present. County Administrator Jachnicki advised no report.

Assessor- Chief County Assessor Annette Gruhn reported the Board of Review has made tentative decisions and will hold hearings on February 9th, 11th and 17th. Her office is busy mailing out around 2,200 Senior Freeze forms.

Circuit Clerk- Circuit Clerk Patty Hiher reported she has been awarded a \$50,000 grant. She will be paying out \$26,000 to Goodin and Associates.

County Clerk-County Clerk Amy Buss presented the design for the 2026-2027 I Voted Sticker. The winner of the contest was Eastland High School Art Student Abbi Weber.

She stated that Early Voting started today and 1,111 Voter By Mail Ballots were mailed out today.

Emergency Management-Emergency Management Director Jim Klinefelter was not present. County Administrator Jachnicki advised no report.

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

Health Department- Dawn Holland was not present.

Highway-A monthly report was submitted. County Engineer Sara Renkes was not present.

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

Sheriff-Sheriff Ryan Kloepping reported that his department is being trained on the E-Citation Program.

The jail project is almost complete. He will have the Board tour the jail after the next Board meeting.

State's Attorney-State's Attorney Aaron Kaney reported his office has applied for the Victim's Assistance Grant. They should know if they were approved in the spring.

Transit- PCOM Mary Maszk reported that she is waiting for confirmation in writing that the grants she applied for have been approved.

Treasurer- Treasurer Lydia Hutchcraft reported that an email was just sent out to all department heads on payroll training which will take place on Tuesday, February 10th at 10 a.m.

Zoning/Zoning Board of Appeals-Zoning Officer Jaicee Buckner reported that the ZBA met on February 2nd. They have finished Chapter 700 and that will be on the next County Board meeting agenda for approval.

County Administrator- County Administrator Jachnicki thanked Department Heads on their input on the 2026-2031 Carroll County Strategic Plan.

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- Monthly report submitted. County Board Member Appel reported that the agency will be submitting their Waste Management Plan to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency soon.

LRA-Monthly report was submitted.

NWILED- Monthly report was submitted.

Senior Services Board-No Report.

Tri-County Opportunities Council-County Board Member Soldat reported he has been attending the meetings by Zoom. He was surprised to learn that Carroll County has 6 homeless residents that must go to Clinton, IA to the shelter because Carroll County does not have one.

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 was not present.

Ad Hoc Transit Garage Committee-County Board Member Flikkema reported they had a meeting on January 29, 2026. The committee met with IDOT, and it was a very informative meeting.

Ad Hoc Planning and Development Committee-Chair Bickelhaupt reported that the next meeting will be February 13, 2026, at 8 a.m. at the Highway Building. The committee will be reviewing and finalizing the 2026 Operational Plan.

Ad Hoc Highway Committee- Board Member Appel reported the next meeting is February 13th after the Ad Hoc Planning and Development meeting.

BUSINESS

1. Chair Bickelhaupt presented for Approval of Raffle License for Center Hill Country Inn. Motion by Jacobs, seconded by Soldat to approve. Motion carried.
2. Chair Bickelhaupt presented for Approval of Raffle/Poker Run License for Lake Carroll Trail Club. Motion by Jacobs, second by Barnes to approve. Motion carried.
3. Chair Bickelhaupt presented for Approval of Raffle License for Carroll County Pheasants Forever. Motion by Jacobs, second by Beyers to approve. Motion carried.
4. Chair Bickelhaupt presented for Authorization for the Board Chair to sign a letter of support to be included in the BUILD Grant application, for the improvement of the existing Army Deport Road and Bridge. County Administrator Jachnicki explained. Motion by Jacobs, seconded by Soldat to approve. Motion carried.
5. Chair Bickelhaupt presented for Approval to proceed with purchasing a trailer for the skid steer at a not-to-exceed cost of \$13,458. This amount includes license, title and documentation fees. County Administrator Jachnicki explained. Motion by Jacobs, seconded by Appel to approve. Roll call vote shows Jacobs, Bickelhaupt, Appel, Fitzpatrick, Flikkema, Beyers, Barnes and Soldat all voting aye. Motion carried.

County Administrator Jachnicki reported that they did not get a warranty on the skid steer due to cost.

6. Chair Bickelhaupt presented for Approval of the piling repair construction contract with Civil Constructors in the amount of \$64,550. County Administrator Jachnicki explained. Motion by Jacobs, seconded by Beyers to approve. Roll call shows Barnes, Soldat, Beyers, Appel, Bickelhaupt, Jacobs, Fitzpatrick, and Flikkema all voting aye. Motion carried.

7. Chair Bickelhaupt presented for Discussion and possible approval of a contract with TheSheriffApp in the amount of \$15,522 to be paid out of Fund 86 Opioid Settlement. Sheriff Kloepping explained the many features of the app. The most important feature is transparency. Chief Probation Managing Officer Brown added it is a useful tool for his office when checking if any of their clients have been arrested in other counties. Motion by Soldat, seconded by Jacobs to approve. Roll call shows Bickelhaupt, Appel, Beyers, Soldat, Barnes, Flikkema, Fitzpatrick, and Jacobs all voting aye. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION- Chair Bickelhaupt asked for a motion to go into executive session for the purpose of Collective Bargaining under Section 2 (c) (2) at 4:31 p.m. Motion by Jacobs, seconded by Flikkema to approve going into executive session. Roll call shows Bickelhaupt, Jacobs, Flikkema, Soldat, Barnes, Appel, Beyers, and Fitzpatrick all voting aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Beyers, seconded by Flikkema to return to Regular Session at 4:48 a.m. Motion carried. No action taken from Executive Session.

Chair Report-No report.

APPOINTMENTS- None

Chair Bickelhaupt reminded that upcoming Board Meetings are as follows:
Regular Board Meeting on Thursday, February 19, 2026, at 9:30 a.m. in the small courtroom.

Motion by Jacobs, seconded by Barnes to adjourn at 4:48 p.m. Motion carried.

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