

CARROLL COUNTY BOARD MEETING

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

SMALL COURTROOM

MARCH 5, 2026, AT 4 P.M.

INVOCATION was given by County Board Member Susan Jacobs.

CALL TO ORDER - Chair Bickelhaupt called the Board meeting to order at 4 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 February 19, 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 Appel, Jacobs, Bickelhaupt, Fitzpatrick, Soldat, Barnes, Beyers and Flikkema all voting aye. Motion carried.

TABLED ITEMS- Motion by Jacobs, seconded by Flikkema to un-table items 1, 2, and 3 on the agenda. Motion carried.

County Administrator Jachnicki went over the highlights of the three Collective Bargaining Agreements. Salary adjustments and percentage increases will be retroactive to December 1, 2025.

1. Chair Bickelhaupt presented for Approval of the Illinois Fraternal Order of Police Labor Council Collective Bargaining Agreement. Motion by Appel, seconded by Soldat to approve the Bargaining Agreement. Roll call shows Bickelhaupt, Beyers, Flikkema, Barnes, Jacobs, Appel, Soldat and Fitzpatrick all voting aye. Motion carried.
2. Chair Bickelhaupt presented for Approval of the Mid-American Carpenters Regional Council-Carpenters Local Union No. 790 Collective Bargaining Agreement. Motion by Jacobs, seconded by Flikkema to approve the Bargaining Agreement. Roll call vote shows Jacobs, Bickelhaupt, Appel, Fitzpatrick, Beyers, Barnes, Soldat and Flikkema all voting aye. Motion carried.
3. Chair Bickelhaupt presented for Approval of the Teamsters Local Union No. 722 Collective Bargaining Agreement. Motion by Jacobs, seconded by Appel to approve the Bargaining Agreement. Roll call vote shows Appel, Beyers, Bickelhaupt, Jacobs, Fitzpatrick, Barnes, Flikkema and Soldat all voting aye. Motion carried.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Animal Control- ACO Lisa Larson was not present. County Engineer Renkes reported for ACO Larsen that one of the Labrador Retrievers at the pound has been chosen to participate in a search and rescue program.

Assessor- Chief Assessor Annette Gruhn reported that the Board of Review had their final meeting today. There was a total of 47 appeals.

The final abstract has been sent to the Illinois Department of Revenue.

She reported that the estimated EAV for 2025 payable 2026 tax year is about 651,000,000 before exemptions. That is an increase of 50,000,000 over last year.

Circuit Clerk- Circuit Clerk Patty Hiher reported that the file cabinets in her basement have been removed and were scrapped.

She reported that more Villages and Cities have signed up for E-Citations. The program is going well.

County Clerk-County Clerk Amy Buss advised no report.

Emergency Management-Emergency Management Director Jim Klinefelter reported since the completion of the EOC, it has hosted 23 various meetings.

He reported that he helped in Ogle County for a recent search and rescue mission.

He will be attending a training course in Washington D.C., March 8th thru March 10th.

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

Health Department- Dawn Holland was present advised no report.

Highway-Monthly Report was submitted.

County Engineer Sara Renkes encouraged the Board to read Senate Bill 3838 dealing with Broadband and right of ways.

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

Sheriff-Sheriff Ryan Kloepping reported that the Jail Renovation is complete and next month discussion on Phase II will begin.

He reported that his department had a tabletop live shooting incident training with the SROs.

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

Transit- PCOM Mary Maszk was not present due to attending a conference.

Treasurer- Treasurer Lydia Hutchcraft reported the new wages that were just approved with the Bargaining Agreements have been input into the payroll software for next payroll.

She reported the retro pay will not be paid out on the upcoming payroll on March 18th. It probably will be paid out on a separate payroll around March 25th.

Zoning/Zoning Board of Appeals-Zoning Officer Jaicee Buckner reported she will be participating in a Zoning Roundtable in Oregon, IL tomorrow and that the next ZBA meeting will be April 6th.

County Administrator- County Administrator Jachnicki advised no report.

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-No report.

Jo Daviess/Carroll Co. Joint Action Solid Waste Agency- County Board Member Appel reported that the agency received an extension until June 3, 2026 to file their Waste Management Plan Update with the State.

LRA-No report.

NWILED- A monthly report was submitted.

Senior Services Board-No Report.

Tri-County Opportunities Council-No Report.

United County Council of Illinois-No Report.

Veterans Assistance Commission-No Report.

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

Upper Mississippi River International Port District-County Board Member suggested that the Upper Mississippi River International Port District plan for Apple Island be submitted to Ad Hoc Planning and Development Committee for the County Strategic Plan.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Ad Hoc Inmate Housing Committee- Vice Chair Iske was not present.

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 26, 2026. The committee will continue working on the County Strategic Plan.

Ad Hoc Highway Committee- Board Member Appel reported the next meeting is scheduled for March 10th.

BUSINESS

1. Chair Bickelhaupt presented for Approval of Raffle License for American Cancer Society. Motion by Jacobs, seconded by Flikkema to approve. Motion carried.
2. Chair Bickelhaupt presented for Approval of Raffle License for Mississippi Flyway Waterfowl USA. Motion by Beyers, seconded by Flikkema. Motion carried.
3. Chair Bickelhaupt presented for Approval of Amendment to Chapter 320, Raffle & Poker Runs. Chair Bickelhaupt explained that the amendment is giving the Chair the authority to approve Raffles and Poker Runs without going to the full board for approval. The reason for the change is time constraints for the applicants. Motion by Jacobs, seconded by Appel to approve the amendment. Motion carried.
4. Chair Bickelhaupt presented for Approval for release of funds in the amount of \$4,000 from the Opioid Grant to the Probation Department for drug testing supplies. Chief Probation Managing Officer Brown explained their drug supply is getting low, and the new supply should last approximately two years. Motion by Jacobs, seconded by Flikkema to approve the release of funds. Roll call vote shows Flikkema, Beyers, Barns, Soldat, Appel, Jacobs, Fitzpatrick, and Bickelhaupt all voting aye. Motion carried.
5. Chair Bickelhaupt presented for Approval by County Board vote giving Sara Renkes-County Engineer, and Sirena Brinkmeier, Office Manager, Certificate of Authority to place Carroll County's salt acquisition with the CMS web-based system. County Engineer Renkes explained this is an IDOT requirement. Motion by Jacobs, seconded by Soldat to approve. Motion carried.
6. Chair Bickelhaupt presented for Approval of purchasing an Asphalt Hot Box not to exceed \$45,000. County Engineer Renkes included information on the purchase in her monthly report plus explained it to the Board. Motion by Jacob, seconded by Flikkema to approve. Roll call vote shows Barnes, Fitzpatrick, Bickelhaupt, Soldat, Beyers, Jacobs, Appel, and Flikkema all voting aye. Motion carried.
7. Chair Bickelhaupt presented for Approval of IDOT Joint Funding Agreement-Allocating \$800,000 of State Funds to the design of the Morrison Road reconstruction project. County Engineer Renkes had included this information in her monthly report plus explained it to the Board. Motion by Jacobs, seconded by Beyers to approve. Roll call vote shows Soldat, Flikkema, Bickelhaupt, Appel, Fitzpatrick, Beyers, Barnes and Jacobs all voting aye. Motion carried.
8. Chair Bickelhaupt presented for Approval of the resolution to appropriate funds from the County Matching fund for the design cost of \$800,000 and an estimated \$150,000 for work outside of the design contract. County Engineer Renkes explained. Motion by Jacobs, seconded by Flikkema to approve. Roll call vote shows Jacobs, Soldat, Barnes, Flikkema, Beyers, Bickelhaupt, Fitzpatrick and Appel all voting aye. Motion carried.

9. Chair Bickelhaupt presented Approval of the design contract with Chastain and Associates, LLC at the cost of \$798,528.77. County Engineer Renkes explained. Motion by Jacobs, second by Beyers to approve. Roll call vote shows Flikkema, Appel, Barnes, Bickelhaupt, Fitzpatrick, Jacobs, Beyers and Soldat all voting aye. Motion carried.
10. Chair Bickelhaupt presented Chapter 700 discussion and possible action. Zoning Officer Buckner went over the updates throughout the Chapter. Motion by Jacobs, second by Soldat to approve Chapter 700 as presented. Discussion. Roll call vote shows Bickelhaupt, Soldat, Appel, Jacobs, Beyers, Barnes, Fitzpatrick and Flikkema all voting nay. Motion denied.

EXECUTIVE SESSION- None

Chair Report-No report.

APPOINTMENTS- None

Motion by Jacobs, seconded by Barnes to adjourn at 5:05 p.m. Motion carried.

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