

CLINTON COUNTY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

February 17, 2026 – 7 p.m.

Bradley Knolhoff, Chairman

Nelson Heinzmann, Vice Chairman

1. OPENING PRAYER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

2. CALL TO ORDER

Sheriff Dan Travous called the meeting of the Clinton County District Board to order at 7 p.m. on February 17, 2026.

3. ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

Present: Arentsen, Crisel, Haselhorst, Heinzmann, Hilmes, Jansen, B. Knolhoff, K. Knolhoff, Rakers, Riechman, Schmitz, Schroeder, Strieker, Veizer. Absent: Rapien. The record reflected there was a quorum.

4. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS AND GUESTS

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion – Crisel made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 20, 2026 regular meeting. Arentsen seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

6. REPORTS, COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS

7. PUBLIC MAY APPROACH THE BOARD

8. REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS

9. STANDING COMMITTEES

a. Zoning and Subdivision Committee – Ann Schroeder
No Report

b. Economic Development, Tourism and Clinton County Enterprise Zone – Mike Rakers
1. Rakers reported that the committee met Jan. 28 and approved giving \$5,000 to the Avison American Legion to advertise and promote the State Legion Baseball Tournament that will be held at the Aviston park July 22-26. The funding is within the Tourism Board's budget.

c. Insurance/ICIT – Nelson Heinzmann

1. Heinzmann reported on the Feb. 9 committee meeting. Insurance costs and medical claims are down compared to last year. Fixed costs were up slightly. Looking at

total costs for the current fiscal year, costs are 9 percent over budget, without reimbursement, and 40 percent under budget, with reimbursement.

- d. Facilities Committee – Gary Arentsen
No Report
- e. Animal Control – Ann Schroeder
No Report
- f. Finance – Kurt Schmitz
Schmitz reported the committee met Feb. 11 and all bills were approved.
 - 1. Treasurer’s Monthly Report – Denise Trame
Trame reported that an oil check was received for \$2,302.94 and video gaming proceeds for the past month were \$7,687.06. Mobile Home Tax distributions were made to the various taxing districts in January totaling \$3,375.11 for the county.
 - i. Motion – Monthly Budget and Financial Report
Veizer made a motion to approve the report. Schmitz seconded the motion.
Motion Carried.
- g. Budget – Nelson Heinzmann
No Report
- h. Law Enforcement, EMA, Welfare, Safety and Liquor Control – Mike Strieker
No Report. The next meeting will be March 18 at 6 p.m.
- i. Road and Bridge – Ken Knolhoff
 - 1. Monthly County Engineer’s Report – Dan Behrens
Behrens said the department spread about 350 tons of salt during the January snow events totaling about \$30,000 in material with salt, calcium, etc. Overtime costs are estimated at around \$7,000. The salt supply is plentiful for any future winter storms. The contractor is scheduled to start work on Lake Road Bridge on March 15. The road will be closed near the golf course during construction. Behrens reported that the one bridge on the Marion-Clinton County line, that is not part of the Bridge Replacement Program, has a bad pile. The bridge is still open except for the western portion. The bridge is Marion County’s responsibility to inspect; however, a Clinton County crew will make the repairs as soon as they get plans from the bridge office. Oil bid letting will be held later in March. B. Knolhoff commended the highway workers for the good work with snow removal and keeping the roads open.
- j. Personnel, Labor and Grievance – Mike Hilmes/Gary Arentsen
 - 1. Hilmes said the committee met Feb. 10 and approved the January meeting minutes.
Motion – Letter of Resignation and Payout for Sheriff’s Department Maintenance Employee Dennis Moss in an amount not to exceed \$14,736.96.
Hilmes made a motion for a roll call vote to approve the resignation and payout.

Arentsen seconded the motion.

Arentsen (Yes), Crisel (Yes), Haselhorst (Yes), Heinzmann (Yes), Hilmes (Yes), Jansen (Yes), B. Knolhoff (Yes), K. Knolhoff (Yes), Rakers (Yes), Rapien (Absent), Riechman (Yes), Schmitz (Yes), Schroeder (Yes), Strieker (Yes), Veizer (Yes). Motion Carried 14-0.

k. Executive Committee – Nelson Heinzmann

1. B. Knolhoff reported that the committee met Feb. 13 to approve agenda items and hear reports from department heads.

i. Motion – Resolution Urging the State of Illinois to Opt into the Federal Scholarship Tax Credit Program. The resolution derived from the Illinois Policy Institute which is working with counties across the state. Under the program, taxpayers would be eligible to receive a tax credit of up to \$1,700 for the value of cash contributions to certain scholarship granting organizations that provide K-12 scholarships.

Arentsen made a motion to approve the resolution. Crisel seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

10. SPECIAL COMMITTEES

a. Radio – Curt Haselhorst

1. Haselhorst said the committee met Feb. 11 and received an update from the project managers. Fencing is complete at the tower sites and the steel reinforcements for the towers at the Corps of Engineers and Sheriff's Office should be completed soon. The next meeting is 6:30 p.m. on March 11.

i. Motion – Resolution Authorizing Right of Entry Agreement at Kaskaskia College. This would enable a cellular provider to have access to the radio tower property at Kaskaskia College for potentially adding cell service at the college. Haselhorst made a motion to approve the resolution. Schroeder seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

b. GIS/Assessment Lookup Committee – Jeff Crisel

1. Crisel said the committee met on Jan. 29 with Supervisor of Assessments Jackie Eversgerd to discuss ongoing complications and issues with the GIS mapping system. Travis Franz of Sidwell, the county's GIS mapping vendor, will meet with county stakeholders next Wednesday.

11. OUTSIDE COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS

a. Board of Health – Kurt Schmitz

1. Motion - Health Department Monthly Report.

Health Department Administrator Chris Leidel said it was confirmed that the first measles case of 2026 was confirmed at a Lutheran Church in Collinsville, so the department will be following this case and speaking with local healthcare providers.

i. Schmitz made a motion to approve the Health Department Monthly Report. Rakers seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

ii. Motion – Ordinance Amending Code Regarding Health Regulations for Food Inspections. Leidel explained that there are three amendments: a seasonal permit

was added to allow a food establishment to operate for no more than 183 consecutive days with a reduced rate of 50 percent the annual permit fee; a permit fee and definition were added for cottage foods; and language was added regarding the guidelines for food establishments to display the most recent inspection sheet. Schmitz made a motion for a roll call vote to approve the ordinance. Riechman seconded the motion.

Arentsen (Yes), Crisel (Yes), Haselhorst (Yes), Heinzmann (Yes), Hilmes (Yes), Jansen (Yes), B. Knolhoff (Yes), K. Knolhoff (Yes), Rakers (Yes), Rapien (Absent), Riechman (Yes), Schmitz (Yes), Schroeder (Yes), Strieker (Yes), Veizer (Yes). Motion Carried 14-0

b. 708 Mental Health Board – Greg Riechman

No Report. The next meeting is March 12 at 6 p.m.

c. 911 ETSB Board – Bruce Rapien

No Report

d. Discover Downstate Illinois (Ann Schroeder), SILEC (Mike Hilmes), SCIGA, Greater Centralia Enterprise Zone (Greg Riechman), Southern Illinois Workforce Investment Board (Mike Rakers), SWIDA (Ann Schroeder), SIMAPC (Ann Schroeder/Mike Rakers), UCCI

1. Riechman reported that the Greater Centralia Enterprise Zone met Feb. 12. Members approved the minutes from the last meeting and met Centralia's new Economic Development Director Rob Jackson.

12. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Hilmes made a motion for a roll call vote for approval of Accounts Payable. Riechman seconded the motion.

Arentsen (Yes), Crisel (Yes), Haselhorst (Yes), Heinzmann (Yes), Hilmes (Yes), Jansen (Yes), B. Knolhoff (Yes), K. Knolhoff (Yes), Rakers (Yes), Rapien (Absent), Riechman (Yes), Schmitz (Yes), Schroeder (Yes), Strieker (Yes), Veizer (Yes). Motion Carried 14-0

13. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

14. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

- a. Motion – Reappointment of Charles E Rainey as trustee of the Keyesport Fire Protection District
- b. Motion – Reappointment of Jacob Endres as trustee of the Carlyle Southwest Water District.
- c. Motion – Reappointment of Cinthia Kehrer as trustee to the New Memphis Lighting District.
- d. Motion – Reappointment of Collette Kehrer as trustee to the New Memphis Lighting District.

Riechman made a motion to approve the four reappointments. Veizer seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

15. NEW BUSINESS

16. ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY, MARCH 16, 2026 AT 7 P.M.

- a. Heinzmann made a motion to adjourn until Monday, March 16, 2026 at 7 p.m. Crisel seconded the motion. Motion Carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

ATTEST:



Vicky Albers
County Clerk & Recorder