

# CLINTON COUNTY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

March 16, 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 March 16, 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. MOMENT OF SILENCE

The board observed a moment of silence in honor of two men who contributed to the betterment of Clinton County:

- Virgil Ripperda, 99, of Trenton, passed away on March 8. He was one of the original members of the Clinton County 911 Board and served as the address coordinator for the new emergency system for 20 years followed by 10 years as a member of the 911 Committee.
- Bob Netemeyer, 72, of Albers, passed away on March 7. He served as a member of the Clinton County Board for six years from 2016 to 2022.

## 6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion – Veizer made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 16, 2026 regular meeting. Crisel seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

## 7. REPORTS, COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS

Motion - Proclamation declaring April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM) in the county presented by representatives of Sexual Assault and Family Emergencies (SAFE), the local rape crisis center serving Clinton County.

B. Knolhoff made a motion to approve the proclamation. Riechman seconded the motion. Motion Carried

## 8. PUBLIC MAY APPROACH THE BOARD

Rob Gerstenecker of the Clinton County Farm Bureau invited board members to an informational dinner with the Farm Bureau to be held at 6 p.m. on April 2 in St. Rose.

## 9. REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS

### 9. STANDING COMMITTEES

- a. Zoning and Subdivision Committee – Ann Schroeder
  1. Motion – Robert Santel’s First Subdivision – 1 Lot in Lookingglass Township for Christopher Santel. Staser noted that the property is located on Airport Road where a pre-existing home will be split from the remainder of the farm. This subdivision was previously approved in February 2019; however, the property owner failed to record the plat within 60 days as mandated. Therefore, he was required to go through the zoning process a second time.  
Haselhorst made a motion for a roll call vote to approve the subdivision. Schroeder 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. Economic Development, Tourism and Clinton County Enterprise Zone – Mike Rakers  
No Report.
- c. Insurance/ICIT – Nelson Heinzmann
  1. Heinzmann reported on the March 9 committee meeting. Insurance costs and medical claims are down compared to last year. Fixed costs and pharmacy costs were up slightly. Looking at total costs for the current fiscal year, costs are 9.7 percent over budget, without reimbursement, and 45 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 March 11. All bills were approved, and they are working on a Purchasing Policy for the county.
  1. Treasurer’s Monthly Report – Denise Trame  
Trame reported that an oil check was received for \$2,316.26 and video gaming proceeds for the past month were \$7,687.06.
    - i. Motion – Monthly Budget and Financial Report  
Veizer made a motion to approve the report. Heinzmann seconded the motion.  
Motion Carried.
    - ii. Motion – Resolution to Execute a Deed of Conveyance of the County’s Interest for Parcel #05-05-20-312-009.  
Schmitz made a motion for a roll call vote to approve the resolution. Crisel

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.

g. Budget – Nelson Heinzmann  
No Report

h. Law Enforcement, EMA, Welfare, Safety and Liquor Control – Mike Strieker  
No Report.

i. Road and Bridge – Ken Knolhoff

1. Monthly County Engineer’s Report – Dan Behrens

Behrens said C. Hill Construction will be starting on the bridge on Lake Road on March 30. The detour route will be up Route 127 to Hazlet Road. Locals will have access via Water Tower Road. Oil bids for county and township roads will be opened on March 31. The Highway Department is working with the city of Breese on repairs to Walnut Street in Breese.

i. Motion – Petition from Meridian Township for a 50 percent County Match for a Culvert Replacement on Wiedle Road.

K. Knolhoff made a motion for a roll call vote to approve the petition. 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.

j. Personnel, Labor and Grievance – Mike Hilmes/Gary Arentsen  
No Report

k. Executive Committee – Nelson Heinzmann

1. Heinzmann reported that the committee met March 13 to approve agenda items and hear reports from department heads.

i. Motion – Lease Agreement for Office Space with the Office of Statewide Pretrial Services. The court has asked that a conference room on the third floor of the courthouse be converted for the pretrial service officer’s office. Rent will be \$500 per month.

Heinzmann made a motion for a roll call vote to approve the lease agreement pending a few minor corrections by the State’s Attorney. Crisel 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.

## **10. SPECIAL COMMITTEES**

- a. Radio – Curt Haselhorst
  1. Haselhorst said the committee met March 11. Installation of the steel reinforcement for the telecommunications tower at the Sheriff’s Office is complete. The tentative schedule is for testing of the new radio system to take place in April with completion slated for the end of May. The next meeting is April 8.
- b. GIS/Assessment Lookup Committee – Jeff Crisel
  1. Crisel said the committee met on Feb. 26 with Supervisor of Assessments Jackie Eversgerd providing an update on the GIS system. She indicated that parcels were being corrected. A representative from Sidwell, the county’s GIS mapping vendor, will be providing weekly updates on the mitigation work. The next meeting scheduled for March 19.

## **11. OUTSIDE COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS**

- a. Board of Health – Kurt Schmitz
  1. Motion - Health Department Monthly Report.  
Health Department Administrator Chris Leidel said the Health Department had a great turnout at their recent Health Fair with a second one scheduled for April 2. The department has submitted its IPLAN (Illinois Project for Local Assessment of Needs) to the state. The community health assessment and plan must be renewed every five years. Leidel said he is working with Warren G. Murray Developmental Center in Centralia to see about partnering on dental clinic services.
    - i. Schmitz made a motion to approve the Health Department Monthly Report.  
Arentsen seconded the motion. Motion Carried.
- b. 708 Mental Health Board – Greg Riechman  
No Report.
- 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  
No Report.

## **12. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE**

Veizer made a motion for a roll call vote for approval of Accounts Payable. Crisel 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 Jeff Kleiboeker as trustee of the Huey Ferrin Boulder Fire Protection District.  
Heinzmann made a motion to approve the reappointment. Riechman seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

**15. NEW BUSINESS**

**16. ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY, APRIL 20, 2026 AT 7 P.M.**

- a. Schroeder made a motion to adjourn until Monday, April 20, 2026 at 7 p.m. Arentsen seconded the motion. Motion Carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:27 p.m.

ATTEST:



Vicky Albers  
County Clerk & Recorder