

CLINTON COUNTY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

September 15, 2025 – 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 September 15, 2025.

3. ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

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

4. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS AND GUESTS

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion – Arentsen made a motion to approve the minutes from the August 18, 2025 regular meeting. Veizer seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

6. APPOINTMENT OF NEW COUNTY BOARD MEMBER

- a. Motion – Appointment of Jeff Crisel in County Board District 2 to fill the remaining term of Holly Clark who resigned at the July meeting. B. Knolhoff said notification was sent to the Clinton County Republican Central Committee who recommended the appointment of Crisel. As board chairman, Knolhoff accepted the recommendation. B. Knolhoff made a motion for a roll call vote to approve the appointment of Crisel. Riechman seconded the motion.
Arentsen (Yes), Haselhorst (Absent), Heinzmann (Yes), Hilmes (Yes), Jansen (Yes), B. Knolhoff (Yes), K. Knolhoff (Yes), Rakers (Yes), Rapien (Absent), Riechman (Yes), Schmitz (Absent), Schroeder (Yes), Strieker (Yes), Veizer (Yes).
Motion Carried 11-0.

7. REPORTS, COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS

- a. Presentation of plaque to Fred Becker of Glass & Shuffett Accounting – B. Knolhoff presented a plaque to Becker on behalf of the County Board and county officials. Becker handled budget preparation for the county for many years until his recent retirement. The plaque stated: “In grateful recognition honoring Fred Becker for over 35 years of exceptional service in budget preparation for Clinton County. Your unwavering dedication, meticulous attention to detail, and steadfast commitment to fiscal responsibility have shaped the foundation of our county’s financial integrity. You didn’t just balance numbers – you built trust, shaped futures, and made this county stronger.”

8. PUBLIC MAY APPROACH THE BOARD

- a. Sara Gaston of Clinton County Senior Services gave an update on the services provided during the past year. All programs are thriving with the Meals on Wheels in high demand. So far this year, the senior center has served over 35,000 meals to homebound residents and over 9,000 congregate meals at the senior center sites. The Carlyle office has given information assistance to over 1,200 seniors about topics such as Medicare, Medicaid, license plate renewal discounts and many other programs. The senior centers offer activities such as Bingo, Euchre, book clubs, music, guest speakers, etc. These services would not be possible without the funding from the county tax extension. She invited board members to visit the senior centers for a tour.

9. REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS

10. STANDING COMMITTEES

- a. Zoning and Subdivision Committee – Ann Schroeder
 1. Zoning Report – Jami Staser said the Zoning Board of Appeals met on Sept. 3 and the Subdivision Committee met Sept. 4. There is one item on the agenda for board consideration.
 - i. Motion – The Wedge Subdivision – 1 Lot – Germantown Township – Eversgerd Family Trust. Staser said the lot includes 4.18 acres which is zoned commercial. The existing commercial storage facility will be split from the Eversgerd's remaining ground.
Schroeder made a motion for a roll call vote to approve the subdivision.
Rakers seconded the motion.
Arentsen (Yes), Crisel (Yes), Haselhorst (Absent), Heinzmann (Yes), Hilmes (Yes), Jansen (Yes), B. Knolhoff (Yes), K. Knolhoff (Yes), Rakers (Yes), Rapien (Absent), Riechman (Yes), Schmitz (Absent), Schroeder (Yes), Strieker (Yes), Veizer (Yes). Motion Carried 12-0.
- b. Economic Development, Tourism and Clinton County Enterprise Zone – Mike Rakers
No Report. The next meeting is 6 p.m. on Sept. 22.
- c. Insurance/ICIT – Nelson Heinzmann
No Report. The next meeting is 6:30 p.m. on Oct. 13.
- d. Facilities Committee – Gary Arentsen
 1. Arentsen said the county has rented a lift and maintenance crews are making repairs to the brick and windows versus paying an outside company to do the repairs.
- e. Animal Control – Ann Schroeder
No Report.
- f. Finance – Kurt Schmitz
Schmitz reported the committee met Sept. 10 and all bills were approved.
 1. Treasurer's Monthly Report – Denise Trame

Trame said the Treasurer's Office received an oil check for \$6,039.43 and gaming collected for the past month was 6,104.70. Trame's office completed the first round of tax disbursements to the various taxing districts totaling \$36,448,873.85 with the county's share being \$2,908,868.75.

i. Motion – Monthly Budget and Financial Report

Arentsen made a motion to approve the report. Hilmes seconded the motion.

Motion Carried.

ii. Motion – Resolution to Execute a Deed of Conveyance of the County's Interest for Parcel #15-14-24-262-002.

County Clerk Vicky Albers explained that the parcel has gone through the delinquent tax process and has been sold by the county's tax agent. Approval of the resolution will return the parcel to the county's tax rolls.

Veizer made a motion for a roll call vote to approve the resolution. Arentsen seconded the motion.

Arentsen (Yes), Crisel (Yes), Haselhorst (Absent), Heinzmann (Yes), Hilmes (Yes), Jansen (Yes), B. Knolhoff (Yes), K. Knolhoff (Yes), Rakers (Yes), Rapien (Absent), Riechman (Yes), Schmitz (Absent), Schroeder (Yes), Stricker (Yes), Veizer (Yes). Motion Carried 12-0.

g. Budget – Nelson Heinzmann

1. The committee will meet at 6:30 p.m. on Sept. 17. Department heads are asked to have any budget amendments completed by Sept. 26 with subsequent meetings to finalize the budget on Sept 30 and Oct. 15.

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

i. Road and Bridge – Ken Knolhoff

1. Monthly County Engineer's Report – Dan Behrens

i. Motion – Resolution Approving a Permit for a Crosswalk for the Village of St. Rose on County Highway 12.

Veizer made a motion for a roll call vote to approve the resolution. Crisel seconded the motion.

Arentsen (Yes), Crisel (Yes), Haselhorst (Absent), Heinzmann (Yes), Hilmes (Yes), Jansen (Yes), B. Knolhoff (Yes), K. Knolhoff (Yes), Rakers (Yes), Rapien (Absent), Riechman (Yes), Schmitz (Absent), Schroeder (Yes), Stricker (Yes), Veizer (Yes).

Motion Carried 12-0.

ii. Behrens said the contractor completed the Aviston-Albers Road resurfacing project last month. Signage for the roadway was also replaced. Work is underway on Walnut Street in Breese, just south of the roundabout, and traffic will periodically be rerouted during construction. Behrens said the county has been approved to have several bridges repaired through an off-system bridge program funded by the state. The state is looking at bundling several bridges in one area, and the county's group includes three bridges on the county line with Marion County, two bridges in Meridian Township and another in the

Sandoval/Patoka area.

- iii. Rakers asked if the Highway Department could initiate a discussion with the state about adding a roundabout at the intersection of St. Rose Road and Old Route 50 in Breese. He noted the heavy traffic on the roadway before and after School around 7 a.m. and 3 p.m. The proposal was sent to committee for further discussion.
- j. Personnel, Labor and Grievance – Mike Hilmes and Gary Arentsen
 - 1. The committee met Sept. 9 and approved minutes of the August meeting. The next meeting will be 6 p.m. on Oct. 14.
 - i. Motion - Ordinance to Update Current Vacation Policy
Hilmes said the vacation policy was changed in 2012 creating two different types of vacation eligibility. The ordinance makes the vacation policy more similar for all employees and lines up with most of the union contracts.
B. Knolhoff said the updates are necessary not only to promote fairness among employees, but also to be able to recruit and maintain good employees.
Hilmes made a motion for a roll call vote to approve the ordinance. Strieker seconded the motion.
Arentsen (Yes), Crisel (Yes), Haselhorst (Absent), Heinzmann (Yes), Hilmes (Yes), Jansen (Yes), B. Knolhoff (Yes), K. Knolhoff (Yes), Rakers (Yes), Rapien (Absent), Riechman (Yes), Schmitz (Absent), Schroeder (Yes), Strieker (Yes), Veizer (Yes). Motion Carried 12-0.
- k. Executive Committee
No Report.

11. SPECIAL COMMITTEES

- a. Radio – Curt Haselhorst
 - 1. B. Knolhoff reported that the first radio telecommunications tower is up in Sugar Creek Township. Work is underway on the other towers, and the equipment shelters should be set in the next two weeks. The next steps will be installation of equipment and system testing. If all goes well, the system could be operational by early 2026.

12. OUTSIDE COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS

- a. Board of Health – Kurt Schmitz
 - 1. Motion - Health Department Monthly Report.
Health Department Administrator Chris Leidel reported that the department had more positive reports for West Nile Virus in mosquitoes in Hoffman, Keyesport, Breese, Trenton and Albers. Testing will continue until mid-October. The Health Board is still reviewing numbers for the feasibility of a dental clinic. Leidel also met with an agency that specializes in Medicare and Medicaid doctors and discussed the possibility of having an office in the Health Department.
Arentsen made a motion to approve the Health Department Monthly Report.
Schroeder seconded the motion. Motion Carried.
- b. 708 Mental Health Board – Greg Riechman

Riechman said the committee met on Sept. 11 and finalized funding requests for the new grant year. The next quarterly meeting will be at 6 p.m. on Dec. 11.

- 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

13. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

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

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

Motion Carried 12-0.

14. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

15. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

- a. Motion – Appointment – Michael Abernathy to replace the late Bill Guile on the Hoffman Fire Protection District Board for the remainder of the term ending May 2026. B. Knolhoff made a motion to approve the appointment. K. Knolhoff seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

16. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Riechman gave an update on recent Honor Flights to Washington D.C. He thanked all the emergency personnel who assisted with the send-offs throughout the year. More than 150 veterans took part in Honor Flights this past year.

17. ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2025

- a. Veizer made a motion to adjourn until Monday, October 20, 2025 at 7 p.m. Strieker seconded the motion. Motion Carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

ATTEST:



Vicky Albers
County Clerk & Recorder