

DEWITT COUNTY BOARD MEETING
MAR 19, 2026
6PM
DEWITT COUNTY BUILDING

Meeting was called to order at 6:00pm by Chairman Witte.

Roll call was answered by Carter, Earle, Farris, Ferguson, Hammer, Myers, Prestegaard, Ryan, Tilley, Walters, Werts, Witte.

No one was present to speak to the Board.

Clerk Harris asked if all members received the email with attached letter from Illinois Department of Corrections -Jail and Detention Standards. All members agreed they received it.

Clerk Harris advised the Board she had passed out a response regarding a portion of the finance minutes. Each board member was handed one at the meeting. All members agreed they received it.

Motion by Tilley second by Farris to approve County Board meeting minutes from February 19, 2026. Aye: Carter, Earle, Farris, Ferguson, Hammer, Myers, Prestegaard, Ryan, Tilley, Walters Werts, Witte. Motion Carried.

Motion by Witte second by Werts to re-appoint Kurt Wells to the Farmer City Fire Protection District. State's Attorney Markwell asked if a term was provided. Clerk Harris said she was not provided with a term in the email or attached letter she had received. Markwell advised tabling the motion until next month when a term can be provided. (this motion is tabled in the next motion)

Motion by Witte second by Ferguson to table the original motion by Witte second by Werts to re-appoint Kurt Wells to the Farmer City Fire Protection District. Aye: Carter, Earle, Farris, Ferguson, Hammer, Myers, Prestegaard, Ryan, Tilley, Walters Werts, Witte. Motion Carried.

Carter gave the Board a brief description of what was discussed at the current month's Land Use meeting. Minutes from the Land Use meeting are filed with these minutes.

Motion by Carter second by Ryan to approve Resolution for the Amendment of the DeWitt County Code of Ordinances Chapter 157: Solar Energy Systems. Aye: Carter, Earle, Farris, Ferguson, Hammer, Myers, Prestegaard, Ryan, Tilley, Walters Werts, Witte. Motion Carried.

Motion by Carter second by Ryan to approve Resolution for the Amendment of the DeWitt County Code of Ordinances Chapter 153: Commercial Wind Energy Conversion. Aye: Carter, Earle, Farris, Ferguson, Hammer, Myers, Prestegaard, Ryan, Tilley, Walters Werts, Witte. Motion Carried.

Myers gave the Board a brief description of what was discussed at the current month's Public Safety meeting. Minutes from the Public Safety meeting are filed with these minutes.

Ferguson gave the Board a brief description of what was discussed at the current month's Property meeting. He informed the Board that the maintenance supervisor has submitted his retirement date with April 17, 2026, being his last day. Minutes from the Property meeting are filed with these minutes.

Prestegaard gave the Board a brief description of what was discussed at the current month's Road and Bridge meeting. He informed the Board bids for re-roofing the dome at the highway department will be going out soon. Werts also mentioned they will be checking on the concrete under all the salt to make sure the foundation of the dome is still in good shape. Minutes from the Road and Bridge meeting are filed with these minutes.

Motion by Prestegaard second by Myers to approve the County 2026 MFT General Maintenance Resolution. Prestegaard said the amount is the same as last year, \$500,000, and is used for things like sealcoating, pavement marking and purchasing salt. Aye: Carter, Earle, Farris, Ferguson, Hammer, Myers, Prestegaard, Ryan, Tilley, Walters Werts, Witte. Motion Carried.

Motion by Prestegaard second by Werts to approve Certificate of Authority for County Engineer Mark Mathon to execute the Illinois CMS Joint Purchase Agreement for salt purchase for DeWitt County. Prestegaard said County Engineer, Mathon, needs to submit an estimate of how much salt he will be needing and along with his estimate he also must supply this approved certificate. Aye: Carter, Earle, Farris, Ferguson, Hammer, Myers, Prestegaard, Ryan, Tilley, Walters Werts, Witte. Motion Carried.

Tilley gave the Board a brief description of what was discussed at the current month's Finance meeting. Minutes from the Finance meeting are filed with these minutes.

Motion by Tilley second by Ferguson to pay all bills. Aye: Carter, Earle, Farris, Ferguson, Hammer, Myers, Prestegaard, Ryan, Tilley, Walters Werts, Witte. Motion Carried.

Motion by Tilley second by Prestegaard to purchase 10 computers from Dell in the amount of \$9,450.60. Aye: Carter, Earle, Farris, Ferguson, Hammer, Myers, Prestegaard, Ryan, Tilley, Walters Werts, Witte. Motion Carried.

Motion by Tilley second by Ferguson to appoint the finance committee to the DeWitt County Extension Board. Aye: Carter, Earle, Farris, Ferguson, Hammer, Myers, Prestegaard, Ryan, Tilley, Walters Werts, Witte. Motion Carried.

Ryan gave the Board a brief description of what was discussed at the current month's IT/Compliance meeting. Minutes from the IT/Compliance meeting are attached with these minutes.

Motion by Ferguson second by Carter to approve Revised Decommissioning Plan and Bond for Blue Iris Solar LLC. Aye: Carter, Earle, Farris, Ferguson, Hammer, Myers, Prestegaard, Ryan, Tilley, Walters Werts, Witte. Motion Carried.

Tabled motion from February 19, 2026, first by Myers second by Carter to approve the contract with ShelterLuv to enter into a 1-year trial software agreement. Myers informed the Board that they had tabled this last month so Markwell could review the contract and get in contact with the company to have some wording fixed. She said she felt that the main issues had been corrected. Ferguson said he was opposed because it wasn't brought up during budget time and they have already paid for the old software. Myers said she felt it is important to move forward so the shelter can have updated software that is user friendly, stating the current system is not user friendly. She also mentioned the new system allows people to make donations to the Shelter. Aye: Carter, Earle, Farris, Hammer, Myers, Prestegaard, Ryan, Tilley, Walters, Witte. Nay: Ferguson, Werts. Motion Carried.

Tabled motion from February 19, 2026, first by Prestegaard second by Hammer to approve quote from Heart Technologies for Highway Department Network Refresh. Prestegaard said the amount for this is \$13,596.45. Aye: Carter, Earle, Farris, Ferguson, Hammer, Myers, Prestegaard, Ryan, Tilley, Walters Werts, Witte. Motion Carried.

Motion by Ferguson second by Tilley to award the bid for boiler replacements in the jail to Mid Illinois Mechanical in the amount of \$99,100.00. Aye: Carter, Earle, Farris, Ferguson, Hammer, Myers, Prestegaard, Ryan, Tilley, Walters Werts, Witte. Motion Carried.

Motion by Carter second by Ryan to approve resolution affirming that data centers are not an allowable use under the existing DeWitt County Zoning Code and that a text amendment will be required prior to any special use permit or building permit being processed.

Motion by Carter second by Ryan to amend his first motion to remove the words "nuclear power plant known as the Clinton Clean Energy Center" and replace it with "electric generation facilities" located in the 5th "whereas" paragraph of the resolution. Aye: Carter, Farris, Ferguson, Hammer, Myers, Prestegaard, Ryan, Tilley, Walters Werts, Witte. Abstain: Earle. Motion Carried.

Back to original motion to include the amendment: Motion by Carter second by Ryan to approve resolution affirming that data centers are not an allowable use under the existing DeWitt County Zoning Code and that a text amendment will be required prior to any special use permit or building permit being processed. Aye: Carter, Farris, Ferguson, Hammer, Myers, Prestegaard, Ryan, Tilley, Walters Werts, Witte. Abstain: Earle. Motion Carried.

Motion by Witte second by Ferguson to approve the Resolution to appoint Joe Witte to serve as committeeman, on behalf of the County of DeWitt, for purposes of filling the vacancy in the office of Regional Superintendent of Schools #17 as set forth in 105 ILCS 5/3A-6. Aye: Carter, Earle, Farris, Ferguson, Hammer, Myers, Prestegaard, Ryan, Tilley, Walters Werts, Witte. Motion Carried.

Motion by Tilley second by Ferguson to approve addendum to engagement letter with BakerTilly for auditing services. Aye: Carter, Earle, Farris, Ferguson, Hammer, Myers, Prestegaard, Ryan, Tilley, Walters Werts, Witte. Motion Carried.

Motion by Tilley second by Ferguson to approve engagement letter with BakerTilly for single audit. Aye: Carter, Earle, Farris, Ferguson, Hammer, Myers, Prestegaard, Ryan, Tilley, Walters Werts, Witte. Motion Carried.

Discussion on Siting Permit hearing date for North Yards Solar LLC. - Witte said that most of the board seemed good with the date of April 29, 2026, at 6:00pm in the County Building and Miss Weikle will be scheduling the meeting.

Motion by Tilley second by Prestegaard to adjourn at 6:41p.m. with all in favor.