PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNTY BOARD
KNOX COUNTY, ILLINOIS

June 24, 2026

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
) SS
COUNTY OF KNOX)

Proceedings of the Regular Meeting of the Knox County Board held in person at the Galesburg City Council chambers on Wednesday, June 24, 2026 at 6:01 p.m. This meeting was presented via teleconference for viewing only. The YouTube channel link can be found on the County website. You can view the meeting on the Knox County YouTube channel. After the meeting is over you review it and are able to download it.

The Meeting was called to order by County Board Chair Jared Hawkinson and upon roll call the following Members reported present:

District 1	Tracy Robertson
District 2	Erin Pugh
District 3	Kimberly Thierry
District 4	Joshua Kramer
District 5	Ricardo “Rick” Sandoval
District 1	Cheryl Nache
District 3	Pamela Davidson
District 4	Jared Hawkinson
District 5	Patty Boone
District 1	Anthony Weiss
District 2	Robert Bondi
District 3	Samuel Cohen
District 4	Todd Olinger
District 5	Brian Friedrich

And those absent: District 2 Jennifer Fredrick

Also present were County Clerk-Recorder Scott Erickson, Sheriff Jack Harlan and Treasurer Robin Davis. Department Heads present were Knox County Public Health Administrator Michele Gabriel, Knox County Nursing Home Administrator Jodi Mines, Landfill Administrator Rod Cleair.

Sheriff Harlan delivered the Proclamation and Chair Hawkinson led the Members in the pledge of allegiance to the flag. In lieu of a formal invocation, Chair Hawkinson asked that a moment of silence be observed.

Chair Hawkinson asked for additions or deletions to the agenda with additions for discussion only.

Member Bondi asked for Item 15 and 16A to go together since.

Chair Hawkinson confirmed that Items 15 and 16A go together and also to move the report for Committee on Health and Human Services along with the action which are Items 17 and 18 to be moved to right after Items for the Chair.

Chair Hawkinson stated there were no objections and there were no additions.

Chair Hawkinson asked for public comment. He asked if there was anyone that did not get a chance to sign up before the meeting started.

Pam Davidson said good afternoon everyone. She is the County Board Member of District 3 and lives at 1147 Day St in Galesburg. She stated as an elected official who has been on this board along time and especially as taxpayer we need to take concern of tax dollars and where they are going to because we have less money. We think tax rolls are coming in and everybody is getting a whole lot of money. That is not always true because all the money we are using is going out. We have elected officials that do not even have a place to call their own which is the coroner. The coroner was elected and she should be on county property not her property. She does not care how it started but she should have an office where she can console the people. As, a taxpayer if something would happen to one of her family members or friends that the corner would come and do her job. We need to take care of county business.

Tracy Robertson said hello. She is County Board District 1 , lives at 433 E. Grove St. Galesburg and a taxpayer. She said that she is coming today as both. She wanted to read something really quick and piggy back off of what Member Davidson said about finances in the county. She read that the general fund currently had $1,971,316.10 less in liquidity than last year at the end of May. Revenue is averaging $103,000 less per month and expenses are averaging $140,000 less more than per month. Therefore, reducing cash balance by about $250,000 per month. We need to watch spending as we are currently have less than 30 days of revenue in the general fund. The tax revenue is already in the current budget to offset current budgeted expenditures. Finances are just spending and spending and we need to start rebuilding some of these contracts or pausing things or doing too much for the money we have in our accounts. We are going to get caught into a very bad situation very soon and just wanted to be known that. This isn't really good for people to say they have money in their budget when we truly do not have the money available. Thank you.

Michael Nache said good evening chairman, members of the board and mom. He read as we look ahead to the upcoming 250th anniversary of American Independence, he thinks it is worth reflecting not only on where we have been as a nation, but also on the ideals that have sustained us through our best and most difficult moments. For many Americans, those ideals are deeply connected to faith. This June, Catholics around the country observed the month of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, a devotion centered on mercy, charity, sacrifice, and love of neighbor. In

anticipation of our nation's 250th birthday, the United States Council Conference of Catholic Bishops encouraged a renewed consecration of the United States to the Sacred Heart, inviting Americans to reflect on moral foundations that undergird our civic life here in central Illinois. These themes have special significance. The Diocese of Peoria of which Galesburg is part of recently celebrated its 150th anniversary and has itself been consecrated to the Sacred Heart. It is also the diocese that gave the archbishop Folton J. Sheen whose inspirational story of faith began in Peoria and expected to become blessed in September. Closer to home Corpus Christi Church part of St. Crescent Parish has been designated as one of the official diocese pilgrimage sites for this anniversary year. The parish is named for St. Crescent who was only nine years old when he was murdered in Rome during Emperor Diocletian's persecution of Christians sometime between 284 and 305AD. That connection is more than symbolic. Corpus Christi is one of only a handful of churches in the entire United States that is traditionally said to be one of just six that houses the full bodily remains of a saint. Pilgrims can come here in Knox County and pray before the relics of a child who according to Christian tradition gave his life rather than abandoned his faith nearly seventeen centuries ago. Whether on is Catholic, Protestant, a member of another faith, or no faith at all, there is something worth reflecting on in that story. Courage, conviction and the willingness to stand up for something greater than oneself. As we prepare to celebrate 250 years of American independence, perhaps we can also renew our commitment to the virtues that make self-government possible. Charity, responsibility, sacrifice and service to our neighbors. Perhaps if everyone can just listen to our better angels, our own personal paths to sainthood could begin just an hour away or even end right here and at home. Thank you and God bless.

Connie Main said she is from Altona. She said that she doesn't know if there are any evidences upheld in Knox County, Illinois or if they are just being denied them. If that's not the case, they demand answers to why and how some of the following could happen. One, attacking non-inoculated, nonregistered dogs always have more rights than them and continue to do so. Two, in 2020 they complained about illegal dogs and were kidnapped off the streets and even kept from their own after complaining about illegal dogs that are back attacking them as of recently. In 2026 they were told no responsive records and they know what that means. She asked if it means anything to the elected people or are they still preaching to a brick wall as they have been since 2016 approximately. This says nothing about the nearly 1,000 illegals imposed on them after proving full coverage auto insurance in court. Three, she believes her car was scratched this year by a repeat illegal attacking dog which she has reported through FOIA and even complained to Deputy Shelley. Yet, no punishment or records. Four, she told previously that she was even threatened through the US mail after complaining this year about a repeat attacking illegal dog. Which did it again a couple nights ago on Highway 4 at night. Five, she asked why tax payed government employees exempt from accountability and responsibility. One of them, whose dog they reported in 2025 makes nearly $100,000 annually but didn't inoculate or register their at large illegal dog either. Six, she asked why they are denied most FOIA especially pertaining to illegal dogs even when recently quarantined 10 days after a bite in Altona. If any information from FOIA is received after appealing to the AG's Office, which is the Attorney General, it is completely redacted such as the owner's name, address and the dog's breed making it impossible to track or make connections. The received information could be anyone's dog but the illegal ones. This says nothing about the few illegal dog ordinance violations given that are dismissed or not approached. That is if they even bother to appear in

court. Since the actual law breakers never have accountability or responsibility, it keeps happening. Dogs clearly are protected more than them. If not, she asked them to make it make sense. Seven, people can still do what they want to their property without their knowledge or permission. Eight, she asked why there is no mandatory reporting from one division and department to another. Like deputies to animal control and animal control to deputies. FOIA complaints with it. She said it all seems retaliatory to them. She asked someone to prove it to them otherwise. You pay the people responsible for upholding laws and ordinances, so they want an investigation. Lastly, they are opposed to all the reckless raises they are giving everybody, especially in this economic climate.

Chair Hawkinson thanked everyone for speaking during public comment.

Motion was made by Member Weiss and seconded by Member Kramer to approve the following items of the consent agenda: 1) minutes of the regular Board Meeting on May 27, 2026. 2) sales tax and various taxes for the month of March 2026 in the amounts of $172,385.20 and $61,194.24 and public safety tax in the amount of $296,186.40. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes— Robertson, Pugh, Thierry, Kramer, Sandoval, Nache, Davidson, Hawkinson, Boone, Weiss, Bondi, Cohen, Olinger and Friedrich— (14). Noes— (0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Kramer and seconded by Member Sandoval to approve the Salary Increases for Public Defender, Sheriff, and State's Attorney. Chair Hawkinson stated that this information is in the packet and the Google Drive. These three are part of the statutorily required increases every year from the state. We are just agreeing to uphold our third of the payment.

Member Olinger just asked to clarify that they have to give these raises because the state says we have to.

Chair Hawkinson replied that is correct. The current fiscal year the salary for the state's attorney is $219,325.62 and the new increase set by the state is $228,317.97. The public defender is 90% of that. The current public defender's position is paid $197,393.06 and effective July 1st which is the state's fiscal year starting the starting salary will be $205,486.17 which is 90% of the state's attorney's salary, which is required by statute. The sheriff's salary is currently $175,460.50 which will increase July 1st to $182,654.39.

Member Bondi asked if any part of that actually covered by the state itself or is it all covered by the county.

Chair Hawkinson replied that 2/3 of it is covered by the state and we are required to pay that third.

Member Bondi replied saying so we just have to pay that third plus the benefits.

Chair Hawkinson replied yes, plus the benefits.

Member Davidson asked if he knew how much that 1/3 is.

Chair Hawkinson asked Treasurer Davis if it was listed under the payroll section.

Treasurer Davis said that it is listed on the budget change proposed.

Chair Hawkinson confirmed with Treasurer Davis that she meant the proposed expense changes.

Treasurer Davis said it shows what the salary changes are and what the state pays.

Member Davidson asked how much we pay.

Chair Hawkinson said whatever the difference is between. If you subtract what the state pays and salary is you would get that. For instance, the state pays $222,887.96 for the state's attorney. For the public defender the state pays $200,599.22. He confirmed with Treasurer Davis if that was correct for the column all the way to the right on the new proposed expense budget line item.

Treasurer Davis explained which to read.

Chair Hawkinson replied lets back that up. He gave the corrected salary reimbursement from the state for the state's attorney as $201,056.96, public defender state pays $133,380.48 and for the sheriff the state pays $118,572.48. He explained if you do the math then that is what we are required to pay. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes— Robertson, Pugh, Thierry, Kramer, Sandoval, Hawkinson, Weiss, Bondi, Cohen, Olinger and Friedrich— (11). Noes— Nache, Davidson and Boone---(3). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Kramer and seconded by Vice Chair Friedrich to approve the Resolution Pertaining to All Closed Minutes through November 30, 2025 and Review Thereafter. Chair Hawkinson stated that the information is in your packet. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes— Robertson, Pugh, Thierry, Kramer, Sandoval, Nache, Davidson, Hawkinson, Boone, Weiss, Bondi, Cohen, Olinger and Friedrich— (14). Noes— (0). Motion carried.

Chair Hawkinson stated that as discussed earlier they will move on to Item 17 and 18 which is the report and action item for the Committee on Health and Human Services.

Member Kramer presented the monthly report from the Health and Human Services committee. He stated that the report is in the packet, everybody is busy with all kinds of business and they are wrapping up things out at the nursing home. He encouraged everybody to stop in, say hi and to take a look around.

Motion was made by Member Kramer and seconded by Member Bondi to approve the Resolution on Fee Changes for Environmental Health Program. Member Kramer stated that Knox County Public Health Administrator Michele Gabriel and Assistant Public Health Administrator Will Hayes be present to step up to the microphone if anyone has any questions.

Member Nache stated that she does not have a question since she knows what they are doing but does have a comment. She said that people are already stretched as far as we can and know that they are also stretched but at the end of the day they say it will be put on to the consumer and we are the consumer. The constituents are the consumer and are already being stretched far enough. She doesn't know an answer and does not have an answer. There has to be a better way than our board to keep saying "Oh just let it go to the consumer. They'll pay it". At some point the consumer is going to day, "Guess what? I can't afford to do it." That's what she has been doing. She said she just can't afford to do it anymore. Thank you.

Member Kramer explained that it was presented to the committee and to not do this would require cuts in their programs. A lot of those consumers probably use those programs that might not have the funds available. Which was how it was presented. These fees haven't been increased in a long time as presented at the committee. They presented to committee that they needed to go this route for the health department and to serve the citizens of Knox County.

Chair Hawkinson thanked the health department administration team for revising and revisiting the figures that were presented in May. A significant change from May to this month which is noticeable. This shows that they attempting to locate alternate revenue sources and what the bottom dollar they have to continuously operate the programs that they have that are already stretched thin. He appreciates the reduction there has been from last month to this month.

Vice Chair Friedrich thanked Assistant Public Health Administrator Will Hayes for taking the time to today to talk to him and explain things. He said that the fees are going up and after talking to Assistant Public Health Administrator Hayes there are some things that are good that he agrees with and thanked him again for taking the time to explain things today to him.

Member Davidson said that a lot of people present do not have the packet and do not understand what is going on. She explained that our health department goes to restaurants and other places to check to make sure we have the best, healthy and cleanest environment. They have part-time certificates and they make sure people are trained. They have not raised their fees. She said they all raised their hand when they said the landfill fee is going up for tonnage and there are no problems. She said that we have a very nice health department which she would rate it against any surrounding county in our area. They need to continue to work to make sure our facilities that we eat at and that our events are the best that they can be for the consumers and our taxpayers. She thanked them for coming back and looking at different ways of doing it but things are expensive and is thankful gas went down a little bit. They have to drive to those places even though it is four and five dollars a gallon for gas. We as a county thank you for doing what you do.

Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes— Robertson, Pugh, Thierry, Kramer, Sandoval, Davidson, Hawkinson, Boone, Weiss, Bondi, Cohen, Olinger and Friedrich— (13). Noes— Nache---(1). Motion carried.

Member Kramer thanked everyone for allowing him to move up in the agenda.

Vice-Chair Friedrich said that the monthly report from the Ways and Means Committees are in the packet. He said that it was a pretty light meeting this month. Next month or maybe before they will start scheduling budget meetings. Which is everyone's favorite part of the year and he has already talked to some department heads about their budgets. They should be ready to start on the budgets mid-July or so. He wanted to announce a separate committee meeting that he is on for the committee on the Courthouse Taskforce that has meet three times now and have another scheduled for July 13th. They are just getting started but wanted to let everyone know.

Motion was made by Vice-Chair Friedrich and seconded by Member Kramer to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with Sheriff and Knox County Fair. Vice-Chair Friedrich stated that this is the same thing that is done every year. This lets the county to go out and get paid for patrolling the fair and keeping everybody safe. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes— Robertson, Pugh, Thierry, Kramer, Sandoval, Nache, Davidson, Hawkinson, Boone, Weiss, Bondi, Cohen, Olinger and Friedrich— (14). Noes— (0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Vice-Chair Friedrich and seconded by Member Kramer to approve Memorandum of Understanding with Abingdon Fall Festival. Vice-Chair Friedrich stated that this is the same contract as the Knox County Fair to get the sheriff's department paid to go out there to keep everybody safe and under control. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes—

Robertson, Pugh, Thierry, Kramer, Sandoval, Nache, Davidson, Hawkinson, Boone, Weiss, Bondi, Cohen, Olinger and Friedrich— (14). Noes— (0). Motion carried.

Member Sandoval presented the monthly report from the Public Service Committees. He said the report is in your packet and all the offices are really busy especially the State's Attorney.

Member Bondi presented the monthly report from the Infrastructure Committee. He stated that minutes and report are in the packet and asked if there were any comments or questions.

Motion was made by Member Bondi and seconded by Member Pugh to approve the Five-Year Agreement with Smithfield Foods for Disposal Services. Member Bondi read that the agreement is supplying Smithfield with a two-year stationary compactor. They will be pulled in when needed once a day Monday through Friday and some Saturdays. All others are roll off containers as needed. The agreement is enclosed in your packet. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes— Robertson, Pugh, Thierry, Kramer, Sandoval, Nache, Davidson, Hawkinson, Boone, Weiss, Bondi, Cohen, Olinger and Friedrich— (14). Noes— (0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Bondi and seconded by Member Pugh to approve the Five-Year Contract with Compactor Rentals of America for one 2-yard Stationary Compactor and two 40 Yard Receiver Boxes. Member Bondi read that the monthly charge would be $840 a month for the life of the agreement. The cost covers installation, removal, disposal of the current compactor and full-service repair of both as part of the rent. The unit information is enclosed in the packet and the line item is described. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes— Robertson, Pugh, Thierry, Kramer, Sandoval, Nache, Davidson, Boone, Weiss, Bondi, Cohen, Olinger and Friedrich— (13). Noes— (0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Bondi and seconded by Vice Chair Friedrich to approve the purchase of 5115 Brush Hog Flex-Wing Rotary Cutter from Birkey's Farm Store for $34,100. Member Bondi read that the Landfill utilizes Sourcewell a governmental organization that provides a cooperative purchase solution for this particular item and it is needed.

Member Davidson asked what it was needed for.

Member Bondi asked Landfill Administrator Cleair.

Landfill Administrator Cleair replied for mowing.

Member Davidson replied saying that she thought when she read Brush Hog it was for cutting up Smithfield's hogs or something.

Landfill Administrator Cleair stated that it is a brand. It is a Brush Hog Brand.

Member Davidson replied ok.

Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes— Robertson, Pugh, Thierry, Kramer, Sandoval, Nache, Davidson, Boone, Weiss, Bondi, Cohen, Olinger and Friedrich— (13). Noes— (0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Bondi and seconded by Vice Chair Friedrich to approve Bid for First Phase of Construction of Landfill #4 and Closing of Landfill #3 by Miller. Member Bondi read that only two bids were submitted and Miller Truck and Excavation and was the lowest bid. Once the bids are completed and reviewed a recommendation is garnered and a bid

summary was submitted. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes— Robertson, Pugh, Thierry, Kramer, Sandoval, Nache, Davidson, Hawkinson, Boone, Weiss, Bondi, Cohen, Olinger and Friedrich— (14). Noes— (0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Bondi and seconded by Member Sandoval to approve the Treasurer Office to Start Process of Acquiring a Bond to Pay for the Full Construction of Landfill #4 and Complete Closing of Landfill #3. Member Bondi read that both are long-term projects and the documentation is now in your packer as a result of Landfill Administrator Cleair submitting it and Treasurer Davis is on cue to get things going. He said that it is quite a project.

Member Davidson asked Treasurer Davis how long the bond is for. She said sorry she missed it and how much.

Landfill Administrator Cleair responded stating it is 30 years and the estimate was $29,413,800.

Member Davidson replied 30 million dollars.

Landfill Administrator Cleair replied over 30 million dollars over 30 years.

Member Davidson asked how long they were in landfill three.

Landfill Administrator Cleair replied well over the expected life of 30 years.

Member Davidson replied thank you.

Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes— Robertson, Pugh, Thierry, Kramer, Sandoval, Davidson, Hawkinson, Boone, Weiss, Bondi, Cohen, Olinger and Friedrich— (13). Noes— Nache---(1). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Bondi and seconded by Member Kramer to approve pay request from MSI for Nursing Home Performance Contract Project Application #10 for $241,161.01. Member Bondi read that the request for draw out of the $7,659,859 contract currently has $321,966.79 left or retained. The previous draws have been $5,776,207.92. All releases are in hand. The itemization of what each of the items have been paid for and are also in the packet.

Member Davidson stated that she says this every single time with the performance contracts. She asked about a quarterly update that she has not seen. She asked if Member Bondi had it.

Member Bondi replied saying that they have it in the summary of what has been done and they have now had Member Cohen reviewing these documents to make sure they are properly being applied and also that the work is being performed. He asked if Member Cohen wanted to make any additional comments.

Member Cohen replied that he thinks Member Davidson is asking about in the past she has asked for a breakdown from MSI on our savings for he guesses the work but he does not know what the deadline was on that.

Member Bondi replied that on the sixth or seventh page what every item is that is being paid for in summary form.

Member Davidson asked what we have accomplished with that. She said those are items that they're getting to finish the job but asked what kind of savings have we had.

Member Kramer said that he would like to add that on the water heaters alone, the City of Knoxville came out to check the water meters because our water consumption was so low in replacing the old boilers. There are automatically two items right there that we're already saving on. He said if Member Davidson is talking about the LED lightings that have all been replaced

we have not had them long enough to know what the savings are. They are still working in the facility so they still have equipment running and that all uses energy.

Member Bondi said that maybe Nursing Home Administrator Mines could speak on that.

Nursing Home Administrator Mines said that the solar system is not done yet. The would not realize the savings due to it not up and running yet. She mentioned again the hot water.

Chair Hawkinson replied stating that just like he says every month that they are still in the middle of doing the project. You cannot have proper data and figures to present without a time frame.

Member Bondi replied saying after everything is done they can show the difference of what the expenses are in a line item and what they have been in the past compared to current.

Nursing Home Administrator Mines said that the water heater is up and running and did present that information three months ago.

Member Bondi said that once the solar is complete they will be able to make a comparison of what the electrical cost are now compared to once it is after the solar panels are being used.

Nursing Home Administrator Mines stated that the solar panels are not up and running yet to show what the cost is going forward.

Member Bondi said operationally that will come through Member Kramer's committee.

Member Robertson said she thinks the question is for the performance agreements for the jail now that the work is complete if they have presented any cost savings to the board to justify having a performance agreement. She is leery of having only one contractor always receiving all of the bids when there are other companies out there that would also like to do work for the county. If they are not showing as per the contract that she read for the performance contract at the end of the work present a cost savings to show the savings. She said Member Davidson was trying to allude to that the jail work is done and asked if they have presented a cost savings to us and she asked how much we have saved by just using them as the vendor.

Chair Hawkinson replied that he works for the performance contract at the jail was just completed within the last couple of months. They have to have time to do a year over year comparison and analysis to get proper data based on seasonal load versus last year's same time seasonal load. He said that he would imagine that they will probably be seeing something from them in the near future because they will have a sufficient amount of time for a year over year cost analysis. He commented on Member Robertson's note about the same company getting the same bids which he said is false. They were selected four or five years ago as the general contractor for performance contracting. He explained that every single project from the sheriff's office, the jail, the nursing home and the Mary Davis Home all the work went out for bid for different contractors. The nursing home for this pay request has nine different subcontractors that successfully bid on a publicly let job and was publicly awarded by this board in a public forum. It is also publicly reviewed on a monthly basis and this is the same format for the last four or five years. He said however long the performance contract has been. He said that he will dismiss that but will follow up on when they might see a year over year cost analysis.

Member Robertson asked if that would be available to everyone on the board or the general public.

Chair Hawkinson replied that whenever we get it that it would go to the committee responsible which would be Member Bondi's and it would be forwarded on.

Member Robertson replied saying that she would get to see it then and thank you.

Member Thierry asked about the contracts start and end date was for it. Also, if there was an end date.

Member Bondi said that he cannot speak for the end date.

Chair Hawkinson replied saying that for this specific contract they are under contract until the work is complete.

Member Thierry said that she read that it said period and just wanted clarified that it was just for this period.

Chair Hawkinson replied correct.

Member Thierry replied okay and asked if there is still a balance on this contract.

Member Bondi replied yes, the retainage balance is $1,542,534.66.

Member Thierry asked if we make payments regularly in this same amount each time until that is paid off and asked if that is how it works.

Member Bondi replied relative to the work completed.

Member Thierry said okay and that was it for her.

Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes— Robertson, Pugh, Kramer, Sandoval, Nache, Hawkinson, Boone, Weiss, Bondi, Cohen, Olinger and Friedrich— (12). Noes— Davidson---(1). Abstain---Thierry---(1). Motion carried.

***Member Kramer left at 6:46 p.m.

Motion was made by Member Bondi and seconded by Member Pugh to approve Engineering Service Agreement for Rio Township Bridge Replacement, Section 26-1606A-00-BR. Member Bondi stated that his one and the next one he is going to present are very similar and the difference is mostly the drainage structure. He read that the project is located two miles northwest in Rio, Knox and Mercer County line. Existing drainage structure was built in 1965 and is 20-foot-long single span concrete bridge. The bridge road is 20 foot wide. The existing bridge substructure consists of timber pilings and have severely deteriorated. Hutchinson Engineering has been the selected engineer. Payment for all engineering services for Hutchinson is not to exceed $56,709. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes— Robertson, Pugh, Thierry, Sandoval, Nache, Davidson, Hawkinson, Boone, Weiss, Bondi, Cohen, Olinger and Friedrich— (13). Noes— (0). Motion carried.

Member Davidson corrected Member Bondi on the pronunciation of Rio.

Member Bondi thanked Member Davidson. He said that he always appreciates the proper correction at the proper time.

Member Davidson asked about being is Rio.

Member Bondi replied that he has been in Rio.

Member Bondi said that 16A is about the same Rio Township which he pronounced both ways.

Motion was made by Member Bondi and seconded by Member Cohen to approve Engineering Service Agreement for Rio Township Bridge Replacement, Section 26-1606A-01-BR. Member Bondi read that the project is located again two miles northwest of Rio, Mercer and Knox County. The existing drainage structure built in 1965 and this is a 32-foot-long single span concrete bridge. The bridge roadway width is 20 foot. The existing substructure is consistent of timber piling and have again severely deteriorated. Hutchinson Engineering again is being

selected as the engineering company and their bid is not to exceed $60,047 and is all budgeted properly. Member Bondi ask for the Roll to be called if he pronounced everything correctly. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes— Robertson, Pugh, Thierry, Sandoval, Nache, Davidson, Hawkinson, Boone, Weiss, Bondi, Cohen, Olinger and Friedrich— (13). Noes— (0). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Bondi and seconded by Vice Chair Friedrich to approve the Bid for Maquon Township Bridge Replacement, Section 24-12250-00-BR. Member Bondi read that the project is located 5 miles southwest of Maquon on 1700 East. It is unknown when the existing structure was built. It has been closed since 2023 due to a failure of the timber pilings. The bid opening on Monday, June 15th for bridge replacement received five different bids. The low bid was submitted by Otto Baum of Morton, Illinois and the amount were $459,000. The high bid just for everyone's reference was $534,897.60. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes— Robertson, Pugh, Thierry, Sandoval, Nache, Davidson, Hawkinson, Boone, Weiss, Bondi, Cohen, Olinger and Friedrich— (13). Noes— (0). Motion carried.

Member Bondi stated that in the County Engineer Duane Ratermann's absence the new Assistant County Engineer David Horton is here if you have not had a chance to meet him. He said that he appreciates him being here and covering. He said other than his mispronunciation of Rio. He thinks he covered things.

Chair Hawkinson stated that the reports from some of the outside committees are in the packet along with the minutes if they submitted them. If anyone has a question in regards to an outside committee or their report, they should contact the Board Member that is serving on that committee and ask them directly. He made note that Ken Springer from KCAP sends his apologies and knows that he is going to be missed from his public comment. He is at another meeting out of town but he promises that he will be back next month to give a full-blown presentation.

Motion was made by Member Weiss and seconded by Member Olinger to approve Opening of Budget for Line Item Changes. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes— Robertson, Pugh, Thierry, Sandoval, Nache, Davidson, Hawkinson, Boone, Weiss, Bondi, Cohen, Olinger and Friedrich— (13). Noes— (0). Motion carried.

Chair Hawkinson said that the budget line item changes were in the packet for review. He said that there are a couple of them but not as many as we've seen in years past for the midstride of the budget. There was one on the G-drive for the salary change for the State's Attorney, Public Defender and Sheriff that was voted and approved earlier this evening as well.

Motion was made by Vice-Chair Friedrich and seconded by Member Bondi for the approval of Proposed Line Item Changes. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes— Robertson, Pugh, Thierry, Sandoval, Nache, Davidson, Hawkinson, Boone, Weiss, Bondi, Cohen, Olinger and Friedrich— (13). Noes— (0). Motion carried.

Chair Hawkinson said that the manual check review is in the board packet and on the G-drive. He said that there are five of them.

Motion was made by Member Bondi and seconded by Member Weiss to approve the claims by Members for per diem and mileage for the Committee Meetings of June 2026, Board Meeting in May 2026, and other claims for per diem from Meetings. Chair Hawkinson stated that the total was $3,370.87. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes— Robertson, Pugh, Thierry, Sandoval, Nache, Davidson, Hawkinson, Boone, Weiss, Bondi, Cohen, Olinger and Friedrich— (13). Noes— (0). Motion carried.

***Amended Total $3,380.27

Motion was made by Member Bondi and seconded by Vice-Chair Friedrich to approve the claims against Knox County, Illinois for the period of May 28, 2026 through June 24, 2026 (ordering that invoices be accepted and approved and that the County Clerk and County Treasurer be authorized and directed to issue County Warrants in payment of the bills in the aggregate amount approved by the County Board). Chair Hawkinson reported the total as $1,947,669.96. Roll call vote is recorded as follows: Ayes— Robertson, Pugh, Thierry, Sandoval, Nache, Davidson, Hawkinson, Boone, Weiss, Bondi, Cohen, Olinger and Friedrich— (13). Noes— (0). Motion carried.

The next Regular Meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 22, 2026 at 6:00 p.m., at Galesburg City Hall Council Chambers. The Zoom option is for public viewing only. Board Members will be present in person for this meeting. The Knox County YouTube channel is available for live viewing or to download and watch later.

Motion was made Member Bondi and seconded by Member Olinger to adjourn the meeting. Voice vote is recorded as follows: Ayes— Robertson, Pugh, Thierry, Sandoval, Nache, Davidson, Hawkinson, Boone, Weiss, Bondi, Cohen, Olinger and Friedrich— (13). Noes— (0). Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.