LIVINGSTON COUNTY BOARD
MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 11, 2026 MEETING OF THE COUNTY BOARD

OPENING

County Board Chair James A. Carley called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., in the County Board Room of the Historic Courthouse, 112 W. Madison, Pontiac, Illinois.

Pastor Jan Ambrose presented the invocation. Robert Weller led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

County Clerk Kristy Masching called roll with the following members **Present:** Gina Manker, Gerald L. Earing, Rebekah Fehr, Steven J. Lovell, Leroy Rodriquez, John L. Vietti, Michael Haag, Craig Monson, Linda Ambrose, Seth L. Welch, James A. Carley, Robert F. Weller, Paul A. Ritter **Absent:** Marty Fannin, William Mays, Joel Barickman, Jim Blackard, Dan Myers

Also Present: County Clerk Kristy Masching, Executive Director Alina Hartley, Executive Assistant Jordan Uselding, Sheriff Ryan Bohm, Circuit Clerk Jackie Gragson, VAC Superintendent Mike Haerr, Veteran Service Officer Patrick Unzicker, IT Support Tech Alex Sandoval

AGENDA

Chair Carley called for any changes or additions to the agenda with none requested. *Motion by Ritter, second by Lovell to approve the agenda as presented.* **MOTION CARRIED ON VOICE VOTE WITH ALL AYES.**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Carley called for approval of the meeting minutes from the January 15, 2026 meeting. *Motion by Manker, second by Weller to approve the minutes as submitted.* **MOTION CARRIED ON VOICE VOTE WITH ALL AYES.**

PRESENTATION

Presentation of VAC Annual Report: Haerr presented the Commission's 2025 Annual Report to the County Board. He explained that the Commission is structured and funded to carry out three primary functions: providing transportation for veterans who are unable to drive to BVA healthcare facilities; assisting veterans and their families with applications for earned benefits through both the BVA and IDVA; and administering emergency financial assistance to veterans in need, including support for utilities, groceries, rent, and medical supplies. Haerr informed the Board that the county is served regionally by the IDVA through the Livingston County IDVA Veteran Service Officer, Patrick Unzicker, who was hired in September 2025. Haerr thanked the Board for its continued support of his office and its commitment to serving local veterans and their families. *Motion by Vietti, second by Ritter to accept and approve the Veterans Assistance Commission's Annual Report.* **MOTION CARRIED ON VOICE VOTE WITH ALL AYES.**

Resolution (#2026-02-13): Proclamation: Supporting Creation and Implementation of Multi-Use Path Route 66: Ritter read aloud the proclamation supporting the creation and implementation of the Multi-Use Path Route 66. Ritter noted that the purpose of the proclamation is simply to show support for the project itself. Ritter expressed his pride in the PTHS students for their dedication, hard work, and continued efforts in advancing the project. *Motion by Earing, second by Manker to approve the proclamation acknowledging support from Livingston County on the multi-use path initiative.* **MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE. Ayes:** Gina Manker, Gerald L. Earing, Rebekah Fehr, Steven J. Lovell,

Leroy Rodriquez, John L. Vietti, Michael Haag, Craig Monson, Linda Ambrose, Seth L. Welch, James A. Carley, Robert F. Weller, Paul A. Ritter **Nays:** None **Absent:** Marty Fannin, William Mays, Joel Barickman, Jim Blackard, Dan Myers

APPEARANCES

N/A

CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of Bills
Appointments

- **Regional Planning Commission – Dean Wahls, Verne Taylor**
- **Board of Review – Linda Dionne, Nancy Giovanini, Sue Swartz**
- **Farmland Assessment Review – Shelby Horner, Michael Fogarty, Jeff Ifft**

Motion by Manker, second by Weller for approval of the Consent Agenda. **MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE. Ayes:** Gina Manker, Gerald L. Earing, Rebekah Fehr, Steven J. Lovell, Leroy Rodriquez, John L. Vietti, Michael Haag, Craig Monson, Linda Ambrose, Seth L. Welch, James A. Carley, Robert F. Weller, Paul A. Ritter **Nays:** None **Absent:** Marty Fannin, William Mays, Joel Barickman, Jim Blackard, Dan Myers

HIGHWAY

Letting Results: January 29, 2026 Letting
Bridge Petition: Broughton Rd. Dist. – Replace existing culvert with 2-24" ERS x 38' long precoated CMP @ 2500N, 3090E Road. Estimated Cost $10,000 Section 26-04000-00-AB
Quarterly Report: 4th Quarter FY 2025Committee Chair Steven Lovell reported that the committee did not meet this month.
Motion by Lovell, second by Ritter to approve the Highway action agenda items. **MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE. Ayes:** Gina Manker, Gerald L. Earing, Rebekah Fehr, Steven J. Lovell, Leroy Rodriquez, John L. Vietti, Michael Haag, Craig Monson, Linda Ambrose, Seth L. Welch, James A. Carley, Robert F. Weller, Paul A. Ritter **Nays:** None **Absent:** Marty Fannin, William Mays, Joel Barickman, Jim Blackard, Dan Myers

FINANCE

County Clerk Semi-Annual Report: The County Clerk's Semi-Annual Report was presented to the Board for acceptance and approval. Masching reported that mail is postmarked on the day it is processed rather than the day it is mailed, which can impact the validity of ballots. Masching reiterated that ballots must be postmarked by Election Day in order to be counted. Discussion took place regarding best practices for making the process as easy as possible for voters and ensuring they remain well-informed.
Motion by Welch, second by Haag to accept and approve the County Clerk's Semi-Annual Report.
MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE. Ayes: Gina Manker, Gerald L. Earing, Rebekah Fehr, Steven J. Lovell, Leroy Rodriquez, John L. Vietti, Michael Haag, Craig Monson, Linda Ambrose, Seth L. Welch, James A. Carley, Robert F. Weller, Paul A. Ritter **Nays:** None **Absent:** Marty Fannin, William Mays, Joel Barickman, Jim Blackard, Dan Myers

Circuit Clerk Semi-Annual Report: The Circuit Clerk's Semi-Annual Report was presented to the Board for acceptance and approval. *Motion by Haag, second by Ritter to accept and approve the Circuit Clerk's Semi-Annual Report.* **MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE. Ayes:** Gina Manker, Gerald L. Earing, Rebekah Fehr, Steven J. Lovell, Leroy Rodriquez, John L. Vietti, Michael Haag, Craig Monson, Linda Ambrose, Seth L. Welch, James A. Carley, Robert F. Weller, Paul A. Ritter **Nays:** None **Absent:** Marty Fannin, William Mays, Joel Barickman, Jim Blackard, Dan Myers

Resolution (#2026-02-14): Extending CIRBN Grant Agreement: Welch reported that the federally funded subaward agreement under ARPA is set to end on December 31, 2025. CIRBN has requested a one-year extension of this agreement. **MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE. Ayes:** *Motion by Haag, second by Ambrose to approve the resolution extending the grant agreement with CIRBN.* **MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE. Ayes:** Gina Manker, Gerald L. Earing, Rebekah Fehr, Steven J. Lovell, Leroy Rodriquez, John L. Vietti, Michael Haag, Craig Monson, Linda Ambrose, Seth L. Welch, James A. Carley, Robert F. Weller, Paul A. Ritter **Nays:** None **Absent:** Marty Fannin, William Mays, Joel Barickman, Jim Blackard, Dan Myers

SHERIFF, JAIL & LICENSE

Sheriff's Semi-Annual Report: The Sheriff's Semi-Annual Report was presented to the Board for acceptance and approval. *Motion by Weller, second by Earing to accept and approve the Sheriff's Semi-Annual Report.* **MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE. Ayes:** Gina Manker, Gerald L. Earing, Rebekah Fehr, Steven J. Lovell, Leroy Rodriquez, John L. Vietti, Michael Haag, Craig Monson, Linda Ambrose, Seth L. Welch, James A. Carley, Robert F. Weller, Paul A. Ritter **Nays:** None **Absent:** Marty Fannin, William Mays, Joel Barickman, Jim Blackard, Dan Myers

Resolution (#2026-02-15): Authorizing Illinois Emergency Management Mutual Aid System Agreement: Weller reported that this is a standard resolution authorizing the County's participation as a member of the Illinois Emergency Management Mutual Aid System. The resolution allows for response pursuant to an Intergovernmental Agreement establishing a mutual aid service arrangement. *Motion by Weller, second by Ritter to approve the resolution authorizing the Illinois Emergency Management Mutual Aid System Agreement.* **MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE. Ayes:** Gina Manker, Gerald L. Earing, Rebekah Fehr, Steven J. Lovell, Leroy Rodriquez, John L. Vietti, Michael Haag, Craig Monson, Linda Ambrose, Seth L. Welch, James A. Carley, Robert F. Weller, Paul A. Ritter **Nays:** None **Absent:** Marty Fannin, William Mays, Joel Barickman, Jim Blackard, Dan Myers

Chair Carley reported that the Sheriff's Department has received new tasers. Carley noted that he and other members have completed virtual training on the devices, and stated that the tasers will be a valuable investment for the department.

ADMINISTRATIVE

Resolution (#2026-02-16): Authorizing Vice-Chair to Act in Absence of Chair: Carley reported that he will be out for the month of March and in his absence, Vice-Chair Lovell will assume his duties. *Motion by Weller, second by Earing to approve the resolution authorizing the Vice-Chair to act in absence of the Chair.* **MOTION CARRIED ON VOICE VOTE WITH ALL**

AGRICULTURE & ZONING

Committee Chair Michael Haag reported there will be a Special Meeting on February 19, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. in regards to the Ordinance Amendments, noting Attorney Keyt will be present.

PUBLIC PROPERTY

Committee Chair Gerald Earing reported that the Historic Courthouse Roof Project is progressing and expressed hope that no further unanticipated repairs will be needed.

RULES, LEGISLATION, VETERANS, AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

Committee Chair Jack Vietti had nothing to report.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Committee Chair Gina Manker reported that the committee did not meet.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The floor was open for public comment.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

N/A

ACTION RESULTING FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

N/A

COMMUNICATION & ANNOUNCEMENTS

N/A

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:54 p.m. on motion by Vietti, second by Haag. **MOTION CARRIED ON VOICE VOTE.**

James A. Carley, Chair

Attest:

Jordan E. Uselding
Executive Assistant,
On behalf of County Clerk, Kristy Masching