

JO DAVIESS COUNTY
COUNTY BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 14, 2025

I. Call to Order

Jo Daviess County Chairperson LaDon Trost called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, October 14, 2025 in the Jo Daviess County Board Room, Jo Daviess County Administrative Offices in Galena, Illinois.

II. Roll Call

Roll Call was answered as follows: Present – Dianne Allendorf, Jacob Ambrosia, Daisha Boehm, John Creighton, Michael Dittmar, Steve Endress, Diane Gallagher, John Grizzoffi, Joseph Heitkamp, Robert Heuerman, Michael Holt, John Lang, Logan Noe, John Schultz, LaDon Trost. Present: 15. Absent – Peggy Bastian, Lynn Gallagher. Absent: 2.

III. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairperson Trost.

IV. Invocation & Thought for the Day

The Invocation and Thought for the Day was given by Joseph Heitkamp.

V. Consent Agenda

A motion to approve the Consent Agenda was made by Dianne Allendorf and seconded by John Schultz.

The motion carried roll call vote. Ayes – Dianne Allendorf, Jacob Ambrosia, Daisha Boehm, John Creighton, Michael Dittmar, Steve Endress, Diane Gallagher, John Grizzoffi, Joseph Heitkamp, Robert Heuerman, Michael Holt, John Lang, Logan Noe, John Schultz, LaDon Trost. Ayes: 15. Nays – None. Nays: 0. Absent – Peggy Bastian, Lynn Gallagher. Absent: 2.

A. Minutes Approval

1. Ad-Hoc Community Growth Committee final meeting minutes from September 8, 2025
2. County Board meeting minutes from the September 9, 2025 County Board Meeting
3. County Board meeting minutes from the September 30, 2025 Special County Board Budget Workshop #1 meeting
4. County Board meeting minutes from the October 7, 2025 Special County Board Budget Workshop #2 meeting

B. Appointments/Resignations

C. Contracts/Agreements/Petitions

D. Ordinances/Resolutions/Proclamations

E. Reports/Correspondence

1. August 2025 Galena Country Tourism Reports
2. Thank-You letter from Riverview Center
3. September 2025 County Clerk & Recorder Financial Report
4. September 2025 Pending State's Attorney Cases
5. Letter from Mike Rizzo, Whiteside County, regarding JCE Co-op
6. City of Galena-Certificate of Occupancy for 330 N. Bench Street

F. Claims

1. Claims approval in the amount of **\$2,148,249.82** as follows:
 - i. **\$1,660,845.67** (Regular Claims)
 - ii. **\$42,169.76** (Claims associated w/ LIT's)
 - iii. **\$46,128.42** (Claims associated w/ IFT's)
 - iv. **\$110,321.22** (GGMI Hotel/Motel Tax Reimbursement)
 - v. **\$267,368.05** (Special Service Area Providers)

\$62,490.20 - SSA #1 to Warren Area Ambulance Service, Inc.

\$121,509.81 - SSA #6 to Galena Area Emergency Medical Service

\$83,368.04 - SSA #7 to Elizabeth Community Ambulance Service

- vi. **\$14,000.00** Economic Development 1st Time Homebuyer Loan
- vii. **\$7,416.70** (Over Budget Claims)

G. FY2025 Line Item Transfers over \$500.00:

1. **\$1,232.69** from 001-40103-601 Maintenance Supplies to 001-40103-810 Equipment
2. **\$710.00** from 001-45163-501 Education & Training to 001-45163-402 Salaries - Per Diem
3. **\$1,000.00** from 001-45163-704 Telephone to 001-45163-451 Mileage
4. **\$7,688.14** from 001-41121-611 Fuel to 001-41121-501 Education & Training
5. **\$8,303.52** from 001-41121-611 Fuel to 001-41121-701 Maintenance Service
6. **\$806.25** from 001-41121-611 Fuel to 001-41121-725 Union Legal Services
7. **\$5,087.82** from 001-41122-719 Other Service Charges to 001-41122-441 Uniforms
8. **\$551.34** from 001-41124-905 Miscellaneous to 001-41124-441 Uniforms

9. **\$8,925.97** from 001-41123-719 Other Service Charges to 001-41123-701 Maintenance Service
10. **\$4,500.00** from 001-41123-725 Union Legal Services to 001-41123-701 Maintenance Service
11. **\$1,701.24** from 001-41123-501 Education & Training to 001-41123-701 Maintenance Service

End of Consent Agenda

VI. Citizens' Comments

Ron Babcock, 41 Cemetery Ridge Rd., Galena, a representative of the Civic Affairs Commission of the Galena Territory and Trustee of the Guildford Township, thanked the County for their help in reducing speeding and for help on building the new bridge on Guilford Rd. Babcock also looks forward to working with the County on the two upcoming bridge projects.

VII. Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business brought before the board at this time.

VIII. New Business & Committee Reports

A. Discussion and possible action to approve an Ordinance to Amend the Jo Daviess County Code of Ordinances Title 5 Public Health & Safety, Chapter 11 Open Burning

A motion to approve an Ordinance to Amend the Jo Daviess County Code of Ordinances Title 5 Public Health & Safety, Chapter 11 Open Burning was made by LaDon Trost and seconded by Diane Gallagher.

The motion carried by roll call vote. Ayes – Dianne Allendorf, Jacob Ambrosia, Daisha Boehm, John Creighton, Michael Dittmar, Steve Endress, John Grizzoffi, Michael Holt, John Lang, Logan Noe, John Schultz, LaDon Trost. Ayes: 12. Nays – Diane Gallagher, Joseph Heitkamp, Robert Heuerman. Nays: 3. Absent – Peggy Bastian, Lynn Gallagher. Absent: 2.

B. Public Works

The committee had no business to bring before the board.

C. Law & Courts

1. Consideration of a recommendation to approve a Consultant Agreement with AEC, LLC to provide professional services to update the Jo Daviess County Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) in connection with a planning grant awarded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) (*Recommendation of the Law & Courts Committee meeting held on September 15, 2025*)

A committee motion to approve a Consultant Agreement with AEC, LLC to provide professional services to update the Jo Daviess County Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) in connection with a planning grant awarded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) was seconded by Dianne Allendorf.

The motion carried by voice vote.

At this time, Chairperson Trost asked Michael Willis, Jo Daviess County EMA Coordinator, to give an update on the train derailment that happened on October 9, 2025.

D. Finance

1. The fund balance for the Contingency Fund (016) on August 31, 2025 is **\$633,348.66**

John Lang left the meeting at this time.

2. Consideration of a recommendation to approve a contract with CivicPlus for their Standard Website Package including all WCAG mandated tools in the amount of \$23,170.30 to be paid from the Contingency Fund, line item 016-49197-905
(Recommendation of the Finance, Tax, & Budgets Committee meeting held on September 22, 2025)

If Item VIII.D.2. is approved, the adjusted claims total paid for October 2025 will be \$2,171,420.12.

A committee motion to approve a contract with CivicPlus for their Standard Website Package including all WCAG mandated tools in the amount of \$23,170.30 to be paid from the Contingency Fund, line item 016-49197-905 was seconded by John Schultz.

The motion carried by voice vote.

The adjusted claims total paid for October 2025 will be \$2,171,420.12

3. Consideration of a recommendation to approve the renewal of FY2026 Property & Casualty Insurance and Workers Compensation Insurance with Illinois Counties Risk Management Trust (ICRMT); total annual premium \$552,188 *(Recommendation of the Finance, Tax, & Budgets Committee meeting held on September 25, 2025)*

A committee motion to approve the renewal of FY2026 Property & Casualty Insurance and Workers Compensation Insurance with Illinois Counties Risk Management Trust (ICRMT); total annual premium \$552,188 was seconded by John Schultz.

The motion carried by voice vote.

John Lang returned to the meeting at this time.

4. Consideration of a recommendation to approve an audit engagement letter with Lauterbach & Amen, LLP for the audit of Section 5311 and CARES Act Section 5311 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025 *(Recommendation of the Finance, Tax, & Budgets Committee meeting held on September 25, 2025)*

A committee motion to approve an audit engagement letter with Lauterbach & Amen, LLP for the audit of Section 5311 and CARES Act Section 5311 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025 was seconded by John Schultz.

The motion carried by voice vote.

5. Consideration of a recommendation to approve an engagement letter with Lauterbach & Amen, LLP to review compliance with the requirements related to the use of the Illinois Downstate Operating Assistance Program (IDOAP) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025 (*Recommendation of the Finance, Tax, & Budgets Committee meeting held on September 25, 2025*)

A committee motion to approve an engagement letter with Lauterbach & Amen, LLP to review compliance with the requirements related to the use of the Illinois Downstate Operating Assistance Program (IDOAP) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025 was seconded by John Schultz.

The motion carried by voice vote.

6. Consideration of a recommendation to approve a resolution to execute a deed of conveyance of County's interest in parcel 08-201-053-00 in Guilford Township to Joyce Ann Calma (*Recommendation of the Finance, Tax, & Budgets Committee meeting held on September 25, 2025*)

A committee motion to approve a resolution to execute a deed of conveyance of County's interest in parcel 08-201-053-00 in Guilford Township to Joyce Ann Calma was seconded by John Schultz.

The motion carried by roll call vote. Ayes – Dianne Allendorf, Jacob Ambrosia, Daisha Boehm, John Creighton, Michael Dittmar, Steve Endress, Diane Gallagher, John Grizzoffi, Joseph Heitkamp, Robert Heuerman, Michael Holt, John Lang, Logan Noe, John Schultz, LaDon Trost. Ayes: 15. Nays – None. Nays: 0. Absent – Peggy Bastian, Lynn Gallagher. Absent: 2.

7. Consideration of a recommendation to approve a resolution to execute a deed of conveyance of County's interest in parcel 05-504-630-03 in Dunleith Township to Marco Sawires (*Recommendation of the Finance, Tax, & Budgets Committee meeting held on September 25, 2025*)

A committee motion to approve a resolution to execute a deed of conveyance of County's interest in parcel 05-504-630-03 in Dunleith Township to Marco Sawires was seconded by John Schultz.

The motion carried by roll call vote. Ayes – Dianne Allendorf, Jacob Ambrosia, Daisha Boehm, John Creighton, Michael Dittmar, Steve Endress, Diane Gallagher, John Grizzoffi, Joseph Heitkamp, Robert Heuerman, Michael Holt, John Lang, Logan Noe, John Schultz, LaDon Trost. Ayes: 15. Nays – None. Nays: 0. Absent – Peggy Bastian, Lynn Gallagher. Absent: 2.

E. Planning Commission/Building Code of Appeals

1. Discussion and possible action to approve a Special Use Permit (Case No 25-40) for Hania L Watson 2022 Revocable Trust Agreement (Hania L Watson, Trustee; 2237 JoAnn Dr, Dubuque, IA) to permit the construction of a single-family residence on a property containing fewer than 40-acres (5.77-acres) in an Agricultural (AG) Zone. Property located at: 4565 NE Miner RD, Galena, IL.

A motion to approve a Special Use Permit (Case No 25-40) for Hania L Watson 2022 Revocable Trust Agreement (Hania L Watson, Trustee; 2237 JoAnn Dr, Dubuque, IA) to permit the construction of a single-family residence on a property containing fewer than 40-acres (5.77-acres) in an Agricultural (AG) Zone. Property located at: 4565 NE Miner RD, Galena, IL. was made by Diane Gallagher and seconded by John Grizzoffi.

The motion carried by roll call vote. Ayes – Dianne Allendorf, Jacob Ambrosia, Daisha Boehm, John

Creighton, Michael Dittmar, Steve Endress, Diane Gallagher, John Grizzoffi, Joseph Heitkamp, Robert Heuerman, Michael Holt, John Lang, Logan Noe, John Schultz, LaDon Trost. Ayes: 15. Nays – None. Nays: 0. Absent – Peggy Bastian, Lynn Gallagher. Absent: 2.

F. Development & Planning

The committee had no business to bring before the board.

G. Legislative

The committee had no business to bring before the board.

H. Social & Environmental

The committee had no business to bring before the board.

I. Executive

1. Consideration of a recommendation to approve an electrical aggregation program with Dynegy at a rate of 8.67 cents per kw for a term of 28 months pending State's Attorney contract review (*Recommendation of the Executive Committee meeting held on October 6, 2025*)

A motion to approve an electrical aggregation program with Dynegy at a rate of 8.67 cents per kw for a term of 28 months pending State's Attorney contract review was made by John Creighton and seconded by John Schultz.

An amended motion to approve an electrical aggregation program with Dynegy at a rate of 8.65 cents per kw for a term of 28 months pending State's Attorney contract review was made by John Schultz and seconded by John Lang.

The motion carried by voice vote.

J. Information & Technology

The committee had no business to bring before the board.

IX. Other Committees & Boards

John Creighton gave a brief update on the Ad-Hoc Zoning Committee. They are close to the end of the process and happy with discussions that have been held. Creighton asked that if board members have any issues in the world of zoning, to please participate in the meetings.

X. Citizens' Comments

At this time, Chairperson Trost exercised his prerogative and moved to citizens' comments.

Michael Rizzo, PO Box 256, Glenville, IL spoke in regard to the letter he submitted in the consent agenda.

XI. Closed Session

A motion to enter closed session at 8:24 p.m. was made by Dianne Allendorf and seconded by Diane Gallagher to discuss:

"The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific

employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity.”

The motion carried by roll call vote. Ayes – Dianne Allendorf, Jacob Ambrosia, Daisha Boehm, John Creighton, Michael Dittmar, Steve Endress, Diane Gallagher, John Grizzoffi, Joseph Heitkamp, Robert Heuerman, Michael Holt, John Lang, Logan Noe, John Schultz, LaDon Trost. Ayes: 15. Nays – None. Absent: 0. Absent – Peggy Bastian, Lynn Gallagher. Absent: 2.

XII. Reconvene to Open Session

The board reconvened at 8:46 p.m. following a motion vote by Michael Dittmar and seconded by John Schultz.

The motion carried by roll call vote. Ayes – Dianne Allendorf, Jacob Ambrosia, Daisha Boehm, John Creighton, Michael Dittmar, Steve Endress, Diane Gallagher, John Grizzoffi, Joseph Heitkamp, Robert Heuerman, Michael Holt, John Lang, Logan Noe, John Schultz, LaDon Trost. Ayes: 15. Nays – None. Absent: 0. Absent – Peggy Bastian, Lynn Gallagher. Absent: 2.

XIII. Possible Actions as a Result of Closed Session

There was no action as a result of closed session.

XV. Board Member Concerns

Joseph Heitkamp feels after reviewing the minutes of the Ad-Hoc Growth that there will be some controversy and hopes they get time to discuss it.

Jacob Ambrosia received another call about a township assessor. Ambrosia also asked how you get a fire number/address number and if the property has to have a structure to get one.

Michael Dittmar asked if board members can be notified when big events happen in the county.

XIV. Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made by Michael Dittmar and seconded by John Lang.

The motion carried by voice vote.

Chairperson Trost adjourned the meeting at 8:54 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. Monday, November 10, 2025 at the Jo Daviess County Board Room, Jo Daviess County Courthouse in Galena, Illinois.



Dana Timmerman, County Clerk