

**Richland County Board
Special Meeting
November 25, 2025**

Convene

Sheriff Andrew Hires called the special meeting of the Richland County Board to order at 7:00pm on November 25, 2025, in the Jail Meeting Room. The meeting was proclaimed open, the Pledge of Allegiance recited, and prayer was led by Brian VanBlaricum.

Attendance: Dennis Graves, Present; Cindy Given, Present; Morgan Henton, Present; Travis Paddock, Present; Steve Schonert, Present; Alexis McFarland, Present; Brian VanBlaricum, Present.

Open

Mr. Simpson was in attendance to invite the county board to the open house of the new Health Professions Center located at Olney Central College campus set for December 11, 2025, and thank the board for their support.

Motion/Vote - Finance

Steve Schonert discussed the end of year claims and made a motion to approve as presented. Cindy Given seconded the motion. The roll call was as follows; Brian VanBlaricum, yes; Dennis Graves, yes; Alexis McFarland, yes; Cindy Given, yes; Morgan Henton, yes; Steve Schonert, yes; Travis Paddock, yes. Motion carried.

Mr. Schonert mentioned that on the agenda, it states that a transfer of \$425,000 of general fund revenue to Capitol Projects Fund, should be \$450,000. As of end of fiscal year 2025, the county has \$3,017,050 in the bank. Some of the departments did not spend their budget, which left more money than originally projected. Mr. Schonert then made a motion to transfer \$450,000 as budgeted into the Capitol Projects Fund before the end of FY2025. Cindy Given seconded the motion. The roll call was as follows; Brian VanBlaricum, yes; Dennis Graves, yes; Alexis McFarland, yes; Cindy Given, yes; Morgan Henton, yes; Steve Schonert, yes; Travis Paddock, yes. Motion carried.

Mr. Schonert explained that the general fund stayed within budget. The special revenue fund did go over budget. Public safety exceeded \$40,564.79 because of Health and Life Insurance that did not get included in original budget. Forfeiture account because of new radios, opioid settlement used \$44,000 to the ROSC program. All are special funds, not coming out of county general.

Mr. Schonert discussed the budgeted \$200,000 to support the move to new building for the County Health Office. \$50,500 is remaining that has not been spent and is included in the budget for FY2026. Also, Judge Vaughn had, in the past, \$5000 to handle mental health counseling that is not included in grants. Judge Morgan thought that the \$5000 would still be adequate, so that was added into 01-08 Circuit Court fund. The new budget is showing a

\$349,617 net deficit, including \$225,000 in a contingency fund. Mr. Schonert said that the finance committee feels this is a conservative budget.

Morgan Henton asked about the \$50,500 for the Health Office. Mr. Schonert explained that it is just the remaining balance that is being brought over from the FY2025 budget into the FY2026 budget rather than the health office rushing to spend the funds.

Mr. Schonert then made a motion to approve the FY2026 Budget as presented. Mr. Henton seconded the motion. The roll call was as follows; Brian VanBlaricum, yes; Dennis Graves, yes; Alexis McFarland, yes; Cindy Given, yes; Morgan Henton, yes; Steve Schonert, yes; Travis Paddock, yes. Motion carried.

Mr. Schonert discussed the Capital Projects Fund of \$450,000. The fund is for future projects such as squad cars, dump truck, backhoe, etc. Mr. Schonert then made a motion to approve the Capital Projects Budget for the year 2026. Mr. Henton seconded the motion. The roll call was as follows; Brian VanBlaricum, yes; Dennis Graves, yes; Alexis McFarland, yes; Cindy Given, yes; Morgan Henton, yes; Steve Schonert, yes; Travis Paddock, yes. Motion carried.

New Business

Mr. Schonert made a motion to approve the County Trustee Resolution Quit Claim Deed for 11-04-250-038. Mr. Graves seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Adjournment

Ms. Given made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mrs. McFarland seconded the motion. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:33 PM.

Amanda Troyer
County Clerk

Travis Paddock
County Board Chairman