

Richland County Board
February 10, 2026

Convene

Morgan Henton called the meeting of the Richland County Board to order at 7:00pm on February 10, 2026, in the Jail Meeting Room. The meeting was proclaimed open, the Pledge of Allegiance recited, and prayer was led by Morgan Henton. Attendance: Cindy Given, Present; Morgan Henton, Present; Travis Paddock, Present (phone); Steve Schonert, Present; Alexis McFarland, Present; Dennis Graves, Present; Brian VanBlaricum, Absent.

Changes/Approval of Agenda

Cindy Given made a motion to approve the agenda. Alexis McFarland seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Information, Correspondence, Upcoming Meetings

911 meets on Wednesday February 25th at 9am at the Fire Station. Jeds will meet on February 11th at 10am in jail meeting room.

Motion/Vote - Consent Agenda

Cindy Given made a motion to approve all items under the consent agenda. Dennis Graves seconded the motion. Items approved were the minutes from January 8, 2026, for County Board, February 5, 2026, for Road and Bridge meeting, December 10, 2025, for 911 ETSB meeting; the county officer reports; St. Joseph Parish – Stringtown liquor license for March 14, 2026; Recognizing Discover Downstate Illinois Tourism as a state certified tourism bureau for fiscal year 2027; \$15,000 grant payment to Noble Wakefield Fire (payment 9 of 10); IDOT Resolution for Maintenance; Funding agreement for State participation with location map; Illinois Emergency management mutual aid system agreement resolution; Berryville Vineyards annual liquor license renewal.

Motion/Vote - Finance Committee

Steve Schonert discussed the claims totaling \$89,962.76 county and \$294,076.64 non-county. Mr. Schonert then made a motion to approve the claims. Cindy Given seconded the motion. The roll call was as follows; Alexis McFarland, yes; Cindy Given, yes; Morgan Henton, yes; Steve Schonert, yes; Travis Paddock, yes. Dennis Graves, yes. Motion carried.

Sheriff's Report

Nothing to Report

State's Attorney Report

Nothing to Report

Highway Business

County Engineer Dan Colwell discussed the Wetland project, stating that the State of Illinois will reimburse for the project and the 10% down payment. Dennis Graves made a motion to approve the Mitigation Credit Reservation and Purchase Agreement for CH14 Bridge Wetlands. Steve Schonert seconded the motion, adding that it was all discussed in the finance meeting. Motion carried.

Board Committee Reports

IT. Motion/Vote

Corey McDonald discussed the need for new battery backup at RCSO. The batteries failed the last time there was a power outage. Corey received a quote for \$36,211. Cindy Given stated that 911 could take up to \$2,500 out of the contingency fund. Mr. Schonert made a motion to approve the purchase of new battery backups. Ms. Given seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mr. McDonald discussed Archive Social moving forward, but he would need clarification on where the funding is being pulled from. Discuss more in March possibly. Mr. McDonald then discussed the issues with the wireless at the Highway Department. It is a possibility to use the OPD radio tower and have an antenna to the Highway Department as well as Animal Control and the county buildings will all be on the same high-speed connection. Discuss more in March as well. Mr. Colwell stated that having the high-speed connection would be a huge benefit to them.

The website has around 3,200 users.

Adjournment

Cindy Give made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dennis Graves seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 7:14 PM.

Amanda Troyer
County Clerk

Morgan Henton
County Board Vice Chairman