

June 10th, 2025 Stark County Board Meeting Minutes

The Stark County Board met in the Courthouse for the June 10th board meeting at 6:30 pm. Chair Bush called the meeting to order. Roll call shows Howes, Schaffer, Loane, Orwig, Nowlan, and Bush present. Absent were Wilson and Shipp. A quorum was established. Chair Bush led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Nowlan made a motion to approve the agenda with a second from Howes, with all present voting aye, motion carried.

No Public Comment.

Motion made by Loane with a second from Nowlan to approve the minutes from the May 13th board meeting with 5 ayes and 1 abstaining, motion carried.

Committee Reports

Police-A police committee meeting was held before the board meeting. The subjects covered include the budget and courthouse repairs.

Legislative-The state passed the FY26 budget. There were several bills introduced, but they did not make it out of committee.

Economic Development-None

Health Board-None

Road & Bridge- None

County Highway/Administrative Offices Building-None

Finance-The monthly bills were presented for approval. After discussion, a motion was made by Loane with a second by Orwig to approve payment of the bills, with all present voting aye, motion carried.

At 6:34 pm, board member Wilson entered the meeting.

Henry/Stark Health Department

Duane Stevens, administrator of the Henry/Stark Health Department, addressed the board. He presented the 2024 Annual Report and briefly went over some of the stats within the report. He gave an update on several programs and the pharmacy. Everything is in place to open the pharmacy; they are just waiting for licensure from the State. The health department would like to increase the amount of funding that comes from the county. Right now, Stark pays \$2.59 per resident, which totals approximately \$14,000. Ideally, the amount would be closer to 26,000. Compared to what other counties pay to their regional health departments, Stark is the lowest. The board will consider this during budget preparations later this year.

At 6:53pm, board member Shipp entered the meeting.

Highway Report

Engineer Giffin gave his monthly report. New signage has been installed around the county. They are

larger and easier to read. There has been patching on various roads in the county. The FY24 bid aggregate program is complete. Bridge inspections are nearing completion. Work continues on finalizing the new building.

Finance Report

Treasurer Leezer gave her monthly report. Due to May having 3 pay periods, every department is showing an overage of salaries. Computer support is high due to the annual QuickBooks renewal. To date, over 10.5 million has been collected in real estate taxes. The first disbursement to all taxing bodies will be sent on July 2nd. Due to recent power outages that affected the courthouse, she asked the board to consider putting in a generator.

Sheriff's Report

Sheriff Sloan gave the sheriff's report. Deputy Bent has done several needed repairs to the courthouse facilities. A memorial plaque that is falling on the front of the courthouse is going to need some extensive repairs. There were issues with the E911 building generator not working properly during the last power outage. The other generator for the jail did operate during the power outage. They were able to send one of the dispatchers to Bartonville to keep things running smoothly. Ameren Illinois came out and tested both generators, and it appears to be working now.

At 7:35 pm, board member Nowlan made a motion to adjourn into a closed session to discuss the purchase of real property. Orwig seconded the motion with all in favor. The open session is now closed.

At 8:12 pm, the meeting was reopened.

New Business

- 1) The county engineer requested that the county hire Atelier Architectural to render plans for a new highway building. Motion made by Orwig to approve retaining Atelier Architectural, with a second from Howes, with all present voting aye, motion carried.

Old Business

No action was taken on the old business item.

At 8:14 pm, Nowlan made a motion to adjourn the meeting with a second from Howes, with all present voting aye, meeting **adjourned**.

Respectfully submitted,
Heather L. Hollis, County Clerk