

June 9th, 2026 Stark County Board Meeting Minutes

The Stark County Board met in the Stark County Courthouse for the June 9th board meeting at 6:30 pm. Chair Bush called the meeting to order. Roll call shows Howes, Schaffer, Loane, Wilson, Orwig, Shipp, Nowlan, and Bush present. A quorum was established, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

No public comment.

Motion made by Shipp with a second from Howes to approve the minutes from the May 12th board meeting, with all present voting aye, motion carried.

Committee Reports

Police-Chair Schaffer reported on the police committee meeting that was held before tonight's board meeting. Items discussed were doors for the Sheriff's Office, courthouse repairs, and the Axon cameras.

Legislative-Howes informed the board that he has been attending informational meetings on data centers and would like the county to put this item on the radar for future discussion on what direction the county wants to take on this matter.

Economic Development-None.

Health Department-Chair Bush reported they still have a vacancy on the Health Board to fill, and they are looking for a Physician Assistant for the Toulon facility.

Road & Bridge-None.

Wind Farm Road Preservation Subcommittee-There was a committee meeting on Wednesday, June 3rd and plan to meet again in August or September.

County Highway/Administrative Offices Building-None.

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

NCICG

Kevin Lindeman and Pam Paden from the North Central Illinois Council of Governments joined the meeting via Zoom. They gave an update on the DECO grant they are administering on behalf of the county to help cover the costs for the county highway building upgrade. They also gave an update on the solid waste plan they are preparing for the county.

Highway Report

None.

Finance Report

Treasurer Leezer gave her monthly report. The first installment of taxes was due on June 1st, and to date 10.2 million has been collected. The first disbursement will go out on July 1st. All departments were over budget on salaries due to May having three pay periods. Due to the retirement of a long-time deputy, the Sheriff's office salaries were over budget.

Sheriff's Report

Sheriff Demetreon gave an update on the Axon cameras contract. Three squad cars are completely outfitted, and three more will be done this week. One of the squad cars was deemed totaled by the insurance agency due to hail damage, and a replacement squad car has been purchased. There will also need to be repairs to some of the facilities due to the hailstorm. He also informed the board that he is wanting to terminate the joint ETSB agreement with Peoria County and is exploring an agreement with Henry County.

New Business

- 1) An agreement with NCICG to administer the DECO grant on behalf of the county was presented for approval. Motion made by Shipp to approve the agreement, with a second from Nowlan, with all present voting aye, motion carried.
- 2) A letter to approve the extension of the annual Circuit Clerk audit was presented for approval. Circuit Clerk Julie Kenney informed the board that the auditing firm did not complete the audit by the May 31st deadline. To get an extension, it would need board approval. Motion made by Shipp to approve the extension, with a second from Nowlan, with all present voting aye, motion carried.
- 3) Architectural plans for the renovations at the new county highway facility in Bradford were presented by board member Wilson.

At 7:48 pm, Nowlan made a motion to adjourn the meeting with a second from Loane, with all present voting aye; the meeting **adjourned**.

Respectfully submitted,
Heather L. Hollis, County Clerk