

July 14th, 2026 Stark County Board Meeting Minutes

The Stark County Board met in the Stark County Courthouse for the July 14th board meeting at 6:30 pm. Chair Bush called the meeting to order. Roll call showed Howes, Schaffer, Loane, Wilson, Shipp, Nowlan, and Bush present. Absent was Orwig. A quorum was established, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

No public comment.

Motion made by Loane with a second from Shipp to approve the minutes from the June 9th finance committee meeting, with all present voting aye; motion carried.

Motion made by Nowlan with a second from Shipp to approve the minutes from the June 9th board meeting, with all present voting aye; motion carried.

Committee Reports

Police-None.

Legislative-None.

Economic Development-None.

Health Board-Toulon clinic is doing well, but the pharmacy traffic has been slow. There will be a booth at the Stark County fair for outreach.

Road & Bridge-None.

Wind Farm Road Preservation Subcommittee-None.

County Highway/Administrative Offices Building-None.

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

Henry County ETSB 911 System Director

Matt Swanson presented a draft of an intergovernmental agreement with Henry County for a Joint Emergency Telephone System for E911. The plan will also be presented to the Henry County Board, and both boards will need to approve the agreement. A final draft of this proposal will be presented for approval at the next board meeting.

Highway Report

Engineer Giffin gave the highway report and presented his budget for the next fiscal year. Work on the Valley bridge is complete; the shed at the Toulon facility has been moved, and work continues at the new facility in Bradford. Two bridges in Essex Township will be getting upgrades. Work continues on the road use agreement for the wind turbine project.

Finance Report

Treasurer Leezer gave her monthly report. Approximately 9.1 million in property tax dollars have been distributed to the taxing districts. The online payment system for property taxes is really taking off. Animal Control salaries and Highway Department outside services were over budget.

Sheriff's Report

Sheriff Demetreon informed the board that the air conditioning unit in the courthouse is going to need extensive repairs. He is waiting on an estimate. He is also looking at a grant to replace the lighting in the courtroom.

New Business

- 1) The County is planning to change auditing firms and requested bids from two firms that provide auditing services to neighboring counties. Bids were received from Hopkins & Associates and Lauterbach & Amen. Motion made by Shipp to accept the lowest bid of \$39,500 for Hopkins & Associates, with a second from Nowlan, with all present voting aye, motion carried.
- 2) A resolution setting the salaries of the county board was presented. The salaries will remain at \$100 for county board members and \$150 for the board chair per meeting. An additional payment of \$50 for attending committee meetings was presented. However, if a committee meeting immediately precedes a regularly scheduled board meeting, then the compensation will be \$25. Motion made by Shipp to approve the resolution with the agreed-upon changes, with a second from Wilson, with all present voting aye, motion carried.
- 3) A resolution to authorize Sheriff Demetreon and E911 Coordinator Joe Charvet to make changes to the Visa account was presented for approval. Motion made by Howes to approve the resolution, with a second from Shipp, with all present voting aye, motion carried.
- 4) A resolution to designate the county FOIA officer with compensation was presented for approval. Motion made by Howes to appoint County Clerk & Recorder Heather Hollis as the FOIA officer with a compensation amount of \$2500, with a second from Nowlan. During discussion, board member Wilson thought it should be higher. Board member Howes amended his motion to change the amount to \$3600, with a second from Nowlan, with all present voting aye; motion carried.

At 7:44 pm, Shipp made a motion to adjourn the meeting with a second from Nowlan, with all present voting aye; the meeting **adjourned**.

Respectfully submitted,
Heather L. Hollis, County Clerk