

August 11th, 2026 Stark County Board Meeting Minutes

The Stark County Board met in the Stark County Courthouse for the August 11th board meeting at 6:30 pm. Chair Bush called the meeting to order. Roll call showed Howes, Schaffer, Loane, Orwig, Shipp, Nowlan, and Bush present. Absent was Wilson. A quorum was established, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

No public comment.

Motion made by Shipp with a second from Nowlan to approve the minutes from the July 14th board meeting, with six ayes and one abstention; motion carried.

Committee Reports

Police-None.

Legislative-Chair Bush attended the 2026 Edgar Fellows program in Champaign. She brought materials from the meeting to share with the board. Board Member Howes attended the UCCI conference in Galena.

Economic Development-None.

Health Board-The Health Department is facing budget issues as federal grant funding has been significantly reduced by the federal government. A budget has been passed for the upcoming fiscal year.

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.

SCCI

Jon Knoblauch and Brett Elliot from SCCI gave an update to the board on how the program is going and how the money provided by the county is being utilized. Updates were given on the Toulon Ridge Subdivision, new members, and the upcoming Cruise-In.

Apex Update

Shelley Schwab gave the board members an update on the status of the Goldrush Apple Energy wind farm. She discussed the next phases and touched on some potential changes in the permitting process depending on how the project progresses.

Highway Report

Concrete has been poured at the Toulon facility to finish the relocation of the salt shed. The wash bay concrete at the Bradford facility has been poured as well. An agreement has been made with Tazewell County to purchase a truck for \$75,000. A surprise inspection from OSHA resulted in a violation for not having completed 300 Logs and Material Safety Data Sheets on file. The staff will undergo training on both violations. The highway bills were late and did not get approved during the regular portion of the meeting. Motion made by Shipp to approve the highway bills, with a second from Nowlan, with all voting aye; motion carried.

Finance Report

None

Sheriff's Report

None

New Business

- 1) The bi-annual resolution for the retention of closed session meeting minutes was presented for approval. Motion made by Shipp to approve the resolution, with a second from Howes, with all present voting aye, motion carried.
- 2) A special use permit for Mitch Hulseby was presented for approval. Motion made by Orwig to approve the permit, with a second from Loane, with all present voting aye, motion carried.

At 7:50 pm, Shipp 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