Montgomery County Board Minutes For Tuesday, October 14, 2025 – 5:30 PM

The following are minutes of a regular meeting of the Montgomery County Board held at 5:30 p.m. at the Montgomery County Farm Bureau in Hillsboro, Illinois, on Tuesday, October 14, 2025. The meeting was called to order by County Board Vice Chairwoman Dr. Patty Whitworth at 5:30 p.m.

Roll call was taken – 13 members present, 1 member absent.

Members Present: Russell Beason, Connie Beck, Bill Bergen, Rob Corso, Chris Daniels, Keith Hancock, Mark Hughes, Jeremy Jones, Ethan Murzynski, Andy Ritchie, Chad Ruppert, Patty Whitworth, Evan Young

Members Absent: Doug Donaldson

Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was led by member Chad Ruppert.

Mileage and Per Diem Approval: Claims for mileage and per diem were read by County Clerk Leitheiser. Motion by Hughes and second by Ritchie to approve the mileage and per diem. ROLL CALL VOTE: Voting yes: Beason, Beck, Bergen, Corso, Daniels, Hancock, Hughes, Jones, Murzynski, Ritchie, Ruppert, Whitworth, Young. All in favor, motion carried.

<u>Approval of Minutes of Previous County Board Meeting:</u> Motion by Hughes and second by Ritchie to approve the minutes of the previous regular county board meeting held on Tuesday, September 9, 2025. All in favor, motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- 1. Animal Control Report Tricia Papin was present for questions.
- **2.** Circuit Clerk's Report Daniel Robbins was not present, but Chief Deputy Stephanie Keiser was present for questions.
- 3. Coroner's Report Randy Leetham was not present.
- 4. County Clerk and Recorder's Report Sandy Leitheiser was present for questions.
- **5. Enterprise Zone Report** Mike Plunkett was present for questions.
- **6. EMA & EPA Reports** Dan Hough was present for questions and reported the one-day Christian County household hazardous waste collection set for Saturday, Nov. 1, 2025 in Taylorville. He also reported he has completed EPA landfill training and has learned from the National Weather Service about the possibility of returning local weather radio service to a county tower.
- 7. Health Department Report Hugh Satterlee was present for questions.
- **8. Highway Department Report** Cody Greenwood was present for questions.
- 9. Maintenance Superintendent Report Phil Ernst was not present.
- **10. Probation Office Report** Banee Ulrici was not present and supplied a total of 3 months' reports.
- 11. Public Defender's Report Erin Mattson was not present.
- 12. ROE Monthly, Quarterly & Annual Reports Julie Wollerman was not present.
- **13. Sheriff's Report** Tyson Holshouser was present for questions.
- **14. SOA Report** filed by Tysha Mullen, who was present for questions.
- **15. State's Attorney Report** Andrew Affrunti was present for questions, and added it has been an honor to represent Montgomery County and work with members of the County Board. He introduced First Assistant State's Attorney Brian Shaw and recommended his appointment.
- **16. Treasurer's Report** Nikki Lohman was present for questions.

17. VAC Report – Cassandra Hampton was present for questions and said the county will again be participating in Operation Green Light Nov. 4-11.

<u>APPROVAL OF ITEMS ON THE CONSENT AGENDA:</u> Motion by Murzynski and second by Jones to approve the items on the Consent Agenda. All in favor, motion carried.

LIAISON REPORTS:

- **CEFS Board** Beason had nothing to report.
- 708 Board Murzynski had nothing to report, but he said this board will meet next Monday evening.
- ETSB / 911 Board Bergen reported 911 staff has been replacing the building at the Cress Hill Tower.
- **Health Department** Whitworth had nothing to report.
- IL Association of County Officials Hancock had nothing to report.
- MCEDC Daniels reported Executive Director Kaitlyn Fath has been meeting with municipalities, training to write grants, and working on marketing and tourism for Montgomery County. She said the MCEDC board will meet next on Thursday, Oct. 23, 2025.
- Planning Commission Ritchie had nothing to report.
- Senior Citizens Board Daniels reported the board anticipates awarding bids funded by the DCEO Energy Transition Grant next month.
 - UCCI Corso reported he will graduate from UCCI Leadership Academy soon, and stated he learned about abandoned cemetery grant opportunities at a Sept. 22, 2025, meeting.
- U of I Ruppert reported a meeting will be held soon.
- WCDC Jones had nothing to report.

<u>PUBLIC COMMENTS:</u> ProBilt Buildings owner Dean Lessman of Hillsboro described concerns about the quality of work at the new nearly-complete Highway Department building. He gave three examples of work at the building he believes does not meet specifications, and he said he feels the contractor is not qualified and the taxpayers are not getting their money's worth. He also expressed concerns concrete was purchased outside of Montgomery County and electrical work was done using out-of-county crews.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

COORDINATING COMMITTEE: Given by County Board Vice Chairwoman Dr. Patty Whitworth:

- 1. <u>Information Systems Report Update/Approval:</u> Whitworth said Director Curt Watkins reported working on access control for court grant items, continuing server upgrades, working with DevNet, and completing finishing work on the ArcPro upgrade. She said Watkins also reported panic alarms have been moved from analog phone lines and phone system upgrades are on track to be completed by the end of October.
- 2. <u>Cell Phone Policy Update/Approval:</u> Whitworth reported the committee reviewed a Cell Phone Policy drafted by Bushue HR. In addition to the policy, the committee will be reviewing which employees need county cell phones. Motion by Whitworth and second by Beck to adopt the Montgomery County Cell Phone Policy. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 23, pages 1-2).

- **3.** EMA/EPA Report Update/Approval: Whitworth said Director Dan Hough reported the drone had arrived and has been placed in service, and he continues to complete EPA training and respond to numerous open dumping complaints.
- 4. <u>Five-Year Waste Management Plan Update/Approval:</u> Whitworth stated the committee reviewed the Five-Year Waste Management Plan update drafted by the county with input from DC Waste. Motion by Whitworth and second by Daniels to pass the resolution adopting the Five-Year Waste Management Plan. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 23, page 3).
- 5. Ad Hoc Committee to Address SB3455 Wooded Acreage Assessments Update/Approval: Whitworth reported the ad hoc committee set its next meeting for 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 18, 2025, to finalize recommendations to the State. She said Stan Jenkins of Property Evaluations & Tax Advisors indicated after the two-year moratorium on woodland acreage classification changes, the most prudent strategy may be to wait for property ownership change documents to trigger examination for possible reclassification going forward after Jan. 1, 2026.
- **6. IDFPR Cemetery Relief Fund Grants Update/Approval:** Whitworth said Lucas Nowlan of the County Board Administration office has been researching and plans to apply for grants for Neece Cemetery in Audubon Township as well as the County Farm Cemetery before the Oct. 24, 2025 grant deadline. Board members briefly discussed which government level has responsibility for abandoned cemeteries.
- 7. Resignation & Appointment of State's Attorney Update/Approval: County Board Administrator Mike Plunkett read a letter of resignation submitted on Monday, Oct. 13, 2025 by State's Attorney Andrew Affrunti and effective at 3:59 p.m. Friday, Oct. 17, 2025. Motion by Whitworth and second by Young to accept the resignation of Andrew Affrunti as Montgomery County State's Attorney effective 3:59 p.m. Friday, Oct. 17, 2025. All in favor, motion carried. Motion by Whitworth and second by Jones to appoint Brian Shaw as temporary State's Attorney, effective at 4 p.m. Friday, Oct. 17, 2025 until a replacement is appointed. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 23, pages 4-6). Shaw, who has been First Assistant State's Attorney in Montgomery County since April 2025, was present at the meeting and said he currently lives in Litchfield. He has been a prosecutor for 20 years, and briefly described his employment history. County Clerk Sandy Leitheiser said the resignation will result in an election for the two-year unexpired term during the 2026 General Election cycle and stated petition packets for the March 17, 2026, Primary Election may be filed in her office beginning Monday, Oct. 27, 2025, through Monday, Nov. 3, 2025.

<u>DEVELOPMENT & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT:</u> Given by Committee Chair Chad Ruppert:

1. Health Insurance Renewal Update/Approval: Ruppert reported Assured Partners representative Tony Johnston said Blue Cross Blue Shield's proposal to meet the 8% rate cap was to change to plans from a \$1500 deductible to a \$2000 deductible on two of the four county plans. Ruppert stated he recommended an option that maintained the \$1500 deductible in the two plans at a 9.86% increase; however, that increase dropped to 7.67% due to a bundle discount for continuing with the present vision and dental optional plans. Ruppert also relayed information from Johnston stating the county's loss ratio was currently at 1.46 and to inform the board the county should expect major premium

- increases next year. Motion by Ruppert and second by Ritchie to approve Blue Cross Blue Shield Option 1 for FY2026 at a premium increase of 7.67%. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 23, pages 7-8).
- 2. <u>Animal Control Update/Approval:</u> Ruppert said Animal Control Warden Tricia Papin reported seven dogs and 19 cats & kittens at the facility to the committee. She reported calls for the past month were up; and she has scheduled an adoption event from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. on Oct. 25, 2025 at Rural King in Litchfield.
- 3. Animal Control Policy & Procedure Manual Update/Approval: Ruppert said the committee reviewed and recommended the proposed Animal Control Policy & Procedure Manual with revisions reflecting current Montgomery County operations. Motion by Ruppert and second by Jones to approve the Montgomery County Animal Control Policy & Procedure Manual. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 23, pages 9-40).
- 4. Wind & Solar Application Rate Review Update/Approval: Ruppert noted the current fees for wind and solar application review have fallen behind the standard. Currently, both application fees are \$2,500/MW with a cap of \$250,000. He said the committee also discussed adding a one-year expiration date to solar siting approval similar to the wind ordinance. Motion by Ruppert and second by Beason to amend the Montgomery County Ordinance Regulating the Siting of Wind Energy Conversion Systems to increase fees to \$5,000/MW with a cap of \$500,000. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 23, pages 41-64). Motion by Ruppert and second by Daniels to amend the Ordinance for Solar Energy Farm and Solar Garden Installations in Unincorporated Montgomery County to increase fees to \$5,000/MW with a cap of \$500,000 and to add the one-year expiration date and extension request provisions from the wind ordinance. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 23, pages 65-83).
- **5.** <u>DCEO Energy Transition Grant Update/Approval:</u> Ruppert reported Phase 1 of the grant is 90% complete, Phase 2 is 32% complete, and the county is still awaiting the award amount for Phase 3.
- **6.** Montgomery First Community Engagement Update/Approval: Ruppert said the committee discussed the proposed language from Summit Ridge, the timing of donations, and other potential terms of an agreement. County Board Administration will revise proposed language and the committee will continue the discussion next month.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Chair Mark Hughes:

1. Maintenance Report Update/Approval: Hughes said Maintenance Director Phil Ernst reviewed the 41 items on his report, including repairing the brick wall of the County Clerk's record storage in the basement of the Historic Courthouse. He said window cleaning for both the Historic Courthouse and Courthouse Complex is expected to commence this month; the elevator in the Historic Courthouse ceased operating on Sept. 11 due to a faulty travel cable and a replacement was ordered on Sept. 19, 2025, with Otis Elevator Company anticipating the elevator returning to service sometime in mid-October. Vice Chairwoman Whitworth noted the committee discussed the possibility of replacing the current elevator in the Historic Courthouse with a hydraulic elevator.

- 2. <u>Historic Courthouse South Entry Update/Approval:</u> Hughes reported the committee discussed updating the south entry to the Historic Courthouse to a key fob system, similar to the north door entry. Motion by Hughes and second by Beason to accept Wareham Security's proposal for \$5,235 to update the security hardware on the south double door entrance to the Historic Courthouse. All in favor, motion carried.
- 3. <u>Silicon Ranch Solar Update/Approval:</u> Hughes said Silicon Ranch, a solar developer based in Nashville, TN, presented a proposal to the committee for an option to buy the remainder of the county farm (120 acres) to develop as a 10 Megawatt solar field. They are seeking a 3-year option agreement for \$10,000 which would allow them to establish an interconnect agreement with Ameren. Since the committee meeting, the State's Attorney has reviewed the proposal and advised against an option sale and stated this county owned real estate must be put out for bid prior to being sold.
- **4.** EV Charging Station Request Update/Approval: Hughes said there has been a request to install a grant funded EV charging station on the east side of the Historic Courthouse. He stated a detailed plan will be reviewed at next month's committee meeting.
- **5.** DCEO County Board Room Grant Update/Approval: Hughes said the county has \$10,000 in DCEO grant money to spend in the County Board Room. Options for how the board could best utilize this money will be discussed at next month's committee meeting.
- **6.** Court Complex ADA Grant Update/Approval: Hughes said Circuit Clerk Daniel Robbins reported to the committee he is applying for a grant to allow the Courthouse Complex to update restroom doors to meet handicap accessible requirements.

ROADS & BRIDGES COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Chairman Ethan Murzynski:

- 1. Resolution 2025-9 appropriating funds for 50/50 culvert replacement of Prange Ave., Walshville Township Update/approval: Murzynski said the committee reviewed the resolution and map for a 50/50 culvert replacement on Prange Avenue in Walshville Township. He stated the total cost of the project is estimated at \$25,000 with Montgomery County responsible for half the cost and Walshville Road District responsible for the other half. Motion by Murzynski and second by Bergen to approve Resolution 2025-9 to appropriate funds from the County Aid to Bridge Fund to pay one-half of an estimated \$25,000 project to replace a culvert on Prange Avenue. All in favor, motion carried. (For copy, see Resolution Book 23, pages 84-85).
- 2. Arches Rail Trail Update/Approval: Murzinski said brush has been cleared and the trail has been leveled. He stated County Highway Engineer Greenwood is investigating a possibility of IDOT providing the county with road millings to surface the trail. Additionally, Greenwood asked the committee to explore possible options to restrict personal vehicles from using the trail. Murzinski said the board viewed photos of the work, and member Hughes congratulated the Highway Department on the excellent work performed.
- **3.** Nokomis Rd. (CH 7) Extension Project Update/Approval: Murzynski said the committee continued to discuss the possibility of allowing the existing County Road (which runs through the City of Nokomis on E. Union Street) to be transferred to the City of Nokomis.

- **4.** <u>Vacating Streets and Alleys in Zanesville Update/Approval:</u> Murzynski said the committee reviewed a road vacation plat for Zanesville (originally Leesburg), a never-developed village in Zanesville Township. Engineer Greenwood reported the landowners still intend to continue with the road vacation and are working on an updated plat.
- 5. Heavy Equipment Shed Update/Approval: Murzynski said the industrial-sized overhead garage doors have been installed on the new Highway Department building. Additionally, several windows which broke during installation are being replaced, several of the pedestrian doors are also being replaced, and the floor will soon be sealed. He stated the Highway Department intends to heat and insulate this new Heavy Equipment Shed. Insulation has been purchased, and the department plans to install it themselves later this fall. Both Murzynski and Greenwood said they will address every issue raised by taxpayer Dean Lessman in his public comments made earlier in the meeting, and Greenwood said final payment for the project will not be issued until work on the punch list is completed.

FINANCE & BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Committee Chairman Andy Ritchie:

- 1. SOA Office Update/Approval: Ritchie said the committee reviewed reports from SOA Chief Deputy Tysha Mullen and from Gary Twist of Property Evaluation and Tax Advisors (PETA). It appears a Township Assessor (Hillsboro Township) and a Multi-Township Assessor (Bois D'arc, Pitman, Harvel, Zanesville, Raymond Townships) have both resigned; SOA and PETA staff were in the field catching up on this outstanding need. County Clerk Sandy Leitheiser noted her office could give guidance to townships on the legal process required for townships to appoint replacements for the vacancies.
- 2. <u>Capital Improvement & Coal Fund Reports Update/Approval:</u> Ritchie reported an August coal royalty payment of \$118,850.86 leading to a total Coal Fund balance of \$10,392,664.87.
- 3. Parcel 13-06-179-001 in Witt Update/Approval: Ritchie said the committee reviewed the City of Witt property pulled from the trustee surplus parcel sale last month after local citizen James VanOstran raised questions about the potential buyer. Ritchie said State's Attorney Affrunti advised the committee the County Board could either reject the sale or proceed. He said if the sale is rejected, the property goes back to the County Trustee. Motion by Ritchie and second by Beck to reject of the transfer of parcel number 13-06-179-001 in Witt Township. All in favor, motion carried.
- 4. Transfer 17 Parcels from Trustee Sale Update/Approval: Ritchie said the committee reviewed and recommended transferring 17 delinquent parcels sold at the trustee sale. Motion by Ritchie and second by Murzynski to transfer parcel 04-33-402-002 in Harvel Township to Harold Cantrall Jr. All in favor, motion carried. Motion by Ritchie and second by Hughes to transfer parcel 16-11-203-004 in Hillsboro Township to Cheryl Arthur. All in favor, motion carried. Motion by Ritchie and second by Murzynski to transfer parcel 17-35-328-004 in East Fork Township to 4Forty Solutions, LLC, Stonebridge Jouxmen Group LLC. All in favor, motion carried. Motion by Ritchie and second by Jones to transfer parcel 22-23-178-004 in Fillmore Consolidated Township to Philip Mitchell. All in favor, motion carried. Motion by Ritchie and second by Young to transfer parcel 10-36-100-011 in North Litchfield Township to Danny Eickhoff. All in favor, motion carried. Motion by Ritchie and second by Jones to transfer mineral rights parcel 03-19-100-301 in

Pitman Township to the Bobby Smith & Carolyn D. Smith Trust. All in favor, motion carried. Motion by Ritchie and second by Jones to transfer parcel 15-04-231-016 in South Litchfield Township to 4Forty Solutions, LLC, Stonebridge Jouxmen Group LLC. All in favor, motion carried. Motion by Ritchie and second by Daniels to transfer parcel 10-33-388-004 in North Litchfield Township to Triple C Holdings. All in favor, motion carried. Motion by Ritchie and second by Hughes to transfer parcel 16-01-204-035 in Hillsboro Township to Caleb Miller. All in favor, motion carried. Motion by Ritchie and second by Jones to transfer parcel 09-05-277-001 in Audubon Township to Kristi Campbell. All in favor, motion carried. Motion by Ritchie and second by Jones to transfer parcel 12-22-451-007 in Irving Township to Shawn Isaacs & Eli Isaacs. All in favor, motion carried. Motion by Ritchie and second by Bergen to transfer parcel 15-04-207-019 in South Litchfield Township to Christopher Bates. All in favor, motion carried. Motion by Ritchie and second by Jones to transfer parcel 17-35-384-003 in East Fork Township to Nikolas W. Kunz & Mindi J. Kunz. All in favor, motion carried. Motion by Ritchie and second by Daniels to transfer parcel 20-24-452-014 in Grisham Township to Eli Isaacs. All in favor, motion carried. Motion by Ritchie and second by Hancock to transfer parcel 06-18-100-018 in Raymond Township to Poggenpohl LLC. All in favor, motion carried. Motion by Ritchie and second by Jones to transfer parcel 20-22-335-018 in Raymond Township to Fatmir Dzabiri. All in favor, motion carried. Motion by Ritchie and second by Corso to transfer parcel 22-23-178-003 in Fillmore Consolidated Township to Conway McElroy. All in favor, motion carried. (For copies, see Resolution Book 23, pages 86-102).

- 5. <u>County Starting Salary Update/Approval:</u> Ritchie said the committee discussed the starting salary, set at \$1 above the current \$15/hour minimum wage (\$16/hour). In the past, the next year's starting salary had been set at the same time the salary increases were set. The committee discussed the need for discretion based on the experience of the applicant and the requirements of the job. The committee will seek guidance from Bushue HR.
- 6. Transfer GIS from General Fund Update/Approval: Ritchie stated during the budget hearing process, Bellwether recommended transferring GIS from the General Fund to a separate fund so the recording fees funding the office can be used for GIS mapping services. For FY2026, GIS has budgeted revenues at \$94,000 and budgeted expenses of \$82,762. Motion by Ritchie and second by Beason to transfer GIS from the General Fund to a separate fund beginning in FY2026. All in favor, motion carried.
- 7. FY2026 Budget Update/Approval: Ritchie reported Treasurer Nikki Lohman learned earlier that day Bellwether's tally sheet on the front of the tentative FY2026 budget had not included \$1,071,650 in budgeted General Administrative expenses. After correcting this error, the \$96,000 General Fund surplus became a \$920,000 deficit. He stated a special Finance & Budget Committee meeting is set for Thursday, Oct. 23, 2025 at 8:30 a.m. in the County Board Room of the Historic Courthouse to address this newly found deficit, and the county board will take final action on the budget at their November meeting.
- **8.** <u>FY2026 Aggregate Tax Levies Update/Approval:</u> Ritchie said the committee reviewed minutes from Sept. 24, 2025 Truth in Taxation hearings for the Raymond-Harvel Area

Ambulance Service and the Veterans Assistance Commission during which no opposition was voiced. He said the committee recommended adopting the aggregate levies as estimated last month. Motion by Ritchie and second by Corso to approve an FY2026 Montgomery County Tax Levy of \$5,081,785 (a 4.999% increase from FY2025). All in favor, motion carried. Motion by Ritchie and second by Jones to approve an FY2026 Veterans Assistance Commission Tax Levy of \$127,997 (a 13.1756% increase from FY2025). All in favor, motion carried. Motion by Ritchie and second by Beck to approve an FY2026 Raymond-Harvel Area Ambulance Tax Levy of \$149,000 (a 67.9029% increase from FY2025). All in favor, motion carried. Motion by Ritchie and second by Ruppert to approve an FY2026 Nokomis-Witt Area Ambulance Tax Levy of \$438,943 (a 4.999% increase from FY2025). All in favor, motion carried. Motion by Ritchie and second by Beck to approve an FY2026 Farmersville-Waggoner Area Ambulance Tax Levy of \$119,700 (a 4.8130% increase from FY2025). All in favor, motion carried. Motion by Ritchie and second by Daniels to approve an FY2026 Hillsboro Area Ambulance Tax Levy of \$300,000 (a 0.0006% decrease from FY2025). All in favor, motion carried. Motion by Ritchie and second by Daniels to approve an FY2026 Community Mental Health 708 Tax Levy of \$992,410 (a 4.9687% increase from FY2025). All in favor, motion carried. Motion by Ritchie and second by Corso to approve an FY2026 Senior Social Services Tax Levy of \$120,794 (a 0.8386% increase from FY2025). All in favor, motion carried. Motion by Ritchie and second by Young to approve an FY2026 Extension Tax Levy of \$157,000 (a 0.0293% decrease from FY2025). All in favor, motion carried.

- 9. Training Reimbursement Policy Update/Approval: Ritchie said the committee continued discussion about the need for a training reimbursement policy to allow the county to collect training expenses from employees who leave county employment shortly after training was completed. He said since the primary training expense is in the Sheriff's Office, the committee discussed whether the policy should be county-wide or by department. The committee consensus was to request guidance from Bushue HR.
- **10.** <u>Insurance Request for Proposals Update/Approval:</u> Ritchie said Bushue HR will handle this process and make recommendations for FY2027.
- 11. <u>Travel Voucher Update/Approval:</u> Ritchie said two travel vouchers exceeded the GSA Peoria hotel per diem of \$110 by \$33, and according to the Travel Ordinance, approval of these vouchers requires a roll call vote. **Motion by Ritchie and second by Jones to approve a travel voucher for Cassandra Hampton for \$890.37. <u>ROLL CALL VOTE:</u> Voting yes: Beason, Beck, Bergen, Corso, Daniels, Hancock, Hughes, Jones, Murzynski, Ritchie, Ruppert, Whitworth, Young. All in favor, motion carried. Motion by Ritchie and second by Corso to approve a travel voucher for Rachael Kuhl for \$864.11. <u>ROLL CALL VOTE:</u> Voting yes: Beason, Beck, Bergen, Corso, Daniels, Hancock, Hughes, Jones, Murzynski, Ritchie, Ruppert, Whitworth, Young. All in favor, motion carried.**

APPROVAL OF THE COMMITTEE REPORTS & MINUTES:

Motion by Jones and second by Murzynski to approve the committee reports and minutes. All in favor, motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & SCHEDULE CHANGES: Given by Vice Chairwoman Patty Whitworth:

- 1. The next meeting with Bushue HR will begin on Tuesday, Oct. 21, 2025 at 10:30 a.m. in the County Board Room at the Historic Courthouse in Hillsboro.
- 2. In advance of the upcoming Veterans Day holiday, Montgomery County plans to once again illuminate the Historic Courthouse in Hillsboro green from November 4-11, 2025 as part of Operation Green Light for Veterans, a nationwide effort intended to unite counties to support military veterans. The initiative, led by the National Association of Counties (NACO), raises awareness around the unique challenges faced by many veterans and the resources available at the county, state, and federal levels to assist veterans and their families. In addition to the Historic Courthouse in Hillsboro, county residents, businesses and community organizations are encouraged to participate in Operation Green Light by changing one light to a green bulb. By shining a green light, we let our veterans know they are seen, appreciated, and supported.
- **3.** The Illinois EPA and Christian County Solid Waste are hosting a one-day household hazardous waste collection from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 1, 2025 at the Christian County Fairgrounds in Taylorville. The collection is open to Montgomery County residents. Call 217-287-2334 to sign up.
- **4.** Due to the Veterans Day holiday, next month's County Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, Nov. 12, 2025 beginning at 5:30 p.m. in the County Board Room of the Historic Courthouse.

APPOINTMENTS:

<u>Joy Lewis to the Fillmore Glendale Cemetery Board Update/Approval</u>: Motion by Whitworth and second by Young to appoint Joy Lewis to the Fillmore Glendale Cemetery Board. All in favor, motion carried.

<u>PAY BILLS AND PAYROLL:</u> Motion by Beason and second by Hughes to pay all approved bills and payroll. <u>ROLL CALL VOTE:</u> Voting yes: Beason, Beck, Bergen, Corso, Daniels, Hancock, Hughes, Jones, Murzynski, Ritchie, Ruppert, Whitworth, Young. All in favor, motion carried.

RECESS:

The next regular full board meeting will be on Wednesday, November 12, 2025 at 5:30 p.m. in the County Board Room, Hillsboro, Illinois. **Motion by Beck and second by Ritchie to recess the Full Board Meeting.** All in favor, motion carried. Meeting recessed at 6:56 p.m. Minutes respectfully recorded and submitted by Montgomery County Clerk and Recorder Sandy Leitheiser.