

Montgomery County Board

Property Tax Ad Hoc Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Conference Room, 2nd Floor, Historic Courthouse
#1 Courthouse Square, Hillsboro, IL 62049

6:00 p.m. Tuesday, August 19, 2025

Members Present: Russ Beason, Andy Ritchie, Chad Ruppert, Jesse Boehler, John Lentz

Members Absent: Chris Daniels, Vince Reincke

Others Present: County Board Administrator Mike Plunkett, SOA Office Chief Deputy Tysha Mullen, Stan Jenkins and Alex Gentner of Property Evaluation & Tax Advisors, Illinois Realtors Government Affairs Director Ron Deedrick

1. Pledge of Allegiance: was led by Committee Chair Beason.
2. Public Comments: None
3. Supervisor of Assessments Office Update/Approval: County Board Administrator Mike Plunkett introduced new SOA Office Chief Deputy Tysha Mullen, who was welcomed with a round of applause. He also introduced Stan Jenkins and Alex Gentner of Property Evaluation & Tax Advisors (PETA), who are working in the field under contract along with Gary Twist of PETA who is working remotely for the SOA office. Committee member Ruppert, who also chairs the Development & Personnel Committee, said Mullen distinguished herself among other applicants due to her attitude and ability. Regarding the status of the tax cycle due to SOA office understaffing, Jenkins said he believes the county is currently a bit behind schedule, but not substantially.
4. Montgomery County Best Practices Plan Update/Approval: The committee reviewed the list of seven recommended best practices discussed a last month's meeting, plus a detailed year-long best practices schedule developed by PETA. The committee also reviewed and discussed a list of best practices submitted by Doris McFarlin regarding transparency and accountability, citizen engagement, efficient resource management, and good governance principles, as well as a list of best practices submitted by Brandi Lentz regarding compliance and legal standards, field inspection safety and legal compliance, assessment accuracy, public service and communication, appeals and dispute resolution, office management and staff development, technology and data security, ethics and professionalism, and continuous improvement. Committee member Ruppert noted many of the recommended best practices are required by the county Employee Manual and Ethics Ordinance. **Motion by Boehler and second by Lentz to recommend the adoption of seven best practices, the PETA best practices schedule, and the Parcel Use Form. All in favor, motion carried.**
5. Considerations of Comparative Tax Rate Among States Update/Approval: Committee Chair Beason shared a list of effective property tax rates by state with Illinois second behind New Jersey. Sorted by median tax paid, Illinois is sixth highest at \$5,591.
6. Illinois Best Practices Plan Update/Approval: The committee reviewed Public Act 103-1002, which commissions the Illinois Department of Revenue in consultation with the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) to "conduct a study to evaluate the property tax system in the state" and "may also examine whether the existing property tax levy, assessment, appeal, and collection process is reasonable and fair and may issue recommendations to improve that process." In order to examine statistical data to provide local comments and recommendations, committee member Boehler asked County Board Admin to provide historical population data and property taxes collected, and committee member Lentz also requested historical median income data.

7. Next Meeting Date Update/Approval: The committee set the next meeting for 6 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 23, in the County Board Room at the Historic Courthouse.

Motion to adjourn by Boehler and second by Ruppert. All in favor, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m. The summaries of minutes were respectfully submitted by acting secretary Mike Plunkett, as Deputized by Montgomery County Clerk/Recorder Sandy Leitheiser.

Montgomery County Board
Coordinating Committee Meeting Minutes
County Board Room, 2nd Floor, Historic Courthouse
#1 Courthouse Sq. Hillsboro, IL 62049

8:30 a.m. Wednesday, August 27, 2025

Members Present: Doug Donaldson, Ethan Murzynski, Andy Ritchie, Chad Ruppert

Members Absent: Mark Hughes, Dr. Patty Whitworth

Others Present: Mike Plunkett and Lucas Nowlan of County Board Administration, Engineer Cody Greenwood, Treasurer Nikki Lohman, County Clerk Sandy Leitheiser, EMA/EPA Director Dan Hough, Circuit Clerk Daniel Robbins, IS Director Curt Watkins

Pledge of Allegiance: was led by Chairman Donaldson.

Public Comments: None

Coordinating Committee: Doug Donaldson, Board Chairman

1. Information Systems Report Update/Approval: IS Director Curt Watkins reported working on court grant items with some supply issues, server upgrades, updating DevNet sketching software, working on fire/panic alarm updates, planning the phone system upgrade, and working on remote access for township assessors, and is nearing completion of the ArcPro upgrade. He reported phishing campaigns remain up, and will soon begin planning the GIS website change.
2. EMA/EPA Report Update/Approval: Director Dan Hough reported a visit from the acting Illinois EPA Director on Tuesday, Aug. 26, and was asked to be a test site for new forms and processes. He also reviewed his EMA activity report.
3. Ad Hoc Committee to Address SB3455 Wooded Acreage Assessments Update/Approval: Administrator Mike Plunkett reported on the Aug. 19 committee meeting, during which the ad hoc committee recommended Best Practices for the Supervisor of Assessments office. The committee will next meet on Tuesday, Sept. 23, to potentially recommend Best Practices to the state.
4. Silicon Ranch Solar Update/Approval: The committee reviewed an option from a Solar Company to purchase the county farm. Chairman Donaldson referred the proposal to the Buildings & Grounds Committee for review.
5. Cell Phone Policy Update/Approval: The committee discussed reviewing which employees need a county cell phone. Budget hearings would be a good time to do so.
6. Workforce Development Month Proclamation Update/Approval: The committee reviewed the proclamation. **Motion by Murzynski and second by Ritchie to recommend adoption of the Workforce Development Month Proclamation. All in favor, motion carried.**
7. Other Business: None.

Development & Personnel Committee: Chad Ruppert, Chairman

1. Animal Control Update/Approval: The committee will review and discuss.
2. Animal Control Policy & Procedure Manual Update/Approval: The committee will review and likely make a recommendation.
3. UKA Virden Wind Update/Approval: Chad Macy will be present at the committee meeting.
4. Montgomery IL Solar 1 (Route 16) Siting Permit Update/Approval: The committee will review and likely make a recommendation.
5. DCEO Energy Transition Grant Update/Approval: The committee will review and discuss.
6. Small Biz Grant Update/Approval: The committee will review and discuss.
7. Montgomery First Community Engagement Update/Approval: The committee will continue the discussion until ready to make a recommendation.

8. 2026 County Holiday Schedule Update/Approval: The committee will review and make a recommendation.
9. Other Business: County Clerk Leitheiser reported the new Nokomis TIF has been filed, and she anticipates the new Hillsboro TIF will soon be filed.

Buildings and Grounds:

1. Maintenance Report Update/Approval: The committee will review and discuss.
2. Courtroom Three Split Unit Update/Approval: After maintenance work, the split unit may not be necessary.
3. Jaytech Water Solutions Proposal Update/Approval: The committee will review and make a recommendation.
4. NAGS Arches Rail Trail Request Update/Approval: Investigation into potential remediation continues.
5. Window Cleaning Proposal Update/Approval: The committee will review and may reconsider.
6. Court Complex ADA Grant Update/Approval: Circuit Clerk Robbins reported the grant is not out yet.
7. Other Business: None.

Roads and Bridges Committee: Ethan Murzynski, Chairman

1. Building Construction Update/Approval: The committee will review progress.
2. Other Business: Committee Chair Murzynski anticipates a 50/50 culvert project as well as a discussion on road improvements in Nokomis.

Finance and Budget Committee: Andy Ritchie, Chairman

1. SOA Office Update/Approval: The committee will review and discuss.
2. Capital Improvement & Coal Fund Reports Update/Approval: The committee will review and discuss.
3. FY2026 Budget Update/Approval: Committee Chair Ritchie reported budget hearings scheduled for Thursday, Aug. 28, beginning at 8 a.m.
4. FY2026 Estimated Tax Levy Update/Approval: Plunkett reported the likelihood of one Truth In Taxation hearing, and the possibility of at least one other.
5. Training Reimbursement Policy Update/Approval: The committee will continue to investigate before making a recommendation.
6. Other Business: A resolution regarding Circuit Clerk fees will also be in the committee agenda.

Motion to adjourn by Murzynski and second by Ruppert. All in favor, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:34 a.m. The summaries of minutes were respectfully submitted by acting secretary Mike Plunkett, as deputized by Montgomery County Clerk/Recorder Sandy Leitheiser.

Montgomery County Board
Finance & Budget Committee Special Meeting Minutes
County Board Room, 2nd Floor, Historic Courthouse
#1 Courthouse Sq. Hillsboro, IL 62049

8:00 a.m. Thursday, August 28, 2025

Members Present: Andy Ritchie, Connie Beck, Rob Corso, Chris Daniels, Dr. Patty Whitworth, Evan Young, Doug Donaldson

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Mike Plunkett & Lucas Nowlan of County Board Admin, Justin Greeley and Dustin Harmon of Bellwether, Treasurer Nikki Lohman, various county officeholders and department heads

1. Pledge of Allegiance: was led by Sheriff Tyson Holshouser
2. Public Comment: None
3. FY2026 Budget Update/Approval: Treasurer Lohman presented initial budget requests resulting in a \$162,671 General Fund deficit. After two errors were corrected, one regarding grant income and the other regarding a misplaced expense, the committee began the hearings with a \$475,000 deficit. After making adjustments throughout the hearing, the committee ended the day with a \$138,426 General Fund surplus. Items that remain under consideration are salary increases for two positions in the Maintenance Department, one position in the Treasurer's office, two attorney positions in the State's Attorney's office and one attorney position in the Public Defender's office, and the possibility of removing GIS from the General Fund.
4. FY2026 Tax Levy Update/Approval: Levy requests remain under consideration, however the Raymond-Harvel Area Ambulance and VAC will likely require a Truth In Taxation hearing.
5. Other Business: None

Motion to Adjourn by Young and second by Beck. All in favor, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 3:31 p.m. The summaries of minutes were respectfully submitted by acting secretary Mike Plunkett, as deputized by Montgomery County Clerk/Recorder Sandy Leitheiser.

Montgomery County Board
Buildings & Grounds Committee Meeting Minutes
County Board Room, 2nd Floor, Historic Courthouse
#1 Courthouse Sq. Hillsboro, IL 62049

8:30 a.m. Tuesday, September 2, 2025

Members Present: Mark Hughes, Connie Beck, Russell Beason, Keith Hancock

Members Absent: Evan Young, Doug Donaldson

Others Present: Mike Plunkett and Lucas Nowlan of County Board Admin, Circuit Clerk Daniel Robbins, Maintenance Director Phil Ernst

1. Pledge of Allegiance: was led by Committee Chair Hughes
2. Public Comments: None
3. Maintenance Report Update/Approval: Maintenance Director Phil Ernst reviewed the 39 items on his report, including the potential for a key fob installed on the front door of the Historic Courthouse, and a new generator scheduled to arrive on Sept. 26. Ernst reported his department completed 51 work orders during the past month.
4. Courtroom Three Split Unit Update/Approval: Maintenance Director Ernst said after work his department performed on the air handler, the system has maintained a 71-degree temperature in Courtroom Three, so the split unit may not be necessary.
5. Jaytech Water Solutions Proposal Update/Approval: The committee discuss proposals presented last month from Jaytech Water Solutions of Maryland Heights, MO, for one-time closed loop treatment of the Montgomery County Courts Complex HVAC system, and annual lab testing of the same. Ernst said funds were available in the FY2025 budget, and the work was needed to maintain warranties. **Motion by Beason and second by Beck to recommend accepting proposals from Jaytech Water Solutions of Maryland Heights, MO, for \$4,549.22 for closed loop treatment of the Montgomery County Courts Complex HVAC system, and for \$882.90 for annual lab testing. All in favor, motion carried.**
6. NAGS Arches Rail Trail Request Update/Approval: Committee Chair Hughes reported County Engineer Cody Greenwood is still analyzing the damage and will suggest repairs.
7. Window Cleaning Proposal Update/Approval: The committee reexamined proposals from Dominic Ellinger of Litchfield to clean windows at the Montgomery County Courts Complex and the Historic Courthouse, inside and out. Ernst reported the proposals had been put off earlier in the summer until later in the budget year. **Motion by Beck and second by Beason to recommend accepting proposals from Dominic Ellinger in Litchfield to clean windows at the Historic Courthouse for \$2,205 and the Courts Complex for \$2,750. All in favor, motion carried.**
8. Court Complex ADA Grant Update/Approval: Circuit Clerk Robbins reported the grant has yet to be released.
9. Silicon Ranch Solar Update/Approval: The committee reviewed the purchase option agreement. Committee Chair Hughes will discuss the proposal with Silicon Ranch.
10. Other Business: Plunkett reminded the committee they still have \$10,000 DCEO grant money to spend in the County Board Room, plus DCEO grant funds for renovations to the ROE and VAC entrances and the ROE restroom.

Motion to pay the bills by Beason and second by Hancock. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion to Adjourn by Beason and second by Beck. All in favor, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 a.m. The summaries of minutes were respectfully submitted by acting secretary Mike Plunkett, as Deputized by Montgomery County Clerk/Recorder Sandy Leitheiser.

Montgomery County Board
Development & Personnel Committee Meeting Agenda
County Board Room, 2nd Floor, Historic Courthouse
#1 Courthouse Sq. Hillsboro, IL 62049

5:00 p.m. Tuesday, September 2, 2025

Members Present: Chad Ruppert, Bill Bergen, Chris Daniels, Jeremy Jones, Russell Beason

Members Absent: Doug Donaldson

Others Present: Mike Plunkett & Lucas Nowlan of County Board Admin, County Clerk Sandy Leitheiser, Circuit Clerk Daniel Robbins, Animal Control Warden Tricia Papin, Jack Butler and Lindsey Workman of UKA, Moira Cronin (virtually) of Summit Ridge Energy, Maggie Poteau (virtually) of Pattern

1. Pledge of Allegiance: was led by Committee Chair Ruppert.
2. Public Comment: None
3. Animal Control Update/Approval: Animal Control Warden Tricia Papin reviewed her report, highlighting 21 calls over the past month and only eight dogs at the Animal Control Facility.
4. Animal Control Policy & Procedure Manual Update/Approval: The committee will consider making a recommendation next month after Animal Control Warden Papin has an opportunity to review.
5. UKA Virden Wind Update/Approval: Jack Butler and Lindsey Workman of UKA described the progress of the 100 MW Virden Wind project permitted in 2024 and granted a three-month extension that expires at the end of September. Butler said UKA had originally envisioned three wind projects: the 100 MW Virden Wind project already permitted, a 150 MW Grand Prairie Wind project, and a 100 MW Pawnee Wind project. He said due to subsurface risks with the permitted Virden Wind turbine locations, continued supply chain and subsequent financial risks, UKA has determined Virden Wind and Grand Prairie Wind are no longer feasible and will let the siting permit expire at the end of September. Instead, UKA intends to combine the Virden Wind and Grand Prairie proposed footprints and develop a new 100 MW Pawnee Wind project, which the company envisions will apply for siting approval in 2027 or 2028 and be constructed 2029-2031.
6. Montgomery IL Solar 1 (Route 16) Siting Permit Update/Approval: The committee reviewed additional information requested during the July 28 public hearing for the proposed 4.99 MW community solar project just east of Litchfield on the north side of Route 16. Committee Chair Ruppert reviewed five potential conditions with Moira Cronin of Summit Ridge Energy, present virtually, including a condition adding a fully executed Community Benefits Agreement. **Motion by Beason and second by Daniels to recommend siting approval for Montgomery IL Solar 1 on parcels 10-36-300-013 and 15-02-200-029 with five conditions. All in favor, motion carried.**
7. DCEO Energy Transition Grant Update/Approval: County Board Administrator Mike Plunkett reported projects continue in Phase I and Phase II, and the county is still awaiting an award amount for Phase III.
8. Small Biz Grant Update/Approval: The committee reviewed a spreadsheet of grant recipients showing most businesses are successfully operating. Most of the rest continue to progress toward an opening date, and only two have shown no signs of progress.

9. Montgomery First Community Engagement Update/Approval: Committee Chair Ruppert said he would like the opportunity to compare the county draft to one submitted by Summit Ridge Energy. The committee will discuss both drafts next month.
10. 2026 County Holiday Schedule Update/Approval: The committee reviewed the schedule of holidays for 2026, which included one additional holiday for General Election Day. Because the County Board had added Christmas Eve as a holiday in 2025 with the absence of an Election Day holiday, the committee discussed whether General Election Day should be added. County Clerk Sandy Leitheiser said if General Election Day is not a holiday, her office would be open and required to fulfill all clerk and recorder duties at the same time. The committee discussed eliminating a different holiday from the 2026 schedule, such as Juneteenth. Committee Member Jeremy Jones said he favored adding General Election Day as a 2026 holiday without eliminating any. **Motion by Beason and second by Bergen to recommend the 2026 county holiday schedule that adds General Election Day and eliminates Juneteenth. Motion carried (Jones voted against.)**
11. Circuit Clerk Local 148 Contract Update/Approval: Circuit Clerk Daniel Robbins reported the contract is not yet ready for County Board approval.
12. Other Business: Committee Chair Ruppert noted a letter of intent from Local 1084 to begin negotiations with the bargaining unit representing office and clerical works.

Motion to pay the bills by Jones and second by Daniels. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion to Adjourn by Bergen and second by Daniels. All in favor, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 6:18 p.m. The summaries of minutes were respectfully submitted by acting secretary Mike Plunkett, as deputized by Montgomery County Clerk/Recorder Sandy Leitheiser.

Montgomery County Board

Roads & Bridges Committee Meeting Agenda

Conference Room, County Highway Dept.
11159 IL Rte 185, Hillsboro, IL 62049

Date: Wednesday, September 3rd, 2025

Time: 8:30 AM – County Highway Department

Members present: Ethan Murzynski, Bill Bergen, Chad Ruppert, Keith Hancock, Rob Corso, Doug Donaldson

Members Absent: Patty Whitworth

Other Present: County Engineer Cody Greenwood, Mike Plunkett and Lucas Nowlan of County Board Admin

1. Public Comments: None
2. Resolution 2025-8 appropriating funds for 100% County culvert replacement on Ohlman Rd. Update/Approval: The committee reviewed the resolution and map for 100% County culvert replacement on Oconee Road in Audubon township. The total cost of the project is estimated at \$25,000 with Montgomery County responsible for the entire cost from the County Aid to Bridge Fund. **Motion by Ruppert and second by Hancock to recommend approval of Resolution 2025-8 to appropriate funds from the County Aid to Bridge Fund to pay in full an estimated \$25,000 to replace a culvert on Ohlman Road. All in favor, motion carried.**
3. Arches Rail Trail Update/Approval: The committee discussed a plan to address deep rutting and washout on the Arches Rail Trail that will be implemented later this fall. The remediation will likely include cutting brush to allow equipment access, cutting ditches, and crowning the trail.
4. Nokomis Rd. (CH 7) Extension Project Update/Approval: The committee reviewed a proposal that would allow the existing County Road that runs through the City of Nokomis on E Union Street to be transferred to the City of Nokomis. Additionally, the existing County Road, County Road 2300 E, would be transferred from the jurisdiction of Nokomis Township to Montgomery County. The goals of this transfer is to ensure the safety of the residents and schools who utilize the existing road from heavy equipment. There had been a prior arrangement reached in 1979, however, due to the proper paperwork not being filed with the state, the prior arrangement is no longer valid. The committee will continue to research the plan, and will continue to communicate with the city and township.
5. Vacating Streets and Alleys in Zanesville Update/Approval: The committee reviewed a Road Vacation Plat for Zanesville (originally Leesburg), a never-developed village in Zanesville Township. Due to the proper paperwork not yet being received, the committee will make a recommendation next month.
6. Heavy Equipment Shed Update/Approval: Engineer Greenwood reported that industrial sized overhead garage doors will soon be installed on the new building. Additionally, rock is being laid and tapped down in the parking lot, and the greenspace is receiving fresh top soil and is being seeded.
7. Other Items: The committee reviewed the status of bridge construction projects and the Virden Wind project.

Motion by Ruppert, second by Corso to Pay Bills. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Bergen, second by Corso to adjourn the meeting. All in favor, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 a.m. Minutes respectfully submitted by acting secretary Mike Plunkett as deputized by Montgomery County Clerk and Recorder Sandy Leitheiser.

Montgomery County Board
Finance & Budget Committee Meeting Minutes
County Board Room, 2nd Floor, Historic Courthouse
#1 Courthouse Sq. Hillsboro, IL 62049

8:30 a.m. Thursday, September 4, 2025

Members Present: Andy Ritchie, Connie Beck, Rob Corso, Chris Daniels, Dr. Patty Whitworth, Evan Young

Members Absent: Doug Donaldson

Others Present: Mike Plunkett & Lucas Nowlan of County Board Admin, Treasurer Nikki Lohman, County Clerk Sandy Leitheiser, Circuit Clerk Daniel Robbins, Phil Ernst and Roger Cassidy of Maintenance, Judge Christopher Hantla, Extension County Director Sara Marten, James VanOstran, Public Defender Erin Mattson, SOA Chief Deputy Tysha Mullen, State's Attorney Andrew Affrunti, Buildings & Grounds Committee Chair Mark Hughes, VAC Superintendent Cassandra Hampton, Mandy Myers and Dianne Hampton of the Raymond-Harvel Area Ambulance.

1. Pledge of Allegiance: was led by Judge Hantla
2. Public Comment: None
3. SOA Office Update/Approval: Chief Deputy Tysha Mullen reviewed her report, noting 119 Certificates of Error completed for tax year 2024. She noted IT has provided remote access for Property Evaluation & Tax Advisor consultants who have completed most of the field work. The office is still expecting work from two township assessors, and she continues to complete classes with the goal of passing the SOA exam by the end of the year. The committee also discussed problems the office is having filling vacancies at \$16/hour, and will discuss the recommended county starting salary next month.
4. Capital Improvement & Coal Fund Reports Update/Approval: Committee Chair Ritchie noted a coal royalty payment of \$100,771.04 in July, resulting in a total Coal Fund balance of \$10,344,801.64.
5. Trustee Sale Parcel 13-06-179-001 Update/Approval: James VanOstran of Witt read from a written statement questioning the trustee sale of parcel 13-06-179-001 in the City of Witt to a bidder from California for \$8,000. VanOstran expressed doubts that the buyer, should the sale proceed, will clean up the property.
6. Transfer 13 Parcels from Trustee Sale Update/Approval: The committee reviewed the parcels, and after discussion, decided to recommend transferring all of the parcels except 13-06-179-001 to allow more time to research VanOstran's concerns. **Motion by Daniels and second by Whitworth to recommend transferring 12 of 13 properties sold at the trustee sale. All in favor, motion carried.**
7. Circuit Clerk Fee Resolution Update/Approval: Circuit Clerk Daniel Robbins explained language in the resolution had changed, but not fees. State's Attorney Andrew Affrunti indicated he had reviewed and approved the recommended language changes. **Motion by Ritchie and second by Beck to recommend the updated Circuit Clerk Fee Resolution. All in favor, motion carried.**
8. FY2026 Budget Update/Approval: Treasurer Nikki Lohman presented a working tentative FY2026 budget that predicts a General Fund surplus of \$106,345.18. Judge Christopher Hantla and Public Defender Erin Mattson, who were unable to attend Budget Hearings, reviewed their budget proposals. Both also spoke in favor of proposed salary increases for assistant state's attorneys and the assistant public defender. Development & Personnel Committee Chair Mark Hughes spoke in favor of requested \$2/hour increases in addition to 5.5% raises for the Maintenance Department. Hughes said

in order to be budget neutral, the committee could reduce the Maintenance-County Buildings budget line item by \$8,500. Committee member Young expressed opposition to any salary increases above 5.5%. **Motion by Whitworth and second by Corso to increase Maintenance Department salary line items an additional \$2/hour and reduce line item 520.003 by \$8,500 in the FY2026 budget. Motion carried (Young voted against).**

9. FY2026 Estimated Tax Levy Update/Approval: Extension County Director Sara Marten reviewed extension staff and programming, and presented a budget and flat levy request of \$157,000. Mandy Myers of the Raymond-Harvel Area Ambulance service presented a handout detailing her board's request for a tax levy of \$149,000 representing a 67.9% increase over last year. VAC Superintendent Cassandra Hampton described her board's request for a levy of \$127,997 representing a 13.17% increase over last year. County Board Administrator Mike Plunkett said the Nokomis-Witt Area Ambulance levy request was greater than the rate cap would allow them to collect. Treasurer Nikki Lohman reviewed the county levy, and the committee recommended reducing the IMRF levy by \$132,358. **Motion by Whitworth and second by Daniels to recommend a Raymond-Harvel Area Ambulance Service FY2026 levy of \$149,000 requiring a Truth in Taxation hearing. All in favor, motion carried. Motion by Daniels and second by Corso to recommend a VAC FY2026 levy of \$127,997 requiring a Truth in Taxation hearing. All in favor, motion carried (Young abstained). Motion by Ritchie and second by Young to recommend a Nokomis-Witt Area Ambulance Service FY2026 levy of \$438,943. All in favor, motion carried. Motion by Young and second by Beck to recommend an estimated Montgomery County FY2026 levy of \$5,081,785. All in favor, motion carried.**

10. Training Reimbursement Policy Update/Approval: With advice from State's Attorney Affrunti, the committee will continue the discussion next month.

11. Other Business: Committee Chair Ritchie requested county starting salaries and the consideration of moving GIS from the General Fund to be placed on next month's agenda.

Motion to pay the bills and payroll by Daniels and second by Corso. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion to Adjourn by Beck and second by Whitworth. All in favor, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 11:02 a.m. The summaries of minutes were respectfully submitted by acting secretary Mike Plunkett, as deputized by Montgomery County Clerk/Recorder Sandy Leitheiser.