

FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD

100 Public Square
Benton Il. 62812

Phone 618-439-3743 www.franklincountyil.gov FAX 618-435-9847

Kevin Weston
Vice Chairman

Neil Hargis
County Board Chairman

Gayla Sink Prather
Office Manager

DATE: December 16, 2024

PUBLIC SAFETY
(Sheriff's Office, EMA, Animal Control,
Waste Management, Bi-County Health Board, 911/Emergency Services,)
DECEMBER, 2024 THRU NOVEMBER, 2025
FIRST AND THIRD MONDAYS OF THE MONTH

Franklin County Board Committee meetings and Franklin County Board meetings are held at the Franklin County Board Room, Franklin County Courthouse, 100 Public Square, Benton, Illinois.

COMMITTEEMEN:

- (x) David Bartoni – Chairman
- (x) Angela Evans - Animal Control
- (X) John Gossett - EMA
- (x) Neil Hargis – County Board Chairman
- (x) Larry Miller
- (x) Ray Minor
- (x) Curtis Overton
- (x) Kevin Weston
- (x) Brad Wilson –

County Offices

- () Amos Abbott, Director 911
- (x) Kyle Bacon, Sheriff
- (x) Matthew Barnett, County Engineer
- (x) Ryan Buckingham, Director EMA (Phone)
- () Abigail Dinn, State's Attorney
- () Darla Fitzgerald, Court Services
- (x) Marty Leffler, Coroner
- () Lorie LeQuatte, ROE
- (x) Cynthia Miklos, Supervisor of Assessments
- (x) Judge Melissa Morgan
- (x) Jim Muir, Circuit Clerk
- (x) Gayla Prather, County Board Office Manager
- () Monica Urban, Probation
- (x) Steve Vercellino, Treasurer
- () Bobbie Willims, Animal Control Supervisor
- (x) Kevin Wilson, County Clerk

Guests...Rocky Morris (Sherriff's Office/Clothing Allowance), Tom Carter, Steve Vercellino, Jason Ashmore, and other interested parties.

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The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Chairman, David Bartoni. See above list of those attending, and also, those stating public comments and the topics of their comments.

Chairman Bartoni...

- Sesser Mayor Jason Ashmore is at the meeting tonight because he was asking the County Board to give \$4,700 to Sesser from the Opioid Settlement.
- The money would be used to finish the equipment for Sesser's K-9 vehicle.
- Sesser having a dog could benefit throughout the county.
- Question was asked about this opening the Opioid Fund to other entities.
- It was pointed out that the County has already donated to other programs that are working in various ways to help the people and their families because of drug use.

Coroner Marty Leffler...

- Gave his full report which can be seen on www.franklincountyil.gov as 12-16-2024 Public Safety Committee Meeting Attachment 1.
- October and November numbers have been low, but December is already making that up.
- Last week we had 6 Franklin County residents in the cooler in our facility. In the past that means we would have had 2 in the hospital's facility and 4 at another county's facility that we would be paying rent for the use.
- Of those 6, we currently have 3 unclaimed bodies.
- We have been able to save the county \$1,650 because of 3 autopsies we could do in our own facility.
- We do have a new Secretary and she is doing well.

Sheriff Kyle Bacon on a Yearly look...

- 620 arrests,
- Daily average of 65 inmates in our facility and a total of 1640,
- Served 71,000 meals
- Spent \$186,000 in medical cost.
- We do work hard to have a good relationship with all our employees.
- Usually if there is a problem, we can resolve it.
- Due to this clothing allowance issue, on Saturday, the Sheriff received grievance forms from most of the union employees. This time, the cost of the grievance will be approximately \$37,500.00 damage.

EMA Supervisor Ryan Buckingham...

- Consolidation is ongoing.
- Currently, behind the scene areas such as tech and servers,
- Also making sure that Amos Abbott, 911 Director is aware and good with the progress and the process.
- Looking at Polices, Procedures and onboarding future employees.

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Chairman Neil Hargis - Items on the agenda...

- Tax levy that is similar to last year.
- Abatement is an annual item.
- ARPA Ordinance to obligate, in the amount of \$559,000, the use for the money that has not yet been spent.
- Then explained the appointments for the following board meeting.

A question from Rocky Morris was addressed to Coroner Marty Leffler concerning the paperwork that needs to happen for veteran's families upon their passing.

He was assured by the Coroner that he gets in touch with the VA and does that paperwork that is needed.

The meeting adjourned at 6:21 PM

Minutes submitted 01/02/2025

David Bartoni – Public Safety Committee