

# FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD

100 Public Square

Benton Il. 62812

Phone 618-439-3743 [www.franklincountyil.gov](http://www.franklincountyil.gov) FAX 618-435-9847

Kevin Weston  
Vice Chairman

Neil Hargis  
County Board Chairman

Gayla Sink Prather  
Office Manager

Date February 3, 2025

**FINANCE,  
(Salaries, Policy and Purchasing, Insurance, Tourism,  
Supervisor of Assessments/Mapping, Economic Development)  
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) Brad Wilson - Chairman
- (x) Dave Bartoni - Labor Negotiations (Sheriff's Office)
- (x) Angela Evans – Labor Negotiations (Animal Control)
- (x) John Gossett - Tourism
- (x) Neil Hargis – County Board Chairman & Economic Development
- (x) Larry Miller –, Supervisor of Assessments/Mapping
- (x) Ray Minor – Economic Development
- (x) Curtis Overton – Labor Negotiations (County Highway)
- (x) Kevin Weston – Labor Negotiations (Clerical)

**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
- ( ) Marty Leffler, Coroner
- (x) 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 (Topic of Comment), Steve Vercellino, Jason Ashmore (Gave a thanks to the County Board and accepted the Check from the Opioid funding that was donated to Sesser for their K9 needs) and other interested parties.

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The meeting was called to order at 5:02 PM by Finance Chairman, Brad Wilson. See above list of those attending, and also, those stating public comments and the topics of their comments.

Supervisor of Assessments Cindy Miklos...

- Gave an update on the process of the assessor, that was hired by the county to work on assessments that were not completed by the township assessors.
- During the first look, around 50 parcels were assessed and added to the tax rolls.
- Total assessment added 24-25 was \$1,362,501 and total increase in tax money added is \$106,941.19
- The complete report can be seen on [www.franklincountyil.gov](http://www.franklincountyil.gov) as 02-03-2025 Finance Committee Meeting Attachment 1.
- The cost of the process was \$20,000 for 3 months of work.
- Board Member John Gossett if we could do this again.
- Miklos said the county should wait until after assessors turn in their changes. Changes are due by June 15<sup>th</sup>. And Yes, he would be willing to do it again0

Chairman Wilson then submitted the county claims which were approved and signed by all members present.

Franklin County Treasurer, Steve Vercellino explained the county claims and reported on the County finances...

- Beginning Balance as of 01/31/2025 was \$8,875,244 and estimated ending on 02/14/2025 will be at \$8,322,341.
- The complete report can be seen on [www.franklincountyil.gov](http://www.franklincountyil.gov) as 02-03-2025 Finance Committee Meeting Attachment 2.
- 1099's and W9's have been keeping them busy.
- Vercellino has talked to our auditor and it should be an easier year this time.

Lorie LeQuatte, ROE, gave her Quarterly Report #2. The complete report can be seen on [www.franklincountyil.gov](http://www.franklincountyil.gov) as 02-03-2025 Finance Committee Meeting Attachment 3.

Judge Melissa Morgan has been working on grants and she gave us an update...

- The sign and the electric wiring were both approved.
- Several other items that would be needed for the Circuit Clerk were also included in the grant to a total amount of \$213,959. This would be items like servers, pocket translators, camera system, projector, etc
- Board Member Curtis Overton mentioned several benches in the court rooms that are already badly scratched. Discussion continued. With court security keeping sharp items from going into the courtrooms, it was discussed as to how this was happening. Judge Morgan did suggest that jeans that were bedazzled can be really rough on furniture.

The meeting adjourned at 5:42 PM

Minutes submitted 2/13/2025

Brad Wilson - Finance Committee

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Kevin Weston  
Vice Chairman

Neil Hargis  
County Board Chairman

Gayla Sink Prather  
Office Manager

Date February 18, 2025

**FINANCE,  
(Salaries, Policy and Purchasing, Insurance, Tourism,  
Supervisor of Assessments/Mapping, Economic Development)  
DECEMBER 2024 THRU NOVEMBER 2025  
FIRST AND THIRD MONDAYS OF THE MONTH**

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- (x) Gayla Prather, County Board Office Manager
- ( ) Monica Urban, Probation
- ( ) Steve Vercellino, Treasurer
- ( ) Bobbie Willims, Animal Control Supervisor
- (x) Kevin Wilson, County Clerk

Guests (Topic of Comment), Donnie Miklos, Tami Price and other interested parties  
No Public Comments

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Kevin Weston  
Vice Chairman

Neil Hargis  
County Board Chairman

Gayla Sink Prather  
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The meeting was called to order at 5:01 PM by County Board Chairman Neil Hargis in the absence of Finance Chairman, Brad Wilson. See above list of those attending, and also, those stating public comments and the topics of their comments.

County claims were then submitted and were approved and signed by all members present.

Treasurer Steve Vercellino was not at the meeting, but had distributed his report ...

- The complete report can be seen on [www.franklincountyil.gov](http://www.franklincountyil.gov) as 02/18/2025 Finance Committee Meeting Attachment 1.

Supervisor of Assessments, Cindy Miklos then gave the board an explanation for the item that she has on the following meeting...

- Approval of violation of Plat Act requirement.
- Board Member Brad Wilson asked her how close we were to have changes in our Plat Act.
- She responded that she has been working with the State's Attorney but it is not yet finished.

County Board Chairman Neil Hargis explained a couple of items that were on the following agenda...

- Delta Dental and Delta Vision have raised a minimal rate on each one. Dental had a 6.2% increase and vision had a 2.0%.
- Also on the agenda is to reimburse the employees who had submitted information to Hope/Trust.

Chairman Wilson brought up the problem that has happened with Benton Consolidated School District 103 over a \$54.27 late charge by the Treasurer's office. Discussion followed. It was mentioned to have "The school be reimbursed the \$54.27 and an apology by the treasurer" on the County Board's next agenda.

The meeting adjourned at 5:21 PM  
Minutes submitted 2/27/2025  
Brad Wilson - Finance Committee