

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 March 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
- () Ryan Buckingham, Director EMA (Phone)
- () Abigail Dinn, State's Attorney
- () Darla Fitzgerald, Court Services
- (x) Marty Leffler, Coroner
- () Lorie LeQuatte, ROE
- () Cynthia Miklos, Supervisor of Assessments
- () 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), Rob Wielt (with AGE), Steve Vercellino and other interested parties
No Public Comments

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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.

County claims were then submitted and 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 02/28/2025 is \$8,725,998. Estimated ending of 03/14/2025 is \$8,33,147.
- The complete report can be seen on www.franklincountyil.gov as 3/3/2025 Finance Committee Meeting Attachment 1.
- Several of the board members had been going over the information only to realize they were now coming up with the same numbers.
- Questions were brought up about how was our balance in better condition.
- It was pointed out that assessments were up and sales tax was up.
- It was also mentioned that the Department Heads were becoming even better at staying in their budgets.
- They also thought Rhett Barke had helped the board a lot on how to set up the budgets.
- The treasurer was asked if the Courthouse would still be able to be paid off in 2026.
- Other conversations were had concerning the possibilities...
 1. Paying off the Campbell Building
 2. Paying off the Juvenile Detention Center (JDC).
- Board Member Larry Miller asked the question on how to deal with the negative amount on the JDC and discussion was had on that. For the most part, the negative amount come when the County was not receiving all the promised reimbursements for the JDC employees' salaries from the state.
- Several members of the board continued to comment on trying to make a plan with the reserves.

Rob Wielt, with AGE, handed an electric supply pricing proposal to the board. This can be seen on www.franklincountyil.gov as 3/3/2025 Finance Committee Meeting Attachment 2. This was just a sample for the board members on how the process works. There will be final quotes for the board members at the 3-17-2025 County Board meeting. Another idea will be explained to the board at another time.

The meeting adjourned at 5:51 PM
Minutes submitted 3/13/2025
Brad Wilson - Finance Committee

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Office Manager

Date March 17,2025

**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
- (x) Steve Vercellino, Treasurer
- () Bobbie Willims, Animal Control Supervisor
- (x) Kevin Wilson, County Clerk

Guests (Topic of Comment), Rob Wielt (with AGE), Brandon Bullard (Community Solar) Steve Vercellino, Tim Arview, Phil Pulliam and other interested parties. No Public Comments.

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The meeting was called to order at 5:01 PM by 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.

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

- Beginning balance as of 03/17/2025 is \$8,245,961 Estimated ending of 04/04/2025 is \$8,151,624
- The complete report can be seen on www.franklincountyil.gov as 3/17/2025 Finance Committee Meeting Attachment 1.
- Board Larry Miller asked about the final cost of the EOC and how much will be left from the ARPA money and what should be done with it? Discussion followed.

Supervisor of Assessments explained an item that would be on the following board meeting... Approval of violation of Plat Act on Charles Hayden, he will need a variance to deed one acre of land to his daughter. This will be less than the required two acres and will require a survey with a variance. (1.00)

- Rob Wielt, with AGE spoke to the board again about the current rates for the county's electricity options. The lowest price would be for 1 year and would be with Direct Energy. Rates can be seen on www.franklincountyil.gov as 3/17/2025 Finance Committee Meeting Attachment 2.

Brandon Bullard with Community Solar then explained that his program would not work with Direct Energy.

This decision is also on the County Board Agenda for the following County Board meeting. The board seemed to favor the pricing that Direct Energy for 1 year had for them.

The meeting adjourned at 5:36 PM
Minutes submitted 04/03/2025
Brad Wilson - Finance Committee