

FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD SPECIAL MEETING AT

4:00 PM

MINUTES OF MEETING

Jun 25, 2026

CALL TO ORDER

The Special Meeting of the County Board, was called to order at 4:00 P.M. by Chairman Neil Hargis. This Meeting was held in the Franklin County Courthouse, County Board Room 133, 100 Public Square, Benton Illinois.

ROLL CALL

Secretary Paris Dunk called the roll. Members in attendance were Dave Bartoni, Angela Evans, John Gossett, J. Larry Miller, Ray Minor, Curtis Overton, Kevin Weston, Brad Wilson, and Neil Hargis. Also in attendance was Matt Barnett, County Engineer; and Amanda Kink, County Board Office Manager; as well as other interested parties.

PLEDGE

Chairman Neil Hargis leads everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Neil Hargis asks if there is anyone that would like to make a public comment?

Tom Carter questions if the roof is suitable for the proposed solar panels. He states that the roof has leaked previously and asked if there were any inspections done prior to considering the solar panels.

The board informs Mr. Carter that there were inspections done prior to bidding the project out and that the inspection came back positive.

Rocky Morris questions the warranty on the solar panels and who is responsible for replacing them. Rocky also questions how this will impact the County's insurance policy.

The Board informs Mr. Morris that the all of the companies that submitted a bid have the panels on warranty for length of 25 years and guarantee production up to 80% minimum.

The board also informed Mr. Morris that the insurance premiums are expected to increase \$2,000 a year.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Chairman Neil Hargis informed everyone in attendance at the meeting that the purpose of this meeting is to discuss solar panels for the County Annex Building.

CLOSED SESSION

Chairman Neil Hargis states the next item on the agenda is the enter closed session to discuss the other items on the agenda.

Kevin Weston made a motion to enter closed session at 4:17 P.M. John Gossett second that motion. On roll call vote, all vote yes.

**RETURN TO OPEN
SESSION**

Brad Wilson made a motion to Resume Open Meeting at 4:47 P.M. Curtis Overton second that motion. All in agreement.

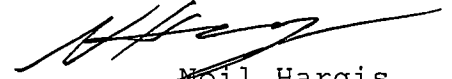
**SOLAR FOR ANNEX
BUILDING - APPROVAL**

Chairman Neil Hargis states the next item on the agenda is the approval for Solar for Annex Building. Chairman Neil Hargis states that the company chosen was Straight up Solar and the total cost would be \$389,975.

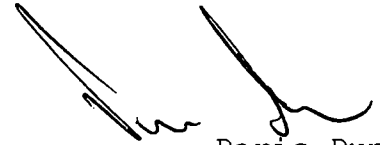
Brad Wilson made a motion to approve solar panels for the Annex Building with Straight up Solar for \$389,975. Kevin Weston second the motion. On, roll call vote, the voting was as follows: Dave Bartoni, Angela Evans, John Gossett, Ray Minor, Brad Wilson, and Neil Hargis voted YES. J. Larry Miller, Curtis Overton, and Kevin Weston voted NO. Motion carried 6 yes to 3 no.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Neil Hargis asked the Board if there were any additional questions? J. Larry Miller made a motion to adjourn this Special Meeting of the County Board. Brad Wilson second that motion. There being no further business. Chairman Neil Hargis declares this Special Meeting of the County Board adjourned.



Neil Hargis
Franklin County Board Chairman



Paris Dunk
County Clerk and Recorder