

EMERGENCY MEETING OF THE SHELBY COUNTY BOARD

April 22, 2024

Courtroom A – Shelby County Courthouse

[Video archive of meeting at shelbycounty-il.gov](https://www.shelbycounty-il.gov) – YouTube

The Shelby County Board met on Monday, April 22, 2024, at 7:00 P.M. in Courtroom A of the Courthouse in Shelbyville, Illinois. The start of the meeting was delayed until the board had a quorum.

At 7:12 PM, State's Attorney Hanlon entered the courtroom and addressed those present about a window that recently blew out of the State's Attorney's office on the 3rd floor. Hanlon informed the board the state of the courthouse windows is a threat to the public at large and the county board has had knowledge back to 2016 there were issues with the windows. Hanlon said this puts the county at great risk of a lawsuit, should someone be hurt by falling glass. There have been many windows that have blown out of the courthouse in the past few years. Hanlon stated he had sent Utz and Associates a letter stating they were in default of the agreement made with the county since they had not produced movement on the window replacement project.

Chairman Robert Orman called the meeting to order at 7:26 PM when the board had a quorum. All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

County Clerk Jessica Fox called the roll. Amling, Bennett, Boehm, Brown, Keenan, Martin, Martz, McCormick, and Wallace were absent.

Ross made motion to declare the window situation in the courthouse an emergency. Firnhaber seconded said motion, which passed by voice vote (12 yes, 0 no).

Shuff made motion to declare funds for the Sheriff to use for windows in the Courthouse. Williams seconded said motion. 1.25 million of ARPA funds were previously earmarked for the window project. It is estimated 97-100 windows will need to be replaced. Shuff's motion, Williams second, passed by roll call vote (12 yes, 0 no). Ayes. Cole, Edwards, Firnhaber, Hardy, Mayhall, Morse, Nelson, Orman, Ross, Shuff, Tate, and Williams.

Firnhaber made motion to approve the scope of the project is to replace all the windows in the Courthouse. Edwards seconded said motion, which passed by voice vote (12 yes, 0 no).

Ross made motion to establish the Sheriff as the point of contact and responsible for the window project, pursuant to 55 ILCS 5/3-6017). Nelson seconded said motion, which passed by voice vote (12 yes, 0 no).

Firnhaber made motion to authorize the Sheriff to sign any window replacement contract in his sole and absolute discretion. Edwards seconded said motion, which passed by voice vote (12 yes, 0 no).

A contract has been presented by Centrica who will work with the Sheriff on the window replacement project. Money is budgeted in the courthouse APRA line item 066-061-50560 ARPA Project. Public Safety committee chair Mayhall told the Sheriff the committee will be happy to assist him with this project.

Chairman Orman called for Public Body Comment at 7:35 PM.

A summary of public body comments/opinions expressed are as follows:

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It was felt this project shouldn't be pushed off on the Sheriff.

The window project, costs, bids, will all be at the discretion of the Sheriff.

The ARPA budget line item was referenced, as money is allocated for the window replacement project.

No estimates have been received to date.

Former PSC chair Tate explained to the public a couple of years ago it was estimated 100 windows would need to be replaced at \$125.00 per window, that is where the 1.25 million figure was derived from.

It is thought the \$250,000 DECO grant will be used for the stucco, at this time, the board wants to focus solely on windows.

No other business could come before the Shelby County Board.

Williams made motion to adjourn the meeting. Nelson seconded said motion and the meeting was adjourned at 7:48 PM.

Jessica Fox
Shelby County Clerk and Recorder