

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE SHELBY COUNTY BOARD**  
**November 25, 2024 at 7:00 PM**

Video archive of this meeting can be found at [shelbycounty-il.gov](https://shelbycounty-il.gov) under You Tube

The Shelby County Board met on Monday, November 25, 2024, at 7:00 P. M. in Courtroom A of the Shelby County Courthouse in Shelbyville, Illinois for a special board meeting.

Chairman Ross called the meeting to order and all those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

County Clerk Jessica Fox called the roll. Edwards, Hardy, Martin, Otis, and Tate were absent.

The budget for the fiscal year beginning December 1, 2024, and ending November 30, 2025, was presented for approval. Mayhall made motion to approve the FY 2025 budget. Boehm seconded said motion. Discussion was held.

Ross made motion to amend the Rescue Squad equipment and maintenance line item (001-033-7422) to \$17,500 and amend the donation line item 062-056-54450 to \$23,342. Nelson seconded said motion, which passed by voice vote (14 yes, 0 no).

Ross stated he had spoken at length with Sheriff McReynolds about the Sheriff's budget. Sheriff McReynolds said he was about 1% higher over 2024 and had made reductions to put his entire budgeted amount at \$3,376,940. Ross made motion to approve the amendments to the Sheriff's budget. McCormick seconded said motion, which passed by voice vote (14 yes, 0 no).

Concerns were expressed about the general fund budget deficit, which is the primary operating fund of the county, the decrease in revenue amounts from 2024, reductions in staff to offset deficits in the future, and the upcoming union negotiations and how back pay might impact the overall budget.

Mayhall's motion, with Boehm's second to approve the 2025 budget failed by roll call vote (9 ayes, 5 nays). Ayes: Boehm, Brown, Cole, Keenan, Mayhall, McCormick, Morse, Ross and Wallace. Nays: Amling, Firnhaber, Nelson, Shuff, and Yantis. Budget must pass by 2/3's affirmative vote.

Shuff made motion to reconsider the approval of the 2025 budget (item #4). Ross seconded said motion. Discussion continued.

State's Attorney Woolery stated that a grant that would pay for 50% of an employee's salary was allowed to lapse by the prior administration. Her office was working to reapply for that grant, which would help offset the expense for that salary.

Concerns about inflated revenues in 2024 were expressed. It was questioned why the board could not request a 2.5% reduction across the board from all departments. Ross stated there are unfunded mandates that require a county to provide certain services. The budget committee has heard from Probation that they have reduced their budget all they can. Other departments have also made budget reductions.

Shuff made motion to reduce the farm budget from \$113,000 to \$10,000 and budget revenue of \$50,000. McCormick seconded said motion, which failed by roll call vote (3 yes, 11 no). Ayes: McCormick, Nelson, and Shuff. Nays: Amling, Boehm, Brown, Cole, Firnhaber, Keenan, Mayhall, Morse, Ross, Wallace, and Yantis.

Morse made motion to amend the farm budget expense to \$85,000 and the revenue to \$165,924 based on numbers from the U of I. Boehm seconded said motion, which passed by roll call vote (8 yes, 6 no). Ayes: Boehm, Brown, Cole, Mayhall, Morse, Ross, Wallace, and Yantis. Nays: Amling, Firnhaber, Keenan, McCormick, Nelson, and Shuff.

Discussion was held about the farm. Cole stated that the numbers were unknown, but the farm committee needed to have a budget in order to pursue options of farming the farm in the future, if the board should so decide.

Shuff made motion to reduce the budget by 2.5% across the board. Yantis seconded said motion, which failed by roll call vote (4 yes, 10 no). Ayes: Amling, Brown, Shuff, and Yantis. Nays: Boehm, Cole, Firnhaber, Keenan, Mayhall, McCormick, Morse, Nelson, Ross, and Wallace.

Ross informed the board he hated to see the budget not get passed. He was also not happy about a deficit budget, but unfortunately with the position the budget committee has been placed in either the county didn't pay its bills and kick the can to the next board, or this board passed a deficit budget and planned to meet regularly with departments to stay on track during the coming fiscal year.

**Shelby County Board**  
**Special Meeting**  
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Ross called for a vote on the FY 2025 budget, which passed by roll call vote (10 yes, 4 no). Ayes: Boehm, Brown, Cole, Keenan, Mayhall, McCormick, Morse, Nelson, Ross, and Wallace. Nays: Amling, Firnhaber, Shuff, and Yantis.

At this time Ross made motion to enter closed session pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 (C-11) pending litigation. McCormick seconded said motion, which passed by roll call vote (9 yes, 5 no). Ayes: Amling, Cole, Firnhaber, Keenan, McCormick, Morse, Nelson, Ross, and Yantis. Nays: Boehm, Brown, Mayhall, Shuff, and Wallace.

CLOSED SESSION OF THE COUNTY BOARD

Cole made motion to re-enter open session. Yantis seconded said motion, which passed by roll call vote (14 yes, 0 no). Ayes: Amling, Boehm, Brown, Cole, Firnhaber, Keenan, Mayhall, McCormick, Morse, Nelson, Ross, Shuff, Wallace, and Yantis. Nays: none.

There was no action taken in Closed Session.

Chairman Ross called for Public Body Comment.

Firnhaber left the meeting.

Public Body Comments/opinions are summarized as follows:

Issues with numbers  
Diligence with grant applications by various departments  
Investments in IL Funds  
Timeclock

There was no further business to come before the county board.

Cole made motion to adjourn the special meeting. Keenan seconded said motion, which passed by voice vote (13 yes, 0 no). The special meeting was adjourned at 9:17 PM.

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Jessica Fox  
Shelby County Clerk and Recorder