

SHELBY COUNTY BOARD MEETING

February 13, 2025 at 7:00 P.M.

Video archive of meeting can be found at shelbycounty-il.gov under You Tube

The Shelby County Board met on Thursday, February 13, 2025, at 7:00 P.M. in Courtroom A of the Shelby County Courthouse in Shelbyville, Illinois.

Chairman Mayhall called the meeting to order. All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance, and the prayer was given by board member Christy Wafford.

County Clerk Jessica Fox called the roll. McCormick was absent. Edwards was tardy (7:17 PM).

Minutes for the January 9, 2025, board meeting were presented for approval. Miller made motion to approve the minutes as presented. Matlock seconded said motion, which passed by voice vote (19 yes, 0 no).

Shelby County Coroner Beth Debolt addressed the board updating them on the status of the coroner's office. Debolt reported she had dealt with 15 death calls in the past month, moved files, organized her office, and taken the required trainings of OMA, FOIA, and sexual harassment. Debolt stated she had retained 3 former deputy coroners Travis Boyer, Travis Beard, and Paige Seitz-Ludwig, as well as hired 3 new deputy coroners. Cliff Miller, Chad Brachbill, and Paul Bennett. Debolt and Miller will be attending Coroner training in March. She thanked several people for their assistance during this transition.

Chairman Mayhall called for Public Body Comment.

Public comments/opinions expressed covered the following topics.

Board member Clay Hardy spoke on several topics which included the county farm, the State of Illinois, high taxes, social engineering, and upholding the Constitution.

Zoning Administrator Scott McKee presented an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance which would provide for automatic moratoriums for wind and solar facilities. Price made motion to approve the amendment. Matlock seconded said motion. Discussion was held.

The Zoning Board had requested this to be prepared in order to protect Shelby County as much as possible with the potential to execute a moratorium. McKee read the paragraphs which state *If Illinois Public Act 102-1123 or the Illinois State Statutes 55 ILCS 5/5 12020 paragraph G are deemed invalid by any Illinois Appellate Court, an automatic moratorium for Wind Energy Facilities and Solar Energy Facilities shall be enacted for Shelby County until:*

- A. *An appeal to the Illinois Supreme Court regarding PA 102-1123 or the Illinois State Statutes 55 ILCS 5/5 12020 paragraph G has been successful.*
- B. *The Shelby County Board removes the moratorium by a majority vote.*

McKee informed the board this amendment does not institute a moratorium as of yet. He also told the board passing this amendment could possibly get the county into a lawsuit. McKee said his job is to represent the Zoning Board, but the state statute does tie the county's hands with issue to wind and solar.

Edwards entered the meeting at 7:17 PM.

Ross made motion to table this item. Grant seconded said motion to table, which passed by voice vote (20 yes, 0 no).

At this time, Chairman Mayhall called for the County Highway Engineer's Report.

Engineer Michael Tappendorf presented for approval the following items:

- A. 50/50 petition from Prairie Township Highway commissioner to replace box culvert with 2-42" diameter x 40' long CMP (estimated cost \$14,728)
- B. 50/50 petition from Oconee Township Highway commissioner to replace CMP with 2 - 54" x 40' long CMP (estimated cost \$17,917)
- C. Supplemental Engineering agreement with Lochmueller Group Inc for design service for SN 087-3234 on CR 400N (Requested amount of \$20,500 for additional scope of surveying and geotechnical subcontracts) Engineering agreement previously approved in August 2024

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Wallace made motion to approve the Highway items. Morse seconded said motion, which passed by roll call vote (20 yes, 0 no). Ayes: Boehm, Brown, Cole, Edwards, Grant, Gregg, Hardy, Matlock, Mayhall, Miller, Morse, Price, Pritchard, Ross, Syfert, Tate, Wafford, Wallace, Wood, and Yantis. Nay: none.

Cole made motion to rescind the unexecuted portions of Resolution 2024-34, which was the resolution to sell the County Farm. Morse seconded said motion. Paragraphs 15-22, which read as follows, are the paragraphs of 2024-34 to be rescinded. Motion and second passed by voice vote (20 yes, 0 no).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Board of Shelby County that the County of Shelby shall sell the complete bundle of rights associated with the real property and the present possessory interest in fee simple of that property known as the Shelby County Farm as two separate parcels, parcel 1812-04-00-200-001 with a starting bid of \$8,000 per acre, and parcel 1812-03-00-100-001 with a starting bid of \$6,500 per acre, via sealed bid process, with the bids being opened at a duly called meeting of the full Board of Shelby County;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, any bids entertained by the Board of Shelby County in regard to the sale of the County Farm shall not be subject to financing;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the County of Shelby shall order title work to facilitate the sale of the County Farm property;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the County of Shelby shall establish an easement for access to the cemetery according to the Plat Act;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the buyer of the County Farm shall be responsible for paying any Real Estate Tax which may be due or has become due in connection with the County Farm;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the County of Shelby shall authorize and command the board chairman of the Shelby County Board to sign all documents necessary or related to the sale of the County Farm;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Shelby County reserves the right to refuse any and all bids, including, but not limited to, those offered by foreign investors, concerning the sale of the County Farm;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the proceeds from the sale of the property be tendered to the County Treasurer for safe keeping and investment in lawful investments for which the investment objective is to maximize return and prevent dissipation of the principal net sum from the sale.

Cole made motion to approve farming the Shelby County Farm for 2025-2027. Morse seconded said motion. Ross asked State's Attorney Woolery if the $\frac{3}{4}$ count is based on the full board of 22, or the current board of 21. (Woolery later confirmed to Ross that according to Robert's Rules the $\frac{3}{4}$ vote would be based on a fully seated board of 22 members). Motion and second passed by roll call vote (20 yes, 0 no). Ayes: Boehm, Brown, Cole, Edwards, Grant, Gregg, Hardy, Matlock, Mayhall, Miller, Morse, Price, Pritchard, Ross, Syfert, Tate, Wafford, Wallace, Wood, and Yantis. Nay: none.

Cole made motion to open the sealed bids for farming the farm. Morse seconded said motion, which passed by voice vote (20 yes, 0 no). Chairman Mayhall opened the sealed bids in the following order and made them available to the public.

Michael Williams \$202.00 per tillable acre for a total of \$39,794
Stu Fox \$255.00 per tillable acre for a total of \$50,235
Orville Eversole \$290.00 per tillable acre for a total of \$57,130
Tice Robinson \$260.00 per tillable acre for a total of \$51,220

Cole mentioned the lease agreement bid includes the property taxes and all of the required mowing.

Morse made motion to accept the highest per acre bid submitted by Eversole. Edwards seconded said motion. Discussion was held. Wallace stated he felt Stu Fox should get the job of farming the farm due to donating time, resources and equipment the past 2 years and giving the county the funds from the sale of the crops. Edwards stated she too was appreciative of everything Stu Fox had done for the county but didn't want to give the appearance of favoritism.

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Motion and second to award the farm lease to the high bidder passed by roll call vote (18 yes, 2 no – Brown and Wallace). Ayes: Boehm, Cole, Edwards, Grant, Gregg, Hardy, Matlock, Mayhall, Miller, Morse, Price, Pritchard, Ross, Syfert, Tate, Wafford, Wood, and Yantis. Nay: Brown and Wallace.

Matlock made motion for Shelby County to establish and publish an ad for the Program Compliance Oversight Monitor (PCOM) role. Boehm seconded said motion. Two board committees have reviewed the need for a greater presence in this role. Both the Budget and Public Safety committees have discussed and reviewed this with CEFS Rural Transportation Director Beth Beck-Marts. Motion and second passed by voice vote (20 yes, 0 no).

Matlock made motion to approve a new Human Resources policy for Shelby County. Pritchard seconded said motion, which passed by voice vote (20 yes, 0 no). The new policy was drafted by board member Grant and is very thorough.

Miller made motion to approve the resolution naming County Clerk Fox as the IMRF authorized agent for Shelby County. Pritchard seconded said motion, which passed by voice vote (20 yes, 0 no).

Ross made motion to approve the contract with Mytec Solutions for IT services through November 20, 2025, at \$5,500 a month. Wood seconded said motion, which passed by roll call vote (20 yes, 0 no). Ayes: Boehm, Brown, Cole, Edwards, Grant, Gregg, Hardy, Matlock, Mayhall, Miller, Morse, Price, Pritchard, Ross, Syfert, Tate, Wafford, Wallace, Wood, and Yantis. Nay: none.

At this time Chairman Mayhall called for committee reports.

Cole reported 3 of the 6 doors for the Airport have been made and should be installed at the end of March.

Continuing with Chairman Appointments Mayhall requested the following appointments:

Penny Standerfer – 4-year appointment to Mental Health “708” Board
Annie Reid – 4-year appointment to Mental Health “708” Board
Betsy Stilabower – 4-year appointment to Zoning Board of Appeals
Tricia Miller - C.E.F.S. Board
West Central Development Council-LaVonne Chaney

Matlock made motion to approve the Chairman appointments. Cole seconded said motion, which passed by voice vote (20 yes, 0 no).

Under Chairman updates, Mayhall reported he had a video conference with a state department about broadband and fiber. He received a lot of information to review and said he hopes to speak with those in the area more versed on this topic. There are a lot of grants for broadband improvement/upgrades to the area and Mayhall said he would continue to work on improvements to internet access throughout the county. Mayhall also reported he and Sheriff McReynolds had spoken with the contractor about the scope of work for the courthouse. A study on water will be done to see where water from the roof is going and air quality testing studies will also be done. Work is expected to begin in March.

There was no correspondence.

Under old business, it was asked if the 2022 audit had the AFR and get that uploaded to the Comptroller’s office. Sikich has started pre audit work on 2023. Payroll duties have been moved to the County Clerk’s office at the request of the Treasurer and the first payroll was completed this week.

Matlock made motion to approve the paying of the monthly bills as reviewed by committees. Yantis seconded said motion. Mayhall made motion to amend the payment of claims by including 2 claims for CEFS in the amount of \$68,661.42 each. Boehm seconded said motion, which passed by voice vote (20 yes, 0 no). Original motion and second passed by roll call vote (20 yes, 0 no). Ayes: Boehm, Brown, Cole, Edwards, Grant, Gregg, Hardy, Matlock, Mayhall, Miller, Morse, Price, Pritchard, Ross, Syfert, Tate, Wafford, Wallace, Wood, and Yantis. Nay: none.

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At 8:02 PM Chairman Mayhall again called for Public Body Comment.

Public comments/opinions expressed covered the following topics.

Chris Boehm thanked Brent Wallace for acknowledging Stu Fox and what he did for the County by farming the farm the past 2 years.

Jeff Gregg addressed statements made by Clay Hardy at the last board meeting last month about the county being sued regarding the coroner appointment.

Hardy stated he was told this by a Coroner from another county so that is why he made that statement.

Ross made motion to adjourn until the next meeting to be held on March 13, 2025. Matlock seconded said motion, which passed by voice vote (20 yes, 0 no) and the meeting was adjourned at 8:08 P.M.

Jessica Fox
Shelby County Clerk and Recorder