

**SHELBY COUNTY BOARD MEETING**  
**January 9, 2025 – 7:00 P.M.**

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 Thursday, January 9, 2025, at 7:00 P.M. in Courtroom A of the Shelby County Courthouse in Shelbyville, Illinois.

Chairman Tad Mayhall called the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance was said followed by a prayer given by Mayhall.

County Clerk Jessica Fox called the roll. Brown was absent. Edwards was tardy (7:22 PM).

Minutes for the December 12, 2024, regular board meeting were presented for approval. Cole made motion to approve the minutes. Matlock seconded said motion, which passed by voice vote (17 yes, 0 no).

Minutes for the December 19, 2024, special meeting were presented for approval. Matlock made motion to approve the minutes. Price seconded said motion, which passed by voice vote (17 yes, 0 no).

Chairman Mayhall called for Public Body Comment.

Public comments/opinions expressed covered the following topics:

The board was commended for doing a good job.

Democratic Central Committee chair Tami Smith spoke about the process/statute for replacing vacancies of elected officials, or board members.

Cole made motion to approve the appointment of Judy Wood to fill the vacancy in County Board District #2. Matlock seconded said motion, which passed by voice vote (17 yes, 0 no).

Morse made motion to approve the appointment of Tricia Miller to fill the vacancy in County Board District #7. Pritchard seconded said motion, which passed by voice vote (14 yes, 3 no – McCormick, Ross, and Tate).

Clerk Fox swore in both Wood and Miller, and they took their seats on the board.

At this time 4-H member Lilah Bonney, a 10-year member of 4-H, addressed the board to inform them of the opportunities and personal growth she has experienced since being a member of 4-H. Bonney stated she has made so many friends, gained self-confidence, and was able to attend a 4-H congress in Washington DC and was one of 1,200 attendees there. Her most recent travels with 4-H were in December to a national convention in Atlanta, GA. Bonney was given a round of applause.

Yolanda Nation, a 14-year program Coordinator, informed the board that the local 4-H chapter had 422 members last year, which ranked them 5<sup>th</sup> in the State of Illinois. Nation also spoke about how busy the fair had been this past summer. Both Bonney and Nation thanked the board for their continued support.

Fayette County Coroner David Harris has been helping the County with Coroner duties during the absence of a Coroner. Harris referenced the report Harris had given the County Clerk earlier in the day. Harris said it has been a pleasure to help the county, but it has also been a very busy period. Harris recommended Richard Moon for the appointment to the coroner vacancy. Moon has worked for Harris as a deputy coroner for the past 4 years. Harris said he would be willing to help anytime and thanked the county for their support. Mayhall thanked Harris for stepping in and assisting with providing coroner coverage during the past several weeks.

Edwards entered the meeting at 7:22 PM.

Matlock made motion to approve the appointment of Beth Debolt as Shelby County Coroner. Cole seconded said motion. Discussion was held. Hardy stated he thought it was the job of the Republican Party Central Committee chair Ross Wilson and knew that Mr. Wilson had submitted a letter with a recommendation to the County Clerk's office today. Hardy stated if the board made this appointment, he was told the county would be sued. Mayhall briefly covered the past 24 hours and stated the central committee had sent him a recommendation about 8:40 PM after the agenda had been set. Mayhall said that this was the first communication he had received from the party chair since December 19. Mayhall said in the absence of a recommendation the ultimate responsibility falls on the board chair and cited statute regarding appointment of vacancies (10 ILCS 5/25-11). Mayhall also reported the verbal recommendation from the Republican Central Committee on December 19 was not the same person who was recommended in the letter presented today. Citizen Jake Cole asked Hardy if he had consulted an attorney about this issue. Watchdog John Kraft asked if anyone could engage in this conversation, to which Mayhall replied no, this was a board discussion.

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Kraft continued to express his opinions, stating you have to be fair across the board remember that, and you will be hearing from me later.

Mayhall made motion to remove Kraft from the meeting. Matlock seconded said motion, which passed by voice vote (15 yes, 5 no - Hardy, McCormick, Ross, Tate, and Wallace). Kraft exited the meeting.

Tate questioned the board failing to set the salary for the coroner. This issue has been reviewed. Mayhall stated in conversation, which took place last month, it was the opinion of the SA the compensation would continue at the previous rate. Ross also stated he had some similar concerns in terms of qualifications of Beth Debolt and when you review the qualifications for someone to run for coroner, it seems she meets those qualifications. Ross also said that other members he had spoken with had assured him Debolt would be a perfect fit for the county at this time. Ross said he would encourage a yes vote and called for the vote. Yantis also said he had spoken with Ms. Debolt today and felt very comfortable with her appointment to this position and encouraged a yes vote. Wallace stated he knew Richard Moon had run for the office, and had been doing the job, and said he knew Moon had the qualifications. Grant asked if Moon had reached out to Mayhall at any point, to which Mayhall replied no. Ross once again asked Mayhall to call the vote.

Matlock's motion, with Cole's second, passed by voice vote (18 yes, 2 no - Hardy and Wallace). Clerk Fox swore in Debolt as Shelby County Coroner.

At this time Erin Sloan and Denise McClung from the Illinois Funds Investment Program, administered by the Illinois Treasurer's office, addressed the board to inform them about the investment program. Sloan and McClung are deputy directors of a program that only benefits local government and state agencies. The Illinois Funds investment program was established in 1975 as a local government investment program. The current interest rate they are able to offer is 4.53 percent. The county could have made over \$400,000 in interest income, compared to the \$40,000 the county received from investments at local banks. The State of Illinois has no access to this money, no minimum fees, and counties use Illinois Funds for a variety of reasons. Both Sloan and McClung encouraged the board to consider investing with Illinois Funds.

Matlock made motion to approve a request from Shelby County Community Services for \$15,561 in Opioid Settlement Funds. Ross seconded said motion. Discussion was held. Natalie Inman is the coordinator for the SCCS Substance Department and has been in that position for 6 years and with the department for 9. Inman passed information detailing the program. Inman works with the drug court team in Shelby County assisting those with opioid disorders. The use of these funds would be put towards education, transportation, supporting people in recovery, and assisting folks with programs, and work with substance abuse evaluations for those in jail. Inman said these funds will be very helpful in many different areas regarding treatment, prevention, and recovery resources.

Probation CMO Wade said both of these programs are amazing and these funds will drastically help with the various programs.

Matlock's motion, with Ross's second, passed by roll call vote (20 yes, 0 no). Ayes: Boehm, Cole, Edwards, Grant, Gregg, Hardy, McCormick, Matlock, Mayhall, Miller, Morse, Price, Pritchard, Ross, Syfert, Tate, Wafford, Wallace, Wood, and Yantis. Nay: none.

Ross made motion to approve the request from ROSC (Recovery Oriented System of Care) for Opioid Settlement Funds in the amount of \$11,610.50. Morse seconded said motion. Skylar Miller is the coordinator for Moultrie/Shelby ROSC. Miller explained ROSC is a grant funded program and their lead agency is the Hour House in Charleston. ROSC works with SCCS, and drug court programs and these funds would be very helpful in supporting people in rural areas with treatment, transportation, laundry days, Narcan training, education, and prevention programs.

Ross' motion, with Morse second, passed by roll call vote (20 yes, 0 no). Ayes: Boehm, Cole, Edwards, Grant, Gregg, Hardy, McCormick, Matlock, Mayhall, Miller, Morse, Price, Pritchard, Ross, Syfert, Tate, Wafford, Wallace, Wood, and Yantis. Nay: none.

At this time, Chairman Mayhall called for the Highway report.

Michael Tappendorf, County Highway Engineer, requested approval for the following items:

1. Aggregate Bid Awards – see bid sheet
  - a. County Highway Dept aggregate bid award to low bidder
  - b. Township aggregate bid award to low bidder for individual townships
2. Bituminous Oil Bid Awards – see bid sheet
  - a. County Highway Dept. award bid to low bidder
  - b. Township bid award to low bidder
3. County Township Hauling bid award for individual townships – see bid sheet
4. Award Culvert bid for Highway Dept in conjunction with townships

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5. Award Pugmill bid for Highway Dept to low bidder
6. 50/50 petition from Ash Grove Township Highway Commissioner to remove existing 72" CMP and replace with 2 - 72" CMP (estimated costs are \$23,573)
7. Engineering Agreement with Chastain and Associates, LLC for design services for SN 087-3279 on TR 285 (800N - 3 miles N of Oconee) cost of \$55,500 with 100% of costs to be paid by State Twp Bridge program
  - a. Construction contracts to be presented at later date
8. Engineering Agreement with Chastain and Associates, LLC for design services for SN 087-3053 on TR 6 (100E - 3 miles N of Oconee) cost of \$55,500 with 100% of costs expected to be paid by State Twp Bridge program
  - a. Construction contracts to be presented at later date

Boehm made motion to approve the items. Yantis seconded said motion. Tappendorf explained he had been having bid lettings the past 2 months for aggregate, oil and chip, culverts, pugmill used to smooth out roads prior to oil and chipping. There were no questions for Mr. Tappendorf.

Boehm's motion, with Yantis second passed by roll call vote (20 yes, 0 no). Ayes: Boehm, Cole, Edwards, Grant, Gregg, Hardy, McCormick, Matlock, Mayhall, Miller, Morse, Price, Pritchard, Ross, Syfert, Tate, Wafford, Wallace, Wood, and Yantis.

Ross made motion to approve a resolution to establish the Shelby County Rescue Squad. Price seconded said motion, which passed by voice vote (20 yes, 0 no). Ross worked with legislators and Chief Jordan Camic to draft and pass SB 1102, which officially authorizes Shelby County to operate a Rescue Squad. This bill was signed into law by the Governor on August 9<sup>th</sup>. (During public body comment Ross thanked the many people involved in SB 1102 which allowed the county to form a Rescue Squad. Among these include Senator McClure, Senator McCombie, Representative Halbrog, Mayhall, EMA Director McKee, Chief Camic and Kelly Murray from IACBM. Mayhall also expressed thanks for Ross for his work in getting this done).

Morse made motion to approve a request by County Clerk Jessica Fox to outsource payroll from the County Clerk's office. Gregg seconded said motion. Discussion was held. Shelby County payroll has been done in the County Treasurer's office for the last 35-40 years. On December 31, 2024, Treasurer Erica Firnhaber sent an email to the county board and the county clerk along with some AG opinions stating statutorily payroll duties should be in the County Clerk's office. Firnhaber informed the Clerk and the board the last payroll that office would process would be the payroll due on January 31, 2025. Due to the workload in the county clerk's office and being short staffed, Fox requested that payroll functions for the county be outsourced. Morse's motion, with Gregg's second, passed by voice vote (20 yes, 0 no).

Grant made motion to approve contracting with ADP for payroll services for Shelby County. Cole seconded said motion. While discussions have been held with representatives from ADP, a timeline for implementation and costs have not yet been discussed. Mayhall made motion to table this item. Ross seconded said motion, which passed by voice vote (20 yes, 0 no).

Mayhall called for committee reports.

R/B committee Chair Teresa Boehm said that the road and bridge committee did not meet because of the weather, but bills were able to be paid, as the finance committee reviewed them. Mayhall thanked Tappendorf and employees for the work put in during the recent snowstorm.

Mayhall informed the board there was an introductory call today with Sikich and some members of the B/A/L committee and department heads in preparation for the pre-audit work.

Chairman Mayhall requested the following appointments:

Jeff Gregg as CIRMA representative. Motion by Miller, seconded by Cole, all voted aye by voice (20 yes, 0 no).

Chrissy Grant to the West Central Development Council. Motion by Matlock, seconded by Price, all voted aye by voice (20 yes, 0 no).

Tricia Miller to Finance committee to replace Don Tate. Motion by Boehm, seconded by Matlock, all voted aye by voice (20 yes, 0 no).

Jordan Camic as Chief of the Rescue Squad. Motion by Ross, seconded by Yantis. Motion passed by voice vote (15 yes, 5 no - Boehm, Cole, Matlock, Morse, and Pritchard).

Chris Kramer to the Housing Authority Board. Motion by Wood, seconded by Matlock, all voted aye by voice (20 yes, 0 no).

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Under correspondence, Mayhall read a letter from UCCI, refunding the annual dues in the amount of \$1,500. Cole reported there is a training to be held January 27 in Springfield. If one board member attends a UCCI meeting at least on a quarterly basis, UCCI gives the county \$400, but the county ends up getting their \$1,500 dues refunded. Mayhall also reported the Scott McKee has submitted a FY 2024-year end brief for EMA and Zoning. McKee states he is looking forward to improving the County's overall services. Mayhall thanked Mr. McKee for this report, as well as communications with Mayhall over the past several weeks particularly this past weekend with the weather amongst himself, McKee, Sheriff McReynolds, and Engineer Tappendorf.

Under old business, Price asked why the board members were not getting a monthly report from the Treasurer. Mayhall recommended Price reach out to the Treasurer about that issue. Mayhall reported the FY 2022 audit is not yet complete.

Ross made motion to approve the payment of the monthly claims as reviewed by the finance committees. Price seconded said motion. Boehm made motion to amend the payment of the claims to include \$3,982.99 of Circuit Clerk claims which were submitted late. Ross seconded motion to amend, which passed by voice vote. Motion to pay bills passed by roll call vote (20 yes, 0 no). Ayes: Boehm, Cole, Edwards, Grant, Gregg, Hardy, McCormick, Matlock, Mayhall, Miller, Morse, Price, Pritchard, Ross, Syfert, Tate, Wafford, Wallace, Wood, and Yantis.

Edwards asked about the payment of the real estate taxes on the farm, as she had previously asked for a legal opinion on that and the item had been tabled. Woolery said an official legal opinion had not been sent to the board, but discussions had been had with other board members. Woolery did apologize to Edwards for not getting back to her with a formal opinion.

At this time Chairman Mayhall called for Public Body Comment.

Public comments/opinions expressed covered the following topics:

A request was mailed to those attending UCCI training to ask about verbal FOIA's Board members being threatened with lawsuits need to report to the State's Attorney or Sheriff regarding those threats.

Questions were asked about the appointment to Board District #1

IL Funds presentation

Time clock/payroll issues

Coroner appointment and necessity of board to fill vacancies

Ross made motion to adjourn until the next regular meeting to be held on February 13, 2025. Matlock seconded said motion, which passed by voice vote (16 yes, 0 no) and the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 P.M.

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Jessica Fox  
Shelby County Clerk and Recorder