

SHELBY COUNTY BOARD MEETING

August 13, 2026 – 7:00 P.M.

(Video archive of this meeting can be found at shelbycounty-il.gov on YouTube)

The Shelby County Board met on Thursday, August 13, 2026, at 7:00 P.M. in Courtroom A of the Shelby County Courthouse in Shelbyville, Illinois.

Chairman Tad Mayhall called the meeting to order. All those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance and board member Clay Hardy gave the prayer.

County Clerk Jessica Fox called the roll. Edwards, Grant, McCormick, and Syfert were absent.

Minutes for the July 9, 2026, board meeting were presented for approval. Boehm made motion to approve the minutes. Yantis seconded said motion, which passed by voice vote (15 yes, 0 no).

Chairman Mayhall called for public body comment.

Public body comments/opinions expressed are summarized as follows:

Kirk Allen asked a question about the Ethics Committee appointment.

A vacancy was announced in County Board District #1 due to the resignation of James Mitchell who moved out of the county.

Cole made motion to approve the appointment of Shawn Conlin to County Board District #1. Morse seconded said motion, which passed by voice vote (14 yes, 1 no - Brown). County Clerk Jessica Fox administered the Oath to Conlin, and she took her seat on the board.

Pritchard made motion to approve the annual firearms agreement for Probation CMO Heather Wade. Boehm seconded said motion, which passed by voice vote (16 yes, 0 no).

Matlock made motion to approve the resolution amending the Circuit Clerk Civil Fees pursuant to PA 104-0468. Wood seconded said motion. Judge Ade-Harlow was present to answer questions and explained the changes created to the civil fees by this public act which became law on July 1.

Motion and second passed by roll call vote (16 yes, 0 no). Ayes: Boehm, Brown, Cole, Conlin, Gregg, Hardy, Matlock, Mayhall, Morse, Pritchard, Strohl, Tate, Wafford, Wallace, Wood, and Yantis. Nay: none.

Zoning Administrator John Herron presented 2 requests for special use permits. Both had been heard by the Zoning Board of Appeals on July 30, and there were no objections to either. The first special use permit is for Lila Birchfield to operate a short-term rental/Air BNB on parcel 1812-04-00-300-007 in Rose Township. The second special use permit is for Prairie Power, Inc. to construct and operate an electrical substation on parcel 1707-34-00-300-005 in Ridge Township. This substation is for a system wide upgrade for Shelby Electric Cooperative and is not related to either wind or solar.

Pritchard made motion to approve the special use permits. Yantis seconded said motion, which passed by voice vote (16 yes, 0 no).

At this time Chairman Mayhall called for the Highway Engineer's report.

Highway Engineer Tappendorf requested board approval for the following items:

50/50 petition from Prairie Twp Highway Commissioner to replace a pipe on 100N/2900E. Estimated cost is \$15,292.40
50/50 Petition from Clarksburg Twp Highway Commissioner to replace a pipe on 700M/2025E. Estimated cost is \$7,621.25
50/50 petition from Ash Grove Township Highway Commissioner to replace a pipe on 1350 N/3350E. Estimated cost is \$10,591.34
50/50 petition from Rural Twp Highway Commissioner to replace a pipe on 1850N/1010E. Estimated cost is \$18,817.66
Stop sign placement from Flat Branch Twp intersections of 2400N/1100E, 2400N/800E, 2400 N/700E, 2500N/700E and 2700N/800E on N and S legs of intersections pursuant to 625 ILCS 5/11-302

Matlock made motion to approve the Highway items. Boehm seconded said motion, which passed by roll call vote (16 yes, 0 no). Ayes: Boehm, Brown, Cole, Conlin, Gregg, Hardy, Matlock, Mayhall, Morse, Pritchard, Strohl, Tate, Wafford, Wallace, Wood, and Yantis. Nay: none.

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Tappendorf referenced the draft road use agreement for the Foxglove Wind project that will be constructed in parts of Flat Branch, Pickaway, Rural and Penn townships. This construction is expected to begin in 2028 and be online in 2029. Tappendorf wants to get ahead of this project and have a road use agreement in place. Currently this agreement is in the draft phase.

Wood made motion to approve the 2027 holiday calendar. Cole seconded said motion, which passed by voice vote (16 yes, 0 no).

At this time Chairman Mayhall called for committee reports. There were no reports given.

Morse reported Cooperative Extension had a stellar 4-H Fair in July. There are 353 kids enrolled and there were 3,003 exhibits at the fair. They plan on doing the Hunters Feeding Illinois program again this fall and there is currently a job opening for a Master Gardner.

Matlock updated the board on the Airport. The asphalt of the main hangar parking lot is almost done; striping should take place in the next 7-10 days. The roof inspection has been completed. FBO Scott Jefson has been busy preparing for the October 2026 balloon fest.

Matlock also reported she has been working with the incoming Treasurer on policies previously requested by the County auditors and getting guidance for these policies from other counties.

Matlock made motion to approve the appointment of Amy Bledsaw to the Ethic Commission and Shawn Conlin to the Public Safety Committee. Gregg seconded said motion, which passed by roll call vote (10 yes, 2 no, 1 abstain, 3 present). Ayes: Boehm, Cole, Conlin, Gregg, Matlock, Morse, Strohl, Wafford, Wood, and Yantis. Nays: Brown and Hardy. Abstain: Mayhall. Present: Pritchard, Tate, and Wallace.

Under Chairman updates and correspondence, Mayhall informed the board that he had addressed with various State offices the tardiness of the county audits and the work being done to get those audits completed. The audit for fiscal year ending 11/30/2024 will be presented in September and the 2025 audit is expected to be complete in April of 2027. At this time the State and County are working together, and no fees or fines have been levied against Shelby County due to delinquent audits. Mayhall has had conversations with Zoning Administrator Herron about the possibility of a potential data center in the SE corner of Shelby County which would involve Lake Mattoon. Mayhall stated if a moratorium is the desire of the board, work needs to be done to get that implemented. Mayhall stated it was important for the board to protect the people and resources of the County and if anyone has any questions to contact either himself or Mr. Herron.

There was no old business to discuss.

Yantis made motion to pay the claims as reviewed by the committees. Boehm seconded said motion, which passed by voice vote (15 yes, 0 no, 1 abstain - Conlin). Ayes: Boehm, Brown, Cole, Gregg, Hardy, Matlock, Mayhall, Morse, Pritchard, Strohl, Tate, Wafford, Wallace, Wood, and Yantis. Nay: none. Abstain: Conlin

Chairman Mayhall again called for Public Body comment.

Public body comments/opinions expressed are summarized as follows:

Matlock stated she was responsible for putting Bledsaw's name on the agenda for the Ethics Commission appointment.

A map of the proposed Foxglove Wind Project was requested to be provided to the public.

Kirk Allen informed everyone that to abstain is the same as a yes vote.

Clay Hardy spoke about the No Kings protest, Socialism, Wind/Solar projects, government farming and the large migration from IL due to all the increases in fees and taxes put on IL residents.

There was no further business to come before the Shelby County Board.

Matlock made motion to adjourn until the next regular meeting to be held on September 10, 2026. Yantis seconded said motion, which passed by voice vote (16 yes, 0 no) and the meeting was adjourned at 7:36 P.M.

Jessica Fox
Shelby County Clerk and Recorder