

RESUME OF MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF THE  
COUNTY BOARD, CHAMPAIGN COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
January 31, 2024

The County Board of Champaign County, Illinois met at a Special Meeting, Wednesday, January 31, 2024, at 6:02 PM in the Shields-Carter Meeting Room, Brookens Administrative Center, 1776 East Washington Street, Urbana, Illinois, with County Executive Steve Summers presiding and Angie Patton as Clerk of the meeting.

**ROLL CALL**

Roll call showed the following members present: Carter, Esry, Farney, Locke, Lokshin, Michaels, Peugh, Rodriguez, Rogers, Sexton, Straub, Stohr, Taylor, Thorsland, Vanichtheeranont, Wilson, and Patterson – 17; absent: Cowart, Fortado, Hanauer-Friedman, Smith and Stohr – 5; County Executive Summers declared a quorum present and the Board competent to conduct business.

**PRAYER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

County Executive Summers read a prayer, and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was recited.

**READ NOTICE OF MEETING**

The Clerk read the Notice of the Meeting, said Notice having been published in the *News Gazette* on January 28, 30 2024.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA/ADDENDA**

Board Member Esry offered a motion to approve the Agenda/Addenda; Board Member Carter seconded. Board Member Farney offered an amendment to Resolution 2024-12 to change the amount requested from \$25,000 to \$10,000. Board Member Lokshin seconded. The amendment motion carried by voice vote. The motion to approve agenda with amendment carried by unanimous voice vote.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

NONE

**BOARD COMMUNICATIONS**

Board Member Peugh mentioned the University of Illinois ice arena may be going away and expressed support for the ice arena to remain.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Board Member Wilson offered a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2024-10 Appointing Stephen Thuney to the Office of County Coroner of Champaign County, Illinois. Board Member Michaels seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Board Member Carter offered a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2024-11 Honoring Retiring County Board Member Kyle Patterson; Board Member Thorsland seconded. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote. Board Member Thorsland read the entirety of the resolution. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Board Member Farney offered a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2024-12 Approving Financial Contribution to the iFAB Tech Hub. Board Member Vanichtheeranont seconded. Board Member Rogers asked for more information about the program. Executive Director of Champaign County Economic Development Corporation, Carly McCrory-McKay joined the discussion. McCrory-McKay gave an overview of the program. Board Member Peugh raised concerns about the County budget and whether it was in the best interest of the County to fund the program. Board Member Peugh raised a concern about staff not receiving raises as it relates to the budget. Board Member Michaels asked about the County based programs vs. out of County. Board Member Carter voiced support for the program noting she would like to see minority participation. Board Member Farney offered return on investment numbers for the Board. Board Member Lokshin asked about the status of Piatt and Macon participating. Board Member Rogers asked if the funds were coming from the General Fund. Executive Summers clarified it was coming from the General Fund. Board Member Peugh again expressed his opposition to the resolution. Director of Administration, Michelle Jett joined the discussion and clarified staff received a 3% raise starting January 2024. Motion carried by voice vote, Board Member Peugh was the only nay.

**ADJOURN**

County Executive Summers adjourned the meeting at 6:28 PM.



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Aaron Ammons, Champaign County Clerk  
and ex-Officio Clerk of the Champaign County Board  
Champaign County, Illinois