

RESUME OF MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
COUNTY BOARD, CHAMPAIGN COUNTY, ILLINOIS
August 15, 2024

The County Board of Champaign County, Illinois met at a Special Meeting, Thursday, August 15, 2024, at 6:00 PM in the Shields-Carter Meeting Room, Brookens Administrative Center, 1776 East Washington Street, Urbana, Illinois, with County Executive Steve Summers presiding and Matthew Cross as Clerk of the meeting.

ROLL CALL

Roll call showed the following members present: Owen, Rogers, Sexton, Smith, Stohr, Straub, Taylor, Thorsland, Vanichtheeranont, Esry, Farney, Fortado, Hanauer-Friedman, Locke, and Lokshin – 15; absent: Michaels, Peugh, Rodriguez, Wilson, Cowart, Greer, and Carter – 7. County Executive Summers declared a quorum present and the Board competent to conduct business.

READ NOTICE OF MEETING

The Clerk read the Notice of the Meeting, said Notice having been published in the *News Gazette* on August 15, 2024.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA/ADDENDA

Board Member Locke offered a motion to approve the Agenda/Addenda; Board Member Lokshin seconded. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Susan Mantell, Champaign County Republican Party Chair, criticized the County Board's prior decision to claim a cost-savings amount in the ballot question text. She also expressed support for retaining the elected office of the Auditor.

Jason Benda, of Champaign, spoke in support of both the updated language for Resolution No. 2024-179 and the elimination of the elected office of the Auditor, but he stressed the importance of voter education on the matter.

COMMUNICATIONS

None.

OTHER BUSINESS

County Executive Summers raised the subject of the adoption of Resolution No. 2024-179 placing an amended question to eliminate the Office of the County Auditor on the November 5, 2024, General Election ballot; Board Member Taylor read the first seven paragraphs of the resolution. Board Member Esry expressed his support for the resolution as the prior resolution (No. 2024-178) was supported by the majority of the board, and the current resolution (No. 2024-179) was merely amending the language of the ballot question. Board Member Farney offered a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2024-179; Board Member Taylor seconded. Director of Administration interjected asking Board Member Taylor to continue reading the resolution's ballot question text. Board Member Taylor read the eighth paragraph, including the text of the question to be placed on the ballot; she did not read the date of adoption or signatory lines text. Board Member Fortado noted that the Peoria County Board recently passed a similar resolution with language matching that of Resolution No. 2024-178 but was willing to support the current resolution in an effort to ease the work of the County Clerk's Office; she also noted that she fully intends to participate in voter education on the matter. Board Member Stohr invited State's Attorney Julia Rietz to join the discussion; State's Attorney Rietz declined the invitation. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

ADJOURNMENT

County Executive Summers adjourned the meeting at 6:13 PM.



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