State of Illinois )
County of Ogle ) ss

**Call to Order**

Chairman Larson called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

**Roll Call**

The roll call showed all Board Members present. The invocation was given by Mudge and followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

C**onsent Agenda Items – by Roll Call Vote**

1. Approval of Ogle County Board Meeting Minutes – January 2026
2. Accept Monthly Reports – Treasurer, County Clerk & Recorder and Circuit Clerk
3. Appointments -
    - Megan Poole - County Board District #8 - R-2026-0201
4. Resignations -
    - Susie Corbitt - County Board District #8 - R-2026-0202
5. Vacancies -
    - Board of Health – DDS (1 unexpired term)
    - Board of Health (1 vacancy)
    - Housing Authority (2 unexpired terms)
    - Franklin Grove Fire Protection District (1 vacancy)

**Application and Resumé deadline - Friday, February 27, 2026, at 4:30 p.m. in the County Clerk's Office -105 S. 5th St, Ste 104, Oregon**

6. Ogle County Claims –
    - Department Claims – January 2026 - $191,482.52
    - County Board Payments – $105,813.28
    - County Highway Fund – $38,433.97
7. Communications -
    - Sales Tax Report

Janes moved to approve the Consent Agenda, 2nd by Reeverts. A roll call vote was taken:

YES: Williams, Youman, Asp, Billeter, Daws, Fox, Fritz, Gillis, Griffin, Heuer, Hopkins, Huber, Janes, Kenney, Miller, Mudge, Nordman, Oltmanns, Ramsey, Reeverts, Reising, Simms and Larson

NO: None

ABSENT: None

Motion carried.

**Zoning - #09-25SU – Revisions to O-2025-1202 - O-2026-0201**

Nordman presented revisions to Ordinance #2025-1202 - 09-25 Special Use regarding the reduction in landscaping from two layers to one layer as it is eligible with the ¼ mile population radius being less than 10 homes.

**Section VI Design & Installation**
**D. Aesthetics and Lighting**
**1. Vegetative Screening**

One tier vegetative screen can be allowed only if population density for proposed SEF is less than 10 homes per quarter mile from property line of non-participating residence and approved by County Zoning Committee and the County Board.

Nordman moved to approve O-2026-0201 as presented, 2nd by Fritz.

Mudge objected to this ordinance. Mudge stated that whether it was one home or 100 homes being effected, the same considerations need to be made. These residents didn't move next to an industrial park, the industrial park moved next to them. After reviewing some previous ordinances regarding the screening, the preferred method of screening for the County is a berm. He went out to Oregon Trail Road and doesn't believe that the screening is enough to protect them and that more needs to be done.

A roll call vote was taken:

YES: Billeter, Gillis, Griffin, Hopkins, Kenney, Nordman, Oltmanns, Reising, Williams, and Larson

NO: Youman, Asp, Daws, Fox, Fritz, Heuer, Huber, Janes, Miller, Mudge, Ramsey, Reeverts, and Simms

ABSENT: None

Motion failed.

**Zoning - #09-25SU – Revisions to O-2025-1202 - O-2026-0202**
Nordman presented revisions to Ordinance #2025-1202 - 09-25 Special Use regarding the use of above-ground CAB wiring within the secure/fenced project area in lieu of underground wiring.
**Section VI Design & Installation**
**D. Aesthetics and Lighting**
**4. Intra-project Power and Communication Lines**
All power lines used to collect power and all communication lines shall be buried underground at a depth in accordance with the Agricultural Impact Mitigation Agreement until same reach the property line or a substation adjacent to the property line.
**Section VI Design & Installation**
**A. Design Safety Certification**
**1. Commercial SEF shall conform to applicable industry standards, including those of the American National Standards Institute (A.N.S.I).**
All solar panels, cells, modules; solar panel mounts and racking shall be new equipment commercially available; no used or experimental equipment shall be used without approval of a variance by the County Board.

Nordman moved to approve O-2026-0202, 2nd by Fritz.

Motion carried. (Placed on file)

**Public Comment**

- Linda Reed - She is an Oregon resident and had some questions for the County Board Members.
  Is the data center a done deal or not?
  If the data center is still in consideration, why is Constellation Global Corporation posting job openings on their own website and Glassdoor for a Senior Project Manager in Byron?
  Has the County Board signed a non-disclosure agreement with Constellation or any other companies doing the construction at the data center?
  Reed doesn't believe that the County Board is being transparent and it's confusing the community.
  Chairman Larson suggested that she write down her name and contact information for the Board to respond to her questions at a later time.
- Marcia Heuer - Heuer presented the Board Members with a Tri-County Opportunities Council Scholarship Announcement. This is a great opportunity for someone who is concerned about financing their education. The application deadline is March 13th and Tri-County has the ability to hand out 3 scholarships for each County they represent.

**Reports and Recommendations of Committees**

**Executive**

- Recognizing County Board Member Susie Corbitt - R-2026-0203

  Larson presented Susie Corbitt with R-2026-0203, recognizing her service to the Ogle County Board and her contribution to Ogle County. Motion to approve by Reeverts, 2nd by Mudge. Motion carried. (Placed on file)

- Annual Public Meeting Notice for 2026 - R-2026-0204

  Larson presented R-2026-0204, Annual Public Meeting Notice for 2026. Motion to approve by Nordman, 2nd by Williams. Motion carried. (Placed on file)

**Finance**

- Opioid Settlement Fund Request - O-2026-0203

  Billeter presented and moved to approve O-2026-0203 to allocate funds to the Health Department, 2nd by Simms. Motion carried. (Placed on file)

**Long Range Planning**

- Updates

  Griffin provided the Board Members with updates regarding projects. The Historic Courthouse roof is complete, they are taking down scaffolding. The project came in about $20,000 less than expected. The Memorial Plaza is paid for by grant funds, will be presented to the Long Range Committee and County Board next month. Bid notices were sent out Friday, February 13th, pre-bids accepted Friday, February 20th, and bid opening will be Thursday, March 5th at 10:30 am. The project includes the circle and sidewalk going down the side to the front of the memorial. There will be a bronze Eagle on a pedestal in the center. The Historical Society is also going to include a time capsule.

- VAC & Animal Control Renovation Bid Acceptance - R-2026-0205

  Griffin presented R-2026-0205 to accept the renovation bid. The bid opening was held on February 5th at 10:30 am where six bids were presented. Nicam Construction was the low bidder coming in at $294,500.00 with a $30,000 contingency. All departments approved the renovation plans. Griffin made a motion to approve R-2026-0206, 2nd by Oltmanns. Motion carried. (Placed on file)

**Road & Bridge**

- 2026 Township Aggregate - 26-XX000-00-GM - R-2026-0206

  Hopkins presented and moved to approve R-2026-0206, 2nd by Reeverts. Motion carried (Placed on file)

- 2026 Township Calcium Chloride - 26-XX000-00-GM - R-2026-0207

  Hopkins presented and moved to approve R-2026-0207, 2nd by Fritz. Motion carried. (Placed on file)

- 2026 Township Pipe Culverts - 26-XX000-00-GM - R-2026-0208

  Hopkins presented and moved to approve R-2026-0208, 2nd by Youman. Motion carried. (Placed on file)

- 2026 County Pipe Supply Culverts Award & Appropriations - R-2026-0209

  Hopkins presented and moved to approve R-2026-0209, 2nd by Heuer. Motion carried. (Placed on file)

- Fees for Disturbances to County Highways (First Reading) - O-2026-0204

  Hopkins presented O-2026-0204 to establish application fees for the issuance of permits for work that takes place within the County, specifically access points and utility installation. Currently, Ogle County does not charge application fees for these items, however the Highway Department does incur significant cost. It was decided at the committee meeting that this would be the first reading of the ordinance to give the Board Members a chance to review the information. Hopkins made a motion to approve O-2026-0204, 2nd by Kenney. Hopkins made the motion to waive the 2nd reading of the Ordinance, 2nd by Kenney. Motion carried. (Placed on file)

**Unfinished and New Business:** Heuer made a motion to approve R-2026-0201, appointing Megan Poole as the new County Board Member. 2nd by Youman. Motion carried. (Placed on file)

Mudge requested an update with setting up the live streaming for the County Board and Committee meetings. Chairman Larson stated that there have been several unexpected expenses that have come up, so they haven't been able to move forward with that yet. Larson has spoken to IT and they advised it could be $50,000 - $100,000 for the equipment to set that up. Mudge believes that livestreaming would provide full transparency to the community.

**Chairman Comments: None**
**Vice-Chairman Comments: None**
**Adjournment:**

At 6:10 p.m., with no further business Chairman Larson adjourned the meeting until Wednesday, March 18, 2026 at 5:30 p.m. at the Courthouse in Oregon.

Chairman Bruce E. Larson
Ogle County Board

Attest: Rebecca K. Duke, Ogle County Clerk & Recorder
Ex-officio Clerk of the Ogle County Board