

Robert Reich, Vice Chairman



Adams County Board
507 Vermont Street
Quincy, IL. 62301

ADAMS COUNTY BOARD

COUNTY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

April 15, 2026

7 P.M.

APPROVED

**PROCEEDINGS
OF THE COUNTY BOARD
ADAMS COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

**COUNTY OF ADAMS)
STATE OF ILLINOIS)**

The County Board of Adams County, Illinois met at the Courthouse, Quincy, Illinois, on Wednesday, April 15, 2026 at 7:00 P.M., pursuant to recess.

PRESENT: Robert Reich, Vice Chairman
Ryan A. Niekamp, County Clerk
Todd Eyer, States Attorney

Chairman Austin called the meeting to order.

Pastor Kory Hollensteiner with the Crossing Church gave the invocation which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

The County Clerk called the roll and the following members were present: Mark Sorensen, Barbara Fletcher, Ryan Hinkamper, Marvin Kerkhoff, Jeremy Farlow, Steve McQueen, Travis Cooley, Robert Reich, Tim Finlay, Jon McCoy, Brad Poulter, David McCleary, John Gunther, Brent Fischer, Joe Zanger, Russ Hinkamper, Timothy Siemer and Keith Callaway.

Total Present: 18 Absent: 3

Absent were: Dave Bellis, Mark Dietrich, Bret Austin

Chairman Austin declared a quorum present.

Officeholders, department heads, and/or their representatives also present were:
Lisa Gasko- Supervisor of Assessments, Jessica Douglas- Director of 911, David Hochgraber- Director if IT, Carla Smith- Highway Department, Stephanie Ogle-Treasurer's Office, Amy Carothers-County Board Office Director, Jill Reis- Regional Superintendent of Schools, LaMarrio Rodgers- Juvenile Detention Center Superintendent and Paul Havermale- Superintendent of the Veterans Assistance Commission.

Mr. Gary Sprinkle was present as a public speaker. He reported to them that he was a

victim of a crime that happened in the courthouse and that he has emailed each board member a packet of information on this. He believes public records were being tampered with. He stated it is in relation to the Becky Bliefnick case and he watched her January 19th court date get vacated wrongfully before her murder. He stated that he hopes everyone reads his email and will help relay to the right law enforcement.

Mr. Fischer moved to approve the minutes of the March 10, 2026 county board meeting as printed and distributed which was seconded by Mr. Sorensen.
Motion to approve the minutes of the March 10, 2026 meeting as printed was adopted.

Transportation, Building & Technology

Committee Report (Mr. Bellis)

Bills – The committee met on April 15, 2026 and reviewed the bills for the Highway Department, the Maintenance Department, and the Technology Department. All the bills were in order.

Reports

- a. Courthouse HVAC project update
There was no updates provided.

Resolutions

- a. 2026-04-501-015 – Resolution appropriating \$55,000.00 for archival documentation of the bridge carrying East 253rd Lane over McCraney Creek in Richfield Township and authorizing the County Board Chairman to sign the engineering agreement with Bacon Farmer Workman Engineers, Springfield, Illinois. Attachment A-1

The clerk read the resolution by title only.

Mr. McCleary made a motion to approve the resolution which was seconded by Mr. Siemer.

Resolution 2026-04-501-015 was approved.

Resolution b and c were read and approved together:

- b. 2026-04-501-016 – Resolution reporting bids and awarding the contract from the April 7, 2026 Township Motor Fuel Tax letting for resurfacing roads in Spring Lake Subdivision in Riverside Road District and authorizing the County Board Chairman to sign the contract. Attachment A-2
- c. 2026-04-501-017 – Resolution reporting bids and awarding the contract from the April 7, 2026 Township Motor Fuel Tax letting for resurface a portion of Koch's Lane and North 36th Street in Ellington Road District and authorizing the County Board Chairman to sign the contract. Attachment A-3

The clerk read the resolutions by title only.

Mr. McCleary made a motion to approve the resolution which was seconded by Mr. Russ Hinkamper.

The resolutions were approved.

New Business

a. Adams County Facilities Energy Supply Rates

Mr. Paul Kolcielski with QFB Energy presented that there will be a credit on their gas bill coming up due to an error calculation that happened last year by the grid operator. The county will be receiving a credit/bill adjustment by \$34,000 in the next couple of weeks.

He also reported on the current natural gas rates that he has. He presented an estimated annual savings of about \$14,663.98 if they sign these presented rates. The current rate is \$.638 per therm and the proposed rate is \$.4800.

Mr. Russ Hinkamper made a motion to accept this bid of rates which was seconded by Mr. Siemer.

Discussion: Mr. Farlow asked how they caught the calculation error. Mr. Kolcielski stated they noticed discrepancies and talked to suppliers who then notified the grid operator. He stated the error happened last summer. Mr. Farlow asked who caught it and Mr. Kolcielski stated it was all involved who discovered, discussed and worked together to get it corrected. Mr. Kerkhoff asked if we would be switching companies and he responded they would be going from Constellation to NRG and it will be a 4-year rate.

The motion was approved.

Mr. Finlay asked if that grid miscalculation affect residential bills. Mr. Kolcielski stated they do not deal with residential and he encourages them to ask.

Mr. McCleary reminded them of the solar farm hearing coming up.

The committee's next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 12, 2026

Legislative & Judicial

Committee Report (Mr. McCoy)

Bills – The committee met on April 15, 2026 and reviewed bills from the Circuit Clerk, Juvenile Detention Center, Probation Department, Public Defender, State's Attorney, and the Supervisor of Assessments. All the bills were in order.

Appointments

a. Appointment of Dale Kill as a Trustee of the Clayton Fire Protection District for a Three-Year Term to Commence the First Monday of May, 2026.

Mr. Farlow made a motion to approve the appointment which was seconded by Mr. Gunther.

The appointment was approved.

- b. Appointment of James Kindhart as a Trustee of the Clayton Fire Protection District for a Three-Year Term to Commence the First Monday of May, 2026.
Mr. McCoy made a motion to approve the appointment which was seconded by Mr. Farlow.
The appointment was approved.
- c. Appointment of Jim Pracht as a Trustee of the Liberty Fire Protection District for a Three-Year Term to Commence the First Monday of May, 2026.
Mr. McCoy made a motion to approve the appointment which was seconded by Mr. Farlow.
The appointment was approved.
- d. Appointment of Warren A. Huseman as a Trustee of the Central Adams Fire Protection District for a Three-Year Term to Commence the First Monday of May, 2026.
Mr. Sorensen made a motion to approve the appointment which was seconded by Mr. McCoy.
The appointment was approved.
- e. Appointment of Tom East as a Trustee of the Central Adams Fire Protection District for a Two-Year unexpired Term to Commence the First Monday of May, 2028.
Mr. McCoy made a motion to approve the appointment which was seconded by Mr. Gunther.
The appointment was approved.

Pyrotechnic Displays

- a. Application for Pyrotechnic Display for Point D’Vine LLC on Saturday May 2, 2026 at 8PM, or after dusk with No Alternative Date provided. Attachment B-1
Mr. Gunther made a motion to approve the pyrotechnic display which was seconded by Mr. Farlow.
The pyrotechnic display was approved.

The committee’s next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 12, 2026

Public Health & Safety

Committee Report (Mr. Fischer)

Bills – The committee met on April 15, 2026 and reviewed the bills for the Sheriff’s Office, Coroner’s Office, Emergency Management Agency, Veterans Assistance Commission and Animal Control. All the bills were in order.

Resolution-

- a. Adams County Jail – Nursing Contract Review/Discussion
Mr. Fischer stated they are still working on this.

The committee’s next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 12, 2026

Executive Committee

Committee Report (Mr. Reich)

The committee met on April 6, 2026

Reports

They received updates from the AdHoc committee with the City about new software with permitting that will notify all offices that need involvement. They discussed a grant that would get bus services in the rural areas. They also talked about security on the West side of the courthouse to get an officer at that entrance as well. They also discussed a County Administrator position but they need more time to figure out what that will look like.

The committee’s next meeting will be Monday, May 4, 2026

Finance

Committee Report (Mr. Cooley)

Bills – The committee met on April 13, 2026 and reviewed the bills. All the bills were in order.

Budget/Insurance

Mr. Finlay reported that the health plan is \$101,000 in the green.

Discussion and Possible Action

- a. General Fund Transfers

Mr. Cooley reviewed some concerns of the general fund account as it has never been this low. He provided some suggestions the committee would ask of each department to work on to help this problem. They want to avoid having to get referendum to raise the capped rate for this levy line. He reviewed the issues the Ambulance Department is facing that is causing them to be so far over budget. He reported briefly on the comingled fund and the issues it has. They also discussed the jail’s medical services options that were presented and the committee recommended the Sheriff’s Office find a direct revenue source and readdress.

The committee's next meeting will be Monday, May 11, 2026

Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business to discuss.

New Business

Approval of Board Member Travel Vouchers

There were no travel vouchers to approve.

Monthly Reports

Supervisor of Assessments/Board of Review, Juvenile Detention Center, the County Clerk & Recorder's office, the Public Defender, the Circuit Clerk, Information Technology, and Probation Department, Monthly check register for March 2026, and Funds Summary report for March 2026, including revenue and expenses.

Mr. Ryan Hinkamper made a motion to receive and file the monthly reports with the appropriate committee which was seconded by Mr. Zanger.

Motion to receive and file the monthly reports with the appropriate committee adopted.

Correspondence

a. Upcoming Vegetation Activities from Ameren Illinois

Mr. Zanger moved to receive and file the correspondence with the appropriate committee which was seconded by Mr. Ryan Hinkamper.

Motion to receive and file the correspondence with the appropriate committee adopted.

Mr. Farlow stated that he is encouraged that the \$34,000 was found, but he would love to see something in place to help them catch things like this in the future.

The April 15th, 2026 meeting was recessed until Tuesday, May 12, 2026

RESOLUTION 2025-04-501-015

By The Adams County Transportation, Building & Technology Committee

TO THE HONORABLE COUNTY BOARD

Ladies and Gentlemen:

BE IT RESOLVED, by the County Board of Adams County, Illinois, that the bridge carrying East 253RD Lane over McCraney Creek, is in need of replacement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this project to replace SN 001-3169 per jurisdictional agreement is known as Adams County Sec. 15-00222-00-BR and Richfield Road District Section 22-21115-00-BR; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Adams County Highway Department has selected Bacon Farmer Workman Engineers, Springfield, Illinois, to provide professional services for the Historic Illinois engineering Record archival documentation of the bridge; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that there is hereby appropriated a sum of Fifty-five Thousand and xx/100 Dollars (\$55,000.00); from the Township Bridge Program Fund to pay for the professional services for the archival documentation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County Board Chairman be and is hereby authorized to sign the professional services agreement with Bacon Farmer Workman Engineers.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ by Committee Members

Adams County Transportation, Building &
Technology Committee

RESOLUTION 2026-04-501-016

By The Adams County Transportation, Building & Technology Committee

TO THE HONORABLE ADAMS COUNTY BOARD

Ladies and Gentlemen:

WHEREAS, your Committee, with the approval of the Illinois Department of Transportation, advertised for bids and held a letting on April 7, 2026 for the resurfacing of TR 746 (Birdie Lane) and TR 746 (Eagle Trace) with the necessary ancillary work, located in Spring Lake Subdivision approximately 1.5 miles north of Quincy, IL, to be known as Riverside Road District Section 26-22122-00-RS and to be paid for using Township Motor Fuel Tax Funds; and,

WHEREAS, the following was the low bid:

Diamond Construction Company	Quincy, Illinois	\$159,300.00
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WHEREAS, your Committee with the approval of the Illinois Department of Transportation recommends that the contract be awarded to Diamond Construction Company for their low bid for the above project.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the County Board of Adams County does hereby concur with the award of the contract to Diamond Construction Company for the above project and authorizes the Adams County Board Chairman to sign the contract.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ by Committee Members

Adams County Transportation, Building &
Technology Committee

RESOLUTION 2026-04-501-017

By The Adams County Transportation, Building & Technology Committee

TO THE HONORABLE ADAMS COUNTY BOARD

Ladies and Gentlemen:

WHEREAS, your Committee, with the approval of the Illinois Department of Transportation, advertised for bids and held a letting on April 7, 2026 for the resurfacing of FAU 7796 (Kochs Lane) and FAU 7830 (N. 36th Street) with the necessary ancillary work, located 1.0 miles northeast Quincy, IL, to be known as Ellington Road District Section 26-07114-02-RS and to be paid for using Township Motor Fuel Tax Funds; and,

WHEREAS, the following was the low bid:

Diamond Construction Company	Quincy, Illinois	\$136,123.50
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WHEREAS, your Committee with the approval of the Illinois Department of Transportation recommends that the contract be awarded to Diamond Construction Company for their low bid for the above project.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the County Board of Adams County does hereby concur with the award of the contract to Diamond Construction Company for the above project and authorizes the Adams County Board Chairman to sign the contract.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ by Committee Members

Adams County Transportation, Building &
Technology Committee

APPLICATION FOR AN OUTDOOR PYROTECHNIC DISPLAY PERMIT

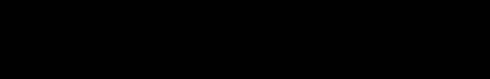
PART A – DISPLAY SPONSOR INFORMATION

Display Sponsor's Name: <i>Rita + Erany Speckhart</i>	Telephone Number : <i>217 656 3056</i>
<i>Pointe D'vine LLC</i>	Cell Phone:
Address: <i>270 Hwy 51 Quincy IL 62305</i>	<i>217 242 4255</i>

PART B – PYROTECHNIC DISTRIBUTOR INFORMATION

Pyrotechnic Distributor's Name: <i>The Fireworks Superstore LLC</i>		OSFM License:
Address: <i>55969 Trabue Ln Hannibal MO 63401</i>		Telephone Number: <i>573.221.5849</i>
Location Where Fireworks Stored: <i>The Fireworks Superstore LLC</i>		Storage Dates: <i>Present</i>
Lead Pyrotechnic Operator's Name:		OSFM License:
Assistant's Names	Date of Birth	License No. (if any)
Liability Insurance: (not less than \$1,000,000.00)		
Name and Address of Insurer: <i>Eric Erin Country Financial Rep. 1932 State St. Quincy IL 62301</i>		Telephone Number: <i>217.222.7300</i>
Policy Number: <i>AB9122943</i>		Coverage Dates:
Type of Coverage: <i>Commercial property / commercial general perty liability</i>		
List Type, Size and Approximate Number of Fireworks to be Displayed: (If you need more space, please attach a separate sheet of paper.)		


PART C – DISPLAY INFORMATION

Display Location: Pointe Divine Vineyard & Venue	
Property Owner's Name: Rita / Garry Speckhart	Telephone Number: 217-656-3050
Owner's Address (if different than Display Location):	
Date of Display: Saturday, May 2, 2026	Time of Display: 8pm after dusk
Alternative Date: n/a	Time of Alternative Display: n/a
By signing below, the Owner of the property on which the Outdoor Pyrotechnic Display will take place, hereby authorizes the Display Sponsor and the Pyrotechnic Distributor to perform the Outdoor Pyrotechnic Display on said property:	
Signature: 	

PART D – SITE INSPECTION INFORMATION

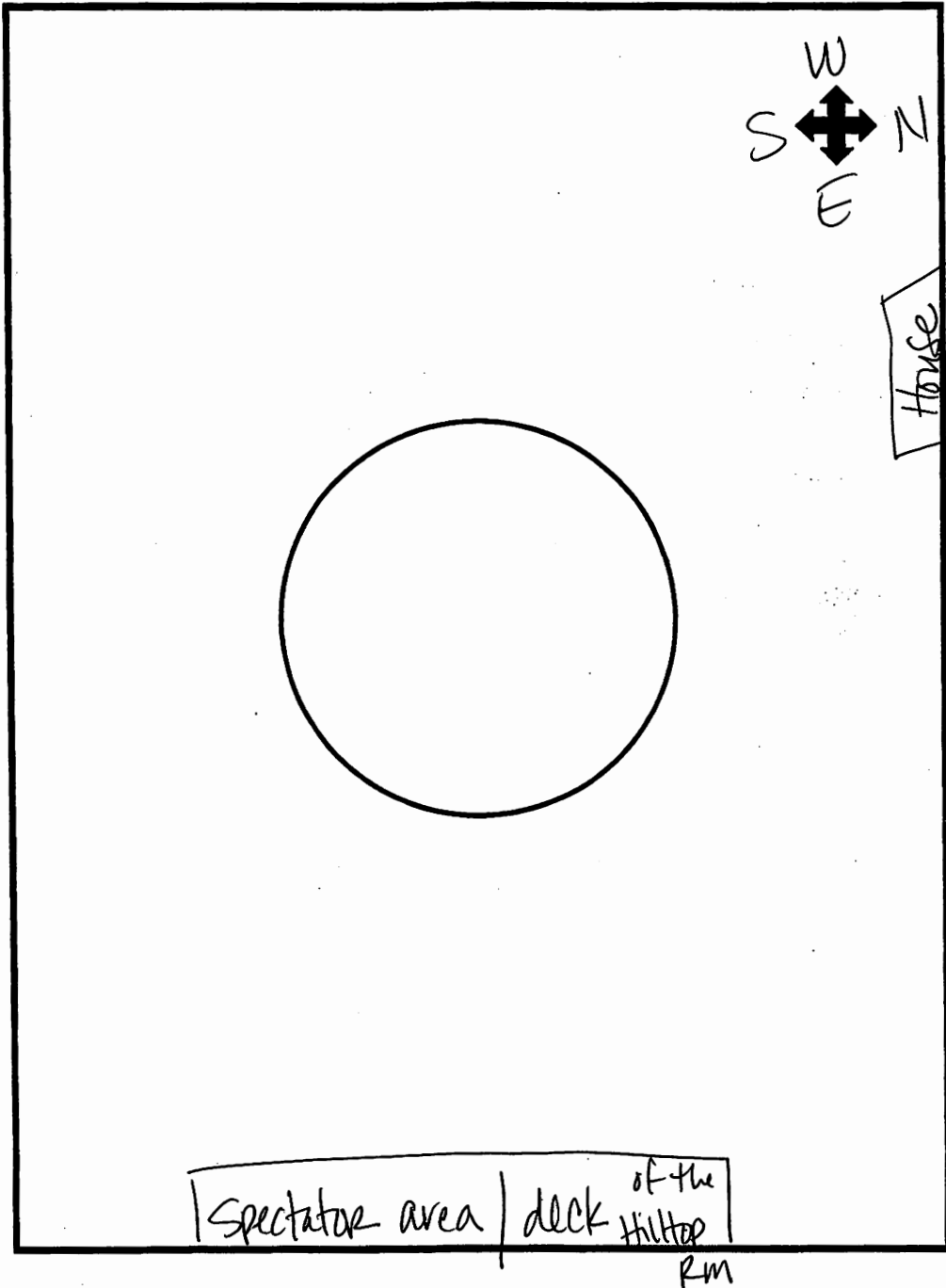
Answer the following questions:	Yes	No
Is distance to any fire hydrant or water supply greater than 600'?	✓	
Is display area clear from overhead obstructions?	✓	
Have provisions been made to keep the public out of the display area?	✓	
Is a hospital, nursing home, or other institution within 600' of the display site?		✓
Have provisions been made for on-site fire protection during the display?	✓	
Has a diagram of the display site been attached to this application?	✓	
Identify the largest mortar size (in inches) you intend to use.		
Identify the minimum secured diameter of the display site (in feet) based on the largest mortar size.		

PART E - FIRE DEPARTMENT AUTHORIZATION (Completed by Fire Department)

Department Name: Payson Fire Dept		Telephone Number: (217) 656-3231	
Department Address: 111 N. Park St. Payson IL 62360			
Based on review of the Display Site, the provided Diagram, and this application:		Yes	No
Have you verified the answers the applicant has given to Part D of this application?			
Will the performance of the described Outdoor Pyrotechnic Display at the planned display site be hazardous to property or endanger any person?			
By signing below, the Fire Chief of the above-identified fire jurisdiction, or his or her designee, hereby acknowledges that he or she inspected the Display Site:			
Signature: 			
Print Name: Rocky Ford Chief PFCFPD		Date: 4/2/26	

PART F – DIAGRAM OF DISPLAY SITE (Completed by the Applicant)

In the space provided below, draw and identify the location of the following items: Streets, Discharge Site, Fallout Area, Parking Area, Spectator Area, Buildings, Overhead Obstructions, and Spotters. The associated separation distances must also be shown. Do not forget to identify the direction in your drawing:





/s/ Bret Austin

CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

/s/ Ryan A. Niekamp

COUNTY CLERK

COUNTY OF ADAMS)
STATE OF ILLINOIS)

I, Ryan A. Niekamp, County Clerk in and for said County of Adams, State of Illinois, do hereby certify that the foregoing is true and complete copy of the proceedings of the Adams County Board's meeting held on March 10, 2026, as shown by my records in my office.

Witness my hand and official seal at Quincy, Illinois
this 15th day of April 2026.



/s/ Ryan A. Niekamp

COUNTY CLERK