

HUMAN RESOURCES AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

APRIL 9, 2026

The Human Resources and Planning Committee met on Thursday, April 9, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was held at the McDonough County Courthouse, 3rd Floor, Law Library. Committee Members in attendance included Chair Ken Durkin, Vice Chair Vicky Kipling, Clayton Cook, Allen Henderson, Mike Kirby, Jerry Raby, Ryan Litchfield, Dana Walker and John Vigezzi. Others in attendance included Karen Blakeley, Bonnie Skripps, County Chair Eric Blakeley, and Deputy County Clerk Kyah Beck.

Chair Durkin called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Review and Approve Minutes from March 12, 2026

Member Walker moved with a second by Member Kipling to approve the minutes as submitted with corrections. Motion carried on a voice vote.

Animal Control Report

Received and filed. There was 19 dogs and 27 cats in the shelter at the end of March.

Humane Society

Bonnie spoke about a bingo night that will be hosted in July to go towards helping fix dogs. She also spoke about a possible new shelter they have been looking at. This building will be inspected in the near future.

Open and Approve a Mowing Bid for Animal Shelter

The animal shelter only received one bid, which is who they have previously been using. The mowing rate will be staying the same

Member Raby moved with a second by Member Walker to approve the mowing bid for the animal shelter. Motion carried on a voice vote.

Policies and Procedures

None.

GIS Update

None.

Approval of HR & Planning Claims

Member Cook moved with a second by Member Litchfield to approve the HR & Planning claims as submitted. Motion carried on a voice vote.

Other Items as Needed

None.

Executive Session

None.

Public Comment

None.

County Board Chair Comments

Eric Blakeley updated the committee with the RWE wind farm that has been under preconstruction for some time. The first completed tower will go up in September. Between then and December, the rest of the towers will be going up. Eric also informed the committee about the one-year contract MDH made with Lifeguard. Once that contract is up, the county will pay for the expenses. Eric Blakeley believes this area cannot go without an ambulance service, so the county and city is willing to take financial responsibility for it.

Adjourn

Member Raby moved with a second by Member Kirby to adjourn the meeting at 7:41 p.m. Motion carried on a voice vote.