

LAW & LEGAL

JUNE 1, 2026

The Law & Legal Committee held its monthly meeting on Monday, June 1, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was held at the McDonough County Courthouse, 3rd Floor, Law Library. Committee Members present included Committee Chair Joe Erlandson, Vice Chair Ken Durkin, Clayton Cook, Travis Hiel, Ryan Litchfield, Roger Ward, Riley Smith, and Terry Thompson. Other persons in attendance were Darcie Shineberger, Al Lashbrook, Loret Newlin, Ric Smart, Deborah Cousins, Sheriff Nick Petitgout, County Chair Eric Blakeley, and County Clerk Jeremy Benson.

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

Review & Approve May 4, 2026 Minutes

Member Durkin moved with a second by Member Thompson to approve the minutes as submitted. Motion carried on a voice vote.

Waste Management Update

Report received and filed.

Tri-County Recycling

No report. Aaron Allen is no longer with WIRC.

Veteran's Assistance and Van Report

Ric Smart gave the report. 10 Veterans were given assistance in May. Total assistance amounted to \$2,628.40.

Sheriff's Report

Sheriff Nick Petitgout gave the report. He informed the committee that a new vehicle is in the process of being equipped. A brief discussion was held regarding the technology

Assessor's Office Update

Assessor Deborah Cousins gave the report. The assessor's office is currently busy assisting taxpayers with questions regarding their tax bills. The solar property talked about last month has been put on hold by the City of Macomb.

Approve Illinois Separation Referendum Resolution

Al Lashbrook and Loret Newlin came and spoke to the committee and also answered questions regarding this referendum to split from Cook County. At this stage, the referendum is only to investigate the possibility of this happening. A lengthy discussion was held.

Member Cook moved with a second by Member Hiel to approve the Illinois Separation Referendum Resolution. Motion carried with a roll call vote of 7 yeas, 1 nay, 0 pass, and 0 absent. This will be moving to full board.

Claims Review and Approval

Member Thompson moved with a second by Member Cook to approve the claims as submitted. Motion carried on a voice vote.

Other Items as Needed

Joe Erlandson would like to hold a public hearing on June 22nd at 6 p.m. in the main courtroom regarding solid waste management plan.

Executive Session

None.

Public Comment

None.

County Board Chair Comments

Eric informed the committee that House Bill 4537 passed to update tax sales.

Adjourn

Member Ward moved with a second by Member Hiel to adjourn the meeting at 7:54 p.m. Motion carried on a voice vote.