Minutes - Board of County Commissioners

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Randolph County Board of Commissioners

October 23, 2026

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
) SS
COUNTY OF RANDOLPH)

Chairman David Holder called the meeting of the Randolph County Board of Commissioners to order at 9:00 AM on October 23, 2026 at the Boardroom.

PLEDGE

The meeting started with the PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE. The pledge was led by Chairman Holder.

ROLL CALL

Attendance taken at 9:00: David Holder, Present; Andy Gerlach, Present; Ronald G White, Present.

David Holder _____ Chairman

Andy Gerlach _____ Member

Ronald G White _____ Member

ATTEST: _____
County Clerk

APPROVAL OF PRIOR MINUTES

After reviewing the minutes from the previous meeting, Ronald G White made a motion to approve prior commission minutes dated 10/9/2026 9:00 AM. Andy Gerlach seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote.

RANDOLPH COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

The HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT held a general discussion with the Board on the current operations of the department and presented the claims for consideration.

Motion/Vote - HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Ronald G White made a motion to allow and pay all claims as presented. Andy Gerlach seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote.

A resolution was presented to approve a transfer in the amount of $30,665.00 from the General Highway Fund to the Federal-Aid Matching Fund.

Motion/Vote-HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT FUNDS TRANSFER RESOLUTION

Andy Gerlach made a motion to approve resolution no. 26-21 as presented to transfer the funds. Ronald G White seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote.

CARE CENTER

The CARE CENTER held a general discussion with the Board on the current operations of the facility and presented the claims for consideration.

Motion/Vote-CARE CENTER CLAIMS

Andy Gerlach made a motion to allow and pay all claims as presented. Ronald G White seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

The HEALTH DEPARTMENT held a general discussion with the Board on the current operations of the department and presented the claims for consideration.

Motion/Vote - HEALTH DEPARTMENT CLAIMS

Ronald G White made a motion to allow and pay all claims as presented. Andy Gerlach seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote.

GENERAL ASSISTANCE

The GENERAL ASSISTANCE claims were presented and reviewed for consideration with accounts payable totaling $400.00.

Motion/Vote - GENERAL ASSISTANCE CLAIMS

Andy Gerlach made a motion to allow and pay all claims as presented. Ronald G White seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote.

CLAIMS

The CLAIMS against the County were presented and reviewed for consideration.

Motion/Vote - CLAIMS

Ronald G White made a motion to allow and pay all claims as presented. Andy Gerlach seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote.

PUBLIC DEFENDER RESOLUTION

The following resolution was presented to establish the office of Public Defender for Randolph County, Illinois and the position of Chief Public Defender.

RANDOLPH COUNTY, ILLINOIS
RESOLUTION NO. 2026-22

A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THE OFFICE OF PUBLIC DEFENDER FOR RANDOLPH COUNTY, ILLINOIS AND POSITION OF CHIEF PUBLIC DEFENDER

WHEREAS, the County of Randolph, Illinois (hereinafter "County") is a duly created, organized and validly existing county of the State of Illinois under the 1970 Illinois Constitution and the laws of the State of Illinois, including particularly the Illinois Counties Code, and all laws amendatory thereof and supplementary thereto; and

***WHEREAS**, P.A. 104-300, eff. 1-1-27, created the State Public Defender Act, 725 ILCS 100/1, et seq., and amended 55/ILCS 5/Div. 3-4 (Public Defender and Appointed Counsel), 55 ILCS 5/3-4000, et seq.*

WHEREAS, pursuant to P.A. 104-300 (55 ILCS 5/3-4001): "In each county of this State containing 35,000 or more inhabitants there is created the office of Public Defender and the person to be appointed to such office shall be known as the Chief County Public Defender."

WHEREAS, pursuant to P.A. 104-300 (55 ILCS 5/3-4002): "In each county of this State containing less than 35,000 inhabitants, the county board may, by resolution, create the Office of Public Defender and the person appointed to such office shall be known as the Chief County Public Defender."

WHEREAS, pursuant to P.A. 104-300 (55/ILCS 5/3-4004.2(b)): "The Chief County Public Defender shall devote full time to the duties of the public defender system and shall not otherwise engage in the practice of law."

WHEREAS, pursuant to P.A. 104-300 (55 ILCS 5/3-4007(b)), a full time Chief County Public Defender shall be paid "at least 95% of that county's State's Attorney's annual compensation and will be eligible for the same amount of State reimbursement as that county's State's Attorney under Section 4-2001 [55 ILCS 5/4-2001]."

WHEREAS, per the last U.S. Census in 2020, the population of Randolph County was 34,962 inhabitants; per the 2010 Census, the population of Randolph County was 30,163 inhabitants.

WHEREAS, P.A. 102-1104, eff. 12-6-22, as amended by P.A. 103-8, eff. 7-1-23, created the Public Defender Fund, codified as 55 ILCS 5/3-4014. For FY 2027, Randolph County has received $97,505.00 from the Public Defender Fund, in FY 2026, Randolph County received $97,810.98 from the Public Defender Fund.

WHEREAS, P.A. 104-300, eff. 1-1-27, amended 55 ILCS 5/3-4014, to provide that: "All money in the Public Defender Fund shall be used, subject to appropriation, by the State Public Defender to provide funding to counties with a population of 3,000,000 or less for use by public defenders for public defender services and related expenses."

WHEREAS, pursuant to 725 ILCS 100/35(f): "Requests by counties for financial support from the Public Defender Fund shall originate solely from the Chief County Public Defender of any jurisdiction and shall be submitted directly to the Office of the State Public Defender."

WHEREAS, Randolph County currently employs a part-time public defender and part-time assistant public defenders.

WHEREAS, the Randolph County Circuit Court, in conjunction with County part-time public defenders, recently completed a survey, pursuant to the State Public Defender Act, which disclosed that the public defender was appointed to 268 cases in calendar year 2025, including 197 felony cases.

WHEREAS, the Pretrial Fairness Act, P.A. 101-652, as amended by P.A. 102-1104, amended the Illinois Code of Criminal Procedure to provide defendants the right to be represented by counsel at hearings, including, but not limited to, to deny pretrial release or set conditions of release, to revoke pretrial release, and to impose sanctions for violations of pretrial release, and to be appointed counsel for said hearings.

WHEREAS, the foregoing necessitates the County to create the office of Public Defender and position of full-time Chief Public Defender.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Randolph County Board of Commissioners, as follows:

Section 1. The recitals contained above in the preamble of this Resolution are hereby incorporated by reference, the same as if set forth in this Section of this Resolution verbatim, as findings of the Randolph County Board of Commissioners.

Section 2. The Office of Public Defender and position of full-time Chief Public Defender are hereby created, effective the first day of Fiscal Year 2027, December 1, 2026.

PASSED BY THE RANDOLPH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS THIS 23rd DAY OF October, 2026.

Dave Holder	Aye
Ronnie White	Aye
Andy Gerlach	Aye

S/Chairman David Holder
S/Ronnie White
S/Andy Gerlach

ATTEST:
S/Melanie Johnson, County Clerk

Motion/Vote - PUBLIC DEFENDER RESOLUTION

Andy Gerlach made a motion to approve resolution no. 26-22 as presented. Ronald G White seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Andy Gerlach (Yes), Ronald G White (Yes), David Holder (Yes).

MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT RATE

The Board presented a raise for the mileage reimbursement rate starting December 1, 2026 from .60 per

mile to .70 per mile.

Motion/Vote-MILEAGE RATE

Ronald G White made a motion to to approve the new rate. Andy Gerlach seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote.

RECESS

There being no further business to come before the Board, Andy Gerlach made a motion to recess this meeting until 11/6/2026. Ronald G White seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote. This meeting recessed at 9:22 am.

David Holder _____
Chairman

Andy Gerlach _____
Member

Ronald G White _____
Member

ATTEST: _____
County Clerk