

MINUTES of the AURORA TOWNSHIP BOARD of TRUSTEES MEETING

80 N. Broadway, Aurora, Illinois

Thursday, March 27, 2025

- I. CALL TO ORDER**
- PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- INVOCATION**
- ROLL CALL AND ESTABLISH QUORUM**

Supervisor Bill Catching called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m. and led all in the Pledge of Allegiance. Trustee Dolores Hicks gave the invocation. Clerk Cassidy Alexander called the roll and established a quorum with the following officials and board members present: Supervisor Catching, Trustee Dolores Hicks, Trustee David Moore, Trustee Juanita Wells, Assessor Davis Offutt, and Highway Commissioner Jason Owens. Trustee Sam Núñez was excused absent. Staff present: Director of Finance and Administration Patty Richardson. Public present: Deputy A. Vidrio of the Kane County Sheriff Department, Alma Green, John E. Burch III, Sherry Spears, Arlissa Dockery of ECHO Development, B. Kenty, Dyanne Ingram, and Lillian Perry.

Supervisor Catching moved for **Approval of the Minutes of The Regular Board Meeting of March 13, 2025**, which was seconded by Trustee Hicks. The motion carried.

- II. Approval and/or Audit of Township and Road District Bills**

- a. Supervisor Catching moved to approve the combined Town Fund, Road and Bridge Fund, General Assistance Fund, Town IMRF Fund, Town Social Security Fund, Road & Bridge Social Security Fund, and Road & Bridge IMRF Fund bills as presented to the board. The second was Trustee Wells. The bills are as follows:

Town Fund.....	\$68,302.54
Road & Bridge Fund.....	\$27,600.90
General Assistance Fund.....	\$11,940.58
Town IMRF Fund.....	\$478.63
Town Social Security Fund.....	\$4,681.51
R&B Social Security Fund.....	\$985.21
R&B IMRF Fund.....	\$106.97
TOTAL for all funds.....	\$114,096.34

The motion carried without discussion.

- III. REPORTS**

- a. ASSESSOR'S REPORT

- Assessor Davis Offutt submitted a written report stating the usual activities of the department. He also gave a rundown of the various exemptions on property tax in Aurora Township and made special mention that the Senior Freeze must be completely done by November first.

- b. HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

- Highway Commissioner Jason Owens said, besides the usual duties and working on the budget, the department is moving toward doing drainage projects, starting next week. He added that the resurfacing project in West Marywood subdivision would be in mid-summer.

- c. SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

- Supervisor Catching said the employee bathroom is temporarily out of commission, with a collapsed pipe.

He stated there will be two new phone lines added at the Township for PACE, one paid for by PACE, dedicated to two computers. Lastly, the Supervisor said that the Township Consolidation legislation is all but dead, having received a lot of pushback.

d. DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION'S REPORT

Director of Finance and Administration Patty Richardson submitted February's financial statement to the board and said the final amounts for March will be next week. She said they are now starting employee evaluations.

e. KANE COUNTY DEPUTY SHERIFF'S REPORT

Deputy Vidrio cautioned everyone to lock their cars and keep nothing in plain view, as several vehicles have been stolen in Aurora Township because keys were left in the car. He also warned that there is a scam going around Kane County where a person gets a call, allegedly from the Kane County Sheriff Department, saying you will be arrested unless you give them a gift card for a certain amount. Dep. Vidrio said if you have a warrant for your arrest, they will come in person with a squad car and not ask for money this way!

V. **NEW BUSINESS**

a. Supervisor Catching moved to approve **Resolution 2025-04 Declaration of Surplus Township Vehicles**. Trustee Moore seconded. Catching said this was for their vintage 2004 van that is too costly to maintain at this point. The motion carried.

b. Supervisor Catching moved to approve **Resolution 2025-05 Transfer of Appropriation – Town Fund**. The second was Trustee Wells. Catching said there are several minor rearrangements of funds before the end of the fiscal year. The motion carried.

c. Supervisor Catching moved to approve **Resolution 2025-06 Transfer of Appropriation – Road Fund**. The second was Trustee Hicks. The motion carried.

d. Supervisor Catching moved to approve **Resolution 2025-07 Transfer of Appropriation – General Assistance Fund**. The second was Trustee Moore. The motion carried.

e. Supervisor Catching moved to approve **Resolution 2025-08 Oppose Township Consolidation Into County Government**. It was seconded by Trustee Wells. The motion carried.

f. Supervisor Catching moved to approve **Resolution 2025-09 Establishing Road District Capital Fund**. The second was Trustee Hicks. Highway Commissioner Jason Owens explained that this was a better way to accrue funds for larger projects without having to borrow money, which comes with costly interest. He said this is also a better legal way to structure it, so that the Road District isn't constantly having to defend itself against over-levying. Owens said he consulted with a special attorney to set this up correctly, and that there are definite restrictions on how it can be used. Owens added that they will fund this fund by approval at the Annual Town Meeting in April. The motion carried.

g. Supervisor Catching moved to approve **Resolution 2025-010 Adopting Capital Fund Policy**. It was seconded by Trustee Moore. The board was given detailed restrictions on funding. The motion carried.

h. **Presentation of Budget & Appropriation Ordinance Aurora Township Fiscal Year 2025-2026**. Director of Finance and Administration Patty Richardson gave a brief rundown on the differences in the coming fiscal year. She said we spent \$306,000 in reserves this year but budgeted about one million in spend-

down of reserves for this coming year because of increased prices for insurance, Ride-In-Kane, expected new hires in the Assessor's Office, and more. Richardson said the budget will be posted for 30 days at the Township Office and Youth Center and that she's happy to answer any questions on the budget before it is voted upon in the May 8 regular board meeting.

i. **Presentation of Budget & Appropriation Ordinance Aurora Township Road District Fiscal Year 2025-2026.** Highway Commissioner Owens said the Road Fund looks high because about 47% of it needs to be distributed to the City of Aurora, the Village of Montgomery and the Village of North Aurora, per law. He said there is a larger legal fund and a focus on drainage projects. He repeated Richardson's statement that it will be posted for 30 days before a vote on May 8.

VI. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

All the board members sent congratulations to Trustee Núñez and his family on their new baby.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Dyanne Ingram asked if seniors were supposed to get free meals if taken out by a board member, and several of them replied that they do not do that, because all expenditures need to be approved by the entire board. Trustee Hicks said she may be confusing the Township Board with the Drop-in Senior program at the Youth Center, which is run by a charitable organization, and not the government.

Arlissa Dockery of ECHO Development said she sent a letter to the Supervisor asking for funding for their Senior Easter Program Meal and hoped the Township would consider it.

Bonnie Kunkel asked what Capital projects might be done in the next 3 – 4 years and Supervisor Catching said she could talk to Commissioner Owens after the meeting for details.

Sherry Spears said she does not mean to show any bad feelings or disrespect and does not want any fighting at the Township in Aurora.

Lillian Perry said she was having trouble hearing the board members speak and asked that they have individual microphones for each board member, the way it used to be done years ago.

VIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Trustee Hicks publicly thanked Supervisor Catching for driving seniors to the dance last Thursday in the Township van when there was a shortage of drivers, and she very much appreciated it.

Supervisor Catching said there will be a Boy Scouts Community Breakfast on May first and the Township has a community table. He said more details to follow.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Supervisor Catching moved to adjourn which was seconded by Trustee Moore. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote and the meeting ended at 4:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Cassidy Alexander,
Aurora Township Clerk

