

Aurora Township
Board of Trustees Meeting
80 N. Broadway | Aurora, IL
June 26, 2025 | 4:00 pm
MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Catching at 4:19 pm.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The pledge was led by Supervisor Catching.

III. INVOCATION

The invocation was led by Trustee Hicks.

IV. ROLL CALL

Clerk Thomas called the roll and established quorum with the following officials present:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| x Supervisor William Catching | x Trustee Dolores Hicks |
| Assessor Davis R. Offutt - ABSENT | x Trustee Bonnie Kunkel |
| x Highway Commissioner Jason Owens | x Trustee Sam Nuñez |

Also in attendance: **Aurora Township Staff:** Patty Richardson, Director of Finance and Administration; **Members of the Public:** Chet Donelson, Janice Donelson, Jeffrey Donelson, Jerria Donelson, Barbara Griffin, Alvin Hicks, Dr. Peggy Hicks, Robert Paolicchi, Adam Pauley, Jason Riley, Ed Ryan, Jose Torres

V. MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF JUNE 12, 2025.

Motion by Supervisor Catching | **Second** by Trustee Hicks
The minutes were approved as presented by unanimous voice vote.

VI. TOWNSHIP AND ROAD DISTRICT BILLS

Motion by Supervisor Catching | **Second** by Trustee Hicks

To approve or audit the combined bills for the 1) Town Fund, 2) Road & Bridge Fund, 3) General Assistance Fund, 4) Mental Health Fund, 5) Joint Bridge Fund, 6) Town IMRF Fund, 7) Town Social Security Fund, 8) Road & Bridge Social Security Fund, 9) Road & Bridge IMRF Fund:

Aurora Township Bills Payable – June 26, 2025	
Town Fund	\$ 55,833.98
Road & Bridge Fund	\$ 23,900.98
General Assistance Fund	\$ 8,482.59
Mental Health Fund	\$ 756,355.59
Joint Bridge Fund	\$ 3,954.50
Town IMRF Fund	\$ 451.45
Town Social Security Fund	\$ 5,568.65
Road & Bridge Social Security Fund	\$ 1,504.07

Road & Bridge IMRF Fund	\$ 127.40
TOTAL of all funds:	\$856,179.21

Additional Bills – Trustee Kunkel initiated discussion about the following services and expenditures:

- Number of residents enrolled in the Senior Mowing Program (\$11,120 billed in June); 150 residents enrolled for the service, many are on the wait list
- Use of a Township owned Ford Taurus (\$3,767.87 worth of maintenance in June); assigned to the Youth Department, use currently limited
- Goheen Lawn Management – Trustee Kunkel raised concerns about not being able to find information about the vendor online and inquired about whether equipment is stored in a residential or commercial location. The Township does not have information on where the vendor stores equipment, but they have not been cited for any violations.
- Ride in Kane Bus Barn – The Township stores nine PACE Buses and one truck in the facility which is required (indoor storage) by PACE. The FY 2025 budget for the Bus Barn is \$38,000.

The bills were approved by unanimous voice vote:

VII. REPORTS

a. Assessor’s Report

A written report summarizing activity between June 12-25, 2025 -- including issued permits, Equalization Factor process, real property matters, etc -- was submitted.

b. Highway Commissioner’s Report

Highway Commissioner Owens submitted a written report. Highlights:

- Drainage work in West Marywood subdivision is ahead of schedule
- With on-boarding of full-time maintenance worker and summer crew the department is fully staffed
- Met with Kane County Office of Emergency Management group to discuss disaster preparedness

c. Supervisor’s Report

- Ride in Kane – written report on May ridership provided. Registered clients took 1,918 trips during the service window; 741 trips provided by Aurora Township RIK drivers; highest number of rides for medical appointments
- Code Violations – Code Enforcement Pending Cases Report (April–June) provided which lists the inspection date, code violation, and compliance date for 34 properties
- Township Officials of Illinois Meeting – Supervisor Catching attended a meeting of the Township Supervisors Division 6/27, scheduled for training 6/27 to cover Human Resources Management, Legal Insights, and General Assistance & Insurance updates

d. Director of Finance and Administration

- Received first distribution from Kane County property taxes in May and the second in mid-June (largest payment)
- Audit field work complete, report expected in July
- Meeting with Stumm Insurance (employee healthcare) to discuss rates for FY2026 the week of 7/3/25, increase of approximately 10% expected
- Discussions with IMPACT regarding cybersecurity, software and other information technology needs initiated for fall renewal

e. Kane County Deputy Sheriff's Report

No representative/report. Deputy Brian Demeter, who has been the Township's long-time liaison to the Kane County Sheriff's Office retiring June 27

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

Resolution 2025-23 Warrant for Appointment

Supervisor Catching moved to appoint Jerria Donelson to fill the trustee vacancy. Second by Trustee Hicks

- Trustee Kunkel began discussion by objecting to the Resolution being listed as "Warrant of Appointment" on the meeting agenda; stating the description does not reflect the matter/vote before the board.
- Trustee Kunkel moved to continue the vote to fill the trustee vacancy by appointment. The motion died for lack of second.
- Discussion continued to include a statement by Trustee Nuñez in support of Jerria Donelson but calling for a more transparent and open process in future instances.
- In response to concerns about the process raised by trustees Kunkel and Nuñez, Supervisor Catching reminded board members that the Consolidated Election was April 1st and Jerria was "next in line" as the fifth highest vote-getter.
- Trustee Kunkel clarified that her objections to the resolution/vote was in regard to the process not the candidate.

Resolution 2025-23 passed by roll call vote, 3:1

Supervisor William Catching	Yay
Trustee Dolores Hicks	Yay
Trustee Bonnie Kunkel	Nay
Trustee Sam Nuñez	Yay

Clerk Thomas administered the Oath of Office, Jerria Donelson was sworn in as Aurora Township Trustee.

IX. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

- Trustee Donelson expressed appreciation for the opportunity to serve and thanked family and friends in attendance for their support.
- Trustee Kunkel reported that she attended training for newly elected officials held by the Township Officials of Illinois (during week of 6/23).

X. PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Adam Pauley read a statement against filling the trustee vacancy by appointment. Supervisor Catching cautioned Mr. Pauley to adhere to guidelines for Public Participation in Public Meetings

- Congratulations & support of Trustee Donelson expressed by: Chet Donelson, Janice Donelson, Jeffrey Donelson, Jerria Donelson, Barbara Griffin, Alvin Hicks, Dr. Peggy Hicks, Robert Paolicchi, Jason Riley, Ed Ryan, Jose Torres

XI. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Reminder: **Kidz N Boats**, June 28 at Phillip's Park in Aurora, 10:00 am – 2:00 pm, sponsored by Aurora Township and St. Charles Canoe & Kayak Club

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Supervisor Catching | **Second** by Trustee Donelson

The motion was passed by unanimous voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 4:57 pm.

NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETING: Thursday, July 10, 2025 at 4:00 pm

Respectfully submitted,



Angela C. Thomas

Aurora Township Clerk