

**AMENDED- EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES (Open Session)**

Madison County Administrative Building, 157 N. Main Street, Room 309, Edwardsville, IL 62025

Wednesday, September 17, 2025, 4:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Denise Wiehardt, Terry Eaker, Mick Madison, Dalton Gray, Michael “Doc” Holliday, Chrissy Wiley, Jason Palmero & Chris Slusser (Chair)

PRESENT VIA TELECONFERENCE: None

ABSENT: Bobby Ross, Chris Guy, Frank Dickerson

OTHERS: Clayton Monroe, Cynthia Ellis, Andrew Esping, Fred Schulte, Alison Lamothe, Linda Wolfe, David Livingstone, Ron Simpson, Scott Cousins, Mike Babcock, Annette Schoberle, Linda Ogden, John Thompson, Nick Petrillo, Tom Haine, Phil Taylor & Dave Tanzyus.

Chris Slusser called the meeting to order.

Public Comment (audio on website):

Clayton Monroe
Michael Camero

Approval of Minutes:

Approval of the Amended March 19, 2025, Executive Committee minutes

*Mick Madison moved, seconded by Chrissy Wiley
Approved by all members present.*

Approval of the July 17, 2025, Executive Committee minutes

*Jason Palmero moved, seconded by Denise Wiehardt
Approved by all members present.*

Update:

Chris Slusser:
(Item #E.1 on the agenda)

Representatives from Fulcrum Government Strategies and Governmental Consulting Solutions will provide an update to the Executive Committee regarding recent legislative and governmental affairs.

Chris Slusser:

Introduced:

John Lowder, Governmental Consulting Solutions and Patrick Barry, Fulcrum Governmental Strategies. They will speak to you regarding legislative and governmental affairs.

Discussion (audio on website):

Budget & Fiscal Outlook:

- COVID and the lockdown period, we had significant spending.

- But additional funding is needed to sustain services.
- Fiscal year runs July–June; projections do not look favorable.
- Current revenue from corporate income tax, personal income tax, and sales tax is only about \$1 billion.
- The upcoming budget will be very challenging.

Legislative Engagement & Priorities:

- We want to demonstrate how we engage firms on the county's behalf and highlight key priorities.
- Input needed: What do you require from the legislative body in Springfield?

Key Funding & Policy Needs:

- Capital and infrastructure investments – including county facilities and economic development projects.
- Highway funds – unlocking resources is critical; Highway Department has identified opportunities.
- Wood River Hospital – capital support needed.
- Economic development – create more opportunities and jobs.
- Legislative changes – to support local growth and services.

Upcoming Legislative Calendar

- Veto Session – second and last week of October (6 days).
- Spring Session – will include major debates on energy, including:
 - Battery storage
 - Transmission
 - Data centers
 - Silo and energy efficiency

Public Transportation

- Regional issue, not just Illinois – requires broader coordination and advocacy.

Solar Farm Issues

- County has hosted many solar farms; these take up significant meeting time.
- State requirements need to be loosened to allow more flexibility.
- Key challenge: many developers are out-of-state; lawsuits often focus on property rights, not solar itself.

Our Commitment

- We aim to bring forward the priorities and the value you are looking for.

Resolution:

(F.1 on the agenda)

Day of Remembrance

Chris Slusser:

Dalton Gray, would you like to bring in this resolution in?

Dalton Gray:

We were very shocked about this assassination. We would like to Honor Charlie Kirks life and legacy, recognize him as an Illinois native, condemn political violence and to condemn the celebration of political violence. To designate October 14th as a day of remembrance on his 32nd birthday. To encourage citizen of this county and

ourselves to hold true to the pledge one nation under God indivisible with liberty and justice for all. We can have our disagreements, but we need to go about it politely and respectfully and keep our pledge and oath to our nation.

I would like to entertain a Motion.

Dalton Gray moved, seconded by Mick Madison

Doc Holliday:

I have a letter from a constituent that I would like to read.

I object, this Resolution does not follow the scope of the Madison County Government. It only serves to divide Madison County. Please stop wasting taxpayer's time and money. I do not condone the murder of Mr. Kirk; I would like to send my condolences to his family.

Mick Madison:

I have watched hours of Charlie Kirk. He was not a racist, or homophobe or bigot. He was following the constitution and bible; this is what our ~~county~~ **country** was founded on.

Chris Slusser:

I will call the vote:

AYES: Denise Wiehardt, Terry Eaker, Mick Madison, Dalton Gray, Chrissy Wiley, Jason Palmero & Chris Slusser

NAYS: Doc Holliday

MOTION CARRIED

Unfinished Business: None

New Business: None

Closed Session: No need for a closed session

Adjournment:

Chrissy Wiley moved, seconded by Mick Madison

MEETING ADJOURNED at 4:43 p.m.