

LAW & LEGAL
JANUARY 5, 2026

The Law & Legal Committee held its monthly meeting on Monday, January 5, 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, and Terry Thompson. Other persons in attendance were Deborah Cousins, Sheriff Nick Petitgout, County Chair Eric Blakeley, Stacy Nimmo, Scott Montes, Darcy Shinberger and Deputy County Clerk Kyah Beck. Member Jack Lowderman was absent.

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

Review & Approve December, 2025 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

Stacy Nimmo and WIRC's finance director, Scott Montes, came and spoke about the changes that have been happening. The committee was informed about a new intergovernmental and technical assistance agreement for the three counties; McDonough, Warren and Mercer. The committee requested a billing breakdown that the finance director, Scott, will be giving to them shortly.

Veteran's Assistance and Van Report

Report received and filed. 10 Veterans were given assistance in December. Total assistance amounted to \$2,784.

Sheriff's Report

Sheriff Nick Petitgout gave the report.

Assessor's Office Update

Assessor Deborah Cousins gave the report. Ending their 2025 assessment year on Thursday.

Claims Review and Approval

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

Other Items as Needed

None.

Executive Session

None.

Public Comment

None.

County Board Chair Comments

Eric Blakeley is still in contact with the architecture trying to schedule a walkthrough of the Courthouse.

Adjourn

Member Hiel moved with a second by Member Durkin to adjourn the meeting at 7:44 p.m. Motion carried on a voice vote.