

ESDA & CLAIMS COMMITTEE

FEBRUARY 17, 2026

The ESDA & Claims Committee held its monthly meeting on Tuesday, February 17, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was held at the McDonough County Courthouse, 3rd floor, Law Library. Committee Members present were Chair Eric Chapman, Vice Chair Clayton Murphy, Larry Aurelio, Joe Erlandson, Craig Foster, Mike Kirby, and Jarad Royer. Also present was ESDA Director Edgar Rodriguez, County Board Chair Eric Blakeley, Deputy Clerk Kyah Beck, and County Clerk Jeremy Benson. Member Jack Lowderman was absent.

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

Approval of January, 2026 Minutes

Member Foster moved with a second by Member Kirby to approve the minutes as submitted. Motion carried on a voice vote.

ESDA Director Report

Director Edgar Rodriguez presented the report. He informed the committee that a burn ban was issued on Sunday the 15th due to high winds, and several fires were reported. He also mentioned that their contract for mass emergency notifications will expire soon. He has met with several companies to review what they can offer. Currently, only a few individuals have access to the notification center, but he would like first responders to have access as well.

Approval of Committee Claims

Member Aurelio moved with a second by Member Foster, to approve the claims as submitted. Motion carried on a voice vote.

Approval of County Claims

Member Foster moved with a second by Member Murphy, to approve the claims as submitted. Motion carried on a voice vote.

Joe Erlandson spoke about claims we have been holding from WIRC for Tri-County Recycling. A new agreement was to be made before anymore bills were paid. Since progress is being made with the agreement, payment will be issued.

Other Items as Needed

The committee decided to move the ESDA and Claims meeting to March 16th, at 6:00 p.m. This is due to the primary election being on the 17th.

Executive Session

None.

Public Comment

None.

County Board Chair Comments

The Tri-County Recycling will have to make a new agreement, due to the current one being out of compliance. WIRC agreed to make the new agreement.

Adjourn

Member Foster moved with a second by Member Aurelio to adjourn the meeting at 7:28 p.m.
Motion carried on a voice vote.