

LAW & LEGAL

JULY 6, 2026

The Law & Legal Committee held its monthly meeting on Monday, July 6, 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, Deputy Sheriff Robbie Phelps, County Chair Eric Blakeley, and Deputy Clerk Kyah Beck. Member Riley Smith was absent.

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

Review & Approve June 1, 2026 Minutes

Member Durkin moved with a second by Member Thompson to approve the minutes with corrections. Motion carried on a voice vote.

Waste Management Update

Report received and filed.

Tri-County Recycling

Report received and filed. Joe Erlandson spoke about the public hearing that was held in regards to solid waste in June.

Veteran's Assistance and Van Report

Report received and filed. 11 Veterans were given assistance in June. Total assistance amounted to \$2,800.

Sheriff's Report

Deputy Sheriff Robbie Phelps gave the report. Robbie informed the committee that all insurance money has now come in from the previously damaged vehicles.

Assessor's Office Update

Assessor Deborah Cousins gave the report. Township assessors have started to return their township books. The Equalization is being looked at for this year.

Data Center Moratorium Resolution

This resolution was made to not accept the processing of applications for data centers and high impact technology facilities in McDonough County. There have been concerns about data centers using high amounts of electricity and water. The decision was made to pull this for right now. Non zoned counties may not have authority to pass this resolution. More conversations will be held with the States Attorney, Matt Kwacala.

Claims Review and Approval

Member Cook moved with a second by Member Ward 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 let the committee know that the Abraham Lincoln statue has been unveiled. He also asked the members to spread the word about mowing ditches now that the corn is tall. Visibility in intersections is getting difficult.

Adjourn

Member Hiel moved with a second by Member Thompson to adjourn the meeting at 7:22 p.m. Motion carried on a voice vote.