

HUMAN RESOURCES AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

SEPTEMBER 10, 2026

The Human Resources and Planning Committee met on Thursday, September 10, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was held at the Zahren Building in the Special Education Co-op Training Room. Committee Members in attendance included Chair Ken Durkin, Vice Chair Vicky Kipling, Allen Henderson, Mike Kirby, Ryan Litchfield, and Dana Walker. Others in attendance included Karen Blakeley, County Chair Eric Blakeley, and County Clerk Jeremy Benson. Members Clayton Cook, Jerry Raby, and John Vigezzi were absent.

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

Review and Approve Minutes from August 13, 2026

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

Animal Control Report

Received and filed. There was 20 dogs and 27 cats in the shelter at the end of August.

Humane Society

Ken Durkin let the committee know that he will be working with an architect out at the new shelter. Dr. Blakeley informed everyone that a bat tested positive in McDonough County for rabies.

Policies and Procedures

None.

GIS Update

Mike Kirby invited Chad Sperry to a board meeting this month or October to give an explanation on the GIS updates.

Approval of HR & Planning Claims

Member Kipling moved with a second by Member Litchfield to approve the HR & Planning claims as submitted. Motion carried on a voice vote.

Other Items as Needed

Dana Walker recommended the remaining ARPA funds that are in the County Building Repair and Maintenance fund should be used for support in other areas. Ken Durkin suggested taking this proposal to Finance. Mike Kirby and Allen Henderson also spoke to this matter.

Executive Session

None.

Public Comment

Vicky Kipling was given a big thank you for organizing the employee appreciation lunch. A thank you was also given to all the volunteers, Hy-vee, and Macomb FFA. The members decided to give a \$300 donation to Macomb FFA.

Member Kipling moved with a second by Member Walker to donate \$300 to Macomb FFA. Motion carried on a voice vote.

County Board Chair Comments

Eric Blakeley stated that the budget meetings went well. He also informed the committee that a public hearing will be coming up in regards to the Colchester Sun solar project.

Adjourn

Member Litchfield moved with a second by Member Kirby to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 p.m. Motion carried on a voice vote.