

Kayci Heil

White County Clerk & Recorder

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR WHITE COUNTY BOARD MEETING ON:
July 21, 2026**

The White County Board convened at the White County Courthouse in the City of Carmi, State of Illinois, on Tuesday the 21st of July, at 7:00 p.m. and was called to order by County Board Chairperson Amanda Cannon.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

On Roll Call, the following Board members responded as being present, which represented a quorum: Cassie Pigg, David South, Ken Usery, Amanda Cannon with Clint Spencer counted as absent.

MOTION was made by Mrs. Pigg seconded by Mr. South, to approve the minutes of the White County Board meeting. Vote by acclamation. All voting aye, none nay. Motion carried with Spencer counted as absent.

COUNTY OFFICER REPORTS

County Clerk: Clerk Heil told the Board about the email going down, but it was starting to come up, and she was just working on the 2026 and 2027 elections.

County Treasurer: Treasurer Baxley was not in attendance but submitted his report in writing.

Circuit Clerk: Did not have anything new to report.

Ambulance: Not in attendance

State's Attorney: Not in attendance

Sheriff: Sheriff Weiss told everyone that it is going to be very hot and make sure not to overheat.

Supervisor of Assessments: Not in attendance

Highway: Did not have anything to report.

EMA: Mr. Wurst talked about the storms that he had been dealing with and his quarterly meeting with IEMA.

TB Officer:

Coroner: Not in attendance

911: Not in attendance

Administrative Services: Mr. Harmon talked about budget packets going out to all the department heads and what the process would be like after the packets are all returned. He then went to talk about SB 25 and how it was very detailed for what their expectations were for solar and wind, but their data center legislation was extremely lacking. They recommended the Board issuing a 12 month moratorium.

Chairman Cannon asked if there was any public comment:

Diana Mason asked about the different types of moratoriums and if the Board has been approached. The board tried to explain that they are being proactive and trying to get more informed in case they do get approached.

Another gentleman started asking questions about the flock cameras and discussion started on flock cameras.

Mr. Harmon told the audience that the County has not been approached and the reason for the timing of this is because of the state's action for clean energy and push to this battery storage and these technologies.

Richard Cook told the Board that he submitted a FOIA and wanted the board to follow up with on the response.

Another lady gave a brief comment on what she found on data centers and encouraged the board to keep fighting against the centers.

Tiffany James filed a formal complaint with the Board against the Supervisors of Assessments. It is an addendum to the minutes.

Jeremy Billington gave the County a brief update on the health insurance, what all is going on and new facilities that they are getting contracts with.

Consent Agenda

The consent agenda was read by Chairman Cannon.

1. Discussion and possible approval of the 2026-2028 election judges.
2. Discussion and possible approval for the Resolution of support and commitment of funds to Greater Wabash Regional Planning Commission.
3. Discussion and possible approval of the PTAX 451 for the Sheriff's salary.
4. Discussion and possible approval of the PTAX 451 for the Public Defender's salary.

5. Discussion and possible approval of the submissions and modifications of the PY26 Allocated Grant application to the ILDCEO.

Chairman Cannon asked if any items needed to be removed from the consent agenda

MOTION was made by Mr. South, seconded by Mr. South to approve items 1-5 on the consent agenda. Vote passed by roll call. Motion carried with Spencer counted as absent.

OLD BUSINESS

- A. Discussion and possible approval of plans to sell the Drone Building. (tabled item)

MOTION was made by Mrs. Pigg, seconded by Mr. Usery to table this item again. Vote by acclamation. All voting aye, none nay. Motion carried with Spencer counted as absent.

NEW BUSINESS

- B. Discussion and possible approval of an Opioid Settlement Funding Request. (Jerrie Baxley & Haley Smith)

MOTION was made by Mr. South, seconded by Mrs. Pigg to approve entering into an agreement with a States Attorney for the funding request. Vote by acclamation. All voting aye, none nay. Motion carried with Spencer counted as absent.

- C. Discussion and possible approval of an ordinance establishing a temporary moratorium on the issuance of permits for data centers in White County, Illinois.

MOTION was made by Mr. Usery, seconded by Mrs. Pigg to approve the ordinance establishing the temporary moratorium. Vote by roll call. Motion carried with Spencer counted as absent.

CLAIMS

MOTION was made by Mr. Usery, seconded by Mrs. Pigg, to approve all bills. Vote by acclamation. Vote by acclamation. All voting aye, none nay. Motion carried with Spencer counted as absent.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

County Board Member Non-Action Items and Comments

Next meeting will be August 18, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. in the White County Courthouse.

MOTION was made by Mr. South, seconded by Mr. Usery, to adjourn. Vote by acclamation. All voting aye, none nay. Motion carried with Spencer counted as absent.

July 16, 2026

White County Board

White County Courthouse
Carmi, Illinois

**Re: Formal Complaint Regarding the Conduct of the White County
Supervisor of Assessments**

Dear Members of the White County Board,

I am submitting this letter as a formal complaint regarding my interaction with the White County Supervisor of Assessments on **July 15, 2026, at approximately 2:27 p.m. & 2:45 p.m.**

During my phone to the Supervisor of Assessments Office, in speaking with Gary Baxley, I sought information and asked questions regarding assessment-related matters. Throughout the interaction, I felt that I was treated in a condescending and dismissive manner. Rather than providing clear and professional answers to my questions, the Supervisor refused to answer several of them, making it difficult for me to obtain information that I believe members of the public are entitled to receive.

As a taxpayer and resident of White County, I expect to be treated with courtesy, respect, and professionalism when conducting business with county officials. Public officials serve the citizens of this county and should be willing to answer reasonable questions in a respectful and informative manner.

I respectfully request that the White County Board review this incident and determine whether the conduct displayed was consistent with the standards of professionalism and public service expected of county officials. I also ask that appropriate steps be taken to help ensure that members of the public are treated respectfully and receive the information they need when interacting with county offices.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter. I appreciate your consideration and look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Tiffany James

NameLast	NameMiddle	NameFirst	LiveInPrecinct
BANKSTON	M	WANDA	0724-GRAY 24
CAMPBELL	L	DIANA	0826-PHILLIPS 26
CARTER	L	FAYE	0519-CARMI 19
CARTER	ANN	LARA	0513-CARMI 13
CARTER		RICHARD	0513-CARMI 13
CLEVELAND	K	JANICE	0513-CARMI 13
DAUBY	LEE	KEVIN	0102-MILL SHOALS 2
DAUBY	M	MELANIE	0102-MILL SHOALS 2
DOZIER	K	PAULA	0518-CARMI 18
EGBERT	J	KIMBERLEY	0513-CARMI 13
FLECHS	A	DAVID	0306-INDIAN CREEK 6
JUENGER	R	CYNTHIA	0512-CARMI 12
MCKINNEY	A	KAREN	0204-ENFIELD 4
MILLS	A	PATRICIA	0514-CARMI 14
ODUM	L	MICHELLE	0101-MILL SHOALS 1
RICKETTS	J	NORMA	0516-CARMI 16
RUSSELL	B	NANCY	0518-CARMI 18
SCATES	K	EMMA	0518-CARMI 18
STOKES	MAY	EUNA	0308-INDIAN CREEK 8
USSERY GREENE	J	BARBARA	0826-PHILLIPS 26
WALKER	M	SHALENE	0622-HERALDS PRAIRIE 22
WILLIAMS	K	JUDITH	0410-BURNT PRAIRIE 10
ABSHER	L	RICKEY	0519-CARMI 19
ALBRIGHT	J	SHELIA	0308-INDIAN CREEK 8
ALLEN	J	REDONNA	0724-GRAY 24
APPEL	K	MARLA	0204-ENFIELD 4
BARE	AUDREY	DANA	0101-MILL SHOALS 1
BARE	R	ELIZABETH	0101-MILL SHOALS 1
BECK	R	LARRY	0513-CARMI 13
BELDEN	S	LORALEE	0518-CARMI 18
BINGMAN	A	CONNIE	0516-CARMI 16
BOLERJACK	A	KATHEY	0513-CARMI 13
CARTER	J	LISA	0513-CARMI 13
CARTER	LYNN	NANCSI	0516-CARMI 16
CAUDELL	E	DAISY	0514-CARMI 14
CHAPMAN	E	RICHARD	0513-CARMI 13
COLE	F	CAROLYN	0519-CARMI 19
CROSS	L	JANICE	0520-CARMI 20
FRENCH	N	ANDREA	0101-MILL SHOALS 1
GOSSETT	L	JEANNIE	0306-INDIAN CREEK 6
GRIMES	R	NORMA	0724-GRAY 24
GUINN	JO	REBA	0826-PHILLIPS 26
HIEBERT	E	DONALD	0306-INDIAN CREEK 6

HUFFORD	S	BROOKE	0102-MILL SHOALS 2
HUGHES	NICOLE	KACIE	0308-INDIAN CREEK 8
JAMES	JOAN	MILDRED	0520-CARMI 20
LAND	L	RACHELLE	0306-INDIAN CREEK 6
LECHNER	J	PAULA	0519-CARMI 19
MEHAFFEY	M	JAMES	0513-CARMI 13
MILEHAM	L	JANET	0306-INDIAN CREEK 6
MILLAR	K	MELAS	0724-GRAY 24
MOBLEY	L	SHEILA	1030-EMMA 30
MUSGRAVES	L	BRENDA	0622-HERALDS PRAIRIE 22
NELSON	R	MELODY	0826-PHILLIPS 26
SCHNEIDER	L	TAMMY	0410-BURNT PRAIRIE 10
SEVERNS	A	MICHAEL	0826-PHILLIPS 26
WHITLEY		CHARLENE	0410-BURNT PRAIRIE 10
SIMMONS		JANET	0204-ENFIELD 4
TATE		JUDY	0204-ENFIELD 4
BOYD		KAREN	0204-ENFIELD 4

7-21-2026 27
Resolution of Support and Commitment of Funds

WHEREAS, the County of White wishes to enter into an agreement with Greater Wabash Regional Planning Commission to remain a member of the Economic Development District and for the commitment of local matching funds, and

WHEREAS, the seven-county region of the Greater Wabash Regional Planning Commission, comprised of Crawford, Edwards, Lawrence, Richland, Wabash, Wayne, and White Counties has been designated as an Economic Development District, and,

WHEREAS, the Greater Wabash Regional Planning Commission receives financial assistance from the Economic Development Administration for the purpose of planning and implementing programs to stimulate economic development through a multi-county effort of Crawford, Edwards, Lawrence, Richland, Wabash, Wayne, and White Counties,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the County of White authorizes this agreement with Greater Wabash Regional Planning Commission for the yearly submission of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy and an application to the Economic Development Administration to continue the economic development planning process in the Greater Wabash Economic Development District. In addition, Greater Wabash Regional Planning Commission will write and administer all Economic Development Administration grants, Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity grants and all other state and federal grants as deemed necessary by the County for the County and all townships and incorporated communities within (including Grayville, Carmi, Crossville, Enfield, Mill Shoals, Norris City, Phillipstown, Burnt Prairie, Maunie and Springerton). Also, be it resolved that the County of White authorizes and commits matching funds in the amount of Four Thousand Nine Hundred and Forty-Five dollars (\$4,945.00).

Dated this 21st day of July, 2026.


Amanda Cannon, Chairman


Kayci Heil, County Clerk



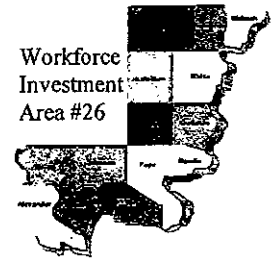
SOUTHERN 14 WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD, INC.

DEAN ROGAN, CHAIRMAN

PAMELA BARBEE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

MEMO

TO: LWIA 26 County CEO's
FROM: So. 14 LWIB, Inc.
DATE: June 9, 2026
RE: PY26 Allocated Funding



Southern 14 Workforce Investment Board met on June 9, 2026 and approved the PY26 Allocated Grant application for submission to the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity in the amount of \$1,375,070.00 (enclosed).

Under terms approved as part of the CEO Agreement, submissions and modifications require that each of you as Chief Elected Official for WIOA Programs approve submissions and modifications before they are submitted to the state.

Please review the enclosed submission, signify your acceptance or rejection of this submission and return your vote in the enclosed envelope.

Due to time constraints, your quick response will be greatly appreciated.

- I ☒ **APPROVE** the PY26 Allocated Funding Submission
- I ☐ **DISAPPROVE** the PY26 Allocated Funding Submission

CEO or Designee Signature

7-21-26
Date

White
County

WIOA Program Year 2026
Allocations

LWIA	Total Allocations	Adult	Dislocated Workers	Youth
1	\$6,864,406	\$1,836,588	\$3,031,220	\$1,996,598
2	\$1,821,615	\$508,696	\$809,113	\$503,806
3	\$5,432,562	\$1,369,221	\$2,637,225	\$1,426,116
4	\$3,250,370	\$950,477	\$1,395,503	\$904,390
5	\$7,367,991	\$1,995,209	\$3,081,425	\$2,291,357
6	\$6,275,138	\$1,828,259	\$2,420,065	\$2,026,814
7	\$61,808,236	\$18,441,954	\$24,303,016	\$19,063,266
10	\$7,343,634	\$2,043,568	\$3,126,544	\$2,173,522
11	\$2,110,912	\$569,511	\$941,522	\$599,879
13	\$2,454,416	\$624,936	\$1,125,480	\$704,000
14	\$1,961,388	\$599,013	\$631,754	\$730,621
15	\$5,806,372	\$1,558,487	\$2,300,087	\$1,947,798
17	\$2,780,284	\$744,856	\$903,737	\$1,131,691
18	\$963,335	\$273,758	\$410,252	\$279,325
19	\$1,426,194	\$410,584	\$572,211	\$443,399
20	\$2,595,092	\$683,435	\$1,195,272	\$716,385
21	\$1,306,147	\$423,831	\$460,339	\$421,977
22	\$2,406,900	\$770,488	\$799,876	\$836,536
23	\$2,651,311	\$775,416	\$973,559	\$902,336
24	\$2,845,102	\$883,790	\$1,086,438	\$874,874
25	\$1,996,937	\$628,513	\$729,169	\$639,255
26	\$1,375,070	\$452,194	\$521,632	\$401,244
Totals	\$132,843,412	\$38,372,784	\$53,455,439	\$41,015,189

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY
LOCAL WORKFORCE INNOVATION AREA (LWIA) OFFICIAL CONTACT LIST

Local Area/Region	Chief Elected Official(s)	Local Workforce Innovation Board Chairperson	LWIA Staff	WIDA Program Services Administrator (Adult, Youth, Dislocated Worker)	ETPL Coordinators	Comprehensive Illinois WorkNet Centers	Office of Employment & Training Staff
26 - Southern Southern 14 Workforce Investment Board Inc Counties Served: ALEXANDER EDWARDS GALLATIN HAMILTON HARDIN JOHNSON MASSAC PORTER PULASKI SALINE UNION WAYNE WHITE	Darick Armstrong Hardin County CEO Hardin County 102 East Market Street Elizabethtown, IL 62931-4480 Phone: (618) 267-2251 Email: ares@delhiweebank.net	Mr. Dean L. Rogan Sr. Owner Rogan's Country Pharmacy 201 East Commercial Street Pulaski, IL 62976-0241 Phone: (618) 342-6737 Email: roghamc956@hughes.net	Ms. Pam Barbee Executive Director Southern 14 Workforce Investment Board Inc 304 East Robinson Street Carmel, IL 62821-1935 Phone: (618) 382-5024 Email: pbarbee@so14lwb.com	Ms. Lani Hulse Chief Executive Officer Webb's Area Development Inc 110 Latham Street Effingham, IL 62835 Phone: (618) 963-2387 Email: hulse@wmd-inc.com	Ms. Pam Barbee Executive Director Southern 14 Workforce Investment Board Inc 304 East Robinson Street Carmel, IL 62821-1935 Phone: (618) 382-5024 Email: pbarbee@so14lwb.com	Illinois WorkNet Center 1700 College Ave Carmel, IL 62821 Phone: 618-252-5020 ext. 1 Fax: 618-252-0325 TTY: 800-526-0944 http://so14lwb.com/	Elizabeth Shew Rural Response Contact (618) 388-2126 Bryan Ellis Regional Contact (618) 363-2417
	Jayson Farmer Massac County CEO Massac County 1 Sageman Square Metropolis, IL 62960-1882 Phone: (270) 853-4520 Email: jaysonfarmer70@gmail.com	Contact CCE(s): Ms. Pam Barbee Email: pbarbee@so14lwb.com	Mrs. Jessica Barbre Administrative Assistant and EO Officer Southern 14 Workforce Investment Board Inc 304 East Robinson Street Carmel, IL 62821-1935 Phone: (618) 382-5024 Email: barbre@so14lwb.com	Ms. Denna Williams Executive Director Shurges Development Council Inc 530 West Washington Street Kankakee, IL 62856-1503 Phone: (618) 534-2201 Email: denna.williams@shurgesdevelopmentcouncil.org	Contact CCE(s): Ms. Pam Barbee Email: pbarbee@so14lwb.com		
	Dan J. Harrgrave Wayne County CEO Wayne County 301 East Main Street Fairfield, IL 62837-1620 Phone: (618) 842-5182 Email: countydcen@waynecountygovil.com		Mrs. Sheryl Walker Fiscal Officer Southern 14 Workforce Investment Board Inc 304 East Robinson Street Carmel, IL 62821-1935 Phone: (618) 382-5024	Contact CCE(s): Ms. Pam Barbee Email: pbarbee@so14lwb.com Mrs. Jessica Barbre Email: barbre@so14lwb.com	Contact CCE(s):		

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY
LOCAL WORKFORCE INNOVATION AREA (LWIA) OFFICIAL CONTACT LIST

Local Area/Region	Chia Elected Official(s)	Local Workforce Innovation Board Chairperson	LWIA Staff	WIOA Program Services Administrator (Adult, Youth, Dislocated Worker)	ETPL Coordinator	Comprehensive Illinois WorkNet Centers	Office of Employment & Training Staff
	Mr. Robert Helman Pulaski County CEO Pulaski County 500 Illinois Avenue Mount City, IL 62863-1049 Phone: (618) 748-8380 Email: jharcock@pulaskicounty.il.gov		Email: lrcal@edfwhb.com Contact CQ(s):				
	Mr. Timothy R Hocking Carver and Warren County CEO Timothy R Hocking Farm 8811 North Lake Road Mount Carmel, IL 62863-5048 Phone: (618) 262-5809 Email: thocking6@gmail.com						
	Ms. Cassie Hughes White County CEO White County 323 East Main Street Carmi, IL 62821-1851 Phone: (618) 598-3108 Email: chughes1987@gmail.com						

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY
LOCAL WORKFORCE INNOVATION AREA (LWIA) OFFICIAL CONTACT LIST

Local Area/Region	Chief Executive Officer(s)	Local Workforce Innovation Board Chairperson	LWIA Staff	WIOA Program Services Administrator (Adult, Youth, Dislocated Worker)	ETPL Coordinators	Comprehensive Illinois WorkNet Centers	Office of Employment & Training Staff
	Mr. Duane Laar Edward County CEO Edward County 50 East Main Street Albion, IL 62808-1262 Phone: (618) 302-0881 Email: commissioner1@edwardcounty,illinois.gov						
	Mr. Andrew Lunsford Gallatin County CEO Gallatin County 401 North Lincoln Boulevard Shawneetown, IL 62964-3158 Phone: (618) 499-0943 Email: devlunsfordmp01@gmail.com						
	Mr. Max Miller Jr. Union County CEO Union County 309 West Market Street Jonesboro, IL 62952-1239 Phone: (618) 833-8276						

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY
LOCAL WORKFORCE INNOVATION AREA (LWIA) OFFICIAL CONTACT LIST

Local Area Region	Chief Executive Officer(s)	Local Workforce Innovation Board Chairperson	LWIA Staff	WIOA Program Services Administrator (Adult, Youth, Dislocated Worker)	ETPL Coordinators	Comprehensive Illinois WorkNet Centers	Office of Employment & Training Staff
	Email: mrjones@johnsoncountyil.gov Secord@jy-miller@johnsoncountyil.gov Mr. James Jim Smith Alexander County CEO Alexander County 2000 Washington Avenue Cairo, IL 62914-1717 Phone: (618) 308-0029 Email: jsmith1066106@gmail.com Mr. Jason Taylor Johnson County CEO Johnson County 105 North 6th Street Vienna, IL 62999-0096 Phone: (618) 658-3611 Email: jason.taylor@johnsonco.il.us Mr. Chris Walker Pope County CEO Pope County 310 East Main Street Golconda, IL 62898-0163						

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY
LOCAL WORKFORCE INNOVATION AREA (LWIA) OFFICIAL CONTACT LIST

Local Area/Region	Chief Executive Officer(s)	Local Workforce Innovation Board Chairperson	LWIA Staff	WIOA Program Services Administrator (Adult, Youth, Dislocated Worker)	ETPL Coordinators	Comprehensive Illinois WorkNet Centers	Office of Employment & Training Staff
	Phone: (618) 683-8100 Email: countydept@pocpcd.illinois.gov Mr. Jay Williams Saline County CEO Saline County 10 East Poplar Street Herrsburg, IL 62945-1553 Phone: (618) 252-6905 Email: jaywilliams1880@gmail.com Kelly Woodrow Hamilton County CEO Hamilton County 140 South Jackson Street McLeansboro, IL 62859-1462 Phone: (618) 643-2014 Email: kwoodrow@hamiltoncounty.il.gov Contact CC(s): Ms Pam Barbora Email: pbarbora@poc14kwd.com Ms. Jessica Barbre						

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY
LOCAL WORKFORCE INNOVATION AREA (LWIA) OFFICIAL CONTACT LIST

Local Area/Region	Chief Executive Officer(s)	Local Workforce Innovation Board Chairperson	LWIA Staff	WIOA Program Services Administrator (Adult, Youth, Dislocated Worker)	ETPL Coordinator	Comprehensive Illinois Worker Centers	Office of Employment & Training Staff
	Email: bullco@scot4wib.com Mr. Jim Taylor Email: jltaylor@scot4wib.org						

Opium Settlement Funding Request

Drug overdose rates in White *and* Hamilton Counties remain alarmingly high, exceeding both state and national averages. According to the Illinois Department of Public Health, Hamilton County recorded approximately 30-35 overdose deaths per 100,000 residents, while White County saw 25-30 per 100,000—both well above Illinois' rate of 27.1. Synthetic opioids, particularly fentanyl, drive the majority of fatalities, implicated in over 80% of opioid-related deaths statewide (IDPH, 2023). Compounding the crisis, rural counties lack critical harm reduction resources, with no local addiction medicine providers and the nearest residential treatment facilities 50+ miles away. CDC data shows a 32% rise in fentanyl deaths across southern Illinois since 2020, with stigma and limited infrastructure likely contributing to underreporting. These disparities underscore the urgent need for expanded prevention, treatment, and recovery awareness in the region.

Persistent generational poverty, coupled with high rates of unemployment, disability, and childhood trauma, have exacerbated vulnerabilities in White County. The area also faces disproportionate exposure to prescription drug misuse and substance use disorders, influenced by socioeconomic factors such as limited education, high disability rates, and diminished self-efficacy. These conditions have contributed to sustained substance misuse challenges in the region for years.

Our Community Needs/Resource Assessment reviewed from multiple sources, including community surveys, stakeholder interviews, community health needs assessments, qualitative data from meetings, and community resource guides show that substance use has remained a consistent health priority in White County for many years in a row.

Key Findings from Needs Assessment

- Strong recovery community support but gaps in programs and follow-up after overdose
- Ongoing stigma around SUD; need for anti-stigma messaging
- Lack of awareness of available resources
- Transportation barriers hinder access to treatment
- Housing instability for individuals in recovery

Rural Challenges include high poverty rates, limited healthcare access, and transportation barriers. Service gaps include lack of medical detox, lack of awareness of MAR, and insufficient recovery housing.

A White County Walk for Recovery & Recovery Resource Fair during **Recovery Month** organized in collaboration with Southern Illinois Recovery Network (SIRN) would bring together individuals in recovery, family members, healthcare providers, treatment organizations, faith communities, local businesses, public officials, and community members to demonstrate that recovery is possible and that addiction is a challenge that can be addressed collectively through education, compassion, and access to services. People cannot access resources they don't know exist, and many people will not seek help if they fear judgment.

White County continues to experience significant impacts from substance use disorder and overdose. Overdose death rates in White County remain higher than many areas of Illinois, while residents continue to face barriers to treatment, transportation, recovery support services, and community understanding of addiction. Community members and stakeholders consistently reported a need for anti-stigma education, increased awareness of local resources, and stronger recovery support systems.

Research from both the CDC and SAMHSA shows that stigma prevents individuals from seeking treatment and recovery support. Reducing stigma can increase help-seeking behavior, improve community support for evidence-based treatment, and strengthen recovery outcomes.

Event Description

The White County Walk for Recovery will include:

- A community recovery walk through Carmi
- Community picnic
- Speakers with lived experience, family members, and recovery advocates
- A Recovery Resource Fair featuring treatment providers, recovery organizations, healthcare agencies, harm reduction programs, social service organizations, and community partners from across Southern Illinois
- Distribution of educational materials and recovery resources
- Family-friendly activities designed to encourage community participation and support

Expected Outcomes

The event will:

- Increase public awareness of treatment, recovery, and harm reduction resources available in White County and Southern Illinois
- Reduce stigma surrounding substance use disorder through education and personal recovery stories
- Strengthen connections between residents and local service providers
- Promote recovery as a visible and valued part of the community
- Encourage individuals and families affected by substance use disorder to seek help earlier
- Build stronger collaboration among agencies working to address addiction and overdose

Alignment with Opioid Settlement Goals

This project directly supports the intended purpose of opioid settlement funds by expanding public education, increasing awareness of treatment and recovery resources, promoting overdose prevention efforts, and strengthening community recovery infrastructure.

National Recovery Month has been recognized by SAMHSA since 1989 as an opportunity to promote evidence-based treatment, recovery support services, and community engagement.

By investing in a Walk for Recovery, White County can demonstrate its commitment to addressing addiction through a comprehensive public health approach that includes prevention, treatment, recovery support, and stigma reduction.

Request

We respectfully request opioid settlement funding to support event expenses, including food and beverage cost for community picnic, event promotion, resource fair coordination, and other expenses necessary to ensure broad community participation. We can report back with an itemized budget and final impact report of the event. Together, we can create an event that honors recovery, connects residents to lifesaving resources, and helps build a healthier, more recovery-friendly White County.

ORDINANCE NO. 7-21-2026-5

**AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON THE ISSUANCE OF PERMITS
FOR DATA CENTERS IN WHITE COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

WHEREAS; the White County Board and applicable County officials are working in good faith and with diligence to develop the necessary regulations and review procedures concerning DATA CENTERS in order to address concerns or issues including, but not limited to, setbacks, noise levels, lighting, application fees, wildlife, and decommissioning, and;

WHEREAS, understanding the concerns regarding the impact of operation and construction of DATA CENTERS with at least 10,000 square feet to the citizens of White County require additional time and effort to reach conclusion, and;

WHEREAS, White County government officials need additional time to complete the drafting process so that all interested and concerned parties can be informed of all proposed regulation changes and so that White County government officials have adequate time to give due consideration to all proposed regulations concerning DATA CENTERS, and;

WHEREAS, in order to prevent irreversible damage to the resources of White County, Illinois, prior to the consideration and implementation of any regulation changes, the White County Board has determined it is necessary and in the best interests of White County and its citizens to impose a short term temporary moratorium on the acceptance and issuance of County permits or approvals for DATA CENTERS with at least 10,000 square feet in order to provide sufficient time for the White County Board and applicable County officials to consider all necessary regulation changes regarding DATA CENTERS, and;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF WHITE COUNTY, ILLINOIS, as follows:

- A.** Beginning on the effective date of this Ordinance, no application for any County permit, approval, or other County authorization for the construction of a DATA CENTER with at least 10,000 square feet on any parcel in White County, Illinois, shall be accepted or processed to its completion by White County, Illinois.
- B.** The temporary moratorium shall remain in full force and effect for a limited period of 12 MONTHS from the effective date of this Ordinance, unless sooner terminated by an ordinance duly adopted by the White County Board.

Presented, Approved, and Adopted this 21st day of July 2026.



Amanda Cannon
White County Board, Chairperson

ATTEST:



Kayci Heil, County Clerk