

Legislative and Public Safety Committee Meeting
Tuesday, July 14, 2026 5:00 PM
Jackson County Sheriff's Office Conference Room

Call to Order

(5:01PM)

Present: Daniel Presley, Jan Phillips, Tonya Knust, Kevin Lister, Faith Miller, Christine Snyder, Tameko Mueller

Also Present: Kerri Gale, Joni Bailey, Andrew Erbes, Kenton Schafer & Marsha Cascio Hale

The committee shared a few words about John S Rendleman followed by a moment of silence.

Approval of Minutes

- I. 2026-569 Approval of June 09, 2026, Legislative & Public Safety Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Phillips, seconded by Snyder, to approve the June 09, 2026, minutes. The motion was carried by unanimous vote.

Ambulance Service

- II. 2026-561 Approval of Ambulance Monthly Claims

A motion was made by Knust, seconded by Miller, to approve the ambulance monthly claims in the amount of \$571,180.16, The motion carried by unanimous roll vote.

- III. 2026-562 Chief's Report

Schafer Updated the Board on the Ambulance Department, including a conversation about the new vehicle repair lift being fully functional. Funding for this device was donated by Averon (Big Muddy Solar). The lift will continue to service the ambulance/county for the foreseeable future; 37 students completed CPR classes. Chief Mark Kuhns attended the quarterly meeting with SIH. Schafer questioned an agenda item that did not make it into the packet.

Presley agreed to have a resolution to surplus a 2007 Ford Econoline E-350 wheelchair van to allow the ambulance department to accept bids and or dispose of it and put onto the full board meeting on 7/21/2026 for discussion.

Animal Control

- IV. 2026-563 Animal Control Monthly Update

Presley informed the committee of a conversation he had with David Lyon Animal Control Facility Manager as Animal control is in need of more kennels. Euthanasia numbers reported in the report were provided as well as numbers of animals transferred to other locations. Knust has concerns that Carbondale is allowed too many spaces and priority should be for the county to have more cages.

Heath Department & Solid Waste

V. 2026-564 Jackson County Health Department

Ms Gale spoke to Measle/ health update & Back-to-school supply drive and vaccinations. She also provided a flyer not in the packet and spoke about a food program overview funded by a grant for inspection of food facilities throughout the county, including inspection numbers included in the report provided. She updated the committee about Cyclosporiasis the number of cases nationally as well as the state of Illinois, with a reminder to all to wash all fruits and vegetables before consuming them. Temporary permits are required for Jackson County vendors for any kind of food service event; 14 days is the maximum for a temporary permit.

VI. 2026-565 Solid Waste Enforcement

VII. 2026-566 Solid Waste Fund Update

VIII. 2026-567 Recycling Program

Emergency Management

State's Attorney

Bailey informed the committee about several topics highlighting information regarding water privatization, Data Center zoning, a speaker will be at Tuesdays full board meeting to address questions and concerns. The attorney is charging by the hour and coming from Peoria. The State Attorneys office is going to a conference in Nashville to explore mental health specialty court options, hoping to learn about new grant opportunities. She spoke about her concern about the newly passed laws on the tax deed process as well as pending lawsuits.

Legislative

Citizen Comments

Old Business

The committee had an in-depth discussion about the Bylaws being removed from the agenda.

Lister made a motion, seconded by Knust, to put the bylaws and committee structure onto August's meeting as an agenda item. This was with the advice provided by the state's attorneys office, Bailey does not see a procedural issue with making a mo quoting from Roberts Rules of Order. The motion carried by unanimous roll-call vote.

New Business

IX. 2026-545 Approval of the Jackson County Affirmative Action Plan

Mr Erbes explained the Affirmative Action Plan to the committee. Including Faith Miller appointed as the EEO Officer.

The committee asked questions and had an in-depth discussion about the affirmative action plan.

A motion was made by Phillips, seconded by Mueller, to amend the wording of the word "county" to include a "title" of a person to report to instead of just the word "county".

After continued discussion, Mr Erbes asked the committee members with motions to withdraw their motions and so the Affirmative Action Plan could go back to the HR Subcommittee for wording changes. Once changes have been made, the plan can be placed back onto the agenda for the Legislative Committee to discuss/ approve.

- X. 2026-546 Approval of Resolution Declaring the Policy of Jackson County, Illinois in Opposition to the Privatization of Public Water Utilities and Requesting Notice of Proceedings Under 220 ILCS 5/9-210.5

The Committee had an in-depth conversation about the privatization of water utilities.

A motion was made by Knust to object to the resolution; No second was made.

A Motion was made by Mueller, seconded by Snyder to approve the resolution declaring the policy of Jackson County, Illinois in opposition to the privatization of public water utilities.

The committee had additional conversation.

The Motion was amended by Mueller. Seconded by Snyder to approve the Resolution with the stipulation that the County Administrator send a letter to each of the 42 Jackson County Board-appointed water district members. This letter should address the intent of the water board's actions toward privatization of their water departments to be communicated to the county board before doing so. The motion was carried with a roll call vote to pass; board member Knust voted no.

Executive Session

Adjourn

(6:23PM)

A motion was made by Snyder, seconded by Mueller, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

[MIN_SIGNATURES]