



**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
ILLINOIS STATE ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES**

**December 18, 2025**

**2:00 p.m.**

**Zoom**

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Illinois State Association of Counties (ISACo) was held on Thursday, December 18, 2025, via Zoom. The meeting was called to order at 2:01 p.m., at which the following were in attendance via Zoom:

Kendall, Circuit Clerk Matt Prochaska, President  
Monroe, Commissioner David Meyer, Secretary  
Jackson, Board Member Andrew Erbes  
Kane, Chairwoman Corinne Pierog  
Lake, Chairwoman Sandy Hart  
Will, Executive Jennifer Bertino-Tarrant  
Peoria, Board Member Dan Phelan  
Cook, Commissioner Keisha McCaskill  
Cook, Commissioner Alma Anaya

**ISACo STAFF**

Joe McCoy, Executive Director  
Nekya Hall, Legislative Advocacy and Research Manager  
Tiffani Homer, Member Services and Communications Manager

**GUESTS**

N/A

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion was made by Member Erbes and seconded by Chairwoman Hart to approve the minutes from the April 3, July 24, and October 2, 2025, meetings. The motion carried, and the minutes were adopted.

## **OFFICER'S REPORTS**

### *President's Report*

President Prochaska promoted the upcoming NACo Legislative Conference in Washington, D.C., scheduled for President's Day weekend. He noted the Illinois dinner will be held at the Anderson House, a historic Gilded Age mansion. President Prochaska reported a successful annual luncheon on December 12, 2025, at the Union League with approximately 50-60 attendees. President Prochaska announced he has officially filed paperwork to run for NACo Second Vice President, with the election set for the July annual convention in New Orleans.

### *Vice President's Report*

N/A

### *Secretary's Report*

Secretary Meyer commented on the increasing difficulties of county business related to labor issues and available funding.

### *Treasurer's Report*

Director McCoy reported that Treasurer Crowley was unable to provide a finalized balance sheet because the organization's accountant had locked the QuickBooks software via an "accountant's copy," preventing the reconciliation of approximately \$100,000 in revenue. An updated balance sheet will be provided at a future date. Despite the software lockout, Director McCoy stated the fund balance remains healthy, and expenditures are consistent with quarterly expectations.

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Director McCoy announced a shift to a Blue Cross Blue Shield policy for 2026 due to Health Alliance exiting the Illinois market. The new plan represents a 13% increase over 2025 costs. ISACo will continue an 80/20 premium split with employees.

The Board discussed NACo EDGE payments and was briefed on totals for 2026. The Board was also informed of the current fund balance, which remains strong.

Director McCoy requested the Board consider investing in an association management system (AMS) to replace current Excel-based tracking. He provided a baseline estimate from "Engagify." Following discussion, it was decided that Director McCoy should pursue multiple bids to establish an appropriate price range for the service.

Director McCoy presented the budget proposal for FY2026. A motion to approve the budget was made by Executive Bertino-Tarrant and seconded by Chairwoman Hart; the motion carried.

## **LEGISLATIVE REPORT**

President Prochaska requested that Legislative Advocacy and Research Manager Nekya Hall provide a legislative update.

She reported that the Legislative Committee recommended reintroducing five proposals, including community revitalization incentives, expansion of county motor fuel tax authority, and Veterans Assistance Commission (VAC) funding reforms, and amendments to the state's wind and solar facility law.

Members expressed concern regarding the lack of elected oversight for VACs and the significant financial exposure counties face.

A motion was made by Board Member McCaskill and seconded by Board Member Erbes to approve the 2026 Legislative Agenda. The motion carried.

The Board reviewed and adopted the updated ISACo County Platform for 2026, which includes amendments to include positions on several federal policy issues, tax sale compliance (*Tyler v. Hennepin County*), vexatious AI-generated FOIA requests, and opposition to recall provisions that exclusively target county officials.

A motion was made by Board Member Erbes and seconded by Board Member Bertino-Tarrant to approve the 2026 *County Platform*. The motion carried.

## **NATIONAL COUNTY ASSOCIATION REPORTS**

President Prochaska noted the upcoming "County Storyteller Project" intended to educate Congress and the public on county services.

Eryn Hurley has been promoted to Chief of Governmental Affairs at NACo, succeeding Mark Ritacco. Mr. Ritacco left NACo service for another opportunity in the legislative advocacy space.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Secretary Meyer and President Prochaska discussed inquiries regarding the authority of elected county boards versus township supervisors. President Prochaska clarified that the current system is constitutionally sound and rooted in the "one person, one vote" principle.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Member Erbes and seconded by Executive Bertino-Tarrant. The meeting was adjourned at 3:15 p.m.