

Proceedings of the Special Meeting and Hearing

Clark County

May 15, 2026

The Special Meeting and Hearing of the County Board met May 15, 2026, at 9:00 A.M. and was called to Order by Chairman Rex Goble. County Clerk Laura H Lee led the pledge of allegiance.

ROLL CALL	8:00 A.M.
Rex Goble	District #1
Brandon Burkybile	District #2
Darin Patrick	District #3
Randal Stephens	District #4
Susan Guinnip	District #5
Todd Kuhn	District #6
Mike Parsons	District #7

Chairman Goble turned over the hearing to Andy Keyt with Heyl Royster. Keyt explained that he was appointed by Kyle Hutson, Clark County State’s Attorney, to assist with the renewable energy projects plus some ordinance drafting.

4. Public Comments:

Andy Keyt asked the audience if there were any public comments at this time that is unrelated to either ordinance or the project. There was no response, but Mr. Keyt assured the audience that there would be public comments allowed for each agenda item.

5. New Business:

a. Public hearing and possible action on adoption of proposed Amendments to the Clark County Commercial Solar Energy Facility Ordinance.

Mr. Keyt explained that the reason for the amendments was due to the State Law changing again based on the Clean and Reliable Affordability Grid Act that was signed into law on January 8, 2026, and mandates that Clark County must update their ordinances to be compliant. One of the primary adjustments per the legislation is the fee schedule. The State Statute states that the County may charge \$5,000 per MW up to a maximum of \$125,000. The Statute does allow recovery of any costs over the maximum amount. The other adjustment is regarding the vegetative screening. The County used to be able to require screening all around the whole project, but the State has limited to non-participating residences near the project. There were some questions and comments from the Board and the public. A full transcript is available on request.

Motion by Susan Guinnip and second by Todd Kuhn to approve the adoption of the Proposed Amendments to the Clark County Commercial Solar Energy Facility Ordinance. The Chairman put the question and upon the roll being taken all members present voted “aye”. Whereupon the Chairman declared the motion adopted.

b. Public Hearing and possible action on adoption of a Clark County Commercial Wind Energy Facility Ordinance.

Keyt explained that on wind projects, a communication study is required regardless of the size due to that there could be possible interference with 911, etc. This would be done before the public hearing phase. Questions and comments were taken from the Board and the public. A full transcript is available upon request.

Motion by Mike Parsons and second by Brandon Burkybile to approve the adoption of a Clark County Commercial Wind Energy Facility Ordinance. The Chairman put the question and upon the roll being taken all members present voted “aye”. Whereupon the Chairman declared the motion adopted.

c. Public Hearing and possible action on the petition of Auburn Branch Solar, LLC to construct and operate a commercial solar energy facility approximating 14.0 acres and 2.0 megawatts, generally located at the intersection of N. Bass Lake Road and Old Highway 40 in Clark County in Marshall Township, Clark County, Illinois. Parcel #08-08-29-00-400-004

Desiree Noisette with Green Key Solar presented information about the solar project. She explained that many types of studies were completed and how it could potentially affect the non-participating landowners. Questions and comments were heard from the Board and the public. A full transcript is available on request.

Motion by Randy Stephens and second by Susan Guinnip to approve the construction and operate a commercial solar energy facility approximating 14.0 acres and 2.0 megawatts, generally located at the intersection of N Bass Lake Road and Old Highway 40 in Clark County, Marshall Township, Clark County, Illinois. The Chairman put the question and upon the roll being taken all members present voted “aye” with the exception of Todd Kuhn who voted “nay”. Whereupon the Chairman declared the motion adopted.

19. Adjournment:

Motion by Brandon Burkybile and second by Susan Guinnip that the meeting be adjourned until June 18, 2026, for the Regular Meeting at 8:00 a.m. The Chairman put the question and upon the roll being taken all members present voted “aye”. Whereupon the Chairman declared the motion adopted. The meeting was adjourned at 11:31 a.m.

IN ATTENDANCE: Dallas Richardson - County Engineer; Bill Brown – Sheriff; Kyle Hutson – State’s Attorney; Kim Kannmacher - Treasurer; Ami Shaw - Circuit Clerk; Lisa Richey – Assessor; Alex Carrell – IT; Loretta Nelson – County Clerk’s Office; Laura H Lee – County Clerk; Susan Williamson – Probation; Chace Bramlett – CCAS; Warren LeFever – Marshall City Council; Mike Bridges – CCAS; Sandy Wheeler – Westfield Mayor; Tammy See – Animal Control; John Donham – Anderson Road Commissioner; Jerry Woodfall – IBEW 725; Steve McGee – Gibson; Desiree Noisette – Auburn Branch Solar; J T Simonton – RWE Americas; Justin Fredlund – RWE Americas; Don Solarz – Auburn resident; Elise Ellinghausen – Auburn resident; Rodney Cole – Auburn resident; Nancy Smitley – City of Marshall/Enterprise Zone; John Hasten – City of Marshall; Jordan Majors; John Sullivan