

Clarke County Board of Supervisors
September 17, 2025

The Board of Supervisors met on September 17, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. in the Clarke County Courthouse, in special session for a public hearing on proposed amendments to Section 23, Wind Energy Conversion System Regulation's of the Clarke County Zoning Ordinance.

Members present were: Chairman Randy Dunbar, Dean Robins and Brian Sorensen. Also, present were Auditor Jessica Graves, Attorney Johanna Olson, Engineer Justin Savage, Zoning Director Rob McCaulley, Osceola Sentinel Editor Candra Brooks and members of the public. Chairman Randy Dunbar called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Dean Robins made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Brian Sorensen. All Ayes.

Res 25-149 - Moved by Brian Sorensen, seconded by Dean Robins, to open the public hearing at 10:00 a.m. Ayes All. Motion carried.

Presentation of the ordinance was made by Brian Sorensen stating the Ordinance aligns with the comprehensive plan and the ordinance strikes a careful and responsible balance. It allows for the possibility of wind energy development; while ensuring it can only happen under the most rigorous conditions. Rob McCaulley stated the purpose of the hearing was to discuss the ordinance and not if we want or do not want turbines. The purpose of the hearing is to create rules and guidance. The moratorium, by definition, is a temporary solution.

Public Comment:

Written comment was received from Ronnie Decker. Ronnie Decker stated "City limits have a 2-mile set back; Residents should have a 2 – mile set back"

Members stated:

- They thought this meeting was if people were for or against turbines.
- A question was asked if a neighbor has a turbine, will it decrease the assessment on their house? Also stated, no one wants to build next to a turbine.
- A question was asked, who was in charge of the turbines if they need repairs? Is there a map of planned locations?
- Member was concerned about health effects of wind turbines. Stating it divides our community and asks to wait to lift the moratorium.
- Member stated waivers should not be allowed.
- Member stated wind turbines create erosion and question the ordinances of other counties.
- Member stated waivers and easements need to be stopped.

Moved by Dean Robins, seconded by Brian Sorensen to close the hearing. Vote was "Ayes:" Randy Dunbar, Dean Robins, and Brian Sorensen. "Nays:" None. Motion carried. Meeting closed at 10:30 a.m.

Res 25-150 - Moved by Dean Robins, seconded by Brian Sorensen, to waive the 3rd reading of the proposed amendments to Section 23, Wind Energy Conversion System Regulations of the Clarke County Zoning Ordinance # 42.

Vote was “Ayes:” Randy Dunbar, Dean Robins, and Brian Sorensen. “Nays:” None.

Signed this 17th day of September, 2025.

Res 25-151 - Moved by Dean Robins, seconded by Brian Sorensen to adopt the amendments to Section 23, Wind Energy Conversion System Regulation of the Clarke County Zoning Ordinance #42.

Vote was “Ayes:” Randy Dunbar, Dean Robins, and Brian Sorensen. “Nays:” None.

Signed this 17th day of September, 2025.

Having no other agenda items, Brian Sorensen made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Dean Robins. All Ayes. Meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Signed: Randy Dunbar - Chairman Attest: Jessica Graves, Auditor