

# **MADISON COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE**

**Mark Von Nida, County Clerk**

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## **Press Release**

For Immediate Release  
Date: June 6, 2011  
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### **PUBLIC MAY LISTEN TO COUNTY BOARD MEETINGS ON INTERNET**

EDWARDSVILLE: Madison County Clerk Mark Von Nida announced today that audio recordings of County Board Meetings will be available to the public through the county web site.

Citizens interested in what happened at a meeting may access the county board calendar and click on a past meeting to listen to a recording of the proceedings. Agendas and minutes of past meetings are also available on the site. The calendar is accessible through [www.co.madison.il](http://www.co.madison.il) or [www.madisonvotes.com](http://www.madisonvotes.com).

"This is an example of using technology to promote the spirit of the Open Meetings Act." According to Von Nida the idea is that government conducted in the open leads to good government. "This will allow anyone to hear their county board member in action"

The first meeting available is the Government Affairs Committee held on May 28<sup>th</sup>. This is the meeting where the proposed county board redistricting map was unveiled. Audio files will be posted to the web site immediately after the meeting unlike minutes which must be approved at the next month's meeting. Von Nida said, "It is a true unvarnished record of what happened. No one can dispute the words that are spoken at the meeting".

Future committee meetings as well the regular monthly county board will be available. Meetings currently not scheduled in the County Administration Building will not be available but planning is underway to include them in the future.

Von Nida explained that video had been discussed but the expense of hiring a camera operator, the unusual layout of the three tiered County Board Room and storage requirements all made it too difficult. He said "Audio is much more accessible to anyone

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with a computer. It allows citizens to be informed whenever they want to be regardless of their busy lifestyles”.