

# Madison County Citizens Must Collect 18,000 Signatures this Week

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A grass roots organization in Madison County Illinois is requesting assistance from all concerned citizens to collect more than 18,000 signatures from registered voters necessary to place a controversial \$18 million bond issue on the spring 2014 ballot.

The organization called Bonds on the Ballot believes that Madison County should use part of the \$130 million dollars held in various reserve accounts to finance the county jail renovation rather than sell bonds to pay for it. “The county has money in reserves that could easily be used for this project,” said group spokesperson Rod Spears in Maryville. “The county has tax dollars we’ve already pain in and yet wants to raise our taxes to pay for another bond issue. Why would we do that?”

The county board voted to sell nearly \$19 million of bonds to finance renovation of the county jail last month after nearly two months of contentious debate and concerns voiced from both political parties. Concerns from board members centered largely on how the project was going to be financed. “In general we support the renovations,” said county board member Mick Madison. “We disagree with how to pay for it and believe we should use at least some of our reserves and not borrow the entire amount.”

Bonds on Ballot has a phone number (618) 623-2796 for concerned citizens to contact them to sign a petition or help gather signatures. “I think everyone is really concerned about rising property taxes and if enough people pitch in and get 20 or 30 signatures from their friends and family we can get this on the ballot and let voters and not politicians decide.”

## **Registered Voters may sign petition at these locations:**

Babock Financial Group  
11 Glen Ed Professional  
Park

Sullie Market  
2260 Washington Ave

Baxters  
912 E. Broadway

Glen Carbon, IL 62034

Granite City, IL 62040

Alton, IL 62002

Amy Sholar  
2516 Washington  
Alton, IL 62002

O'Brien Tire  
3924 Nameoki Rd  
Granite City, IL 62040

His Excellency Styling Salon  
2720 Grovlin  
Godfrey, IL 62035

Country Financial  
105 Southpointe Dr.  
Edwardsville, IL 62025

Sievers Equipment  
406 Old US RT 66  
Hamel, IL 62046

Genesis Financial Group  
307 Henry Suite 306  
Alton, IL 62002

Kansas Street Apartments  
601 Kansas St - Office #1  
Bethalto, IL 62010

Dixon Heating &  
Cooling  
2401 Delmar Ave  
Granite City, IL 62040

Ft. Russell Vet Service  
6185 Old Alton Edwardsville  
Rd  
Edwardsville, IL 62025