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DeKalb County Government
Sycamore, Illinois

**Executive Committee Minutes
November 9, 2016**

The Executive Committee of the DeKalb County Board met Wednesday, November 9, 2016, at 7:00 p.m. in the Administration Building's Conference Room East in Sycamore, Illinois. Chairman Pietrowski called the meeting to order. Those present were Mr. Brown, Mr. Emerson, Mr. Frieders, Mr. Gudmunson, Mrs. Haji-Sheikh, Mr. Jones, Mr. Stoddard, Mrs. Turner, and Chairman Pietrowski. A quorum was established with all nine Members present.

Others that were present included: Gary Hanson, Christine Johnson, Terry Hannan, Greg Millburg, Maureen Little, Roy Plote, Jeff Whelan, Jerry Osland, Tim Bagby, Craig Roman, Sue Willis, Steve Reid, Ruth Anne Tobias and Chris Porterfield.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

It was moved by Mr. Emerson, seconded by Mr. Gudmunson and it was moved unanimously to approve the minutes from October 12, 2016.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

It was moved by Mrs. Haji-Sheikh and seconded by Mrs. Turner to approve the agenda as presented.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments made.

CHAIR'S COMMENTS

Chairman Pietrowski acknowledged and congratulated all County Board Members who were elected or re-elected in the November 8th General Election. He introduced Jerry Osland, Roy Plote and Craig Roman who were all in attendance and will be sworn-in as new County Board Members at the December 5th Organizational Meeting. The Chairman additionally provided a brief overview of the recent DeKalb County Economic Development Corporation's Annual Dinner he, Mr. Faivre, and Mr. Brown attended.

APPOINTMENTS

Chairman Pietrowski recommended the following appointments for approval:

- a. **DeKalb County Sheriff's Merit Commission:** Gene Lane reappointed for a six year term beginning December 1, 2016 until November 30, 2022.
- b. **DeKalb County Mental Health Board:** Richard Schluter reappointed for a four year term beginning January 1, 2017 and expiring December 31, 2020.
- c. **Emergency Telephone Systems Board (E911):** Tracy Jones reappointed for a term beginning December 1, 2016 and expiring November 30, 2018.
- d. **DeKalb County Nursing Home Foundation Board:** Joanne Fruit, Marjorie Hash and Margaret Vitkus all reappointed for terms beginning December 1, 2016 and expiring November 30, 2019.
- e. **DeKalb County Rehab & Nursing Center Operating Board:** Jeff Whelan reappointed for a two year term beginning January 1, 2017 and expiring December 31, 2018.
- f. **Supportive Living Facility Board:** Jeff Whelan reappointed for a two year term beginning January 1, 2017 and expiring December 31, 2018.

It was moved by Mrs. Turner, seconded by Mr. Frieders and it was approved unanimously by voice vote to forward the recommended appointments to the full County Board for approval.

APPROVAL OF THE COUNTY BOARD AGENDA

The Chairman next asked to go around the table and hear an update from all of the Committee Chairpersons on what their Committees had done at their last meeting together and/or what they are anticipating in the months to come.

Mr. Emerson, Chairman of the Planning & Zoning Committee shared that the Committee is forwarding two Ordinances for consideration this month. He reviewed that there will be an Ordinance to grant a variation from the 180-day restriction for the replacement of a home on a property located on Wolf Road in unincorporated Kingston Township. He also shared that the Committee met just prior to the Executive Committee Meeting and voted 5-2 to once again approve a Special Use Permit for an Agribusiness in the form of a propane storage and distribution business on Five Points Road in unincorporated Mayfield Township. Mr. Emerson noted that this item had been in front on the Board previously but was sent back to the Hearing Office who again recommended to deny but the Committee accepted a motion to move forward with a recommendation to the full County Board to approve the Special Use Permit.

Mr. Gudmunson, Chairman of the County Highway Committee shared that the Committee is forwarding a resolution to authorize the expenditure of MFT (Motor Fuel Tax) Funds for salaries, equipment rental, winter maintenance, seal coat operations and pavement markings in the total of \$1,736,000. He noted that in the past these authorizations have been done in separate resolutions but this year has been combined and the break-down of the allocations are listed within the resolutions as well as on the Board Agenda.

Mr. Frieders, Chairman of the Law & Justice Committee reported that the Committee is forwarding three resolutions to the full County Board for consideration this month. The first one being the annual State's Attorney Appellate Prosecutor resolution in the amount of \$24,000 that has already been budgeted for and the amount has not changed since last year. He also explained that there are two establishments of new Ordinances for the Sheriff's Department that are part of the Sheriff's solution to his budget requirements. The DeKalb County Possession of Cannabis and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia Ordinance would allow for officers to charge individuals a fine of \$200 for knowingly possessing ten grams or less of any substance containing cannabis and the DeKalb County Vehicle Impound Ordinance allows for the Sheriff's Department to charge an Administrative Two Fee for the impounding of vehicles that have been involved in criminal activities as described in the Ordinance. Both of these Ordinances are projected to generate a minimum of \$175,000 which will go towards the set goal of the Sheriff's budget reduction totaling \$275,000.

Mr. Brown, Chairman of the Economic Development Committee provided a summary of their last meeting which included a budget appeal from the Supervisor of Assessments that was approved after an agreement had been made with Administration. The Committee additionally was given a report by Economic Development Coordinator Mary Supple who announced she is retiring from the County after 27 years on November 28th.

Mr. Stoddard, Chairman of the Finance Committee briefed the Committee on Finance's last meeting as well as noted that the Committee is forwarding the FY 2017 Tax Levy and Budget Ordinances to the full County Board for approval. It was reiterated that the FY 2017 Budget is a balanced General Fund Budget. Mr. Stoddard additionally shared that the Committee is forwarding some fee increase resolutions to the Board that are part of the budget process and that the Committee made some decisions regarding implementing some new policies in order to cut costs on the County's health insurance. Mr. Stoddard again thanked Mr. Hanson, Mr. Stefan and the County Department Heads for all their work in putting together the FY 2017 Budget.

Mrs. Turner, Chairman of the Forest Preserve Committee, noted that the Committee is forwarding the Forest Preserve District's FY 2017 Annual Property Tax Levy and Budget Appropriation to the full Board of Commissioners. She reiterating that the Forest Preserve District's Budget has been the same for the past 4 years and Mrs. Turner noted that Superintendent Mr. Hannan was present if anyone had any additional questions regarding the budget.

Mr. Hannan additionally shared that recently the Sycamore Lions presented a check to cover the cost of the new Sycamore Lions Shelter which was recently installed at the Sycamore Forest Preserve. The presentation was made at the new Lions Shelter in Sycamore Forest Preserve, formerly the mobile home park on the east side of Sycamore. The renovations of the property are in progress with opening planned for late 2016 or early 2017. He also updated the group on the Sannauk Trail Project.

Mrs. Haji-Sheikh, Chairperson of the Health & Human Services Committee shared the Committee is forwarded an Ordinance to the full County Board recommending amendments to the DeKalb County Code under Animals. The majority of the changes are in regards to defining what a nuisance dog is. Lastly, the Committee has been working on the Public Health Tax Levy

Referendum for many months now and have approved with one opposition to forward a Limiting Rate Referendum Ordinance to the full County Board recommending approval. She explained that this referendum is different than the previous one that came before the board. The resolution that the Committee is now forwarding on is to approve placing a referendum on the ballot for the April 4, 2017 election for voters to consider a measure to increase funding for the provisions of Public Health Services by \$500,000 as a one-time exemption to the current property tax limitation base, for 2017 taxes which are collected for the County's 2018 fiscal year.

It was moved by Mrs. Turner, seconded by Mr. Jones and it was carried unanimously to approve the County Board Agenda and to forward it to the full County Board for approval.

COMMITTEE ORIENTATION NIGHT DATE

The Committee decided to hold the County Board Committee Orientation Night on Wednesday, December 7th at 7:00 p.m. at the Legislative Center, 200 N. Main Street, Sycamore, IL.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Hanson presented the Committee with his County Administrator's Report which included him sharing that the newest bike path link, just north of the Farm Bureau, has a ribbon-cutting this afternoon. County Highway Engineer Nathan Schwartz was instrumental in making that happen, along with several other entities.

Also, the wall panels have started to arrive for the Jail Expansion Project. There are about 160 panels and those along with the steel beams will take about four months to install. Exchange Street will remain closed because it will be the main delivery route for construction traffic.

DeKalb County Thriving, which is the name of the document produced at the end of the Economic Summit is going to provide a good basis for moving forward with applying for CEDS certification (Certified Economic Development Strategy). A Community Foundation grant for \$20,000 has been applied for, that has been approved pending the County Budget provides matching funds and will allow this project to begin in 2017.

Lastly, Mr. Hanson shared that the Rehab & Nursing Center Board meets next week and they are expected to take some votes that bring closer to reality an addition to the current facility. The scope of work has been finalized, but costs are likely to be in the \$12 to \$15 million range and a bond issue is expected in 2017 or 2018.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mrs. Turner, seconded by Mrs. Haji-Sheikh, and it was carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

Chairman Mark Pietrowski, Jr.

Tasha Sims, Recording Secretary

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