

Note: These minutes are not official until approved by the Economic Development Committee at a subsequent meeting. Please refer to the meeting minutes when these minutes are approved to obtain any changes to these minutes.

DeKalb County Government
Sycamore, Illinois

**Economic Development Committee Minutes
January 9, 2018**

The DeKalb County Economic Development Committee met on Tuesday, January 9, 2018 at 7:00 p.m., in the Administrative Building's Conference Room East in Sycamore, Illinois. Chairman Bagby called the meeting to order. Those Members present were Mr. Brown, Mrs. Emmer, Mr. Osland, and Chairman Bagby. Mr. Faivre and Mrs. Haji-Sheikh were absent. A quorum was established with four Members present and two absent.

Others present were Robin Brunshon, Debbie Armstrong, and Jim Luebke.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

It was moved by Mrs. Emmer, seconded by Mr. Osland, and it was carried unanimously to approve the minutes from the November 7, 2017 meeting.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

It was moved by Mrs. Emmer, seconded by Mr. Brown, and it was carried unanimously to approve the meeting agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

DEKALB COUNTY CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU RE-CERTIFICATION RESOLUTION

DeKalb County Convention & Visitors Bureau (DCCVB) Executive Director Debbie Armstrong joined the Committee to request that the DeKalb County Board re-select the DCCVB as DeKalb County's Agency of Record for Tourism Promotion for the Illinois Office of Tourism for the 2018 Fiscal Year. Ms. Armstrong thanked the County for their continued support and \$15,000 annual investment for the County's tourism promotions.

Ms. Armstrong additionally took some time to share with the Committee some upcoming big events happening throughout the County and she passed out the new Visitor's Guides. The group also briefly discussed the expansion of shows that the Egyptian Theatre has brought to the area lately.

It was moved by Mrs. Emmer, seconded by Mr. Brown and it was approved unanimously to forward the re-certification resolution to the full County Board recommending its approval.

CHIEF COUNTY ASSESSMENTS OFFICER ANNUAL EVALUATION PROCESS

Chairman Bagby shared that there has been a reiteration by the Ad Hoc Rules Committee and by Board Chairman Pietrowski that all Appointed Department Heads should have an Annual Evaluation. The actual process of the evaluation is left in the hands of the appropriate Committees though. The Committee reviewed a sample of the survey that was passed out to all the Township Road Commissioners when the County Engineer was having his evaluation done and Chairman Bagby noted that they may look to solicit survey responses from Township Assessors for Ms. Brunschon's evaluation.

Mr. Osland, who is additionally on the Highway Committee, provided a little bit of background on how the County Engineer's evaluation went. It was also noted that a large portion of that process had to do with negotiation of salary which would not be the case during the Assessment's Officer's evaluation process this time around. Out of the Committee's curiosity though, they requested to possibly see how DeKalb County's CCAO's salary currently compares to surrounding counties. Ms. Brunschon offered to help in surveying the surrounding counties and noted that information could be shared at the Committee's next meeting.

The Committee requested that at their next meeting they would review a draft survey to send out to the Township Assessors along with reviewing the results of the CCAO salary comparison results and then continue with the evaluation process timeline from there.

EXEMPT PARCEL INFORMATION

Chairman Bagby provided an overlook of the number and types of exempt parcels in DeKalb County. It was determined that there were roughly 1,395 parcels in DeKalb County that are full exempt from paying property taxes. Some types of properties that are exempt are: City/Village/Town Sites, Park Districts, Schools, University, Cemeteries, State Government Sites, Fire/Library/Sanitary Districts, Churches, and some others. The Chairman noted that he placed this subject on the agenda because he had heard another Board Member question the amount of exempt parcels in the County and wanted to explore the matter more. The Committee has no other questions or comments on the exempt parcel information they reviewed.

OLD BUSINESS / NEW BUSINESS

There were a couple brief comments made regarding local shopping that occurred during the Holiday Season as well as some local economic projects in the works throughout the County. Chairman Bagby noted that the Business Incubator Advisory Board was meeting on a monthly basis now and they hope to be bringing some new tenants to the space soon.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mrs. Emmer and it was carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Tim Bagby

Tasha Sims, Recording Secretary