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DeKalb County Government
Sycamore, Illinois

**Executive Committee Minutes
May 9, 2018**

The Executive Committee of the DeKalb County Board met Wednesday, May 9, 2018, 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. Bagby, Mr. Brown, Mr. Faivre, Mr. Frieders, Ms. Leifheit, Ms. Little, Mr. Plote, Mr. Stoddard, and Chairman Pietrowski. A quorum was established with all nine Members present.

Others that were present included: Gary Hanson, Jim Hutcheson, Craig Roman, Tracy Jones, Tim Hughes, Jim Luebke, Chris Porterfield, Jeff Whelan, Steve Reid, Misty Haji-Sheikh, Sandra Polanco, John Mataitis, and a few other members of the public.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Mr. Faivre moved to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Plote seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously by voice vote.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

It was moved by Ms. Little, seconded by Mr. Stoddard and it was moved unanimously to approve the minutes from the April 11, 2018 meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. John Mataitis of Sycamore wanted to ensure that the Chairman of the Board and the Committee were aware that there was a possibility that a current DeKalb County Board of Review Member did not actually live in DeKalb County. Chairman Pietrowski noted that he has looked into the situation and unless there is new further evidence, he believes that the individual does in fact live within the County.

CHAIR'S COMMENTS

Chairman Pietrowski announced that the 2018 Mayors' Memorial Day Breakfast will be held on Monday, May 28th from 6:45 a.m. to 7:30 a.m. at the Elks DeKalb Lodge No. 765, 209 S. Annie Glidden Rd., DeKalb, IL. This will be the 28th consecutive breakfast on Memorial Day.

Chairman Pietrowski stated that it has come to his attention that he and other County Board Members have received correspondences regarding Effingham County and others supporting the adoption of becoming a sanctuary county for Illinois gun owners. The Chairman shared that in regards to the recent Proclamation that Effingham County and a few more counties passed they were non-binding statements. DeKalb County, like their counties are non-home rule and we must follow the laws passed by the State of Illinois. Cities that have passed gun restrictions in Illinois have been home rules cities allowing them more flexibility to differ from directions of the State. The only county in Illinois that is home rule is Cook County.

Chairman Pietrowski added that we will continue to follow the law of Illinois in DeKalb County just like when we went from a non-carry and conceal county to a carry and conceal county in accordance with Illinois state law. He shared that he respects the options of those coming forward but will not bring up a non-binding resolution that goes against the direction provided to us by the State of Illinois. Further, there are examples of counties passing resolutions that go against the State's direction which have resulted in lawsuits against the county that they either had to settle out of court or take to trial. Chairman Pietrowski wants to continue to try and put DeKalb County in the best position to move forward without facing lawsuits that could add burden to taxpayers.

Lastly, the Chair reminded County Board Members that the Jail Expansion Ribbon Cutting Ceremony will be on May 17th at 12:30 p.m. and that he will be presenting at the Metro West State of the Counties event on May 18th alongside Kane and Kendall County Chairmen.

RELEASE OF EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES

Mr. Hanson shared that pursuant to provisions of 5 ILCS 120/2.06, below are the results of the periodic review of the minutes and verbatim recordings of all closed meetings held by the DeKalb County Board. These minutes no longer require confidential treatment and should now be approved and released for public inspection and the verbatim recordings of those meetings could be destroyed in accordance with Illinois Open Meetings Act. Mr. Hanson added that once released, the Executive Session will be attached to the original minutes. Those minutes that Mr. Hanson was proposing to be released were:

- 06/10/2014 Executive Committee – Personnel per 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1)
- 05/04/2016 Finance Committee – Collective Bargaining per 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2)
- 06/04/2016 Executive Committee – Collective Bargaining per 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2)
- 10/11/2016 Planning & Zoning Committee – Personnel per 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(3)

It was moved by Mr. Faivre, seconded by Mr. Brown and it was approved unanimously to forward the resolution to the full County Board recommending its approval to release the Executive Session Minutes listed above.

APPOINTMENTS

Chairman Pietrowski recommended the following appointments for approval:

- a. **Regional Planning Commission:** Les Redden (City of Sandwich) reappointed for a three-year term beginning April 1, 2018 and expiring March 31, 2021.
- b. **Regional Planning Commission-Alternates:** Danielle Marion (Village of Hinckley) reappointed for a three-year term beginning April 1, 2018 and expiring March 31, 2021.
- c. **Normal Drainage District:** Barbara Twombly appointed immediately to fill the unexpired term of Robert Twombly until August 31, 2020.
- d. **Board of Review:** John Guio reappointed for a term beginning June 1, 2018 and expiring May 31, 2020.
- e. **Board of Review – Alternates:** Daniel Cribben reappointed for a term beginning June 1, 2018 and expiring May 31, 2019.

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It was moved by Mr. Plote and seconded by Mr. Frieders to forward the recommended appointments to the full County Board for approval. The motion carried unanimously.

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. Bagby, Chairman of the Economic Development Committee shared that the Committee has no actionable items for the County Board this month but shared that the Committee approved for Community Development Staff to proceed forward with a new Business Incubator Tenant. The Committee is also continually discussing the process in which the incubator tenants will be vetted. Mr. Bagby also shared that Alex Nerad, Executive Director of the Egyptian Theatre, joined them at their meeting and provided an update on the Theatre. Lastly he shared that the Egyptian Theatre has been named the #11 Must See Architectural Attraction in Illinois.

Ms. Leifheit, Chair of the Law & Justice Committee shared that the Committee is forwarding a resolution to the full County Board regarding the County joining other surrounding counties in fighting the Opioid Epidemic. She also shared that the Committee received the Coroner's and EDSA's Annual Reports as well as an update on the Sheriff's potential gun range next to the landfill.

Ms. Little, Chair of the Health & Human Services Committee shared that the Committee held a Public Hearing regarding an application for a State of Illinois Paratransit Vehicle Grant for the Voluntary Action Center and approved a resolution to go along with submitting and executing that Grant. They additionally forwarded a Leaf Burning Ordinance to the full County Board for their consideration which mirror the Illinois State Law. The Ordinance reiterates that the burning of leaves and other yard waste is prohibited on all properties outside of those communities that are 1,000 feet or closer to the city boundaries (Cities of Sycamore and Genoa and in the Villages of Hinckley, Maple Park, and Waterman). Lastly, the Committee approved the hiring of a Family Support Specialist in the Community Action Department and the hiring of any other open positions they may have because all of those position are 100% grant funded and if the funding isn't utilized it will be lost.

Mr. Brown, Chairman of the Forest Preserve Committee, shared that the Committee is currently working on a Forest Preserve District Code that will be separate from the County's Code due to it being a separate Taxing District and Public Body. He also shared that the The Sycamore Park District received word this week that it is one of IDOT's 2018 Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program grant recipients. The District's grant application was approved for the full amount requested, \$1,698,980. This grant will fund 75% of the engineering and construction cost for a .8 mile paved trail segment from the new Sycamore Forest Preserve to Page Street in Sycamore. The Sycamore Park District and DeKalb County Forest Preserve District have entered an intergovernmental agreement for shared planning, implementation and funding of the grant's local match, \$424,750. The total project cost is \$2,123,730. This is the second of three segments that when completed will connect Sycamore Forest Preserve (location of the current western end of the Great Western Trail) to the Brickville Road parking access to Sycamore Lake and Leon Larson Parks by following the old railroad right of way. The first segment, Sycamore Middle School to Brickville Road, was also funded by an IDOT grant to Sycamore Park District in 2016

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with construction beginning on that portion this summer. The Park District will submit an application for the third segment, Page Street to Old Mill Park, during the next granting cycle in 2020.

Mr. Stoddard, Chairman of the Finance Committee shared that the Committee received an Annual Report from Facilities Management and are forwarding and recommending approval of a Delinquent Tax Liquidation Program Minimum Bid Resolution and two Policy Resolutions pertaining to State and Federal Grants.

Mr. Faivre, Chairman of the Planning & Zoning Committee shared that the Committee is forwarding two Ordinance to the full County Board. One of the Ordinances pertains to clarifying the definition of a gun club and the other is for the approval of a variance to allow for the expansion of a nonconforming residence in Franklin Township. The Committee will also be continuing to work on a Wind Farm Ordinance.

Mr. Plote, Chairman of the County Highway Committee shared that Phase II of the Peace Road Safety Study has been released and that there will be three more phases which will be coming out in the months to follow. Mr. Schwartz is also currently in talks with companies regarding the storage building and that will hopefully go out to bid again soon. Mr. Plote also shared that the Committee is forwarding one speed zone Ordinance and two engineering agreements to the full County Board.

Chairman Pietrowski additionally added that the Forest Preserve Commissioners Meeting will be meeting prior to the County Board Meeting due to the Jail Expansion Tour that will be taking place at the end of the Board Meeting.

It was moved by Mr. Faivre, seconded by Ms. Little and it was carried unanimously to approve the County Board Agenda and to forward it to the full County Board for approval.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Hanson presented the Committee with his County Administrator's Report. He shared that the Gilbane job trailer has now been removed for the Jail Expansion Project and that Exchange Street reopened today. He reminded everyone that the Jail Expansion Ribbon Cutting Ceremony will be on Thursday, May 17th at 12:30 p.m.

The Nursing Home's Certificate of Need Hearing is coming up on June 5th. That is a State of Illinois Approval Process and is absolutely necessary in order to move forward with the Nursing Home Expansion Project.

Also on Thursday, May 17th at 1:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. will be Public Hearings on two locations for towers for the Sheriff's Digital Radio System. He also mentioned that the FEMA Grant for the Fire Department's radios was not awarded.

The DeKalb County History Center is beginning to get their feet on the ground. On March 26th they had their inaugural board meeting. Plans are now underway for fundraising to build a new building next to the current building just north of Sycamore on IL Route 23. The County is also working on an Intergovernmental Agreement with the History Center in order for the Joiner

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History Room to have space out there because they have outgrown their area at the Sycamore Library.

The County's Website Development Team has been working with Trittenhaus Design of Sycamore on the County's website redesign. All of the feedback has been positive and the hope is to start intergrading the new site in late summer.

On March 27th, Senator Durbin was in town and he made contact with Deanna Cada for the County's Community Action Department. Mr. Hanson shared that it was a very nice event and it was nice to engage with a ranking U.S. Senator.

Mr. Hanson additionally asked the Executive Committee how they would feel if he would explore the possibilities of housing a solar farm on County-owned land. There was a consensus from the Committee that they were open to the idea and opportunities and agreed that Mr. Hanson should continue exploring the possibilities.

Chairman Pietrowski lastly shared that the Illinois Counties Association contacted him and shared that their Board of Directors have agreed that in these hard economic times, especially for the not for profit organization in our Counties, the ICA would like to help out in any way they can. According, the ICA board of Directors voted to make contributions to charitable organizations in all 102 Counties in Illinois. The contributions are small, but in these times every little bit helps. They have allocated \$5,900 to 501(c)(3) charitable organizations in DeKalb County. Chairman Pietrowski and Vice Chairman Frieders have decided to divide that amount up among eleven different organizations. Those amounts and organizations are as follows:

CASA DeKalb County	\$500
DeKalb County Community Gardens	\$900
DeKalb County History Museum	\$500
DeKalb County Youth Services Bureau	\$500
Fox Valley Older Adult Services	\$500
Hope Haven	\$500
Oaken Acres Wildlife Center	\$500
Safe Passage	\$500
Opportunity House	\$500
Voluntary Action Center	\$500
Open Door Rehabilitation	\$500

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mr. Faivre, seconded by Mr. Plote and it was carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting.


Tasha Sims, Recording Secretary
Chairman Mark Pietrowski


Chairman Mark Pietrowski, Jr.
Tasha Sims, Recording Secretary