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DeKalb County Government
Sycamore, Illinois

**Executive Committee Minutes
February 13, 2019**

The Executive Committee of the DeKalb County Board met Wednesday, February 13, 2019, in the Administration Building's Conference Room East in Sycamore, Illinois. Chairman Mark Pietrowski, Jr. called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Those Members present were Mr. Tim Bagby, Mr. Dan Cribben, Mr. Steve Faivre, Vice Chairman John Frieders, Ms. Dianne Leifheit, Mr. Roy Plote, Mr. Chris Porterfield, Mr. Paul Stoddard, and Chairman Mark Pietrowski, Jr. A quorum was established with all nine Members present.

Others present included, Gary Hanson, Terry Hannan, Jim Hutcheson, Maureen Little, Jeff Whelan, Craig Roman, Misty Haji-Sheikh, Tim Hughes, Jim Luebke, Sue Willis, Sandra Polanco, and Robin Brunshon.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

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

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

It was moved by Ms. Leifheit, seconded by Mr. Porterfield and it was moved unanimously to approve the minutes from the January 9, 2019 meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

CHAIR'S COMMENTS

Chairman Pietrowski shared that at the 103rd Sycamore Chamber of Commerce Annual Meeting held on Thursday, January 31, 2019, the DeKalb County Forest Preserve District was presented with the Chamber's Discover Diamond Award. This award recognizes those Chamber members that have made significant improvements to their business/property/organization that shows a commitment to the entire community. The DeKalb County Forest Preserve District completed the renovation of the Sycamore Forest Preserve in October of 2017. This sixty-acre preserve, formerly the Evergreen Village Mobile Home Park, was converted into a beautiful, purposeful green space that residents will enjoy for many years. The revitalization of this space was made possible through the vision of County Officials, the County Board, City of Sycamore, and the County Forest Preserve District. The Preserve, at 955 East State Street in Sycamore, is the trailhead of the Great Western Trail, with hiking and cross-country ski trails, picnic areas, a fishing pond and two shelter houses.

The Chairman also informed the Committee that the Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of DeKalb for the Sales Tax Sharing Agreement has officially been resolved and signed by both the County and the City.

APPOINTMENTS

The following appointments were recommended for approval:

- a. **Rehab & Nursing Center Operating Board/Supportive Living Facility Board:** Pat Conboy and Steve Kuhn both appointed beginning March 1, 2019 to fill open positions until December 31, 2019.
- b. **Board of Health:** Rukisha Crawford appointed for a term beginning March 1, 2019 and expiring December 31, 2019.
- c. **E-911 Board:** Jeff McMaster appointed immediately to fill the unexpired term of Eric Hicks until December 31, 2019.

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

APPROVAL OF THE COUNTY BOARD AGENDA

Chairman Pietrowski 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. Stoddard, Chairman of the Forest Preserve Operations Committee, shared that the Committee met at their regular scheduled time as well as at a special meeting just prior to Executive Committee to discuss possible future land acquisition opportunities. He also shared with the Committee that he will be looking to plan a Forest Preserve Tour similar to the one that the Highway Committee does each year for their road projects throughout the County. More information on a Forest Preserve Tour will be shared in the future.

Mr. Bagby, Chairman of the Economic Development Committee, shared that the Committee cancelled their meeting this month due to inclement weather but looking ahead they will be reviewing the County's Liquor License Code requirements with the County Clerk. Mr. Bagby also noted that the DeKalb County Small Business Resource Network hosted a free resource fair for small businesses or those interested in starting a small business on Thursday, Aug. 30, at the DeKalb County Community Outreach Building. He lastly shared that there will be a Board of Review Appointment open in the near future and encouraged Board Members to speak with anyone they knew who may be interested in taking the Department of Revenue Test so they are eligible.

Mr. Porterfield, Chairman of the Health & Human Services Committee, shared that the Committee has forwarded two resolutions for consideration to the full County Board. The resolutions are for 5311 and Downstate Operating Assistance Grant Agreements for State Fiscal Year 2019. These are both pass through grants that go to the Voluntary Action Center to provide transportation to rural DeKalb County residents. He also shared that at their next meeting they will be hearing updates on the 211 Program and the Health Department.

Ms. Leifheit, Chair of the Law & Justice Committee, shared that the Committee cancelled their meeting due to inclement weather.

Mr. Cribben, Chairman of the Finance Committee, shared that the Committee has forwarded two annual abatement resolutions to the full County Board for current bond issues along with the usual Claims and Reports of County Officials. He added that the Committee also received an annual report on the IMO/GIS Department from Director Sheila Santos as well as an update on County HVAC projects from FMO Director Jim Scheffers. The Committee also reviewed currently landfill revenues and began taking a closer look at the County's monthly vendor payment report (Claims).

Mr. Faivre, Chairman of the Planning & Zoning Committee, shared that there will be a Public Hearing during the full County Board Meeting for Metronet who is requesting approval of a franchise to provide cable TV service to residences in unincorporated DeKalb and Sycamore Townships. Following the Public Hearing will be an Ordinance to approve the franchise agreement, Mr. Faivre explained.

Mr. Plote, Chair of the County Highway Committee, shared that the Committee forwarded three resolutions to the full County Board for consideration. He provided background on each resolution as well as shared that Phase Three and Four of the Peace Road safety study were presented to the Committee and that Phase Five of the six part study is 25% complete.

Mr. Plote additionally addressed recent rumors that the County was running out of salt. Mr. Plote noted that County Engineer Nathan Schwartz has explained that the County's salt supply is "just shy of half-full," and there will be more salt deliveries coming. Deliveries have been slow due to trucking issues and the County has been very conservative with spreading salt these past few weeks. Everyone who utilizes salt in this area was similarly affected. The Department has explored the possibility of enlarging their current salt storage building to allow for more storage.

Chairman Pietrowski shared that the Ad Hoc Rules Committee will be meeting the following evening and will be looking at some new rule changes that will be brought to the March County Board Meeting.

It was moved by Mr. Cribben, seconded by Mr. Porterfield 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 began by sharing that the DeKalb County Government, DeKalb County Economic Development Corporation/DCEDC, and ComEd are teaming up to host DeKalb County's first Economic Development Boot Camp. The event is geared towards municipal elected officials and economic development staff, to receive the tools necessary to effectively encourage economic development in your respective community. Panel discussions will feature expert insight from professionals at INTERSECT, Illinois, Site Selectors, Developers, and the Utilities industries.

Mr. Hanson also shared that he, Chairman Pietrowski, and Ms. Leifheit all attended a luncheon for potential National Accreditation for the County's Pretrial Program. If award the accreditation, it would be the only Pretrial Program in the State of Illinois. It would certainly be an honor, Mr.

Hanson shared, and the attendees were gauging to see what kind of support Pretrial had from the County Board and other County Departments.

The Rehab & Nursing Center Operating Board is in the midst of potentially hiring a new Nursing Home Administrator. The hope is the schedule a Special Meeting yet this month in order to have that appointment approved and hired.

Lastly, Mr. Hanson shared that the City Council of the City of DeKalb approved TIF #3. There was a lot of talk of implementing safe guards during the discussions. One item that is being done is the City has proposed a new section of their Municipal Code to allow the Joint Review Board or even another Board of Taxing Bodies to review the TIF documents quarterly and that these meetings would be open to the public. Many of the changes are to allow for more transparency into the entire TIF process. Mr. Hanson and the Committee briefly discussed the potentials of TIF #1 closing out early and the taxing bodies receiving monies from that early close-out.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mr. Stoddard, seconded by Mr. Plote and it was carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:43 p.m.

Chairman Mark Pietrowski

Tasha Sims, Recording Secretary