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DeKalb County Government
Sycamore, Illinois

**Executive Committee Minutes
February 8, 2017**

The Executive Committee of the DeKalb County Board met Wednesday, February 8, 2017, 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. Stoddard and Chairman Pietrowski. Mr. Jones was absent. A quorum was established with eight Members present and one absent.

Others that were present included: Gary Hanson, Steve Reid, Mr. Luebke, Mr. Plote, Mr. Roman, Ms. Polanco, Mr. Whelan, Mr. Bunge, Mrs. Haji-Sheikh, and Greg Millburg.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

It was moved by Mr. Faivre, seconded by Mr. Bagby and it was moved unanimously to approve the minutes from January 11, 2017.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

It was moved by Mr. Brown and seconded by Mr. Faivre to approve the agenda as presented.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments made.

CHAIR'S COMMENTS

Chairman Pietrowski announced that at the full County Board Meeting he will officially declare the seat formally occupied by Johnathan Schmarje (R) District #2 to be vacant as of February 8, 2016. Chairman Pietrowski noted that Mr. Schmarje was not able to give his full attention to the position and felt it best to resign. Both parties will be notified following the Board Meeting next week and he will wait for a recommendation from the Republican Party for a replacement. County Board District #2 covers the Genoa-Kingston area.

Chairman Pietrowski additionally shared that on Thursday, January 26th he hosted an Employee Appreciation for County employees at the Sycamore Campus. It was a very nice, well attending event and a turned out to be a great way for County Departments and Board Members to mingle and share ideas together during a brief break in the day.

AD HOC WEBSITE REVIEW COMMITTEE

Chairman Pietrowski explained that he would like to form an Ad Hoc Website Review Committee. The duty of the committee would be fully analyze the County Website for old programs that need to be taken down or investigated, broken links, make some information more visible, analyze website technology or explore look update possibilities and a obtain a full grasp on what all is covered on the main website. He also wants to cover any County Departments websites handled independently and find out who does their web updating.

The Committee would work with the current County Web Content Administrator Lisa Sanderson. He would also like the Committee to consist of 4 Republicans and 4 Democrats. He will serve as the Chairman and one of the 4 Democrats. He noted that if the Executive Committee would like to go along with the formation of this Committee, he would also like to appoint the Members at the full County Board Meeting and would like anyone to contact him if they are interested in serving on this Committee.

It was moved by Ms. Leifheit, seconded by Mr. Bagby and it was approved unanimously to forward the recommendation to create an Ad Hoc Website Review Committee to the full County Board.

APPOINTMENTS

Chairman Pietrowski recommended the following appointments for approval:

- a. **Community Mental Health Board:** Meghan Cook appointed immediately for a term expiring December 31, 2020. Terry Purcell appointed immediately to fill the unexpired term of Andi Andree until December 31, 2018.
- b. **Stormwater Management Committee:** Derek Hiland appointed immediately to fill the unexpired term of Paul Miller until June 30, 2018.

It was moved by Mr. Faivre, 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. Frieders, Chairman of the County Highway Committee shared that the Committee is recommending approval of three resolutions to the full County Board. Mr. Frieders reviewed the three resolutions in detail as well as shared that the Committee and Highway Department are very pleased that the Waterman Road reconstruction project will begin. Mr. Frieders briefly provided the Committee with the timeline of the 2017 construction and noted that the project will be finished around 2021.

Mr. Brown, Chairman of the Forest Preserve Committee, shared that the Forest Preserve Committee is forwarding and recommending approval of the Somonauk to Sannuak Forest Preserve Trail Corridor land acquisition. It is a 3.46 acre trail corridor at \$20,000.00 per acre totaling \$68,000.00.

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The proposed trail would be a limestone surface trail and asphalt surface as needed on slopes to prevent erosion and trail “wash outs”. Paving all of trail in the future could be an option. It is estimated that trail construction work would begin late 2017 or in 2018 at an estimated cost of \$100,000.00. The Village of Somonauk and DeKalb County Highway Department will help with engineering, grading and hauling materials and the Village of Somonauk will assist with trail safety patrols and maintenance. Mr. Brown additionally shared the Committee talked about the Annual Winterfest event and the Committee approved the IDNR to continue their culling activities for 2017. The IDNR have been in the process of culling deer from two Preserve areas for several years now. They do this in an attempt to minimize and document the prevalence of Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) within the County and the State.

Mr. Bagby, Chairman of the Economic Development Committee shared that at their last meeting, the Committee discuss with Mr. Hiland their suggestions for forming a position description for an Economic Development Coordinator. They also brainstormed about small business emphasis and what their goals are as a Committee. There was lots of ideas circling around on how to improve and expand on the existing Business Incubator Program among his Committee as well as those in attendance at the Executive Committee.

Ms. Leifheit, Chair of the Law & Justice Committee noted that the Committee was provided with reports from the Public Defender’s Office, Court Services Department, and the State’s Attorney’s Office. The majority of the meeting was dedicated to talking about the status of the Sober Living Home. The Committee left the meeting with the plan to pursue reaching out to the Ben Gordon Center to see if they would be interested in taking over the project. There are no current updates on the status of that plan though.

Mr. Stoddard, Chairman of the Finance Committee shared that the Committee approved to recommend sending 52 Delinquent Property Tax Resolutions to the full Board for approval along with an Annual Tax Abatement Resolution. The Committee also approved extending the County’s current janitorial contract and began work on updates to the County’s Travel Policy. They also received information on the CPI indices, the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) award that was issued to the County for the 30th year in a row, and Moody’s Investor Service Annual Issuer Comment Report.

Ms. Little, Chair of the Health & Human Services Committee shared the Committee met at the DeKalb County Rehab & Nursing Center for their last meeting and Administrator Bart Becker provided a presentation on the Nursing Home and gave a tour of the facility to those in attendance. She also shared that Senior Services Tax Levy Site Visits were coming up and anyone who was interested in attending those was welcome to come.

Chairman Pietrowski briefly reviewed that the Ad Hoc Rules Committee approved to forward an Ordinance making a few changes to the Board Rules. The Committee will also be continuing to review the County Code, County Board Rules, and certain Policy throughout their meetings.

It was moved by Mr. Frieders, 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.

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COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Hanson presented the Committee with his County Administrator's Report. He regretfully shared with the Committee that the Executive Director of Community Action, Donna Moulton, will be resigning in mid-March.

The Jail Expansion Project is well underway and all is on track for the outside walls to all be installed by early March. He also noted that the plan is still to do a \$33 million bond issue in June. The biggest issue that is arising from the Expansion Project is parking around the Sycamore Campus and Mr. Hanson is working with Departments and evaluating different options to help alleviate parking issues.

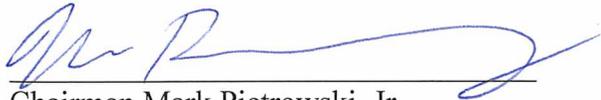
Lastly, Mr. Hanson shared that the Community Mental Health Board has a new President of their Board and he has met with him and Deanna Cada to review their upcoming plans on how they are going to try and bring more diversity to their Board and how they are going to celebrate their upcoming 50th anniversary.

ADJOURNMENT

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



Tasha Sims, Recording Secretary



Chairman Mark Pietrowski, Jr.