

Note: These minutes are not official until approved by the Executive 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

**Executive Committee Minutes
April 13, 2016**

The Executive Committee of the DeKalb County Board met Wednesday, April 13, 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: Paul Miller, Chris Klein, Suzanne Willis, Jeff Whelan, Maureen Little, Dianne Leifheit, Sandra Polanco, Jeremy Perratta, Steve Reid, Chris Porterfield, Kevin Bunge, Jim Luebke, Marjorie Askins, Craig Roman, and a few other public audience members.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

It was moved by Mrs. Turner, seconded by Mr. Gudmunson and it was moved unanimously to approve the minutes from March 9, 2016.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

It was moved by Mrs. Haji-Sheikh and seconded by Mr. Brown to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments made.

CHAIR'S COMMENTS

Chairman Pietrowski congratulated the Precinct Committeemen winners from both parties that were elected at the March Primary Election. There were several individuals present in the audience.

The Chairman shared that he had an opportunity to speak at the one year anniversary event of the devastating F4 tornado that hit Fairdale. Many new homes and the park are being rebuilt in the area and he mentioned that he was thankful for everyone in government, non-profit, and private business for all that they have done to help Fairdale move forward and to all the volunteers that donated their time and money to help the residents. In addition to himself, County Board Vice Chair Tracy Jones and Member Kevin Bunge were in attendance as well as former County Board Member and Habitat of Humanity President Anthony Cvek.

Chairman Pietrowski noted that earlier today he was contacted by Herbert Rubin who has been working with the local Cities and the County on issuing a “no hate” statement. Chairman Pietrowski stated that wording would be worked out within the next month and he would bring the issue back to the Executive Committee for a decision next month.

He lastly mentioned that the Metro West State of the Counties annual luncheon will be May 20th and that he, along with the Chairmen from Kane and Kendall Counties, would be presenting their annual updates at the event.

APPOINTMENTS

Chairman Pietrowski recommended the following appointments for approval:

- a. **Board of Health:** Derryl Block appointed immediately to fill the unexpired term of Marilyn Stromborg until December 31, 2018.
- b. **South Grove Cemetery Association:** Jason Yaakey appointed immediately to fill the unexpired term of David Yaakey until August 31, 2018 and Barbara Koehnke appointed immediately to fill an open appointment until August 31, 2021.

It was moved by Mr. Emerson, seconded by Mr. Jones and it was approved unanimously by voice vote to forward the recommended appointment to the full County Board for approval.

APPROVAL OF THE COUNTY BOARD AGENDA

The Chairman announced that he will be bringing forward two Proclamations at the April County Board Meeting. The first one is proclaiming April 18-25, 2016 as Money Smart Week and encourages citizens to increase their financial literacy. The second Proclamation is to declare April 30, 2016 Comcast Cares Day. Comcast is providing volunteers to help spruce up, clean and landscape the DeKalb County TAIL Humane Society.

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 does not have any actionable items that they are forwarded to the full Board but they did have discussion on waiving zoning fees for non-profits, tax abatement for small businesses for code compliance, and possible zoning text amendments. He indicated that many of the conversations will be revisited and continued at their next meeting.

Mr. Brown, Chairman of the Economic Development Committee shared the Committee received informative presentations from Kay Shelton of the Lincoln Highway Association as well as from Paul Borek who presented his quarterly update. The County-wide Economic Development Vision Program is now in the Community Stage and encouraged individuals to attend any community meetings that they may be able to. Lastly he shared that a press release went out last week regarding the Incubator Program. The application deadline is May 20th with an anticipated opening date of July 1, 2016.

Mr. Gudmunson, Chairman of the County Highway Committee shared that the Committee is forwarding two resolutions to the full Board. He briefly review each resolution and added that as requested, when available, there will be a breakdown of funding sources for the projects in the County Board Packets for everyone to view.

Mr. Frieders, Chairman of the Law & Justice Committee shared the Committee met and received their usual monthly Public Defender and Court Services reports. He noted that the Committee has been spending a bit of additional time understanding the Pretrial Program and they are scheduled to receive a formal annual update on the Pretrial Program with a couple of months. He also shared that the Honorable Judge Stuckert joined the Committee to provide a status update on the Mental Health Court. Like many programs right now, the main reasoning for the program not launching yet is because of the State of Illinois is not releasing the funds. The County was awarded a \$135,000 Adult Redeploy Illinois Grant that was to cover the costs of personnel for the Mental Health Court but those monies have yet to be granted from the State and it is uncertain if and when they actually will be.

Mr. Stoddard, Chairman of the Finance Committee shared that the Committee did not meet this month but they will still be forwarding the claims to be paid and placing the usual reports on file.

Mrs. Turner, Chairman of the Forest Preserve Committee, shared that the Committee was presented with the landscape design of the new Sycamore Forest Preserve (former Evergreen Village area) and additionally discussed putting gates up for when the Preserve is closed. Mr. Hannan is scheduled to provide a similar update to the full Board of Commissioners and show the progress that is being made at the new Forest Preserve. She additionally shared that the Miller-Ellwood Cabin in Kingston is continuing to be updated, although is not completely finished and that Forest Preserve staff have finished their annual burnings.

Mrs. Haji-Sheikh, Chairperson of the Health & Human Services Committee shared that the Committee has had a very busy month with the Senior Services Tax Levy Hearings as well as passing several resolutions for grants related to transportation and the Voluntary Action Center. The Committee decided to fund all ten agencies that applied for the Senior Services Tax Levy Funded and it was noted that they allocated \$424,331. Mrs. Haji-Sheikh also briefed the Committee on the four other resolutions which included the annual 5311 Downstate Operating pass through grants as well as the Public Transportation Grants and TIGER Grants.

It was moved by Mrs. Turner, seconded by Mrs. Haji-Sheikh 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

In Mr. Hanson's absence, Deputy County Administrator Paul Miller provided the County Administrators Report to the Committee.

Mr. Miller began by sharing that the Great Lakes Basin Railroad scoping comments due May 16th. This is in relation to the proposed railroad that goes from Indiana to west of DeKalb County to Wisconsin, but bypasses Chicago as well as DeKalb County.

Also, based on a recommendation from Pete Stefan, Finance Director, the Public Building Commission is retiring the final Health Facility Bond Debt about 7 months early. Using an “early call date” provision in the 2005 Debt re-financing, the December 1, 2016 bond payments will be retired May 9, 2016. This will result in just over a \$20,000 savings.

Mr. Miller continued that the Jail Project is moving forward with much time being spent trying to get the utility companies lined up to do their work and to get all the regulatory permits in place. He shared that Tracy Jones has been very helpful with that, especially in dealing with Com Ed and for easements needed with the Elburn Co-Op. Bids will be received tomorrow (Thursday, April 14th) for the remaining 18 construction contracts. In February, the first 7 contracts were awarded.

Related to the Jail Project, the County is working to identify a good date for a ground-breaking ceremony. Currently it is looking like the second or third week of May or the second or third week of June. The street and utility work will be started by that time-frame, but not necessarily the actual Jail building site.

The Sheriff will be holding a Fire Dispatch meeting on April 19th. In addition to being the first of what they hope will be monthly “User Meetings” (something Fire Districts requested), at this meeting the Fire Districts are being asked to finalize the contract provisions regarding paying for dispatch services.

As Mr. Brown mentioned previously, the Economic Summit (Part 2 of 2) will be held on Tuesday, May 24, 2016 at 8:30 a.m. at the Farm Bureau.

Last Mr. Miller provided a brief update on the current AFSCME negotiations. He mentioned that the meetings are going very well so far and that he is seeing steady progress being made.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Chairman Mark Pietrowski, Jr.

Tasha Sims, Recording Secretary

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ADJOURNMENT

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Chairman Mark Pietrowski, Jr.



Tasha Sims, Recording Secretary