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DeKalb County Government
Sycamore, Illinois

**Executive Committee Minutes
January 13, 2016**

The Executive Committee of the DeKalb County Board met Wednesday, January 13, 2015, at 7:00 p.m. in the Administration Building's Conference Room East. 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, and Mrs. Turner. All nine Members were present.

Others present were Gary Hanson, Paul Miller, Nathan Schwartz, Richard Schmack, Greg Millburg, Frank O'Barski, Jeff Whelan, Steve Reid, Jim Luebke, Chris Porterfield, Sandra Polanco, Dianne Leifheit, and the Press.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

It was moved by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. Gudmunson and it was moved unanimously to approve the minutes from December 9, 2015.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

It was moved by Mr. Frieders and seconded by Mrs. Haji-Sheikh 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 City of DeKalb for advancing to the semifinals (final 15) of the America's Best Communities completion.

The Chairman also shared that it has recently been announced that Target Distribution Center and KishHealth/Northwestern have multiple job openings which is good for the area.

There will be a KishHealth/Northwestern Presentation prior to the full County Board Meeting at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 20th in the Gathertorium. This public session will include a presentation regarding the recent merger of the hospital along with a question and answer session. The Chairman encouraged all Board Members to attend the meeting.

Lastly, the Chairman shared The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) as lead agency, and the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation (Nation) as cooperating agency, intend to gather information necessary to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in connection with the Nation's application for the proposed acquisition in trust by the United States of approximately 129 acres for

construction and operation of a gaming facility in DeKalb County, Illinois. This notice also opens public scoping to identify potential issues, concerns and alternatives to be considered in the EIS.

A Public Hearing will be held this Tuesday evening, January 26, 2016 in the Jenkins Auditorium at the Kishwaukee College Conference Center from 6:30 p.m. until the last public comment is received. Residents will be given an opportunity to discuss the proposed Prairie Band Potawatomi bingo hall outside Shabbona. Written comments must have been received by February 22, 2016. The Hearing will take place at the Jenkins Auditorium at the Kishwaukee College Conference Center.

CONSIDERATION OF FILING A LAWSUIT TO OBTAIN DELINQUENT STATE REIMBURSEMENTS

DeKalb County State's Attorney Richard Schmack joined the Committee to explain that over the last several months DeKalb County has not received reimbursement from the State of Illinois for the State's statutory portion of the salaries of the Chief Assessment Officer, the Public Defender, and the State's Attorney. He continued that all other counties in the State have been similarly situated for the last several months and that St. Clair County, Illinois has filed an order and recently obtained a verdict to obtain full back reimbursement, and continuing current reimbursement. The State's Attorney of St. Clair County made it's pleadings in their court action available to all counties in the State for use in brining similar action.

Mr. Schmack requested permission from the Executive Committee to file an action lawsuit again the State of Illinois Finance Department on DeKalb County's behalf in order to obtain the delinquent state reimbursements for the portion of the three salaries. He additional clarified that this issue is independent of the current State of Illinois budget impasse and that these funds are specifically dedicated to come from the Personal Property Replacement Tax.

It was moved by Mrs. Haji-Sheikh, seconded by Mr. Jones and it was approved unanimously to forward a resolution to the full County Board recommending its approval.

ADOPTION OF STATE LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

Chairman Pietrowski lead the Committee in reviewing the legislative items that were compiled for this year's Agenda. He additionally noted that he would like to add "Pass a responsible State Budget" as #1 and shift the rest of the items down one. It was additionally suggested to add Fair Map Criteria for Legislative Re-Districting as an item.

DeKalb County Engineer Nathan Schwartz was presented to provide some additional information with Mr. Hanson on item 2016-3 regarding Permission for an Optional Per Gallon Local Motor Fuel Tax. Mr. Schwartz explained that more funds are needed at the local level to maintain and build roads for the public to improve safety, commerce, and off-road pathways. Only DuPage, Kane and McHenry Counties are allowed to impose a local tax upon all persons engaged in the county in the business of selling motor fuel. This item would obtain the legislative permission for DeKalb County to have the option to collect a local motor fuel tax of up to 4 cents per gallon. Ultimately, it would be the County Board's decision to implement this tax if permission was granted.

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Mr. Stoddard made a motion to approve and forward the 2016 State Legislative Agenda with said changed to the full County Board recommending its approval. Mr. Emerson seconded the motion and it was moved unanimously.

APPOINTMENTS

Chairman Pietrowski recommended the following appointment for approval:

a. **Community Services Administrative Board**: Les Bellah appointed immediately to fill the unexpired term of Monica O’Leary until June 30, 2018.

It was moved by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mrs. Turner 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

Chairman Pietrowski 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.

Vice-Chairman Jones shared that he and Mr. Hanson, combined, put together a final report outlining the steps and outcome from the Jail Solutions Committee. He noted that the final report will be in the County Board Packet and the Board will be asked to approve and accept the final report delivered by the Committee.

Mr. Emerson, Chairman of the Planning & Zoning Committee shared that the Committee has no actionable items.

Mr. Brown, Chairman of the Economic Development Committee noted that the Committee forwarded an annual resolution to the full County Board for selecting the DeKalb County Convention and Visitors Bureau as the County’s 2016 agency of record for tourism promotions. The Committee additionally forwarded an amended IGA to the full Board for property tax abatements for industrial development. This would increase Sycamore’s tax abatements from three years to five and would put them more in line with the Enterprise Zone incentives. Mr. Brown shared that the Committee originally had approved to forward a resolution regarding exploring and funding a framework design for a 7 County NW Illinois Regional Plan Commission but since that time, it is being pulled from the agenda until further notice. Lastly, he shared the Committee was able to tour the proposed Incubator Program space at the Community Outreach Building and learn more about the logistics of the Program.

Mr. Gudmunson, Chairman of the County Highway Committee shared that the Committee is forwarding one resolution to the Board regarding the purchase of a new 2017 Tandem Cab and Chassis for a Peterbilt truck for snowplowing. He explained that the cost of the cab and chassis is \$99,584.25, with an option for a transmission warranty for \$459.00 and engine warranty for \$2,750.00. The trade allowed was \$35,000.00 for a total cost of this new cab and chassis of \$67,793.25.

Mr. Stoddard, Chairman of the Finance Committee shared that the Committee did not meet due to a lack of agenda items.

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Mr. Frieders, Chairman of the Law & Justice Committee shared the Committee too did not meet due to a lack of agenda items.

Mrs. Turner, Chairman of the Forest Preserve Committee, noted that The Forest Preserve District recently closed on the previously approved Christensen Property, which is the link to the Conro Property located near Prairie Oaks Forest Preserve. She also shared that this time of year and the way the recent weather has been, there has been prairie burns happening at Afton Forest Preserve.

Mrs. Haji-Sheikh, Chairperson of the Health & Human Services Committee shared that the Committee had no actionable items to move forward to the County Board and she additionally reiterated that the KishHealth/Northwestern Presentation is next week and encouraged everyone to get their questions in ahead of time.

It was moved by Mrs. Turner, seconded by Mr. Frieders 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 shared that earlier that afternoon the first Jail Expansion Bid Package was opened and there were seven items included: concrete work, precast concrete work, structural steel work, and excavation, site utilities, site clearing and paving work. He added that they are cautiously optimistic after the first round of bids although the Construction Manager will now do their due diligence and review all of the bids to ensure the companies are qualified and that nothing was left out of the bids. The second bid package will be going out in late January and due March 17th.

Mr. Hanson and some of the Jail Expansion construction team will be at the Sycamore City Council meeting next Tuesday evening to give them an overview and timeline of the project. This is also in advance to some legal documents that are needing to go through the City Council around February or March for zoning, easements, vacation, etc. that are associated with the Expansion Project.

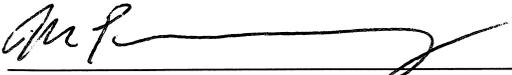
The Economic Summit will be gearing up to the next step which in tales going out in the communities to conduct listening sessions. Those will be scheduled around February and there will be follow-up emails with the Board to relay those times and dates.

The Fiber Optic Network Grant was recently subject to a Federal Audit and was extremely happy to learn that the auditors were extremely pleased with the results of the audit.

ADJOURNMENT

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


Tasha Sims, Recording Secretary


Chairman Mark Pietrowski, Jr.

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