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DeKalb County Government  
Sycamore, Illinois

**Executive Committee Minutes  
June 8, 2016**

The Executive Committee of the DeKalb County Board met Wednesday, June 8, 2016 at 7:00pm 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. Jones, Mr. Stoddard, Mrs. Turner and Chairman Pietrowski. Mr. Gudmunson and Ms. Haji-Sheikh were absent. Mr. Stoddard moved to appoint temporary Executive Committee members, Mr. Luebke and Ms. Little in the absence of Mr. Gudmunson and Ms. Haji-Sheikh. Mr. Jones seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously. A quorum was established.

Others that were present included Gary Hanson, Paul Miller, Jane Lux, Marjorie Askins, Dianne Leifheit, Maureen Little, Jim Luebke, Sandra Polanco, Chris Porterfield, Stephen Reid, Ruth Anne Tobias, Jeff Whelan and Suzanne Willis.

**APPROVAL OF THE MIINUTES**

**It was moved by Mrs. Turner and seconded by Mr. Emerson to approved the minutes from May 11, 2016. The motion carried unanimously.**

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

**It was moved by Mr. Luebke and seconded by Mr. Jones to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

**CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS**

Chairman Pietrowski mentioned that he presented the State of the County address during the Metro West Council of Government State of the Counties Luncheon on May 20<sup>th</sup> in Geneva, Illinois. Chairman Pietrowski stated that approximately 100 people attended the luncheon and that Kane County and Kendall County also participated. Chairman Pietrowski mentioned that it was a good opportunity to share information and accomplishments.

Chairman Pietrowski reminded the Committee that the ground-breaking event for the DeKalb County Jail is June 15<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm, and invitations will be sent to former County Board members.

### **APPROVAL OF ELECTION JUDGES**

**Ms. Little moved to approve the appointment of the election judges, as outlined on the list provided to the Committee. Mr. Frieders seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.**

### **APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENTS**

**It was moved by Ms. Turner and seconded by Mr. Jones to approve the following appointments:**

- Mary Supple and Maureen Little to the DeKalb County Convention & Visitors Bureau
- Regina Harris, Carol Herrington and John Rey to the Community Services Administrative Board
- Paul Miller, Donna Prain, Roger Steimel and John Laskowski to the Storm Water Management Planning Committee
- Ferald Bryan to the DeKalb County Rehab & Nursing Center Operating Board and to the DeKalb County Supportive Living Board

**The motion carried unanimously.**

### **APPROVAL OF THE COUNTY BOARD AGENDA**

Chairman Pietrowski requested a report from each of the Committee Chairpersons.

*Mr. Emerson, Chairman of the Planning & Zoning Committee* shared that the Committee has approved moving forward in presenting an amendment (O2016-05) to the County Board to change the zoning of property located at 9970 Keslinger Road. Mr. Emerson stated that the zoning will change from “Planned Development-Commercial” to “Planned Development-Industrial”. Mr. Emerson mentioned that a septic tank company is seeking permission to park and maintain fleet vehicles on this property and to also utilize the location for employee check-in. No storage of material will be at this location. Mr. Miller added that re-zoning this property seemed to be the best fit for this situation based on potential future needs of the property.

*Mr. Brown, Chairman of the Economic Development Committee* reviewed the proposed (O2016-06) amended Raffle Ordinance brought to the Committee by County Clerk, Doug Johnson. The proposal will align the County’s Ordinance with state statute, which now includes poker runs. Mr. Hanson mentioned that the intent of the Committee is to have the raffle / poker run application be free of charge to not-for-profit entities, so the fee requirement outlined in the Ordinance will be removed before the proposed amendment is brought before the County Board.

Mr. Brown shared that Mary Supple provided an update to the Economic Development Committee on the Business Incubator project. Project members are pleased with the quality and variety of applications and eight applicants have moved on to second round, in-person interviews.

Mr. Brown also mentioned that the DeKalb Area Arts Council is assessing future needs and is evaluating management structure changes for the Egyptian Theater.

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*Mr. Frieders, Chairman of the Law & Justice Committee* stated that the Committee has approved moving forward with the additional appropriation (R2016-45) from the County's Opportunity Fund of up to \$75,000 to be used (along with Drug Court Funds and donations) for the completion of construction on the Sober Living Home. Mr. Frieders explained that there have been many unforeseen code and construction issues and he believes that the additional funds will allow for project completion. Mr. Frieders also mentioned that the County will be handling the management of the construction project going forward and that the estimated time for completion is five to six months.

Mr. Frieders shared that the fire districts have approved the Fire District Dispatching Agreements (R2016-46) and that some of the contracts and associated funds have been received. Mr. Frieders mentioned that the agreements have a five-year term with the option for withdrawal each year.

Mrs. Haji-Sheikh arrived at 7:15pm.

*Mrs. Haji-Sheikh, Chairperson of the Health & Human Services Committee* stated that the Committee has approved moving forward in support of placing the referendum (R2016-44) on the November 2016 general election ballot. She mentioned that the referendum will propose levying a new tax to assist in the funding of the County Health Department. Mrs. Haji-Sheikh explained that many significant staffing and programming cuts have already been made at the Health Department as a result of the loss of grant funding. The proposed new tax would allow the Health Department to continue operation through the year 2027. The proposal includes the County Board setting a limit to the tax, matching and replacing the amount of the current retiring bond allocation with the new tax.

Mrs. Lux mentioned that additional workforce reduction and service elimination will occur if funding is not approved. She also stated that a continued lack of funding will have a negative impact on the Department's ability to respond to public health problems.

Executive Committee members voiced concerns regarding the proposed tax and its impact to the existing high tax rate in the county, as well as concern over the relatively short timeframe available to educate the public before the November election. Chairman Pietrowski underscored the importance of the vital services provided by the Health Department and the necessity to develop a plan to sustain the Department over the long term. He shared his concern for the lack of state and federal funding and his advocacy for allowing the new Health Administrator an opportunity to assess the situation, once in office. Mr. Hanson suggested that questions submitted by the public should be documented and distributed to County Board Members for review.

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*Mr. Stoddard, Chairman of the Finance Committee* mentioned that the budget workshop will be held just prior to the September County Board meeting and encouraged everyone to attend. Mr. Stoddard also reviewed that fund balance results were better than expected last year and that for the current year, the goal is not to draw on the fund at all. Mr. Stoddard added that there will be significant budget work to do in the fall.

*Mrs. Turner, Chairman of the Forest Preserve Committee* shared that the Committee visited the new Sycamore forest preserve and inspected the damage caused by the recent vandalism. She mentioned that large rocks serving as a barrier to the preserve grounds are now in place to help prevent future damage. Mrs. Turner also stated that additional permits to allow completion of the project and the installation of two metal shelters are pending. She mentioned that the forest preserve will hopefully be open by August or September. Mr. Miller stated that the forest preserve project is something for which to be very proud and hopes that the grand opening will be a highlight for the county.

*Mr. Luebke, Vice Chairman of the County Highway Committee* stated that the following resolutions and ordinances will be presented to the County Board for approval:

- Revised MFT Resolution for Perry Road Resurfacing Project at Afton Cemetery (R2016-40)
- Waterman Road Reconstruction (R2016-41)
- Designation of a Park Zone on Five Points Road North of IL Route 72 in Kingston (O2016-03)
- Altered Speed Zone for New Lebanon Road in Genoa Township (O2016-04)

Mr. Luebke mentioned that the resolution for the Award for Timber Pile Repairs for the Howison Road Bridge (R2016-43) is pending, as this resolution wasn't quite ready for approval during the Committee meeting. Mr. Luebke stated that the Committee is planning to meet just prior to the next County Board meeting in order to prepare the resolution for County Board review.

Mr. Luebke shared that the Coltonville Road Bridge project is nearing completion and is scheduled for paving to begin on June 10<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Luebke estimates that there is approximately four weeks of work remaining, depending on the weather.

**Mrs. Turner motioned to approve the County Board Agenda as presented and Mr. Luebke seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.**

#### **COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Hanson shared that the County Jail project is gaining momentum, utility work is in progress and that the elevator contract is being finalized. Ground-breaking is scheduled for June 15<sup>th</sup> at 5pm.

Mr. Hanson mentioned that the Economic Summit was held on May 24<sup>th</sup> with approximately 40-50 people in attendance. Mr. Hanson stated that the Community Foundation announced during

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the summit that they will be making grants available to each community for further planning and implementation of economic priorities.

Mr. Hanson shared that the \$900,000 budget shortfall has grown to \$1,000,000. Mr. Hanson and Peter Stefan, Finance Director will be meeting with department heads to review potential opportunities to improve efficiency and increase revenue in preparation for the fall budget process.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Mrs. Haji-Sheikh moved to transition the meeting to Executive Session for the purpose of reviewing terms of the AFSCME Council 31, Local 3537 Labor Contract. The motion was seconded by Mr. Luebke and a vote was taken via roll call. The motion was approved unanimously.**

#### **ADOPTION OF LABOR CONTRACT**

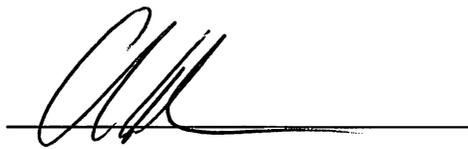
**Mr. Luebke moved to adopt the AFSCME Council 31, Local 3537 Labor Contract and to forward to the County Board for approval. Mr. Stoddard seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.**

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

**Mr. Stoddard moved to adjourn and the motion was seconded by Mrs. Haji-Sheikh. The motion carried unanimously.**



Chairman Mark Pietrowski, Jr.



Christie Klein, Recording Secretary