

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
December 10, 2014**

The Executive Committee of the DeKalb County Board met Wednesday, December 10, 2014, at 7 p.m. in the Legislative Center's Gathertorium. 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, Pete Stefan, Paul Miller, Christine Johnson, Doug Johnson, Greg Millburg, Donna Moulton, Terry Hannan, Margi Gilmour, Nathan Schwartz, Frank O'Barski, Steve Reid, Jim Luebke, Dianne Leifheit, Maureen Little, Anthony Cvek, Riley Oncken, Sandra Polanco, Shannon Wild, a few members of the public and the media.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

It was moved by Mr. Gudmunson, seconded by Mrs. Turner, and it was carried unanimously to approve the minutes from the November 12, 2014 meeting.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

It was moved by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. Frieders and it was carried unanimously to approve the agenda.

CHAIR'S COMMENTS

Chairman Pietrowski thanked all of the Board Members and everyone for their support in electing him as the new County Board Chairman. He also shared that him and Vice-Chairman Jones have been meeting with Department Heads and will be meeting with more in the weeks to come as well as outsidess organizations that work with the County. He also wanted everyone to remain very open to new ideas and to communicate freely with himself and Mr. Jones.

APPOINTMENTS

Chairman Pietrowski recommended the following appointments for approval:

1. **Board of Health:** Maria Caudillo appointed for a term beginning January 1, 2015 and expiring December 31, 2017. Ronald Feldmann, MD and Roger Faivre reappointed for terms beginning January 1, 2015 and expiring December 31, 2017. Shannon Barnaby appointed immediately to fill the unexpired term of Regina Harris until December 31, 2015.

2. **Emergency Telephone Systems Board (E911):** Pete Polarek appointed to fill the unexpired term of Don Thomas on January 1, 2015 until December 31, 2015.
3. **Local Workforce Investment Area 5 (River Valley Workforce Investment Board):** Caprice Perez appointed immediately to fill the unexpired term of Brian Slayton until September 30, 2015.
4. **Victor-Clinton Drainage District #14 (86MC1):** Rich Konizter reappointed from September 1, 2014 until August 31, 2017.
5. **DeKalb County Rehab & Nursing Center Operating Board:** Misty Haji-Sheikh, Rita Nielsen, and Greg Millburg appointed for one year terms beginning January 1, 2015 and expiring December 31, 2015. Jeff Whelan, Veronica Casella, Russell Deverell, and Ronald Klein all appointed for two year terms beginning January 1, 2015 and expiring December 31, 2016.
6. **Supportive Living Facility Board:** Misty Haji-Sheikh, Rita Nielsen, and Greg Millburg appointed for one year terms beginning January 1, 2015 and expiring December 31, 2015. Jeff Whelan, Veronica Casella, Russell Deverell, and Ronald Klein all appointed for two year terms beginning January 1, 2015 and expiring December 31, 2016.

It was moved by Mr. Gudmunson, seconded by Mrs. Haji-Sheikh and it was approved unanimously by voice vote to forward the recommended appointments to the Full County Board for approval.

THE METROPOLITAN EXPOSITION, AUDITORIUM & OFFICE BUILDING AUTHORITY DISSOLUTION

Mr. Hanson shared that on November 17th the Metropolitan Exposition, Auditorium & Office Building Authority unanimously approved to dissolve as an entity due to them fulfilling their mission for which it was originally created and identified they no longer had an assets, monies, or outstanding debts. In order to dissolve the County Board is to adopt and accept the functions of the Authority under the provisions of 70 ILCS 200/2-165. Mr. Hanson reminded the Committee that there are currently no actual functions the Authority is passing along though.

It was moved by Mrs. Haji-Sheikh, seconded by Mr. Jones and it was moved unanimously to forward the resolution to the Full County Board for approval.

SOBER LIVING HOME ACQUISITION

Mr. Hanson requested that the Executive Committee delay any action on this item until their next meeting, January 14th. There are still additional items that he would like to obtain more information on and would like to know the results from the Sycamore Plan Commission Meeting that will be meeting January 12th. That way if they were to put any restrictions on the Special Use Permit, the Executive Committee will have a chance to know what those are before making a decision on purchasing the property for a Sober Living Home.

ANTI-CORRUPTION ADVISORY REFEREDUM REQUEST

Shannon Wilde residing at 416 Birch Ave., Genoa, IL approach the County Board to engage them to consider approving an advisory referendum questions to be placed on the ballot for the April 7, 2015 Consolidated Election. Ms. Wilde shared that on November 4, the citizens of Genoa Township were given the opportunity to be heard on a topic that 96 percent of Americans think is a problem, but 92 percent think nothing will be done about: the corrupting influence of money on our political system. After selecting candidates in a variety of races, voter in Genoa saw the following non-binding advisory question on their ballot:

“Do you support removing the corrupting influence of money on our political system by prohibiting politicians from taking campaign money from industries they regulate; increasing transparency for campaign funding; empowering all voter through a tax rebate voucher to contribute to the candidates they support; prohibiting representatives and senior staff from all lobbying activity for five years once they leave office; and placing limits on superPACs?”

The question received 89 percent support with 1,336 local Genoa residents voting yes. The question is highly abbreviated version of the comprehensive reform plan known as the American Anti-Corruption Act. The Act would aim to stop the bribery, end secret money, enable citizens to fund elections, close the revolving door between Congress and lobbying firms, and empower the Federal Election Commission. It stops the bribery by preventing lobbyists from donating to politicians and/or offering them any deals that could influence policymaking. It ends secret money by mandating full transparency: disclosure of all political money and “bundlers” who gather contributions for politicians. It would empower voter by imposing strict limits on PACs and giving voters an annual \$100 tax rebate voucher to be spent supporting the candidate or party of their choice. The Act would be a statute. It would not amend the US Constitution.

Ms. Wilde continued that because forcing a comprehensive reform plan through Congress is such a monumental task, Represent.Us, the grassroots group supporting the Act that she is a part of, has chosen to take action at the local level. Building support for the ideas in the plan through local ballot measures. The local Represent.Us chapter is formally requesting the DeKalb County Board to pass a resolution to place the Anti-Corruption Act themed advisory question on the April ballot in DeKalb County. The question is not intended to be a thorough explanation of the plan, it simply seeks to gauge voter sentiment on the general ideas enumerated in the question.

Mr. Stoddard commented that his concern is putting this question on the ballot during the Consolidated Election, when voter turnout is generally lower, he doesn't think it is going to generate the best results. Ms. Wilde understood Mr. Stoddard's concern and commented that her group would like to be working on this issue in 2016 on the State and Federal level so now would be the best opportunity for them to put this non-binding question on the ballot.

Mr. Frieders asked if the question was being framed in order to achieve the result that is wanted. Mr. Frieders continued to express his discontent with advisory questions because they are generally framed to get a certain answer.

Mr. Oncken asked if there would be any additional cost to putting the question on the ballot. County Clerk, Douglas Johnson who was present added that there would be no additional cost.

Mr. Emerson moved to forward a resolution to the full County Board to add the advisory question to the April 7, 2015 Consolidated Election ballot. Mr. Stoddard seconded the motion. It was carried by a voice vote with one opposition from Mr. Frieders.

COUNTY JAIL REFERENDUM QUESTION

Chairman Pietrowski noted that this issue is something that the Board has discussed before throughout the years and with a new County Board he wanted to express that placing a County Jail Tax Referendum Question on a ballot was still a viable option. Because of the current time frame for the next election, Chairman Pietrowski stated that he was not interested in putting any type of County Jail Referendum on the ballot for 2015.

Vice-Chairman Jones also shared that there are many questions to be answered before moving forward with any major decisions on how to fund the County Jail Expansion Project and he didn't want any decisions forced to be made in a short amount of time. There are many options to explore and if a County Jail Referendum Questions is the option that they wish to move forward with it would not be done until at least 2016.

Chairman Pietrowski commented that this has been a very long process but one that he would like to see move forward. He also shared that Mr. Hanson will be giving a presentation at the full County Board Meeting on the Overview of the County Jail Expansion Project.

Mr. Stoddard commented that one of the problems with the last time the County Board proposed putting a referendum question on the ballot was because it was an open-ended referendum. He thinks that if there is any chance of getting a referendum to pass, there needs to be some sort of sunset clause that would provide for the taxes to go back down when the Jail is paid off. Otherwise, he does not feel there is a chance of a referendum passing after it has already failed twice.

The Committee also spend some time discussing the uncertainty of the Airline Fuel Tax case and funds. There was also discussion concerning the landfill with the allocation of the funds coming from the tipping fees.

Chairman Pietrowski reiterated that there are many questions for the County Board to explore in 2015 regarding the Jail Expansion Project and his hopes are to take the time and find the best possible way to move forward. He also stated that there would be no action taken on this item tonight or at the full County Board Meeting.

ENTERPRISE ZONE

Mr. Hanson explained that he is asking the Committee and full County Board to approve changes to the IGA (Intergovernmental Agreement) for the Enterprise Zone. This was first passed by the County Board on November 19th, but since that date the City of DeKalb requested various language changes. Mr. Hanson shared he would not categorize the changes as significantly substantive in nature, but will say that along with them being a bit lengthy, they most importantly now raise the comfort level of our partners to a point where he believes that all entities should be able to approve the document. The length has to do in part with the fact that the property tax abatement language gets spelled out for each of the seven entities signing the document and so changes to one part usually makes for a change in the other six parts as well. Lastly to make sure

it is clear what the final document is, he will be asking that the revised IGA be substituted in its entirety for the document that was approved in November.

It was moved by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mrs. Turner and it was moved unanimously to forward the resolution to the full County Board for approval.

HOLIDAY HOURS

Mr. Hanson shared that the County's holiday calendar does not currently include December 24th, Christmas Eve, to be an observed holiday. Because many employees celebrate the holidays with their families on this day he would like to propose that the DeKalb County Government Offices close at 12 noon on that day.

Chairman Pietrowski shared that he had proposed to take the entire day off but because of court scheduling it was not possible but a half day was.

It was moved by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mrs. Turner and it was moved unanimously by voice vote to forward a resolution to the full County Board for approval to allow for County Government Offices to close at noon on December 24th.

APPROVAL OF THE COUNTY BOARD AGENDA

It was moved by Mr. Gudmunson, seconded by Mrs. Haji-Sheikh and it was carried unanimously to approve the County Board Agenda as Amended and to forward it to the full County Board for approval.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Hanson shared with the Committee that the County had a visit today from Chinese Delegation Group: Guangdong Provincial Local Taxation Bureau. The group's visit was coordinated by the 21st Century Institute in Oak Brook IL. It is a non-profit organization promoting international exchange programs between China and the US. They hosted a delegation from Guangdong Provincial Local Taxation Bureau with 23 government officials working in the tax bureau. They were here for a training program on tax data qualification and assessment. They were interested in visiting DeKalb County Government to learn about county government tax policy and collection. They toured the County Clerk's, Assessor's and Treasurer's Offices.

Mr. Hanson also mentioned that he received noted that there is a flu outbreak out at the DeKalb County Nursing Home. They are not currently on lock-down but have unfortunately cancelled their Christmas Party.

He lastly shared that in March of 1992 the County tore down a house where the now Legislative Center Building is located where there was found to be a leaking gas. On November 19, 2014, almost 22 ½ years later, Mr. Hanson finally received a deviation letter stating that the project is complete and the land and soil are clean and clear.

ADJOURNMENT

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

COUNTY BOARD COMMITTEE ORIENTATION

After adjournment of the Executive Committee Meeting, all County Board Members present attended their individual appointed Committees where they met with their assigned Department Head and were introduced to what their Committees functions are. Each session lasted 25 minutes. Attached to these minutes is the schedule that was followed for the Committee Orientation.

Chairman Mark Pietrowski, Jr.

Tasha Stogsdill, Recording Secretary

DeKalb County Government
County Board Committee Orientation Night
December 10, 2014

	Gathertorium WEST	Gathertorium EAST	Freedom Room	Liberty Room
7:00 PM	<p><u>Executive Committee</u> Dept. Head: Gary Hanson Mark Pietrowski Tracy Jones Bob Brown John Emerson John Frieders John Gudmunson Misty Haji-Sheikh Paul Stoddard Anita Turner</p>			
7:30 PM	<p><u>Economic Development</u> Dept. Head: Christine Johnson Bob Brown Jeff Whelan <i>@H&HS</i> Joe Bassett Dianne Leifheit Mark Pietrowski Sandra Polanco VACANT SEAT</p>	<p><u>Finance</u> Dept. Head: Pete Stefan Paul Stoddard Dan Cribben John Gudmunson Tracy Jones Jim Luebke Steve Reid <i>@H&HS</i> Ruth Anne Tobias</p>	<p><u>Health & Human Services</u> Dept. Head: Donna Moulton Misty Haji-Sheikh Maureen Little Marjorie Askins Steve Reid Jeff Whelan VACANT SEAT</p>	<p><u>Planning & Zoning</u> Dept. Head: Paul Miller John Emerson Frank O'Barski Joe Bassett <i>@Econ Dev</i> Kevin Bunge Tracy Jones <i>@Finance</i> Riley Oncken Anita Turner</p>
8:00 PM	<p><u>Forest Preserve</u> Dept. Head: Terry Hannan Anita Turner Riley Oncken Bob Brown John Emerson Misty Haji-Sheikh Jeff Metzger <i>@Hwy</i> Sandra Polanco</p>	<p><u>Law & Justice</u> Dept. Head: Margi Gilmour John Frieders Ruth Anne Tobias Marjorie Askins Dan Cribben Dianne Leifheit Maureen Little Paul Stoddard</p>	<p><u>Highway</u> Dept. Head: Nathan Schwartz John Gudmunson Frank O'Barski Kevin Bunge John Frieders <i>@L&J</i> Jim Luebke Mark Pietrowski Jeff Metzger</p>	<p><u>Planning & Zoning</u> Dept. Head: Paul Miller Tracy Jones Joe Bassett</p>