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DeKalb County Government
Sycamore, Illinois

**Executive Committee Minutes
January 14, 2015**

The Executive Committee of the DeKalb County Board met Wednesday, January 14, 2015, at 7 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, Christine Johnson, Greg Millburg, Jim Luebke, Michael Haji-Sheikh, Sandra Polanco, Ruth Anne Tobias, Steve Reid, Riley Oncken, Jeff Whelan, Frank O'Barski, and the media (Daily Chronicle).

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

It was moved by Mrs. Turner, seconded by Mr. Jones, and it was carried unanimously to approve the minutes from the December 10, 2014 meeting.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

It was moved by Mrs. Haji-Sheikh, seconded by Mr. Brown and it was carried unanimously to approve the agenda.

CHAIR'S COMMENTS

Chairman Pietrowski shared that since being elected as County Board Chairman, himself and Vice-Chairman Jones have met with County Department Heads and Elected Officials. So added that the meets have been an enlightening experience with learning the scope of County Government. Chairman Pietrowski also shared that he and Mr. Jones have learned quite a bit and will be meeting with the remaining few individuals in the weeks to come.

Vice-Chairman Jones echoed that the meets have been phenomenal and that he has learned so much by getting to know the different departments more. He felt very well received by the Department Heads and he has enjoyed every visit. Mr. Jones lastly added that the County has a lot of really great employees.

APPOINTMENTS

Chairman Pietrowski recommended the following appointments for approval:

1. **Community Services Administrative Board:** Eileen Dubin appointed immediately as a Private Representative to fill an open appointment until June 30, 2015. Steve Reid appointed immediately as a Public Representative to fill the unexpired term of Sally DeFauw until June 30, 2017.
2. **Board of Health:** Ruth Anne Tobias appointed immediately until December 31, 2015.
3. **DeKalb County Cooperative Extension Board:** Chairman Pietrowski noted three members will be named to this board prior to the full County Board Meeting all appointed for terms beginning February 1, 2015 and expiring January 31, 2019.
4. **DeKalb County Convention & Visitor's Bureau:** One member will be named to this board prior to the full County Board Meeting to be appointed immediately to fill an unexpired term until June 30, 2015.
5. **Jail Solution Committee:** Tracy Jones (Chairman), Steve Reid, Anita Turner, Marjorie Askins, Frank O'Barski, Kevin Bunge, Riley Oncken, John Frieders, Roger Scott, and Joyce Klein all appointed immediately until December 31, 2015.
6. **DeKalb County Board Member District 8:** Christopher Cole Porterfield appointed immediately to fill the unexpired term of Marc Johnson until November 30, 2016.

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

CONVEYANCE OF DELINQUENT TAX CERTIFICATE

Chairman Pietrowski invited DeKalb County Treasurer Christine Johnson to join the Committee to provide information regarding a resolution to authorize the cancellation of the appropriate Certificate of Purchase for parcel number 08-12-377-001.

Ms. Johnson explained that the County of DeKalb is the trustee for the Taxing Districts and has undertaken a program to collect delinquent taxes and to perfect titles to real property in cases which the taxes on such real property have not been paid. Because of this, the County acquired property on Sycamore Road and now the original property owner, Orix Wilkinson DeKalb Venture, has paid all the taxes involved and has requested for surrender of the tax sale certificate.

Mr. Brown asked how long the County holds on to a piece of property that they acquired through the delinquent tax program. Ms. Johnson explained that the property will go up for sale every year until the property is sold.

It was moved by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. Stoddard and it was moved unanimously to forward the resolution 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.

Mr. Emerson, Chairman of the Planning & Zoning Committee noted that he had no updates and that his Committee would be meeting January 28th at 7 pm.

Mr. Brown, Chairman of the Economic Development Committee shared that they had a very good meeting on January 6th. He noted that their guest that was going to attend the meeting to speak about the Rockford Foreign Trade Zone had to cancel due to inclement weather but would be joining them again in the future. He also shared that Ms. Mary Supple gave a report on the Convention & Visitor's Bureau and the Committee is forwarded an annual resolution to the full County Board to name the Convention & Visitor's Bureau DeKalb County's Agency of Record for Tourism Promotions for the Illinois Office of Tourism for FY2015 Fiscal Year. He lastly mentioned Ms. Supple gave an update on the Art's Counsel and that the Committee had a brainstorming session on ways to expand economic development within DeKalb County.

Mr. Gudmunson, Chairman of the Highway Committee noted that their regularly scheduled monthly meeting had been cancelled due to the inclement weather but the meeting is reschedule for an hour prior to the full County Board Meeting on January 21st. The Committee will be bringing forward two bridge resolution for the full County Board to vote on and County Engineer, Nathan Schwartz, will be giving the Board his annual report.

Mr. Stoddard, Chairman of the Finance Committee shared that his committee took a first look at the upcoming FY 2016 budget and discussed how much they felt comfortable utilizing the Fund Balance and after long discussion, it was determined to set a goal at using half of the amount of Fund Balance utilization that is planned on being used this year. Mr. Stoddard clarified that the amount would be around \$370,000. Another issue that was discussed was the additional General Fund revenue for FY 2015 that was acquired from the Administrative Office of Illinois Courts. Mr. Stoddard shared the Finance Committee looked at the additional funds that had become available and the different appeals that had been made during the FY 2015 budget cycle and determined to forward a resolution to the full County Board to approve to fund one Correction Officer position for the County Sheriff at the sum of \$92,000 and allow for the remaining \$36,000 to stay in the General Fund to reduce the Fund Balance utilization.

Mrs. Haji-Sheikh, Chairman of the Health & Human Services Committee shared at their first meeting the Committee they had Community Action Director, Donna Moulton come and talk about her department along with Jane Lux, Public Health Administrator to shared information about the County's Health Department. Mrs. Haji-Sheikh also shared information regarding the new mental health wing at Hope Haven.

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Mr. Frieders, Chairman of the Law & Justice Committee noted that his Committee had not met yet and would be meeting on January 26th.

Mrs. Turner, Chairman of the Forest Preserve Committee noted she had no business to discuss and that the Committee would be meeting on January 27th.

It was moved by Mrs. Haji-Sheikh, seconded by Mrs. Turner 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 with the Committee that on January 5th the County welcomed their new Mental Health Director, Deanna Cada. She is also scheduled to be present at the full County Board Meeting to be introduced by Chuck Rose, President of the Community Mental Health Board.

Mr. Hanson also shared that on December 29th he was at a funeral of former County Board Member and past Chairman, Don Lundeen. Mr. Lundeen had been a member of the County Board from the mid 1960's until 1990.

He also announced that all of the Evergreen Village residents have been removed from the mobile home park and demolition has begun. He also added that the gifted parcels are now in the County's name as well.

The Enterprise Zone application was submitted the afternoon of December 31st and Mr. Hanson reminded that the application process will take about 9 months but he would relay any updates as they become available.

There is a Legislative Agenda that is currently being put together with the hopes of bringing that to the February Meeting. Mr. Hanson also added if anyone had anything to add to that, that Ms. Johnson was coordinating that Agenda.

Last, Mr. Hanson shared at the January 12th City of Sycamore Plan Commission meeting, members of the County's Drug Court staff presented information regarding recovery and sober living home. The Commission voted 6-1-1 to forward a positive recommendation to the City Council which will meet February 2, 2015. Mr. Hanson lastly added, the Land Acquisition for a Sober Living Home will be presented at the Executive Committee in February.

ADJOURNMENT

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


Tasha Stogsdill, Recording Secretary


Chairman Mark Pietrowski, Jr.

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