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DeKalb County Government
Sycamore, Illinois

**Executive Committee Minutes
December 1, 2021**

The Executive Committee of the DeKalb County Board met at the Legislative Center's Gathertorium on Wednesday, December 1, 2021. Chairman Frieders called the meeting to order at 7:38 p.m. Those Members present were Mr. Tim Bagby, Ms. Rukisha Crawford (via phone), Mrs. Laurie Emmer, Mr. Steve Faivre, Ms. Dianne Leifheit, Mr. Roy Plote, Mr. Craig Roman, Vice-Chair Suzanne Willis, and Chairman John Frieders. A quorum was established with all nine Members present.

Others present included Brian Gregory, Jim Hutcheson, Greg Millburg, John Lyon, Katie Finlon, Maggie Niemi, Ferald Bryan, Scott Campbell, Mary Cozad, Karen Cribben, Bill Cummings, Patrick Deutsch, Tim Hughes, Kathy Lampkins, Maureen Little, Jim Luebke, Terri Mann-Lamb, Linda Slabon, Ellingsworth Webb, Larry West, and some additional members of the public.

Mrs. Emmer moved to allow Ms. Rukisha Crawford to attend the meeting by other means via phone as per County Board Rule Sec. 2-21(D). Vice-Chair Willis seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously by voice vote.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

It was moved by Mr. Bagby, seconded by Mr. Roman and it was carried unanimously by voice vote to approve the agenda as presented.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

It was moved by Mrs. Emmer, seconded by Vice-Chair Willis and it was carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the November 10, 2021 Executive Committee Meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

DELINQUENT PROPERTY TAX SALE RESOLUTIONS

There were two delinquent property tax sales brought forth for consideration. Both properties (09-33-105-002 & 09-33-126-001) are located in Cortland and the bidders are adjacent property owners.

It was moved by Mr. Faivre, seconded by Mr. Bagby and approved unanimously to forward the two Resolutions to the full County Board recommending their approval.

**STATE'S ATTORNEYS APPELLATE PROSECUTOR SERVICE PROGRAM
RESOLUTION**

This item was described as an annual housekeeping item for the County Board at the request of the State's Attorney. It would normally come through the Law & Justice Committee but due to timing, it was being filtered through the Executive Committee to meet the year-end deadline.

The Office of the State's Attorneys Appellate Prosecutor is a state organization that provide appellate services for the State's Attorney's Office. The attorneys employed by the Office of the State's Attorneys Appellate Prosecutor, under this agreement, are authorized to act as Assistant State's Attorneys on behalf of the State's Attorney of this County in the appeal of all cases, when requested to do so by the State's Attorney, and with the advice and consent of the State's Attorney prepare, fil, and argue appellate briefs for those cases; and also, as may be requested by the State's Attorney, to assist in the prosecution of cases under the Illinois Controlled Substances Act, the Cannabis Control Act, the Drug Asset Forfeiture Procedure Act and the Narcotics Profit Forfeiture Act. Such attorneys are further authorized to assist the State's Attorney in the State's Attorney's duties under the Illinois Public Labor Relations Act, including negotiations thereunder, as well as in the trial and appeal of tax objections. They offer Continuing Legal Education training programs to the State's Attorneys and Assistance State's Attorneys. They may also assist the State's Attorney of this County in the discharge of the State's Attorney's duties in the prosecution and trial of other cases, and may act as Special Prosecutor if duly appointed to do so by a court having jurisdiction. They also may be duly appointed to act as a Special Prosecutor in the County by a court having jurisdiction.

Due to severe Agency procurement/supply chain constraints related to COVID, there will be a one-year decrease of \$1,000.00 (totaling \$27,000 as opposed to last year's \$28,000 amount) for the County's contribution to the program. It was noted that the contribution amount will revert back for the 2022-2023 period, unless otherwise noted.

It was moved by Ms. Leifheit, seconded by Mrs. Emmer and approved unanimously to forward the Resolution to the full County Board recommending its approval.

CHILDREN'S WAITING ROOM FEE REALLOCATION

The County Board had previously established a Children's Waiting Room within the Courthouse pursuant to Resolution R2005-46 on August 17, 2005. In response to the outbreak of COVID-19, the State of Illinois declared all counties in the State a disaster area by Executive Order of the Governor on March 20, 2020, and on March 26, 2020, an Illinois disaster declaration was approved by the President of the United States resulting in numerous changes to rules relating to public gathering and the care of children. The COVID-19 health pandemic necessitated the closure of the Children's Waiting Room, and has revealed shifting circumstances and needs of the general public, which the Circuit Court and County Board have determined to require the establishment of a Self-Represented Litigant (SRL) Self Help Room for the onsite filing and viewing of the DeKalb County Circuit Court Clerk's electronic files.

If approved, the room would be located on the first floor of the DeKalb County Courthouse, which previously housed the Children's Waiting Room shall be repurposed as the Self-Represented Litigant (SRL) Self Help Room. Resolution R2005-46 would be repealed to the extent it is inconsistent with this Ordinance.

Pursuant to the closing of the Children's Waiting Room under the Ordinance, the repeal of Resolution R2005-46, and repeal of 705 ILCS 105/27.7 pursuant to Public Act 100-987, the fee previously collected for the Children's Waiting Room shall no longer be collected by the Circuit Clerk. That would mean that from this time forward, a fee of \$10.00 would be collected by the Circuit Clerk for a 'SRL Self Help Room Fund' so as to allow for the establishment and outfitting of a SRL Self Help Room. Ordinance O2019-34 would be amended to the extent that

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all references to “Children’s Waiting Room Fund - \$10.00” are stricken and replaced with “SRL Self Help Room Fund - \$10.00”.

It was moved by Vice-Chair Willis, seconded by Mr. Faivre and was approved unanimously to forward the Ordinance to the full County Board recommending its approval.

DISSOLVING THE REHAB & NURSING CENTER OPERATING BOARD AND REINTEGRATING ITS FUNCTIONS INTO THE DEKALB COUNTY BOARD

As it relates to the dissolution of the Operating Board, Mr. Gregory stressed that while the Operating Board has really stepped up, the current challenges and decisions are a lot to put on a volunteer Board. He noted that there has been already over \$4 million of County funds that have been spent. The shared governance model is difficult. When the DCRNC was self-sustaining as a proprietary fund, he would advocate for a Board that has the sole mission of determining what is best for the home. Given the current situation, the DCRNC is almost acting, fiscally speaking, like a County Department competing for resources. The County Board is responsible for balancing resources to the various County Departments and services. This sometimes means more for one area and less for another. Having the Board oversee the home will allow for decisions to be made in the context of how it fits within County-wide resources and initiatives.

The draft Ordinance reviewed by the Committee would do the following:

- a. The DeKalb County Board does hereby dissolve the DeKalb County Rehab & Nursing Center Operating Board of Directors and repeals the bylaws under which it operates. The DeKalb County Board further dissolves the DeKalb County Supportive Living Facility Board.
- b. The DeKalb County Board shall act in all respects as the operating authority for the DeKalb County Rehab & Nursing Center, and any and all contracting powers are reserved solely to the DeKalb County Board along with those powers and responsibilities provided for in 55 ILCS 5/5-21001, et seq.
- c. The DeKalb County Board shall act in all respects as the operating authority of the County’s facilities for the aged, previously under the control of the DeKalb County Supportive Living Facility Board, and any and all contracting powers are reserved solely to the DeKalb County Board along with those powers and responsibilities provided for in 55 ILCS 5/5-22001, et seq.
- d. The DeKalb County Rehab & Nursing Center Operating Board of Directors, in that capacity, and in the capacity of the DeKalb County Supportive Living Facility Board, shall provide to the County Administrator within thirty (30) days, any and all records including, but not limited to, contracts, papers, financial statements, bank accounts, deeds, lists, correspondence, decisions, procedures, policies, minutes, recordings, memoranda, reports, machine readable materials, or other documentary materials, regardless of physical form or characteristics, made or received by the DeKalb County Rehab & Nursing Center Operating Board of Directors and DeKalb County Supportive Living Facility Board in connection with the transaction of public business.
- e. Any and all Registered Agent filings currently on file with the Illinois Secretary of State shall be amended with the current DeKalb County Administrator named as the Registered Agent in place of the current occupant. Additionally, any and all bank accounts held, operated, accessed by the DeKalb County Rehab & Nursing Center Operating Board of Directors and DeKalb County Supportive Living Facility Board shall have all information turned over to the County Treasurer within thirty (30) days, with a full ledger

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provided of activities from the year. Any such accounts will be altered to be under the custody of the DeKalb County Treasurer as soon as practicable.

Mr. Gregory also noted that, if passed, the Ordinance would take effect on and after December 31, 2021. This way the Operating Board could meet one last time.

It was moved by Mr. Plote, seconded by Mr. Roman and approved unanimously to forward the Ordinance to the full County Board recommending its approval.

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION FOR BROKERAGE AND CONSULTING SERVICES RELATED TO THE DEKALB COUNTY REHAB & NURSING CENTER

Mr. Gregory shared that this item would allow staff to solicit proposals for a consultant that can answer questions as to what a transition would look like, discuss the likelihood that a sale would not cover debt and allow staff some working numbers to put a plan together for the Board to consider. Selection of a broker/consultant would tentatively happen in January with a goal of gathering pricing and financial analysis information, a property description, a listing of recent comparable sales of similar homes, a market survey of competitive properties showing resident rates by payer category and demographic information relevant to the Nursing Home. The consultant will also develop strategies and a proposed timeline with milestones indicated to provide guidance for operational considerations of the Nursing Home for the potential sale or transfer or other disposition of the subject property and business. The proposals include a base fee and an alternate fee for additional services outlined if the Board was to vote sell the facility and operation at some point in the future.

It was moved by Ms. Leifheit, seconded by Vice-Chair Willis and approved unanimously to forward the Resolution authorizing the RFI to the full County Board recommending its approval.

APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENTS

Chairman Frieders recommended the approval of the following appointment:

- a. **Community Mental Health Board:** Kristen Quinn appointed immediately to fill the unexpired term of Jerald Helland until December 31, 2023.

It was moved by Mrs. Emmer, seconded by Mr. Bagby and approved unanimously to forward the appointment to the full County Board recommending its approval.

APPROVAL OF THE COUNTY BOARD AGENDA

Mr. Faivre moved to approve the Draft County Board Agenda and to forward it to the full County Board. Ms. Leifheit seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mr. Plote, seconded by Ms. Crawford, and it was carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John Frieders, Chairman

Tasha Sims, Recording Secretary

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