

Note: These minutes are not official until approved by the Finance 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

**Finance Committee Minutes
March 2, 2022**

The Finance Committee of the DeKalb County Board met on Wednesday, March 3, 2022, in the Legislative Center's Gathertorium in Sycamore, Illinois. Chairman Bagby called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Those Members present were Mr. Scott Campbell, Mr. John Frieders, Ms. Dianne Leifheit, Mr. Jim Luebke, and Chairman Tim Bagby. Mr. Bill Cummings and Mr. Steve Faivre were absent. A quorum was established with five Members present and two absent.

Others present included Brian Gregory, Chuck Coulter, Roy Plote, Sheila Santos, Greg Millburg, and Magdalen Niemi.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

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

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

It was moved by Mr. Luebke, seconded by Mr. Frieders and it was carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the February 2, 2022 Finance Committee Meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Chuck Coulter, Maintenance Staff at the DCRNC and President of AFSCME Local 3537, questioned where the Finance Committee was five years ago when they (the Nursing Home) lost their first million dollars and were still in the positive. He would then again question where the Finance Committee was when the Home lost another million dollars but were still in the positive. Now, that the Home is in dire finance trouble, the subject seems to be on multiple County Board Committee Agendas. Mr. Coulter expressed that the staff at the DCRNC is fighting as hard as they can to keep themselves and the residents positive. He asked for the Committee to do whatever they can to keep the DCRNC a public, county-owned facility.

COUNTY PROCUREMENT ORDINANCE

Mr. Gregory reviewed that last month the Committee reviewed and discussed an initial draft of a proposed procurement policy. The goal would be to arrive at a policy that aligns with State Law, is consistent with County objectives and provides enough flexibility to ensure that County business can occur efficiently.

The policy breaks purchasing in three bands:

- Department Level Purchases at or below \$5,000.00
- Department Level Small Procurements (Purchases between \$5,001.00 and \$29,999.99)
- County Parent Committee and Board Level Procurements – Competitive Sealed Bidding (Purchases above \$30,000.00)

No modifications had been requested during the first read of the draft procurement policy. After briefly reviewing the policy again, the Committee noted that they would like to have a little more information before voting on it.

They were interested in reviewing scenarios for certain hypothetical purchases and have Administration outline what those scenarios would look like going through these new processes.

It was also suggested that it may be beneficial to create a “cliff notes” version for staff and vendors. This would possibly help from deterring any vendors from bidding on a project due to the initial length of the policy. Mr. Gregory noted that they could create one for each of the purchasing tiers.

It was suggested that it may also be beneficial to develop a Certified Vendor Program. The program would acknowledge prevailing wage requirements and the County could also have company’s tax forms in their system. These vendors would not be required to bid but likely will streamline process for future quotes in the lower tiers.

Mr. Campbell also noted that in the future he would like to see the County look at more central purchasing opportunities. Mr. Gregory noted that was definitely something he would like to see as well. They would start small but would like to see these opportunities grow to help maximize the County’s resources.

Mr. Gregory thanked the Committee for their suggestions and requests and noted that he and the Administration Office Team would bring those and the different scenarios back to them next month.

FINANCIAL IMPACT OF THE DEKALB COUNTY REHAB & NURSING CETNER

Mr. Gregory shared that the letter regarding the DCRNC was published in last week’s Daily Chronicle. Additionally, it has been put on our website and shared via social media.

Jordan Healthcare was able to identify the issues with Medicaid patients that are currently still residing in the facility. Mr. Gregory received the file last night and will be forwarding them to State Legislators to hopefully receive some assistance in getting the bills paid. All of the residents are still current residents in the facility receiving services, however the facility does not have a vehicle to receive payment from the state of Illinois. The current outstanding balances are just under \$700,000.

Mr. Gregory also wanted to clarify the different consultants that they are utilizing in this process. Jordan Healthcare is the consultant reviewing the business-side of the operation and are helping with billing issues. Marcus and Millichap (Ray Giannini) are helping the County/Board Members to understand the options of a new management company, leasing the building, or selling the operation and assisting with implementing the selected option.

The Illinois Department of Public Health has approved the use of the Serving Kitchens and Activity Center that are a part of the Nursing Home Expansion Project. This should benefit both residents and staff.

The Committee additionally continued to discuss the billing processes of the facility and the staffing struggles.

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Chairman Bagby noted that in 1991 the voters of DeKalb County approved a referendum for a tax levy for operational support for the DeKalb County Rehab & Nursing Center. That referendum was never imposed but he questioned if the County would still have the authority to utilize that tax levy. Mr. Gregory noted that he was aware of the referendum and that the State's Attorney's Office is currently reviewing that because he had that same question.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mr. Luebke, seconded by Mr. Campbell, and it was carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tim Bagby, Chairman

Tasha Sims, Recording Secretary