

WILL COUNTY BOARD
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

MINUTES

May 7, 2009

9:30 a.m.

Will County Office Building
County Board Committee Room
302 North Chicago Street
Joliet, IL 60432

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Moustis called the meeting to order at 9:41 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Present were Members: Adamic, Stewart, Dralle, Goodson, Gould, Maher, Weigel, Wilhelmi, and Moustis.

Absent were Members: Bilotta, Kusta, Jr., Seiler, and Singer.

Also Present:

Present from State's Attorney's Office: Mary Tatroe and Melanie Manning.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

Ms. Goodson led the committee in the pledge of allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. Adamic, second by Mrs. Dralle, to approve the executive session minutes from the February 11, 2009 meeting. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

A motion was made by Mr. Weigel, second by Mr. Wilhelmi, to approve the minutes from the April 2, 2009 meeting. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

A motion was made by Mrs. Dralle, second by Mr. Adamic, to approve the minutes from the April 9, 2009 meeting. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

Mr. Moustis stated I would also like to add Rodeos and the Regional Water Supply Planning Group Recommendation to the Land Use Committee Agenda.

A motion was made by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Adamic, to move to assign the items of Rodeos and Regional Water Supply Planning Group Recommendation to the Land Use Committee Agenda. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Maher arrived at this juncture.

Mr. Gould arrived at this juncture.

Center for Economic Development (CED) Report

Mr. Friefeld stated the big issue is the DRI. The CMAP Board meeting is next Wednesday. This will be a June item.

Mr. Moustis stated Mr. Brandolino was a member. My intention is to report on it on a monthly basis. The DRI was a topic of discussion there.

Mr. Ryan stated the CED has been involved in ongoing discussion on the airport. Regarding the DRI issue Ms. Lyne is the point person on that. We oppose the trial period from two years to four years. CMAP will be voting on the staff proposal next week. We do not believe the votes are there to support the new proposal. Our official position is that we support version 2.

Mr. Moustis stated if there is a subject that you would like discussed, submit it to the office and we will bring it forward.

Other Old Business

Mr. Weigel stated yesterday we had a meeting regarding the conservation design subdivision.

Mr. Moustis stated let's wait until the end of the meeting to discuss that.

NEW BUSINESS

Workforce Youth Internship Explanation and Committee Assignment

Ms. Fera gave an overview to the committee of the Workforce Youth Internship Program.

Mr. Moustis stated I would like regular reports, I would like to see how we are doing, activities and results.

Ms. Fera stated we have received \$2 million for youth programs. Last month we had a request to hire three summer youth staff to manage that program. Part of the Recovery Act states we must run a summer employment program. We are recruiting 400 youth throughout the County as well as work sites. We pay the wages out of the Recovery Act fund. We have also developed a small pilot program with 50 youth to be placed in private sector companies, this would be an opportunity for them to get skills in an industry they may want to go into. We did go out to bid to have another entity run that program for us. The bids came in from \$300,000 to \$1.8 million. The minimum administrative staff cost was \$200,000. Our board review team felt that was excessive and we have decided to run it in-house. We are asking to hire an additional summer staff person to get this program off the ground.

GASB Post Retirement Benefits

Mr. Moustis stated we met with AON. All our unfunded liability for post health care benefits has to go on our accounting reporting in our audit, which is about \$70 million. We fund as needed which has been \$2 million a year. We need to start building that reserve.

Dependence Eligibility Verification Audit for Health Insurance

Request Reimbursement Under Medicare Part D

Employee Health Retirement Benefits

Mr. Tidwell stated there were several recommendations. One is to conduct a dependence eligibility verification audit for our health plan. What that does is verifies the dependants and there is a 3 to 7 percent error rate. We can save about \$250,000 a year on our health plan by doing this. The second recommendation is to follow through with Medicare Part D reimbursement. Medicare can reimburse the County for a certain dollar amount for retirees because we offer benefits that are better than Medicare Part D. That averages about \$500 per retiree and that is an on going annual process. AON charges a fee of \$35,000 for the dependent audit and \$35,000 annual consulting fee for the Medicare Part D reimbursement.

Mr. Adamic questioned are we going to back and charge these people.

Mr. Tidwell stated I do not think we can do that. The last recommendation is for the employee health retirement benefits. We have to talk to the union and explain the date of participation option that has been recommended.

Mr. Moustis stated our retirees earn their retirement health benefits between the ages of 47 to 55.

Mr. Rafac stated in order to reduce our long-term liability and our short-term costs; we need to change the date of participation in the plan. This does not take any benefit away from anyone. We are doing what we can in our policy to make the numbers more manageable. In order to define our liability there are four things we need to make a decision on; 1) the date of participation; 2) what method of funding we want to use and there are four methods. We have been leaning toward the unit cost method; 3) the discount rate. We have information regarding a five percent discount rate; and 4) level method of funding which is either a fixed dollar or a fixed percentage of payroll.

Mr. Moustis stated our goal was to move on the funding mechanism for this County Board.

Mr. Rafac stated my recommendation is to move forward with 1) change the date of participation; 2) use the unit cost method; and 3) to use the five percent discount rate and select amortization period. Assuming the five percent discount rate the unfunded actuarial liability will be \$61.1 million.

A motion was made by Mr. Maher, seconded by Mr. Weigel, to place a resolution on the County Board Agenda to set the participation date as June 1, 2009, age of 47 (IMRF) or 30 (SLEP law enforcement) with eight years here minimum. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

A motion was made by Mr. Wilhelmi, seconded by Mr. Stewart, to place a resolution on the County Board Agenda to use the unit cost method for funding. All in favor.

MOTION CARRIES.

A motion was made by Mr. Wilhelmi, seconded by Mr. Maher, to place a resolution on the County Board Agenda of five percent for the discount rate using 30 years as the amortization period. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

Mr. Rafac stated the final issue is whether we use level dollar versus level percent. The advantage in using the level percent is our up-front contributions are lower. The problem is that with a percentage of unfunded liability our costs stay high over the first ten years of the life of the unfunded liability. Using the level dollar amount, we start at a higher rate but then we have a steady decline. I can go either way.

Mr. Moustis questioned is it better for us to grow into a bigger number.

Mr. Rafac stated from a budgeting perspective I would rather take the higher number now and have it decrease. However, given where we are in this economy that is where the conflict comes in. There are advantages to growing into the number.

A motion was made by Mr. Wilhelmi, seconded by Mr. Maher, to place a resolution on the County Board Agenda to use level percent dollars to fund the contributions. All in favor.

MOTION CARRIES.

A motion was made by Mr. Adamic, seconded by Mr. Wilhelmi, to place a resolution on the County Board Agenda to authorize the County Executive to negotiate with AON for a dependence eligibility verification audit. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

A motion was made by Mr. Gould, seconded by Ms. Goodson, to place a resolution on the County Board Agenda to authorize the County Executive to negotiate with AON a reimbursement under Medicare Part D. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

Other New Business

Mr. Moustis stated the City/County Advisory Board has two positions that need to be filled. Please submit your name to the County Board office if you are interested in serving. This is a commitment that you have to make, they do not meet that often. At the last Public Works meeting there was an issue regarding D Construction. The question came up regarding the timeframe with their contract. We wanted to see a regular schedule with completion of work by stages. We do want to keep this on track so that they can start.

Mr. Bruce Gould stated I spoke with D Construction after the Public Works meeting. They would start as soon as the contract was approved and executed. They also submitted a progress schedule. They need all the time they have due to the size of this contract. They are patching every one of our county highways.

A motion was made by Mr. Weigel, seconded by Mr. Gould, to approve the timeline/letting for D Construction patching contract. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

Mrs. Dralle left at this juncture.

Mr. Weigel stated we had a stakeholders meeting yesterday on conservation design and various groups that are involved in the subdivision ordinance.

Mr. Maher left at this juncture.

Mrs. Dralle returned at this juncture.

Mr. Weigel stated there were minor changes to it and everyone was happy. On June 18th, we will have a special meeting regarding the pipeline.

Mr. Maher returned at this juncture.

Mr. Wilhelmi left at this juncture.

Mr. Weigel stated the appointment on the Stormwater Committee Mr. Wisniewski has asked to be appointed but we have a current chairman Todd Morse. Mr. Morse has six months left of his term and he would be removed if Mr. Wisniewski is appointed. Why would we do that?

Mr. Moustis stated this is an ongoing issue. We can consider pushing it back a month.

Mr. Palmer stated his term expired in September.

Mr. Moustis stated his chairmanship is up in November. As it stands those appointments will move forward and they will have to pick another chairman.

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT REQUESTS

1. Request to Place Prevailing Wage Rates on June County Board Agenda – Melissa Johannsen - Finance Committee
2. Request to Present Auditor's Quarterly Report at May 21, 2009 County Board Meeting – Duffy Blackburn - Finance Committee
3. Request for Appropriation of Stimulus Funds in Health Department Budget – John Cicero – Finance Committee
4. Request for Transfer & Increase of Appropriations in State's Attorney's Forfeiture Fund – Mary Tatroe – Finance Committee
5. Request to Approve Juror Parking Lease – Kurt Sangmeister– Judicial Comm.
6. Request for Policy on Waiving or Refunding Fees in Land Use Department Kathleen Konicki – Legislative & Policy Committee

7. Request to Discuss Replacement of EMA Mobile Emergency Command Vehicle – Harold Damron – Public Health & Safety Committee
8. Request for Resolution Renewing Participation by EMA in the State of IL Federal Excess Property Program - Harold Damron – Public Health & Safety Committee
9. Request for Resolution Accepting IL EMA Tactical Interoperable Communications Planning Grant - Harold Damron – Public Health & Safety Committee
10. Request for Resolution Authorizing EMA's Participation in IL Disaster Assistance Grant for Social Service Needs Related to Last Year's Flood Disaster - Harold Damron – Public Health & Safety Committee
11. Request for Participation in IL EMA Hazard Post-Disaster Mitigation Grant Program – Harold Damron – Public Health & Safety Committee
12. Request for Resolution Proposed by the IL Association of County Board Members Re: Capital Bill & Motor Fuel Tax Distributive Formula - Bruce Gould – Executive Committee
13. Placement of Items on the Public Works & Transportation Committee Agenda(s) -
14. Placement of Items on the Land Use Committee Agenda(s) -
15. Request for Intergovernmental Agreement with Forest Preserve District for Permanent Electronics Recycling at the Monee Location – Marta Keane - Executive Committee
16. Request for Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Lockport Permanent Electronics Recycling – Marta Keane – Executive Comm.
17. Request to Award Office Supply Bid – Rita Weiss – Executive Committee
18. Request for Consideration of Bankruptcy Court Lease – Mary Tatroe – Capital Improvements Committee
19. Request for Resolution Authorizing County Executive to Purchase & Sell Property Under the Neighborhood Stabilization Program – Ron Pullman – Executive Committee
20. Request for Resolution Authorizing County Executive to Execute IEPA/Stimulus Grant & Loan Documents – Ron Pullman – Finance & Executive Committee
21. Request for Special Land Use & Zoning Meeting on June 18, 2009 prior to County Board Meeting from Enbridge Pipeline – Land Use & Executive Committee(s)

A motion was made by Mr. Stewart, second by Mr. Weigel, to accept the committee assignments. All in favor.

MOTION CARRIES.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE CHAIRMAN

EXECUTIVE SESSION

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Maher, seconded by Mr. Adamic, to adjourn the meeting at 11:00 a.m. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.