

WILL COUNTY BOARD
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES

June 11, 2009

10:00 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 11:42 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Present were Members: Adamic, Kusta, Stewart, Goodson, Gould, Singer, Weigel, Wilhelmi and Moustis.

Absent were Members: Bilotta, Dralle, Maher and Seiler.

Present from State's Attorney's Office: Melanie Manning and Phil Mock.

Also Present: Friefeld.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

Mr. Adamic led the committee in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. Gould, second by Ms. Goodson, to approve the minutes from the May 4, 2009 Joint Executive & Finance Committee meeting. All in favor.

MOTION CARRIES.

A motion was made by Mr. Adamic, second by Mr. Kusta, to approve the minutes from the May 7, 2009 meeting. All in favor.

MOTION CARRIES.

A motion was made by Mr. Weigel, second by Mr. Stewart, to approve the minutes from the May 14, 2009 meeting. All in favor.

MOTION CARRIES.

A motion was made by Mr. Gould, second by Mr. Kusta, to approve the executive session minutes from the May 14, 2009 meeting. All in favor.

MOTION CARRIES.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Moustis moved the Public Health and Safety Committee Report and the Finance Committee Report to this portion of the agenda.

Public Health & Safety – D. Gould

Mr. Gould stated at this morning's meeting they reviewed the proposed ordinance for licensing the sale of tobacco; this has also been through the legislative committee. It did pass out of the committee today with a unanimous vote. He highlighted some changes that were made since it was remanded back to committee last month. Section 12 the resident provision was deleted; they also deleted the stakeholders section. The license fee was reduced from \$100 to \$25. They tried to address the concerns from last month's meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. Gould, second by Ms. Goodson, to move the ordinance for the licensing of the sale of tobacco to the full county board for vote. All in favor.

MOTION CARRIES.

Mr. Gould indicated the state evaluates the Health Department lab and the last 2 years there were no deficiencies. The committee also reviewed the nuisance fires ordinance with much discussion again. In summary we passed the ordinance. Mr. Blackburn requested language be added regarding fences. Mrs. Riley suggested ozone action days. They added language that on ozone action days burning is prohibited.

A motion was made by Mr. Gould, second by Mr. Stewart, to move the ordinance regarding nuisance fires to the full county board for vote. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

A motion was made by Mr. Gould, second by Mr. Singer, to move Resolution 09-183, allowing the County Executive to pursue a community service grant, to the full county board for vote. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

Finance – E. Kusta

Mr. Kusta stated Resolution 09-170 is transferring funds in the Public Defender's budget. The Public Defender did not receive any funds for new vehicles but he is able to buy 2 vehicles for \$16,000 total.

Mr. Wilhelmi arrived at this juncture.

Mr. Kusta left at this juncture.

OLD BUSINESS

Other Old Business

NEW BUSINESS

Request to Waive or Refund Fees in Land Use Department (Referred from Legislative & Policy Committee on May 12, 2009 w/the Recommendation that the County Board never authorize the waiving of any building inspection fees and determine the possibility of waiving zoning application fees on a case-by-case basis

Mr. Moustis asked the committee to reaffirm what came out of legislative committee. We have never waived building fees for anyone; we have only waived zoning application fees; that is a good policy. Much of this is done on a case by case basis; these are real costs to the county and we need to recoup them. Do we have the ability to waive these fees?

Mr. Mock answered you could waive the fees if you have a rational basis for them such as other units of government.

A motion was made by Ms. Goodson, second by Mr. Singer, reaffirming the decision that the County Board never authorize the waiving of any building inspection fees and determine the possibility of waiving zoning application fees on a case-by-case basis. All in favor.

MOTION CARRIES.

Request for Approval of Workforce Investment Board Contracts:

Joliet Junior College – Workforce Development to provide the Work Certified Program;

Education Service Network – to provide Career Seekers Program;

Joliet Junior College – Workforce Development to provide the Career Seekers Program;

Learning and Skills Center – to provide Career Seekers Program; and RR Donnelley Logistics – to provide training to current workforce

A motion was made by Mr. Stewart, second by Mr. Wilhelmi to place the Workforce Investment Board Contracts on the County Board Agenda. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

Health Plan Evaluation & RFQ

Mr. Tidwell indicated he has begun to put together the RFQ for the evaluation and should have it completed and available prior to next month's meeting.

Mr. Moustis stated it did not work out well in the past to have the broker/consultant do this. It is healthy to have someone other than the broker look at this.

Mr. Tidwell agreed; AON has done some of the work but a fresh set of eyes would be a good idea.

Mr. Moustis commented there are a number of qualified firms.

Mr. Tidwell indicated he is putting together a pretty long list.

Mr. Wilhelmi clarified this is to hire someone to evaluate the plan itself.

Mr. Moustis stated this is for plan design. We have not done this for quite awhile.

Generally in the past we have also had them help during union negotiations with benefit coordinating from AFSCME as we talk about changes that may be beneficial in the plan. It is also a way of taking a hard look where we may contain some costs without very little impact.

A motion was made by Mr. Wilhelmi, second by Mr. Gould, to move forward with the RFQ for the health plan evaluation. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

Replacement Hires for Sunny Hill Nursing Home

A motion was made by Mr. Gould, second by Mr. Adamic, to place the replacement hires for Sunny Hill on the County Board Agenda. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

Replacement Hires for Purchasing and Highway Departments

A motion was made by Mr. Singer, second by Ms. Goodson, to place the replacement hires for Purchasing and Highway Departments on the County Board Agenda. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

Replacement Hires for Supervisor of Assessments Office

A motion was made by Mr. Weigel, second by Mr. Singer, to place the replacement hires for Supervisor of Assessments Office on the County Board Agenda. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

Appointments

A motion was made by Mr. Adamic, second by Ms. Goodson, to place the Appointments by the County Executive on the County Board Agenda. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

Request to Add Appointment to Metra Board

A motion was made by Mr. Singer, second by Mr. Gould, to add the appointment to the Metra Board to the County Board Agenda. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

Proclamations

A motion was made by Mr. Adamic, second by Mr. Weigel, to place the proclamations on the County Board Agenda. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

Request to Extend the Filing Deadline for the Senior Citizen Assessment Freeze

Homestead Exemption

A motion was made by Mr. Gould, second by Mr. Wilhelmi, to place a resolution on the County Board Agenda extending the filing deadline for the Senior Citizen Assessment Freeze Homestead Exemption. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

Request for Moratorium on the Issuance of Permits for Digital Billboards

Mr. Mock stated there is a billboard company that came forward with a request for a digital billboard, like a TV screen. It appears our ordinance is silent. We are processing this request but are asking the board to put a moratorium for anyone who is not in the pipeline. We may want to handle this with our ordinance but he wants to give us time to consider.

Mr. Moustis commented we should not allow any right now; we should require a special use permit. He suggested putting this on the Land Use agenda.

Mr. Mock indicated the only problem is that ones that already have applications in, it could be considered a taking if we do anything to stop them. This is only one; he would like to try to avoid potential litigation.

A motion was made by Ms. Goodson, second by Mr. Singer, to place a resolution on the County Board Agenda declaring a moratorium on the issuance of permits for digital billboards. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

A motion was made by Mr. Adamic, second by Mr. Gould, to assign the issue of the permits for digital billboards to the Land Use & Development Committee. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

Request for Resolution Authorizing the County Executive to Execute a Consortium Agreement with Other County and City Entities in Applying for Neighborhood Stabilization Program 2 Funds

A motion was made by Mr. Gould, second by Mr. Stewart, to place a resolution on the County Board Agenda authorizing the County Executive to execute a consortium agreement with other county and city entities in applying for Neighborhood Stabilization Program 2 Funds. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

Other Business

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Land Use & Development – T. Weigel

Mr. Weigel stated the conservation design ordinance update is on agenda this month. We had a meeting with all the stakeholders and they are on board. Mr. Kusta had a question whether the dormant SSA was legal. The State's Attorney's Office has said that it is legal; it is just a maintenance SSA - not infrastructure.

Mr. Moustis indicated he supports what is here today. He thanked the committee and the land use staff. Everyone has spent a lot of time on this; in the end we have come out with a better product. There is a letter that was distributed from the Will/South Cook Soil & Conservation in support of the ordinance.

Mrs. Gearhart Deutsche indicated she is here supporting the statement from the Will County Farm Bureau; it is important that everyone understands it is a maintenance SSA. It is a great option but it needs to be clear that it is an option. We hope you support this; not everyone is walking away completely happy but Will County will be the winner.

Ms. Sheetz with the Conservation Foundation expressed their support to move this forward.

Ms. Johannsen indicated there was a request by the attorney for Case 5832-S to be tabled.

Mr. Weigel stated he thinks it should be approved; we did approve some a few months ago.

Mr. DuBois indicated his office will contact the attorney and ask him to submit his request in writing.

Finance – E. Kusta

This report was moved to the beginning of the agenda.

Public Works & Transportation – J. Bilotta

Mr. Singer asked if there were any questions.

Judicial – A. Dralle

Mr. Moustis asked if there were any questions.

Public Health & Safety – D. Gould

This report was moved to the beginning of the agenda.

Legislative & Policy – L. Goodson

Ms. Goodson stated the committee voted to support using United Way for the screening process to make recommendations to the full County Board for charitable donations using Waste Management funds. Regarding SB1607 the construction debris bill, the language of the bill was tabled. We are concerned because this will affect our quarries; we have 9 of them in Will County. We were concerned that language was not in place to protect our watershed. One idea that came out of committee was to hold a series of public meetings to discuss this issue to make this more public. Several members of the County Board met with representatives in Springfield who are supporting this bill and they suggested we had more authority. We really have no oversight authority on these types of sites. The sooner we get moving on this the better to register our opposition prior to this coming back to life.

Mr. Moustis indicated it appears Will County stands out and alone and he is not sure why; not every county has quarries but we have 9 that could be used for dumping grounds. This comes out unregulated; we are dependent on groundwater even though many counties are not.

He cannot explain why the IEPA and environmental committee have gone soft on this – there is a lot at stake.

Mr. Ryan commented they were astounded that there was not more opposition. The Attorney General's office is taking a very close look at this now. It is good to be vigilant; this is the second year they have brought it forward and he does not see them stopping at this point. We need to generate enough opposition; we need to find out why the environmental community is taking a pass on this – it makes no sense.

Mr. Adamic stated dumping in other counties will still affect Will County.

Ms. Goodson indicated a Will County delegation attended the NACo fly-in held in Washington. They spent the day lobbying on initiatives; arrangements were made with Smith, Dawson and Andrews and we were able to visit with Will County representatives.

Mr. Moustis commented it was a productive trip. We will continue to push to bring resources to Will County.

Capital Improvements – C. Maher

Mr. Ryan stated they reviewed the scope of work with Wight and have made changes regarding the steering committee, adding the Health Department and general assessment. They are not increasing the overall fee for adding them.

A motion was made by Mr. Weigel, second by Ms. Goodson, to place a resolution on the County Board Agenda authorizing the County Executive to execute a contract with Wight & Company for a facility needs analysis. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

Executive – J. Moustis

Other New Business

APPROVAL OF THE JUNE 18, 2009 COUNTY BOARD AGENDA

A motion was made by Mr. Gould, second by Mr. Stewart, to approve the June 18, 2009 County Board Agenda, as amended. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

Other Business

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Moustis stated an executive session was necessary to discuss pending litigation.

A motion was made by Mr. Gould, second by Ms. Goodson, to go into executive session at 12:29 p.m. to discuss pending litigation. On a roll call vote, Adamic, Stewart, Goodson, Gould, Singer, Weigel, Wilhelmi and Moustis voting yes. MOTION CARRIES.

Mr. Moustis announced they were now in executive session.

A motion was made by Mr. Gould, second by Mr. Stewart, to come out of executive session at 12:35 p.m. On a roll call vote, Adamic, Stewart, Goodson, Gould, Singer, Weigel, Wilhelmi and Moustis voting yes. MOTION CARRIES.

A motion was made by Mr. Wilhelmi, second by Mr. Adamic, to accept the recommendation by the State's Attorney's Office regarding settlement. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Ms. Goodson, second by Mr. Stewart to adjourn the meeting at 12:35 p.m. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.