

WILL COUNTY BOARD
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES

June 2, 2011

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 9:38 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Present were Members: Adamic, Dralle, Gould, Kusta, Maher, May, Weigel, Wilhelmi, Zigrossi and Moustis.

Absent were Members: Bilotta, Goodson and Singer.

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

Also Present: B. Friefeld and M. Johannsen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

No minutes were presented for approval.

OLD BUSINESS

Paratransit & Dial-A-Ride Services – RTA Grant Application

Mr. Palmer stated they had applied in 2008 for an RTA grant for the Paratransit study. That was a \$100,000 grant with a match of 20%. We hired a vendor for the RFP process that came in and did three things: inventoried all existing services, did a gap analysis and gave us a business plan with recommendations on how the county could play a role in helping moving this along. There is a role of the county to be a facilitator – not to run the program. One of the things they recommend was having a permanent Paratransit coordination council but a mobility manager was a key part of this as well. In the course of finishing our study, Southland Senior Services, which served eastern Will County, shut down in December. There was an interim

solution but with this grant application there is a good opportunity for funding. We would like to seek a 2 year appropriation, asking for \$100,000 with a county match of 20%. That would fund this mobility manager basically as a pilot - to take our plan and implement pieces of it. The goal is to get it paid for by the system of stakeholders. We have specific objectives for this mobility manager – they would work with the Paratransit council and agency providers, seek additional grant funding and track the results. The Paratransit coordination council would be the advising body. We need a resolution authorizing the County Executive to apply for this grant and say we are willing to commit the matching funds if awarded. We will know before the budget is final. Our recommendation is to take the match out of corporate. We are only committing for this time period. We will also seek some operational dollars that would be a 50%-50% match but we are not asking for county funds. We hope to use local township funds for that. The only cost would be the 20% match for the mobility manager; they would work countywide. Today we are asking for a resolution in support of the grant application and the potential match up to 20% for 2 years.

Mr. Wilhelmi arrived at this juncture.

Mr. Moustis noted a mobility manager could have value. This is a very fragmented system and they can help tie everything together and get people from one place to another. Our match could be used for someone within our own organization. We could take this role on for 2 years; he does not know if this will be permanent. The concern is after the grant is over; we do not want to expand employment but to shift people around where we need them. We have people in Land Use who are very talented and have an understanding of county and the transportation. We may be able to shift someone over for that 2 years and see how it works. We have to use our talent as efficiently as we can; he does not feel we would hire someone off the street unless we absolutely have to.

Mr. Palmer noted we have very talented staff at Land Use who will be engaged in this. The mobility manager is a patchwork of funding streams; it is very specialized. We need someone with a different skill set to do this. We are very sensitive about adding employees; it will be understood to the person hired that when the grant runs out the position is gone.

Mr. Moustis commented people who use Paratransit will be saying you cannot eliminate it.

Mr. Palmer indicated we will know before the budget is finalized if we get the award. We have met with DuPage County, Kane County and Lake County; they are all doing some form of this. If the county does not take a leadership role, RTA & Pace will; this allows us to access other dollars that are out there.

Mr. Moustis stated the bottom line is we will commit to the match. We do not mean we add \$20,000 to the budget; we will commit \$20,000 to the program but we are not committing to additional budget dollars. It is how the pie needs to be split up.

Mr. Maher agreed. Is there a way in the first year to look inside the county? Can we use our grant writer? Can we track how much time is spent on this program?

Mr. Moustis noted this will be a full-time position. With bringing all these groups together; it is a full time effort and becomes more complex when you are coordinating with Medicaid, Medicare and insurance companies; people who meet certain criteria would be reimbursed for transportation costs.

A motion was made by Mr. Adamic, second by Mrs. Zigrossi, to place a resolution on the County Board Agenda in support of the County Executive Applying for the RTA New Freedom Grant. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

NEW BUSINESS

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT REQUESTS

1. Request to Declare James Ducker House as Historic Landmark – Amy Munro – Attached– Land Use & Development Committee
2. Request to Appropriate Grant Funds in the County Clerk's Budget – Nancy Schultz Voots/Judy Wiedmeyer - Attached – Finance Committee
3. Request to Present Auditor's Quarterly Report at June County Board Meeting - Attached – Finance Committee
4. Request to Appropriate Reality Illinois Tobacco Grant Program Funds in Health Department Budget - John Cicero - Attached – Finance and Public Health & Safety Committee (s)
5. Request for Transfer of Funds in Health Department Budget for Contracted Temporary Services CMA/RN's – John Cicero – Attached - Finance and Public Health & Safety Committee(s)
6. Request for Transfer of Funds in Health Department Budget for Contractual Physicians/Medical Services – John Cicero – Attached - Finance and Public Health & Safety Committee(s)
7. Request to Place Discussion Re: Off-System Bridge Program on Public Works & Transportation and Legislative Committee(s) – Bruce Friefeld - Attached
8. Request to Approve Lease Agreement with Administrative Offices of IL Courts at Will County Court Annex (EMCO) – Nick Palmer – Attached - Executive Committee

9. Request to Renew EDACS FX Agreement for Radio System – Ed Bean – Attached – Executive Committee
10. Request for Renewal of Workforce Services Contracts for JJC (Career Seekers and Work Readiness) and Education Service Network – Pat Fera – Attached - Executive Committee
11. Request to Place Ordinance Ascertainning Prevailing Wage Rates on the June County Board Agenda – Melissa Johannsen - Executive Committee

ADDITIONAL COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT REQUESTS

1. Request to Assess Fees for Civil Union Licenses for County Clerk’s Office – Nancy Schultz Voots/Lona Jakaitis – Attached - Executive Committee
2. Request for Intergovernmental Agreement with Plainfield Police Department for Medication Take-Back Program – Marta Keane – Attached - Executive Committee
3. Request for Fee Schedule Amendments Re: Inactive Plats, Zoning Cases, and Site Development Permits & Associated Dismissals – David Dubois – Attached - Land Use Committee
4. Request for Increase of Appropriations in Mortgage Foreclosure Special Fund – Kurt Sangmeister – Attached - Finance Committee
5. Request for State’s Attorney’s Office to Review All Committee Executive Session Minutes
6. Placement of Items on the Public Works & Transportation Committee Agenda – Attached

Mr. Kusta noted on Item #4 on Additional Committee Assignment Requests; he asked Mr. Sangmeister to be prepared with a budget.

A motion was made by Mrs. Dralle, second by Mr. Adamic, to place the committee assignments as presented. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

Other Business

Mr. Moustis stated we should be getting a monthly update on the airport. Looking at how Will County has been chopped up for congressional districts, senate districts; we are almost becoming an extension of Cook County. We need to be more diligent on what is going on. We need to start looking at different legislative efforts at both the state and federal levels.

Mr. Friefeld noted there are 2 additional items. The County Executive received an application to expand the enterprise zone as requested by Midwest Generation. He suggested this be assigned to the executive committee in July.

Mr. Moustis commented the County Executive is on the enterprise zone board.

Mr. Friefeld noted it is managed out of the Executive's office; every expansion was approved by county board.

Mr. Palmer indicated the county does not have to be first to sign off on this; history has been that other partners approve it before the county.

Mr. Moustis noted he does not have a problem with them coming in; the companies that are existing should have some benefit too. The whole purpose was to promote economic development in areas that were economically depressed. Is this really a place that continuous to be an economically depressed zone? He does not believe it is. At what point do you say stop?

Mr. Friefeld commented that is a good question.

Mr. Moustis indicated the county board needs to make a decision on how long we will give incentives here.

Mr. Friefeld commented that is true of enterprise zones and tax abatements.

Mr. Moustis stated one of the primary functions of the county executive's office that was never done is economic development for the county; that does not mean you give it to CED. He feels we should do more in-house; the way we do it is the cheap way. We are giving this to the Joliet region. Why put other communities at an economic disadvantage? It is not an incentive for an area that is depressed; this gives them an economic advantage over other Will County communities. We should think about some type of economic development committee; it would not be just county board members. We need to think about how to go forward, what areas need this and what areas do not. We need to be mindful of if we want to keep expanding. In this case, we should; it is not fair to do it now. Midwest Generation is a big employer and has always been part of the community and contributors to the community. After this we need to have serious discussion on how to move forward with the enterprise zones as well as tax abatements.

Mr. Wilhelmi noted we can listen to what they have to say; we do not have to approve it.

A motion was made by Mr. Maher, second by Mr. Wilhelmi, to assign the expansion of the enterprise zone to the July 14th executive committee agenda. All in favor.

MOTION CARRIES.

Mr. Weigel questioned the land use assignments.

Mr. Moustis stated the land use staff advises Mr. Weigel and that can continue – that is adequate. He asked that land use staff notify the county board office of the assignments; it does not work efficiently to get it approved at this committee.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE COUNTY BOARD CHAIRMAN

Mr. Moustis announced the committee meetings scheduled for July 6th will be cancelled. Any items for those committees will be heard at the executive committee on July 14th.

Mr. Moustis also announced the passing of Helen Harshbarger at age 95. She was a former county board member as well as the Circuit Clerk for two terms.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Adamic, second by Mr. Maher, to adjourn the meeting at 10:26 a.m. All in favor.

MOTION CARRIES.