

WILL COUNTY BOARD
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES

October 2, 2008

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 10:50 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Present were Members: Brandolino, McMillan, Woods, Babich, Gould, Riley, Dralle, Gerl, Goodson, Svava and Moustis.

Absent were Members: Singer, Bilotta and Maher.

Also Present: Friefeld.

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

Mr. Svava led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Mrs. Woods, second by Mrs. Riley, to approve the minutes from the August 14, 2008 meeting and the September 4, 2008 meeting. All in favor.

MOTION CARRIES.

OLD BUSINESS

Discussion Re: Chicago Street Crossover

Mr. Moustis stated regarding the crossover; every year we get closer to the deadline that we have to notify the City of Joliet if we want the crossover moved. We all need to look at this and make a decision whether we feel the jail or courthouse would be extended south. Eventually the crossover will have to be moved; whether it is 5 years or 10 years from now.

Mr. Thanas indicated we know it is still on the table – the county has certain rights where you can trigger a move. With our downtown plan, we have asked the transportation people to look at all streets. Certainly the Chicago Street extension going through next to the courthouse is

very important for us. We feel if we are asking the county to open that up for us; we will certainly accommodate what you are looking for on Ottawa St.

Mr. Moustis indicated the other issue is Brandon Road; not only the small section the city would like us to vacate for the CenterPoint development, but also the long term plan for Brandon Road and possible jurisdictional transfer.

Mr. Thanas stated the city is very supportive of the vacation request coming from CenterPoint; this is a \$2 billion investment in our community and we see many benefits from it. The down side is the additional truck traffic. That is why we have worked out a transportation plan that would channel the truck traffic to keep it from the streets where it should not go. A request has come to us about a jurisdictional transfer of Brandon Road. We are willing to look at that; the city has a couple more parcels along that stretch that may be annexed in the future. But with the bridge in its current condition; it is not something the city wants to take over right now. Mr. Gould and Mr. Latz had indicated they have plans and financing in place to have the bridge repaired and then that might be the time to have the transfer.

Mr. Moustis commented this is a good first step.

Mr. Thanas indicated the city county committee is working diligently on coming up with a plan that will present options for a downtown courthouse. We will do as much as we possibly can to keep you here. We understand the need for a courthouse in Crete and also in the northern end of the county; but Joliet is the county seat and the courthouse should stay here.

Mr. Svava commented when these Intermodals come in, county roads are experiencing a significant increase in traffic. We need a revenue source that will help with those roads; we need the city's cooperation in that as well.

Mr. Thanas stated that was a conversation he had with Mr. Gould and Mr. Latz about using technology; whether there is a way keep trucks where they are supposed to be going.

Mr. Svava indicated they are on designated county roads that the trucks can use; we do not want a situation where we are not getting the kind of money to keep the roads in shape.

Mr. Moustis commented the idea that there needs to be a revenue stream to the county to help us with the roads is a very legitimate issue. The Intermodals are not only in the City of Joliet. This is a county-wide issue that we need to take up on a state level and what can be provided potentially to maintain the roads. It is a bigger issue than just Joliet. Regarding the vacation of the portion of Brandon Road; CenterPoint will have to compensate us for that; it is a public owned piece of property.

Mr. Friefeld indicated the Public Works committee has directed a public notice be published for consideration at the October board meeting.

Status of Mrs. Lois McMillan's Property Clean-Up/CDT Landfill Adjoining Property

Mr. Thanas indicated he had spoken with Mr. Olson regarding a contract to clean up Mrs. McMillan's property. We will work that out with the city and CDT Landfill. We will take that over so it is not done at a county expense up front. We will get the property cleaned up first and then work on a long-term solution regarding the routing of the water. That will take longer since it will require some engineering. The financial situation at CDT is not very good. We will have some challenges if there is an expensive solution. The immediate concern is getting the property cleaned up. We will take ownership of that and work with CDT. Hopefully, by the time you have your next meeting that issue will be taken care of.

Status of County-Wide Gas Price Survey/Price Gouging/Possible Solutions

Mr. Moustis stated Will County has not instituted a gas tax, but yet are being taken advantage of. We try to keep our prices down but across in Cook County it is cheaper than in his own neighborhood.

Ms. Lyne indicated the last time we looked at this issue, our consultant directed us to a website that is updated daily by zip code. We compared Will County zip codes with bordering counties. In each case the prices were very close to the same. The last time the Highway Department looked at this was 3 years ago. They found a competitive issue where if there was no station across the street, they charged higher; it also depended on the facility – if there was a store, people were willing to pay more. Regarding the county not having a gas tax, some were charging the same just across the border because they could since they were in close proximity. We have not looked at this information for this year; much is market driven.

Mr. Moustis commented we have come to the conclusion that having no gas tax is not passed on to our residents.

Ms. Lyne stated that is ultimately what comes up in every conversation; that is the feeling of most professional people who have looked at the issue.

Mr. Moustis indicated it appears our residents are not getting the advantage of having lower taxes in Will County; we do not know what we can do about it.

Request for Resolution Supporting People's Right to Bear Arms

Mr. Moustis stated the committee had asked what counties had adopted the resolution supporting the Second Amendment. That has been provided for us. He would like to move this forward at some point; we take an oath that we support the Constitution when we take office.

Mr. Friefeld suggested removing the 6th whereas since there is no pending legislation at this time.

Mr. Moustis suggested this be moved to the legislative committee for further discussion.

A motion was made by Mr. Gerl, second by Mrs. Dralle, to move this issue to the Legislative committee. All in favor.

MOTION CARRIES.

Other Old Business

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion Re: Chicago Street Crossover

Mr. Moustis moved this to the beginning of the agenda.

Other New Business

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT REQUESTS

1. Resolution Determining the Estimate of the Annual Aggregate Levy – Finance _____ Committee
2. Request for Resolution Authorizing County Executive to Execute Agreement to Accept Credit or Debit Cards by Will County Land Use Department – Frank Burkey - Attached – Land Use _____ Committee
3. Request for Resolution Acknowledging Match for RTA Paratransit Study Grant – Nick Palmer/Jamy Lyne – Attached – Public Works & Transportation _____ Committee
4. Request to Award Bid for Food Service at River Valley Justice Center – Rita Weiss - Attached – Judicial _____ Committee
5. Request to Renew the Medical Products for Sunny Hill Bid – Rita Weiss - Attached - Health Aging & Ed _____ Committee
6. Request to Renew Nursing Services for Sunny Hill Bid – Rita Weiss -Attached – Health Aging & Ed _____ Committee
7. Request to Award EMA Generator Sets Bid – Rita Weiss- Attached- Health Aging & Ed _____ Committee
8. Recommendation Re: Nursing Home Audit - Health Aging & Ed _____ Committee
9. Request to Renew Nextel Bid – Rita Weiss – Attached – Executive _____ Committee
10. Request to Renew Office Cleaning Bid – Rita Weiss - Attached – Executive _____ Committee
11. Request to Renew Refuse & Recycle Bid – Rita Weiss - Attached – Executive _____ Committee
12. Request to Renew Lease for Will County Radio Lab – Ed Bean - Attached – Executive _____ Committee
13. Request to Present at October County Board Pace Suburban Bus 2009-10 Budget – Leondria Blackman - Attached –Executive _____ Committee

ADDITIONAL COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT REQUESTS

1. Placement of Items on the Public Works & Transportation Committee Agenda(s)- Attached
2. Placement of Items for Land Use & Zoning Committee Agenda(s)- Attached
3. Request to Discuss Continuation Funding for Encouraging Arrest Policies and Enforcing Orders of Protection at Judicial Committee – Jennifer Cain - Attached Judicial Committee
4. Request to Discuss Blue Cross PPO and HMO Renewals at Insurance & Personnel – Bruce Tidwell - Attached - Ins & Pers Committee
5. Request to Discuss Insurance Premium Rate Equivalents for 2009 – Bruce Tidwell - Attached - Ins & Pers Committee
6. Request for Resolution Authorizing County Executive to Execute Documents Related to Delinquent Tax Program – Attached Finance Committee
7. Request for Placement on the October County Board Agenda for Presentation of the Quarterly Report ending 08-31-08 – Steve Weber – Attached – Executive Committee
8. Request for Approval of the Intergovernmental Agreement Between IEPA and County of Will for Household Hazardous Waste Collection Program – Dean Olson – Attached – Capital Improvements Committee
9. Request for Transfer of Funds Within Public Defender’s Budget – Frank Astrella/Leslie Fabrizio – Attached – Finance Committee
10. Request to Update the EEOP – Regina Malone – Attached - Ins & Pers Committee
11. Request for Approval of Data License Agreements for DuPage County Forest Preserve and New Lenox School District 122 – Tong Zhou - Attached - Land Use & Zoning Committee

Mrs. Johannsen stated there are 2 additional requests: one is recognizing the war memorial for the employees of the Arsenal and the second is the request by Metra to be placed on the November 6th executive committee to present their 2009 budget.

Mr. Moustis suggested both items be placed on the executive committee agenda.

A motion was made by Mr. Svara, second by Mr. Gerl, to assign all committee requests, as presented. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

Mrs. Tatroe indicated she has a request to appropriate money in the State’s Attorney’s Forfeiture Fund.

A motion was made by Mr. Gerl, second by Mr. Gould, to place the request on the finance committee agenda. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

A motion was made by Mrs. Woods, second by Ms. Goodson, to go into executive session at 11:20 a.m. to discuss pending litigation. On a roll call vote, Brandolino, McMillan, Woods, Babich, Gould, Riley, Dralle, Gerl, Goodson, Svara and Moustis voting yes.

MOTION CARRIES.

Mr. Moustis announced they were now in executive session.

A motion was made by Mr. Gerl, second by Mrs. Riley, to come out of executive session at 11:38 a.m. On a roll call vote, Brandolino, McMillan, Woods, Babich, Gould, Riley, Dralle, Gerl, Goodson, Svara and Moustis voting yes.

MOTION CARRIES.

A motion was made by Mrs. Woods, second by Mr. Brandolino, to concur with the strategy as presented. On a roll call vote, Brandolino, McMillan, Woods, Gould, Riley, Gerl and Moustis voting yes with Babich, Dralle, Goodson and Svara voting no.

MOTION CARRIES.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE CHAIRMAN

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Babich, second by Mrs. Woods, to adjourn the meeting at 11:40 a.m. All in favor.

MOTION CARRIES.