

**WILL COUNTY BOARD**  
**PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY**  
**COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**MINUTES**

**February 11, 2010**

8:30 a.m.

302 North Chicago Street  
County Board Committee Room  
Joliet IL 60432

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Gould called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m.

**ROLL CALL**

**Present were Members:** Blackburn, Babich, Konicki, May, Seiler and Gould.

**Absent were Members:** Riley.

**Also Present:** J. Moustis and F. Stewart.

**Present from State's Attorney's Office:** M. Tatroe.

**PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE**

Mr. Gould led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE CHAIRMAN**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion was made by Ms. Seiler, second by Mr. Babich, to approve the minutes from the January 14, 2010 meeting. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Sunny Hill Replacement Hires**

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

**Request for Approval of Permit Agreement with State Toll Highway Authority**

Mr. Bean stated this will allow us to install communication equipment at two toll way plazas along I-355. The purpose is to enhance communication between our radio system and the Illinois Tollway. The Tollway is not charging us for this.

A motion was made by Ms. May, second by Mr. Blackburn, to place a resolution on the County Board Agenda authorizing a permit agreement with the State Toll Highway Authority. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

**Request to Award Bid for Sunny Hill Pharmacy Services**

A motion was made by Mr. Blackburn, second by Ms. Seiler, to place a resolution on the County Board Agenda authorizing the second year renewal for pharmacy services at Sunny Hill to United Scripts, Inc. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

**Request for Appropriation of Stimulus Funds in Health Department's Budget**

Mr. Cicero stated this is an opportunity to upgrade our immunization program. It is one-time money to be used in the calendar year 2010. We will use it to reach out to adolescents as well as check our own employees to make sure they have all their vaccinations.

Mrs. Konicki arrived at this juncture.

A motion was made by Mr. Blackburn, second by Mr. Babich, to place a resolution on the County Board Agenda appropriation grant funds in the amount of \$46,000.00 into the Health Department's Budget. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

**Request to Authorize State's Attorney to Review Executive Session Minutes**

A motion was made by Mr. Blackburn, second by Ms. Seiler, to authorize the State's Attorney to review the executive session minutes. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

Mr. Stewart arrived at this juncture.

**9-1-1 Report**

Mr. Figved stated the vision is to build a Will County Communications Center; we have been working on this very hard over the last 5 years. In order to secure the parcel from the Department of Corrections, we need to get 3 appraisals of the land, do the soil borings and do a topographical map. The land will cost about \$35,000 per acre. We will be asking the county board to pass a resolution to allow us to secure the land. We will be paying for the property but the law does not allow 9-1-1 to own any land so we will be giving title to the county. We have indicated 7 stakeholders who have a role to play should an emergency situation develop. The thought is to put them together in one complex that is secure; it helps our interoperability. The plan is to bring on the Westcom 9-1-1 system, which is located in the Plainfield Police Department; and bring in the Sheriff's Dispatch Center. That brings our second and third largest

PSAP's under one roof; that will give us dispatching for 23 fire and police agencies in the western part of the county. In addition, we will bring in EMA, the Sheriff's Warrants Department and the Coroner's Office. This will open up space that could be used by other departments in the county. The total building is about \$41 million; the county's part would be about \$27 million; money is available to fund that through the RTA tax.

Mr. Babich asked if money from the phone bills would be used for this purpose.

Mr. Figved answered a portion of it would be; we have been saving that money for 17 years.

Mr. Babich commented the bonding rates are very low right now.

Mr. Figved distributed 3 issue papers that were discussed at the planning retreat. The first is to study the feasibility of creating an east satellite campus that would serve the 23 fire and police agencies in Steger, Eastcom and Lincoln-way PSAP's. It was brought to our attention of a site in University Park, a 40 acre complex, quite a few buildings, about 110,000 square feet; this is much more land or buildings than 9-1-1 would ever need. The current cost is \$1.3 million. One of the questions was whether to invest in the architects to look at the infrastructure; see how we could incorporate a PSAP. The county comes in to play; is there a vision in the county for an east side campus facility. The second issue is the county addressing system. When 9-1-1 began 17 years ago, we began to develop an addressing system; the 9-1-1 board worked with the county and it was determined to put that under the Land Use Department. The 9-1-1 system now has 2 employees to handle addressing functions; we are asking the county to look at that process. At a minimum we need to upgrade the ordinance for addressing, which is 17 years old. We would also like to have consideration of 9-1-1 to work in partnership with the Land Use Department on the addressing system. The third issue is the radio system for the county. A few years ago, 9-1-1 did a study county-wide of the entire radio system. There are standards from the FCC that require changes in the way the radio system is operated and licensed. The goal would be to get all county fire and police agencies into one radio system; right now we use three. We have come up with a preliminary price tag of \$30 to \$50 million.

Mr. Gould questioned if the radio system moves would the lab move as well.

Mr. Figved replied yes; that is all part of the Caton Farm Road project.

Ms. Seiler asked if there is any regular maintenance that is done on the radio towers.

Mr. Figved answered we are trying to maintain as much as we can; the problem is the funding. The last issue is a summary of appointments to the board; we will be bringing those to you in March. We have a 16 member board; it is made of directors from each of the PSAP's,

membership from fire service, police service, emergency management, county board, which is Mr. Weigel, and the County Executive's Office, which is Mr. Ryan. We have them on a staggered 3 year rotation. We have either 5 or 6 coming up at this point; most are PSAP directors; one is police service.

Ms. May asked if the addressing system is for new homes.

Mr. Figved answered right now it is typically a new home or subdivision. We are working with the county on a master address table, trying to create a database that shows the address, parcel number, everything that departments throughout the county would need in one database.

Mr. Moustis stated he believes addressing would be better off at 9-1-1; there was a resource problem. We should look at that sooner rather than later; it is a better function at 9-1-1. Regarding the radio system, it took us a while to make a decision on what radio system we would buy. He thought this would solve all our problems; that we bought enough bands to have enough room for everyone to be on the system. Is it the radio system or that the FCC keeps changing things?

Mr. Figved replied we have a lot of people on the radio system; we just brought all the fire departments on in the county.

Mr. Bean indicated we have about 1700 users on the system and 6 million calls.

Mr. Figved stated it is doing its job; the county system keeps expanding. It is 10 years old and needs some upgrades.

Mr. Moustis commented on the maintenance in support of the radio system; he believes the role of 9-1-1 was to be a support system for PSAP's and other technical parts of communication; it would not be any type of dispatching system. Certainly that is how it was sold to the county and that is how it got support from the local PSAP's; they did not have the resources to keep their equipment state of the art. I think 9-1-1 has achieved that; every PSAP has state of the art equipment. 9-1-1 should support and take over the radio system because you have the revenue sources for that. The line charge was going to be dropped to .35. If everyone is up to date on their equipment, then 9-1-1 needs to take on these additional responsibilities and roles and use those surcharges. Those charges now include cell phones; we have increased surcharges pretty significantly. It is more important in putting resources there than building for other agencies. He does support 9-1-1 purchasing the Caton Farm Road property and building their own building. He would not delay the 9-1-1 plans based on what the county needs will be; the county will address their needs. He believes it is an appropriate use of that surcharge because it deals with the overall communication system of the emergency management system.

Mr. Babich asking if the addressing covers only the county or if it includes the municipalities.

Mr. Figved answered it is only the county; we support and work with the municipalities.

**Other New Business**

Mr. Cicero stated it has been a year in December since we have rolled out the prescription drug card program. We get statistics from NACo on a monthly basis and we have 1100 prescriptions filled per month; they are saving about \$9.00 per script. It has actually become easier to get the card; you can go on to the health department website for the link to print out your own card.

Ms. Sorbero indicated there is a new state law as of February 1<sup>st</sup> that we have to fingerprint all new hires instead of just doing background checks. This will slow down our process of hiring. It is done through the Illinois Department of Public Health and is for anyone for long term care. There is a cost of \$30.00.

Mr. Palmer advised the committee that February is spay and neuter month. There was a state law that a portion of the licenses that were paid could come back to the county; that fund is for people to pay for spay and neuter; the goal is to reduce the number of strays. He will get more information on this.

Mr. Moustis commented we can make a public announcement at county board.

Mr. Rafac stated while there is an upfront increase in cost for fingerprinting at Sunny Hill; this will be \$30.00 while background checks were \$8.00; there is a great potential for increased overtime because before we were able to bring these people on pretty quickly and the background checks would be done fairly quickly. We will see what happens with IDPH in terms of the time frame and delays in fingerprinting and getting the results. We cannot bring anyone on until they have been fingerprinted and we have the results so there is a potential this will be an unfunded mandate and could have some long-term costs.

Ms. Seiler questioned if it is mandated that you have to go through the state agency.

Ms. Sorbero replied yes; it is a company that IDPH has contracted with. She believes a couple of years down the road they will allow counties to go to other vendors.

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Ms. Seiler, second by Mrs. May, to adjourn the meeting at 9:21 a.m. All in favor.

MOTION CARRIES.