

WILL COUNTY BOARD
LEGISLATIVE & POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES

June 9, 2009

8:30 a.m.

Will County Office Building
County Board Committee Room
302 N. Chicago Street
Joliet IL 60432

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Goodson called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Present were Members: Brooks, Jr., Konicki, L. Smith, Traynere, and Goodson.

Absent were Members: Wilhelmi and Rozak.

Also Present: Moustis

Present from State's Attorney's Office: Melanie Manning.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

Mr. Hennessy led the committee in the pledge of allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. Brooks, Jr., seconded by Ms. Smith, to approve the minutes from the May 12, 2009 meeting. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

OLD BUSINESS

Creation of a Policy Establishing Criteria/Guidelines for County Distribution of Grant Funds for Numerous Entities Requesting Funding

Mr. Mike Hennessy president and CEO of United Way of Will County came before committee to discuss their criteria and guidelines as well as assisting the County in evaluating grant requests.

Mr. Hennessy stated we did this for the city of Joliet. We reviewed 22-30 requests ranging from \$500 to \$3,000. We made those assessments, met with

leadership and presented our recommendations to staff. We can offer that to the County. We would glad to be that resource for you.

Ms. Goodson questioned can you also help make donations with organizations that are not on your list.

Mr. Hennessy stated yes. A number of the agencies that applied with the city of Joliet did not apply with United Way. We would still adhere to the same criteria' it had to be a 501C3 non profit organization. In their case they dedicated money to youth service agencies. You can do something similar.

Ms. Konicki arrived at this juncture.

Mr. Hennessy stated you can set aside a certain range of the minimum and maximum grant. You can limit the amount of grants per year. We would make a recommendation to the County Board and then you would decide. We have an application that the organization submits and then we go through the review process. We look at other revenue sources and expenses. We look at the number of people served, how they are served, and how they measure success. If those are the parameters you want, then we can have a simplified application process that the organizations can submit. The key is the face to face review and the site visit.

Ms. Godson questioned it is your volunteer assessment committee that goes through this process.

Mr. Hennessy stated yes, there are forty on the committee.

Ms. Smith questioned would there be some way to disperse this throughout the County.

Mr. Hennessy stated yes. We measure persons served. You can set aside funds for a specific area. You tell us what you wish. We will set aside specific guidelines with 6-10 volunteers. This time frame can coincide with the end of your fiscal year.

Ms. Goodson stated we would probably want to go through an annual application process as well. These are limited funds.

Mr. Hennessy stated you could make a time limit so that an organization does not become dependent on this funding. We have been working on collaborative grants which is more than one organization coming together in a specific area.

Mr. Friefeld stated we are talking about two kinds of requests, charitable and capital projects. We have no guidelines in place and they need to be developed. In terms of the charitable requests, United Way already does that. They have to apply and they have to qualify. You need to establish how much money in a given year you want to allocate toward the charitable requests. With regard to the capital projects, United Way does not fund capital projects. However, they can be an advisory board to the County Board. The final decision is the County Board's. There is merit to that. How much money will you give away in a given year? Those are the issues that you have to consider as you go forward.

Ms. Goodson questioned how would we get the word out to encourage applications.

Mr. Hennessy stated we do a press release, as well as use a data base of non profit organizations. The city of Joliet would take out an advertisement. There is a deadline. They have to demonstrate the service they are offering is not duplicated in the County. We do not provide money to new groups. They have to show value, be in service a year or more, and the community supports what they do. We want them to have a wide range of revenue sources.

Ms. Goodson stated the next step is working with United Way to establish criteria and the assessment committee.

Mr. Friefeld stated the County Board wants to utilize United Way as a tool subject to guidelines to be developed. We then need to bring the guidelines back for approval. We can have this discussion at Executive Committee or a Committee of the Whole meeting.

Ms. Konicki questioned how many counties have implemented this.

Mr. Hennessy stated I do not know.

Mr. Friefeld stated there is no reason to create a process that is already there. United Way is already doing what we have been discussing doing.

A motion was made by Ms. Traynere, seconded by Ms. Smith, to utilize United Way for the purpose of screening and making recommendations to the County Board on both charitable and capital donations subject to guidelines to be brought forward to Legislative and Policy Committee and then the County Board. All in favor.

MOTION CARRIES.

Mr. Friefeld stated this will go to Executive Committee.

Monitoring of HB2660-Trailer Bill to Public Act 95-0773

Ms. Goodson stated it has passed both houses and will be sent to the governor.

The GPS technology is not up to snuff at this point.

Monitoring of SB1607-Amends EPA-Construction/Demo Debris/Quarries

Mr. Mahar stated the environmental entities are not concerned about this bill.

The only entities on record opposing this bill are Waste Management and Will County.

Ms. Konicki questioned can we invite the environmental groups here to discuss this bill.

Ms. Goodson stated we have shallow water tables and these are limestone quarries. There seems to be a rush to get this done. We are hoping to draw some attention to this by having a public hearing and raise awareness.

Mr. Friefeld stated quarries are holes with cracks in them. My recommendation is that this should be treated like a landfill. It should be lined and sited.

Ms. Goodson stated there is some benefit to placing additional construction debris but we want safety measures in place.

Ms. Konicki stated with our landfill, not every truck load is tested.

Mr. Friefeld stated at our landfill there is a liner. They are proposing no liner in the quarries.

Ms. Konicki stated even with a liner we do not test every truck load. The monitoring is done by Waste Management and filed with the EPA. Before we team up with Waste Management I would like to hear from the environmental groups. I would like more information on this.

A motion was made by Ms. Traynere, seconded by Ms. Konicki, to support a series of public hearings inviting the IEPA, Sierra Club and the Environmental Law and Policy Center to come and discuss their position on SB1607. All in favor.

MOTION CARRIES.

Other Old Business

NEW BUSINESS

HB85-Creates the Internet Voting Commission Act

A motion was made by Ms. Konicki, seconded by Ms. Traynere, to table the issue of HB85 which creates the internet voting commission act. All in favor.

MOTION CARRIES.

Mrs. Voots stated I do have a concern regarding this act. I am against it.

Mr. Moustis arrived at this juncture.

Other New Business

Mr. Palmer stated gave the committee an update regarding the federal agenda and the LUCC fly-in trip.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Ms. Traynere, seconded by Ms. Smith, to adjourn the meeting at 9:54 am. All in favor.

MOTION CARRIES.