

**WILL COUNTY BOARD**  
**LEGISLATIVE & POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**MINUTES**

**May 12, 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:** Wilhelmi, Brooks, Jr., Rozak, Smith, Traynere, and Goodson.

**Absent were Members:** Konicki.

**Also Present:** Moustis.

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

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG**

Mr. Brooks, Jr. led the committee in the pledge of allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion was made by Ms. Smith, seconded by Mrs. Rozak, to approve the minutes from the April 14, 2009 meeting. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**HB2660-Trailer Bill to Cindy Bishof Bill SB2719**

Mr. Costigan came before committee to discuss the Bishof Law.

Mr. Wilhelmi arrived at this juncture.

Ms. Goodson stated we will keep an eye on this bill.

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

Ms. Goodson stated we want to model a policy after some well established policies. Mr. Friefeld has suggested that we may want to look at what United Way does.

Mr. Friefeld stated we have two issues one is the charitable contributions and the others like the Heritage Corridor that come in looking for grants.

Mr. Moustis arrived at this juncture.

Mr. Friefeld stated United Way already does this. You may want to consider increasing the contribution to United Way and let that program handle the process. As far as the other organizations such as the Heritage Corridor, I think those should be considered in isolation as part of the budget process. That is my recommendation.

Ms. Smith questioned if we do turn it over to the United Way, will we have any tracking.

Mr. Friefeld stated Mr. Hennessy should be invited for this discussion.

Mr. Wilhelmi stated I would like to see us go back to matching United Way at a hundred percent.

Ms. Goodson stated this is a limited number of years that we will be receiving this money from Waste Management.

Mr. Moustis stated regarding the money from Waste Management, part of it was those funds our different from tax dollars and we have more leeway on how those funds are distributed.

Mr. Friefeld stated if you have a fund that is discretionary then you will always have the issue of how you determine who is more favorable then someone else.

Ms. Smith stated my question is if you give them a lump sum does it go to administrative costs. I want that money to go to the people.

Mr. Wilhelmi stated they have very low administrative costs.

Mr. Friefeld stated if the committee wants that avenue then the next step is to sit down with Mr. Hennessy and have a discussion on how we can manage this.

Mr. Moustis stated we can still set it up as a grant system. We can make them for \$2,500 or \$1,000. We could give United Way a grant for something specific. There still could be a grant process. I still think it is a good idea. I do not think the grants should be larger than \$2,500.

Mr. Wilhelmi questioned who would do this.

Mr. Friefeld stated Joliet did this but now the funds are gone. I have no idea how they chose the groups.

Mr. Moustis stated let the grants go through United Way.

Ms. Goodson stated invite Mr. Hennessy to our next meeting.

Mr. Moustis stated that is money that this Board should direct in some fashion. If we are going to give all the money to United Way to let them do with it what they want that will not stop people from coming here and asking for funds. I may not agree on how United Way distributes that money.

Mr. Rafac stated United Way funds program operating costs. They fund the cost of delivering the program. The grants Mr. Moustis has in mind could go toward more of a capital expense that United Way does not typically fund. You could create a more hybrid program.

### **Other Old Business**

Ms. Goodson stated one bill we have been watching is the cell phone tower bill. HB3718 it is now in the Senate on second reading. It is moving forward. We did pass a resolution supporting HB68 and that is still in committee but the Senate is ready to announce a resolution there.

Mr. Moustis stated SB1607 is in Rules and is back into a shell bill.

Ms. Goodson stated when we met in Springfield we were informed of some process that we were not aware of with regard to this construction debris.

Mr. Moustis stated I was told that this went back into a shell bill. This gives us an opportunity to look at our ordinance. I still do not like this bill. If we dump in a quarry it should have a lining. We need to be more active on this bill.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Request for Policy on Waiving or Refunding Fees in Land Use Department**

Mr. Friefeld stated Ms. Konicki is not here today. I would ask that this matter be tabled until the next meeting so that she can address her request. Building inspection fees pay for the inspection.

Mrs. Rozak stated it is a long standing position that if you open those flood gates then we have to have a discussion every time.

Mr. Moustis stated our policy should be no. This is not about application fees that have no cost related to them. This is giving someone something for free. We should say no right now. It is a real cost to us. I have always viewed it as a real service to the applicant.

Ms. Traynere stated I would like to hear what Ms. Konicki has to say about this.

Mr. Moustis stated we can do a resolution that we do not waive building fees.

Mr. Friefeld stated you can also add that any request for a zoning application fee be considered on a case by case basis.

Mr. Moustis stated move this to Executive Committee with a recommendation we can take it up there.

Ms. Goodson stated I would like to recommend that we move this to Executive Committee on June 11<sup>th</sup>. I would also recommend that we do not waive building fees and look at waiving a zoning application fee on a case by case basis.

**IL Association of County Board Members Request for Resolution  
Supporting a Capital Bill and Motor Fuel Tax Distributive Formula**

Mr. Gould stated I received this information from the Illinois Association of County Board Members which urges us to pass a resolution supporting the capital bill.

Ms. Smith stated I would feel more confident if I know how much they will raise it.

Ms. Traynere stated this is to support the formula.

Mr. Gould stated we are not saying what fund to use. All this resolution will say is that Will County will support it but they must include the local governments. If the Motor Fuel Tax is used they need to maintain the formula for distribution they are using now.

Mr. Moustis stated they want us to support a tax increase. I have a problem supporting the capital bill until we know what the finances in this state are and how they are going to finance it. We have been down this road before. I do object to this.

Ms. Goodson questioned can we change this resolution to state that this is our preferred source of funding for a capital bill.

Mr. Moustis stated I would support bond issues backed up by the Motor Fuel Tax for the specific capital project. When it is done then it goes away. I do believe in capital projects.

Mr. Wilhelmi stated this does not say we support a tax increase. What we are asking for is if there is a tax increase we get our share of it.

Ms. Goodson questioned can we have it say that we support the revenue source to be bond issuance paid back by an increase in the Motor Fuel Tax .

Mr. Wilhelmi stated if we add the wording 'revenue source to support bonds that are used to pay for the capital projects' then Mr. Moustis may support it.

Mr. Moustis I do like Motor Fuel Tax. We should tie this to the Motor Fuel Tax with a specific project.

A motion was made by Mr. Wilhelmi, seconded by Mrs. Rozak, to place a resolution on the county board agenda changing the last whereas to 'it is critical that local governments receive their fair share and are treated equitably in any capital bill any Motor Fuel Tax increase shall expire once the bonds are paid off'. All in favor.

MOTION CARRIES.

**Other New Business**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Mr. Brooks, Jr., seconded by Ms. Traynere, to adjourn the meeting at 10:01 am. All in favor.

MOTION CARRIES.