

**DEKALB COUNTY GOVERNMENT
FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES
FEBRUARY 13, 2008**

The Finance Committee of the DeKalb County Board met on Wednesday, February 13, 2008 in Conference Room East of the Administration Building. The meeting was re-scheduled from February 6, 2008 which was canceled due to the weather. Present were Committee Chairman Michael Haines, John Hulseberg, Ruth Anne Tobias, Julia Fullerton, Jerry Augsburger, and Vince Faivre. Roger Steimel was absent. Also in attendance was Board Member Anita Turner, Staff Joan Hanson and Gary Hanson, and Kate Schott of the Daily Chronicle.

Approval of Minutes & Agenda

Jerry Augsburger moved, seconded by John Hulseberg, to approve the minutes from the November 7, 2007 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Julia Fullerton moved, Ruth Anne Tobias seconded, to approve the agenda as presented with the exception of removing the item regarding a budget amendment for the Veteran's Assistance program. The motion carried unanimously.

Property Tax Abatement

Gary Hanson, Deputy County Administrator, presented a resolution to abate part of the property tax levy for the 2005 bond issue (which was a re-financing of the 1997 Health Facility Bond Issue). This is an annual event which is done because the operating revenues from the Rehab & Nursing Center are adequate to retire \$527,385 without the use of property tax dollars. Vince Faivre moved, seconded by John Hulseberg, to send the abatement resolution to the County Board for approval. The motion carried unanimously.

Fiber Optic Proposal

Joan Hanson, Director of the Information Management Office, presented a proposal (See Attachments A-1 & A-2) which would make the County, along with the City of DeKalb and the DeKalb School District, a partner with DeKalb Fiber Optic (DFO). The partnership would allow for the construction and maintenance of a segment of fiber cable which would go from Jefferson Elementary School in DeKalb to DeKalb's new high school on Dresser Road, to the City of DeKalb's Fire Station on Dresser Road and to the County's Health Facility Campus on the northeast corner of Dresser and Annie Glidden Roads. There would also be a segment that would go north on First Street to Bethany Road and then west to Brooks Elementary School. The benefit to the County is that it would allow computer network connection from the Health Facility Campus to the Sycamore Campus. The cost to each public entity would be \$105,000. The County would also need about \$20,000 for equipment on the Health Facility Campus and the Sycamore Campus. The County anticipates a net savings of \$240,000 over the 20 year agreement by using fiber rather than leasing phone lines. In addition, another \$120,000 benefit

would be realized by the doubling of the bandwidth that the County has available to it for access to the Internet.

Discussion followed the presentation regarding the savings, maintenance, and possible alternatives. There was discussion whether a wireless solution would be forthcoming, if not today, perhaps within a few years. Joan Hanson commented that it would not be a simple matter to convert to wireless as parts of the County's network infrastructure would need to be changed to accommodate that which would be quite expensive. Another concern was the capability of wireless to handle telephone traffic regarding capacity and security. It was noted that with the new telephone system coming on-line for the County, as well as more staff moving to the Health Facility Campus when the Community Outreach Building opens, fiber optic cable was going to provide much better bandwidth capacity at a more reasonable cost. This segment is part of a much larger fiber optic network that DFO is putting together throughout the County and it was recognized that to some degree our participation will also be a positive help to economic development throughout the County. Jerry Augsburger moved, seconded by Ruth Anne Tobias, to go forward with the proposal and send a resolution to the County Board to authorize the County's participation. Motion carried unanimously.

Flexible Benefit Plan Amendment

Gary Hanson presented a proposal to establish a 75 day "grace period" in the Flexible Benefits Program for employees. This grace period would allow employees 75 days after the end of each Flex Year (December 31st) to still incur expenses related to the plan year just ended. The availability of a grace period is a result of a change in Federal Law. Without a grace period, if employees did not incur all their expenses by December 31st to fully spend their Flex Account, they would lose their money and it would go to the County. Vince Faivre moved, seconded by John Hulseberg, to send a resolution to the County Board which would establish a grace period within the Flexible Benefits Program. Motion carried unanimously.

Extension of Pension Credits for Military Service

Gary Hanson presented a proposal to allow military personnel four years, rather than the current two years, to be recognized for years of service within the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund (IMRF). This change in the number of years of service which can be counted towards an employee's pension calculation is the result of a recent change in State Law. Employees who elect to do this would have to pay the employee's normal share of the pension cost. The County would also have to pay for their share, but it would be done by a change in the rate calculation which is amortized over a 40 year period. Jerry Augsburger moved, seconded by Julia Fullerton, to recommend this change to the County Board for approval. Motion passed unanimously.

Retain Sycamore Campus Until 2060

The next agenda item was a discussion item that generated from the FY2008 Budget that was recently passed. (See Attachment #B.) That budget carried an action plan for addressing space needs for the Criminal Justice System and the component for discussion at this meeting was to state that the County planned to meet those needs on the Sycamore Campus up through year 2060. It was felt that by doing this it would be helpful to the staff, future Boards, and the community as future building plans and land acquisitions unfolded. It was noted that future Boards could not be encumbered by this resolution and that they would be free to change it at any time, yet this resolution would provide some structure for future planning. On the other side of the issue, Vince Faivre noted that without any concrete action in the resolution, little was accomplished by its passage. Gary Hanson pointed out that one provision of the resolution authorizes the administrative staff to actively pursue land acquisitions around the Sycamore Campus. John Hulseberg asked for clarification that this resolution did not restrict the County to only look east for land acquisitions. Gary Hanson stated that the resolution purposely did not make that restriction and that acquisitions would be looked at in any direction which would be in the County's long-term interests. It was the consensus of the Committee to hold this resolution over until the March meeting to give other Board members time to review the resolution and to offer input.

Special Meeting for FY2007 Budget Transfers

Gary Hanson requested that the Finance Committee hold a special meeting on February 20, 2008, prior to the County Board meeting. The purpose of the meeting is to do year-end budget transfers for FY2007. He noted that while this is an annual event, there would be more transfers this year because the fiscal year was changed to January 1st from December 1st so FY2007 had 13 months in it to make the transition. It was decided to have the meeting at 6:45pm.

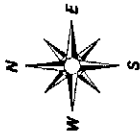
Adjournment

A motion was made by Ruth Anne Tobias and seconded by Jerry Augsburger to adjourn the meeting around 8:00pm. Motion passed unanimously.

Michael Haines, Committee Chairman

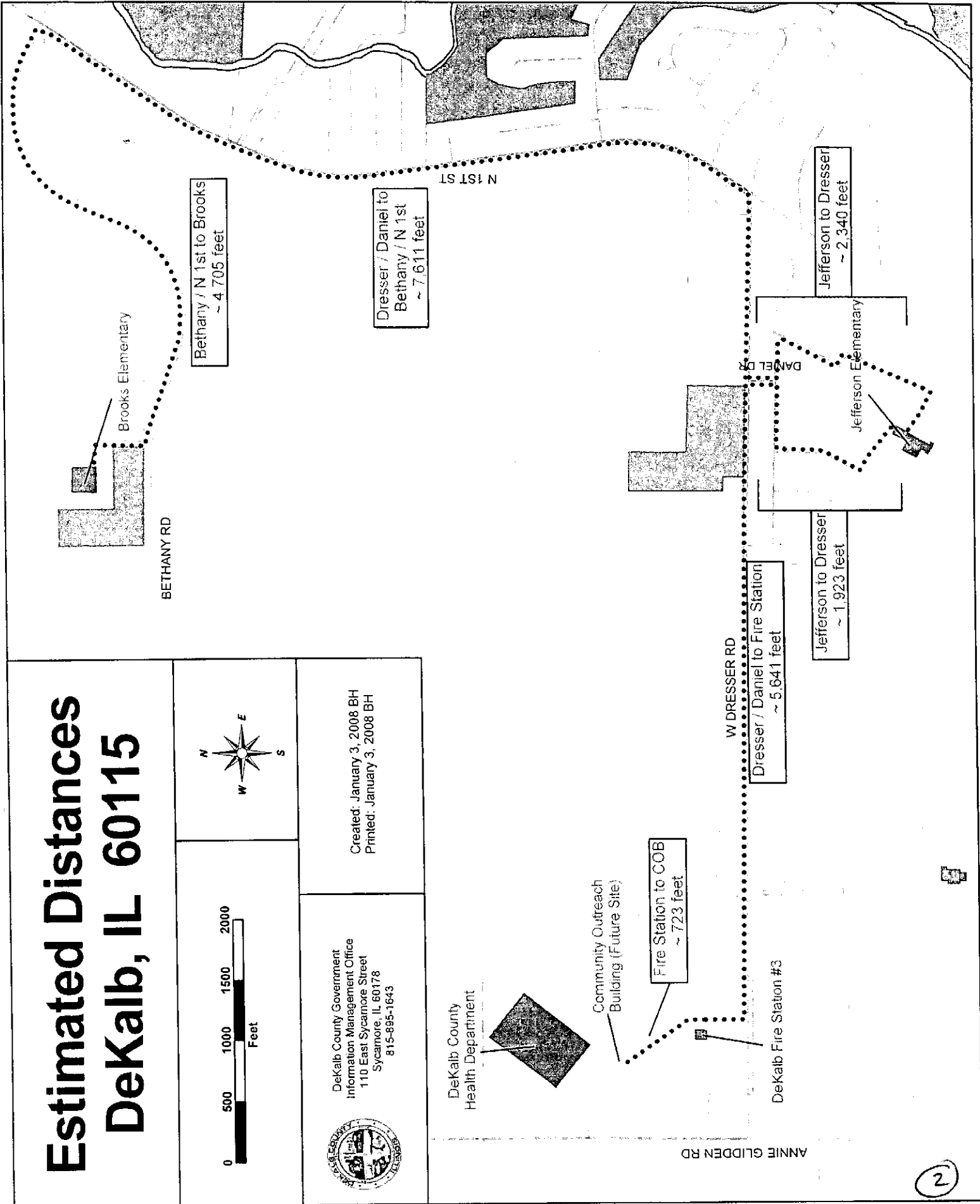
Gary Hanson, Acting Secretary

Estimated Distances DeKalb, IL 60115



DeKalb County Government
Information Management Office
110 East Sycamore Street
Sycamore, IL 60178
815-695-1643

Created: January 3, 2008 BH
Printed: January 3, 2008 BH



Bethany / N 1st to Brooks
~ 4,705 feet

Dresser / Daniel to
Bethany / N 1st
~ 7,611 feet

Jefferson to Dresser
~ 2,340 feet

Jefferson to Dresser
~ 1,923 feet

W Dresser Rd
Dresser / Daniel to Fire Station
~ 5,641 feet

Fire Station to COB
~ 723 feet

DeKalb Fire Station #3

ANNIE GLIDDEN RD

02-05-2008

DEKALB COUNTY GOVERNMENT
Computer Network Connection
from Sycamore Campus to Health Facility Campus

Comparison of Costs Between Phone Lines & Fiber
Based on Proposal from DeKalb Fiber Optics

Contract	Year	A	B	C	D
		3.0% Status Quo One T-1 (Unlikely)	Two T-1 (Unlikely)	Three T-1 (Likely)	3.0% Utilization of Fiber from DFO
Year 0	2008	0	0	0	125,000
Year 1	2009	5,126	10,252	15,378	1,650
Year 2	2010	5,280	10,560	15,840	1,700
Year 3	2011	5,438	10,876	16,314	1,751
Year 4	2012	5,601	11,202	16,803	1,804
Year 5	2013	5,769	11,538	17,307	1,858
Year 6	2014	5,942	11,884	17,826	1,914
Year 7	2015	6,120	12,240	18,360	1,971
Year 8	2016	6,304	12,608	18,912	2,030
Year 9	2017	6,493	12,986	19,479	2,091
Year 10	2018	6,688	13,376	20,064	2,154
Year 11	2019	6,889	13,778	20,667	2,219
Year 12	2020	7,096	14,192	21,288	2,286
Year 13	2021	7,309	14,618	21,927	2,355
Year 14	2022	7,528	15,056	22,584	2,426
Year 15	2023	7,754	15,508	23,262	2,499
Year 16	2024	7,987	15,974	23,961	2,574
Year 17	2025	8,227	16,454	24,681	2,651
Year 18	2026	8,474	16,948	25,422	2,731
Year 19	2027	8,728	17,456	26,184	2,813
Year 20	2028	8,990	17,980	26,970	2,897
Total Projected Cost		137,743	275,486	413,229	169,374

1. Savings using Plan D over Plan C	243,855
2. Free Doubling of Internet Bandwidth \$500/month * 20 Years	120,000
3. Total Savings	363,855

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Fiscal Year 2008 Budget stipulated that the County Board should adopt a position statement regarding the long-term location for the Criminal Justice System and commit to providing such services on a long-term basis in owned rather than rented space, and

WHEREAS, DeKalb County Government currently has County-owned buildings on three different sites, that being (a) the Sycamore Campus in downtown Sycamore, (b) the Health Facility Campus at the northeast corner of Annie Glidden and Dresser Roads in DeKalb and (c) the Highway Campus located on Barber Greene Road in DeKalb, and

WHEREAS, DeKalb County Government is in need of additional building space for many of its governmental functions, including the Jail, the Courts with related functions, and Administration, and

WHEREAS, those functions are currently provided on the Sycamore Campus and it has been determined that operational efficiencies would be maximized, while operational costs would be minimized, if additional building space for those functions would also be provided for on the Sycamore Campus, and

WHEREAS, it has been determined, through a study in 1996 by Landside Resources, that it is financially favorable for the County to own building space as opposed to occupying rented space, and

WHEREAS, it has also been determined, through a study in 2007 by Landside Resources, that sufficient land is already owned by the County to adequately provide for additional building space that is immediately needed, but that it may be desirable to acquire additional land for parking and other as-of-now unanticipated needs, and

WHEREAS, the County Board feels that it would be beneficial for long-term planning purposes to formally state the County's intention to maintain its business center at a defined location for a period of time that is envisioned to be at least through the year 2060;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the DeKalb County Board that it is the intention of said Board that the construction any new buildings for Judicial, Public Safety, and Administrative purposes will be done on the Sycamore Campus in downtown Sycamore and that it is anticipated that services provided for those responsibilities will be provided on that campus at least through the year 2060;

(more)

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Administrator and Deputy County Administrator should now actively pursue the expansion of said Sycamore Campus by bringing to the County Board opportunities for the acquisition of properties adjacent to and near the existing Sycamore Campus;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that nothing in this resolution should be considered limiting on the County Board's need to look beyond 2060 and to take whatever action is deemed appropriate in advance of that date for the proper planning and timely action to provide for the continuation of County services in the most efficient and cost effective manner for the citizens.

Dated this 19th day of March, 2008 . . .