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DeKalb County Government
Sycamore, Illinois

**Executive Committee Minutes
February 11, 2014**

The Executive Committee of the DeKalb County Board met Tuesday, February 11, 2014, at 7 p.m. at the Administration Building's Conference Room East. Chairman Jeffery Metzger called the meeting to order. Members present were Mrs. Sally DeFauw, Ms. Julia Fauci, Mr. John Gudmunson, Mr. Stephen Reid, Mr. Paul Stoddard, Mrs. Anita Jo Turner and Mr. Jeff Whelan. Mrs. Julia Fullerton was absent.

Others present were Gary Hanson, Paul Miller, Christine Johnson, Bob Brown, John Emerson, Tracy Jones, Frank O'Barski, Riley Oncken, Mark Pietrowski and Anthony Cvek.

Chairman Metzger asked for a motion to invite Mr. Oncken to the table to sit in for Mrs. Julia Fullerton to represent the Law & Justice Committee. It was moved by Mrs. Turner and seconded by Mr. Whelan and it was moved unanimously by voice vote.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

It was moved by Mr. Whelan, seconded by Ms. Fauci, and it was carried unanimously to approve the minutes from the January 7, 2014 meeting.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

It was moved by Mrs. DeFauw, seconded by Mr. Oncken and it was carried unanimously to approve the agenda.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – LAND ACQUISITION

Mr. Oncken moved to enter into an Executive Session to discuss land acquisition. Mr. Whelan seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and resulted in nine (9) yeas and zero (0) nays. Motion carried unanimously.

Executive Session

Mrs. Julia Fullerton arrived at 7:16 p.m.

Mr. Whelan moved to return to the Open Session Executive Committee. Mrs. Turner seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and resulted in nine (9) yes votes and zero (0) no votes. Motion carried unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

There were no items of business to discuss out of Executive Session.

CHAIR'S COMMENTS

Chairman Metzger shared that his only announcement was regarding an email that he sent out to the Board Members about the Illinois Association of County Board Members Zone IV Meeting on March 1st. He just wanted to let everyone know that Ms. Fauci had asked if anyone was interested in going, she would be willing to carpool, so if anything was interest in that.

APPOINTMENT DATABASE UPDATE

Ms. Stogsdill gave the Executive Committee a last little update regarding the County Board Appointment Database. She indicated that the last phase of updating the appointment database and process was to format application forms. Three forms were presented, a Self- Application for which is for residents to apply for a County Board appointment themselves, an Entity-Application which Department Heads and Board Directors would use to appoint or reappoint their members, and lastly a Citizen-Application which is for residents to appoint friends or colleagues. Ms. Stogsdill explained the all three applications are very simple to use standard forms and will be available on the County's Website and they can be filled out online or by hand and either emailed, faxed, or mailed into the County Administration Office.

There were a few minor suggestions made regarding the forms that Ms. Stogsdill indicated she would be happy to change and then the forms would be available for use.

APPROVAL OF THE COUNTY BOARD AGENDA

Chairman Metzger recommended the following appointments:

1. **Community Mental Health Board 708**: Donna Schoenfeld for an immediate appointment of a four year term that began 01/01/2014 and expires 12/31/2017.
2. **DeKalb County Nursing Home Foundation Board**: Marjorie Hash, Joanne Fruit and Margaret (Peg) Vitkus all for immediate appointments for terms that began 12/01/2013 and expire 11/30/2016.

Moved by Ms. DeFauw, seconded by Mr. Whelan and it was carried unanimously to forward these appointment recommendations to the full board for approval.

Mr. Stoddard, Chairman of the Ad Hoc Rules Committee, shared that his committee met right before Executive and they will be forwarding two Ordinances to the Full Board for approval in March regarding two rule changes. The first one is to allow electronic attendance at Standing Committee Meetings and the second one was to clean up the language for County Board residency requirements.

Vice Chairman Stoddard also shared that the DeKalb County Government's Facebook page is now up and running and invited everyone to encourage their friends to visit and like the page.

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Mr. Gudmunson, Chairman of the Highway Committee, announced that the Highway Committee will have three Resolutions bring brought forward to the Full Board for approval this month regarding County Letting, 2014 Road District Aggregate Projects and MFT for County Seal Coat Project. Mr. Gudmunson also added that the Highway Department has been working exceptionally hard pushing snow and keeping the roads clear this winter. Ms. Fauci asked how the County was doing on their salt supply. Mr. Jones announced that the salt budget was good but the deliveries are slow due to the rivers being frozen and barges getting stuck down South.

Mrs. Fullerton, Chairman of the Law & Justice Committee, announced her committee did not meet in January due to weather conditions but the next she shared that Mr. Dave Miller will be returning with addition information regarding Neutral Exchange. There will also be the start of budget discussions and an item regarding lobby for changes in the Illinois Criminal Code for sentencing for drug offenses and non-violent crimes.

Mr. Whelan, Chairman of the Economic Development Committee, shared his Committee met last night and had a great update from Debbie Armstrong and Brad Hoey regarding the IHSA Football Championship Games that took place in November at N.I.U. The Committee is bringing an annual Resolution forward to the Full Board to support the DeKalb County Convention & Visitors Bureau and also a Resolution entering a contract with The Development Consortium to develop and submit an application on the County's behalf for an Enterprise Zone. The base cost will be \$60,000 plus an amount not to exceed \$15,000 for expenses and related vendor services. These funds will be coming out of the County's Opportunity Fund. Mr. Whelan gave a brief explanation to the Committee and the audience on what an Enterprise Zone is and the type of Economic Development impact one would provide for DeKalb County. Lastly, Mr. Whelan announced that starting in May the Economic Development Committee will be moving their permanent meeting date to the 1st Tuesday of the Month.

Mrs. DeFauw, Chairman of Health & Human Services Committee, shared that her committee had a fairly full agenda with very illuminating reports from Heritage Woods and Heritage Woods. They are forwarding an Ordinance to the Full Board for a new fee for the Health Department of \$75.00 for the permit of sealing old or abandoned wells and Donna Moulton gave a Community Services update as well as a FEMA update.

Ms. Fauci, Chairman of the Forest Preserve Committee, announced that the Forest Preserves have been also busy removing snow. She also shared information regarding a State-Wide Forest Preserve Meeting that Ms. Fauci attended in Chicago. She also updated the Committee on volunteer opportunities and stated next meeting they will be having an Executive Session regarding Land Acquisition.

Mr. Reid, Chairman of the Finance Committee, announced the Committee is putting two annual Resolutions regarding Tax Abatement Bond Issues for the Health Facility and the Courthouse/Jail Expansion. He also shared that there was a budget discussion at the meeting and updating the budget process was discussed and it is suggested that the individual Standing Committees take closer looks into the budgets of the departments that report to them.

Mrs. Turner, Chairman of the Planning and Zoning Committee, shared the committee did not meet in January but they will be meeting in February and Mr. Miller indicated that there will be an amendment to a Special Use Permit for Jonamac Orchard to increase land and activities there and also will be discussing video gambling.

It was moved by Mrs. DeFauw, seconded by Mr. Whelan, and it was carried unanimously to approve the County Board Agenda and to forward it to the Full County Board for approval.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Chairman Metzger asked if either of the Deputy County Administrators had any updates to give the Committee. Ms. Christine Johnson announced an issue the Treasurer's Office had recently been faced with was the question of whether or not they should send out Mobile Home Taxes to Evergreen Village due to all of the recent uncertainty. They ultimately did send out the tax bills. She also shared that her and Mr. Hanson had discussed upcoming projects for her to work on, coordinating some community contact meetings and work on some court security legislation.

DeKalb County Administrator, Gary Hanson, updated the Committee on several recent activities that he had been involved with and has been happening in the County. He shared with the Committee information regarding the Metropolitan Exposition meeting about resolving the deeding issue of the Egyptian Theatre, DeKalb and Sandwich Library receiving grants, updating the DeKalb County Code, some recently meetings and hosting events he was involved in, and lastly he discussed putting together some training programs with Mr. Miller and updating policies within the County.

Chairman Metzger lastly wanted to add he had recently been getting correspondence regarding harvesting marijuana in the County. He shared that there really is no answers yet but indicated he wanted to get some questions together and join with the Farm Bureau to hopefully come up with some more details. There was discussion had about the topic but Chairman Metzger reiterated that as of right now they are just gathering information on the issue.

Mr. Reid wanted to address the issue of orientations of new County Board Members. He thought maybe the orientations were not as good as they would be especially regarding finance issues. He just wanted to state that he felt it would be beneficial to help improve that process.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mr. Turner, seconded by Mrs. DeFauw, and it was carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Jeffery L. Metzger

Tasha Stogsdill, Recording Secretary

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