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DeKalb County Government
Sycamore, Illinois

**Executive Committee Minutes
June 10, 2014**

The Executive Committee of the DeKalb County Board met Tuesday, June 10, 2014, at 7 p.m. in the Administration Building's Conference Room East. Chairman Jeffery Metzger called the meeting to order. Members present were Mrs. DeFauw, Ms. Fauci, Mr. Gudmunson, Mr. Reid, and Mr. Whelan. Mrs. Fullerton, Mr. Stoddard, and Mrs. Turner were absent.

Others present were Gary Hanson, Paul Miller, Christine Johnson, Douglas Johnson, Greg Millburg, Bob Brown, Mark Pietrowski, Misty Haji-Sheikh, Frank O'Barski, Charlie Foster, John Frieders, Riley Oncken, Tracy Jones, and Anthony Cvek.

It was moved by Mr. Whelan, seconded by Mrs. DeFauw and moved unanimously by voice vote to bring Mr. Frank O'Barski to the table to represent the Planning & Zoning Committee in Mrs. Turner's absence.

It was moved by Ms. Fauci, seconded by Mr. Gudmunson and it was moved unanimously by voice vote to bring Mr. Riley Oncken to the table to represent the Law & Justice Committee in Mrs. Fullerton's absence.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

It was moved by Ms. Fauci, seconded by Mr. O'Barski, and it was carried unanimously to approve the minutes from the May 13, 2014 meeting.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

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

ELECTION JUDGE LIST

DeKalb County Clerk & Recorder, Mr. Doug Johnson presented a resolution along with an attached list of Election Judges that the Chairmen of both the Democratic and Republican County Central Committee submitted to be approved.

Mr. O'Barski noted that he just learned of the precinct consolidation earlier that day and did not feel comfortable with the timing of the changes considering they would be made in the middle of a Primary and a General Election. He also asked if the list of Election Judges would be effected if the precinct consolidation was not made.

Mr. Johnson shared that precinct consolidations are to be passed at the June County Board Meetings according to Illinois State Statute and that the Election Judge List was a separate issue to the precinct consolidation. He also added if precinct consolidation is not done this year it will have to wait until next year which will be in between the General Election and the Consolidated Election.

Mr. Johnson continued to discuss his goals behind the precinct consolidation which included trying not to consolidate any precincts that currently have precinct committeemen if at all possible, although there were a couple. Another goal was to avoid crossing Ward lines, Congressional lines and County Board lines. Mr. Johnson explained that the main reason for consolidating precincts was to solely save money to the tax payers. The cost involved with hiring Election Judges to run the polls on Election Day along with future Legislation that is sitting on the Governor's desk right now is going to result in him having to come back to the Board and ask for more equipment as well as updated equipment to keep up with the new Election Laws and his hopes were in consolidating these precincts with low voter turnout would result in saving money. Mr. Johnson shared that he is asking to consolidate seven precincts and if that were to pass the costs savings would be about \$4,500.

Ms. Fauci expressed her concerns with making changes in between this election cycle although she was for the costs savings she would be more for the changes if they did not occur before the November Election.

Mr. Jones and Mr. Foster, after receiving clarification that many of the changes do not result in changing of polling places just reducing the size of staff, both indicated if voters are not being asked to go to different polling places then they did not see an issue with consolidating the precincts.

Mrs. Haji-Sheikh shared that her and Mr. Johnson had a discussion earlier in the day regarding the consolidations and wanted to brief to the Committee her concerns. She indicated that she did not know about the consolidation prior to receiving an email about it earlier that day and that as mentioned before, DK-01 and DK-10 were omitted from some of the attachments but were indicated to be consolidated in the resolution. Mrs. Haji-Sheikh is a precinct committeeperson for DK-01 and shared when she ran for precinct DK-01 she thought she would only be representing that precinct and with the consolidation there would be twice the work, which was not what she ran for. Mrs. Haji-Sheikh continued to express that the precinct consolidations were not properly vetted and she indicated that she was very concerned about the entire process and that due diligence was not done on all aspects.

Mr. Pietrowski shared that he was all for consolidating but his concern was also doing it during an election cycle. His thoughts were to do the consolidation the right way after the November Election and collaborate with both political parties and possibly do one very large consolidation and possibly save even more money.

Mr. Johnson stated that he tried to follow the normal protocol and chain of command by delivering the information to the Party Chairs and he thought the Chairmen would be disseminating the information to their own precinct committee persons and he would receive feedback on what he was trying to do which he indicated is what he wanted. The proposed consolidations were sent to the Party Chairs about a month ago and in the future he said he would make sure that the information is properly disseminated.

The Committee and Board Members present continued to express their feelings regarding the consolidating of the proposed precincts. Mr. O'Barski, Mrs. Haji-Sheikh, Mr. Pietrowski, and Mrs. DeFauw all expressed that they would like to wait to consolidate until after the November Election. Mr. Frieders indicated that he did not see much downside and thinks it would be beneficial to consolidate precincts in small increments to see how everything works out.

Mr. Foster asked Mr. Oncken what he thought of consolidating the proposed precincts. Mr. Oncken expressed that he did not see any harm in consolidating the precincts now because he sees the costs benefits, he can see doing just the proposed precincts due to their past voter turnouts, and lastly he indicated that it makes sense to do them now. He also suggested that the resolution be forwarded to the Full County Board that way there is a full week to review the information and if the same level of discomfort still exists in a week, then they don't approve it.

Mr. Foster pointed out that it sounds good to want to do it next year or wait but no one can even agree with anything right now, so from a practical standpoint, if everyone agrees that consolidating precincts should be done then a process should be started or have a schedule in place.

Mr. Johnson reiterated that his goal was to start out small to get everyone and himself familiar with the process of consolidation and to see what the outcome is but the next time he comes back he will have a bigger list and will most likely be changing precinct lines to straighten out current discrepancies. He also clarified that there are two separate items that he is bringing forward to the Committee for approval, the Election Judge List and Precinct Consolidation.

It was moved by Ms. Fauci, seconded by Mrs. DeFauw and was approved unanimously by voice vote to forward a resolution to appoint those persons named in the Certified Lists of Candidate for Judges of Election to the Full County Board for approval.

ELECTION PRECINCT CONSOLIDATION

Mr. Oncken moved to accept and forward a resolution of the proposed Election Precinct Consolidations to the Full Board for approval. Mr. Gudmunson seconded the motion. The motion failed by voice vote.

CHAIR'S COMMENTS

Chairman Metzger reminded the Committee that Thursday, June 26th at 1 p.m. a Dedication Ceremony will be held at Chief Shabbona Forest Preserve for the Chief Shab-eh-nay Historical Sign.

APPOINTMENTS

Chairman Metzger recommended the following appointments for approval:

1. **Community Services Administrative Board:** Sally DeFauw, Melissa Garman, John Hulseberg, and Joslyn Turner all reappointments for a term beginning July 1, 2014 and expiring June 30, 2017.
2. **General Assistance Appeal Board:** Janice Knudsen, Amy Mathey, and Jim Hanson all appointed immediately to fill unexpired terms until June 30, 2015.

It was moved by Mr. Whelan, seconded by Mr. Reid and it was approved unanimously by voice vote to forward the recommended appointments to the Full County Board for approval.

APPROVAL OF THE COUNTY BOARD AGENDA

Mr. Oncken of the Law & Justice Committee shared that after multiple exhausting Committee Meetings, the consensus was reached that the Committee does support in concept the purchase of a piece of property for the purpose of acquiring real estate for a Sober Living Facility from the County's Opportunity Fund. Mr. Oncken briefly filled in the Committee on what parameters were and were not agreed upon during the discussion of the Sober Living Process. He also reiterated that any property acquisitions are still routed through the Executive Committee and also the Full County Board before approved.

Mr. Gudmunson, Chairman of the County Highway Committee, announced that the Highway Committee will be bringing forward five resolutions for consideration to the Full County Board Meeting. The first resolution is to award a bid for a New Compact Track Loader with the attachments and a trailer. Another resolution to purchase the remaining items to complete the build of the two new 2015 cab and chassis'. An award for 2014 Pavement Marking Project. A bookkeeping item for Sycamore and Kingston Road District Township Bridge Fund. Lastly, Mr. Gudmunson shared the Committee will be having a Special Highway Committee meeting at 7:00 pm prior to the County Board Meeting to vote on an award resolution for the replacement of Perry Road and West County Line Road Bridges.

Mr. O'Barski of the Planning & Zoning Committee shared that the Committee did not meet in June. Mr. Paul Miller also shared that he will be giving an update at the Full County Board Meeting regarding the status of the Evergreen Village Mitigation Project and how everything is coming along with that.

Mrs. DeFauw, Chairman of the Health & Human Services Committee shared Vicky Broos from Cooperative Extension came to the Committee and gave an informative report and she also announced that the Committee will not be meeting in July.

Mr. Whelan, Chairman of the Economic Development Committee, shared the Committee was visited by Mayor Ken Mundy from the City of Sycamore and he gave an excellent presentation and spoke highly of the future economic development in the City of Sycamore. Mr. Whelan also announced that June 25th at 7:00 p.m. at the Community Outreach Building's Five Seasons Room there will be a Public Information Meeting regarding the Enterprise Zone. Ms. Christine

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Johnson also announced that the Committee's August 5th meeting they will have a presentation from Jason Anderson who is the Executive Director for the Greater Rochelle Economic Development Cooperation. He is expected to share some information about Team Rochelle and all of the things that they have been doing in Rochelle. Ms. Johnson also mentioned that subsequently they are discussing doing a bus trip over to Rochelle in September.

Ms. Fauci, Chairman of the Forest Preserve Committee, announced that the Committee last met at the Chief Shabbona Forest Preserve in May and reiterated the announcement about the Chief's Sign Ceremony on June 26th. She also touched on the Shabbona Bike Path Project, the Pedal Pal Project and the Hoppe Farm being recognized by the USDA as a Conservation Success Story.

Mr. Reid, Chairman of the Finance Committee, shared that the Committee had a big agenda at the last Finance Meeting. They received the FY 2013 Audit Report which was very positive, they accepted the Annual Report of Compliance with the Bond Record Keeping Policy, and they took a deeper look into the Facilities Management Budget with Jim Scheffers. He also shared they also established budget parameters to disburse to Department Heads to start the next budget process as well as accepted the FY 2015 Budget Calendar.

It was moved by Mr. O'Barski, 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

County Administrator, Gary Hanson, gave a recap of some events that have happened since the middle of May. He and Chairman Metzger met with Congressman Kinzinger and had interesting conversations about what is happening in Congress as well as discussing Evergreen Village and the Fiber Optic Network.

Mr. Hanson also mentioned that he has been participating in meetings regarding connecting a path to the YMCA on Bethany Road.

The County closed on the Evergreen Village Mobile Home Park on May 30th and reiterated that Mr. Miller will give an update on the status of the Mitigation Project at the Full County Board Meeting.

Mr. Hanson also announced the retirement of Marilyn Stromborg, DeKalb County's Drug Court Coordinator. He shared information regarding the beginning of conversations with the MPO DSATS and shared that he recently attended a business roundtable which included a tour of Ideal Industries in Sycamore.

Mr. Hanson lastly mentioned that he will be meeting with the Jail Planning Team next week to start the work on a scaled down version of the DeKalb County Jail Expansion and Court Services is starting their negotiations with their labor contract which is done by the Chief Judge of the 23rd Circuit.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – LABOR NEGOTIATIONS

Mr. O’Barski moved to enter into an Executive Session to discuss Personnel. Ms. Fauci seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and resulted in eight (8) yeas and zero (0) nays. Motion carried unanimously.

Executive Session

Mr. O’Barski moved to return to the Open Session Executive Committee. Ms. Fauci seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and resulted in eight (8) yea votes and zero (0) nay votes. Motion carried unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

There were no action items from the Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mr. Oncken, seconded by Mr. Gudmunson, and it was carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Jeffery L. Metzger

Tasha Stogsdill, Recording Secretary