

STEPHENSON COUNTY BOARD MEETING
Wednesday June 11, 2008
6:30 PM
Stephenson County Board Room

The Stephenson County Board met in the Courthouse on Wednesday June 11, 2008. Chairman Blum called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Mr. Cashmore gave the Invocation and Ms. Boynton led the Pledge of Allegiance. The Clerk called the roll. Members present; Samuel Newton, Bennie Brown, Debra Devine, Sheila Hooper, Todd McKenna, William Hadley, Donald Parker, Vicki Hooper, James Graham, Alvin Wire, Linda Dotson, Jim Kuhlmeier, Sandra Kubatzke, Andrew Kuhlemeier, Lynn Koch, Brenda Boynton, Russell Cashmore, Salvatore Détente, Forrest Senn and John Blum. Member absent; Charles Hilton and Jeffrey Mikkelsen. Twenty members present. Two members absent.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: Mr. McKenna made a motion to approve the agenda as received. Second by Ms. Kubatzke. The Chair called for a voice vote on the motion. *Motion to approve the agenda as received carried unanimously.*

APPROVAL OF THE MAY 14, 2008 MEETING MINUTES: Mr. McKenna made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 14, 2008 meeting as received. Second by Mr. Detente. The Chair called for a voice vote on the motion. *Motion to approve the minutes of the May 14, 2008 meeting as received carried unanimously.*

CLAIMS ON THE CLERK'S DESK: Ms. V. Hooper made a motion that all claims on the Clerk's desk be referred to the proper committees without reading. Second by Mr. Senn. The Chair called for a voice vote on the motion. *Motion that all claims on the Clerk's desk be referred to the proper committees without reading carried unanimously.*

COMMUNICATIONS: The Clerk reported the following communications had been received;

- Public Defender Monthly Report for May, 2008; 307 New Cases, 186 Cases Closed and Income to Public Defender Fund \$2,747.22
- Violent Crime Victims Compensation Act Monthly Report for May
- Comcast Franchise Fee for the quarter ending March 31, 2008; \$4,882.85
- Report of Official Acts performed by the Regional Office of Education – January 1 through March 31, 2008

Ms. V. Hooper made a motion to approve all communications and place on file. Second by Mr. Senn. The Chair called for a voice vote on the motion. *Motion to approve all communications and place on file carried unanimously.*

OLD BUSINESS: None

SHERIFF'S REPORT: Sheriff Snyder's presented this year's \$500 Scholarship to Emily Beach of Freeport. She will be attending the University of Illinois this fall. Board Members were encouraged to tour the Sheriff's Reserve Trailer which was on site during the meeting.

Matching Grant for Starcom 21

The Sheriff reported his request for funding to support a grant to purchase Starcom 21 equipment from Motorola. The County would be purchasing 23 radios and supporting equipment. In order to receive \$225,550 in Federal grant funds, the County needs a local match of \$56,387. The local match would come from a five-year loan from the State Bank @4.67%. The grant is limited to Motorola equipment. The original implementation date was 2010 but has been accelerated to June 16, 2008. Funds were not allocated in the current budget for this project. State law enforcement and some other counties are already using Starcom 21. The City of Freeport is also participating in the Starcom grant. Mr. Senn made a motion to approve the funding to support the grant. Second by Mr. Cashmore. The Chair called for a roll call vote on the motion. Members voting aye: Newton, Brown, Devine, S. Hooper, McKenna, Parker, V. Hooper, Graham, Wire, Dotson, J. Kuhlmeier, Kubatzke, A. Kuhlemeier, Koch, Boynton, Cashmore, Détente, Senn and Blum. Member voting nay; Hadley. Nineteen ayes. One nay. *Motion to approve authorizing \$56,387 for the Starcom 21 equipment grant approved.*

HIGHWAY REPORT:

HD 08-17 Approval of the Prevailing Wage for work accomplished using County employees

Mr. J. Kuhlmeier made a motion to approve HD 08-17. Second by Mr. Koch. The Chair called for a voice vote on the motion. Motion carried unanimously. *HD08-17 Resolution #08-06-1567 approved.*

HD 08-18 Agreement for Federal Participation of 07-00172-00-BR Cedarville Bridge over Richland Creek

Mr. J. Kuhlmeier made a motion to approve HD 08-18 with the local share of funding estimated to be \$160,000. Second by Mr. Koch. It was noted this project was not included in the State of Illinois' five-year plan. Notice will be published and 15 days allowed for public input. Mr. Isbell is planning on a July letting. The Chair called for a voice vote on the motion. Motion carried unanimously. *HD 08-18 Resolution #08-06-1568 approved.*

HD 08-19 Accepting low bid for 05-00129-00-BR – Buckeye Road District

Mr. J. Kuhlmeier made a motion to approve HD 08-19 awarding low bid to Moring Construction with the estimated cost of \$179,794.50. Second by Mr. A. Kuhlmeier. The Chair called for a roll call vote on the motion. Members voting aye: Newton, Brown, Devine, S. Hooper, McKenna, Hadley, Parker, V. Hooper, Graham, Wire, Dotson, J. Kuhlmeier, Kubatzke, A. Kuhlmeier, Koch, Boynton, Cashmore, Détente, Senn and Blum. Twenty ayes. Motion to approve carried unanimously. *HD 08-19 Resolution #08-06-1569 approved.*

HD 08-20 Accepting low bid for a 35 ton paver special trailer

Mr. J. Kuhlmeier made a motion to approve HD 08-20 awarding low bid to West Side Tractor for \$44,140. Second by Mr. Koch. The Chair called for a roll call vote on the motion. Members voting aye: Newton, Brown, Devine, S. Hooper, McKenna, Hadley, Parker, V. Hooper, Graham, Wire, Dotson, J. Kuhlmeier, Kubatzke, A. Kuhlmeier, Koch, Boynton, Cashmore, Détente, Senn and Blum. Twenty ayes. Motion to approve carried unanimously. *HD 08-20 Resolution #08-06-1570 approved.*

HD 08-21 Accepting low bid for sign making system

Mr. J. Kuhlmeier made a motion to approve HD 08-21 awarding low bid to Tapco for \$10,090. Second by Mr. Wire. The Chair called for a voice vote on the motion. Motion carried unanimously. *HD 08-21 Resolution #08-06-1571 approved.*

HD 08-22 Approval of the Prevailing Wage for work accomplished using contractors and their employees

Mr. J. Kuhlmeier made a motion to approve HD 08-22. Second by Mr. Koch. It was noted the State of Illinois has 30% higher construction costs than other states. The Chair called for a roll call vote on the motion. Members voting aye: Newton, Brown, Devine, S. Hooper, McKenna, Parker, V. Hooper, Graham, Dotson, Kubatzke, Boynton, Cashmore, Senn and Blum. Members voting nay; Hadley, Wire, J. Kuhlmeier, A. Kuhlmeier, Koch, and Détente. Fourteen ayes. Six nays. *Motion carried. HD 08-22 Resolution #08-06-1572 approved.*

08-23 Appropriate and levy County Bridge funds for Buckeye Township Bridge Replacement for an estimated cost of \$130,000.00

Mr. J. Kuhlmeier made a motion to approve HD 08-23. Second by Mr. Koch. The Chair called for a roll call vote on the motion. Members voting aye: Newton, Brown, Devine, S. Hooper, McKenna, Hadley, Parker, V. Hooper, Graham, Wire, Dotson, J. Kuhlmeier, Kubatzke, A. Kuhlmeier, Koch, Boynton, Cashmore, Détente, Senn and Blum. Twenty ayes. Motion carried unanimously. *HD 08-23 Resolution #08-06-1573 approved.*

Purchase of new copier

Mr. Isbell reported he can purchase a new color copier through the State purchase program for \$5,802. This is half of the original cost quoted from his vendor. Mr. J. Kuhlmeier made a motion to approve purchase of a new copier. Second by Ms. Kubatzke. The Chair called for a voice vote on the motion. *Motion to approve the purchase of a new copier carried unanimously.*

Purchase of new pickup truck

Mr. Isbell reported he can purchase a new Ford Ranger through the State Bid for \$11,745. Mr. J. Kuhlmeier made a motion to approve purchase of a new pickup truck. Second by Mr. Koch. It was noted the E85 vehicles are not available under the State Bid Program. At this time the County does not have E85 pumps, but we are looking into the possibility. Mr. Isbell reported he is currently using 10% Ethanol blend in all his vehicles and

11% bio-diesel in the summer months. The Chair called for a voice vote on the motion. *Motion to approve purchase of a new pickup truck carried unanimously.*

Mr. Isbell updated the Board on road construction projects and weather related road concerns. The Village of Lena has decided not to go ahead with the Jurisdictional Transfer for Lena Street.

ZONING REPORT

Mr. Groves noted that the Zoning Board of Appeals had not met in June.

PECATONICA PRAIRIE PATH/JANE ADDAMS TRAIL

Resolution #08-06-1575 adopting three-year operating budget for the Jane Addams Trail

Mr. Groves presented a resolution adopting the three-year operating budget for the Jane Addams Trail. Ms. S. Hooper made a motion to approve the three-year operating budget proposal for the Jane Addams Trail. Second by Mr. McKenna. The Chair called for a voice vote on the motion. *Motion to approve Resolution # 08-06-1575 adopting the three-year operating budget for Jane Addams Trail carried unanimously.*

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT REPORT

Mr. Groves reported on the Flooding Unified Command Meeting. He updated the Board on water level conditions in various areas of the County. The Public Safety Sales Tax sub-committee is meeting next week to discuss plans and phases for proposed spending requests. Mr. Senn recommended the Public Property sub-committee and the Unified Command sub-committee should meet together.

9-1-1 REPORT

Mr. Groves reported on the June 6th meeting. Discussion was held on installation of the Starcom 21 equipment; Mr. Groves noted it would be customary for 9-1-1 to pay for the basic install of the Starcom 21 equipment from Motorola for the Sheriff's Department.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT REPORT: Mr. Beintema reported for scores for the month of May. The County Need Assessment, "21st Century Health Communities" will begin June 11. The first three weeks of mosquito testing has been below the nuisance level. West Nile Virus testing has been negative for birds and mosquitoes. Mr. Beintema reported a good turnout for the Stephenson County Awareness of Poverty Effects held on May 29th. Charles Atten has retired after 11 years on the Board of Health. They are actively seeking his replacement.

The Board of Health recommends the following reappointments:

- Marie Heimerdinger, MD
- Edward Maglietta, MD
- Chad Reedy, DDS

Ms. V. Hooper made a motion to approve the appointments to the Board of Health. Second by Ms. S. Hooper. The Chair called for a voice vote on the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Reappointments to the Board of Health approved.

Order forms for the "Porches in Pink" Program were distributed to Board Members. All donations will go to assist in the payment of mammograms for women with high insurance deductibles. The Animal Control report was distributed.

NURSING CENTER REPORT: Mr. Fortney reported the census was 118 with two pending admissions. The Committee approved the roof repair by Freeport Industrial Roofing for a cost of up to \$3,000. They are still waiting on parking lot repairs. It was noted that half way through the budget year; revenues are at 47% and expenses are at 48%.

PROBATION DEPARTMENT REPORT: No report

STATE'S ATTORNEY REPORT: No report

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: Chairman Blum presented the following report;

There have been some delays in compiling an updated Brownfields newsletter so it will be ready for the next Board meeting. We have just finished the application to the State LUST fund to reimburse the cost of removing the underground storage tanks at the former Hank's Town Pump in Pearl City.

Work has begun on the 5-year update of the County's waste management plan. This update is required to support the solid waste management grants for Stephenson County. He is working with Mr. Beintema to meet the deadline of September 2009.

Letters have been sent as directed by this Board to Senator Durbin and Obama, Rep. Manzullo, with copies to Senator Bivins and Rep. Sacia voicing our concerns over a possible gas tax holiday at either the federal or state levels.

The FAA did not approve our proposed water tower for the Mill Race Industrial Park. We are reviewing their analysis and will resubmit another plan with either a different location and/or height. One option would be a ground storage tank, but this design would be more costly and less reliable in the long run. The elevated tank gives us the advantages of using gravity feed, fewer pumps, no back-up power, and better visibility. We will resubmit to the FAA in the near future.

GVA-Williams continue to work on prospects for Mill Race Crossing in conjunction with NIDA. We have a number of prospects including two renewable energy projects, two manufacturing entities, and a multi-use spec building. Each of these projects are complex and we are working through the process of determining what the projects will bring to our community and what will be needed to support their investment here.

We have received the documentation for the \$150,000 HUD grant. It was reduced to \$147,000 due to the budget reduction act of 2008. Some of the submittal requirements include environmental and archeological studies of the property. These reports were done for the previous EDA grant and we are checking to see if these would work for the current HUD grant which would save time and money in the process. We also have a requirement to begin some work utilizing the EDA grant no later than November of 2008. We are planning to use the HUD grant to leverage activity on the EDA grant to get the most benefit without using County funds.

The process of hiring a new Director for NIDA has experienced a slight setback. The leading candidate that emerged from the weeks of review was set to come to Freeport on June 10 for a meet and greet with the community leading to a job offer. However, on June 10 he called and advised that he had accepted another position. The Executive Board of NIDA will meet this Friday morning to discuss the next steps in the process to identify the best candidate from the developed pool.

Chairman Blum continues to work with NIDA to update our CEDS plan for the EDA. It is due at the end of this month.

There is a wind power development seminar sponsored by the Illinois Wind Working Group scheduled for June 25 and 26 at Illinois State University. Topics include policy recommendations, case studies, economic development issues, county zoning, and more. Cost of the seminar is \$50. If you are interested please see me later for details.

The property tax bills have been distributed in the County and the Treasurer made the first distribution yesterday. One note for your information – property that lies within a TIF District such as Freeport, Pearl City, or Mill Race Crossing will have a dedicated line on the tax bill indicating the amount of increment generated by that property for the TIF District. This amount is generated through an increase in value of the property and not from an additional levy generated by the TIF district. The amount of property tax levied is the same whether the TIF district exists or not. Mr. Kane is studying the possibility of sending a letter of explanation to each property owner in a TIF district.

Chairman Blum attended a 21st Century Healthy Communities meeting and heard a presentation on data for our county and findings concerning the health of our local population. Based on data from the US Census, IRS, and IDPH it was noted that we are experiencing a population decline. 4.9% since 2000. Deaths exceeded births in the county for the first time in 2005. About 25% of our residents are under 18 and about 17% are over 65. The median age is 40.5 and is 4 years older than the median of the U.S. We have more females than males. In the over 85 year range there are 3 times the numbers of females. There are 3400 fewer manufacturing jobs in our county than in 1995. Poverty is less common here than in the State or nation, but still 1 in 6 children live in poverty. 16.8% of our population received Medicaid this year compared to 8.5% in 2000. The county's rates for child abuse exceed the state and nation. More adults in Stephenson County have health insurance than in the state. Stephenson County residents are hospitalized 9% more than the national average. The data basically paints a picture of a county with an aging and declining population and is under economic stress from the loss

of manufacturing jobs. This has framed our efforts as a unit of government and it is our responsibility to effect positive changes in these trends.

The annual summer conference for UCCI will be held on July 28 and 29 at Eagle Ridge in Galena. Please advise Mr. Mulnix of your planned attendance. If you elect to stay overnight the majority of the cost of a room is reimbursed by UCCI.

Chairman Blum reported the County bonds for FHN have closed.

APPOINTMENTS: No further appointments

Action Items from Standing Committee

Finance

IP Phone System and Bank Loan

Tom Rutter and Adam Schulz from Aero and Ron Kane, IT/GIS addressed the Board. Mr. Rutter reported on the change in the contract; on page 4-monthly fees for full term should read not to exceed 3% (per IT Committee recommendation) and the inclusion of a "termination clause" on page 3. Mr. Graham requested the "not to exceed" be changed from 3% to the "Ptell cap" assigned by the State of Illinois. Mr. Graham made a motion to approve the Contract with Aero as amended. Second by Mr. J. Kuhlmeier. Mr. Graham voiced concerns with leasing the PBX instead of purchasing. Mr. Kane explained the cost to lease the IP-PBX was less than the cost of ownership and Aero would have to pay for the cost of upkeep over the term of the lease instead of the County. It was explained the IT Committee had made the decision to lease in order to keep up with the changing technology. It was noted the term of the agreement was 5-years and could be renegotiated at that time. Mr. J. Kuhlmeier made a motion to allow Mr. Newton to abstain from voting because of his affiliation with Aero. Second by Mr. Parker. The Chair called for a voice vote on the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Newton was allowed to abstain from voting on this issue. Mr. J. Kuhlmeier called for the question. Second by Mr. Parker. The Chair called for a roll call vote on the motion. Members voting aye: Brown, Devine, S. Hooper, Parker, V. Hooper and J. Kuhlmeier. Members voting nay: McKenna, Hadley, Graham, Wire, Dotson, Kubatzke, A. Kuhlemeier, Koch, Boynton, Détente, Senn and Blum. Mr. Cashmore unavailable. Six ayes. Twelve nays. Motion to call the question failed. Much discussion followed regarding the old PBX and incorporating the jail facility into the plan immediately. Mr. Graham made a motion to refer the issue back to the IT/GIS Committee to incorporate the inclusion of the jail into the contract. The Committees recommendation would then go to Administration and Finance and brought back to the full Board at the July Meeting. Second by Mr. A. Kuhlemeier. Discussion followed on renegotiating the contract to include the jail and the cost of getting fiber to the facility. Mr. Isbell addressed the Board with concern the Board was negotiating in public forum. Mr. Graham rescinded his motion and Mr. A. Kuhlemeier rescinded his second. Following much discussion, Ms. V. Hooper called for the question. Second by Mr. Senn. The Chair called for a roll call vote on the motion. Members voting aye: Brown, Devine, S. Hooper, McKenna, Hadley, Parker, V. Hooper, Graham, Wire, Dotson, J. Kuhlmeier, Kubatzke, Koch, Boynton, Cashmore, Détente, Senn and Blum. Member voting nay: A. Kuhlemeier. Eighteen ayes. One nay. Motion carried. The question was called. The Chair called for a roll call vote on the motion. Members voting aye: Brown, Devine, S. Hooper, McKenna, Parker, V. Hooper, Wire, Dotson, J. Kuhlmeier, Kubatzke, A. Kuhlemeier, Koch, Cashmore, Senn and Blum. Members voting nay: Hadley, Graham, Boynton and Détente. Fifteen ayes. Four nays. Motion carried. The Contract with Aero, as amended, was approved. Discussion followed on the Committee's recommendation to approve the financing agreement for the IP phone system with State Bank. Mr. Graham requested the loan amount be increased to include the jail facility. Mr. J. Kuhlmeier made a motion to authorize financing up to \$150,000 at the best possible interest rate, with State Bank. Second by Mr. Senn. The Chair called for a roll call vote on the motion. Members voting aye: Brown, Devine, S. Hooper, McKenna, Parker, V. Hooper, Wire, Dotson, J. Kuhlmeier, Kubatzke, Koch, Cashmore, Senn and Blum. Members voting nay: Hadley, Graham, A. Kuhlemeier, Boynton and Détente. Fourteen ayes. Five nays. Motion carried. Authorization granted for financing up to \$150,000 with State Bank for the IP phone system.

Resolution for IHDA Intergovernmental Agreement and Bond Cap

The County has repeatedly entered into an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Illinois Housing Development Authority for the issuance of mortgage revenue bonds. The authorization to use the bond capacity

and the Intergovernmental Agreement with the IHDA must be renewed each year. Mr. Graham made a motion to approve the IHDA Intergovernmental Agreement and Bond Cap. Second by Ms. Kubatzke. The Chair called for a voice vote on the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Resolution # 08-06-1574; authorizing application for bond volume cap, issuance of bonds totaling \$4,000,000 and execution of an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Illinois Housing Development Authority adopted.

Public Property & Safety

Installation of Roof Air Conditioner for 3rd Floor Circuit Clerk’s Office

The Circuit Clerk talked to Public Property and Safety Committee about installing a roof top air conditioning unit for the third floor office. The expense of the unit and installation will be coming out of the Document Storage and Court Automation funds. The Committee authorized installation of a new air conditioning system, on the roof of the Courthouse, for the Circuit Clerk, with payment coming from the Document Storage and Court Automation Funds. Mr. Senn made a motion to concur with the Committees decision. Second by Ms. V. Hooper. The Chair called for a voice vote on the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Installation of an air conditioner on the roof of the Courthouse was approved.

Administration

Resolution #08-06-1566 amending the Marriage License Fee for deposit in the Domestic Violence Legal Assistance Trust Fund

Ms. S. Hooper reported on the mandated fee increase of \$5.00 by the State of Illinois to fund the Domestic Violence Legal Assistance Trust Fund. Ms. S. Hooper made a motion to approve amending the Marriage License Fee. Second by Mr. Cashmore. The Chair called for a voice vote on the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Resolution #08-06-1566 increasing the marriage fee to \$24, as mandated by the State of Illinois, was adopted.

Intergovernmental Agreement with Waddams-Winslow Multi-Township

Ms. S. Hooper made a motion to approve the intergovernmental agreement with the Waddams-Winslow Multi-Township Assessment District, for the County to do their assessment work. Second by Mr. Parker. The Chair called for a voice vote on the motion. Motion carried unanimously. A08-06-1576 Intergovernmental Agreement with Waddams-Winslow Multi-Township was approved.

Raffles (all fees and bonding in order)

- 1455 St. John’s Women’s Society/LWML, Manager Kathy Baumgartner
- 1456 Winslow River Days, Manager Karmen Ditzler
- 1457 St. John’s Evangelical Lutheran Church-Women of the ELCA, Manager Marjorie Ruhberg
- 1458 Stephenson Nursing Center, Manager Penny Smith
- 1459 Stephenson Nursing Center, Manager Penny Smith
- 1460 Freeport Moose Family Center 548, Manager Shirley Whitehead
- 1461 Stephenson County 4-H Federation, Manager Pamela Schingoeth
- 1462 Stephenson County 4-H Extension Foundation, Manager Jamie Holman

Ms. S. Hooper made a motion to approve the Raffles. Second by Ms. V. Hooper. The Chair called for a voice vote on the motion. Motion to approve the Raffles carried unanimously.

Information Items from Standing Committees

Court Services; Ms. V. Hooper reported the Circuit Clerk has purchased a Hot/Cold Water Cooler for the Jury-Deliberation Room.

CLAIMS

| | | |
|------------------------|----|------------|
| Finance & Procurement | \$ | 836,118.32 |
| Administration | \$ | 38,349.69 |
| Public Works | \$ | 107,571.68 |
| Nursing Center | \$ | 237,624.54 |
| Public Property | \$ | 49,233.01 |
| Court Services | \$ | 35,641.66 |
| Public Safety | \$ | 59,812.40 |
| Planning & Development | \$ | 9,225.58 |

