

STEPHENSON COUNTY BOARD MEETING
6:30 PM Monday November 10, 2008
Stephenson County Board Room

The Stephenson County Board met in the Courthouse on Monday November 10, 2008. Chairman Blum called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. At Mr. Hadley's request the Invocation was given by Pastor Hollis from the church of the Nazarene and Mr. McKenna led the Pledge of Allegiance. The Clerk called the roll. Members present; Bennie Brown, Charles Hilton, Todd McKenna, William Hadley, Donald Parker, John Blum, James Graham, Alvin Wire, Linda Dotson, Jim Kuhlmeier, Sandra Kubatzke, Andrew Kuhlemeier, Lynn Koch, Brenda Boynton, Russell Cashmore, Salvatore Détente and Forrest Senn. Member absent: Samuel Newton, Jeffrey Mikkelsen, Debra Devine, Sheila Hooper and Vicki Hooper, Seventeen members present. Five members absent.

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

APPROVAL OF THE OCTOBER 15, 2008 MEETING MINUTES: Mr. McKenna made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 15, 2008 meeting as received. Second by Ms. Dotson. The Chair called for a voice vote on the motion. *Motion to approve the minutes of the October 15, 2008 meeting as received carried unanimously.*

CLAIMS ON THE CLERK'S DESK: Mr. Senn made a motion that all claims on the Clerk's desk be referred to the proper committees without reading. Second by Mr. Hilton. 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

- Public Defender Monthly Report for October, 2008; 276 New Cases, 213 Cases Closed and Income to Public Defender Fund \$2,135.70
- Thank you from Carrie Pollard; National Pork Board Speakers Bureau

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

OLD BUSINESS: No old business

Noted arrival of Ms. Devine

SHERIFF'S REPORT: Sheriff Snyders reported that his department will be holding an orientation for the positions of deputy and correctional officer. They are also having an auction of surplus property and items seized during the commission of a crime. Steel sinks and toilets, from the old jail, are being offered on e-bay.

HIGHWAY REPORT: Mr. Isbell presented a Parking Ordinance to implement snow emergency (Odd/Even) parking on Rock Grove Road within Rock Grove. It was stated that the homeowners would be notified of the new parking regulations. Mr. J. Kuhlmeier made a motion to approve the Ordinance. Second by Ms. Boynton. Following discussion on the wording of the Ordinance; Mr. A. Kuhlemeier made a motion to refer the Ordinance back to Committee. Second by Mr. Détente. It was noted that the Committee would not be meeting prior to the next County Board Meeting and the motion and second to refer back to Committee were withdrawn. Mr. Hadley made a motion to layover the Ordinance until the November 25 County Board Meeting to allow the State's Attorney time to revise the Ordinance. Second by Mr. A. Kuhlemeier. The Chair called for a voice vote on the motion. *Motion to layover the Parking Ordinance until the November 25 County Board Meeting carried unanimously.* Mr. Isbell reported on the intersection of Rock City and Cedarville Roads. They are working on an agreement to route traffic on Cedarville Road. IDOT has agreed to put solar powered flashing lights at the intersection. Advisory speed signs stating 45 MPH will also be placed.

ZONING REPORT: No Report

PECATONICA PRAIRIE PATH/JANE ADDAMS TRAIL: No Report

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT REPORT: Mr. Groves presented a resolution adopting the Stephenson County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan. The Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan has been developed in conjunction with the City of Freeport. The Plan, approved by FEMA, covers voluntary relocation of people within the at-risk area. Mr. Senn made a motion to approve the resolution. Second by Mr. Cashmore. The Chair called for a voice vote on the motion. *Motion to approve Resolution #08-11-1600 to adopt the Stephenson County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan carried unanimously.*

9-1-1 REPORT: Mr. Groves reported the 9-1-1 Coordinator position has been offered to Matt Rose.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT REPORT: Mr. Beintema reported the Department is investigating a mild local outbreak of whooping cough. The next meeting of the County Need Assessment, “21st Century Health Communities” will be held on December 15. They will be prioritizing critical issues from the four assessments and create an action plan. Issues: poverty, unemployment, child abuse/neglect and crime. Health: premature death of African Americans, alcohol and drug abuse, teen pregnancy, overweight, low birth weight and STD. Two public safety clinics were simulated; estimating their capacity to vaccinate three individuals per minute. The Health Department will continue their flu shot season through December. The Department has been awarded a MRC status for medical and non-medical volunteer status. They have conducted two volunteer trainings. The Health Department is one of twenty-five in the nation awarded a FQHC planning grant. In January they will be surveying the population and conducting focus groups. Mr. Beintema is still working with Animal Control on a “Spayed and Neuter” Program. Food Scores for the month of October were distributed.

NURSING CENTER REPORT: No Report

PROBATION DEPARTMENT REPORT: No Report

STATE’S ATTORNEY REPORT: No Report

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

- NIDA is in the process of updating its bylaws and structure as well as proceeding with a new strategic planning process. The full NIDA Board meets tomorrow to get an update on both of these items.
- We are continuing to work through the details of a development agreement for Project Cat to be built in Mill Race Industrial Park. The Director of the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity reviewed the project today and it is hoped an incentive letter from the State will be forthcoming. We are unable to make any public comments or announcements until the State has completed their review.
- We have submitted documentation to the Economic Development Administration for an additional \$500,000 in additional grant funds for Mill Race Industrial Park. We were invited to make this request when EDA officials visited the project site a few weeks ago.
- Last month Chairman Blum announced that Stephenson County had received \$4,000,000 of non-home-rule bond cap from the State to use in our First Time Home Buyer program. The paperwork has been filed with the Illinois Housing Development Authority, IHDA, to fund the local loan programs to push this program forward.
- We are beginning the update of our Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy plan, a process that is required every 5-years. We are collaborating with our CEDS Committee and NIDA in this effort.
- A few months ago we hosted a \$95,000 grant on behalf of RAMP, the Regional Accessibility and Mobility Project. This grant was used to upgrade some homes in Stephenson County area to improve handicapped accessibility. Recently, we were audited upon completion of the grant work and it was noted that we need to provide a self evaluation report to the State. RAMP is assisting us with this report and will be contacting various departments to obtain the required information for the report.
- The Vision 2020 Steering Committee met this morning to discuss the next stages of this community planning project. The last comprehensive update to the community as a whole was in the summer of 2002. Therefore, work is underway to update and revitalize the plan in order to keep the community focused on priorities and progress. This process will begin in earnest on December 8, 2008.
- A public housing forum will be held this Thursday evening, November 13, 2008, 6:30 p.m. at the Stephenson County Farm Bureau. This event is intended to help consolidate county-wide housing

improvement efforts and maximize the use of resources. This planning process has been going on for more than a year and is now ready for public input. Everyone is invited to attend.

- The Ezone Committee has scheduled a public hearing concerning the proposed expansion for the Supportive Living Facility on November 20, 2008 at 8:30 a.m. in the County Board Room.
- We will be holding an orientation session for the three newly elected County Board Members on November 20, 2008. Department Heads will participate in order to give the new members some perspective on their duties and responsibilities prior to them taking office on December 1, 2008.
- As a reminder, our next County Board meeting is scheduled for November 25, 2008 at 6:30 p.m. The primary agenda item will be the adoption of the budget. However, it will also be the last official meeting for three of our current members. Also, as a reminder, the reorganization meeting of this County Board will be held on December 1, 2008 at 9:00 a.m.

APPOINTMENTS: No Appointments

Action Items from Standing Committee

Finance: Mr. Graham presented a resolution transferring real estate property titles to two purchasers, at auction, of delinquent property-tax parcels. Mr. Graham made a motion to approve the resolution to transfer title of the properties. Second by Mr. Koch. The Chair called for a voice vote on the motion. *Motion to approve the resolution to transfer title of delinquent property tax parcels carried unanimously.*

Mr. Graham reported that the 2009 property tax levy is 6.3141% higher than last year. Since the levy is more than 5% higher than last year, the County is required to hold a Truth-in-Taxation Hearing. It was noted the Hearing will be held at the November 25 County Board Meeting.

Mr. Graham made a motion to receive and layover the 2008-2009 Fiscal Year Budget. Second by Mr. Détente. The Chair called for a voice vote on the motion. *Motion to receive and layover the 2008-2009 Fiscal Year Budget carried unanimously.*

Mr. Graham reported the salary subcommittee has determined their salary adjustment recommendations for the appointed department heads. The last salary increase schedule expired in December 2006. These department heads to include the Administrator, Assessor, Facilities Manager and Zoning ESDA have not had an increase in nearly two years. The new schedule is for the four fiscal years from 2008-09 to 2011-12. It was explained that the salaries in comparable counties were reviewed and the recommended salaries are mid-range. Mr. Graham made a motion to approve the salary schedule for the appointed department heads. Second by Mr. J. Kuhlmeier. Mr. Hadley made a motion to layover the salary schedule until the November 25 County Board Meeting. Second by Mr. A. Kuhlemeier. The Chair called for a roll call vote on the motion. Members voting aye: Hilton, Devine, Hadley, Graham, Wire, Dotson, A. Kuhlemeier, Boynton, Cashmore, and Détente. Members voting nay: Brown, McKenna, Parker, J. Kuhlmeier, Kubatzke, Koch, Senn and Blum. Ten aye. Eight nay. *Motion to layover the proposed salary schedule until November 25 carried.*

Administration: Mr. J. Kuhlmeier presented the following Raffles with all fees and bonding in order;

1486 Freeport Downtown Development Foundation, Manager Marg Blum

1487 Team FACT (Relay for Life Team), Manager Cara Waters

Mr. J. Kuhlmeier made a motion to approve the Raffles as presented. Second by Mr. Parker. The Chair called for a voice vote on the motion. *Motion to approve the Raffles as presented carried unanimously.*

Court Services: Mr. Senn made a motion to approve the Budget Resolution appropriating \$1,400 from Contingencies to the Dependent Children Fund. Second by Mr. Cashmore. The Chair called for a roll call vote on the motion. Members voting aye: Brown, Hilton, Devine, McKenna, Hadley, Parker, Graham, Wire, Dotson, J. Kuhlmeier, Kubatzke, A. Kuhlemeier, Koch, Boynton, Cashmore, Detente, Senn and Blum. Eighteen aye. *Motion to approve the Budget Resolution to appropriate \$1,400 from Contingencies to the Dependent Children Fund carried unanimously.*

Mr. Senn made a motion to approve the Resolution authorizing participation in the service program of the Office of the State's Attorneys Appellate Prosecutor for Fiscal Year 2009. Second by Mr. Détente. The Chair

called for a voice vote on the motion. *Motion to approve the Resolution to participate in the service program of the Office of the State's Attorneys Appellate Prosecutor for Fiscal Year 2009 carried unanimously.*

Information Items from Standing Committees

Nursing Center: Mr. Détente reported the committee had discussed the Nursing Center's repayment to the County's General Fund for the outstanding interfund loan transfer at the end of the fiscal year. The committee approved carrying forward \$200,000 for the nursing center for fiscal year 2009 and paying the remainder of the surplus for 2008 back to the general fund. It is expected that amount would be a minimum of \$125,000.

CLAIMS

Finance & Procurement	\$	658,023.01
Administration	\$	71,287.74
Public Works	\$	241,664.78
Nursing Center	\$	211,374.99
Public Property	\$	56,358.96
Court Services	\$	49,612.46
Public Safety	\$	107,624.59
Planning & Development	\$	3,868.72
9-1-1	\$	22,971.40

Mr. Graham made a motion to approve the Claims as presented. Second by Mr. Koch. The Chair called for a roll call vote on the motion. Members voting aye: Brown, Hilton, Devine, McKenna, Hadley, Parker, Graham, Wire, Dotson, J. Kuhlmeier, Kubatzke, A. Kuhlemeier, Koch, Boynton, Cashmore, Détente, Senn and Blum. Eight

een aye. *Motion to approve the Claims as presented carried unanimously.*

OTHER BUSINESS: Mr. Wire reported the broad band reception problem North of Waddams, which may be associated with the Wind Towers, is being looked into.

MEMBERS OF THE AUDIENCE: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

ADJOURN UNTIL 6:30 P.M. TUESDAY NOVEMBER 25, 2008: Mr. A. Kuhlemeier made a motion to adjourn until 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday November 25, 2008. Second by Mr. McKenna. The Chair called for a voice vote on the motion. *Motion to adjourn carried unanimously at 7:54 p.m.*

Ms. V. Hooper will lead the Pledge and Mr. Graham will be responsible for the Invocation at the November 25th Meeting