

## FINANCE AND PROCUREMENT COMMITTEE STATED MEETING - MONDAY, JANUARY 12, 2009

The stated meeting for the month of January was held in the Stephenson County Board Room on the above date with Mr. Graham, the Chairman, presiding. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. Committee members present were Mr. Graham, Mr. Senn, Ms. S. Hooper, Ms. V. Hooper, Mr. Detente, Mr. Mikkelsen and Mr. Kuhlmeier. County Board Chairman Blum was also present. Other County Board members present were Mr. Parker and Mr. Willging.

Minutes of the stated meeting of Monday, December 8, 2008 were approved, without reading, on a motion by Mr. Mikkelsen, seconded by Ms. V. Hooper.

### COMMUNICATIONS:

The County has received a letter from the IMRF regarding their 25.9% investment loss during 2008. The IMRF is holding regional meetings to explain how this will impact contribution rates, for participating units of government. The IMRF Board will vote on January 23<sup>rd</sup>, to finalize their plans for the investment recovery process. The IMRF is scheduled to hold a regional meeting on February 2<sup>nd</sup>, in Rockford, at the Clock Tower Conference Center.

### OLD BUSINESS:

The County Administrator explained that, by State Statute, the agenda for this week's County Board meeting is already posted. Therefore, any potential action item from this meeting is already on the County Board agenda, as a Finance Committee action item. This explains why the IMRF Early Retirement Incentive program was on the December County Board agenda, when the Finance Committee had laid the matter over to its January Committee meeting. Once again, regardless of the actions of this Committee tonight, the IMRF Early Retirement Incentive program is already on the agenda for Wednesday's County Board meeting.

The County Administrator distributed copies of an article from Governing magazine and another one from Governing.com. The articles were "The Lure of the Layoff" from the January 2009 issue of Governing and "Nix on Early Retirement Incentives" from Governing.com.

Mr. Détente explained that the IMRF Early Retirement Incentive program would have a negative impact on managing the Nursing Center and the Nursing Center Committee unanimously recommended not adopting it. There was a discussion on the impact of trying to replace nursing staff in the current employment market. The discussion expanded to cover its overall impact on County departments. On a motion by Mr. Détente, seconded by Ms. V. Hooper, the Committee recommended not implementing the IMRF Early Retirement Incentive program, at this time; the voice vote was 5 to 2. Mr. Isbell said that he had offered to help the Nursing Center analyze their payroll numbers, but the offer was not accepted. Mr. Détente responded that there was insufficient time to take advantage of the offer. Mr. Graham closed debate on this issue because the vote had already been taken.

## NEW BUSINESS:

In the absence of Mr. McLeRoy, the County Administrator noted that a UCCI/U of I Institute of Government and Public Affairs all-day seminar, for new County Board members, is scheduled for Thursday, February 5<sup>th</sup>, at Sauk Valley College. Invitations have been mailed directly to all County Board members in the area.

Mr. Snavely said that he did not have a financial report. He has been using the new tractors to plow snow at the Jail and the Courthouse.

The Committee reviewed the December 2008 revenue and expense amounts in the Employee Health Insurance Fund. There was a \$85,383.99 deficit in December. After the first month of the 2009 fiscal year, expenses have exceeded revenues by \$85,383.99.

The Budgetary Status, Major Revenue Tracking, and Interfund Loan reports for December 2008 were distributed and reviewed.

During the December County Board meeting, the County Board voted to refer the issue of requesting the Governor to resign, to this Committee. There was a discussion of whether the County Board should get involved in this issue. Ms. S. Hooper noted that the Administration Committee discussed, but took no action on this same topic. It was also noted that the County still has several items needing the Governor's signature.

Materials for a seminar, on January 22<sup>nd</sup>, entitled "Renewables & Technologies" were reviewed. On a motion by Mr. Mikkelsen, seconded by Ms. V. Hooper, the Committee agreed to pay mileage to Joliet and registration fee for any County Board member attending the seminar; the voice vote was 6 to 1.

Chairman Blum invited County Board members to attend a seminar, "Siting, Zoning & Taxing Wind Farms in Illinois", on February 4<sup>th</sup>, in Peoria. Since the County is providing transportation, no mileage will be paid for this event. On a motion by Ms. S. Hooper, seconded by Mr. Mikkelsen, the Committee agreed to pay the registration fee and provide transportation for any County Board member attending the seminar.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Public Property – Mr. Senn reported that his committee questioned the invoices from the County Engineer for rent of the old Highway building, for emergency services vehicles and equipment. Since the County is looking to sell the old Highway Building, Mr. Groves needs to find an alternate site to store these vehicles. Invoices were sent to the City of Freeport, the Sheriff and the Emergency Management Agency. The invoice charge is based on \$100 per month per vehicle. There was a discussion on the timing and development of these invoices. He also reported that his committee discussed the Sheriff's purchase of a new tractor to plow snow around the Courthouse and is considering a new fee study by Maximus. His committee recommended authorizing Chairman Blum to sign the loan documents, from Citizens State Bank, for purchase of the new squad cars. On a motion by Ms. S. Hooper, seconded by Mr.

Mikkelsen, the Finance Committee concurred in recommending that Chairman Blum be authorized to sign the loan documents, from Citizens Bank, for purchase of the new squad cars.

Administration – Ms. S. Hooper noted that the committee reviewed the Maximus proposal, but took no action.

Court Services – Ms. V. Hooper reported that her committee approved two funding requests for Alternatives to Incarceration: Master Builders Ministries for \$2,500 and Boys and Girls Club of Freeport and Stephenson County for \$3,050. The Probation Department is tracking its costs for the 17-year olds in the system, because they will be considered juveniles next year. 25% of the Dependent Children's budget has already been consumed.

Nursing Center - Mr. Détente said that his committee is looking at redoing the kitchen and dish room floors, at the same time. The Nursing Center is sponsoring a fund raising dance for the Activity Department. The Red & White Ball will be held from 6:00 until 10:00 p.m., on February 28<sup>th</sup>, at the Eagle's Club. A bill for salt from the Highway Department was rejected by his committee because the price was higher than the Highway Department paid for the salt. Mr. Kuhlmeier noted that two members of the Public Works Committee are also on the Nursing Center Committee and they made no mention of the salt pricing issue at his committee meeting. There was a discussion on the need to properly allocate costs back to the departments using the service or supplies. Mr. Graham asked Mr. Détente and Mr. Kuhlmeier to work together with the department heads to resolve this issue.

Planning and Development – Mr. Mikkelsen reported that his committee recommended approval of a Fehr-Graham proposal to generate the Third Five-Year Update to the County's Solid Waste Management Plan. The new NIDA by-laws are being reviewed. The County has received NIDA's invoice for 2009, for \$100,000. Freeport's Corporation Counsel told the Enterprise Zone Committee that the City wants the Enterprise Zone fee from the Supportive Living Facility. There was a discussion of the EZ fee and the services that Freeport needs to provide, plus getting the other taxing bodies to abate their taxes, under the Enterprise Zone. The City expects to annex the SLF site by March.

Public Works - Mr. Kuhlmeier noted that his committee has a number of resolutions for the County Board meeting.

Chairman Blum reported that the new NIDA Board has met and authorized two votes each for both the County and the City.

On a motion by Ms. V. Hooper, seconded by Mr. Mikkelsen, the Committee went into Executive Session, on a roll call vote, for Business Matters. (Aye: Mr. Senn, Ms. S. Hooper, Ms. V. Hooper, Ms. Kubatzke, Mr. Mikkelsen, Mr. Kuhlmeier, Mr. Graham; Nay: None.) The Committee came out of Executive Session, on a motion by Mr. Détente, seconded by Mr. Senn. Mr. Graham announced that Business Matters were discussed, but no action was taken.

Claims of \$1,565,441.67 were approved, on a motion by Ms. V. Hooper, seconded by Ms. S. Hooper.

The Committee adjourned at 9:10 p.m., on a motion by Ms. S. Hooper, seconded by Mr. Senn.

Approved: February 9, 2009

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Next Stated Meeting of the Committee:  
Monday, February 9, 2009 6:30 p.m.  
Stephenson County Board Room

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