

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting

The Executive Committee of the McLean County Board met on Tuesday, September 13, 2011, at 4:30 p.m. in Room 400, Government Center, 115 E. Washington Street, Bloomington, Illinois.

Members Present: Chairman Sorensen, Members Bostic, Gordon, Segobiano, Hoselton, Rackauskas, Butler and O'Connor (left at 5:35)

Members Absent: Member Owens

Other Board Members Present: None

Staff Present: Mr. Bill Wasson, County Administrator; Ms. Jude LaCasse, Assistant to the County Administrator

Department Heads/
Elected Officials Present: None

Others Present: Mr. Marty Vanags, Executive Director, Economic Development Council, Ms. Jennifer McDade, Member, Economic Development Council Executive Committee; and Mr. Dave Magers, Member, Economic Development Council Executive Committee

Chairman Sorensen called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

Chairman Sorensen presented the minutes from the August 9, 2011 meeting for approval. Hearing no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Sorensen advised that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

Chairman Sorensen presented the reappointments, appointments and resignations.

Motion by Segobiano/O'Connor to Recommend Approval of the Reappointments, Appointments and Resignations as recommended by the Chairman.
Motion carried.

Chairman Sorensen presented a request for approval of funding commitment to the Economic Development Council (EDC) of the Bloomington-Normal Area (recommend that EDC funding in the amount of \$100,000 be incorporated into the County's FY'2012 Budget) – County Administrator's Office.

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Chairman Sorensen introduced Mr. Marty Vanags, Executive Director, Economic Development Council, as well as Ms. Jennifer McDade and Mr. Dave Magers, Members of the Economic Development Council Board of Directors.

Ms. McDade advised that she is on the Economic Development Council Executive Committee. She added that she is an Alderman on the City of Bloomington Council. Ms. McDade noted that Mr. Magers is with Country Financial and also serves on the Executive Committee of the Economic Development Council Executive Committee. She stated that they are co-chairs of the Forging Ahead Campaign, which is the next five-year plan of the Economic Development Council.

Ms. McDade reviewed the previous five-year accomplishments of the EDC and the goals for the next five years. She stated that in 2006, the EDC was a brand new organization, driven by new public and private investors, including McLean County. Ms. McDade indicated that development of this organization was accomplished during some very difficult economic times. She noted that, nationally, the GDP has been flat since 2008, the Dow dropped significantly, eight million jobs were lost nation-wide, and capital investment dried up. Ms. McDade stated that, despite all of these economic concerns, the EDC was able to meet and exceed goals that they had set, including goals related to job creation and retention. She pointed out the following goals that were reached:

- Create and retain 1,000 “direct” jobs -- 1,035 “Direct” jobs were created,
- The new Capital Investment goal was \$1,000,000,000 -- \$1.08 billion in New Capital was reached -- much of that was investment into the McLean County Wind Farm project;
- Federal funding was secured to begin the partnership with Illinois State University for the Center for Emerging Entrepreneurs
 - 64 entrepreneurs have been assisted in this program,
 - 20 completed projects with EDC assistance,
- Federal Funding returned \$24 million to the area
 - Multi-Modal Transportation Center,
 - Incubator Project,
 - BCPA Learning Center.

Ms. McDade indicated that despite what was a challenging economic situation nationally, regionally and locally, the EDC met the goals they set for themselves. She profiled two examples, including CAMtek, Inc. and Watershed Foods. Ms. McDade stated that CAMtek is located on East Empire Street. She noted that the owner and founder of this business had several offers to move the business out of state and considered the offers because Illinois can be a challenging business environment.

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Ms. McDade advised that the EDC, through their business retention program, identified the owner's concerns and were able to help the business relocate into a larger facility and helped the business expand in this community.

Ms. McDade stated that the EDC helped Watershed Foods in Gridley in acquiring a loan to expand their business, to keep the business in the County, and to assist with growth.

Mr. Magers added that STL is another local company that EDC has been helping to grow. He noted that STL has grown significantly with an 80% increase in revenues over the last two years. Mr. Magers added that the owner of STL reported that not only has EDC helped the business grow, but because of the growth of STL, there is another business that will be relocating to Bloomington soon to support STL, which will add another 140 jobs to the community.

Mr. Magers stated that he is the Chief Financial Officer at Country Financial and has been a resident of this community since 1964. He informed the Committee that he is heavily invested in this community.

Mr. Magers indicated that as proud as he is of the accomplishments of EDC over the last five years, particularly in light of the down-turn in the economy, he believes that the next five years will be even more critical. He pointed out that a lot of people believe that the Stock Market crash of 1929 was the bottom of the stock market during the Great Depression. Mr. Magers reported that the economic situation of the last five years has been very similar. He added that on those two days in October of 1929, the Market dropped from 380 to 190, about half of its value. The Market actually bottomed in 1932 when it further lost 150 points and finished at 40. Mr. Magers stated that it is not a one-time event and this economic malaise won't be a one-time event either. He noted that it happens very suddenly and it takes a very long time to find the bottom and a long time to dig out. He added that the Market never again got above 400 until 1954, 25 years later.

Mr. Magers expressed his belief that it is very important to continue to invest in this community and the economic growth and stature of this community going forward. He pointed out that the first five years of the EDC were spent getting it up and running and determining where the EDC could be successful, and it did have successes. Mr. Magers stated that the next five years will be much more focused in its attempts to build the economy in this community and knowing what types of business to target to bring to the community. He noted that EDC will provide regular reports to the County on the progress of EDC.

Mr. Magers advised that the new campaign will focus on the following priorities:

1. Targeted Business Recruitment (49% of funds invested):
 - a. Finance
 - b. Agriculture
 - c. Insurance
 - d. Logistics
 - e. Technology/Research
2. Existing Business Support and Expansion (22% of funds invested)
3. Community Engagement, Advocacy, and Scholarship (4% of funds invested)
4. Economic Communication and Information (25% of funds invested)

Mr. Magers pointed out the following Measurable Goals for 2012-2016:

- Assist in the creation of 1,500 New Jobs (over 50% will pay at or above the McLean County median wage of \$34,736;
- Attract Five New Basic Sector/Interstate Commerce Companies into the area;
- Assist 100 Existing Businesses in expansion, support and retention of jobs;
- Facilitate \$150 million in New Capital Investment.

Mr. Magers reviewed the Economic Impact Analysis report, noting that 1,500 new jobs have been created, and, as an indirect impact, there may be another 1,174 new jobs expected. The earnings of those new jobs are about \$95 million. Mr. Magers noted that the estimated local Sales Tax Revenue is about \$500,000. He added that this economic growth will also increase the Property Tax base for a growing population.

Ms. McDade advised that the following investors have already approved their contribution to this campaign, namely:

- Illinois State University
- COUNTRY Financial
- Town of Normal
- Commerce Bank
- City of Bloomington
- Illinois Wesleyan University

Ms. McDade stated that it is very important that EDC is a private-public partnership, because about two-thirds of the dollars are coming from the private sector to support the EDC. Mr. Magers noted that COUNTRY Financial does not “rubber-stamp” all financial requests that they receive. However, he pointed out that COUNTRY Financial readily approved the increase in support to EDC as they recognize the value and importance of the economic growth to the community.

Mr. Hoselton asked what is being done to grow “blue-collar” jobs in the community. Mr. Magers responded that Bloomington-Normal, as a major community, has the lowest unemployment rate in Illinois. He indicated that many of the jobs that EDC has brought in or assisted with are not specifically designed to be high end or low end, highly educated or lower educated. Mr. Magers pointed out that the STL business he referred to earlier is a call center, which tends to be a good job, but is not at the higher end of the pay scale and does not require a college degree or highly skilled workers. Ms. McDade added that Heartland College informed her that they are planning to add job training programs to their curriculum.

Ms. McDade advised that the financial commitment to EDC needs to continue. Ms. McDade indicated that this group of investors is leveraging investments together because together we can accomplish a lot more than any one single entity can accomplish alone.

Mr. Segobiano stated that he represents District 8 on the County Board, which includes the west side of Bloomington. He expressed concern that EDC is not doing enough to promote growth on the west side of Bloomington. Mr. Segobiano announced that he will not vote to support this program, nor will he support the East Side Bypass that will route business away from Bloomington’s west side. Mr. Segobiano also stated that he does not believe that Mr. Hoselton’s question about promoting blue-collar jobs was adequately answered. He asked where the jobs are for blue-collar workers. Mr. Segobiano also referred to all of the closed businesses and empty facilities in the City of Bloomington.

Ms. McDade responded to Mr. Segobiano’s concerns, noting that she and other members of the Bloomington City Council would be very happy to meet with him. She stated that the west side of Bloomington is of great interest to her as well as she is involved in the West Bloomington Revitalization Partnership, as is the EDC. Ms. McDade noted there was a very successful Housing Summit held last year. The EDC is a partner at the table to conduct an upcoming Housing Summit

this year. Other public partners include the City of Bloomington and private partners, such as banks and realtors. Ms. McDade stated that the Bloomington City Council raised similar concerns with the EDC. She indicated that the City specifically charged EDC to find opportunities throughout the community, specifically mentioning the west side of the City.

Ms. McDade referred to the concerns of Mr. Segobiano and Mr. Hoselton regarding blue collar jobs and job training. She stated that the EDC has clearly articulated in the plan that it expect 50% of the jobs to come in below the median income and have explained a desire to work with entities within the community such as Heartland College on job training programs, which does not necessarily target jobs that require two or four-year college degrees. Ms. McDade noted that there was a statistic recently that about 40% of the jobs that will exist ten years from now do not even exist right now. She stated that it is the responsibility of organizations liked the EDC to anticipate and respond to future needs. Ms. McDade pointed out that there is no crystal ball to know what will happen in the future, but the EDC is not discounting any opportunities for growth to this community.

Ms. McDade pointed out that Watershed Foods is a business located in Gridley. She stated that the EDC is aware of the entire County in its efforts to grow the economy of this community. Ms. McDade noted that EDC is looking at the entire region within the County, and looking at County assets, from agriculture to commerce. She assured the Committee that the EDC is absolutely interested in the success of the County as a whole and the strength of the region for many years to come.

Ms. McDade reiterated her offer to meet with any County Board members who have concerns and issues related to the City of Bloomington government.

Ms. McDade advised that the City of Bloomington made a decision to hire a staff person to assist in targeted development of Bloomington. She referred to the numerous vacant strip malls and other pieces of vacant commercial property, specifically in Bloomington.

Ms. McDade stated that the responsibility for a remedy to this issue is to some degree on the City of Bloomington, but not necessarily on the EDC. She noted that the types of jobs EDC is targeting are retail and other jobs. Ms. McDade added that the City of Bloomington felt a responsibility to hire an individual who will partner with the EDC, but who will work specifically in Bloomington to address specific issues of Bloomington, that are more targeted than the mission of the EDC.

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Mr. Segobiano reiterated his concern that there is no promotion taking place for the west side of Bloomington.

Motion by Hoselton/Gordon to Recommend Approval of Funding Commitment to the Economic Development Council (EDC) of the Bloomington-Normal Area (recommend that EDC Funding in the amount of \$100,000 be Incorporated in the County's FY"2012 Budget) – County Administrator's Office.

Mr. Hoselton indicated that he heard that Watershed Foods in Gridley is expanding and is looking for an additional 200 employees. He asked what efforts EDC is making to assist the employer to get employees to Gridley. Mr. Vanags responded that EDC has been working with Watershed Foods on that project. He noted that Watershed began its expansion project before EDC could help them and Economic Development incentive rules restrict adding money to the project after it is started. Mr. Vanags noted that there are a number of programs that EDC can refer them to for help, including Career Link and its services such as training programs to help them hire the right people. Ms. McDade added that EDC staff goes on business retention calls every week in Bloomington, Normal and McLean County to talk with businesses about their needs, such as growth, challenges with municipalities, challenges with the business environment, etc.

Mr. Hoselton asked what efforts are being made to present to small communities the guidelines to properly meet the EDC criteria. Mr. Vanags responded that he has attended and presented information to the Mayors Association meetings several times a year and he has been to four or five area city councils at their invitation to give a presentation on EDC and how it can work for them.

Ms. O'Connor expressed concern with the \$20,000 increase per year for the next five years. She indicated that she would be more comfortable at keeping the funding at the current level of \$80,000. Ms. McDade replied that they had a similar concern at the Bloomington City Council meeting; however, they did vote to increase their commitment from \$80,000 to \$100,000, as did the Town of Normal. She stated that the way this plan is put together and because business attraction is priority one, it is a more costly plan. Ms. McDade pointed out that it also has a much higher potential of a strong payoff to the community. She advised that all of the public investors and private investors that are on board have increased their contribution over the last campaign.

Chairman Sorensen clarified that the, while the campaign is for five years and EDC would like the County to establish a level of investment, it is a one-year resolution with a one-year commitment and a five year expectation of renewal. Chairman Sorensen noted that several private investors and even the City of Bloomington lowered their contribution one year out of the last five years.

Ms. Rackauskas acknowledged the work of the EDC. However, she expressed concern that the City of Bloomington is also budgeting \$100,000 to work on development strictly in Bloomington. Ms. McDade responded that there is an Economic Development Line Item in the Bloomington City Council budget that was approved last May for FY'2012 for \$100,000. She noted that there is also another line item that includes the EDC funding. Ms. McDade stated that Bloomington is unlikely to pay more than \$50,000-\$60,000 per year for the position. Ms. McDade added that the purpose of that position is to directly benefit Bloomington residents to keep an eye on the growth of the City of Bloomington, including the old railroad yards which have been of interest as a potential site for redevelopment for a very long time. She recognized that development of the rail yards could cause many environmental issues, but she stressed that the Bloomington City Council continues to have a vision for that area.

Mr. Segobiano referred to Ms. McDade's comments that the City of Bloomington is considering development at the old railroad yards. He commented that the people on the west side are always being given hope that the area would be developed, but nothing has happened. Mr. Segobiano stated that Mayor Stockton and a gentleman from Chicago met with him regarding the railroad yards and discussed the legal difficulties of trying to develop the area. He added that talk of developing that area is not something new. Ms. McDade responded that she was not suggesting that development of the rail yards is something new or something easy, but she was using it as an example of a project for a staff person to focus on.

Chairman Sorensen advised that the decision by the City of Bloomington to add an economic development position is not part of the EDC requirement of the City. Rather, the City is choosing to add this position to address their own issues. Ms. Rackauskas responded that she believes this position impacts the purpose of the EDC, which is to promote development County-wide. Ms. McDade explained that the EDC did not ask Bloomington to add a development position. Rather, this was a decision made by the City of Bloomington, specifically. Ms. McDade stated that the development position with Bloomington does not change the make-up, mission, work, scope, or the focus of EDC. She advised that many other local municipalities have both a regional EDC as well as hired

staff within the municipality that works specifically for the municipality that partners with the regional EDC. She stated that while the Town of Normal does not have an Economic Development Coordinator, Normal has three to five staff persons who devote some or even a majority of their position to economic development. Normal has an Uptown Coordinator as well as an Uptown Marketing Coordinator. Ms. McDade stated that this is the perfect example of two partners at the Town of Normal that exist to partner with the EDC.

Ms. Rackauskas recalled her displeasure when Metcom broke up and the community was unable to work as a whole. She used the analogy that the addition of an Economic Development Coordinator to the City of Bloomington is similar to the breakup of Metcom in that it causes another separation of the community. Ms. Rackauskas stated that she believes that community development should all be under the purview of one entity. She indicated that it has been her goal, since she has been on the Board, to get the communities to work together as a whole.

Ms. McDade assured Ms. Rackauskas that the investment in the EDC is a way to work together as a region. She expressed her own disappointment with the situation with Metcom. Ms. McDade stated that what we are talking about is a unique individual in Bloomington who will do a job that is not being done by anyone else right now; it will be an add-on to what the EDC does. She explained that it is not within the scope of work that exists with the EDC. Ms. McDade declared that she is also an advocate for the entire community working together.

Chairman Sorensen cautioned that we cannot make the discussion regarding the County's commitment to the Bloomington-Normal area Economic Development Council be about Bloomington's decision to add an economic development position to its staff.

Ms. Bostic asked if the EDC files an annual report to show where they budget their money and how it is spent, and did the Administrator's Office take a good look at it before this request for additional funds came before this Committee. Mr. Wasson replied that the EDC provides an annual report to the County. Mr. Vanags concurred that the EDC provide an annual report each year to the County and to all of their investors. He added that County Board Chairman Sorensen and Mr. Ben Owens serve on the Board of EDC and they get to see the budget and hold the EDC accountable.

Mr. Segobiano commented that he concurs with Ms. O'Connor's concern about increasing the County's commitment to EDC. He recognized that the County is in its budgeting process right now. Mr. Segobiano advised that he doesn't believe the County is in a position at this time to make a commitment to EDC.

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Mr. Hoselton expressed his opinion that the commitment to EDC is far more important than the annual expense to belong to the National Association of Counties (NACo). He stated that the County needs to give EDC the opportunity to promote development in the entire County community.

Chairman Sorensen asked if there were any additional comments or questions. Hearing none, he called for a vote on the motion.

Motion carried with Mr. Segobiano and Ms. Bostic voting "no."

Chairman Sorensen thanked Mr. Vanags, Ms. McDade and Mr. Magers.

Mr. John Butler, Vice Chairman, Chairman, Finance Committee, presented a request for approval of an Ordinance of the McLean County Board Amending the 2011 Combined Appropriation and Budget Ordinance for Fund 0102 (Dental Fund Grant) – Health Department.

Motion by Butler/O'Connor to recommend Approval of an Ordinance of the McLean County Board Amending the 2011 Combined Appropriation and Budget Ordinance for Fund 0102 (Dental Fund Grant) – Health Department.

Motion carried with Ms. Rackauskas recusing herself.

Mr. Butler presented a request for approval of an Ordinance of the McLean County Board amending the 2011 Combined Appropriation and Budget Ordinance for Fund 0105 (Preventive Health Fund Grant) – Health Department.

Motion by Butler/Segobiano to recommend Approval of an Ordinance of the McLean County Board Amending the 2011 Combined Appropriation and Budget Ordinance for Fund 0105 (Preventive Health Fund Grant) – Health Department.

Motion carried.

Mr. Butler presented a request for approval of a Resolution Amending the Fiscal Year 2011 McLean County Full-time Equivalent Position Resolution Associated with an Ordinance to Amend the Fiscal Year 2011 McLean County Combined Appropriation and Budget Ordinance for Fund 0105 – Health Department.

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Motion by Butler/Rackauskas to recommend Approval of a Resolution Amending the Fiscal Year 2011 McLean County Full-Time Equivalent Position Resolution Associated with an Ordinance of the McLean County Board Amending the 2011 Combined Appropriation and Budget Ordinance for Fund 0105 – Health Department.
Motion carried.

Mr. Butler presented a request for approval of Critical Personnel Hiring Requests – County Administrator's Office.

Motion by Butler/Hoselton to Recommend Approval of Critical Personnel Hiring Requests – County Administrator's Office.
Motion carried.

Mr. Butler presented a request for approval of an Ordinance of the McLean County Board Amending Chapter 10 of the McLean County Code, County Travel Policy – County Administrator's Office.

Motion by Butler/Bostic to Recommend Approval of an Amendment to Chapter 10 of the McLean County Code, County Travel Policy – County Administrator's Office.

Mr. Segobiano asked for an explanation on cancelled travel plans. Mr. Wasson responded that if an employee cancels travel arrangements and cannot provide documentation of a family illness or emergency, the employee is responsible for the travel costs.

Chairman Sorensen asked if there were any other questions, comments or discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote on the motion.

Motion carried.

Chairman Sorensen thanked Mr. Butler.

Ms. Bette Rackauskas, Chairman, Justice Committee, presented a request for approval of the Task Force 6 Drug Unit Interagency Agreement 409020 with the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority for a grant of \$64,106.00 to be used to expand Multi-Jurisdictional Narcotics Units – Sheriff's Department.

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Motion by Rackauskas/Segobiano to Recommend Approval of the Task Force 6 Drug Unit Interagency Agreement 409020 with the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority – Sheriff’s Department.
Motion carried.

Ms. Rackauskas presented three items that can be acted upon together, namely a request for approval of an Intergovernmental Agreement between the County of McLean and the City of Bloomington for Centralized Booking; between the County of McLean and the Town of Normal for Centralized Booking and between the County of McLean and the Illinois State University for Centralized Booking – Sheriff’s Department.

Motion by Rackauskas/Hoselton to Recommend Approval of an Intergovernmental Agreement between the County of McLean and the City of Bloomington for Centralized Booking; between the County of McLean and the Town of Normal for Centralized Booking; and between the County of McLean and the Illinois State University for Centralized Booking Sheriff’s Department.
Motion carried.

Ms. Rackauskas presented a request for approval of an Emergency Appropriation Ordinance Amending the McLean County Fiscal Year 2011 Combined Annual Appropriation and Budget Ordinance – Circuit Clerk’s Office.

Motion by Rackauskas/Segobiano to Recommend Approval of an Emergency Appropriation Ordinance Amendment the McLean County Fiscal Year 2011 Combined Annual Appropriation and Budget Ordinance – Circuit Clerk’s Office.
Motion carried.

Ms. Rackauskas presented a request for approval to accept an Adult Redeploy Illinois Grant from the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority in the amount of \$138,123.00 for an 18 month period – Court Services.

Motion by Rackauskas/Gordon to Recommend Approval to Accept an Adult Redeploy Illinois Grant from the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority in the amount of \$138,123.00 – Court Services.
Motion carried.

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Ms. Rackauskas presented a request for approval of an Illinois Department of Human Services four-month Community Services Agreement for State Fiscal Year 2012 – Court Services.

Motion by Rackauskas/Segobiano to Recommend Approval of an Illinois Department of Human Services Four-Month Community Services Agreement for State Fiscal Year 2012 – Court Services.
Motion carried.

Ms. Rackauskas presented a request for approval of an Emergency Appropriation Ordinance Amending the McLean County Fiscal Year 2011 Combined Annual Appropriation Ordinance, Fund 0001 General Fund, Court Services Department 0022 – Court Services Department.

Motion by Rackauskas/Bostic to Recommend Approval of an Emergency Appropriation Ordinance amending the McLean County Fiscal Year 2011 Combined Annual Appropriation Ordinance, Fund 0001 General Fund, Court Services Department 0022 – Court Services Department.
Motion carried.

Chairman Sorensen asked if there were any questions or comments. Hearing none, he thanked Ms. Rackauskas.

Mr. George Gordon, Chairman, Land Use and Development Committee, presented a request for approval of a Resolution of the McLean County Board approving the Recommendations of the Solid Waste Technical and Policy Committee. He noted that this is for municipal recycling grants.

Ms. Rackauskas asked how long we have been doing these grants. Mr. Gordon replied that it has been at least seven years or more. He added that many of the same communities are asking for and receiving the grants. Chairman Sorensen stated that these are not dedicated funds; these funds come from Tipping Fees associated with the landfill and we are required by the Solid Waste Management Plan to reuse some of those dollars for these kinds of programs. Mr. Wasson noted that some change has taken place over a period of years. Most of these sites were drop-off sites initially and, now, many of these grants go toward funding single stream recycling in many rural communities. Mr. Wasson added that this increases participation with recycling.

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Motion by Gordon/Segobiano to Recommend Approval of a Resolution of the McLean County Board Approving the Recommendations of the Solid Waste Technical and Policy Committee.
Motion carried.

Mr. Gordon advised that he will not be at the Board Meeting next week.

Chairman Sorensen asked if there were any questions or comments. Hearing none, he thanked Mr. Gordon.

Mr. Stan Hoselton, Chairman, Transportation Committee, advised that the Transportation Committee brings no items for action to the Executive Committee. He advised that some of the recently completed projects include: Brooker Bridge between Lexington and LeRoy; Evergreen Lake Safety Project, Pipeline Road, and the Towanda Barnes roadwork. He added that the Bridge at Indian Creek may be completed earlier than expected.

Chairman Sorensen asked if there were any additional questions or comments. Hearing none, he thanked Mr. Hoselton.

Ms. Diane Bostic, Chairman, Property Committee, presented a request for approval of the renewal of a Lease Agreement between the Administrative Office of Illinois Courts (AOIC) and the County for Office Space for the 11th Circuit Court Mandatory Arbitration Program – Circuit Court.

Motion by Bostic/Segobiano to Recommend Approval of Renewal of a Lease Agreement between the Administrative Office of Illinois Courts (AOIC) and the County for Office Space for the 11th Circuit court Mandatory Arbitration Program – Circuit Court.
Motion carried.

Ms. Bostic presented a request for approval of a Tri-County Regional Planning Commission (EECBG) Grant Award for COMLARA Park – Facilities Management.

Motion by Bostic/Hoselton to Recommend Approval of a Tri-County Regional Planning Commission (EECBG) Grant Award for COMLARA Park – Facilities Management.
Motion carried.

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Chairman Sorensen asked if there were any questions or comments. Hearing none, he thanked Ms. Bostic.

Mr. Bill Wasson, County Administrator, stated that he had nothing for the Committee, but he would be happy to answer any questions.

Ms. Rackauskas asked for an explanation of the CDAP Loan Program. Mr. Wasson replied that the EDC manages the County's CDAP Loan Program. The CDAP loan is a Community Development funds. He explained that the funds were initially provided by the State of Illinois to counties to set up a revolving fund for community development. The Economic Development Council staffs and manages the loan processes. Mr. Wasson noted that the County participates on the Management Board and they work directly with the County Administrator's Office. Chairman Sorensen added that the Finance Committee acts as the Loan Committee for that program.

Ms. Rackauskas pointed out that revisions were made to the loan process after the failure of a grocery store. Chairman Sorensen responded that integrating the EDC in the process was one of the revisions. Historically, bankers brought those loan requests to the Finance Committee. Ms. Rackauskas recommended that a chart be provided that shows the successes and failures of these projects.

Mr. Wasson advised that in conversations with EDC, the EDC Board directed staff to provide metrics for the plan and to report on a more regular basis. He stated that there will be increased reporting from the EDC on a regular basis over the next five years as this plan moves forward.

Chairman Sorensen presented the August 31, 2011 bills as recommended and transmitted by the County Auditor for payment. The Prepaid Total is \$477,812.54 and the Fund Total is the same.

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Motion by Butler/Segobiano to Recommend Approval
of the Executive Committee bills as of August 31,
2011 as presented to the Committee by the County
Auditor.
Motion carried.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the Executive
Committee meeting was adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Judith A. LaCasse
Recording Secretary