

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting

The Executive Committee of the McLean County Board met on Tuesday, February 14, 2006, at 4:30 p.m. in Room 400, Government Center, 115 E. Washington Street, Bloomington, Illinois.

Members Present: Chairman Sweeney Members Sorensen, Gordon, Bass, Bostic, Berglund, Hoselton, Renner and Segobiano

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Mr. John Zeunik, County Administrator, Ms. Jude LaCasse, Assistant to the County Administrator

Other Members Present: None

Department Heads/
Elected Officials Present: None

Others Present: None

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

Chairman Sweeney presented the minutes from the January 10, 2006 Executive Committee Meeting and the December 20, 2005 Stand-up Meeting for approval.

Motion by Gordon/Berglund to approve and place on file the minutes of the January 10, 2006 meeting and the December 20, 2005 Stand-up Meeting.
Motion carried

Chairman Sweeney announced that there is one reappointment (Mr. Robert Kahman, Supervisor of Assessments), no appointments and no resignations.

Motion by Hoselton/Bass to Recommend Approval of the Reappointment as recommended by the Chairman.
Motion carried.

Ms. Bostic commented that, as a Township Assessor, she spends a great deal of time in the Supervisor of Assessment's Office. She stated that it is a pleasure to work with the Supervisor of Assessments and his staff.

Executive Committee
February 14, 2006
Page Two

Chairman Sweeney asked how many people go in front of the Board of Review on a yearly basis. Ms. Bostic replied that, out of four townships, there are probably 50-60 people, of which about 1/10th go before the Board of Review.

Mr. Sorensen recalled that Mr. Kahman's report last year indicated that between 400-450 individuals went before the Board of Review.

Mr. Duffy Bass, Chairman, Transportation Committee, stated that the Transportation Committee brings no items for action. He pointed out that there are several yearly items to be considered at the Board Meeting, including bid lettings on projects, purchase of machinery and equipment, and road building and maintenance.

Chairman Sweeney asked if there were any questions. Hearing none, he thanked Mr. Bass.

Mr. Matt Sorensen, Chairman, Finance Committee stated that the Finance Committee brings three items for action. The first is a request for approval of an Ordinance of the McLean County Board amending the 2006 Combined Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance – County Auditor's Office. He explained that this carries forward purchase orders approved in 2005, but as yet unspent, to Fiscal Year 2006.

Motion by Sorensen/Renner to Recommend Approval
of an Ordinance of the McLean County Board
Amending the 2006 Combined Annual Budget and
Appropriation Ordinance for the County Auditor's
Office.

Motion carried.

Mr. Sorensen presented the next two items together. The first is a request for approval of a Resolution Transferring Monies from the Working Cash Fund 0002 to the Persons with Developmental Disabilities Fund 0110, Children's Advocacy Center 0129, F.I.C.A./Social Security Fund 0130 and to the I.M.R.F. Fund 0131, Fiscal Year 2006 – County Administrator's Office. The second is a request for approval of an Ordinance transferring monies from the County General Fund 0001 to the Tort Judgment Fund 0135, Fiscal Year 2006 – County Administrator's Office. Mr. Sorensen indicated these deal with interfund transfers and borrowing funds during the first five months of the fiscal year until the receipt of the first property tax payment.

Motion by Sorensen/Renner to Recommend Approval of a Resolution Transferring Monies from the Working Cash Fund 0002 to the Persons with Developmental Disabilities Fund 0110, Children's Advocacy Center 0129, F.I.C.A./Social Security Fund 0130 and to the I.M.R.F. Fund 0131, Fiscal Year 2006; and Approval of an Ordinance Transferring Monies from the County General Fund 0001 to the Tort Judgment Fund 0135, Fiscal Year 2006 for the County Administrator's Office.

Mr. Segobiano asked if these fund transfers result in the County losing interest money. Mr. Sorensen replied that the money is taken out of the Treasurer's Investment Accounts and some interest is lost.

Mr. Segobiano asked for an accountability on the amount of money the County loses, over a period of years, with this process. Mr. Zeunik replied that the only way to recover the loss of interest is to have the Funds the money is loaned to repay the money with interest. He stated that this method has not been initiated because the Funds that need to borrow the money are Funds that rely on property tax revenues as their primary source of revenue and do not have a lot of fee revenue. Therefore, it would be necessary for those Funds to increase the property tax levy to generate additional revenue to repay the Working Cash Fund or the General Fund with interest. Mr. Zeunik explained that the Working Cash Fund is fixed and cannot grow.

Mr. Segobiano suggested that the Funds that receive the transfers be informed as to how much they are being subsidized by the General Fund.

Mr. Segobiano advised that there has been a lot of publicity in the papers recently about certain local governments improperly using Tort Judgment funds. He suggested that the Board needs to be made aware of how the Tort Judgment funds are being used.

Mr. Zeunik reported that two of the funds borrowing money this year are the Children's Advocacy Center Fund and the Tort Judgment Fund. He noted that one way that the General Fund is able to recover some of its loss is through an administrative surcharge. Mr. Zeunik advised that the F.I.C.A. Fund, I.M.R.F. and the Persons with Developmental Disabilities are not charged an administrative surcharge.

Mr. Renner commented that if the County borrowed from the private sector, the taxpayers would pay more money.

Executive Committee
February 14, 2006
Page Four

Mr. Hoselton asked what Departments are charged an administrative surcharge. Mr. Zeunik stated that all of the non-General Fund, Special Revenue Funds and Departments are charged an administrative surcharge if it is permitted, by law, to do so. There are certain County Funds that Illinois law specifically exempts from being charged an administrative surcharge.

Mr. Segobiano suggested the Legislative Committee investigate this issue and make a proposal to change the legislation.

Chairman Sweeney asked for a vote on the previous motion.

Motion carried.

Chairman Sweeney asked if there were any further questions for Mr. Sorensen. Hearing none, he thanked him.

Mr. Tari Renner, Chairman, Justice Committee stated that the Justice Committee brings no items for action to the Executive Committee. He noted that the Justice Committee has several items to be considered at the Board Meeting.

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

Mr. George Gordon, Chairman, Land Use and Development Committee reported that the Land Use and Development Committee brings no items for action to the Executive Committee.

Chairman Sweeney asked if there were any questions. Hearing none, he thanked Mr. Gordon.

Ms. Diane Bostic, Chairman, Property Committee reported that the Property Committee brings two items for action to the Executive Committee. Ms. Bostic presented a request for approval to apply for an Illinois Department of Natural Resources Grant for a COMLARA County Park Trail Signage Project – Parks and Recreation.

Motion by Bostic/Bass to Recommend Approval to
Apply for an Illinois Department of Natural Resources
Grant for a COMLARA County Park Trail Signage
Project for Parks and Recreation.
Motion carried.

Ms. Bostic presented a request for approval of a Watercraft Lease Agreement with Illinois State University – Parks and Recreation.

Motion by Bostic/Hoselton to Recommend Approval of a Watercraft Lease Agreement with Illinois State University for Parks and Recreation.
Motion carried.

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

Mr. John Zeunik, County Administrator stated that Mr. Bob Kahman, Supervisor of Assessments, received the County's Tentative Multiplier of 1.0 from the Illinois Department of Revenue. Mr. Zeunik indicated that the final abstracts have been prepared and are on their way to the Department of Revenue. He reported that this process is four or five days behind where it was a year ago. Mr. Zeunik advised that this is still quite remarkable because this was the year when the new guidelines for assessment of farmland, Illinois Department of Revenue Bulletin 810, had to be implemented. Mr. Zeunik stated that completing this task is a significant accomplishment for the Supervisor of Assessments Office and the County's GIS staff.

Mr. Zeunik reported that one of the benefits of completing this process in such a timely manner is that the County will send out one tax bill in May that will be a final tax bill, payable in two installments. He stated that the benefit in terms of the borrowing ordinances approved previously is that the taxing bodies will receive a 50% distribution in June. In addition, some property owners often pay 100% of their property taxes in June, which means the County has more money available to invest and distribute. This is not only a benefit to McLean County Government but also benefits the 190 other taxing districts in McLean County for which the County collects taxes.

Chairman Sweeney asked if there was any further discussion. Hearing none, Chairman Sweeney presented the final December 31, 2005 bills as recommended and transmitted by the County Auditor for payment. The fund total for the month is \$7,429.72 with the prepaid total the same.

Executive Committee
February 14, 2006
Page Six

Motion by Gordon/Bostic to approve the Executive Committee bills for December 31, 2005 as presented to the Committee by the County Auditor.
Motion carried.

Chairman Sweeney presented the January 31, 2006 bills as recommended and transmitted by the County Auditor for payment. The fund total for the month is \$288,783.66 with the prepaid total the same.

Motion by Bostic/Berglund to approve the Executive Committee bills for January 31, 2006 as presented to the Committee by the County Auditor.
Motion carried.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 4:48 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Judith A. LaCasse
Recording Secretary