

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting

The Executive Committee of the McLean County Board met on Tuesday, November 8, 2005, at 4:30 p.m. in Room 400, Government Center, 115 E. Washington Street, Bloomington, Illinois.

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

Members Absent: Members Sorensen, Hoselton and Segobiano

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

Other Members
Present: None

Department Heads/
Elected Officials
Present: None

Others Present: Mr. Marty Vanags, Executive Director, Economic Development Council; Mr. Frank Miles, Attorney at Law; Mr. Bill Whitlock, Horizon Energy; Mr. Bob Crowell, Horizon Energy

Chairman Sweeney called the meeting to order at 4:31 p.m.

Chairman Sweeney presented the minutes from the October 11, 2005 Executive Committee meeting for approval.

Motion by Bostic/Bass to approve and place on file the minutes of the October 11, 2005 meeting.
Motion carried

Chairman Sweeney announced that there are two reappointments.

Motion by Gordon/Berglund to Recommend Approval of the Reappointments as recommended by the Chairman.
Motion carried.

Chairman Sweeney presented a request for approval of a Proclamation declaring the Official Christmas Ornament for the Town of Normal, the City of Bloomington, and McLean County.

Motion by Berglund/Bostic to Recommend Approval of a Proclamation Declaring the Official Christmas Ornament for the Town of Normal, the City of Bloomington and McLean County.
Motion carried.

Chairman Sweeney presented a request for approval of an Ordinance Amending "An Ordinance Describing and Designating An Area Located Partially Within the City of Bloomington, the Town of Normal and Unincorporated McLean County as an Enterprise Zone" (amends expiration date).

Motion by Bostic/Berglund to Recommend Approval of an Ordinance Amending "An Ordinance Describing and Designating an Area Located Partially within the City of Bloomington, the Town of Normal and Unincorporated McLean County as an Enterprise Zone" (amends expiration date).
Motion carried.

Chairman Sweeney presented a request for approval of an Ordinance Amending "An Ordinance Describing and Designating An Area Located Partially Within the City of Bloomington, the Town of Normal and Unincorporated McLean County as an Enterprise Zone" (amends zone boundary).

Motion by Bass/Bostic to Recommend Approval of an Ordinance Amending "An Ordinance Describing and Designating an Area Located Partially within the City of Bloomington, the Town of Normal and Unincorporated McLean County as an Enterprise Zone" (amends zone boundary).

Mr. Gordon expressed some concerns regarding the extension of the zone boundary in regards to the space arrangements, specifically the land on the west side of town linked to the east side of town. Further, he asked for clarification and background information on how this was determined.

Mr. Zeunik explained that the Board approved the Special Use for the proposed Wind Farm at the September Board meeting, following public hearings that were conducted in July, 2005. The first contact that staff had regarding the potential of incentives to be offered to the Wind Farm goes back to a meeting held on January 26, 2005. Mr. Zeunik indicated he attended that meeting along with Mr. Brian Hug, Assistant State's Attorney; Mr. Phil Dick, Director, Building and Zoning; the local attorney for Horizon Energy and two representatives from the company. He reported that they talked in general terms about the proposed

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Wind Farm and, at that time, the issue of providing some sort of State abatement on the purchase of equipment and construction materials was brought up in the context of an Enterprise Zone. Mr. Zeunik stated that the staff thought that an Enterprise Zone would be difficult because, under State law, there can be only one Enterprise Zone in the County and McLean County already had an Enterprise Zone on the west side of Bloomington-Normal, and the proposed Wind Farm development was not anywhere close to the existing Enterprise Zone.

Mr. Zeunik stated that the staff was told that there might be ways to accommodate the Enterprise Zone, as there are precedents in other areas of the State where the State had granted this type of configuration of an Enterprise Zone. Horizon Energy then went forward with the preparation of their application and contact with the State for their approval and support. The Economic Development Council (EDC) office, under the direction of Marty Vanags became involved with this project because, under the County's Ordinance, when the Enterprise Zone was created in the mid-1980's, the Executive Director at the EDC was designated as the Zone Administrator. Any application or dealings with the State Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity needs to go through Mr. Vanags.

Mr. Zeunik advised that he attended follow-up meetings August with the City Manager of Bloomington, the Town Manager of Normal, Mr. Vanags and Mr. Thomas Henderson, Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, who has been the administrator of the Enterprise Zone program for the State for the last 15 years. At that time, Mr. Henderson shared several different examples where the State has approved similar configurations, where the State worked with a community and an applicant to extend the term of the Enterprise Zone as well as to extend the boundary of the Enterprise Zone by using a right of way in a public thoroughfare. Mr. Zeunik stated that Route 9, being a State Highway, provides the necessary access immediately adjacent to the west side Enterprise Zone and a direct connection to the east side of the County. He noted that the biggest concern the applicant needed to address was the limitation on the size of the Enterprise Zone. Mr. Zeunik indicated that Illinois law limits the maximum size to 13 square miles, making it necessary to look at the size of the current Enterprise Zone, the extensions and connections via the public right of way to make sure that it did not exceed 13 square miles; otherwise it would not be approved by the State

Mr. Zeunik stated that, at that meeting, he was informed that the Farnsworth Group was retained to do the survey work to determine whether or not there was a way to make a nexus between the west side and the east side. The anticipated delivery of their work would then allow the local governments to move forward with an application and go through the Public Hearing process. Mr. Zeunik advised that this is the basic time frame that was involved with this issue. He noted that this issue is separate and apart from the zoning consideration and did not need to be presented as a factor or variable during the review of the application before the Zoning Board for a special use permit.

Mr. Zeunik reported that the current administration in Springfield has been very strong in their support of wind energy and has indicated they would like to see Illinois have 8% of the energy consumed in this state generated by wind farms by 2010. He noted that previous administrations have approved and processed similar applications for other jurisdictions.

Chairman Sweeney stated that the total area of the existing Enterprise Zone is 4.4 square miles and the proposed addition is 7.74 square miles, which equal 12.14 square miles, and the maximum is only 13 square miles. If someone wanted to do something else, a variance would have to take place before another wind farm can be erected. Mr. Zeunik indicated that when the final configuration is laid out and all of the turbines and public right of way to the turbines is completed, Horizon Energy will go back and amend the legal descriptions to reflect the actuals. He stated that the ultimate goal is to reduce the size of this extension so that it will not be such a limitation on the County in the future.

Ms. Bostic asked if the 13 square miles is proportionate to the size of McLean County or does this limitation apply for every County. Mr. Zeunik replied that it is a State law for all Counties.

Ms. Bostic asked if an Enterprise Zone is an Enterprise Zone forever. Mr. Zeunik replied that, under current State law, the term of the Enterprise Zone can be extended twice. He pointed out that this is the second time the term has been extended. This proposed extension is a ten year extension. Mr. Zeunik indicated that the County can add to the Enterprise Zone during the next ten years, but it cannot go out any further than the ten years. He noted that today's proposal is for State incentives only. There are no local incentives that are part of the Ordinances or application that the Committee is considering.

Mr. Gordon asked if the amendment on the expiration date of the Enterprise Zone applies to not only the amended boundary but to the entire Enterprise Zone. Mr. Zeunik replied that it applies to the entire Enterprise Zone.

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Mr. Sweeney asked if there were any further questions or comments. Hearing none, he called for a vote on the motion now before the Committee.

Motion carried.

Chairman Sweeney presented a request for approval of the Illinois Enterprise Zone Program Application to Add Territory to Bloomington/Normal/McLean County Enterprise Zone.

Motion by Renner/Berglund to Recommend Approval of the Illinois Enterprise Zone Program Application to Add Territory to Bloomington/Normal/McLean County Enterprise Zone.

Motion carried.

Chairman Sweeney presented a request for approval of an Amendment to the Intergovernmental Agreement between the City of Bloomington, the Town of Normal and the County of McLean for the Purpose of Creating and Operating an Enterprise Zone.

Motion by Renner/Bostic to Recommend Approval of an Amendment to the Intergovernmental Agreement between the City of Bloomington, the Town of Normal and the County of McLean for the Purpose of Creating and Operating an Enterprise Zone.

Motion carried.

Mr. Zeunik reviewed the Fiscal Year 2006 Recommended Budget for the County Board 0001-0001.

County Board – 0001-0001 can be found on pages 1-4 of the Recommended Budget and pages 99-104 of the Summary. Mr. Zeunik stated that the County Board's budget is always the last budget to be reviewed. He reported that there has been only one change made, which can be found on page 101. Mr. Zeunik explained that this is an issue the Finance Committee dealt with at their meeting earlier this month. On August 22, 2005, the Governor signed into law Public Act 94-0645, which requires the County Clerk to provide two new forms of voting beginning in March, 2006, namely early voting and grace period voting. He explained that early voting provides a window of time, prior to the primary and general election, when anyone can vote. It is different than absentee voting because you do not have to fill out an affidavit nor give a reason why you cannot vote on Election Day. It is a window of time when anyone can go to the appropriate election office or even to a remote voting site.

Mr. Zeunik explained that Grace period voting is a period of time immediately after the election when someone who, perhaps, had an issue with their voter's registration and was not able to get it resolved prior to the election, has an opportunity to go in after Election Day and be able to vote. Mr. Zeunik stated that, as a result of this, the Clerk presented the Finance Committee with some recommendations of additional expenses that will be incurred in her office, including overtime, publication, printing of documents and election judges expenses. The total that the Finance Committee recommended is \$14,051.00. He stated that the proposal is to increase the Personal Property Replacement Tax in the County Board's budget. Even by adding \$14,051.00 to the FY'2006 amount, the total amount is still below what the County Treasurer reported that the County has received year-to-date. It is also below the amount the Department of Revenue indicates the County expects to receive next year.

Mr. Zeunik reported that the summary provides all of the other information in terms of FY'2006.

Mr. Gordon expressed some concern with this process. Mr. Zeunik explained that this is an extension of the Help America Vote Act which was approved by Congress and signed into law by the President. This is something all States are mandated to do and they are mandated to have it done by 2006. He stated that other States have already been offering the early voting option.

Motion by Gordon/Renner to recommend tentative approval of the County Board – 0001-0001 FY 2006 Recommended Budget as submitted.
Motion carried.

Mr. Tari Renner, Chairman, Justice Committee stated that the Justice Committee brings ten items for action to the Executive Committee. The first three are annual requests that can be acted upon together for approval of Intergovernmental Agreements between McLean County and the City of Bloomington, the Town of Normal and Illinois State University for Centralized Booking Services for the Sheriff's Department.

Motion by Renner/Bostic to recommend approval of Intergovernmental Agreements between McLean County and the City of Bloomington, the Town of Normal and Illinois State University for Centralized Booking Services for the Sheriff's Department.
Motion carried.

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Mr. Renner presented a request for approval of an Amendment to the Intergovernmental Agreement by and between the County of McLean, the McLean County Sheriff and the Bloomington-Normal Airport Authority – Sheriff's Department.

Motion by Renner/Bass to Recommend Approval of an Amendment to the Intergovernmental Agreement by and between the County of McLean, the McLean County Sheriff and the Bloomington-Normal Airport Authority for the Sheriff's Department.
Motion carried.

Mr. Renner presented a request for approval of a Letter of Understanding between McLean County Board and the Regional Office of Education for McLean, DeWitt and Livingston Counties for McLean County Jail Education Program. He explained that this is a successful GED program within the jail.

Motion by Renner/Berglund to recommend approval of a Letter of Understanding between McLean County Board and the Regional Office of Education for McLean, DeWitt and Livingston Counties for McLean County Jail Education Program for the Sheriff's Department.
Motion carried.

Mr. Renner presented a request for approval of an Emergency Appropriation Ordinance for McLean County Fiscal Year 2005 Combined Annual Appropriation and Budget Ordinance (for the Livescan Identification Machine) for the Sheriff's Department 0029. He explained that Livescan is the machine used to collect fingerprint data.

Motion by Renner/Bostic to recommend Approval of an Emergency Appropriation Ordinance for McLean County Fiscal Year 2005 Combined Annual Appropriation and Budget Ordinance (for Live Scan Identification Machine for the Sheriff's Department 0029).
Motion carried.

Mr. Renner presented a request for approval of a Resolution approving McLean County's continued participation with the State of Illinois Appellate Prosecutor's Office in the State's Attorneys Office.

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Motion by Renner/Berglund to recommend Approval of a Resolution Approving McLean County's Continued Participation with the State of Illinois Appellate Prosecutor's Office for the State's Attorneys Office.
Motion carried.

Mr. Renner presented the next three requests to be acted upon together, namely requests for approval of Contracts with Livingston County, Woodford County and Logan County for Lease of Space in the McLean County Juvenile Detention Center. He stated that these are renewals of existing contracts.

Motion by Renner/Bass to recommend Approval of Contracts with Livingston County, Woodford County and Logan County for Lease of Space in the McLean County Juvenile Detention Center for Court Services.
Motion carried.

Mr. Renner noted that there are several items to be forwarded to the Board.

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

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 no items for action to the Executive Committee.

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

Mr. Duffy Bass, Chairman, Transportation Committee stated that the Transportation Committee brings no items for action.

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

Ms. Sue Berglund, Vice Chairman, Finance Committee stated that the Finance Committee brings no items for action and four items will be presented to the Board next week.

Chairman Sweeney asked if there were any questions for Ms. Berglund. Hearing none, he thanked her.

Mr. John Zeunik, County Administrator stated that he had nothing to report to the Committee.

Chairman Sweeney stated that the Committee would now review the Oversight Committee recommendations for the FY'2006 Recommended Budget.

Ms. Berglund presented a request for Consideration and Approval of Departmental Budgets under the Oversight of the Executive Committee.

Motion by Berglund/Renner to recommend approval of the Departmental Budgets under the Oversight of the Executive Committee as submitted.
Motion carried.

Ms. Berglund presented a request for consideration and approval of Departmental Budgets under the Oversight of the Finance Committee.

Motion by Berglund/Bass to recommend approval of the Departmental Budgets under the Oversight of the Finance Committee as submitted.
Motion carried.

Mr. Renner presented a request for consideration and approval of Departmental Budgets under the Oversight of the Justice Committee.

Motion by Renner/Berglund to recommend approval of the Departmental Budgets under the Oversight of the Justice Committee as submitted.
Motion carried.

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Mr. Gorgon presented a request for consideration and approval of Departmental Budgets under the Oversight of the Land Use and Development Committee.

Motion by Gordon/Bostic to recommend approval of the Departmental Budgets under the Oversight of the Land Use and Development Committee as submitted.

Motion carried.

Ms. Bostic presented a request for consideration and approval of Departmental Budgets under the Oversight of the Property Committee.

Motion by Bostic/Renner to recommend approval of the Departmental Budgets under the Oversight of the Property Committee as submitted.

Motion carried.

Mr. Bass presented a request for consideration and approval of Departmental Budgets under the Oversight of the Transportation Committee.

Motion by Bass/Gordon to recommend approval of the Departmental Budgets under the Oversight of the Transportation Committee as submitted.

Motion carried.

Chairman Sweeney presented a request for approval of the Fiscal Year 2006 Combined Annual Appropriation and Budget Ordinance, as recommended by the Oversight Committees.

Motion by Gordon/Renner to recommend approval of the FY'2006 Combined Annual Appropriation and Budget Ordinance, as recommended by the Oversight Committees.

Motion carried.

Chairman Sweeney presented a request for approval of the McLean County 2005 Tax Levy Ordinance.

Motion by Bostic/Berglund to recommend approval of the McLean County 2005 Tax Levy Ordinance.

Motion carried.

Chairman Sweeney presented a request for approval of an Amendment to the Full Time Equivalent (FTE) Resolution for Fiscal Year 2006.

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Motion by Bass/Bostic to recommend approval of the Amendment to the Full Time Equivalent (FTE) Resolution for Fiscal Year 2006.
Motion carried.

Chairman Sweeney presented a request for approval of the Five Year Capital Improvement Budget, as recommended by the Oversight Committees.

Motion by Gordon/Berglund to recommend approval of the Five Year Capital Improvement Budget as recommended by the Oversight Committees.
Motion carried.

Chairman Sweeney asked if there was any further discussion. Hearing none, Chairman Sweeney presented the October 31, 2005 bills as recommended and transmitted by the County Auditor for payment. The fund total for the month is \$252,821.22 with the prepaid total the same.

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Motion by Renner/Bostic to approve the Executive Committee bills for October 31, 2005 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 5:03 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Judith A. LaCasse
Recording Secretary