

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting

The Executive Committee of the McLean County Board met on Tuesday, December 9, 2003 at 4:30 p.m. in Room 700, Law and Justice Center, 104 West Front Street, Bloomington, Illinois.

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

Members Absent: Member Bass

Other Members Present: Members Dean and Harding

Staff Present: Mr. John Zeunik, County Administrator, Mr. Terry Lindberg, Assistant County Administrator; Ms. Christine Northcutt, County Administrator's Assistant

Department Heads/
Elected Officials Present: Mr. Craig Nelson, Director, Information Services

Others Present: None

Chairman Sweeney called the meeting to order at 4:35 p.m.

Chairman Sweeney presented the minutes of the November 12, 2003 Executive Committee meeting for approval.

Motion by Hoselton/ Berglund to approve and place on file the minutes of the November 12, 2003 meeting. Motion carried.

Chairman Sweeney presented reappointments for which the Committee's advice and consent is sought.

Motion by Berglund/Renner to recommend approval of the reappointments recommended by the Chairman. Motion carried.

Chairman Sweeney informed the Committee that the next item is a request for approval of an Ordinance Establishing a Holiday Schedule for County Employees for the Year 2004.

Motion by Bostic/Renner to recommend approval of an Ordinance Establishing a Holiday Schedule for County Employees for the Year 2004. Motion carried.

Chairman Sweeney stated that next item is a request for approval of an Ordinance Establishing County Board Meeting dates for Calendar Year 2004.

Motion by Bostic/Berglund to recommend approval of an Ordinance Establishing County Board Meeting dates for Calendar Year 2004.

Mr. Gordon asked if the July Meeting was, as per usual, not conflicting with the annual NACo Conference. Mr. Zeunik stated that the July date was checked to be sure that it did not conflict with the NACo Annual Conference. Mr. Zeunik noted that he will confirm the dates for the 2004 NACo Annual Conference, which will be held in Phoenix, Arizona.

Motion carried.

Chairman Sweeney stated that the next item on the agenda is from the Information Services Department. Chairman Sweeney asked Mr. Craig Nelson to present that item.

Mr. Nelson stated that he requesting approval to purchase software and printers for the squad cars for the Sheriff's Department. Mr. Nelson advised that there is an opportunity to coordinate this purchase with the Town of Normal Police Department in order to automate the entry of citations in the cars, thus eliminating keystroke data entry in the Circuit Clerk's Office. Mr. Hoselton noted that this bid came in just under the specified amount of \$25,000.00. Mr. Hoselton asked Mr. Nelson if he explained to the vendor the price range that the bid must meet in order to avoid competitor's bidding requirements. Mr. Nelson stated that he did not. Mr. Nelson stated that they have a set price that is published, no matter how many units you purchase.

Motion by Renner/Hoselton to recommend approval to purchase Automated Citation Software and printers for the Sheriff's Department. Motion carried.

Mr. Nelson stated that the next item is simply a renewal of an IBM software/hardware contract on the AS/400. Mr. Nelson informed the Committee that this is the system which houses the property tax system and financial and budgetary systems. Mr. Nelson noted that this is a three-year renewal.

Motion by Renner/Sorensen to recommend approval for a three-year IBM Software/Hardware Contract Renewal.
Motion carried.

Chairman Sweeney stated that the next item is a request for approval of a Resolution of Congratulations for the 2003 Bloomington High School Boys Football Team.

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Motion by Renner/Berglund to recommend approval of Resolution of Congratulations for the 2003 Bloomington High School Boys Football Team. Motion carried.

Chairman Sweeney stated that the next item is request for approval of a Resolution of Congratulations for the 2003 LeRoy High School Boys Football Team.

Motion by Gordon/Renner to recommend approval of Resolution of Congratulations for the 2003 LeRoy High School Boys Football Team. Motion carried.

Chairman Sweeney informed the Committee that the last item is a request for approval of a Resolution of Congratulations for the 2003 Central Catholic High School Girls Volleyball team.

Motion by Berglund/Gordon to recommend approval of a Resolution of Congratulations for the 2003 Central Catholic High School Girls Volleyball team. Motion carried.

Mr. Segobiano asked if he could make a request for a Resolution of Congratulations for a Grade School team. Mr. Zeunik replied that it has been done before.

Mr. Segobiano asked if another Resolution of Congratulations could be added for the Epiphany Grade School 7A girls' basketball team, which is competing for the State Championship.

Motion by Gordon/Renner to recommend approval of a Resolution of Congratulations for the 2003 Epiphany Girls 7A Basketball Team. Motion carried.

Chairman Sweeney stated the next item on the agenda are the Committee reports.

Mr. Stan Hoselton, Vice-Chairman of the Transportation Committee, stated that the Transportation Committee brings no items for action at this time.

Mr. Matt Sorensen, Chairman of the Finance Committee, stated that the Finance Committee brings two items for action. The first is a request for approval of an Emergency Appropriation Ordinance Amending the Fiscal Year 2003 Combined Annual Appropriation and Budget Ordinance, General Fund 0001, Facilities Management Department 0041, Health Department Building 0046.

Motion by Sorensen/Renner to recommend approval of an Emergency Appropriation Ordinance Amending the Fiscal Year 2003 Combined Annual Appropriation and Budget Ordinance, General Fund 0001, Facilities Management Department 0041, Health Department Building 0046. Motion carried.

Mr. Sorensen stated that the next item is a request for approval of a Resolution concerning the Placement of a Referendum Question on the ballot of the March 16, 2004 election, pursuant to the Constitution of the State of Illinois and the Election Code.

Motion by Sorensen/Berglund to recommend approval of a Resolution concerning the Placement of a Referendum Question on the ballot of the March 16, 2004 election, pursuant to the Constitution of the State of Illinois and the Election Code.

Chairman Sweeney asked if there was any discussion. Mr. Renner stated that he would like to speak in opposition to this Resolution. Mr. Renner noted that in principle, he does agree that there are non-policy making elected positions, which can be appointed by the Administrator or the County Board Chairman. However, Mr. Renner stated that the timing is inappropriate. We are in the midst of an election and, in his opinion, structural changes in the office should not be made when there are concerns about a particular incumbent or individual.

Mr. Segobiano stated that this move has been tried before and was defeated by a margin of 2 to 1. Mr. Segobiano noted that the County Board Members are supposed to represent the people. This is an issue that should be initiated by the public. Mr. Segobiano stated that the only way that he would support this issue is if it was brought before the board by the public.

Chairman Sweeney stated that he just returned from a short trip out of town. When he returned, he found out that this item was going to be on the Executive Committee's Agenda. Chairman Sweeney noted that first of all, he does not think that it is in keeping with the spirit of the law when the Finance Committee recommends an item the Executive Committee, which did not appear on the Finance Committee Agenda. He believes that if this Resolution is passed, then in the future, there will be other items which will be advanced as recommendation to the Executive Committee. Chairman Sweeney pointed out that Mr. Segobiano is correct. Nearly 4 years ago the County Board put the Auditor's Office on the ballot to be an appointed position and it lost by a margin of 2 to 1. Chairman Sweeney stated that, in addition, he does not like the idea that the Chairman makes the decision for an Appointment. He reminded the Committee that he has had to make five appointments over the past three years. He doesn't think

the Chairman should make those decisions. Chairman Sweeney stated that the Administrator could make the Appointment and that he does not have a problem with Minutes of the Executive Committee

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that. However, this Resolution does not inform the public of the how the County Board intends to fill this appointment. Chairman Sweeney stated that he also agrees with Mr. Renner that the timing is very poor. Chairman Sweeney noted that he also agrees with Mr. Segobiano that the this referendum question should originate by a public petition drive.

Ms. Berglund stated that she would like to inform the Committee that Mr. Zeunik informed the Finance Committee that the wording on the Resolution was mandated by State Law, so the Finance Committee did not choose to word the Resolution in that particular manner. Chairman Sweeney replied that it does not inform the public how the appointment will be made.

Mr. Segobiano stated that the County Board Members are bound by law to act in an open forum with an agenda. If we as, County Board Members, are questioning what is going on in the Recorder's Office, perhaps, we should question the manner in which this proposed Resolution came about.

Mr. Hoselton stated that he asked some of the people in his District how they felt about this issue. He stated that many of them did not want to lose the right to vote for a governmental office. Mr. Hoselton stated that he, too, opposes this Resolution.

Mr. Gordon stated that as a whole, the number of Recorder's of Deeds offices in Illinois has significantly declined. If this were part of a broader public information campaign, that point might be made and, perhaps, this Resolution may pass in that form. Mr. Gordon stated that he is going to vote against placing this on the ballot, but he agrees with those who say that the Recorder should be appointed and not elected.

Mr. Sorensen stated that the question has been asked and answered multiple times as to whether or not an Oversight Committee of the Board can bring up topics and advance them through the County Board Committee process. The action of the Finance Committee was completely within the scope of *Robert's Rules of Order*, the Rules of this Board and the Open Meetings Act. Mr. Sorensen stated that he takes a great deal of exception that the Finance Committee acted in someway incorrectly in discussing a topic and passing it to the Executive Committee. By definition, the Finance Committee's recommendation is not a final action on this issue.

Chairman Sweeney stated that he feels that what happened in the Finance Committee is due to a loophole in the law and he doesn't believe that it concurs with the spirit of the law.

Ms. Berglund stated that, perhaps, this item should have been brought up in August, 2003. The reason that this was brought up this month is because the December Board

Meeting is the last chance to place this question on the March 16th ballot. Chairman Sweeney asked what was the reason that it was brought up. Ms. Berglund replied that Minutes of the Executive Committee
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you would have to ask Mr. Selzer that question. However, Ms. Berglund stated that she feels the timing is right.

Mr. Renner called for the question.

Mr. Segobiano asked for a roll call vote. Chairman Sweeney stated that the Chairman will vote.

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| Member Bostic | "No" |
| Member Berglund | "Yes" |
| Member Hoselton | "No" |
| Member Segobiano | "No" |
| Member Renner | "No" |
| Member Gordon | "No" |
| Member Sorensen | "Yes" |
| Chairman Sweeney | "No" |

Chairman Sweeney announced that the motion failed by a vote of 6-2.

Chairman Sweeney asked Mr. Sorensen if there was anything else from the Finance Committee. Mr. Sorensen replied that the items on the agenda regarding a purchase of voting equipment in the County Clerk's Office will be reviewed at a Stand-up Committee meeting before the County Board Meeting and will likely be removed from the agenda.

Mr. Tari Renner, Chairman of the Justice Committee, stated that the Justice Committee brings two items for action. The first item is Request for Approval of 2004 Intergovernmental Agreements for Jail Booking Services for the City of Bloomington, the Town of Normal, and Illinois State University.

Motion by Renner/Gordon to recommend approval
of 2004 Intergovernmental Agreements for Jail Booking
Services for the City of Bloomington, the Town of Normal
and Illinois State University.

Mr. Hoselton asked if any of these agencies pick up any additional charges if we have to transport their inmates to other Counties because of overcrowding. Mr. Zeunik replied that the law specifies that the Sheriff's Department must take any individual that a law enforcement agency brings to the Sheriff's Department. These Intergovernmental Agreements were established when the County was able to persuade the other local law enforcement agencies to agree to centralized booking. Previously, when an individual was arrested by another law enforcement agency, they were booked in their own police station and then eventually rebooked at the Sheriff's Department. Mr. Zeunik stated that the County has encouraged the idea of centralize booking being done by the Sheriff's

Department. This cost is basically intended to cover the additional clerical and records expense with making all of the information available to these agencies.

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Mr. Segobiano asked if the fee study that is being done in the Sheriff's Department finds that we should be charging these agencies a different amount, are these fees set for the year because we already have this Intergovernmental Agreement in place. Mr. Zeunik replied that the fee study that is being done by MAXIMUS, Inc. is looking at all fees that are charged by the Sheriff's Department where County Government is permitted by State Law, to increase the fee and, to recover the full cost. Mr. Zeunik noted that you cannot recover the cost from another local government for holding custodies that the Sheriff has accepted. Mr. Zeunik stated that the County can always go back and attempt to renegotiate these Intergovernmental Agreements.

Motion carried.

Mr. Renner stated that the second item for action is a request for approval of 2004 vehicle bids for Sheriff's Department and Coroner's Office.

Motion by Renner/Berglund to recommend approval of
2004 vehicle bids for Sheriff's Department and Coroner's
Office.

Mr. Segobiano asked if there was any policy against having any decals on the Sheriff's vehicles other than County logos. Mr. Zeunik replied that the policy adopted by the County Board in April, 1988, governs the placement of decals and logos on certain County owned vehicles.

Motion carried.

Mr. Renner stated that there are no other items for Committee action. There we no questions for Mr. Renner.

Mr. George Gordon, Chairman of the Land Use and Development Committee, stated that the Land Use and Development Committee brings one item for action. Mr. Gordon stated that the item is a request for approval of a Regional Planning Service Agreement with the Regional Planning Commission.

Motion by Gordon/Renner to recommend approval of
the Regional Planning Service Agreement with the Regional
Planning Commission. Motion carried.

Mr. Gordon stated that he has no other items for action. There were no questions for Chairman Gordon.

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Ms. Diane Bostic, Chairman of the Property Committee, stated that the Property Committee brings no items for action. There were no questions for Ms. Bostic.

Chairman Sweeney stated that the next item is the report of the County Administrator. Mr. Zeunik stated that he wanted to continue updating the Executive Committee regarding the County's financial status. As of November 30th, fiscal year 2003 is 92% complete. Mr. Zeunik informed the Committee that as far as the State revenue sources, State Sales Tax is coming in at 94.6% of budget. State Income Tax revenue is coming in at 81.9% of budget, which is below projected numbers and reflects changes that the State legislature made in the formula for distributing the local governments share of State Income Tax receipts. The legislature changed the distribution formula for local governments and made that effective as of July 1, 2003, which is the beginning of the Fiscal Year. Mr. Zeunik stated that the Personal Property Replacement Tax (PPRT) is coming in at 87.7%. The County Treasurer, Ms. Becky McNeil, informed Mr. Zeunik that the Treasurer's Office has just received another payment from the State and that they project that payment will bring the PPRT up to budget. Mr. Zeunik informed the Committee that in the County's General Fund, through November 30th, revenues are at 86.2% of budget. In FY 2002 they were at 87%. Expenses are running at 83.2% of budget and, last year, expenses were running at 90.6% of budget.

Mr. Zeunik noted that the only other thing that he would like to mention is that the County did receive an upgrade in our credit rating from Moody's. The County had previously been rated Aa3. Moody's upgraded the County to Aa2, with a stable outlook. Moody's was very complimentary of the County's continued well-managed financial operations in their rating report. There were no questions of Mr. Zeunik.

Chairman Sweeney asked if there were any other business or communications. Mr. Hoselton asked what the County gains from NACo. He also noted that he would not want to see anyone attend the summer conference or any future meetings until the Executive Committee supports the cost. Mr. Hoselton stated that there are a number of Board Members who attend this conference and they never provide written communications regarding the conference. Mr. Hoselton asked if the County Administrator could consider the questions that he has posed and give a report at the next Executive Committee Meeting.

Chairman Sweeney presented the bills as recommended and transmitted by the County Auditor for payment. The fund total for this month is \$258,812.41.

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Motion by Bostic/Renner to recommend approval of the Bills as of November 30, 2003 as presented by the County Auditor. Motion carried.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 5:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Northcutt
Recording Secretary

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