

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting

The Executive Committee of the McLean County Board met on Tuesday, January 14, 2003, at 4:30 p.m. in Room 700, Law and Justice Center, 104 West Front Street, Bloomington, Illinois.

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

Members Absent: Member Sorensen

Other Members Present: Member Moss

Staff Present: Mr. John Zeunik, County Administrator; Mr. Terry Lindberg, Assistant County Administrator; Mrs. Carmen Zielinski, County Administrator

Department Heads/
Elected Officials Present: None

Others Present: None

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

Chairman Sweeney presented the minutes of the December 10, 2002 meeting for approval.

Motion by Renner/Gordon to approve and place on file the minutes of the December 10, 2002 meeting.
Motion carried.

Chairman Sweeney, Chairman of the Executive Committee, stated that there are two reappointments and one resignation for which the Committee's advice and consent is sought.

Motion by Renner/Hoselton to recommend approval of the two reappointments and one resignation.
Motion carried.

Mr. Segobiano suggested that some form of advertisement be considered to recruit qualified candidates who may be interested in serving on some of the Boards and Commissions. Mr. Segobiano asked if vacancies on these Boards were advertised. Mr. Zeunik answered that the standard procedure for recommending a reappointment is to advise the incumbent Board member or the Board's legal counsel of the upcoming

reappointment. The Board member or the Board's legal counsel notifies the Board office if the reappointment is accepted or if a new appointment is forthcoming. With regards to the Emergency Telephone Systems Board, a file is maintained with applications of individuals who have expressed an interest in being appointed to this Board when a vacancy becomes available. No formal advertisement is done. Mr. Segobiano suggested that some form of formal notice be provided so that interested citizens have an opportunity to apply and be considered for appointment.

Chairman Sweeney presented a request for approval of the 2003 Legislative Program, as recommended by the Legislative Subcommittee. Chairman Sweeney asked Ms. Berglund to review the 2003 Program.

Ms. Berglund stated that the 2003 Legislative Program is simple and straightforward. McLean County wants to make it clear that we recognize the State's financial situation and the State needs to recognize McLean County's financial situation. McLean County's issues are based on three principles. First, the County wants the State to recognize that County Government is an agent of the State. Specifically, County government recommends that the State legislature not try to balance the State budget on the backs of the Counties. County government also requests that the State legislature take care not to create new, unfunded mandates or to turn currently funded State programs and services into unfunded mandates by reducing support for them. Second, the County wants the State to give County Government more control over its fiscal policies. McLean County is not asking the General Assembly to increase taxes or raise fees. The County is simply asking them to give County Boards the authority to determine if fee increases are justified and to be able to set fees that more closely relate to service costs. Third, allow County Government opportunities to improve efficiency. McLean County wants to work more closely with other units of the government and want to find ways to do things more efficiently.

Motion by Berglund/Gordon to recommend approval of the 2003 Legislative Program, as recommended by the Legislative Subcommittee. Motion carried.

Chairman Sweeney presented a request for approval of an Amendment to the Ordinance Adopting the 2003 Holiday Schedule.

Motion by Bass/Hoselton to recommend approval of an Amendment to the Ordinance Adopting the 2003 Holiday Schedule. Motion carried.

Mr. Gordon asked for clarification on the amendment to the Ordinance. Mr. Lindberg advised the Committee that the last contract with the Highway Department bargaining unit

eliminated language on floating holidays. Therefore, the 2003 Holiday Ordinance does not need to include the two paragraphs on floating holidays.

Mr. George Gordon, Chairman of the Land Use and Development Committee, presented no items for action at this time.

Ms. Diane Bostic, Chairman of the Property Committee, presented a request for approval to enter into a Watercraft Lease Agreement between Illinois State University and Parks and Recreation Department.

Motion by Bostic/Renner to recommend approval of a Watercraft Lease Agreement between Illinois State University and the Parks and Recreation Department.
Motion carried

Mr. B.H. "Duffy" Bass, Chairman of the Transportation Committee, presented no items for the action at this time.

Ms. P.A. "Sue" Berglund, Vice-Chairman, Finance Committee, presented a request for approval of an Amended Motor Vehicle Lease Agreement for Show Bus.

Motion by Berglund/Gordon to recommend approval of an Amended Motor Vehicle Lease Agreement for Show Bus.

Mr. Hoselton asked if the Show Bus Program is a mandated program. Mr. Zeunik answered that the Show Bus program is administered through the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT), under provisions of a Federal Grant. IDOT provides grant funding to the County, which, in turn, contracts with Show Bus to provide and operate programs in Livingston, Ford, McLean and Iroquois Counties. Though McLean County is the recipient of the grant funds, McLean County contracts with the Meadows Mennonite Show Bus for transportation services. Under the County Board budget, there is a revenue line item designated for receipt of the grant funds for Show Bus and a corresponding Contractual Services Expense line item account. Mr. Zeunik noted that Show Bus presents a yearly application to the Board for review and approval. The grant application includes a breakdown of revenues and expenses. The revenues consist of grant money received from IDOT, funding from United Way, contract or gifts from other entities and revenue received from fares. The largest amount of the operating budget is the IDOT grant, approximately \$145,000 per year.

Chairman Sweeney asked if there were any other questions or comments from Committee members. Hearing none, Chairman Sweeney called for a vote on the previous motion.

Motion carried.

Ms. Berglund presented a request for approval of an Intergovernmental Agreement to Fund the McLean, DeWitt and Livingston Counties Educational Service Region.

Motion by Berglund/Renner to recommend approval of an Intergovernmental Agreement to Fund the McLean, DeWitt and Livingston Counties Educational Service Region.

Mr. Hoselton asked for clarification of the 5% increase documented on the agreement. Mr. Zeunik explained that State law requires that the allocation of the expenses be based on the equalized assessed valuation of each County, which would mean that McLean County's share would be 85% of the total budget. When Livingston County asked to be a member of the Education Service Region, it was negotiated that Livingston County would join the Service Region at the contribution rate that Livingston County was paying when they were a stand-alone entity. This agreement was beneficial to McLean County because it reduced the amount of expense that McLean County would incur.

Chairman Sweeney asked if there were any other questions or comments from Committee members. Hearing none, Chairman Sweeney called for a vote on the previous motion.

Motion carried.

Ms. Berglund presented a request for approval of an Ordinance of the McLean County Board Amending the FY'2002 Combined Appropriation and Budget Ordinance for the AIDS/Communicable Disease Fund 0107 for the Health Alert Network – Health Department.

Motion by Berglund/Bostic to recommend approval of an Ordinance of the McLean County Board Amending the FY'2002 Combined Appropriation and Budget Ordinance for the AIDS/Communicable Disease Fund 0107 for the Health Alert Network – Health Department. Motion carried.

Ms. Berglund presented a request for approval of an Ordinance of the McLean County Board Amending the FY'2003 Combined Appropriation and Budget Ordinance for the AIDS/Communicable Disease- Fund 0107 for the Health Alert Network – Health Department.

Motion by Berglund/Hoselton to recommend approval of an Ordinance of the McLean County Board Amending the FY'2003 Combined Appropriation and Budget Ordinance for the AIDS/Communicable Disease Fund 0107 for the Health Alert Network – Health Department.

Chairman Sweeney noted that a typographical error on the agenda. The agenda notes that the FY'2003 Ordinance is found on Page 19, when it is actually found in pages 23-24. Page 19 contains the Resolution amending this FY'2003 Full-Time Equivalent Resolution, which is presented under the Items to be Presented to the Board.

Mr. Hoselton noted that this Ordinance is requesting the addition of new personnel. Mr. Zeunik explained that this request is part of the Homeland Security Health Initiative. The Illinois Department of Public Health is providing additional grant funding to the McLean County Health Department. The McLean County Health Department has been designated as a regional center for the administration of the smallpox vaccinations mandated for health care workers. The additional funding and the additional increase in the FTE are to move forward with this program.

Chairman Sweeney asked if there were any other questions or comments from Committee members. Hearing none, Chairman Sweeney called for a vote on the previous motion.

Motion carried.

Mr. Tari Renner, Chairman of the Justice Committee, presented a request for approval of an Intergovernmental Agreement between the McLean County Sheriff's Department and the Illinois Law Enforcement Alarm System – Sheriff's Department.

Motion by Renner/Hoselton to recommend approval of an Intergovernmental Agreement between the McLean County Sheriff's Department and the Illinois Law Enforcement Alarm System – Sheriff's Department.

Mr. Renner noted that this agreement is made in recognition of the fact that natural or man-made occurrences may result in emergencies that exceed the resources, equipment and/or law enforcement personnel of an individual law enforcement agency. Each law enforcement agency who signs this agreement has and does express its intent to aid and assist the other participating law enforcement agencies during an emergency by assigning some of their resources, equipment and/or personnel to the affected law enforcement agency as circumstances permit and in accordance with the terms of this agreement.

Motion carried.

Mr. Renner briefly discussed the Sheriff's request for approval to solicit bids for the purchase of mobile radio, portable radio and ancillary communication equipment that is compatible with the Clear Talk System. Mr. Renner clarified that the Justice Committee unanimously approved seeking bids. The Justice Committee did not unanimously approve the idea that the Clear Talk System should be pursued. The Justice Committee wants to gather information about the Clear Talk System. Mr. Renner noted that another option discussed was having repeaters installed in the squad cars using the present E.F. Johnson System.

Mr. Gordon commented that he concurs with a fact-finding mission as long as no commitments are made by the County.

Chairman Sweeney asked why would McLean County publish a bid, when there is no funding available to complete this purchase. Mr. Renner answered that this is mostly a fact-finding request for bid solicitation. It is being seen as a step forward to finding a solution to this issue.

Chairman Sweeney wondered if anyone has checked with the Illinois State Police to see if they already have information regarding Clear Talk and other vendors with the capability of providing the necessary equipment. Mr. Zeunik has suggested to Sheriff Owens that he contact the Department of Central Management Services (CMS) and review any State awarded bids that would be compatible with Clear Talk or any other similar vendor.

Mr. Zeunik explained that Clear Talk is an 800 MHz Smart Zone Motorola System. The Illinois State Police are in the process of converting to an 800 MHz StarCom Motorola Digital System. The Clear Talk System is an analog system that can be upgraded to digital. The portable and mobile radios that are compatible with the State Police System may already be on the CMS bids. By checking the CMS bids, the Sheriff may be able to save time, effort and expense.

Mr. Segobiano expressed his concerns regarding the MetCom Department. Since Bloomington and Normal have their own radio system now, Mr. Segobiano questioned whether MetCom is still a viable operation.

Mr. Hoselton suggested that McLean County look into hiring a professional consultant, who is an expert in this field to study this issue further. Mr. Zeunik noted that an Ad Hoc Radio Committee, which consists of three members of the MetCom and three members of the Emergency Telephone System Board (ETSB), has been appointed. The purpose of the Ad Hoc Committee is to come to some agreement on what is the right direction to take in order to resolve the problem. To date, the only thing that the Ad Hoc Committee can agree on is that no one likes the present E. F. Johnson System.

Chairman Sweeney stated that Mayor Walt Hetman, Chenoa, has expressed his satisfaction with the E.F. Johnson 800MHz System since Chenoa installed repeaters in their squad cars. Mr. Hoselton noted that Chenoa patrols a total of three townships and Chenoa has reported no problems since adding the repeaters.

Mr. Zeunik noted that the Auditor's Office and the Treasurer's Office have completed a soft close for Fiscal Year 2002. Year-end entries and adjustments will continue to be made by both offices. A preliminary report on Fiscal Year 2002 should be available at the February committee meeting.

Mr. Zeunik reminded the Committee that following the January 21st County Board meeting, an Orientation Meeting will be held for members of the County Board who wish to attend. It is recommended that the new members of the County Board attend this Orientation Meeting. A light lunch will be served.

Mr. Segobiano noted that the Sheriff's Department vehicles have a logo on them that recognize the McLean County Farm Bureau for their contribution of camera equipment. Mr. Segobiano wanted to know if there was a formal County policy that recognizes people who contribute to the County in some fashion. Chairman Sweeney is not aware of any such policy.

Chairman Sweeney asked whether there were any other Business and/or Communications. Hearing none, Chairman Sweeney presented the bills and transfers as recommended by the Auditor's Office for approval.

Motion by Bass/Renner to recommend approval of the bills and transfers, as recommended by the Auditor's Office. Motion carried.

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There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 5:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carmen Zielinski
Recording Secretary