

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting

The Executive Committee of the McLean County Board met on Tuesday, July 9, 2001 at 4:30 p.m. in Room 700, Law and Justice Center, 104 West Front Street, Bloomington, Illinois.

Members Present: Chairman Sweeney, Members Sommer, Sorensen, Bass, Segobiano, Berglund, Pokorney

Members Absent: Members Salch, Gordon

Other County
Board Members
Present:

Members Renner, Rodman, Bostic

Staff Present: Mr. John M. Zeunik, County Administrator; Mr. Terry Lindberg, Assistant County Administrator; Ms. Martha B. Ross, County Administrator's Assistant, County Administrator's Office

Department Heads/
Elected Officials
Present:

Mr. Craig Nelson, Director, Information Services;
Ms. Jackie Dozier, County Auditor

Chairman Sweeney called the meeting to order at 4:31 p.m. Chairman Sweeney presented the minutes of the June 12, 2001 meeting for approval.

Motion by Sommer/Berglund to approve and place on file the minutes of the June 12, 2001 meeting. Motion carried.

The minutes of the June 12, 2001 meeting were approved and placed on file as presented.

Chairman Sweeney, Chairman of the Executive Committee, stated that there are no Chairman's recommendations pertaining to appointments and reappointments at this time.

Chairman Sweeney presented the request for approval of an extension of the Contract for Professional Services between McLean County and Mr. Wayne Miller. The contract is for project management services to be provided to the Integrated Justice Information Systems Board and the Justice System County offices and departments.

Motion by Bass/Bostic to approve the Contract for Professional Services between McLean County and Mr. Wayne Miller for Project management services provided to the Integrated Justice Information Systems Board and the Justice System County offices. Motion carried.

Mr. Craig Nelson, Director, Information Services, presented his department's monthly status report. He noted that the item of foremost importance at this time is emergency repairs to the County's computer network, as it began experiencing problems recently. He explained that the County's Purchasing Ordinance and Policy stipulates that he may receive interim approval for expenditures relating to repairs from the County Administrator. The interim approval provision is a failsafe provision, to be utilized in the event that an emergency arises and the appropriate County Board Oversight Committee is not available to grant approval for emergency expenditures.

Mr. Nelson explained that, with the approval of the County Administrator, the Pine Mountain Group in California was contacted to troubleshoot and repair the County's computer network. A contract for \$18,000.00 was signed with the Pine Mountain Group for a term of five days. He noted that there has been significant progress made to date, but there are still a few problems to be addressed. Mr. Nelson stated that he would keep the Committee apprised of the progress of the repairs to the County's computer network.

Mr. Ray Rodman, Vice Chairman of the Land Use and Development Committee, stated that the Committee has no items for Committee action. One item will be presented to the full County Board at its regular meeting.

Mr. "Duffy" Bass, Chairman of the Transportation Committee, presented the Randolph Road Agreement Between McLean County Board, Bloomington-Normal Water Reclamation Department ("BNWRD") and Corn Belt Energy Cooperative. He noted that this Agreement addresses the need for a new road of approximately one mile and the need to relocate electric utility services along this road. Mr. Bass explained that Corn Belt Energy Corporation recently informed both the County and BNWRD that they have an underground power line that is operational, and must be rendered non-operational prior to the road construction commencement.

Mr. Bass explained that Corn Belt Energy Corporation has agreed to erect a new overhead electrical line with poles large enough for a double circuit between 1550 East and new Route 51. The construction costs for this new line are estimated to be between \$80,000.00 and \$100,000.00. He further explained that the County and BNWRD have to agree to share the cost. After the new road is constructed, Corn Belt Energy Corp. agrees not to excavate under the new road in order to maintain the existing buried electrical line. When, and if, the underground line fails, Corn Belt Energy will only repair that line if the repair can be effectuated without doing any damage to the new County road.

Mr. Bass stated that, if approved, Corn Belt intends to begin construction on the overhead line immediately. There may be some additional Right-Of-Way acquisition necessary.

Motion by Bass/Berglund to approve the Randolph Road Agreement
Between McLean County Board, Bloomington-Normal Water Reclamation
District and Corn Belt Energy Corporation.

Mr. Sorensen stated that he does not have sufficient information in order to wholeheartedly support this Agreement. If the underground electrical line is likely to fail in the foreseeable future, Mr. Sorensen would the County would be responsible for payment even though construction is not going on at that time. Mr. Bass responded that the County would not be responsible for payment in that event. In the event that Corn Belt Energy needed to excavate the road in order to access the underground electrical line, they would pay the repair expenses to the road as well.

Mr. Sorensen noted that it appears that Corn Belt Energy plans to utilize the underground line after the road construction is completed, and continue its use until the line fails. Mr. Bass explained that one option is to relocate the line with overhead power poles until the road is completed.

Mr. Segobiano asked whether the Transportation Committee is recommending approval. Mr. Bass responded that the Committee agreed to recommend approval.

Mr. Pokorney asked why BNWRD is involved. Mr. Bass explained that the proposed new road is an improvement that will enable BNWRD to more directly access their facility, rather than following the current, winding road.

Mr. Segobiano asked whether there is a map available for this issue.

Mr. Lindberg explained that the power line in questions happens to be the power source for the Water Reclamation District. He noted that the current draft of the Agreement seems to indicate that future failure of the electrical line in question appears imminent. However, that provision was written in such a way as to make it impossible for Corn Belt Energy to excavate the road just after it has been built. He noted that the Agreement under consideration is the most cost-effective way to effectuate the building of the road and keep a continuous power supply to the Water Reclamation District. Normally, when a road is built and power lines would need to be relocated, the cost would be assessed 100% to the County. However, BNWRD has a substantial interest in keeping the power source intact, and therefore, they are willing to split the cost of relocating the power line in order to keep it fully functional.

Mr. Bass stated that the \$80,000.00 to \$100,000.00 is an estimate of what the actual costs will be. However, he noted, actual costs can never be determined until construction is complete and the Right-Of-Way is determined.

Mr. Sommer asked whether the power line currently parallels County Highway 36.

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Mr. Lindberg responded affirmatively. Mr. Sommer then asked whether BNWRD had an easement for this property. Mr. Lindberg responded that there is no easement. Mr. Sommer then asked whether it would be more practical to widen the road on the other side and leave the current easement in place. Mr. Lindberg responded that such action would be far more costly.

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

Motion carried.

Mr. Matt Sorensen, Chairman of the Finance Committee, stated that the Committee had no items for Committee action. He noted that the Committee would have several items to present to the Board at its regular meeting, the most notable of which would be the outside auditor's report from the last fiscal year.

Ms. Bostic, Vice Chairman of the Property Committee, stated that the Committee had no items for Committee action.

Mr. Joseph Sommer, Chairman of the Justice Committee, remarked that, since the Committee was unable to achieve a quorum on the date of its regular meeting, the Justice Committee would address its July business items at a Stand-Up meeting immediately prior to the July County Board meeting.

Mr. John Zeunik, County Administrator, stated that he had received an invitation to participate as an Advisory Board Member for the upcoming Illinois Digital Governmental Summit. He asked whether the Executive Committee had any objections to his acceptance of that invitation. Chairman Sweeney asked if any Committee members objected or had any questions of Mr. Zeunik.

Chairman Sweeney presented the bills and transfers as recommended by the Auditor's Office for approval.

Motion by Rodman/Bostic to approve the bills and transfers as recommended by the Auditor's Office. Motion carried.

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Chairman Sweeney reminded the members of the Committee and all others attending the meeting that the July County Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 24, 2001 at 9:00 a.m., due to several Board members' attendance at the 66th Annual NACo Conference in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania from July 13 through July 17.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 4:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha B. Ross
Recording Secretary