

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting

The Executive Committee of the McLean County Board met on Tuesday, March 12, 2013 at 4:30 p.m. in Room 400, Government Center, 115 E. Washington Street, Bloomington, Illinois.

Members Present: Chairman Sorensen, Members Owens, Segobiano, Hoselton, O'Connor, Caisley and Gordon

Members Absent: Members Cavallini and McIntyre

Other Board Members Present: Members Erickson and Schafer

Staff Present: Ms. Hannah Eisner, Assistant County Administrator; and Ms. Jude LaCasse, Assistant to the County Administrator

Department Heads/
Elected Officials Present: Mr. Craig Nelson, Director, Information Technologies, Mr. Jason Chamber, State's Attorney

Others Present: Mr. Scott Koepfel, Assistant Director, information Technologies

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

Chairman Sorensen presented the minutes from the February 12, 2013 Executive Committee Meeting and the January 15, 2013 Stand-Up Meeting for approval. Hearing no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Sorensen advised that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

Chairman Sorensen advised that there were no Reappointments, Appointments or Resignations.

Chairman Sorensen presented a request for approval of an annual maintenance contract with EJustice Solutions – Information Technologies.

Mr. Craig Nelson, Director, Information Technologies, stated that the agreement has no increase over the agreement from last year. He noted that the payment timing of the agreement was adjusted to be more convenient to the County in that it provides for quarterly payments in coordination with the County's fiscal calendar.

Motion by Segobiano/Owens to Recommend Approval of an Annual Maintenance Contract with EJustice Solutions – Information Technologies.
Motion carried.

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

Chairman Sorensen presented a request for approval of an Emergency Appropriation Ordinance Amending the McLean County Fiscal Year 2012 Combined Annual Appropriation and Budget Ordinance – County Administrator's Office. He explained that this is a yearly "housekeeping" item.

Motion by Segobiano/Caisley to Recommend Approval of an Emergency Appropriation Ordinance Amending the McLean County Fiscal year 2012 Combined Annual Appropriation and Budget Ordinance – County Administrator's Office.
Motion carried.

Chairman Sorensen presented a request for approval of a Resolution to amend the Rules of the County Board of McLean County to consider remote attendance.

Motion by Gordon/Hoselton to Recommend Approval of a Resolution to Amend the Rules of the County Board of McLean County to Consider Remote Attendance.

Mr. Segobiano made a substitute motion that this be referred back to the Rules Subcommittee for further study. Mr. Segobiano stated that he spoke with the Chairman of the Board in Peoria County where they have this procedure and he indicated that this remote attendance has proved to be difficult. Mr. Segobiano added that Peoria does not allow remote attendance during regular Board meetings, only at committee meetings. He indicated that he believes the item needs some revision before it goes before the full Board. Mr. Segobiano had a question about section 5.21-6 (c) particularly. He believes that Board members should provide their concerns or recommendations, in writing, to the Rules Subcommittee.

Motion by Segobiano/Owens to refer the request for a Resolution to Amend the Rules of the County Board of McLean County to Consider Remote Attendance back to the Rules Subcommittee for further discussion.

Mr. Owens echoed Mr. Segobiano's comments on the issue. He added that other counties besides Peoria, and outside of the State of Illinois, have indicated that while it seemed like a good idea when it was passed, remote attendance has proven to be more difficult than expected, citing too much interference and background noise.

Mr. Owens reminded the Committee that a few years ago a member asked the Board to consider remote attendance. After much discussion at the Rules Subcommittee, the item was forwarded to the Executive Committee where it was voted down.

Mr. Owens advised that there were only three of the five members of the Rules Subcommittee at the last meeting and he would like the full committee to have an opportunity to vote on the issue. He indicated that he would also like Board members to have an opportunity to share their input on remote attendance.

Mr. Gordon stated that the reason he voted to forward this issue to the Executive Committee is because there was not a full committee present at the last Rules Subcommittee meeting. He noted that he has some concerns about the issue, but wanted the full Executive Committee to have a chance to look at it. Mr. Gordon recommended that all members of the Board should be encouraged to contact the Rules Subcommittee Chairman with their input.

Ms. O'Connor asked if it would be possible to consider a trial run for three or four months to determine if remote attendance is feasible. Chairman Sorensen replied that it could be approved as a temporary rule of the Board to end on a day certain.

Mr. Erickson noted that he is a member of the Rules Subcommittee where this issue was fully debated. He indicated that there was a discussion about whether remote attendance could be done at the full Board or just Committee meetings. Mr. Erickson stated that there are issues being raised that aren't really relevant to the recommendation of the Rules Subcommittee. He noted that as the issue was discussed originally, if you were elected to this County Board you automatically had a right to vote through remote attendance at a Subcommittee, a Committee or the full Board if you met the criteria for remote attendance. At the second meeting, the rule was changed based on the advice of Mr. Wasson who stated it was his opinion and the opinion of the Civil State's Attorney that there had to be some voting requirement in the rule. Mr. Erickson indicated that, as it was debated at the meeting, a concern was raised that if a vote was required it could be used for partisan purposes, which he would not want. He indicated that the rule was then changed to say that a motion must be made, seconded and have a 2/3rds vote of that body to disallow that member their privilege if it was felt that the privilege was being abused.

Mr. Erickson advised that the rule provides only three reasons to consider remote attendance, namely:

1. Because of personal illness or disability;
2. Because of the business of the McLean County Board; and
3. Because of a family or other emergency.

Mr. Erickson stated that the issue was debated for two hours at the first Rules Subcommittee meeting and again at a second meeting where the rule was tightened significantly. Mr. Erickson indicated that he does not understand returning it back to Committee and believes it should be forwarded to the full Board.

Mr. Gordon agreed that the issue was discussed at great length at the Rules Subcommittee, but he would also agree that Board members should have an opportunity to share their opinions with the Rules Subcommittee.

Mr. Gordon noted that the member requesting remote attendance must provide a 24 hour notice to the Administrator's Office, if possible.

Mr. Segobiano called for the question. Chairman Sorensen asked if there were any objections. Mr. Caisley objected.

Ms. Schafer expressed her opinion that if you are elected, appointed or volunteer for a board, you are expected to be there. She added that there are, understandably, times when you may not be able to attend a meeting, but she has concerns regarding remote attendance.

Ms. Schafer asked why remote attendance isn't seen at higher levels of government if it is such a great idea, such as state government and federal government. She referred to Senator Kirk and Representative Giffords from Arizona, both of whom were unable to attend meetings due to illness or an event. She noted that these individuals were unable to vote remotely. Ms. Schafer added that, yesterday, the City of Bloomington decided to postpone a meeting rather than rely on remote attendance for Council Members who were on the One Voice trip to Washington, D.C. She reiterated that she has numerous concerns on the issue.

Mr. Caisley stated that he spends the month of August on the beach in Michigan and he would find it very convenient to be able to attend meetings remotely to cast his vote. He believes the rule doesn't go far enough and should include remote attendance for any occasion.

Mr. Erickson reiterated that the way the rule is written, certain criteria must be followed before remote attendance can take place. He added that the rule was changed to provide the Committee or the County Board members the ability to deny attendance if they feel the privilege has been abused.

Mr. Erickson spoke to the concern that the communication link might be degraded or have noise interference, noting that the rule states that if the remote communication link is broken or significantly degraded, the communication can be cut off. He added that this was put into the rule at the request of Chairman Sorensen because he was concerned it would be difficult to maintain decorum with this type of remote attendance.

Chairman Sorensen pointed out that the current *County Board Rules* restrict speaking on a topic to three minutes per member and members are allowed to speak only one time. He advised that he believes that it is in the Board's best interest to allow more active debate. Mr. Sorensen noted that he allows members to speak longer than three minutes and speak more than one time. He is concerned that members participating via electronic medium will cause a Chairman to ratchet in tighter on those types of rules, and may have the impact of stifling active discussion by the Board members. Mr. Sorensen is concerned with 19 members of the Board being "held hostage" by a speaker phone by someone who will not stop talking. He added that, due to the Illinois Open Meetings Act, you cannot mute someone on the phone.

Mr. Owens called for the question on Mr. Segobiano's motion. Chairman Sorensen asked if there were any objections to calling for the question on Mr. Segobiano's substitute motion. Hearing none, Chairman Sorensen called for a vote on the motion. A roll call vote was requested. Chairman Sorensen stated that a yes vote refers this back to the Rules Subcommittee with a request to all Board members to provide feedback to the Rules Subcommittee on this potential Rules change. A no vote returns this to the main motion.

Caisley:	No
O'Connor:	No
Owens:	Yes
Hoselton:	Yes
Gordon:	No
Segobiano:	Yes
Sorensen:	Yes

Motion carried 4 to 3.

Mr. Stan Hoselton, Chairman, Transportation Committee advised that the Transportation Committee brings no items for action to the Executive Committee. He pointed out that there are several items to be presented to the Board that were thoroughly discussed and approved at the Transportation Committee.

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

Mr. Paul Segobiano, Chairman, Property Committee, advised that the Property Committee brings no items for action to the Executive Committee.

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

Mr. Ben Owens, Chairman, Finance Committee, presented a request for approval of an Ordinance of the McLean County Board Amending the 2013 Combined Appropriation and Budget Ordinance for Fund 0107 – AIDS/Communicable Disease Control Fund.

Motion by Owens/Segobiano to Recommend Approval of an Ordinance of the McLean County Board Amending the 2013 Combined Appropriation and Budget Ordinance for Fund 0107 – AIDS/ Communicable Disease Control Fund.
Motion carried.

Mr. Owens presented a request for approval of an Ordinance of the McLean County Board Amending the 2013 Combined Appropriation and Budget Ordinance for Fund 0106 – Family Case Management Fund.

Mr. Hoselton asked if these funds are coming out of any unappropriated funds. Ms. Eisner replied that most of these Budget Ordinances reflect state fiscal year grants that come in mid-year. She added that these funds do not come from unappropriated funds.

Motion by Owens/Segobiano to Recommend Approval of an Ordinance of the McLean County Board Amending the 2013 Combined Appropriation and Budget Ordinance for Fund 0106 – Family Case Management Fund.
Motion carried.

Mr. Owens presented a request for approval of an Ordinance of the McLean County Board amending the 2012 Combined Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance (Reappropriation of outstanding unliquidated encumbrances at the close of 2012).

Motion by Owens/Gordon to Recommend Approval of an Ordinance of the McLean County Board Amending the 2012 Combined Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance (Reappropriation of Outstanding Unliquidated Encumbrances at the close of 2012).
Motion carried.

Mr. Owens presented a request for approval of an Ordinance of the McLean County Board amending the 2013 Combined Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance (Reappropriation of outstanding unliquidated encumbrances at the close of 2012).

Motion by Owens/Segobiano to Recommend Approval of an Ordinance of the McLean County Board Amending the 2012 Combined Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance (Reappropriation of Outstanding Unliquidated Encumbrances at the close of 2012).
Motion carried.

Mr. Owens presented a request for approval of Critical Personnel Hiring Requests – County Administrator’s Office.

Motion by Owens/O’Connor to Recommend Approval of Critical Personnel Hiring Requests – County Administrator’s Office.
Motion carried.

Mr. Owens presented a request for approval of Emergency Appropriation Ordinances for Fiscal Year 2012 Year-End Adjustments for the following:

- (1) General Fund 0001 - Bloomington Elections Commission/City Elections 0048/0053
- (2) McLean County GIS Fees Fund 0167 – County Recorder/Legal Records Documentation 0006/0008
- (3) McLean County Recorder Document Storage Fund 0137 – County Recorder/Legal Records Documentation 0006/0008
- (4) McLean County Nursing Home Fund 0401
- (5) General Fund 0001 – County Clerk 0005; Elections 0006 and Records 0007

Motion by Owens/Gordon to Recommend Approval of Emergency Appropriation Ordinances for the following: General Fund 0001 - Bloomington Elections Commission/City Elections 0048/0053; McLean County GIS Fees Fund 0167– County Recorder/Legal Records Documentation 0006/0008; McLean County Recorder Document Storage Fund 0137 – County Recorder/Legal Records Documentation 0006/0008; McLean County Nursing Home Fund 0401; and General Fund 0001 – County Clerk 0005; Election 0006 and Records 0007
Motion carried.

Mr. Segobiano asked if anyone knew anything about the bill in Springfield to move election precincts out of schools. Chairman Sorensen replied that he is not familiar with that bill. He indicated he believes it would be a legislative issue and he would try to find out more information.

Chairman Sorensen asked if there were any additional questions or comments. Hearing none, he thanked Mr. Owens.

Mr. William Caisley, Chairman, Justice Committee, presented a request for approval of seven Emergency Appropriation Ordinances Amending the McLean County Fiscal Year 2012 Combined Annual Appropriation and Budget Ordinances for the Fiscal Year 2012 Year-End Adjustments as follows:

- (1) General Fund 0001- Coroner's Office 0031
- (2) DV Grant Fund 0160 – Court Services/Court Services 0022/0024
- (3) DV Grant Fund 0160 – Sheriff/Administrative Services 0029/0029
- (4) Multidisciplinary DV Grant Fund 0160 –State's Attorney/Administrative Support 0020/0020
- (5) General Fund 0001 – State's Attorney/Administrative Support 0020/0020
- (6) General Fund 0001 – EMA 0047, EMA Operations 0052
- (7) McLean County Law Library 0506 – Circuit Court/Law Library 0016/0015

Mr. Caisley provided a brief explanation of the Emergency Appropriation Ordinances.

Motion by Caisley/Owens to Recommend Approval of Seven Emergency Appropriation Ordinances Amending the McLean County Fiscal Year 2012 Combined Annual Appropriation and Budget Ordinances for the Fiscal Year 2012 Year-End Adjustments for: General Fund 0001 – Coroner's Office 0031; DV Grant Fund 0160 – Court Services/Court Services 0022/0024; DV Grant Fund 0160 – Sheriff/Administration Services 0029/0029; Multidisciplinary DV Grant Fund 0160 – State's Attorney/Administrative Support 0020-0020; General Fund 0001 – State's Attorney/Administrative Support 0020/0020; McLean County Law Library 0506 – Circuit Court/Law Library 0016/0015.

Mr. Hoselton pointed out an error on page 45 of the Packet regarding the Telephone Service on the Emergency Appropriation for EMA. After a brief review, Chairman Sorensen asked Mr. Caisley if he wished to pull item (6) from his motion. Mr. Caisley agreed. Chairman Sorensen advised that the corrected motion would include numbers (1), (2), (3), (4), (5) and (7). He noted that (6) will be considered at a Stand-up meeting.

Motion by Caisley/Segobiano to Recommend Approval of Six Emergency Appropriation Ordinances Amending the McLean County Fiscal Year 2012 Combined Annual Appropriation and Budget Ordinances for the Fiscal Year 2012 Year-End Adjustments for: General Fund 0001 – Coroner’s Office 0031; DV Grant Fund 0160 – Court Services/Court Services 0022/0024; DV Grant Fund 0160 – Sheriff/Administration Services 0029/0029; Multidisciplinary DV Grant Fund 0160 – State’s Attorney/Administrative Support 0020-0020; General Fund 0001 – State’s Attorney/Administrative Support 0020/0020; McLean County Law Library 0506 – Circuit Court/Law Library 0016/0015.
Motion carried.

Mr. Caisley advised that the Justice Committee had a field trip to the Jury Commission, Emergency Management Agency and to the County Jail. He noted that, since that time, conversation have taken place with the Property Committee relative to the County Jail. Mr. Caisley indicated that there is nothing to report at this time, but there may be in the future.

Mr. Caisley stated that Friday, March 15th there will be a field trip to the State’s Attorney’s Office, the Public Defender’s Office and the Coroner’s Office. He invited Board members to join them at 1:00 p.m. in the Law and Justice Center.

Mr. Segobiano noted that the Property Committee also toured the Jail and is aware of the Sheriff’s concerns. He indicated that the Justice Committee, Finance Committee and Property Committee will be involved in future decisions regarding Jail facilities.

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

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

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

Chairman Sorensen presented the February 28, 2013 bills as recommended and transmitted by the County Auditor for payment. The Fund Total is \$258,520.61 and the Prepaid Total is the same.

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Motion by Owens/Gordon to recommend Approval of the Executive Committee bills for February 28, 2013 as presented to the Committee by the County Auditor.
Motion carried.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the Executive Committee meeting was adjourned at 5:16 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Judith A. LaCasse
Recording Secretary