

Minutes of a Special Meeting of the Executive Committee

The Executive Committee of the McLean County Board met on Tuesday, October 21, 2014, at 8:40 a.m. in Room 400 of the Government Center, 115 E. Washington Street, Bloomington, Illinois.

Members Present: Chairman Sorensen, Members McIntyre, Segobiano, Gordon, Owens, Caisley, Soeldner, Erickson

Members Absent: Member O'Connor

Other Members Present: None

Staff Present: Mr. Bill Wasson, County Administrator; Ms. Hannah Eisner, Assistant County Administrator; and Ms. Judith A. LaCasse, Recording Secretary, County Administrator's Office

Department Heads/
Elected Officials Present: None

Others Present: None

Chairman Sorensen called the meeting to order at 8:42 a.m.

Chairman Sorensen presented a request for approval of a Resolution to amend the Rules of the County Board of McLean County in regards to Sections 5.14-7 – Appearance by Non-Members, and 5.16 – Committees – County Administrator's Office.

Mr. Wasson reviewed the changes made to the above sections of the County Board Rules. He indicated that the first addition is the first paragraph in 5.14-7, which is the following statement:

“5.14-7 Appearance by Non-Members with the acknowledgement that the most appropriate forum for the general public to address County Board members is the Committee charged with overseeing the subject matter of the address, those wishing to address the Board shall adhere to the following...”

Mr. Wasson noted that this was a statement that the Rules Subcommittee felt was appropriate to try to direct individuals through the Committee process even though it is not required.

Mr. Soeldner pointed out that all references to “Chairman” are now “Chairperson.”

Mr. Wasson noted that the total maximum of fifteen (15) minutes is allotted for County Board meetings for appearance by all non-Board members. Ms. Eisner indicated that a sentence was added that “Any member may request an extension of this time limit by making a request to allow the non-member to continue...”

Mr. Wasson stated that Section (4) includes a sentence that says "Any member may request an extension of this time limit by making a request to allow the non-member to continue pursuant to subsection A."

Mr. Wasson indicated that under 5.16 Committees the only modification is that there has been a maximum total time allotted for appearance by non-members of 30 minutes.

Mr. Segobiano asked for clarification of the section that says "...County Board members may not engage in discussion with, address or ask questions of non-members during the time allowed for non-member appearances under Section (B)." Chairman Sorensen explained that this means any questions or discussion can only be asked or discussed after the individual is done speaking and with consent of the Board. Mr. Segobiano asked if there is a time limit, expressed concern that questions and discussion could last a long time. Mr. Wasson stated that if there is an objection from the floor of the Board to asking questions, then it would take action of the Board to stop the discussion.

Mr. McIntyre indicated that this Resolution is still being refined.

Chairman Sorensen advised that the Rules Subcommittee will convene again in November to refine this Resolution.

Motion by McIntyre/Owens to Recommend Approval of a Resolution to amend the Rules of the County Board of McLean County in regards to Sections 5.14-7 – Appearance by Non-Members, and 5.16 – Committees – County Administrator's Office.
Motion carried.

Mr. Caisley recommended that the Rules Subcommittee set up a particular rule that deals with people wanting to talk about matters to which the Board has no power. Chairman Sorensen replied that this item will be discussed at the November 6th Rules Subcommittee meeting.

Chairman Sorensen asked if there was any other business or communication for the Executive Committee. Hearing none, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith A. LaCasse
Recording Secretary