

## **Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting**

The Executive Committee of the McLean County Board met on Tuesday, June 14, 2011, at 4:30 p.m. in Room 400, Government Center, 115 E. Washington Street, Bloomington, Illinois.

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

Members Absent: Member Butler

Other Board Members Present: Members Soeldner, Wendt, McKibbin, Wollrab, O'Connor, Caisley, Schafer, and Rankin

Staff Present: Mr. Bill Wasson, County Administrator; Ms. Jude LaCasse, Assistant to the County Administrator

Department Heads/  
Elected Officials Present: None

Others Present: None

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

Chairman Sorensen presented the minutes from the May 10, 2011 meeting and the April 19, 2011 Stand-up Meeting for approval.

Motion by Hoselton/Rackauskas to approve the Minutes of the May 10, 2011 Finance Committee Meeting and the April 19, 2011 Stand-up Meeting.  
Motion carried.

Chairman Sorensen presented the reappointments, appointments and resignations.

Motion by Segobiano/Owens to Recommend Approval of the Reappointments, Appointments and Resignations as recommended by the Chairman.  
Motion carried as amended.

Chairman Sorensen advised that four individuals have expressed an interest in appointment to the District #10 County Board seat. He invited each candidate to speak for five minutes or less.

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Mr. Charles Erickson thanked County Board Chairman Sorensen, members of the Executive Committee and members of the County Board for the opportunity to introduce himself and explain why he would like to represent District #10 on the County Board. He indicated that he intends to be concise and informative in his presentation.

Mr. Erickson stated that he was born and raised in Gibson City, Illinois, the son of lower middle class parents who were factory workers. He noted that he graduated from Gibson City High School in 1983 and thereafter worked in various factories in Central Illinois until 1987. Mr. Erickson stated that in 1987 he went to Parkland College where he graduated with honors. He indicated that he then transferred to Illinois State University where he graduated Magna cum Laude with a degree in Economics and a minor in Political Science.

Mr. Erickson advised that in 1994 he graduated from law school. He stated that in 1997 he was hired by former County Board member and attorney Mr. John Stevens. Mr. Erickson acknowledged that, as Mr. Stevens' associate, he was aware of the amount of time and work necessary to be a County Board member. He indicated that Mr. Stevens died in November of 2000 and in February 2001 he took over Mr. Steven's law practice.

Mr. Erickson stated that in 2002 he was appointed to the City of Bloomington Zoning Board of Appeals where he learned things that would be useful to him as a County Board member. He added that his fellow Board members on the Zoning Board of Appeals would tell you that he is easy to get along with. Mr. Erickson noted that he tries to get along with everyone on the Board and consider everyone's views and thoughts.

Mr. Erickson advised that he has taught three courses in Business Law at Illinois Wesleyan University. He indicated that in October of 2010 he wrote to Chairman Sorensen expressing his interest in the potential vacancy on the County Board. Mr. Erickson stated that he has attended County Board meetings since October 2010. He noted that he tried to call all of the County Board members to ask for their support. Mr. Erickson stated that he understands that this County Board is not partisan and the members try to work together for the good of the citizens of McLean County. He indicated that he would like to continue the tradition of this Board and previous Board to keep this County in the black.

Mr. Erickson reiterated that he was a factory worker, an employee, and a college professor. He added that he is a business owner and an attorney, and he takes his civic responsibilities seriously. Mr. Erickson pointed out that his resume shows that he participates in many things in the community.

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Mr. Erickson asked that the members of the Committee to support his candidacy for the appointment.

Mr. Caisley asked what the Land of Lincoln Honor Flight is that he referred to in his letter of interest. Mr. Erickson replied that the Land of Lincoln Honor Flight is a group that takes World War II veterans on a flight to see the WWII Memorial and other memorials. He indicated that he was honored to be a guard to a WWII veteran and accompanied the veteran to Washington, D.C. Mr. Erickson noted that his father was a World War II veteran.

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

Ms. Kathryn Foster thanked the Committee for the opportunity to express her interest in the District #10 County Board seat. She noted that she has lived in Bloomington since 1981. Ms. Foster pointed out that details of her community involvement are included on her resume. She stated that professionally she is in strategic communications, public relations and organizational change management.

Ms. Foster advised that in the 1980s she first became acquainted with community development and infrastructure needs through the research and writing she did with the City Notes Newsletter during Mayor Jesse Smart's administration. She stated that at that time she became aware of the need to address long-range water supply needs and long-range infrastructure needs.

Ms. Foster indicated that she learned the history of Bloomington and some of its early leaders through research that was done when she wrote the history of the Bloomington Country Club. She noted that she had the opportunity to interview local residents. Ms. Foster stated that she learned more about the responsibilities of the cities, counties and townships as a result of writing and advising successful candidates during some intense campaigns. She indicated that this experience gave her perspective on the responsibilities and risks that come with being in the public eye. Ms. Foster added that it also demonstrated that citizenship includes action and involvement in addition to talk.

Ms. Foster advised that she learned the value of effective change management and strategic communication planning as the Public Relations Director for the Eureka Company. She noted that during her time there the company closed the Ft. Jesse facility and moved to the former Mennonite Hospital site and changed its name to Electrolux Home Care Produces North America to reflect the ownership change that had actually happened in 1974.

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Ms. Foster indicated that she left Bloomington for two years and took a position with a water utility and traveled across the state where she learned about the deteriorating condition of many municipal water and waste water systems due to neglect, political fear and the lack of funding to address them and make the needed repairs. She pointed out that infrastructure improvements lack glamour, but she believes that collaboration among the various governmental bodies and citizen inclusion in the discussion could drive forward progress.

Ms. Foster stated that her volunteer responsibilities with the Second Presbyterian Church during a building campaign and her experience as the former president of the Western Avenue Community Center Board gave her a great deal of experience working as a team members on committees and boards. She learned that this kind of work is most successful when the overall interest of the group takes precedence over the will of any one individual. Ms. Foster stated that she learned that using well established methods to introduce changes can insure their adoption and learned that we are stronger and better when we work together.

Ms. Foster indicated that while living in other Illinois communities, she gained a deep appreciation for what we have in McLean County. She noted that last summer she found a good professional fit at Tex Systems, a consulting firm.

Ms. Foster advised that she would be honored to serve District #10 and represent their interests on the County Board. She noted that this Board has always been known for its good character and its many contributions to the economic vitality of the area. Ms. Foster stated that she would like to assist the McLean County Board with crucial work and provide the District with trustworthy representation during this interim period.

Mr. Caisley asked if Ms. Foster is currently the president of Western Avenue Community Center. Ms. Foster replied that she left that position when she took the job with the utility company. Mr. Caisley asked if she was there when it was reconstructed after the fire. Ms. Foster responded that she was not.

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

Mr. William (Bill) L. Galloway thanked the Chairman Sorensen and members of the Executive Committee for considering his application to the District #10 County Board seat.

Mr. Galloway advised that he has been married to his wife, Phyllis, for 34 years and has two daughters, Katie, 25, and Sarah, 20.

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Mr. Galloway indicated that after graduating from Bloomington High School, he put himself through college at Western Illinois University where he obtained his degree in Law Enforcement Administration with a minor in Political Science. He noted that while going to school, he put his application into the McLean County Sheriff's Department and obtained a job in January 1979.

Mr. Galloway stated that during his time at the Sheriff's Department he worked Patrol for nine years. He became a Detective in 1986, and obtained the rank of Patrol Sergeant. Mr. Galloway noted that the last 14 years he worked in Court Security for the Law and Justice Center where he helped build Court Security into a professional operation to make a safe environment for the courts and the people who visit there on a daily basis.

Mr. Galloway indicated that he belongs to the Masonic Lodge and is a member of the Shrine.

Mr. Galloway advised that the 29 ½ years on the Sheriff's Department taught him teamwork concepts and working with diverse groups, including judges, attorneys, defendants, and the public.

Mr. Galloway indicated that he would appreciate the challenge and satisfaction of serving the County. He stated that he would bring hard work ethic, excellence and professionalism to the position.

Mr. Caisley commented that Mr. Galloway did a very good job with the Court Security during the years that he was a Judge.

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

Mr. James R. Pearson thanked Chairman Sorensen and members of the Executive Committee for the opportunity to express his interest in the District #10 County Board seat. He stated that he has been a resident of District #10 for 19 years and has followed County and local government issues closely.

Mr. Pearson advised that he and his wife, Sherry, raised and graduated two daughters from Unit 5. He noted that they moved here when the only subdivision east of Airport Road was Hawthorn Hills I. Mr. Pearson stated that he is a practicing architect here in Bloomington with Pearson Design Group.

Mr. Pearson shared his government service experience, noting that he ran and was elected for three four-year terms as a Trustee on the Moline Township Board when they living in Moline. He noted that during his 12 years of service he

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became involved in the State Township Organization and served for two years as the Trustees Division President for the Township Officials of Illinois. Mr. Pearson advised that he served as a Moline Alderman for four years where he chaired two important committee assignments, the Planning Committee and the Finance Committee. He noted that while he served on the Council they successfully started and built the last Civic Center funded by the State of Illinois. Mr. Pearson stated that shortly before leaving Moline he served the city's chairman for the Council for the Riverfront Development on a Mississippi project, a \$23 million development project to revitalize Moline's riverfront and downtown areas.

Mr. Pearson indicated that a few years after arriving in Bloomington he formed the company called the Vantage Group that developed a conceptual site design and built the Bloomington Police Department and parking structure garage facilities. He noted that in 1997 he was appointed to serve as Bloomington's representative to the McLean County Regional Planning Commission, which he served on for six years until 2003. Mr. Pearson pointed out that the long-term water supply for the twin cities, GIS mapping and the East Side Highway were the important issues that were being discussed at the time.

Mr. Pearson stated that in 2004 he ran in the primary for the Alderman for the Third Ward and lost. He noted that in 2010, he was appointed as an At-Large Member on the Main Street Corridor Task Force, which delivered its report in August of 2010.

Mr. Pearson advised that he wants to serve in government as a policy-maker for the citizens of District #10. He indicated that he wants to deliver good, basic services for a reasonable cost. Mr. Pearson stated that he believes his professional work experiences as an architect for over 30 years enables him to analyze issues and needs, propose several solutions, and work to achieve consensus to move forward and accomplish the goals set for this body. He asked for the support of the Committee and thanked them for the opportunity to present his qualifications.

Mr. Caisley commented that his wife was a township supervisor for a number of years and always spoke highly of Mr. Pearson's service in township government.

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

Chairman Sorensen advised that as is customary, he plans to put one of those four names into nomination next Tuesday morning at the regular meeting of the County Board. He encouraged Board members to call him with input and advice.

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

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

Ms. Diane Bostic, Chairman, Property Committee, advised that the Property brings no items for action to the Executive Committee.

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

Mr. Stan Hoselton, Chairman, Transportation Committee, presented a request for approval of an Emergency Appropriation Ordinance amending the McLean County Fiscal Year 2011 Combined Annual Appropriation and Budget Ordinance for McLean County Highway Fund 0120, McLean County Highway Department 0055. He explained that this is a request to move \$150,000 from Line Item Roads/Bridges/Culverts to Roads/Drainage Structures.

Motion by Hoselton/Bostic to Recommend Approval of an Emergency Appropriation Ordinance Amending the McLean County Fiscal Year 2011 Combined Annual Appropriation and Budget Ordinance for McLean County Highway Fund 0120 – McLean County Highway Department 0055.  
Motion carried.

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

Mr. Ben Owens, Chairman, Finance Committee, presented

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

Motion by Owens/Segobiano to Recommend Approval of the Critical Personnel Hiring Requests – County Administrator's Office.  
Motion carried.

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Mr. Owens presented a request for approval of an Ordinance for Prevailing Rate of Public Works Wages for McLean County – County Administrator’s Office. He noted that this is a yearly housekeeping item.

Motion by Owens/Segobiano to Recommend Approval of an Ordinance for Prevailing Rate of Public Works Wages for McLean County – County Administrator’s Office.  
Motion carried.

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

Ms. Bette Rackauskas, Chairman, Justice Committee, advised that the Justice Committee brings no items for action to the Executive Committee.

Ms. Rackauskas commented that the County is fortunate to have four highly qualified individuals interested in representing District #10 on the County Board.

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

Mr. Bill Wasson, County Administrator, advised that a work session has been set up for the Executive Committee and interested Board members to discuss the redistricting process. He noted that all Board members received a copy of the staff draft proposal. Mr. Wasson informed the Committee that two requests were received for consideration of amendments to the proposed redistricting. The first amendment is from Mr. Caisley for a reconfiguration of the Normal districts. Mr. Wasson distributed the staff map and also a handout relative to Mr. Caisley’s proposed amendment. He added that there is also a map amendment request from Ms. Schafer, Ms. Bostic and Mr. Wendt. Ms. Bostic explained that the amendment is internal between District #3 and District #9.

Chairman Sorensen acknowledged that there is a map version of each of the proposed changes on the redistricting. He explained that tonight the Committee will review the proposed map that was handed out last month, as well as the two proposed amendments to that map. Chairman Sorensen stated that he had advised County Board members who have different recommendations than the staff recommendation to make sure that the amendments meet the numbers criteria, to meet with other Board members who may be affected by the change, and to be prepared to talk about the changes tonight. He stated if they could get consensus by members affected by the change, the amendments would be put into the proposed map and presented to the Board next week. Chairman

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Sorensen added that if they could not get consensus, the Board member can offer an amendment to the map at the meeting next week.

Mr. Wasson reminded the Committee that he has distributed a copy of the staff draft proposal map and the proposed amendment map as provided by Mr. Caisley. Chairman Sorensen noted that in front of each member there should be two maps, the staff proposed map from last month and the new amendment to the map as proposed by Mr. Caisley, entitled "Districts 4-6 Proposed Amendment."

Chairman Sorensen advised that his initial perspective of Mr. Caisley's proposed amendments to the map is that the parties most directly impacted by this are the six Board members from Normal. He stated that he would like consensus from those six Board members to forward the proposed changes as part of the draft map for next week. Chairman Sorensen invited Mr. Caisley to discuss his proposed amendment to the map.

Mr. Caisley advised that the County Administrator proposed that two precincts in Normal Township, Precinct Normal #27 and Normal #24 be placed into District #1 in order to bring that district up to population level. Therefore, he did not make any changes to those two precincts. Mr. Caisley noted that another change is to transfer City of Bloomington Precinct #41 into a Normal district, and he didn't do anything to change that recommendation. He advised that he only made amendments to Districts #4, #5 and #6. He indicated that a District should be 16,950 residents. Mr. Caisley noted that those Districts are a little larger than that, with an average District in Normal of 17,133 residents.

Mr. Caisley stated that he tried to design a map that would have the least deviation from the average of 17,133 residents. He indicated that he came up with three Districts, one of which had the biggest deviation of 587 residents in the western District of Normal, which is west of Route 51 and west of Main Street. Mr. Caisley added that the least deviation would be in District #5 which would only be off by 76 people. He noted that District #6 would be under the target by 485 people. All of the Districts would be less than the deviation of the County Administrator's proposed map. Mr. Caisley stated that under his proposed amendment, there would be 17,544 residents in District #4, 17,209 residents in District #5 and 16,648 residents in District #6. He indicated that he did nothing with respect to any of the other Districts.

Mr. Caisley advised that he believes this is good government because it results in the least deviation from the average number of residents and he believes that Districts #4, #5 and #6 would be more compact and contiguous, and it would be easier for residents to understand in which District they are located.

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Mr. Caisley acknowledged that there is also no impact upon incumbents. This proposal did not lump any incumbent into Districts with other incumbents into Districts with other incumbents so there would be two incumbents in each of the proposed districts. Mr. Caisley said that mostly they would have constituents that they currently represent. He noted there would be two new precincts added to District #4, namely the City of Bloomington Precinct #41, which is north of White Oak Lake and south of the west side of the Jewel Grocery Store. The other would be Normal Precinct #30.

Mr. Caisley stated that, under the County Administrator's proposal, District #5 would add one new precinct, and District #5 will lose Precincts #24 and #27 to District #1. He noted that this would not change under his proposal. Mr. Caisley indicated that Normal Precinct #14 would be added to District #5. He added that District #6 would get two new precincts, namely Normal Precinct #15 and Normal Precinct #17. Mr. Caisley believes that it would also have the affect of equalizing the number of registered voters. He does not believe that it is necessary to worry about registered voters because there a lot of students that live in Normal who often chose to vote at their home address rather than their college address. Consequently, District #6 has had a lower rate of participation than the other two Districts and this would even out the number of registered voters in each of the Normal Districts. Mr. Caisley advised that this is why he is proposing the changes.

Chairman Sorensen asked for a response from those six Board members in Normal who are affected by Mr. Caisley's proposed amendment to the map. Ms. O'Connor responded that she prefers the County Administrator's map because everything seems to flow together better. She felt the other map appeared to be piecemeal. Ms. O'Connor noted that on the east side of her district there is a tremendous amount of growth. She expressed regret at losing constituents across Northtown Road, but she understands that it was adjusted due to population changes.

After additional discussion, Chairman Sorensen advised that Ms. O'Connor supports the County Administrator's original proposal; Mr. McKibbin also supports the County Administrator's original proposal; and Mr. Gordon and Ms. Wollrab were still discussing the two proposals.

Mr. Soeldner asked if Mr. McIntyre has provided any input in the proposals. Chairman Sorensen responded that he has received some input from Mr. McIntyre but he doesn't have a final answer from him.

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Chairman Sorensen asked Ms. Shafer, Ms. Bostic and Mr. Wendt to present their proposed amendment to the map. Mr. Wendt stated that on the County Administrator's map there is a "donut hole" where there are two portions of District #3 that are surrounded, they are landlocked. He advised that he and Ms. Bostic and Ms. Schafer reviewed the map and found a way to unlock that District so that it is all contiguous. They proposed that Bloomington Precincts #11, #44, #45 and #48 be moved from District #3 to District #9; and that Bloomington Precincts #13, #19 and #47 be moved from District #9 to District #3. Mr. Wendt stated that this frees that area that was previously landlocked. He indicated that these changes bring the two Districts within 25 residents of each other.

Mr. Wendt advised that Ms. Bostic, Ms. Schafer and he agree in the proposed amendment. He noted that Mr. Rankin informed him that he would honor the decision of the majority of the members involved. The proposed amendment does not affect any other districts.

Mr. Segobiano stated that he knows that his District #8 has changed, and he will support those changes.

Ms. Rackauskas indicated that she has no problems with her District #7 changes.

Mr. Hoselton noted that he hated to lose Towanda in District #1, but he was fine with the County Administrator's proposed map.

Mr. Soeldner advised that he has no issues with the proposed changes to District #2.

Mr. Owens stated that he is fine with the changes to District #10.

Mr. Gordon and Ms. Wollrab asked for more time to review and compare the County Administrator's proposal and Mr. Caisley's proposal.

Chairman Sorensen asked if there was anything else that needed to be discussed regarding the map. He noted that what he has heard so far is that there is consensus of the affected members on the Schafer/Wendt/Bostic change, and with that consensus, he will have it drawn into the map version that will be brought to the floor next week. Chairman Sorensen indicated that the Caisley amendment has a split conversation. Mr. Caisley is supportive of it, Ms. O'Connor is not, Mr. McKibbin is not, and Mr. Gordon and Ms. Wollrab aren't sure yet and we don't know what Mr. McIntyre wishes. Chairman Sorensen advised that he will let the Board know if the Caisley change will be in map next week. If it is not, Mr. Caisley can choose to bring it as an amendment to the floor of the Board meeting.

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Chairman Sorensen advised that this Friday the Board members will, at a minimum, receive a map that includes the changes suggested in the Schafer/Wendt/Bostic request today. He stated that if he hears something that suggests consensus in the Normal members, those changes will be in there as well.

Chairman Sorensen expressed his appreciation for everyone attending the meeting and the good dialog on the redistricting.

Mr. Segobiano referred back to Mr. Caisley's comments on applauding one of the candidates on his service to the community to take care of veterans. He noted that sometimes things are done without notice. Mr. Segobiano stated that his Foundation, The Great Plains Life Foundation, provided about \$85,000 in funding to send a number of veterans.

Chairman Sorensen advised that if he does not hear from members, he will call you for consensus or opinion on the four candidates for the District #10 opening.

Chairman Sorensen presented the May 31, 2011 bills as recommended and transmitted by the County Auditor for payment. The Prepaid Total is \$412,270.35 and the Fund Total is the same.

Motion by Rackauskas/O'Connor to Recommend Approval of the Executive Committee bills as of May 31, 2011 as presented to the Committee by the County Auditor.  
Motion carried.

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Chairman Sorensen informed the Committee that Mr. Mark Jontry was in an automobile accident last night and is in the hospital in Peoria.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the Executive Committee meeting was adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Judith A. LaCasse  
Recording Secretary