

## Minutes of a Special Meeting of the Finance Committee

The Finance Committee of the McLean County Board met on Tuesday, October 18, 2011, at 8:15 a.m. in Room 400 of the Government Center, 115 E. Washington Street, Bloomington, Illinois.

Members Present: Chairman Owens, Members Butler, O'Connor, Wollrab, McIntyre and Rankin

Members Absent: None

Other Members Present: County Board Chairman Sorensen, Member McKibbin

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

Department Heads/  
Elected Officials

Present: Mr. Mark Jontry, Superintendent, Regional Office of Education

Others Present: None

Chairman Owens called the meeting to order at 8:15 a.m.

Chairman Owens presented a request for approval of a Resolution agreeing to pay Reimbursable Costs to the McLean/DeWitt/Livingston Regional Office of Education and to sign a Memorandum of Understanding agreeing to the same – Regional Office of Education.

Chairman Owens advised that additional information regarding this request was provided to the County Board members in the packet. He noted that the Stand-up Committee meeting was scheduled with enough time should there be any questions or discussions.

Ms. Wollrab commented that the additional material was helpful. Mr. McIntyre concurred and added that one of the reasons he originally recommended that this item be table was to have an opportunity to read the material and become better acquainted with the issue.

Motion by O'Connor/Rackauskas to Recommend Approval of a Resolution Agreeing to Pay Reimbursable Costs to the McLean/DeWitt/Livingston Office of Education and to Sign a Memorandum of Understanding Agreeing to the same.

Mr. McIntyre stated that while he is proud to be a resident of McLean County, he is sometimes embarrassed to be a resident of the State of Illinois.

Mr. Rankin advised that he does not want to vote for something that doesn't require Board action anyway. He stated that if the point of the entire reason that the action item is before the Committee and the Board is for the Regional Office of Education to be transparent, then simply by making their stated purposes and talking to the Finance Committee, they have done just that. Mr. Rankin advised that he will vote "present" on this item. He added that it is not that he doesn't believe that the Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent do not deserve to be paid, but that he does not believe that it requires action by the County Board.

Mr. Butler stated that the Enterprise Funds the ROE intends to use to pay these salaries is in surplus over and above the cost of operating the programs for which the Enterprise Funds were originally intended.

Mr. McIntyre reminded the Committee that this is a temporary fix, and as soon State funds for these salaries come through, the money will be repaid to the Enterprise Funds.

Chairman Owens asked County Board Chairman Sorensen what the status is on House Bill 3828 that was introduced by Speaker Mike Madigan and will Metro Counties oppose the bill. Mr. Sorensen replied that, by laws and practice, Metro Counties would oppose that bill because the charge of Metro Counties as an organization is to oppose any State Legislation that detracts from local funding sources. He explained that House Bill 3828 does the following:

- Amends the State Revenue Sharing Act to include regional officials and local officials among the expenses for which the Personal Property Tax Replacement Fund shall be used.
- Amends the School Code concerning regional superintendents of schools to provide that salaries plus any amount for other employment-related compensation or benefits for regional superintendent and assistant regional superintendents are payable monthly by the the State Board of Education out of the personal Property Tax replacement Fund.

Chairman Owens asked if there were any additional questions or comments. Hearing none, he called for a vote on the Motion.

Motion carried with Mr. Rankin voting "present."

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There being nothing further to come before the Committee at this time, Chairman Owens adjourned the meeting at 8:24 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Judith A. LaCasse  
Recording Secretary

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