

# CHAMPAIGN COUNTY BOARD COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES

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**Highway & Transportation/County Facilities/Environment & Land Use  
Tuesday, December 7, 2010  
Lyle Shields Meeting Room, Brookens Administrative Center  
1776 E. Washington St., Urbana, Illinois**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Carol Ammons, Ron Bensyl, Astrid Berkson, Thomas Betz, Lloyd Carter, Lorraine Cowart, Stephanie Holderfield, Stan James, John Jay, Brad Jones, Alan Kurtz, Brendan McGinty, Diane Michaels, Steve Moser, Alan Nudo, Steve O'Connor, Patti Petrie, James Quisenberry, Michael Richards, Giraldo Rosales, Larry Sapp, Jonathan Schroeder, C. Pius Weibel

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Christopher Alix, Jan Anderson, Greg Knott, Ralph Langenheim

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Jeff Blue (County Engineer), Deb Busey (County Administrator), John Hall (Planning & Zoning Director), Susan Monte (RPC County Planner)

## **CALL TO ORDER**

Weibel called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. Weibel pointed out that the County Board Rules allow him to chair these meetings or appoint someone else to chair the meetings. His intent is to have the meetings chaired by someone else when a pattern of who that will be is established for the remainder of the Board term.

## **ROLL CALL**

Busey called the roll. Ammons, Bensyl, Berkson Betz, Holderfield, Jay, Jones, Kurtz, McGinty, Nudo, O'Connor, Petrie, Quisenberry, Richards, Rosales, Sapp, Schroeder, and Weibel were present at the time of roll call, establishing the presence of a quorum.

Weibel confirmed Anderson, Langenheim, and Alix had informed him they would be attending tonight's meeting and were excused.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION** by Jones to approve the Committee of the Whole minutes of October 5, 2010; seconded by Ammons. **Motion carried with unanimous support.**

## **APPROVAL OF AGENDA/ADDENDA**

**MOTION** by Ammons to approve the agenda; seconded by Rosales.

Kurtz said agenda items 9.D under ELUC would be removed from the agenda due to information received from the State's Attorney this afternoon.

Moser entered the meeting at 6:15 p.m.

**Motion carried as amended with unanimous support.**

## **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Steven Rosenberg explained he is the owner of Green Purpose and is proposing to open a recycling, reusing, and repurposing center on a subscription basis. He offered to answer any questions from anyone at any point.

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

Petrie asked Rosenberg to give the Board some contact information. Weibel and Busey confirmed Rosenberg had provided contact information. Petrie announced she would meet with constituents from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. before the monthly County Board meetings at the Champaign Public Library. She invited all Board members to join her within the Open Meetings Act requirements. Weibel said there could be no more than seven Board members present.

## **HIGHWAY & TRANSPORTATION**

### **Monthly Reports**

County & Township Motor Fuel Tax Claims – October 2010 & November 2010

**MOTION** by Betz to receive and place on file the County & Township Motor Fuel Tax Claims for October 2010 & November 2010; seconded by Ammons. **Motion carried with unanimous support.**

### **County Engineer**

#### **Bridge Petitions**

Jay encouraged a Board member to make an omnibus motion to approve the bridge petitions. Blue stated there were eight bridge petitions from township highway commissioners. The bridges vary from projects where the townships is paying 50% of the costs to projects where the township pays 50% of the engineering costs and 10% of the construction costs, with the County paying the remaining amounts. The reason for the difference was the township bridge program created by state law. This program states any bridge 20 feet in length along the roadway is eligible for township bridge funding. There are 600 bridges of this length in Champaign County. Townships road commissioners can petition the County for use of County bridge funds and township bridge program funds. The County Bridge Fund is used to match funding 50/50 with the township for any structure under 20 feet. The township bridge funds annually run in the neighborhood of about \$350,000. A significant amount is levied for the County Bridge Fund.

**MOTION** by Betz for an omnibus motion to approve the Bridge Petition – Compromise Road District – Sections 19 & 20, Bridge Petition – Condit Road District – Section 11, Bridge

Petition – Condit Road District – Sections 14 & 11, Bridge Petition – Crittenden Road District – Sections 17 & 20, Bridge Petition – Hensley Road District – Section 17, Bridge Petition – Hensley Road District – Sections 9 & 16, Bridge Petition – Newcomb Road District – Sections 11 & 14, and Bridge Petition – Stanton Road District – Sections 4 & 5; seconded by Moser.

O'Connor asked if any money changed hands when the township pays 50% of the engineering costs. Blue said the County pays a structural engineer to complete a design and the township reimburses the County for its percentage.

Schroeder asked if all the eight bridges were scheduled to be replaced. Blue said every bridge in Champaign County is inspected on a two-year rotation. The bridges in the worst condition are annually inspected. All bridges are given a sufficiency rating and once it reaches a certain level, the County Highway Department prods the township road commissioners about replacing a bridge. The township has to have sufficient funds to replace a bridge and some townships take a long time to save enough money for a bridge project. Blue said the petitions do not reflect the eight most deficient bridges in the county, though they are in the top 20-30. It is up to the township to petition the County to repair a bridge; the County cannot make a township replace a bridge. Schroeder asked if the 2009 floods caused any degradation that necessitated premature repair on a bridge. Blue answered no. Blue continued to answer questions about the schedule and funding of bridge replacement.

**Motion carried with unanimous support.**

Resolution for the Replacement of Structure #010-4306 Located on County Highway 11 (Thomasboro Road) and Appropriating \$300,000.00 from County Motor Fuel Tax Funds

Blue explained the bridge is on the Thomasboro Road traveling up to Gifford through Flatville. The bridge has been deteriorating for some time. They have \$600,000 in federal funds to help with the project. The project is estimated to cost \$900,000. It will likely be bid in the late summer or early fall because of being a federal or state letting. They will begin the engineering following the resolution's approval.

**MOTION** by Quisenberry to approve the Resolution for the Replacement of Structure #010-4306 Located on County Highway 11 (Thomasboro Road) and Appropriating \$300,000.00 from County Motor Fuel Tax Funds; seconded by Betz. **Motion carried with unanimous support.**

Resolution Awarding Contracts for Aggregate Materials for Various Road Districts in Champaign County – Section #11-00000-00-GM. (Letting to be held on December 2, 2010)

Blue said the bid opening was held on December 2, 2010 in order to supply and haul all the aggregate materials to the township highway commissioners throughout Champaign County. He placed a separate handout on the Board's desks about the bid tabulations and trucking firms. He explained the prices in 2010 compared to this year.

**MOTION** by Ammons to approve the Resolution Awarding Contracts for Aggregate Materials for Various Road Districts in Champaign County – Section #11-00000-00-GM; seconded by Kurtz.

Sapp asked if all township districts participated. Blue said a township does not have to use motor fuel tax funds to pay for aggregate materials as the funding can be spent on a variety of items.

**Motion carried with unanimous support.**

Champaign County 2011 Bridge Project Locations Map

Provided for information only.

**Chair's Report**

There was no Chair's report.

**Other Business**

Schroeder asked how the Monticello Road resurfacing project is progressing. Blue said they are making the final payments on the project and are \$50,000 under the bid. The first five miles was a federal aid project. The last six miles was a motor fuel tax project. He thought the project went well and only the intersection with Route 45 is not done to the standards he would like. IDOT is coming through next year with a project on Route 45, in which the County will participate, to complete the intersection.

Kurtz asked about the motor fuel tax dollars. Blue answered the revenue was down about 10% since last year. This revenue continues to decrease and the Highway Department's costs continue to increase. The revenue is based on population and Blue does not believe the revenue will increase.

**Designation of Items to be Placed on County Board Consent Agenda**

Agenda items 7.B.1-11 were designated for the consent agenda.

**COUNTY FACILITIES**

Betz deferred chairing this portion of the meeting to Sapp in the spirit of the new arrangement.

**Courthouse Exterior/Clock & Bell Tower Renovation Project  
Project Budget Report**

Busey stated this was the final report because all the project payments have been completed with the final amendments. This account will be closed out in a month or two.

**MOTION** by Betz to receive and place on file the project budget report; seconded by Richards. **Motion carried with unanimous support.**

### **Facilities Director**

#### **Physical Plant Monthly Reports**

**MOTION** by Betz to receive and place on file the Physical Plant October 2010 monthly reports; seconded by Ammons. **Motion carried with unanimous support.**

#### **Update – RFP 2010-005 for Design Build of Coroner/Physical Plant Maintenance/County Storage Facility**

Busey reported the footings are in and the project is on schedule. The steel structure is anticipated to arrive in December. They are planning the project will be completed by mid-April.

#### **Update – ILEAS Roof Project**

Busey explained the project was one-third complete and is on hold due to the weather.

### **Chair's Report**

Betz said he, as Deputy Chair, and Sapp, as Assistant Deputy Chair will work closely together on County Facilities issues over the next Board term. Betz hoped this would not be a term when the County Board was asked to approve contracts they see for the first time on the night of a Board meeting. Nudo thanked Chair Weibel for appointing Republicans as the Assistant Deputy Chairs to encourage communication between the parties.

### **Other Business**

There was no other business.

### **ENVIRONMENT & LAND USE**

#### **Recycling Options Available to Champaign County Residents Beginning January 1, 2011**

Monte provided basic information about recycling options in Champaign County since the City of Champaign is closing its popular recycling drop-off site at the end of December. Board members could also contact her with any additional questions.

Richards asked if the item was included on the agenda in anticipation of future County action or simply for information. Kurtz confirmed the item was for information only. Petrie said it would be interesting for the County to explore things to put in place to reduce the amount of materials that have to be recycled. She would like to see this put on the agenda after the first of the year for further discussion. Monte stated the Land Resource Management Plan includes an objective to update and reformulate a solid waste management plan for the County. This objective is slated for 2015 and there are some interim steps they are focusing on. Kurtz asked if the Cities of Champaign or Urbana will expand their recycling programs. Mote pointed out the City of

Champaign was closing a recycling site and their budgetary situation calls for no new recycling programs. The drop-off site was intended to serve City residents and it was found to be serving a County population for several years. The Cities are focused on serving their own residents.

Holderfield asked if any information would be provided that showed the cost, maintenance, and how the business would be facilitated. Monte said it was provided in this preliminary form because the business has not opened or displayed its business plan yet. She asked if they wanted to hear from the business owner. Holderfield wanted to hear about what the potential cost would be to the participants or the County. Busey said this is a private business proposal, not a proposal the County Board would act upon. It was just provided by Monte for information so they are aware that, as one municipality shuts down a publically funded recycling site, there is a business looking to open to fill that gap. It is not a request to the County Board to fund or participate in the business in any way. Monte concurred.

Nudo was not in favor of the County Board getting involved in running a recycling site because of the experience other governmental entities have had. Moser asked why Sidney and St. Joseph shut down their recycling sites. Monte did not have any information on that, but offered to find out and let Moser know via email.

Quisenberry asked if they were talking to other private industries about expanding their acceptance of recycling. Monte said it was not part of the function she served. She was here to disseminate information and promote recycling as the budget and work program allows.

Kurtz asked Rosenberg if he would like to give the County Board further information. Rosenberg said he was a private enterprise, but he was not just trying to replace Champaign's recycling drop-off site. He was trying to create a center for everyone to use at their will and to educate people on reuse. They will have membership fees. He wants to accept materials that are not recyclable to create a materials exchange network. He spoke further about the importance of recycling and answered the Board's questions.

Kurtz remarked Monte was distributing numbers regarding why the City of Champaign is closing its recycling site. The site cost the City \$148,000 to operate last year and the cost from 2005 to 2010 more than doubled.

Carter, Cowart, James, and Michaels entered the meeting at 6:52 p.m.

**Reaffirmation of Resolution No. 6336 Resolution Regarding A Proposed Chemical Waste Landfill Over The Mahomet Aquifer In DeWitt County Illinois**

**MOTION** by Ammons to reaffirm Resolution No. 6336 with a letter from the County Board Chair; seconded by Betz.

Kurtz stated this was a reaffirmation of a 2008 resolution opposing a landfill over the Mahomet Aquifer in DeWitt County, which is about to come to fruition. On page 42, there are two names of individuals who no longer hold those positions and he asked Hall to correct the names before the new resolution is presented at the County Board meeting.

Weibel suggested a letter from the Board Chair reaffirming the previous resolution was in order instead of preparing a new resolution. Kurtz concurred.

Quisenberry asked what effect the County Board hoped to have with the reaffirmation of the resolution. Kurtz hoped it would impact the Illinois EPA's decision regarding the landfill's permit. DeWitt County had two ballot initiatives that overwhelmingly opposed the landfill. O'Connor called the question.

**Motion carried for the County Board Chair to send a letter reaffirming the original resolution.**

**Recreation and Entertainment License and Hotel/Motel Yearly Renewals**

Recreation and Entertainment License: Curtis Orchard Ltd., 3902 S. Duncan Road, Champaign, IL – May 1, 2011 through December 23, 2011

**MOTION** by Jones to approve the Recreation and Entertainment License for Curtis Orchard Ltd., 3902 S. Duncan Road, Champaign, Illinois for the dates May 1, 2011 through December 23, 2011; seconded by Jay. **Motion carried with unanimous support.**

Recreation and Entertainment License: Gordyville, LLC, 2205 CR 3000N, Gifford, IL – January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011

**MOTION** by James to approve the Recreation and Entertainment License for Gordyville, LLC, 2205 County Road 3000N, Gifford, Illinois for the dates January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011; seconded by Bensyl. **Motion carried with unanimous support.**

**Other Business**

Request to Seek Attorney General Opinion Regarding the Statutory Authority of County Government to Regulate Underground Coal Mining on Property Located Within Its Jurisdiction

This item was removed from the agenda.

**Chair's Report**

There was no Chair's report.

**Designation of Items to be Placed on County Board Consent Agenda**

No agenda items were designated for the consent agenda.

**Orientation By Planning & Zoning Director**

Hall presented an orientation on planning and zoning to the County Board, explaining both the history of his department and its responsibilities versus the long-range planning done in conjunction with the Regional Planning Commission. Hall also explained the functions of the

Zoning Board of Appeals. He answered Board members' questions about individual planning and zoning issues.

**APPROVAL OF CLOSED SESSION MINUTES**  
**October 5, 2010 – Committee of the Whole**

This item was moved to the January agenda.

**ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kat Bork  
Administrative Assistant

*Secy's note: The minutes reflect the order of the agenda and may not necessarily reflect the order of business conducted at the meeting.*