

CHAMPAIGN COUNTY BOARD COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES

**Finance/ Justice & Social Services/Highway & Transportation
Tuesday, March 13, 2012
Lyle Shields Meeting Room, Brookens Administrative Center
1776 E. Washington St., Urbana, Illinois**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Christopher Alix, Carol Ammons, Jan Anderson, Ron Bensyl, Astrid Berkson, Thomas Betz, Lloyd Carter, Lorraine Cowart, Aaron Esry, Stephanie Holderfield, Stan James, John Jay, Jeff Kibler, Alan Kurtz, Ralph Langenheim, Gary Maxwell, Diane Michaels, Max Mitchell, Steve O'Connor, Patti Petrie, James Quisenberry, Michael Richards, Giraldo Rosales, C. Pius Weibel

MEMBERS ABSENT: Brendan McGinty, Steve Moser, Jon Schroeder

OTHERS PRESENT: Deb Busey (County Administrator), Jeff Blue (County Engineer), Alan Reinhart (Facilities Director), Kay Rhodes (Administrative Assistant), Tracy Parsons (ACCESS Initiative), Peter Tracy (Executive Director of MHB/DDB), Dan Welch (Treasurer)

CALL TO ORDER

Weibel called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Rhodes called the roll. Alix, Ammons, Anderson, Bensyl, Berkson, Betz, Carter, Cowart, Esry, Holderfield, James, Jay, Kibler, Kurtz, Langenheim, Maxwell, Michaels, Mitchell, O'Connor, Petrie, Quisenberry, Richards, Rosales, and Weibel were present at the time of roll call, establishing the presence of a quorum.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION by Rosales to approve the February 14, 2012 Committee of the Whole minutes; seconded by Kibler. **Motion carried with unanimous support.**

APPROVAL OF AGENDA/ADDENDA

MOTION by James to approve the agenda as amended; seconded by Kurtz. **Motion carried with unanimous support.**

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

John Sullivan, Sheila Ferguson, Mike Weissman, Chris Evans, Durl Kruse, Aaron Ammons, Sarah Lazare, Bill Ziegler, William Cope, Harold Scharlau, Gary Cziko, Leslie Cooperband, Marcel Miller, and Brian Dolinar spoke during public participation.

COMMUNICATIONS

Kurtz shared that the Mahomet Valley Water Authority joined the coalition against the Clinton landfill permit. The City of Bloomington had announced their intent to join and approve the intergovernmental agreement regarding the Clinton landfill permit at their next meeting. Kurtz said there were also plans to meet with Senator Dick Durbin regarding the landfill. He also stated that since Monticello Road had been upgraded no further accidents have occurred.

Weibel stated Moser and McGinty had informed him they would not be present at the meeting. Weibel announced that Storm Spotter Training would be available to County Board members on March 15 at 6:30 p.m.at the ILEAS building.

FINANCE

Budget Amendments/Transfers

Budget Amendment #12-00013

MOTION by Betz to recommend to the County Board approval of Budget Amendment #12-00013 for Fund/Dept: 641 ACCESS Initiative-053 Mental Health Board with increased appropriations of \$500,000 and no increased revenue to increase the Contributions & Grants line item in order to implement specific program components necessary to construct a system of care for youth with serious emotional disturbance with multi-system involvement; seconded by James. Michaels asked why the amendment did not show any revenue to offset the appropriation and if perhaps this was grant money not received yet. Tracy explained they have received some of it and will receive more. Michaels asked what amount had already been received. Tracy estimated the amount already received to be about \$200,000. **MOTION** by Michaels to amend not exceed the amount of funds received; seconded by Ammons. Busey explained the only funds deposited into this come from a grant and they cannot spend the funds unless they are received. Busey stated she believed the amendment should have been prepared to show the offsetting revenue. **MOTION** by Weibel to amend the amendment to include increased revenue of \$500,000 in grant funds; seconded by Quisenberry. Busey explained that Mental Health did not spend the revenue received last year and so it had been carried over and re-encumbered along with the amount of the grant funds to be received this year. **MOTION** by Weibel to defer until County Board meeting when a more detailed budget amendment could be presented for approval; seconded by Kibler. **Motion to defer carried.**

Budget Transfer #12-00002

MOTION by Kurtz to recommend to the County Board approval of Budget Transfer 12-00002 for Fund/Dept: 641 ACCESS Initiative-053 Mental Health Board for a total amount of \$237,746 to reduce the original personnel budget-staffing changes were made after December 1 to allow for staff to work out of contracting; seconded by Weibel. **Motion carried.**

Children's Advocacy Center
Mental Health Board Grant

MOTION by Jay to recommend approval to the County Board of the application for renewal and if awarded, acceptance of FY2013 Mental Health Board Grant; seconded by Cowart. **Motion carried with unanimous support.**

Facilities Director
Waiver to Hiring Freeze

MOTION by James to approve waiver to hiring freeze to fill a recently vacated maintenance worker position; seconded by Langenheim. Ammons asked if the position had already been posted or if this request was to allow the posting to move forward. Busey explained the request was to allow the posting to take place, however since the employee who vacated the position had just been hired two months ago, according to County policy this allows the selection to come from the last group of applications without formally posting it. Ammons encouraged a formal posting to take place to allow others to apply. Kibler asked how long it would take to hire someone given that they were entering into the busy spring season. Busey stated in the interest of time they had planned to follow the requirement of the labor contracts and County policy by not posting externally in order to hire someone as quickly as possible. However, since they must post internally due to the collective bargaining agreement, they can simultaneously post it externally. She explained they hoped to have someone hired within four weeks. **Motion carried with unanimous support.**

County Administrator
General Corporate Fund FY2012 Budget Projection Report
General Corporate Fund Budget Change Report

Busey explained that this was the end of the FY2012 first quarter. She pointed out that the area on the revenue side that listed \$617,823 more than budgeted in Non-Business License & Permits was due to the volume of real estate transactions so far this year. She did not believe this trend would continue. However, if it did, the expenditure projection for Purchase of Document Stamps would be over \$500,000, so the actual increase would be closer to \$100,000. Busey stated the County continued to under spend in Personnel expenditures. However, Gasoline & Oil may need to be amended because \$4/gallon gasoline was not budgeted. Busey pointed out that General Corporate Fund wages remain at a ten-percent reduction since FY2009, even with a modest wage increase in FY2012. **MOTION** by Kurtz to receive the General Corporate Fund FY2012 Budget Projection and Budget Change Reports and place on file; seconded by Richards.

Petrie asked how the establishment of the Veterans' Assistance Commission would affect the budget. Busey explained the funding was not budgeted and anything appropriated this year would come from the Fund Balance. She explained the Commission would probably not be fully established until late in the 3rd quarter of this year and would need to be budgeted in FY2013.

Motion carried with unanimous support.

MOTION by James to receive and place the Auditor's February 2012 report on file; seconded by Kurtz. **Motion carried with unanimous support.**

MOTION by Kurtz to receive and place the Treasurer's February 2012 report on file; seconded by Quisenberry. **Motion carried with unanimous support.**

Welch explained that two of the three mobile home resolutions were redemptions, in which the owners paid the back taxes and the last resolution was for purchase of the mobile home through the tax sale. **OMNIBUS MOTION** by Betz to recommend to the County Board the authorization for the County Board Chair to cancel mobile home certificates of purchase for permanent parcels 14-023-0065 and 23-043-0010; and assign a mobile home tax sale certificate of purchase for permanent parcel 30-059-0009; seconded by Michaels. **Motion carried with unanimous support.**

There was no Chair's report or other business.

Designation of Items to be Placed on County Board Consent Agenda

Items B1, F2-4 were designated for the County Board Consent Agenda.

JUSTICE & SOCIAL SERVICES

Richards announced the Sheriff's Agency Presentation was canceled.

OMNIBUS MOTION by Ammons to receive the Animal Control – November 2011, December 2011, January 2012; Emergency Management Agency – February 2012; Head Start – February 2012, Probation & Court Services – January 2012 reports and place on file; seconded by Kurtz. **Motion carried with unanimous support.**

Chair's Report

Appointment of Nine Members to the Champaign County Community Justice Task Force

Richards said the Jury Commission had printed flyers and distributed them around town to encourage the public to serve on a jury.

Richards announced his choices for the nine-member Community Justice Task Force. The members are William Sullivan, Sheila Ferguson, Benita Rollins-Gay, James Kilgore, Julian Rappaport, Lynn Branham, Mark Driscoll, Scott Bennett, and himself as the Task Force Chair. Michaels asked if anyone was chosen from outside the city limits of Champaign-Urbana and if

choosing someone from a rural area had been given any consideration. Richards explained this was a consideration but the over-riding focus was to choose a wide range of people. Kurtz thanked Richards for his work. Rosales asked if the Task Force would work with the Facilities Committee. Richards said this was up to the County Board. Weibel stated they were free to interact. Alix asked when the first meeting would take place. Richards intended for the first meeting to take place in April. Kibler stated Ms. Branham listed her address as St. Louis, Missouri and asked where she resided in Champaign County. Richards did not have this information. Kibler said he would like to see rural representation on the Task Force. Kibler was aware that an applicant from the Rantoul area was not selected. Richards stated this person was a strong candidate and he would still welcome his participation even though he did not formally select him. Rosales asked if the Task Force was subject to the open meetings act. Weibel said that while the open meetings act did not apply to the Task Force, they would follow it anyway. Ammons, Quisenberry, and Kurtz were in favor of the Task Force following the guidelines of the open meetings act.

Designation of Items to be Placed on County Board Consent Agenda

There were no items for the County Board Consent Agenda.

HIGHWAY & TRANSPORTATION

Monthly Reports

MOTION by James to receive the County & Township Motor Fuel Tax Claims February 2012 report and place on file; seconded by Jay. **Motion carried with unanimous support.**

County Engineer

MOTION by Langenheim to recommend approval to the County Board of a resolution authorizing the County Board Chair to sign a Joint Agreement with IDOT for the Fisher to Foosland Project; seconded by Quisenberry. **Motion carried with unanimous support.**

MOTION by Quisenberry to recommend approval to the County Board of a resolution establishing a Class II Truck Route on County Highways 8 & 30; seconded by Holderfield. **Motion carried with unanimous support.**

MOTION by Jay to recommend approval to the County Board of a resolution appropriating \$35,000 from County Bridge Funds for a culvert repair located on County Highway #22 Section #12-00982-00-BR; seconded by Kurtz. **Motion carried with unanimous support.**

Hanson Engineering Roundabout Presentation

Jeff Blue stated there was much discussion of the proposed roundabout at Olympian and Lincoln at the last meeting so he asked Hanson Engineering to give a presentation on it.

James asked why a presentation was necessary when the Board consensus at the last meeting had been that they were not interested. Cowart did not recall this discussion. Blue explained due to questions at the last Committee of the Whole meeting he felt this presentation would provide needed information on roundabouts. The presentation proceeded.

Kurtz said for the next two to three years only one lane would be constructed over the bridge and to the roundabout. He said the traffic would make a left hand turn, keep going, and go back over the bridge. Kurtz said Lincoln Avenue would not connect to the roundabout in the next two years. He said most of the roundabouts he had seen were meant for heavy traffic areas. This location does not have heavy traffic. Betz asked what role the County Board has in addressing the question as to whether or not a roundabout is built. Blue explained the County is partners in the Olympian Drive project with the cities of Champaign and Urbana. This project is funded by State and Federal agencies. Blue stated the County Highway department had been contacted to perform the right of way negotiations with the Squire family. Betz reiterated his question as to what action could the County Board take regarding this roundabout. Blue said he did not believe there was anything the County Board is expected to take action on regarding the roundabout. He explained after questions came up at the last meeting, he felt any questions the County Board had should be answered, so he contacted Hanson Engineering to provide this presentation.

Quisenberry asked if someone wished to move large farm equipment, which was approximately 40 feet wide from the north side to the south side, could they maneuver a roundabout. The Hanson engineer stated they would have issues moving through the intersection, but they would also have issues north and south of the intersection with the width of the right away, as well as meeting on-coming traffic. Quisenberry stated there was a clear local bias against placing a roundabout in this location and this should be given consideration. He stated the placement of the roundabout did not make sense.

Blue said a roundabout takes less land, less right of way, and less cost and he did not believe that any of the presented arguments had merit. Esry said the Olympian Road would divide farmland in half. He stated a farmer would need to demount/remount his platform and the time it takes to do it costs the farmer money. Berkson said a roundabout was not needed for a T-intersection.

Alix said hundreds of intersections in Champaign County do not have roundabouts. This intersection only has two true roads and would remain this way for quite some time. Jay objected to a roundabout because there had been many discussions about this road and a roundabout was not brought up until it became popular with another entity in this project. He said a T-intersection would require less land and cost less. Blue disagreed and stated the amount of land required for a right of way would be the same no matter what type of intersection was constructed.

Maxwell asked how many lanes were planned for the road. Blue stated the Olympian Drive project is a two-lane road project. However, they are purchasing enough right of way for four-lanes for the future. Maxwell asked for a list of reasons why a roundabout would be

beneficial. The Hanson engineer explained that safety would be the number one benefit as traffic volume increased in this area. Petrie did not believe that steps had been taken to accommodate the rural residents in this area who do not want a roundabout. She also stated she had yet to see any study or research report with controlled comparisons that truly prove that roundabouts were safer.

Richards asked what entity makes the decision about the type of intersection to be placed in this area. Blue said the City of Urbana was the lead agency on the project. Blue added that as the County Engineer he did not want to represent something that the County Board did not endorse.

Mr. Tom Franey of Tom Franey Trucking Incorporated in Champaign was invited to give his perspective and answer questions about driving large transport trucks in the area. Franey stated he did not have any personal experience using roundabouts. He said he could maneuver the intersection. He maneuvers in and out of gas stations in the area. Franey said he also farms and he believed that farmers would figure out how to get their equipment through this intersection because that is what farmers do; they figure out how to get things done. He said the real question seems to be whether or not the people in this area want a roundabout and if they have any say in it.

There was no Chair's report.

Designation of Items to be Placed on County Board Consent Agenda

Items B1-3 were designated for the County Board Consent Agenda.

Bensyl and Holderfield left the meeting at 8:20 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 9:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kay Rhodes
Administrative Assistant

Please note the minutes reflect the order of the agenda and may not necessarily reflect the order of business conducted at the meeting.