

CHAMPAIGN COUNTY BOARD  
**COMMITTEE MINUTES**

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**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**Thursday, August 9, 2007**

**Lyle Shields Meeting Room, Brookens Administrative Center  
1776 E. Washington St., Urbana**

7:00 p.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Doenitz, Jones, McGinty (Chair), O'Connor, Richards, Tapley, Wysocki

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Gross, Weibel

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Steve Beckett (County Board Member), Kat Bork (Recording Secretary), Kris Bolt (Chief Deputy Sheriff), Deb Busey (County Administrator of Finance & HR Management), Tony Fabri (Auditor), Jeffrey Ford (Circuit Court Judge), Susan McGrath (Senior Assistant State's Attorney), Susan Monte (RPC), Duane Northrup (Coroner), Dan Welch (Treasurer), Karl Drake

**CALL TO ORDER**

McGinty called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

The Recording Secretary called the roll. Doenitz, Jones, McGinty, O'Connor, Richards, and Wysocki were present at the time of roll call. McGinty declared a quorum and proceeded with the meeting.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA/ADDENDUM**

**MOTION** by Wysocki to approve the agenda; seconded by Richards. **Motion carried.**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION** by Wysocki to approve the regular session Finance Committee minutes of June 7, 2007; seconded by Doenitz. **Motion carried.**

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There was no public participation.

Tapley entered the meeting at 7:02 p.m.

**OUTSIDE AUDITOR REPORT ON 2006 AUDIT**

Karl Drake of Bray, Drake, Liles & Richardson LLP addressed the committee concerning the outside audit. The County again received an unqualified opinion on the audit. The only problems are listed in Drake's letter included in the agenda packet. The new standards did not significantly change the County's

outside auditor report this year. Drake stated there are eleven new standards in effect for the current audit year. The process of auditing is changing, largely due to problems encountered with companies like Enron and Arthur Anderson. Auditing is becoming more about dealing with fraud. The new auditing standards will require the outside audit firm to take more time interviewing individuals involved in the audit to get more in-depth knowledge of the client. Drake explained the government is slowly moving towards international accounting standards, but the AICPA and the Financial Accounting Standards Board hope to control that issue in the U.S. by issuing these new standards. The only reportable condition mentioned in Drake's management letter has been resolved. The condition was there were no pre-numbered receipts used in the collection of bond payments at the County Correctional Center. The condition had been reported in two prior years. Drake learned from the Sheriff that this condition has been solved since he submitted the management letter because the Sheriff is now using a system that does produce pre-numbered receipts.

Drake reported two other comments about the audit. The first was about the Kronos payroll system. During the audit, Drake learned of problems arising from the new payroll system and he hopes those are slowly being solved. The main problem is being able to trace between the payroll system to the general ledger system. Drake has been asked by Busey to return sometime in September and test the system. The second comment was problems Drake's firm has continually had over the years with regard to certain items. Drake wanted to make it clear that Busey was not the problem. Drake felt he had a contractual obligation to let the County Administrator know that his firm was not going to be able to complete the audit during the contract's term because they had not received enough information to complete their field work. It is virtually impossible to complete it by March 31st under the new audit standards. Several of the missing items were accounts payable support from the Nursing Home and the accrued compensated absences. The reason that Drake is presenting the audit in August rather than June is because he cannot review the audit report until he has the management's discussion and analysis (MD&A). He cannot review it until he has all the footnotes. On June 26, 2007, Drake still had not received the MD&A. A meeting was held about this and Drake hopes the problem will be solved. It has been a problem for the last five to six years. It will become more critical under the new audit standards because they have gotten sticky on when the outside auditor can date its audit report. Drake's firm cannot date its opinion until it has reviewed all of the financial statements and all of the work papers including the MD&A. Drake has to be able to prove that his firm has asked various officials whether they are aware of any fraud. Drake will need more cooperation from the various County offices.

Tapley asked what types of federal funds become jeopardized by audit issues. Drake said if his firm cannot audit the payroll then they cannot give an opinion on the federal expenditures and that would affect every federal grant. The payroll issue is the only one that would jeopardize the grants unless the things Drake needs to review are so late in getting to him that it jeopardizes the certificate of conformance. Prior to this year, Drake was getting the information towards the end of May. If GFOA does not get the report within six months of the end of the County's fiscal year or the extension date that GFOA may grant, then the County would not get its certificate. The federal funds are jeopardized if Drake's firm cannot test the County's payroll to sufficiently conclude that its financial statements are not materially misstated. Drake is concerned about payroll problems in RPC. When he contacted RPC a month ago, they were still having problems. Tapley asked if Kronos was the problem. Drake believes it was. He was told after the fact that the County was the first to implement Kronos's total payroll system. Busey explained the County was not the first to implement Kronos's total package, but we were the first for an operation of the size and complexity of Champaign County government. After the meeting with Drake a month ago, Busey contacted Betty Murphy in RPC. She was assured by Murphy at that time that RPC believed everything was working accurately. Busey encourages an early audit of Kronos because it is a new system and she wants to make sure it is adhering to the audit requirements. The problems that Busey has heard about in the last months involve posting to the general ledger due to differences in rounding an entire department's posting may be off by five cents. They are accounting for this. Busey believes we are in fairly good standing with regard to the audit trail and the general ledger, but we still would to be sure.

Wysocki asked why the management discussion and analysis has been an ongoing problem for three years. Drake said the numbers in it change based on the financial statements and some verbiage may change based on changed conditions. Drake did not know why this continues to be a problem; the committee would have to ask the Auditor's Office. Fabri said the MD&A is the summary of all the financial data from the other departments and the Auditor's Office gives it to Drake's firm. Wysocki asked if it was not forthcoming because the Auditor's Office was not getting the information from the other departments in a timely fashion. Fabri said he thought that was part of the problem this year. He could not speak to the previous years. Drake said the information comes from the basic financial statements for the most part. He believed Carol Wadleigh, the Chief Deputy Auditor, has those statements around the first to second week in April and his firm had that mostly reviewed by the end of April. Drake does not know what the hang-up was this year. The comment in his letter was a result of his frustration. He does not understand why the management discussion and analysis cannot be done a week or two after the financial statements are ready. The footnotes involved could also be done at the same time, with the exception of subsequent events. Fabri said Kronos went into effect in January when Wadleigh is neck deep in doing the work for the CAPR so there was some delay in her trying to preserve the audit trail for this year's payroll. Fabri assured Drake that getting the management discussion and analysis done sooner would be a top priority next year. Drake reiterated that his firm would like to receive the management discussion and analysis within a week or two of the time they get the final financial statements because there is no reason the audit still cannot be done by the end of May. Drake stated that Wadleigh does not prepare the MD&A, Fabri does as the Auditor. Fabri said he did not mean to imply that Wadleigh did. He said Wadleigh does the financials that the MD&A is based on.

Tapley recalled an introductory letter from a previous Auditor that was political in nature. Drake acknowledged there was one year where there was a problem with the introductory letter because the first version was very political and Government Accounting Standards Board requires that it not be political. Tapley was surprised that a draft existed that was even more political than the version printed in the audit.

Wysocki asked what the new standards would be. Drake explained that most of them will involve risk management to determine troubled spots in an audit. Drake said this year's reportable conditions letter will be the last. Next year the committee will receive a deficiency letter.

**MOTION** by Tapley to receive and place on file the outside auditor report on the 2006 audit; seconded by Wysocki. **Motion carried.**

With the committee's consent, McGinty shuffled the agenda items to accommodate people who were waiting to address specific items.

#### **BUDGET AMENDMENTS/TRANSFERS**

##### **Budget Amendment #07-00075**

**MOTION** by Tapley to recommend to the County Board approval of Budget Amendment #07-00075 from Fund 080 General Corporate – Department 041 State's Attorney for increased appropriations of \$9,249 for the Regular Full-Time Employees line, with no increased revenue; seconded by Wysocki.

Tapley asked if there was an answer about why this required a budget amendment. Busey explained the State's Attorney's Office is fully staffed. By filling the position promptly, there are not enough additional salary dollars to pay out the benefits to the exiting employee.

**Motion carried.**

Budget Amendment #07-00076

Busey requested Budget Amendment #07-00076 be withdrawn. There needs to be an increased appropriation and that figure is not known.

Budget Amendment #07-00077

**MOTION** by Wysocki to recommend to the County Board approval of Budget Amendment #07-00077 from Fund 658 Jail Commissary – Department 140 Correctional Center for increased appropriations of \$25,000 for the Commissary Supplies line and \$5,043 for the Police Equipment line with no increased revenue; seconded by Doenitz.

Chief Deputy Bolt said the Correctional Center presently has a system from Morris Watchmen that has become quite unreliable with getting repairs done. The Correctional Deputies have had to rely on paper check sheets, which is the method they were trying to get away from with the Morris Watchmen system. This system is currently in use by the Juvenile Detention Center and the plan is to share a server. The funds are coming from the Jail Commissary and the money is available. It is the opinion of the State's Attorney's Office that this is an appropriate use of those funds. Wysocki asked for a description of the system. Bolt explained the hardware is a wand that a deputy touches against a coded button on each cell. This verifies that the cells have been checked and records the time. Jones said he thinks this is a great idea to prevent future liability.

**Motion carried.**

Budget Amendment #07-00078

**MOTION** by Tapley to recommend to the County Board approval of Budget Amendment #07-00078 from Fund 080 General Corporate – Department 040 Sheriff for increased appropriations of \$33,333 for the SLEP Regular Full-Time Employees line with increased revenue of \$33,333 from the School Resource Officer Reimbursement line; seconded by O'Connor.

Busey asked if this budget amendment was adding staff. Bolt said the Sheriff's Office recently negotiated to receive 50% reimbursement for the cost of providing two School Resource Officers from the schools. Bolt said they would like to put that money back into their salaries and eventually they plan to add another deputy position. Busey said the negotiated revenue was to offset an existing expense that the County has from a resource that is receiving the service, so she has some concern about increasing the expenditure. By asking for another position the County will not be gaining any money to offset the expense of the School Resource Officer contracts. Busey noted when the City of Champaign provides officers to the Champaign schools; those schools pay for the officers. The County was providing the School Resource Officers to schools at no cost to them and only just started receiving partial reimbursement for the costs. Bolt said it is a zero loss, zero gain situation.

Tapley asked if a deputy was taken off patrol to be put in the schools two years ago. Bolt said a deputy was moved to the schools from regular duty and was funded by a grant. The Sheriff's Office did not add any positions through the grant, so fewer deputies were on the street. The grant was gone away. Bolt said he believed the goal with the SRO reimbursement money was to bring that money back into the salaries money to offset costs in overtime. Busey said the issue is that the County Board approves the number of deputies. By putting \$33,333 into the line item used to pay for deputies, the Sheriff could not spend it without the County Board approving the addition of a deputy position. Busey advised that the more appropriate approach would be to request another deputy position and then inform the Board that the Sheriff

negotiated revenue to offset costs of existing positions. Tapley asked if the revenue was to offset overtime expenses or an additional position. Bolt said his office would like to use the revenue from the school districts through December 1<sup>st</sup> to offset overtime costs. The plan also to request an additional position next year from the revenue the Sheriff is receiving from the school districts. Busey said if the Sheriff needs more money for overtime, then he should make a request to the County Board for additional overtime funding. She added the most recent projections for SLEP overtime looked like the budget would be sufficient. A budget request for an additional deputy should come with the request to add a deputy position to the Sheriff's staffing.

**Tapley asked for a friendly amendment to the motion striking the appropriations line but keeping the revenue line. O'Connor agreed.**

Tapley does not have objection to a position, but to method which it was brought to the committee because it could establish a negative precedent for requesting additional personnel. Bolt answered questions about how the School Resource Officers serve various schools.

**Motion carried as amended.**

Budget Amendment #07-00079

**MOTION** by Wysocki to recommend to the County Board approval of Budget Amendment #07-00079 from Fund 080 General Corporate – Department 023 Recorder for increased appropriations of \$200,000 for the Purchase Document Stamps line with increased revenue of \$300,000 from the Revenue Stamps line; seconded by Doenitz.

Wysocki asked if the housing market in the County continues to be very strong. Busey said the market is not as strong as it was last year, but the revenue remains ahead of what was budgeted.

**Motion carried.**

Budget Amendment #07-00080

**MOTION** by Doenitz to recommend to the County Board approval of Budget Amendment #07-00080 from Fund 080 General Corporate – Department 042 Coroner for increased appropriations of \$48,600 for the Medical/Dental/Mental Health line, \$12,200 for the Laboratory Fees line, \$2,800 Gasoline & Oil line, and \$1,500 for the Temporary Salaries & Wages line with no increased revenue; seconded by Tapley.

Wysocki requested an explanation of the costs. Northrup stated most of these costs are for autopsies and toxicologies. He explained his monthly average and the projection through the end of the year. There has been a substantial increase in cases compared to previous years. A small amount is to cover fuel due to increased fuel prices.

**Motion carried.**

Budget Amendment #07-00081

**MOTION** by Wysocki to recommend to the County Board approval of Budget Amendment #07-00081 from Fund 104 Head Start Program – Department 662 Early Childhood/Pre-Kindergarten Odd Years for increased appropriations of \$2,500 for the Employee Health/Life Insurance line with increased revenue of

\$2,500 from the Illinois State Board of Education/ Pre-Kindergarten line; seconded by Richards. **Motion carried.**

### **COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR**

#### **General Corporate Fund FY2007 Revenue/Expenditure Projection Report**

Busey distributed her reports to the committee. She reported the Non-Business Licenses & Permits, where \$142,373 is projected over what was budgeted, is where the Recording Fees are located. That group of items is projected to come in at \$1.4 million this year. The sales taxes are tracking pretty close to projections. Income tax is coming in well ahead of what was budgeted for the year. Most of the General Government items are coming in strong. Current projections are that revenue will come in at 103% of the budget. The General Corporate Fund is getting closer and closer to spending all of its expenditure budget. The savings are in the Personnel line items. Busey anticipates budget amendments later this year for postage, gasoline & oil, and utilities. She projects General Corporate will underspent the current budget by about \$195,000. On paper the General Corporate Fund is projected to have a deficit of \$476,000. The projected ending balance is \$608,000 revenue positive. This would almost get the General Corporate Fund back to a 12% fund balance.

Jones asked about adding new uses to the Public Safety Sales Tax. He wonders if it will still be solvate. Busey said she prepared the graphs at the request of the County Facilities Committee and shared these with the Finance Committee. Busey does not foresee the County being able to spend from the Public Safety Tax Fund for any items other than what it is dedicated to, which is debt service, the juvenile delinquency grants, justice technology, and facilities maintenance. The spreadsheet carries forward those expenditures based on the growth of the Public Safety Sales Tax and looks at what capability the sales tax has to take additional debt. Busey explained the spreadsheet and the debt service the County is carrying. It is important for long-term planning for the County Board to know when it could issue additional debt. The next time this fund would have the ability to take on additional debt of any size would be 2014.

Jones asked if there is no way to make this all go away. He thought the Public Safety Sales Tax was intended to be a temporary thing. He wondered if the County Board could balance the budget before the Public Safety Sales Tax Fund, why can't do so now without the fund. Busey said the majority of the money is being spent on facilities. The County was probably 50 years behind in updating facilities 10 years ago and did not have any funds to take care of facilities. The County's position with technology was also woefully behind 10 years ago. The Public Safety Sales Tax has allowed the County to take care of its public safety facilities and technology. Jones asked if the fund will be adversely affected by the new debt. Busey said the fund can afford it, but the County Board must know it cannot look at additional debt until 2014. The County Jail is the next building issue that will arise. This outlay does not include any long-term maintenance for buildings or capital improvement.

#### **General Corporate Fund Budget Change Report**

This report shows budget changes.

#### **Nursing Home Report**

The report was provided to the committee.

Ordinance Authorizing the Issuance of Public Safety Sales Tax Alternate Revenue Source Bonds of the County of Champaign, Illinois, for the Purpose of Financing Courthouse Exterior Renovations and Bell Tower Restoration and Ordinance Authorizing the Issuance of General Sales Tax Alternate Revenue Source Bonds of the County of Champaign, Illinois, for the Purpose of Financing a Highway Department Fleet Maintenance Facility

Busey announced the two ordinances would authorize the issuance of bonds for two different issues. This first ordinance is for \$6 million in bonds for the Courthouse exterior renovations and Clock and Bell Tower restoration. The second ordinance is for \$1.2 million in bonds for the completion of the Highway Fleet Maintenance Facility. The first funds will come from the Public Safety Sales Tax. The second will come from the General Corporate Fund with the Highway Fund repaying the General Corporate Fund. Busey explained the plan is to do one \$7.2 million bond issue. Kurt Froehlich, the County's bond counsel, advised structuring these as two separate issues. These ordinances are necessary to get the issue to the County Board in August will the preliminary ordinance to have the BINA hearings in September. Busey hopes to do the bond sale in October or early November. If the Board waits until late November, the bond market looks to be not as favorable.

Tapley asked how much of the \$6 million is for the Clock and Bell Tower. Beckett said the extension of the Clock Tower is \$1.3 million and the County's share of the responsibility for rebuilding the existing tower is \$1.9 million for a total cost of \$3.3 million. Beckett explained the logical analysis of the condition of the Courthouse. The engineers have said the Courthouse is in terrible shape. The sandstone is peeling off and there are visible racks in the masonry. Beckett is concerned for the structural integrity of the Courthouse. The study of the Courthouse showed the interior structure, especially in the Clock Tower, is sand when it was opened up. The metal rods that are supposed to tie the interior structure to the interior shelf are corroded and gone. Beckett said the building could crumble down around us. He realizes some people think of the Clock and Bell Tower as some sort of decorative ornament, but the Clock Tower problem starts at the foundation and goes to the top. He stated \$850,000 has already been raised by the Clock and Bell Tower Citizens Committee of the \$1.3 million for the tower extension. The County is being asked to front about \$500,000 for the extension, which the Citizens Committee plans to raise and pay back. Beckett wanted the Finance Committee to understand that there was sound engineering behind this plan.

Tapley said the County Board heard about how dangerous the Courthouse was in 1996, which is why the referendums needed to be passed. He does not doubt that it needs to be done; he is worried about the increasing cost. Tapley wondered why it took ten years after the referendum passed to get a plan if the Courthouse was in this bad of a shape. It is hard for him to swallow. He understands the argument for the \$1.9 million for the structure of the building. Tapley has opposed the project since the beginning and is costing 70% more than it was originally projected to cost. He wonders when it will end.

Jones is confused why the County is being asked to step in if private funds are being raised. He hypothesized that it could stop citizens from contributing additional money if the County pays the money up front. He said it has taken a number of years to only raise \$800,000 and asked how long it could take to raise the additional \$500,000. Beckett said he was sorry Jones felt the citizens only raised \$800,000 and the hundreds of citizens that have contributed have done so little. Beckett stated the Citizens Committee could not build the tower on top of the County's building by itself. The County would have to be involved because of the overall scope of the project. The County Board approved the Citizens Committee's existence, the initial studies that got this started, and the initial project. The County Board is not responsible for the change in building codes that is the real reason that the price increased from the original price of \$1 million. The City of Urbana did that when they adopted the new building codes. One of the frustrations that Beckett has had is once the County Facilities Committee got into this project was that an engineering report existed from a local engineer (who shall remain nameless) that basically indicated that the Courthouse structure was okay.

This engineering report recommended some major work in the attic area and on the west side, but nothing else was necessary. Becket does not know why this engineer said this. When Beckett came on board, the Courthouse was being constructed and afterwards the tower extension came into place, so the County Facilities Committee began looking at the superstructure of the exterior masonry and learned what the County Board had been previously told was untrue.

Tapley asked if the initial report the County Board received was wrong because the codes changed or because the report itself was wrong. Busey said she has heard from Board members that the \$27 million never included anything about exterior renovation because the Board had an engineer's report that said the exterior was okay. The County began to learn there were problems when the Courthouse was being remodeled and this led to looking at this issue four years ago. At the time of the 1999 and 2000 bond issues to build the Courthouse, there was no knowledge that exterior renovation was necessary. Those bonds were issued to cover the construction of the Courthouse addition and the remodeling of the interior of the 100-year-old Courthouse.

Richards thanked Beckett for his work on this project. As a member of the County Facilities Committee, Richards has met with the architects and they felt the County has no choice but to follow this option. Granted it is expensive, but it is accurate to say the tower is sitting there about to collapse. Richards stated the County Facilities Committee felt the only choice was to do this renovation.

Tapley asked if the County had any recourse against professionals who are hired and give the County bad information. Tapley asked why an architect did not tell us this seven years ago. Beckett said he did not know because he was not here at that time. The County does have people with expertise on aboard now. Beckett believes the citizens will raise the rest of the money. Tapley did not agree with the need for renovation to the 100-year old Courthouse, his concern was with the price tag. He was willing to vote in favor of it tonight.

Jones inquired about the cost of the Highway Fleet Maintenance Facility because he was under the impression it was all coming from the Highway Fund. Busey observed that it has always been known the General Corporate Fund would cover a portion of the construction expense. It was referenced the FY2007 Budget document in the debt management section. Highway has spent \$5.5 million into the building and is seeking to bond for \$500,000 more rather than transferring it from the Highway Fund. Busey thought Highway has spent all the Motor Fuel Tax money it can on the project. The balance must come from the Highway Fund and Jeff Blue requested it be included with the General Corporate Fund's portion of the completion of the project. Jones objected because he was told the facility would be paid for by Motor Fuel Tax and now the County has to issue bonds to pay for the project. Jones thinks the County is paying too much for these projects. Tapley asked if any consideration has been given for bonding for the entire Highway Fleet Maintenance Facility rather than paying cash. He realizes money has been saved and earmarked for this project, but it might be wise to bond for the building when the Highway Department has numerous road projects it is trying to pay for. Busey said that was discussed in the early stages of the project, however, the Highway & Transportation Committee made the decision that they preferred to not bond for the entire building. Tapley asked if that would be a decision for the Finance Committee instead of the Highway & Transportation Committee. Busey said the Highway Committee was firm in its decision and it was entrenched in discussions about fringe roads at the time. Tapley's suggestion has also been proposed by companies who responded tot eh RFP for underwriting these bonds. The County Board could change the ordinance at its meeting. The Highway Committee felt very strongly that it should use the cash that had been saved for the Highway Fleet Maintenance Facility for that facility and to deal with the road issues as they arise.

**MOTION** by Wysocki to approve the Ordinance Authorizing the Issuance of Public Safety Sales Tax Alternate Revenue Source Bonds of the County of Champaign, Illinois, for the Purpose of Financing Courthouse Exterior Renovations and Bell Tower Restoration and the Ordinance Authorizing the Issuance of General Sales Tax Alternate Revenue Source bonds of the county of Champaign, Illinois, for the Purpose of Financing a Highway Department Fleet Maintenance Facility; seconded by Richards. McGinty order a roll call vote. **Motion carried with a vote of 4 to 3.** McGinty, Richards, Tapley, and Wysocki voted in favor of the motion. Doenitz, Jones, and O'Connor voted against the motion.

Approval of RFP for Bond Underwriter/Financial Advisory Services for \$7.2 Million Bond Issue

Busey stated this RFP has gone out and the responses are due next Monday. The committee typically approves the RFP before its release, but Busey was made aware by bond counsel that this needed to start moving in August. Wysocki asked who bond counsel is. Busey said it is Kurt Froehlich.

**MOTION** by Wysocki to approve the RFP for Bond Underwriter/Financial Advisory Services for \$7.2 Million Bond Issue; seconded by Richards. **Motion carried with one no vote by Doenitz.**

McGinty appointed an evaluation team consisting of himself, Tapley, Fabri, Welch, and Busey.

Recommendation for Setting Salaries of Elected Officials for December 1, 2008

Busey reported a comparison was done with four counties of similar size. Champaign County is the second largest county in that group, but it is the last in the amount it pays Circuit Clerk, Coroner, Auditor, and Recorder. Champaign County is below the five-county average as well. Busey recommended increasing the salaries so the Circuit Clerk's salary matches the Treasurer's and County Clerk's salaries. Typically in counties, these three elected officials are similar in scope and pay. She recommended increasing the salaries for the Coroner, Auditor, and Recorder to match the FY2008 five-county average and adjusted up 4% for the FY2009 rate. She further recommended implementing a practice of 4% annual increases for the elected officials. By doing so the County will avoid being in a position of having to again give a large pay bump to an elected officials. Busey recommended adopting a salary freeze for the County Board Chair to the two-year term of FY2009-FY2010 because the per diem allowance increase will provide an 8% wage increase to the total compensation for the Board Chair. Busey believes the County Board has a responsibility to offer a salary that will recruit qualified candidates to run for elected positions.

**MOTION** by Tapley to approve the County Administrator's recommendations for setting salaries of elected officials starting December 1, 2008; seconded by Wysocki. **Motion carried.**

Recommendation for Funding Public Drop-Off Recycling Site Operated by the City of Champaign

The request is from the City of Champaign for the County to increase its contribution from \$1,500 to \$12,960 to the public drop-off recycling station managed and operated by the City of Champaign. Busey said the County has a Solid Waste Management Fund with a balance of \$73,349. This expenditure is consistent with than original establishment of the Solid Waste Management Fund and the County's 5-Year Solid Waste Plan. Busey distributed a chart showing the effect of such an increased annual contribution on the fund. At this level of contribution, the Solid Waste Management Fund would be depleted by 2014. Busey said Champaign based their request on the per capita residents who live outside the incorporated areas. Doenitz asked who else is contributing. Busey answered Champaign and Savoy. The committee discussed increasing the contribution.

**MOTION** by Tapley to approve a \$10,000 annual contribution to the Public Drop-Off Recycling Site Operated by the City of Champaign starting in FY2008; seconded by Richards.

The committee discussed the population in the unincorporated areas of Champaign County. Doenitz thought County residents take their recycling to centers closer to their homes than Champaign, such as Rantoul or Mahomet. It looks like the County is being asked to pay the City of Champaign for residents who are not using the city's recycling center. Busey can find out the number of recycling drop-offs available for County residents. Busey said she was told there were no other recycling sites and the rural residents were using the City of Champaign's site. Doenitz said, if that is the case, the other municipalities should be asked to contribute money. The committee agreed to consider this item next month when further information can be gathered.

**TREASURER**  
**Monthly Report**

Welch distributed his monthly report. His report shows the General Corporate Fund paid back the loan from the Public Safety Fund. This leaves the only outstanding loan as the \$300,000 the Nursing Home owes the General Corporate Fund. September 4, 2007 will be the second installment of real estate tax collections. Taxes are 54% collected. For perspective, Welch stated there are still 30 of the 102 counties in Illinois who do not even have their tax bills out yet.

**MOTION** by Doenitz to receive and place on file the Treasurer's July 2007 monthly report; seconded by Tapley. **Motion carried.**

**AUDITOR**  
**Purchases Not Following Purchasing Policy**

The Purchases Not Following Purchasing Policy list was provided for information only. Fabri said the only issue is the RPC situation involving a subcontractor. RPC has repeated asked this subcontractor to following the County's Purchasing Policy and the subcontractor does not done so. The County Clerk's Office purchased some computer components with a credit card without first submitting a purchase order. Credit cards are only available for travel in most cases, but the County Clerk's uses a credit card more the Auditor would like.

**Monthly Reports from June 2007 & July 2007**

**MOTION** by Wysocki to receive and place on file the Auditor's June 2007 and July 2007 monthly reports; seconded by. **Motion carried.**

**INTER-COMMTEE COMMUNICATION FROM JUSTICE & SOCIAL SERVICES**  
**COMMITTEE REGARDING DRUG COURT**

Judge Ford stated that he is requesting the Finance Committee approve the adoption of a \$5.00 fee on criminal and traffic sentencing that the state legislature has allowed counties to enact for Drug Court purposes only and to approve a Memorandum of Understanding with the Mental Health Board for the MHB to be the vehicle for spending the fee money. Judge Ford gave some background on the Champaign County Drug Court. It started in March 1999 and takes hardcore criminal, many with numerous felony convictions who have already been to the penitentiary at least once. To graduate, the felons must be drug free for twelve months. If someone needs more education, Drug Court helps them get a GED or employment. There have been 320 people sentenced to Drug Court, 53 of who have been sentenced since the beginning of this year.

The graduation rate is 32%. Judge Ford spoke about the positive aspects of Drug Court and the success stories of felons who are now having productive lives. Judge Ford explained that as Drug Court grows and gets better the participants have needs. They are looking for money for medical expenses, dental expenses, clothes for employment purposes, babysitting, and bus tokens. The \$5.00 fee will go into a fund for these expenses. The Memorandum of Understanding is the vehicle to pass the money to the Mental Health Board so it can be used without having to establish a charitable trust. The Mental Health Board is set up to take donations.

Wysocki asked if the \$5.00 fee would be robbing Peter to pay Paul, namely those people who could least afford it would be hit by it. Judge Ford said it would be everybody because traffic tickets and DUIs are not limited to a particular social stratum. He acknowledged it might be a fee on those who cannot really afford it but it helps those with the least. He noted they are not asking to raise taxes.

**MOTION** by Wysocki to approve the adoption of a \$5 fee pursuant to 55 ILCS 5/5-1101(f) for the sole purpose of supporting Drug Court and the Memorandum of Understanding with the Champaign County Mental Health Board; seconded by O'Connor. **Motion carried.**

### **CHAIR'S REPORT**

There was no Chair's Report.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

Busey reminded the committee about the Legislative Budget Hearings on August 27th and 28th. She issued a new schedule of hearings. The Nursing Home and Highway Department switched hearing times. Wysocki asked if there will be hearings on Wednesday night. Busey said Wednesday night was reserved in case additional hearings were needed. None are needed so Wednesday night is canceled.

### **DESIGNATION OF ITEMS TO BE PLACED ON COUNTY BOARD CONSENT AGENDA**

McGinty designated agenda items VII A, C, D-G, and XI for the consent agenda.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kat Bork  
Administrative Secretary

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