

CHAMPAIGN COUNTY BOARD  
**COMMITTEE MINUTES**

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**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**Thursday, December 10, 2009 – 7:00 p.m.**

**Brookens Administrative Center, Lyle Shields Meeting Room**

**1776 E. Washington, Urbana**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Betz, Jones, Moser, O'Connor, Rosales (Vice Chair), and Wysocki

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Doenitz, Richards, and McGinty (Chair)

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Deb Busey (County Administrator), David DeThorne (Senior Assistant State's Attorney), Tony Fabri (Auditor), Joe Gordon (Probation & Court Services Director), Kay Rhodes (Administrative Secretary), Dan Welch (Treasurer)

**CALL TO ORDER**

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

**ROLL CALL**

Roll call established a quorum present.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA/ADDENDUM**

**MOTION** by Betz to approve agenda and addendum; seconded by Wysocki. **Motion carried.**

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There was no public participation.

**BUDGET AMENDMENTS/TRANSFERS**

Budget Amendments/Transfers 09-00105, 09-00106, 09-00107, 09-00110, 09-00015, 09-00016, 10-00001, 10-00008, 10-00002, 10-00005 and 09-00111

**OMNIBUS MOTION** by Betz to approve budget amendments/transfers 09-00105, 09-00106, 09-00107, 09-00110, 09-00015, 09-00016, 10-00001, 10-00008, 10-00002, and 10-00005 (Items 5A – J); seconded by Moser.

Jones asked about Item 5B - budget amendment 09-00106. He asked why the attorney fees were not paid out of the nursing home construction fund. Busey explained the construction fund is out of cash. **Motion carried.**

**MOTION** by Betz to approve budget amendment 09-00111 (Item 5K on addendum); seconded by Wysocki.

**Motion carried.**

## **COURT SERVICES**

### **Request permanent waiver of hiring freeze, increase staffing & subsequent budget amendments; 10-00006 & 10-00007**

Gordon stated his office had received additional funding from the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts. He explained he would like to use these funds to hire back 3 officers that were laid off. Gordon plans to reduce the capacity of the Juvenile Detention Center from 40 residents to 25. Gordon stated there are sufficient personnel now to manage 25 residents.

Busey explained the first item for the committee's consideration is a permanent waiver of the hiring freeze for 23 positions at JDC. Busey explained JDC had 30 positions last year and seven positions were permanently cut. She said the request for waiver of the hiring freeze of the 23 remaining positions is to ensure safety of operations at JDC. Court Services is making this request now so if a position were to become vacant it would not be necessary to ask for the board's approval in order to fill it.

Busey explained Item B is a request to increase the staffing budget to 24 court services officer positions at JDC through February 28, 2010 because they will have three officers on medical leave. The 24<sup>th</sup> position is needed to cover this period.

Busey explained Item C is a request to re-instate two full-time probation officer positions in Probation downtown not at JDC. The reinstated funding from the AOIC would fund these positions. Busey stated the Probation/Court Services department would remain compliant with the overall 6% cuts because this department cut much more than 6% when they lost the AOIC funding earlier this year. She explained Items D and E are necessary to accomplish items A, B, and C, if the committee concurs with the recommendations.

**OMNIBUS MOTION** by Moser to approve Items 6A through E: seconded by O'Connor.

Wysocki asked if Court Services was hiring back individuals who were laid off earlier. Gordon stated this is exactly what they are doing. Wysocki asked for clarification on the plans to reduce the capacity of the Juvenile Detention Center from 40 beds to 25. Gordon explained the facility is rated as a 40-bed facility. Gordon said the current staffing level of 23 officers is sufficient to maintain a 25-bed facility. Should the facility go above this level, minors will be placed on electronic monitoring. There will be a priority list of those minors to be released and monitored electronically.

O'Connor asked if the electronic monitoring was totally at the discretion of JDC. Gordon explained all judiciary will receive a copy of the priority list, so they will know what individuals will be released on electronic monitoring should the need arise. Wysocki asked if they would continue to honor housing contracts with other entities. Gordon affirmed they would continue to honor contracts with other entities; however, the capacity at JDC will remain at 25 residents.

**Motion carried with vote of 4 to 2.** Jones, Moser, O'Connor, and Rosales voted in favor of the motion. Betz and Wysocki voted against the motion.

## **PUBLIC PROPERTIES**

### **Request for Waiver of Hiring Freeze**

Busey stated if the hiring freeze were not waived for the part-time custodial position, it would be difficult to maintain the level of service. Jones asked if the custodial staffing level was considered before the Coroner's office move to the Gill Building. Busey explained the plans for Coroner's office move took place in September and October 2009 and the position became vacant on November 6, 2009. The Coroner's move to the Gill Building anticipated a full custodial staff. Busey explained this position was not laid off; it is part of the current staffing level. Busey stated they need County Board approval to fill the position and waive the 3-month waiting period because there is an obligation to provide services for employees and tenants. If they cannot fill the position immediately, it could lead to over-time expenses, which could be more expensive.

**MOTION** by Moser to approve the request for waiver of the hiring freeze; seconded by O'Connor. **Motion failed with a vote of 3 to 3.** Moser, O'Connor, and Rosales voted in favor of the motion. Betz, Jones, and Wysocki voted against the motion.

## **CIRCUIT COURT**

**MOTION** by Betz to approve addendum to contract between Champaign County and Land of Lincoln Legal Assistance Foundation; seconded by Wysocki. **Motion carried.**

**MOTION** by Betz to approve Budget Amendment 10-00011 for additional appropriation required to cover expenditure for Addendum to the Agreement between the Land of Lincoln Legal Assistance Foundation, Inc. and Champaign County; seconded by Wysocki. **Motion carried.**

## **STATE'S ATTORNEY**

**MOTION** by Betz to approve a Resolution to Designate the Office of the State's Attorneys Appellate Prosecutor as Agent; seconded by Moser. **Motion carried.**

**MOTION** by Betz to approve a Resolution Authorizing a Litigation Assistance Agreement between the County of Champaign and the Office of the State's Attorneys Appellate Prosecutor; seconded by Moser. **Motion carried.**

## **COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR**

Busey reviewed the General Corporate Fund FY2009 Revenue/Expenditure Projection Report and the General Corporate Fund Budget Change Report distributed to the committee. Busey stated it looked as if the county would receive 98% of the budgeted revenue. Busey said the expenditures are at 97%. This will leave a positive budget of \$182,000.00. Busey explained the county reached one goal, which was to maintain expenses within revenues. Busey noted the quarter cent sales tax fared better than the general sales tax because it does not include licensed vehicles. Busey stated the public safety sales tax is down by 6% for the year and the general county sales tax is down by 8%, which is in-line with the projections. Busey stated the Budget Change Report shows all the revenue/expenditure changes that have been approved and incorporated into the fiscal year budget.

**MOTION** by Betz to receive and place on file the General Corporate Fund FY2009 Revenue/Expenditure Projection Report and the General Corporate Fund Budget Change Report; seconded by Wysocki. **Motion carried.**

Busey stated the County Clerk submitted a request to Salary Administration to waive his FY2010 salary increase. Busey said she did not believe it is possible to change an elected official's salary. Busey said the State's Attorney provided an opinion that concurred with this statement. Busey explained the opinion made by the State's Attorney reflects what some elected officials were told earlier this year when they sought to take a reduction in salary or waiver of an increase in salary. Busey stated the County Clerk has requested an opinion from the Attorney General's office.

Betz stated any opinion the Attorney General's office gives on this matter, is just an opinion. Betz explained the Supreme Court has already ruled on this matter and the State Constitution explicitly states an increase or decrease in salary for an elected officer for any unit of local government shall not take effect during the term for which that officer is elected.

Jones asked why the County Clerk did not want to make a donation, as other elected officials have done. Busey explained the County Clerk believed there could be potential income tax ramifications for him.

Busey stated that as the Salary Administrator, she has an obligation to pay elected officials as designated by the County Board, by taking their annual pay and dividing it into the number of paychecks per year. Busey explained the County Clerk has asked for an adjustment to his bi-weekly pay. Busey stated she could not do this unless the County Board provides her with direction to do so. Busey stated the County Clerk is not asking for a reduction in pay, he is requesting to have it paid to him differently.

**MOTION** by Betz to accept the opinion of the State's Attorney; seconded by Wysocki. **Motion carried.**

### **TREASURER**

**MOTION** by Betz to accept and place on file the Treasurer's November 2009 report; seconded by Wysocki. **Motion carried.**

### **AUDITOR**

**MOTION** by Betz to accept and place on file the Auditor's October 2009 report; seconded by Jones. **Motion carried.**

### **CHAIR'S REPORT**

There was no Chair's report.

**OHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business.

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

Rosales designated agenda/addendum items 5A-K, 8A-B, and 9A-B for the consent agenda.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kay Rhodes  
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.*