

CHAMPAIGN COUNTY BOARD
COMMITTEE MINUTES

POLICY, PERSONNEL, & APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE

Wednesday, August 8, 2007

Brookens Administrative Center, Lyle Shields Meeting Room

1776 E. Washington St., Urbana

7:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Betz (Chair), Knott, Hogue, Hunt, McGinty, Moser, Putman, Schroeder

MEMBERS ABSENT: Gross

OTHERS PRESENT: Kat Bork (Recording Secretary), Deb Busey (County Administrator of Finance & HR Management), David DeThorne (Senior Assistant State's Attorney), Denny Inman (County Administrator of Facilities & Procurement), Susan McGrath (Senior Assistant State's Attorney), Mark Shelden (County Clerk), C. Pius Weibel (County Board Chair), Barbara Wysocki (County Board member), Gene Martin, Art Zangerl, Kathleen Brinkmann

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Betz called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

ROLL CALL

The Recording Secretary called the roll. Betz, Knott, Hogue, Hunt, McGinty, Moser, Putman, and Schroeder were present at the time of the roll call. Betz declared a quorum and proceeded with the meeting.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA/ADDENDUM

MOTION by Knott to approve the agenda; seconded by Moser. **Motion carried.**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION by Knott to approve the Policy, Personnel, & Appointments Committee regular session minutes of May 8, 2007 and June 6, 2007; seconded by Hogue. **Motion carried.**

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Gene Martin spoke about the proposed gun control legislation at the state level and the freedom to have guns. He urged the County Board to speak on this issue.

Art Zangerl spoke about a well-regulated militia and the definition of arms. He stated the gun control resolution presented before the committee tonight rewrites the Constitution and urged the committee to not forward the resolution to the full County Board.

Kathleen Brinkmann spoke how the more appropriate venue for the gun control resolution is the state level. She found the resolution vague and thought it was an unnecessary use of the County Board's time and resources.

Barbara Wysocki addressed the committee at the agreement of Chair Betz. Next February Champaign County will observe its 175th anniversary of incorporation, as will the City of Urbana as the County seat. At the present time, no celebrations are planned to commemorate the anniversary. The City of Urbana has expressed interest in pulling together individuals to design celebratory events to celebrate the landmark. Wysocki further noted that February 2009 is the bicentennial of Abraham Lincoln's birthday. This event will be of great interest across the state. Senator Durbin has gotten a lot of money directed towards Lincoln celebrations and Lincoln's heritage in places beyond Springfield. Wysocki attended the Lincoln bicentennial organization and learned that numerous communities across the state are in various stages of plans. Wysocki is on the Metropolitan Intergovernmental Council and could talk to that body about what the County is interested in doing to celebrate Lincoln's bicentennial. She is also the Chair of the Champaign County Lincoln Exhibits Committee and spoke of some their upcoming projects, including wayside markers. Wysocki encouraged the County to create a Bicentennial Commission with Urbana and Champaign to take the lead in development. Betz asked if the same commission could be directed to plan the both anniversary and bicentennial events. Wysocki indicated that would work and the commission should be a mix of rural and urban residents. Weibel was supportive of the idea said he would contact Mayor Prussing about it. The committee gave its consensus to the idea of developing a commission for Lincoln's bicentennial and the 175th anniversary of the County's incorporation. Wysocki, Weibel, and Knott were directed to return to the committee in September with a proposal.

MONTHLY REPORTS

County Clerk Fees Monthly Reports

MOTION by Moser to receive and place on file the County Clerk Fees Monthly Report for May 2007; seconded by Hunt. **Motion carried.**

MOTION by McGinty to receive and place on file the County Clerk Fees Semi-Annual Report for May 2007; seconded by Knott. **Motion carried.**

MOTION by Hogue to receive and place on file the County Clerk Fees Monthly Report for June 2007; seconded by Knott. **Motion carried.**

COUNTY BOARD

Appointments/Reappointments

Davis Memorial Cemetery Association

Weibel nominated Lyle Reed to the Davis Memorial Cemetery Association to fill Calvin Woodworth's term following his death.

MOTION by Schroeder to appoint Lyle Reed to the Davis Memorial Cemetery Association to fill Calvin Woodworth's term for a term commencing August 24, 2007 and ending June 30, 2008; seconded by Moser.

Schroeder spoke about two good public servants in the area who died in the last year, Jimmy Black and Calvin Woodworth. He said they would be sorely missed

Motion carried.

Board for the Care & Treatment of Persons with a Developmental Disability

Weibel nominated Steve O'Connor as the Republican County Board Liaison to the Board for the Care & Treatment of Persons with a Developmental Disability.

MOTION by Moser to appoint Steve O'Connor as the Republican County Board Liaison to the Board for the Care & Treatment of Persons with a Developmental Disability; seconded by Knott. **Motion carried.**

Board of Health

Weibel said both candidates for the position were excellent and the choice was difficult. He nominated Betty Segal to the Board of Health and noted her former employment with the Center for Disease Control, work with Hope for Children, and proactive involvement in health issues as the reasons for his selection.

MOTION by Hogue to appoint Betty Segal to the Champaign County Board of Health for a term commencing August 24, 2007 and ending June 30, 2010; seconded by Putman. **Motion carried.**

Drainage Districts

Weibel indicated his nominations for drainage districts were listed in the agenda with the exception of Willow Branch Drainage District.

MOTION by Knott for an omnibus motion to approve the appointment of the following individuals to the following drainage districts:

Joseph L. Irlle to the Beaver Lake Drainage District, term ending 8/31/2010; Richard Rayburn to the Conrad & Fisher Drainage District, term ending 8/31/2010; Roger Armstrong to the Drainage District #2 Town of Scott, term ending 8/31/2010; Leon Bluhm to the Drainage District #10 Town of Ogden, term ending 8/31/2010; Marc Shaw to the Fountain Head Drainage District, term ending 8/31/2010; Eugene Hood to the Harwood & Kerr Drainage District, term ending 8/31/2010; Thomas Walsh to the Kankakee Drainage District, term ending 8/31/2010; John Park to the Kerr & Compromise Drainage District, term ending 8/31/2010; Dave Mennenga to the Longbranch Mutual Drainage District, term ending 8/31/2010; Frank Ehler to the Lower Big Slough Drainage District, term ending 8/31/2010; David Bright to the Nelson-Moore-Fairfield Drainage District, term ending 8/31/2010; Steve Stierwalt to the Okaw Drainage District, term ending 8/31/2010; John Nelson to the Owl Creek Drainage District, term ending 8/31/2010; Josh Eisenmenger to the Pesotum Consolidated Drainage District, term ending 8/31/2010; Dennis Butler to the Pesotum Slough Special Drainage District, term ending 8/31/2010; Arlen Buhr to the Prairie Creek Drainage District, term ending 8/31/2010; Ray Ideus to the Raup Drainage District, term ending 8/31/2010; James Kirk to the Salt Fork Drainage District, term ending 8/31/2010; William Siegfried to the Sangamon & Drummer Drainage District, term ending 8/31/2010; Alvin Christians to the Somer #1 Drainage District, term ending 8/31/2010; Ken Decker to the South Fork Drainage District, term ending 8/31/2010; Francis Osterbur to the St. Joseph #4 Drainage District, term ending 8/31/2010; Garry Gannon to the St. Joseph #5 Drainage District, term ending 8/31/2010; Garry Gannon to the St. Joseph #6 Drainage District, term ending 8/31/2010; Duane Ehler to the Triple Fork Drainage District, term ending 8/31/2010; Jerry Heinz to the Two Mile Slough Drainage District, term ending 8/31/2010; Linden Warfel to the Two Mile Slough Drainage District, term ending 8/31/2011; Jerry Thinnes to the Union Drainage District #1 of Philo & Crittenden, term ending 8/31/2010; Donald Rice to the Union Drainage District #1 of Philo & Urbana, term ending 8/31/2010; William Wilson to the Union Drainage District #2 of St. Joseph & Ogden, term ending 8/31/2010; H. Paul Dohme to the Union Drainage District #3 of South Homer & Sidney, term ending 8/31/2010; Ray Aden to the Union Drainage District of Stanton & Ogden Townships, term ending 8/31/2010; Dudley Carroll to the

Upper Embarras River Basin Drainage District, term ending 8/31/2010; and Steve Messman to the Whisk Drainage District, term ending 8/31/2010. Motion second by Moser. **Motion carried.**

MOTION by McGinty to defer the appointment of a Willow Brach Drainage District Commissioner to the September meeting; second by Knott. **Motion carried.**

Steering Committee to Guide Preparation of Champaign County Land Resource Management Plan

Wysocki said this item needs to be deferred because all but one of the nominees are from rural areas and the resolution creating the committee states that six members must be urban residents. She has been making phone calls to find qualified urban candidates. Wysocki requested the Policy, Personnel, & Appointments Committee convene in a short meeting before the August 23rd County Board meeting to appointment the nominees so the plan's timeline is not delayed.

MOTION by McGinty to defer the appointment of a Steering Committee to Guide Preparation of Champaign County Land Resource Management Plan to a meeting to be held on August 23, 2007; seconded by Knott. **Motion carried.**

Busey told the committee that the County Facilities Committee would be meeting at 6:30 on August 23rd. Betz declared the Policy, Personnel, & Appointments Committee would hold its next meeting on August 23, 2007 at 6:15 p.m. in Meeting Room 2 at Brookens.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Vacant Positions Listing

The vacant positions listing was provided for information only.

Proposal for 2007 Employee Recognition Program

Busey provided the Proposal for 2007 Employee Recognition Program because Ron Gremore is on vacation. Gremore met with department heads to discuss the possibilities for changing the annual Employee Recognition Event. Gremore's recommended changes included: 1. having three events instead of one, 2. scheduling the events for the week of October 22, 2007 for all department except RPC, 3. billing a promoting the week of October 22nd as "Champaign County Employee Recognition and Appreciation Week." His recommendations were outlined in a memo in the agenda packet. Busey noted that because the September cutoff date was confusing in determining employees' years of service, the cutoff has been changed to January.

MOTION by Putman approve the recommendations regarding changes to the Employee Recognition Event as outlined in Ron Gremore's memorandum; seconded by Hogue.

Betz asked McGrath and DeThorne if one of the suggested door prizes at the events could be an extra paid day off for the winning employee. DeThorne stated it would be an unfair labor practice to give this to a union employee without first discussing it with the union. DeThorne volunteered to approach the union on behalf of his client, the County Board. The committee approved this approach. Busey recommended that any other suggestions be directed to Gremore.

Motion carried.

Request to Submit Building Services Assistant Position to Job Content Evaluation Committee

MOTION by McGinty to forward the Building Services Assistant Position to Job Content Evaluation Committee; seconded by Hogue. **Motion carried.**

COUNTY CLERK

Illinois State Board of Elections Acceptance Agreement for Voting Access for Individuals with Disabilities Grant

Shelden stated this agreement involves the continuing appropriation of money from the federal government. The agreement allows him to accept the grant funding. He still has to submit the expenditures to the state.

MOTION by Hogue to approve the Illinois State Board of Elections Acceptance Agreement for Voting Access for Individuals with Disabilities Grant; seconded by Knott. **Motion carried.**

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

House Bill 4118 Amending the Property Tax Code Regarding the Supervisor of Assessments

Weibel explained the bill is self-explanatory. It would subject the Supervisor of Assessment to other disciplinary action prior to termination. It does not address the issue of a pre-termination hearing. McGrath stated there was disagreement amongst state Republican staff on how to handle this issue. The bill will not be introduced until 2008 so the committee has time to suggest changes. She suggested contacting Representative Black with draft legislation on what the committee would like the bill to contain and share it with the legal staff of the House Democrats and Republicans. Knott asked if McGrath would prepare the draft legislation. McGrath said she would do so.

Resolution Opposing Current Gun Legislation Pending in Springfield

MOTION by Knott to approve Resolution Opposing Current Gun Legislation Pending in Springfield; seconded by Moser.

Knott explained he was approached to put this item on the agenda because the County Board has taken positions and written resolutions on several state House and Senate bills in the past. McGinty stated he has spoken with Martin. The resolution makes him uncomfortable because he does not think it is the business of the County government. He thought it should be moved forward to the full Board meeting in order to be decided by the full Board. Moser stated this issue was purely political and it would split down party lines. It would be defeated without doing any good. Weibel spoke against bringing the resolution to the County Board because gun control is a state matter, not for the County. The County should be spending its time during committee and Board meetings focusing on things that actually affect this County. He worried that this resolution would open a Pandora's Box of frivolous resolutions that would take time away from County business. Weibel recommended killing the resolution now. Betz concurred with Weibel's assessment that this resolution could lead to similar resolutions. He has worked to keep such resolutions off the Policy Committee's agendas. He urged those with positions on this issue to contact their elected state representation. Betz ordered a roll call vote.

Motion carried with a vote of 5 to 3. Hunt, Knott, McGinty, Moser, and Schroeder voted in favor of the motion. Betz, Hogue, and Putman voted against the motion.

CHAIR'S REPORT

There was no Chair's Report

OTHER BUSINESS

Recommended Changes to County Board Rule 12

Weibel submitted changes to the County Board Rules. The current rules state that the Board must make a motion for a County Board meeting to extend past 10:00 p.m. If the Board is in a closed session, they have to return to open session to make such a motion, then go back into closed session. This has been a nuisance and Weibel wants to abolish the 10:00 rule. Betz asked if the committee could vote on it tonight. Busey answered yes.

MOTION by Hogue to approve recommended changes to County Board Rule 12; seconded by Putman. **Motion carried.**

Supervisor of Assessments Search Update

Weibel informed the committee the seven people have applied for the Supervisor of Assessments position. Half are from inside the County and half are not. The genders of the applicants are equally split. He will be reviewing those applications.

Ten Point Plan Update

McGinty distributed a draft strategic plan and a draft organizational chart to the committee. He stated that he and Knott have been working on the strategic plan and though they are not looking for a vote on it tonight, they would like the committee's thoughts on formalizing it for the next Policy Committee meeting. McGinty walked the committee through the strategic plan as a starting point. He suggested that he, Betz, and Knott be allowed to further categorize and set the status on the ideas generated by the ten point plan in order to eliminate any ideas out of the Board's control and bring it back to the committee to be incorporated in the strategic plan. Concerning the organizational chart, McGinty encouraged the committee to completely remove individual names from consideration and just look at the positions. He has researched the structure of other counties and found that no other county has a two Administrator structure; they all operate under a single Administrator. The organizational chart shows a single Administrator presiding over multiple department directors. There are some other structural changes, such as putting Purchasing with Finance and Highway with Maintenance. This is also a starting point to ignite discussion. The idea is for the County to create more structure and organization of what we do and who we strive to be as a county. McGinty asked if the committee thought this represented a logical progression from the ten point plan. There were no objections. Knott concurred that this was a starting point from which to move forward. Business has become more sophisticated and the County needs to be in a position to respond accordingly. Busey started this with the changes to the budget process last year in moving General Corporate toward outcomes based budgeting. It provides a framework for the strategic plan. The committee discussed the draft plan and gave its consensus for Betz, Knott, and McGinty to sort and prioritize the list of ten point plan ideas.

Closed Session Pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) 1 to Consider the Employment, Compensation, Discipline, Performance, or Dismissal of Employees

MOTION by McGinty to enter into closed session pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) 1 to consider the employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of employees. He further moved the County Board members, Recording Secretary, and legal counsel remain present. Motion seconded by Knott. **Motion carried.** The committee entered into closed session at 8:35 p.m. The committee resumed open session at 9:40 p.m.

APPROVAL OF CLOSED SESSION MINUTES

MOTION by McGinty to approve the Policy, Personnel, & Appointments Committee closed session minutes of June 6, 2007; seconded by Hogue. **Motion carried.**

DESIGNATION OF ITEMS TO BE PLACED ON COUNTY BOARD CONSENT AGENDA

Betz designated all appointments and item IX A for the consent agenda.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 9:43 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.