

CHAMPAIGN COUNTY BOARD
COMMITTEE MINUTES

POLICY, PERSONNEL, & APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE

Wednesday, November 4, 2009

Brookens Administrative Center, Lyle Shields Meeting Room

1776 E. Washington St., Urbana

7:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Carol Ammons, Tom Betz (Chair), Matthew Gladney, Greg Knott, Alan Nudo, Jonathan Schroeder, C. Pius Weibel

MEMBERS ABSENT: Brendan McGinty

OTHERS PRESENT: Kat Bork (Administrative Secretary), Andrew Buffenbarger (Nursing Home Administrator), Deb Busey (County Administrator), Tony Fabri (Auditor), Stan James (County Board Member), Julian Rappaport (Board of Health President), Peter Tracy (Mental Health Board Executive Director), Amanda Tucker (HR Generalist), Barbara Wysocki (County Board Member)

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

Bork called the roll. Ammons, Betz, Gladney, Knott, Nudo, Schroeder, and Weibel were present at the time of the roll call, establishing the presence of a quorum.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA/ADDENDUM

MOTION by Weibel to approve the agenda and addendum; seconded by Ammons. **Motion carried with all ayes.**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION by Knott to approve the Policy, Personnel, & Appointments Committee minutes of September 9, 2009 and October 7, 2009; seconded by Weibel. **Motion carried with all ayes.**

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

CHAMPAIGN COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

Request Approval of Notice for Termination of Agreement Between County Board of Health and Champaign-Urbana Public Health District

MOTION by Nudo to approve issuing a notice of termination of the Agreement between the Champaign County Board of Health and the Champaign-Urbana Public Health District; seconded by Schroeder.

Julian Rappaport, President of the Champaign County Board of Health, provided the committee with background information leading up to this request. The County Board of Health has found it necessary to refine its role as a partner in contracting with CUPHD to provide services to County residents. The current agreement as written does not allow for renegotiation, only for a termination notice issued twelve months in advance. The County Board of Health unanimously approved sending a termination notice for the agreement between the County and CUPHD at its October 27, 2009 meeting. The agreement requires the approval of both the Board of Health and the County Board to send a termination notice. Rappaport explained the Board of Health's intention is to use the next twelve months to renegotiate the agreement. The Board of Health has been working cooperatively with the Mental Health Board staff and the County Administrator. They plan to keep the County Board fully briefed on the negotiation process.

Knott asked how the two entities arrived at this juncture, assuming from newspaper reports that it involves a financial discrepancy. Rappaport stated the current structural arrangement under the agreement between CUPHD and the County Board of Health completely shuts the County out of having any impact on policies for service delivery. The Board of Health has no capacity to evaluate the Public Health Administrator and is essentially presented with requests for payment from CUPHD. The CUPHD staff does not regard the County Board of Health as an entity to which they have to respond. An example of the problem is that the CUPHD budget request for FY2010 causes the Board of Health to approve a deficit budget for ongoing operational expenditures. The Board of Health has some reserve funds to cover the costs, but these will be quickly depleted. Under the present arrangement, the County Board of Health will soon become only a conduit for funds to pass to CUPHD instead of a board with policy influence. It would be irresponsible for a board of health to proceed in this manner. Knott asked how financially far apart the entities were. Rappaport stated CUPHD submitted a FY2010 budget for County services requesting an increase of over \$100,000. Some previously provided services were eliminated and the Board of Health agreed give CUPHD a substantial increase. The two entities continued to disagree and the final discrepancy amount was about \$40,000. The Board of Health has conceded to pay this \$40,000 difference in FY2010 based on legal advice regarding the agreement's language. The Board hopes to renegotiate the nature of this agreement and the relationship with CUPHD so the Board can influence policy and fiscal responsibility.

In response to Knott's question about taxes, Busey explained the Champaign-Urbana residents pay a higher property tax for public health services than County residents, all of which goes to CUPHD. The County tax rate is less than three cents and the CUPHD rate is about thirteen cents. The County collects the less than three cents tax on all residents and then rebates the tax collected on residents within CUPHD's jurisdiction back to CUPHD. Busey confirmed residents were not being taxed twice because the County distributes the money it collects on Champaign-Urbana residents to CUPHD.

Knott noted the two health departments have had a tough history. He asked Rappaport about a service delivery mechanism if the two entities separate. Rappaport stated the Board of Health would like to negotiate a reasonable agreement with CUPHD and simultaneously explore other options over the next year. The Board of Health will have the assistance of Bob Keller, a recently retired McLean County Public Health Administrator, through the Illinois Public Health Association to explore what options exist to improve its function.

James, the County Board liaison on the Board of Health, concurred with Rappaport's description. It has been a long struggle to settle the budget and the Board of Health wants to provide services within the revenue it is projected to receive. The Board of Health was told by CUPHD that it would have to meet the costs and services determined by CUPHD for FY2010 although it was more than the Board could afford. The Board of Health's goal is to negotiate a compromise and fine-tune the agreement.

Nudo has had conversations with people familiar with the other side and did not sense the negotiation timeline was in CUPHD's vocabulary. He thought a split was desired and asked if that would be the end goal. Rappaport stated the Board of Health wanted to explore alternatives because they are otherwise helpless during negotiations. The Board of Health's intention is to reach an arrangement with CUPHD that works for both entities. It is structurally problematic to have two boards of health operating in Champaign County and they might move towards having a single board of health for Champaign County some day. It is not the Board of Health's intention to completely terminate the relationship with CUPHD. Nudo found it strange to terminate an agreement in order to renegotiate it. He did not understand why CUPHD and the County Board could not sit down like adults and put a negotiation timeline together. Betz pointed out the termination notice is a provision in the current agreement. James explained the communications have been ongoing for some time between the two boards and administration. The issue has reached a stalemate and CUPHD will not negotiate their charges. The only mechanism the Board of Health has under the agreement is a twelve-month termination notice.

Knott inquired what CUPHD would lose if they are not the contractor for County services, including in the grant arena. Rappaport stated the County receives grants that are administrated by CUPHD and estimated the County programs represent 10% of CUPHD's budget. Busey added that the Board of Health pays CUPHD \$147,000 just in administrative costs.

Ammons asked how the entities would relate over the next twelve months if the termination notice is issued. Rappaport stated the County Board of Health's aim is to confer with Bob Keller, CUPHD staff, and others to discuss options. They would begin negotiations immediately if CUPHD is willing. Ammons questioned if CUPHD was obligated to continue providing services should a notice be sent. Busey and Rappaport confirmed CUPHD is contractually required to provide services for twelve months and the Board of Health is paying CUPHD the full amount requested for those services.

James expressed that without the termination notice the Board of Health would have no mechanism to renegotiate the agreement and would be in the exact same position for next year's budget process, which would mean making further cuts to programs. This notice is a mechanism for discussion. No one is slighting CUPHD by any means, but like any responsible board, they have to look at where the money is budgeted.

Betz spoke about the history between the County and CUPHD concerning disputes over the agreement. He did not want to move in a direction towards closing County public health programs because of a contract dispute. He thought there should be a single public health district and the real issue was the size of the tax levy. He would vote against issuing the notice to force a discussion at the County Board meeting. Betz ordered a roll call vote.

Motion carried with a vote of 5 to 1 with one abstention. Ammons, Gladney, Knott, Nudo, and Schroeder voted in favor of the motion. Betz voted against the motion. Weibel abstained as a member of the CUPHD Board.

APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS

County Board District 2 to Fill Vacancy Caused by Kevin Hunt's Resignation

MOTION by Weibel to appoint Diane Michaels as a County Board Member in District 2 to fill the vacancy created by Kevin's Hunt's resignation for a term commencing November 19, 2009 and ending November 30, 2010; seconded by Knott. **Motion carried with all ayes.**

Deputy Sheriff Merit Commission

MOTION by Weibel to appoint Kelly Griffith to the Deputy Sheriff Merit Commission for a term commencing December 1, 2009 and ending November 30, 2015; seconded by Knott. **Motion carried with all ayes.**

Nursing Home Board of Directors

MOTION by Weibel to appoint Peter Czajkowski and Jason Hirsbrunner to the Nursing Home Board of Directors for terms commencing December 1, 2009 and ending November 30, 2011; seconded by Knott. **Motion carried with all ayes.**

Zoning Board of Appeals

MOTION by Weibel to appoint Roger Miller to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a term commencing December 1, 2009 and ending November 30, 2014; seconded by Schroeder. **Motion carried with all ayes.**

Senior Services Advisory Committee

MOTION by Weibel to appoint Karen Bodnar, Tami Fruhling-Voges, Linda Hascall, Cathy Lentz, and Barbara Opperman to the Senior Services Advisory Committee for terms commencing December 1, 2009 and ending November 30, 2012; seconded by Knott. **Motion carried with all ayes.**

Bailey Memorial Cemetery Association

MOTION by Weibel to appoint James Wilson to the Bailey Memorial Cemetery Association for a term commencing November 20, 2009 and ending June 30, 2015; seconded by Knott. **Motion carried with all ayes.**

Harwood & Kerr Drainage District

MOTION by Weibel to appoint Larry Johnson to the Harwood & Kerr Drainage District for a term commencing November 20, 2009 and ending August 31, 2012; seconded by Knott. **Motion carried with all ayes.**

Pesotum Slough Special Drainage District

MOTION by Weibel to appoint Jeffrey Little to the Pesotum Slough Special Drainage District for a term commencing November 20, 2009 and ending August 31, 2012; seconded by Schroeder. **Motion carried with all ayes.**

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Vacant Positions Listing

The vacant positions listing was provided for information only.

Recommendation for County Board 2010 Calendar of Meetings

Busey requested a change to the calendar of meetings included in the agenda packet. The Tuesday, February 2nd meeting should be moved to Thursday, February 4th and the Tuesday, November 2nd meeting should be moved to Thursday, November 4th to accommodate elections.

MOTION by Ammons to approve the County Board 2010 Calendar of Meetings as amended; seconded by Weibel.

Weibel confirmed there were no conflicts with significant Jewish holidays or University of Illinois breaks in the 2010 calendar of meetings.

Motion carried with all ayes.

COUNTY CLERK

MOTION by Knott to receive and place on file the County Clerk fees report for September 2009; seconded by Schroeder.

Fabri had a question about the vacant positions list. Betz stated he was out of order unless a committee member moved to suspend the rules.

Motion carried with all ayes.

MOTION By Nudo to suspend the rules; seconded by Schroeder. **Motion carried with all ayes.**

Fabri asked why the IT Director position was not included on the vacant positions list when Winton Cape, who held that position, was no longer with the County. Busey corrected Fabri that Cape is still employed by the County until November 30th. Effective December 1st, Andy Rhodes,

who is currently the Business Applications Manager, will be the new IT Director. The Business Applications Manager position will be left vacant. One of the three IT management positions had to be cut and the mostly recently hired management person was terminated. The County needs an IT Director to continue functioning next year so Rhodes will be the Director when Cape exits after November 30th. Rhodes will be paid substantially less than Cape was.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

There was no legislative report.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Determination of Whether to Hold December Policy Committee Meeting

MOTION by Knott to cancel the December committee meeting; seconded by Ammons. **Motion carried with all ayes.**

OTHER BUSINESS

Selection of 2010 Martin Luther King Jr. Award Recipients

MOTION by Weibel to award the 2010 Martin Luther King Jr. – Doris Hoskins Prestigious Community Service Award to Edward Bland, Jr.; seconded by Ammons. **Motion carried with all ayes.**

MOTION by Weibel to award the 2010 Martin Luther King Jr. – James R. Burgess, Sr. Humanitarian Award to Joan Miller and, by extension, the League of Women Voters and the University of Illinois College of Law Trial Advocacy Program; seconded by Ammons. **Motion carried with all ayes.**

Wysocki, who submitted both nominations, wanted a sense from the committee of whether these awards could only be given to individuals. Betz thought they could go to organizations as well as individuals. He noted the Cities of Champaign and Urbana have recognized organizations with their MLK awards. Wysocki verified her intention was to commend the League of Women Voters and University of Illinois Trial Advocacy Program in addition to Joan Miller for their work on the Courtwatching Project. Betz thanked Wysocki for making such tremendous choices.

Review of County Board Chair Position

Nudo said he spoke with Scott Christensen from Winnebago County about their experience with having a county-wide elected Chair. Christensen was willing to speak to the committee in the future and Nudo felt there was merit to discussing a county-wide elected Chair position. He suggested inviting representatives from other counties with county-wide elected Chairs to share their perspective. Betz wanted to outline the statutory options, the salaries for county-wide elected Chairs, and an idea of what those Chairs spend on their campaigns. Betz suggested shoehorning the Chair issue into the February hearings on the County Board size.

Joint Meeting of Champaign and Urbana City Councils and the Champaign County Board for the Purpose of Discussing Legalized Video Gambling on Thursday, November 12, 2009, Tentative Location: Beckman Institute

Weibel stated the joint meeting will be held next Thursday, but he is waiting to hear back from Laurel Prussing to confirm the location. He wrote letters to the potentially affected bars and restaurants in rural areas, along with the mayors of Mahomet, Ogden, and Gifford. Betz verified neither the cities nor the County are considering a resolution to stop video gambling at this time because the state has not issued any guidelines or enforcement regulations. The committee discussed the potential effects of video gambling.

ADDENDUM

Request to Change Salary Grade of the Nursing Home's Director of Social Services

MOTION by Weibel to forward the request to change the salary grade of the Nursing Home's Director of Social Services to the Finance Committee; seconded by Schroeder.

Ammons inquired why this change should be approved during a fiscally strained time. Buffenbarger explained the Nursing Home is in the process of recruiting a Director of Social Services. He looked at positions in other County departments with similar responsibilities and education requirements to determine the current salary was low. The Nursing Home has been unsuccessfully recruiting for the position and Buffenbarger believes difficulty relates to the salary. The Regional Planning Commission has a similar position at a higher salary range, hence the request to change this position to salary grade I. The current salary range is \$34,000 to \$43,000 and the new range would be \$40,000 to \$50,000. Ammons was concerned with increasing a salary grade after the County budget had been cut. The IT Director position was upgraded to attract qualified candidates and it was one of the positions eliminated when the budget was cut. She asked if they would be in a similar situation with the Director of Social Services position. Busey clarified the 6% budget cuts were not applied to the Nursing Home because it is an enterprise fund with different funding sources than the General Corporate Fund. Busey clarified the County cut positions, not salaries. The request is to approve an exception to the Personnel Policy without the position undergoing the typical analysis process proscribed by the policy. The Nursing Home non-bargaining positions have not been re-evaluated for a long time and this request is a reflection of the fact that a re-evaluation needs to be done. Nudo asked about the previous Director's salary. Buffenbarger said the current Director's salary is \$43,000. This Director is a position required by the Illinois Administrative Code and routinely interacts with the Illinois Department of Public Health. The Nursing Home must have this position filled or Buffenbarger will have to hire a consultant. A consultant would cost considerably more than the higher salary grade.

Betz ordered a roll call vote when the voice vote was inconclusive.

Motion carried with a vote of 5 to 2. Betz, Gladney, Knott, Schroeder, and Weibel voted in favor of the motion. Ammons and Nudo voted against the motion.

DESIGNATION OF ITEMS TO BE PLACED ON COUNTY BOARD CONSENT AGENDA

Betz designated agenda items 7B-H, 8B, and 12A for the consent agenda.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 8:02 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.