

CHAMPAIGN COUNTY BOARD COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES

Finance/Policy, Personnel, & Appointments/Justice & Social Services

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

Lyle Shields Meeting Room, Brookens Administrative Center

1776 E. Washington St., Urbana, Illinois

MEMBERS PRESENT: Carol Ammons, Jan Anderson, Steve Beckett, Ron Bensyl, Thomas Betz, Lorraine Cowart, Chris Doenitz, Matthew Gladney, Stan James, John Jay, Brad Jones, Greg Knott, Alan Kurtz, Ralph Langenheim, Brendan McGinty, Diane Michaels, Steve Moser, Alan Nudo, Steve O'Connor, Michael Richards, Giraldo Rosales, Larry Sapp, Jonathan Schroeder, Samuel Smucker, C. Pius Weibel, Barbara Wysocki

MEMBERS ABSENT: Lloyd Carter

OTHERS PRESENT: Kat Bork (Administrative Assistant), Deb Busey (County Administrator), Lynn Canfield (Associate Director of Developmental Disabilities), Susan Chavarria (RPC Community Development Manager), Tony Fabri (Auditor), John Hall (Planning & Zoning Director), Stephanie Joos (Animal Control Director), Cameron Moore (RPC Executive Director), Mark Shelden (County Clerk)

CALL TO ORDER

Betz called the Committee of the Whole meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Bork called the roll. Ammons, Anderson, Beckett, Bensyl, Betz, Doenitz, Gladney, James, Jay, Jones, Knott, Kurtz, Langenheim, McGinty, Michaels, Moser, Nudo, O'Connor, Richards, Rosales, Sapp, Smucker, Weibel, and Wysocki were present at the time of roll call, establishing the presence of a quorum.

APPROVAL OF COUNTY BOARD RESOLUTION TO MEET AS COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MOTION by Rosales to approve the County Board Resolution to meet as a Committee of the Whole; seconded by Ammons. **Motion carried with unanimous support.**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION by James to approve the Committee of the Whole minutes of August 10, 2010 and Administrative Structure Special Committee minutes of April 15, 2009 and April 22, 2009; seconded by Rosales. **Motion carried with unanimous support.**

APPROVAL OF AGENDA/ADDENDA

MOTION by Ammons to approve the agenda and the addendum; seconded by Anderson.
Motion carried with unanimous support.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Betz reminded those wishing to speak during public participation about the five-minute rule.

Tanner Israel, from the University of Illinois Student Senate, spoke about the location of the early polling place on the university campus. The Student Senate wants the Illini Union to be the polling place because it is an easily identifiable location on campus for students and one of the most well-known buildings on campus. He pointed out the Illini Union has been used before as a polling place.

David Wall, from the University of Illinois Student Senate, spoke about early voting on campus. When questioning his Naval Science 101 class, he discovered none of the students knew the location of either Gregory Place or the Levis Center. Gregory Place sits on university grounds, but it is not run by the university. It is not very accessible by bus, as opposed to the Illini Union. The concerns raised by County Clerk Mark Shelden about the Illini Union are the same concerns one would have about any location: preventing politicking, parking, etc. Wall also said there was an apparent conflict of interest with the County Clerk leasing Gregory Place because *The News-Gazette* reported on September 11th that the principle owner is the former GOP County Chair. With Mark Shelden being a well known Republican, Wall said it is an obvious conflict of interest. He felt the Illini Union is the only appropriate place to hold early voting on the university campus.

Nolan Drea, the University of Illinois Student Senate Vice-President, spoke about the early polling place costs issues. Shelden originally stated the early polling place would cost the County \$75,000. He later backed that amount down to \$10,000, then upped it to \$90,000. Drea stated the U of I student body would like to see an outline of Shelden's different costs and how the money will be spent. He noted Shelden is receiving a \$72,000 grant to help defray the costs. Drea had offered to use Student Senate funds to pay some costs and this offer was immediately rejected by Shelden. Drea was confused about Shelden's additional staff costs. It is the Student Senate's opinion that County Clerk's staff would be paid for the same work, regardless of the location. The Pine Lounge at the Illini Union has been offered free of cost, whereas Shelden will have to pay rent to Gregory Place.

Cowart entered the meeting at 7:12 p.m.

Jonathan Earnest, of the Illini Democrats, was concerned with the accessibility of Gregory Place compared to the Illini Union as an early polling place on campus. He stated Shelden and his staff has been offered free parking in the Illini Union's circle drive for the eighteen-day period early voting will be available. There is also a parking lot to the east of the Union that will be made available to staff. Earnest said the university is willing to work with Shelden to make parking easier for community members. The Union is accessible by most major MTD bus routes.

Devin Mapes, President of the Illini Democrats, commented that Mark Shelden has made inaccurate statements in the media when compared to his past comments. There are four student organizations involved in discussion with the Illini Union to determine what is necessary to make the early voting on campus a success. Those organizations are the Illinois Student Senate, Illini Democrats, College Republicans, and I-Vote (a non-partisan organization dedicated to registering people and getting them to vote). Mapes said the university students feel partisan politics have no place in this effort to encourage voting. He stated Shelden has ignored the students in this entire process and not consulted with them. Mapes felt this was an error on Shelden's part because an early voting location on campus should warrant some consideration regarding its accessibility to students.

Shana Harrison, Political Director for the Illini Democrats, also spoke in support on stationing the early polling place at the Illini Union. She stated the university was open to working with Shelden and rerouting pedestrian traffic in the Union to ensure there is no violation of election codes dictating that no politicking occur within 100 feet of the polling place. She felt the students understand the importance of elections and not politicking within the established voting area.

Laura Huth wished to provide clarifying statements on behalf of her clients concerning the Olympian Drive project. She distributed a statement from the Ziegler family, whose land is no longer immediately threatened with the shift in focus for the project. The statement indicated the family remains committed to finding the best outcome for the road project. Huth stated her clients request the undertaking of an independent needs assessment and demand study for the Olympians Drive project performed by an independent entity. She wanted the study to be conducted free of influence and internal meddling. It could also not be tied to a firm or government with any stake in the study's outcome. Huth's clients also wanted the data to be correlated and for at least three additional route options to be placed on the table for consideration.

Eric Thorsland suggested rotating the order of business at Committee of the Whole meetings for the benefit of the public who attend the meetings. He supported setting the early voting location at the Illini Union for the convenience of access. He felt the students have gone out of their way to work with the university and reach consensus on this issue.

Moser exited the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

Thorsland stated the County Clerk's job is to count votes and the more votes made, the more job security the County Clerk has. He felt the Illini Union location was a fantastic opportunity to have an early voting location that is accessible to many bus routes and in a place easily located for everyone in Champaign County.

Moser returned to the meeting at 7:26 p.m.

Tony Fabri, the County Auditor, addressed the proposal to place a question eliminating the elected Auditor on the April 2011 ballot. He distributed a *News-Gazette* article from 1990 describing previous consideration of eliminating the Auditor position. He found this article in his desk when he took office. Fabri indicated the previous effort was lead by Republicans who wanted to eliminate one of only two County offices that was held by a Democrat at the time. He noted the

effort failed and compared the current proposal to the previous partisan effort. Fabri hoped the County Board does not put this question on the ballot, but felt some Board members have already made up their minds. He asked the Board members to tell the truth and not make the same embarrassing effort by claiming it is a non-partisan, good government effort. Fabri claimed it was not good government or non-partisan for the Board to try and take away the voters' right to elect an Auditor. He said eliminating the position would not save money when compared with the high cost of hiring an outside auditing firm. An outside auditing firm only prepares two pages of the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) and confirms the numbers in the report. Fabri asked the Board to consider the costs of hiring an outside firm to produce the entire CAFR and perform the other accounts payable functions with the expense of the Auditor's Office. He stated that he took a \$15,000 pay cut last year to avoid eliminating a position in the Auditor's Office and would take another this year. He asked the Board to consider whether an outside contractor would take that kind of personal sacrifice to maintain the staffing level in the office. Fabri said the Recorder of Deeds and Coroner were spared the process of a ballot question and those offices were held by Republicans. He reflected that there was a long history of efforts to remove the elected Auditor, which is one of two positions historically held by a Democrat. The April election will present a skewed sampling of County voters and would provide an advantage to those in support of eliminating the position. Fabri reiterated that the Board members should tell the truth about this being a political maneuver and congratulated those who know it is a political maneuver on making a good play. He reminded the Board of a poker saying that if you cannot determine who the sucker at the table is, then it must be you. He encouraged the Board members who thought this proposal was a good government effort to think twice.

COMMUNICATIONS

There were no communications.

ENVIRONMENT & LAND USE

RPC FY2011 County Planning Contract Work Plan

Wysocki stated this item was deferred from last week's Committee of the Whole meeting. It was included on this agenda because the work plan has a lot of budgetary implications. The revised proposal was prepared by Susan Chavarria of the Regional Planning Commission. The proposal was a different version than the one presented last week because Chavarria did not previously include the required 10% budget reduction.

MOTION by Weibel to approve the RPC FY2011 County Planning Contract Work Plan; seconded by Kurtz.

Chavarria stated the original work plan was brought to the Board in June and deferred to September. She pointed out the changes in the amended version presented this week. She had some recommendations of how to make the 10% budget cut. The County was also awarded \$8,300 through the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) for a building code with energy efficient building design. The EECBG requires a \$2,775 local match coming from the County Planning Contract. This grant has been added into the work plan proposal. With the 10%

budget reduction and the addition of the EECBG, the work plan stands at 1,488 hours and a cost of \$76,877.

Richards exited the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

Discussion was held over the inclusion of the EECBG and the recommended reductions. Chavarria reviewed the items staff recommended be removed from the LRMP work plan to comply with the 10% budget reduction and to absorb the EECBG match expense.

Moser was vehemently opposed to spending money to study building codes out in the county, especially for buildings involved with agricultural operations. The expense of any additional building regulations would be cost prohibitive to Moser and other farmers. Chavarria clarified that the EECBG is for an actual implementation strategy and feasibility study regarding a building ordinance. It will not create a building ordinance. It would be a preliminary study to determine what needs to be done for Champaign County and how it most relates to the LRMP and the County's needs. Weibel assumed the study would be mostly directed towards residential buildings. Chavarria said that would be determined by the feasibility study. James remarked the state laws will mandate building codes, whether the County Board likes it or not. He understood Moser's concerns, but some laws have helped society in many ways. Anderson asked if any proposed changes to building codes would be brought to the County Board. Wsocki confirmed that was correct.

Richards returned to the meeting at 7:47 p.m.

Nudo suggested holding a special study session for these types of priorities, instead of discussing them as part of a regular meeting, to allow for enough discussion to understand the requests being made. He pointed out that Page 32 of the proposed work plan this does not use the reduced number of hours. Chavarria confirmed the bottom line should be 800 hours with \$40,000 instead of what is listed.

Sapp was concerned about this money being spent during a difficult budget time. He was not sure this was right time to spend money on these priorities and suggested the possibly of putting off the LRMP implementation for twelve months.

Kurtz spoke in favor of moving forward and implementing the LRMP to protect agriculture and best prime farmland in Champaign County. This was the first step in implementing the plan and he would not consider delaying it.

Langenheim asked for verification that the work plan presented concerned planning and the County Board was not committing itself to executing anything at this time. Chavarria stated the work plan involved all planning work and some of it does concern implementation of the LRMP. Langenheim asked if the County Board would receive a whole host of concrete proposals to do sustentative things. Chavarria confirmed that was correct.

Jay was also concerned about the money being spent on the LRMP. He felt it would cost more than the County Board could afford before it was all over. He advised the Board members to

be cognizant of the fact that they are adopting additional enforcement costs as they adopt new policies. He commended Busey's efforts to manage the budget up to this point and urged the Board to move very slowly.

Beckett spoke about how important planning is to government and the problems that can arise from a lack of planning for the future. The Board was being very responsible by planning along with being fiscally responsible. He appreciated the work staff has done and supported the proposed work plan. Anderson added that it was important to look at the long-term savings achievable through planning.

Moser exited the meeting at 7:53 p.m. and returned at 7:54 p.m.

Chavarria noted the County has sustainability initiatives where staff seek to help with the energy efficiency costs in County buildings. There are 70 hours remaining in the general planning support and she recommended those hours could be put towards GIS mapping for redistricting. The electronic recycling events have been successful and another 100 hours in the work plan are dedicated to funding sources research. This can be used towards RPC staff looking for and writing grants for any kind of project. The EECBG was applied for by the County Planner. Weibel added that the County Board can change its budget and planning contract if it has to after it is adopted. Sapp asked Chavarria if other grant work had been done to secure more funding. Chavarria said the County Planner did apply for and receive \$54,000 for the hazard mitigation plan. James inquired if there was a way to set aside contingency hours or reallocate hours if a need arises during FY2011. Chavarria replied that the work plan is at the Board's disposal and staff follows what the Board dictates.

McGinty called the question. Jay asked for roll call vote.

Motion carried with a vote of 17 to 8. Ammons, Anderson, Beckett, Betz, Cowart, Gladney, James, Knott, Kurtz, Langenheim, McGinty, Nudo, Richards, Rosales, Smucker, Weibel, and Wysocki voted in favor of the motion. Bensyl, Doenitz, Jay, Jones, Michaels, Moser, O'Connor, and Sapp voted against the motion.

JUSTICE & SOCIAL SERVICES

Monthly Reports

MOTION by Smucker to receive and place on file the Animal Control – July 2010, Head Start – July 2010, Probation & Court Services – July 2010, and Public Defender – June 2010 monthly reports; seconded by Langenheim. **Motion carried with unanimous support.**

Animal Control

Approval of Revised Animal Control Ordinance

MOTION by Anderson to approve the revisions to the Animal Control Ordinance; seconded by Smucker.

Joos explained the revisions will update the ordinance to comply with changes in state laws that assigned new responsibilities to the County Animal Control. She provided a short synopsis of the changes. The definition changes were taken directly from state law. She also added language to make the spay/neuter requirements clear for average citizens. An important change is that the registration fees will increase over a period of time with the final increase occurring in 2014. The Animal Control Department's budget is solely funded by registration fees and service contracts with cities and incorporated villages. In comparing Champaign County's fees with other counties, Joos found some of our fees are lower and some are a little higher than other counties. Her recommendation was to increase the altered animal tags by \$2 and increase the unaltered animal tag by \$3 through 2012. The tags would increase by \$3 across the board on January 1, 2014. This would provide the Animal Control Department with a \$5 increase for altered pets and a \$6 for unaltered pets over a two-year timeframe. The revenue is needed to provide the same level of service that Animal Control currently provides, but she did not want to overburden citizens by adding the increase all at once.

Sapp exited the meeting at 8:09 p.m.

Joos expressed that an impoundment fee, assessed whenever an animal is impounded at the Animal Control Facility, will now apply whether the animal is picked up by the Animal Control Officer or delivered over the counter to the facility. The impoundment fee of \$35 (the same as current fee) will be assessed to the owner the first time an animal is impounded with identity tags. An animal impounded without tags will have a fee of \$50 assessed to the owner when the pet is retrieved. Joos is trying to discourage the repeat offenders, so she proposed a fee of \$50 for animals with identity tags that are impounded twice within a twelve month period. An owner would be charged \$75 for the third and each subsequent offense within a twelve month period. Some pets are picked up by Animal Control two to three times within the same week and this behavior by owners should be discouraged. She encourages owners to always have identity tags on their pets. Animal Control only charges owners \$17 to insert microchips into pets. She has been informed by the Department of Agriculture that they will no longer be investigating animal cruelty complaints in any county in the State of Illinois unless it involves livestock, large scale breeding operations, or licensees of the Department of Agriculture. The addition of those ordinances does give Champaign County Animal Control the authority to impound animal subject to cruelty or when inhumane care is suspected.

Schroeder entered the meeting at 8:11 p.m.

James felt the increases to registration fees hurt responsible pet owners. Instead, Animal Control should enforce fines to offset increasing costs. Joos stated that each village has its own set of fines. The ordinance only applied to unincorporated areas. Owners have 10 business days to pay the citation and comply with vaccination or registration requirements. If the owner fails to comply in that timeframe, the case is sent to the State's Attorney's Office for collection. She estimated the department has only collected \$400 in fines to date.

Sapp returned to the meeting at 8:12 p.m.

Weibel asked when fees were last increased. Joos thought it was eight years ago. Ammons wanted to know the impact of the department's operating expenses versus the increase in fees.

Rosales exited the meeting at 8:14 p.m.

Joos explained the reason for increasing the fees was that Animal Control has no fund balance for equipment replacement or building repairs. The facility costs associated with pets being housed there should be paid by those who use the facility.

Nudo could not find the cost totals in the annual report. Joos realized she forgot to include the totals and verified the department breaks even every year. The City of Champaign will decrease the number of days (from seven to five) their animals are held in the County's facility to reduce their costs. Nudo was in favor of increased fines, but questioned increasing fees for the public while allowing the City of Champaign to make reductions.

Rosales returned to the meeting at 8:16 p.m.

Joos responded that most villages and the County Animal Control will probably change from a seven-day holding period to a five-day holding period due to the expense. Most counties of comparable size only hold stray animals without identification for three days. Animal Control held animals for longer because the Humane Society had always held animals for seven days. Joos assured the Board that the majority of animals unclaimed after 48 hours are always unclaimed. Her push is to eventually hold animals for three days, but she thought the department should ease into it by first going from seven to five days.

Beckett commended Joos for the remarkable job she does in managing the department. He observed that any proposals on subjects involving animals, alcohol, adult entertainment, and acreage (land use) are chewed apart by the County Board. This department runs on registration fees and it would be enormously expensive to ask for a dedicated Assistant State's Attorney to collect fines on animal violations. The fines should be collected when they can be, but that will not be very often. Beckett found the proposal to be very realistic and the Board should vote on it.

James recalled that Joos recommended increasing the length of time animals are held so they could be adopted. Joos stated this is a separate issue. James said the Board is spending other people's money and asking for more when people are trying to cut their own budgets. The Board should include enforcement tools when they pass rules. He also asked Joos to have totals at end of her spreadsheets.

Anderson commented that Joos does a good job evaluating what fees are needed to operate the department. The County Board would complain if Joos did not keep the fees high enough to cover expenses. Michaels asked how Champaign's reduction in the number of holding days will impact the Animal Control budget. In Joos's opinion, Animal Control would never make money, but it would continue to break even. If the holding days are decreased, then the resources used to house the animals also decreased. The contracts with cities and villages pay exactly what it costs to house their animals. Kurtz spoke about the extraordinary job performed by Joos and Animal Control in the community. McGinty called the question.

Motion carried.

Approval of Intergovernmental Agreement for Animal Impound Services with the City of Champaign

MOTION by McGinty to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement for Animal Impound Services with the City of Champaign; seconded by Richards.

Joos confirmed the only change to the agreement came from the City of Champaign. Champaign wanted to reduce the number of days animals are held and the amount of money it pays to Animal Control. Joos said Champaign will be charged \$10 per animal each day for any animal required to be held animal past the five-day period.

Wysocki inquired what happens to a Champaign animal at the end of the new holding period. Joos answered those animals become property of the County and what happens is at their discretion. The animal can be euthanized. Animals can also be sent to a breed rescue group, the Humane Society, or adopted through Animal Control's adoption program.

Smucker asked how the charges to Champaign are calculated. Joos said the Champaign and Urbana contracts are based on the average number of animals per month in the previous year, charging \$10 per animal per day. Busey added the department does derive \$10 per day from assessing the total actual annual costs for everything done by Animal Control. Control services, impoundment services, and registration services are separated to determine the actual costs. Smucker asked if Joos reviewed how other counties performed animal control services and what those entities charge for services. Joos said the formula was based on how other counties provide this type of service in FY2005. The impoundment agreements for the other incorporated villages are based on the exact number of animals housed each month by the County Animal Control Department. Smucker encouraged Joos to gather comparable information on other counties' charges to share this information with the Board in next year's annual report.

Ammons asked why the previous agreement charged a daily board fee of \$15 and asked why it was \$10 now. Joos said the amount charged to the City of Champaign is based on the amount it costs Animal Control to house an animal. The City of Urbana charges \$15 to the owner of a pet that is reclaimed, so the City is making \$5 on reclaimed animals. The City of Champaign will be using the same practice. The County will also be charging \$15 per day for boarding fees.

Doenitz exited the meeting at 8:28 p.m.

Motion carried.

Animal Control Annual Report 2009

MOTION by James to receive & place on file the Animal Control Annual Report for 2009; seconded by Rosales.

Joos apologized for not including the totals as this was requested by James last year. James appreciated all the effort she puts into the report.

Motion carried with unanimous support.

Other Business

There was no other business.

Chair's Report

There was no Chair's report.

Designation of Items to be Placed on County Board Consent Agenda

There were no items for the consent agenda.

POLICY, PERSONNEL, & APPOINTMENTS

Appointments/Reappointments

Approval of RFP 2010-005 Selection Committee

MOTION by Weibel to appoint Steve Beckett, Deb Busey, Riley Glerum, Duane Northrup, Alan Nudo, Alan Reinhart, Mark Shelden, and himself to the RFP 2010-005 Selection Committee; seconded by James.

James exited the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Sapp asked if Riley Glerum would charge for the time he spends on the RFP Selection Committee. Busey thought the services were provided in the original contract and if Glerum's cost exceeded the contract amount, he would inform the County.

Motion carried.

Jones returned to the meeting at 8:33 p.m.

Approval of Olympian Drive Special Committee

Weibel explained the Olympian Drive Special Committee's mission will be to explore and seek avenues that lead to consensus on Lincoln Avenue connecting to Olympian Drive. The committee's outcome will be to bring a resolution to the County Board or to direct staff towards an acceptable intergovernmental agreement with Champaign and Urbana. He confirmed this committee would not actually work on the intergovernmental agreement. Knott agreed this committee would be a catalyst for discussion amongst the various parties. The committee will expire in November with the end of the County Board term.

MOTION by Weibel to establish the Olympian Drive Special Committee and appoint Langenheim, Gladney, Knott, Nudo, and himself as members; seconded by Knott.

Ammons wanted other Board members appointed to the committee to bring diversity. She remarked many Board members were interested in the project, but are not included on the committee.

Schroeder exited the meeting at 8:35 p.m.

Wysocki thought the committee was lacking with the absence of Cowart as the Highway Committee Chair. She would support with committee's appointment and was not second guessing the Board Chair, but she would have liked Cowart to have been involved. Cowart said she talked to Weibel and decided Gladney should take her place on the committee. She plans to sit in on the meetings and participate in discussions.

James suggested Weibel should send an email asking Board members to submit their names for any special committees. Weibel stated that he conferred with Knott as the Republican Caucus Chair per the County Board Rules. Knott selected the Republican committee members.

Schroeder returned to the meeting at 8:38 p.m.

Motion carried.

Langenheim exited the meeting at 8:39 p.m.

Administrator's Report **Vacant Positions Listing**

The vacant positions listing was provided for information only. Busey stated the majority of vacant positions are either in Court Services or the Sheriff's Office.

Request Approval of Job Content Evaluation Committee Recommendation for Mental Health Board Staffing Request

Busey presented the Job Content Evaluation Committee's recommendation to establish a Developmental Disabilities Contract Coordinator position and assign it to Grade Range F in the County's salary schedule.

MOTION by Kurtz to forward the recommended assignment of the Developmental Disabilities Contract Coordinator position to Finance; seconded by Anderson.

Wysocki inquired which fund will pay for the position. Busey answered the position will be employed by the Mental Health Board in its fund. The Developmental Disabilities Board and the Access Initiative Program pay for administrative support from the Mental Health Board staff. The growth in the other two funds requires the addition of one more staffing position. Anderson talked

about the additional responsibilities undertaken by the Mental Health Board staff over time. She supported adding the position.

Langenheim returned to the meeting at 8:41 p.m.

Motion carried with unanimous support.

Request Approval of Award of Contract for Financial Auditing Services for Champaign County

Busey distributed a page to the Board requesting the financial auditing services contract be awarded to Clifton Gunderson, LLP. The County received two responses to RFP 2010-004, which were reviewed by the evaluation team. Based on the evaluation criteria, the team is recommending a contract with Clifton Gunderson, LLP for the five-year term.

Smucker and Kurtz exited the meeting at 8:42 p.m.

MOTION by McGinty to award the financial auditing services for Champaign County contract to Clifton Gunderson LLP; seconded by Ammons.

James asked what last year's auditing contract cost. Busey answered it was \$30,000. James noted this contract would cost \$380,000 for five years and represented a substantial increase. Busey confirmed that was correct. Jones questioned if the County entertains bids from firms outside Champaign County. Busey explained five firms attended the pre-bid conference and the County only received responses from two firms. The bid was advertised and sent to all known firms. The second response was from outside Champaign County. Jones asked why it costs an annual average of \$46,000 more in the new contract. Busey thought a lot of the increased cost went to the total scope of services the County will receive. The County had employed the same firm for fifteen years for the outside audit without seeing much increase in price. The Clifton Gunderson contract proposes 790 hours of service. The second proposal was for 846 hours of service to provide the work that is being requested. The Chief Deputy Auditor went over the actual work in great detail with the potential bidders at the pre-bid conference.

Kurtz returned to the meeting at 8:43 p.m.

Busey looked at auditing costs for other counties. Peoria County just finished its last contracted year with Clifton Gunderson at a cost of \$93,000 for this year's audit. The other firm that made a proposal was just hired by Peoria County and will be paid \$100,000 for next year's audit. The Peoria County's Auditor's Office is the same size as the Champaign County Auditor's Office. She believed the proposal matches the requirements in today's world.

Michaels asked if the first year was at a lower rate because it is listed at \$72,100, while the five-year contract is listed as costing \$380,000. Busey said the cost increases by \$2,000 each year for the five-year term. She confirmed this amount was included in the budget presented to the Board at the Legislative Budget Hearings.

Smucker returned to the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

Motion carried.

Request for Release of Bid for Emergency Operation Center Technology Upgrade

Busey stated the County Board approved the acceptance of a grant earlier this year to upgrade the equipment at the County Emergency Operations Center. They are ready to spend that money and it requires a bid.

MOTION by James to release Bid 2010-006 for the Champaign County Emergency Operation Center Technology Upgrade; seconded by Sapp. **Motion carried with unanimous support.**

County Clerk

Monthly Fees Report – July 2010

MOTION by Ammons to receive and place on file the County Clerk monthly fees report for July 2010; seconded by Rosales. **Motion carried with unanimous support.**

Approval to Accept Illinois State Board of Elections Phase III Grant Award

MOTION by Kurtz to accept the Illinois State Board of Elections Phase III Grant Award; seconded by Rosales.

Smucker asked for an explanation of the grant. Sheldon replied it has the same purposes as the Phase II grant. It would be used to improve voter registration system in the County Clerk's Office for the Help American Vote Act requirements regarding provisional voting. It can be used for polling place accessibility and maintenance on election equipment. The grant is good until the 2012 election.

Motion carried with unanimous support.

Recommendations for Changes to County Board Rules

The recommended changes were documented in the agenda packet. Betz said the committee would address the changes proposed by Wysocki first.

MOTION by Beckett to approve all the changes to the County Board Rules recommended by Wysocki; seconded by McGinty.

Weibel remarked that item 14.A seemed inconsistent compared to item 16.B. Busey suggested changing the language in 14.A to read as "County Board Chair shall designate who shall preside over all sections of the agenda." **This change was accepted as a friendly amendment by Beckett and McGinty.**

Motion carried with unanimous support.

MOTION by Beckett to approve all the changes to the County Board Rules recommended by Weibel; seconded by Weibel.

Weibel asked for the word “in” be removed from the language describing how a tie vote will be broken in item 15.D. **This change was accepted as a friendly amendment by Beckett and Weibel.**

Discussion was held over how Robert’s Rules of Order impacted County Board meetings.

Motion carried with unanimous support.

Weibel exited the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

Other Business

Resolution Placing the Question of Elimination of the Elected Office of County Auditor in Champaign County on the April 2011 Election Ballot

MOTION by Beckett to approve the Resolution Placing the Question of Elimination of the Elected Office of County Auditor in Champaign County on the April 2011 Election Ballot; seconded by Moser.

Beckett spoke about some of the Auditor’s comments during public participation. Beckett indicated this is bipartisan effort because, as a Democrat, he is concerned with county government reform. He reminded the Board that they held public hearings where the elected offices of Coroner, Recorder, and Auditor were reviewed. Those offices included. The Board decided to place the question on the November ballot for the voters to decide, but a mistake was made in the process and not pointed out until it was too late to correct. Beckett found it ironic that Fabri accused the County Board of playing politics to use the April ballot when the reason the issue will not be on the November ballot is because Democratic Committee Chair Al Klein did not come forward about the mistake until after the deadline to correct it has passed. This issue is an analysis of the Auditor’s Office and whether having a financial professional heading this professional office is good for the County. Beckett said the voters should decide and the April ballot is the next logical election. He has heard from other Democrats that some Democrats are putting pressure on other Democrats to vote against this ballot question because the Auditor’s Office is viewed as one of their party’s offices. The Republicans he has spoken to talk about this issue in terms of what would be right for the County. Beckett compared the Auditor position to the County Engineer and the need for a professional in the position. If the voters were to decide the elected Auditor position should be eliminated, then the County could create an appointed position that would discharge financial duties in a Chief Financial Officer context.

Langenheim was amused at notion that the issue was a bipartisan affair. He spoke about how the staff in the Auditor’s Office are accounting professionals, while the elected Auditor is a line officer. The Auditor determines policy and tells the County Board when it is getting out of line in fiscal matters. The Auditor does not need to be an accountant because the office has an accountant on staff. He stated an elected Auditor is beholden to the people who elected him. He objected to the notion that county government should be run like a corporation.

Anderson remarked that no one has spoken to her about this issue. She questioned how the County Board arrived at placing a question on the ballot when she recalled there was overwhelming support to keep this office as elected presented at the public hearing.

Richards claimed a vote for placing this question on the ballot is a vote against accountability. The County needs an elected Auditor not accountable to the County Board.

Weibel returned at to the meeting at 9:05 p.m. McGinty returned to the meeting at 9:06 p.m.

Moser stated that Chief Deputy Auditor Carol Wadleigh is the watchdog for the Auditor's Office. He did not know why an elected official is necessary to oversee the CPA who has been running the office for years. Gladney stated the elected Auditor gives the Chief Deputy and the office independence and better accountability for voters. Having the position be elected is invaluable to provide cover for the Chief Deputy Auditor. Board members continued to voice their opinions about the Auditor position and whether the questions should be placed on the ballot.

Michaels called the question. Betz said he wanted to let everyone have the chance to speak. Smucker and Ammons also called the question. Betz announced he designated Nudo to speak.

Nudo spoke about the public hearings and the votes the County Board took about the Coroner and Recorder positions. The State Constitution allows for positions to switch from appointed to elected, as was done in Lake County. He argued there was nothing magical about an elected position. He would prefer someone with professionalism in the Auditor position. There is a lot more the Auditor could do to ensure a better running auditing function for the County. His views have nothing to do with Fabri and encouraged the Board to let the people decide.

Motion carried with a vote of 15 to 11. Beckett, Bensyl, Doenitz, Jay, Jones, Knott, McGinty, Michaels, Moser, Nudo, O'Connor, Rosales, Sapp, Schroeder, and Wysocki voted in favor of the motion. Ammons, Anderson, Betz, Cowart, Gladney, James, Kurtz, Langenheim, Richards, Smucker, and Weibel voted against the motion.

Regional Planning Commission Request for Exception to the Travel Policy

MOTION by Langenheim to grant the exception to the Travel Policy as requested by the Regional Planning Commission; seconded by Weibel.

Ammons wanted more information because the memo did not tell the Board what exception is being requested. Moore explained that if the cost of meals is included in a conference registration fee, then an employee cannot collect a per diem. The cost of meals was included in the registration fee for this particular conference, but the employee in question was not able to get meals to meet her dietary guidelines. Ammons asked if Moore was asking to basically pay twice for the employee's meals. Moore said RPC asked for a partial refund on the conference registration fee because the special meal request could not be accommodated. The conference declined to give a refund. Ammons asked for the specific costs. Moore could not recall the amount of the daily per diem for the city where the conference was held. Gladney asked how many meals were involved. Moore said the conference lasted three to four days, so it would involve nine to twelve meals.

Knott exited the meeting at 9:30 p.m.

The Board discussed the specifics of the requested exception to the Travel Policy.

Motion carried with a vote of 19 to 6. Anderson, Beckett, Bensyl, Betz, Cowart, Doenitz, Gladney, Kurtz, Langenheim, McGinty, Moser, Nudo, Richards, Rosales, Sapp, Schroeder, Smucker, Weibel and Wysocki voted in favor of the motion. Ammons, James, Jay, Jones, Michaels, and O'Connor voted against the motion.

Chair's Report

There was no Chair's report.

Designation of Items to be Placed on County Board Consent Agenda

Agenda items 10.C.2 & D were designated for the consent agenda.

FINANCE

Budget Amendments & Transfers

Budget Amendment #10-00076, Budget Amendment #10-00077, & Budget Amendment #10-00080

MOTION by Richards to recommend to the County Board approval of Budget Amendment #10-00076 from Fund 075 Regional Planning Commission – Department 865 LIHEAP-Percentage of Income Payment Plan for increased appropriations of \$8,000 for the Regular Full-Time Employees line and \$167,000 for the Energy Assistance line with increased revenue of \$175,000 from the Illinois DCEO-LIHEAP/Weatherization line; Budget Amendment #10-00077 from Fund 075 Regional Planning Commission – Department 866 Weatherization -NICOR/IACAA for increased appropriations of \$7,000 for the Regular Full-Time Employees line, \$31,500 for the Weatherization Labor line, and \$31,500 for the Weatherization Materials line with increased revenue of \$70,000 from the Technical Service Cont. line; and Budget Amendment #10-00080 from Fund 075 Regional Planning Commission – Department 682 Economic Development District-Even Years for increased appropriations of \$17,600 for the Regular Full-Time Employees line, \$650 for the Stationary and Printing line, \$800 for the Office Supplies line, \$800 for the Postage, UPS, Federal Express line, \$300 for the Gasoline & Oil line, \$1,200 for the Professional Services line, \$650 for the Job-Required Travel Expense line, \$700 for the Computer Services line, \$1,150 for the Legal Notices, Advertising line, \$150 for the Business Meals/Expenses line, and \$1,000 for the Photocopy Services line with no increased revenue; seconded by Ammons. **Motion carried with unanimous support.**

Budget Amendment #10-00081

MOTION by Ammons to recommend to the County Board approval of Budget Amendment #10-00081 from Fund 108 Developmental Disability Fund – Department 050 Developmental Disability Board for increased appropriations of \$36,000 for the Contributions and Grants line with no increased revenue; seconded by Cowart.

Ammons asked why more money was needed to cover grant expenditures. Canfield from the Mental Health Board Office could not answer the specifics. Busey said the Developmental Disabilities Board has the funds available and it might be caused by a decision to increase the grants. The Mental Health Board and Developmental Disabilities Board also have a different fiscal year than the County's.

Richards asked if this was in the budget because the amendment was not revenue neutral. Busey explained that the Mental Health Board office is sitting on fund balance in excess of \$2 million and they do not spend all incoming money in a fiscal year.

Knott returned to the meeting at 9:32 p.m. McGinty exited the meeting at 9:33 p.m.

The Board continued to discuss the budget amendment. Becket suggested this item be placed on the County Board's regular agenda to make sure there is a clear explanation. Anderson stated the Developmental Disabilities Board just makes grants to outside agencies with its funds.

Gladney exited the meeting at 9:35 p.m.

Motion carried.

Regional Planning Commission

Approval of Champaign County Participation in USDA Intermediary Re-Lending Program

MOTION by James to approve Champaign County's participation in the USDA Intermediary Re-Lending Program through the Regional Planning Commission; seconded by Kurtz.
Motion carried with unanimous support.

County Clerk

Request Approval of Resolution Authority the Acceptance of a Grant to Purchase Voting Equipment

MOTION by Jones to approve the Resolution for Authority the Acceptance of a Grant to Purchase Voting Equipment; seconded by Cowart. **Motion carried with unanimous support.**

Budget Amendment #10-00079

MOTION by Kurtz to recommend to the County Board approval of Budget Amendment #10-00079 from Fund 628 Election Assist/Accessibility – Department 022 County Clerk for increased appropriations of \$72,000 for the Contributions and Grants line with increased revenue of \$72,000 from the Election Commission-Help America Vote line; seconded by James.

Betz wanted to know when the polling place location would be selected. He would have problems accepting the \$72,000 if the early voting location was inaccessible.

Cowart, Knott, and Michaels exited the meeting at 9:37 p.m.

Shelden identified the building located south of the Krannert Center as the only acceptable location. It is underneath the School of Social Work, has available parking, and sufficient space. This is where the polling place will be located. The university offered him the use of the Pine Lounge in the Illini Union, which he declined.

Beckett asked if the County Board approves the polling place location. Shelden stated that under Article 11, the County Board approves the precinct polling locations and the County Clerk's Office, as the election authority, sets the early voting locations under Article 19.A.

Smucker asked the why Illini Union was not selected as the early voting location.

Michaels returned to the meeting at 9:39 p.m. Bensyl exited the meeting at 9:39 p.m.

Shelden stated there is a lot of political activity at Illini Union and he views this as an inappropriate location -for a polling place. Access to the Illini Union and parking is extremely difficult for the average voter. The location needs to be accessible to everyone in Champaign County. There were also administrative issues for his office at the Union. Shelden hoped people realize the challenges to elected officials and the fewer administrative staff he has to run the office.

Cowart returned to the meeting at 9:41 p.m. Bensyl returned to the meeting at 9:42 p.m.

Smucker asked why the Illini Union was chosen as a polling place in 2008 if it had such limitations. Shelden explained that was an emergency. The Illinois Disciples Foundation would not be a polling place and there was construction at the McKinley Presbyterian Church & Foundation. He begged the Union to be a polling place on an emergency basis. He described the problems he experienced with the location.

Gladney returned to the meeting at 9:44 p.m.

Smucker felt Shelden was a competent administrator and encouraged him to rethink using the Illini Union. Shelden said he had a good grasp of the abilities of his office.

McGinty encouraged speakers to be succinct in making their points due to the late hour. The Board continued to debate where the early voting location should be placed on campus. Jones urged the members to keep to the topic of the budget amendment, which was the motion on the floor.

Ammons exited the meeting at 9:47 p.m.

MOTION by Anderson asked to amend the budget amendment to establish the campus polling place location.

Jay called for a point of order and stated the Board had stepped over line with a discussion about polling place location when the motion on the floor concerned a budget amendment. As a point of information, Weibel explained that he consulted with David DeThorne in the State's Attorney's Office about this issue. He cited Article 11, indicating that the County Board fixes the

place of election. Weibel said the Board has to vote on the appropriate polling place and on campus. McGinty asked if the Board would vote tonight, noting it was not on the agenda. Weibel agreed it was not appropriate to amend a budget amendment to establish the early voting place on campus. **McGinty, as Finance Chair, ruled Anderson's amendment was not appropriate at this time.**

MOTION by Langenheim to amend the polling place recommendation.

Beckett called for a point of order because that motion had been ruled as out of order by the Chair. Weibel said this was an issue for the full Board meeting. A resolution could be brought to the County Board designating a polling place. Other Board members voiced their opinions on using the Illini Union versus Gregory Place as a polling place.

Ammons returned to the meeting at 9:53 p.m.

Shelden argued that the law clearly designates the selection of early voting locations under his authority, so this is his decision. He stated the County Board had no authority to select the early voting location, but it could be delayed if the Board was going to sue him.

Knott and many others called the question.

Motion carried to approve Budget Amendment #10-00079 with a vote of 26 to 0.

Ammons, Anderson, Beckett, Bensyl, Betz, Cowart, Doenitz, Gladney, James, Jay, Jones, Knott, Kurtz, Langenheim, McGinty, Michaels, Moser, Nudo, O'Connor, Richards, Rosales, Sapp, Schroeder Smucker, Weibel, and Wysocki voted in favor of the motion.

Court Services/Probation

Request Approval of Application and, if Awarded, Acceptance of Information & Record Sharing Program/Enhanced Formal Station Adjustment Program Grant

MOTION by James to approve the application and, if awarded, acceptance of Information & Record Sharing Program/Enhanced Formal Station Adjustment Program Grant; seconded by Richards. **Motion carried with unanimous support.**

County Administrator

General Corporate Fund FY2010 Revenue/Expenditure Projection Report

Busey announced the General Corporate Fund reports were at the Board's desks. The current projections were reviewed in budget presentation held earlier this evening.

General Corporate Fund Budget Change Report

The budget change report was provided.

MOTION by Jones to receive and place on file the General Corporate Fund FY2010 Revenue/Expenditure Projection Report and General Corporate Fund Budget Change Report; seconded by Kurtz. **Motion carried with unanimous support.**

Harris & Harris Monthly Collections Report

No report from Harris & Harris was provided.

Request Approval of Mental Health Board Staffing Request

MOTION by Beckett to approve the addition of the Developmental Disabilities Contract Coordinator position assigned to Grade Range F to the staffing for the Mental Health Board; seconded by Bensyl. **Motion carried.**

Request Approval of IT Staffing Change

Busey explained that due to software enhancements and to comply with required budget cuts, she is recommending the elimination of the Security Analyst position in the IT Department. The County does have a need for an additional Desktop Support Technician position to support the County's 600 computers and printers. The Desktop Support Technician would be in a lower salary grade than the Security Analyst, so there will be savings. Busey asked for authority to fill the Desktop Support Technician position effective December 1, 2010.

MOTION by Jones to approve the elimination of the Security Analyst position and creation of an additional Desktop Support Technician position, effective on December 1, 2010. The Desktop Support Technician position is authorized to be filled on December 1, 2010. The motion was seconded by Michaels.

Ammons asked if the employee in the Security Analyst position had been notified and if that person would fill the lower level position. Busey confirmed that employee has been given notice the position was being terminated in the FY2011 budget. Busey intends to advertise the Desktop Support Technician position and Security Analyst can apply for it. The position will be filled with the best qualified individual.

Motion carried.

Request Approval to Release RFP for Underwriting/Financial Advisor Services for \$2.2 Million Bond Issue

Busey put together an RFP to release for underwriting and financial advisor services, but first she asked the Board to consider hiring William Blair to provide the underwriting and financial advisor services for the \$2.2 million bond issue. The County has done eleven bond issues in the last twelve years with a competitive selection process and William Blair handled ten of those issues. William Blair has great familiarity with Champaign County and its debt obligations. The firm provides continuing disclosure services and other services every year, such as assistance with rating

agency information. Elizabeth Hennessy from William Blair also contacted Busey to suggest looking at refunding the 2003 Nursing Home bonds for savings.

MOTION by Beckett to approve the County Administrator's recommendation to contract with William Blair for Underwriting/Financial Advisor Services on bond issues; seconded by Wysocki.

James said it was useful to work with good people, but the County needed to use the RFP process because firms are hungry. Ammons also supported following the RFP process. Betz asked for a roll call vote.

Motion carried with a vote of 14 to 12. Beckett, Bensyl, Doenitz, Jay, Jones, Knott, McGinty, Michaels, Moser, Nudo, O'Connor, Rosales, Schroeder, and Wysocki voted in favor of the motion. Ammons, Anderson, Betz, Cowart, Gladney, James, Kurtz, Langenheim, Richards, Sapp, Smucker, and Weibel voted against the motion.

Discussion & Direction Regarding FY2011 Budget

Busey asked if there was any direction from the Board to change the GCF budget preparation from the decisions she presented at the Legislative Budget Hearings before the budget is finalized in October. No changes were requested from Board members. Nudo wished the Board had some measure of control over how fines are being collected by a certain office. The fines revenue has gone uncollected and the County hired another firm to pick up where that office has not done an adequate job.

Treasurer

Monthly Report – August 2010

MOTION by Doenitz to receive and place on file the Treasurer's August 2010 report; seconded by Moser. **Motion carried with unanimous support.**

Ammons exited the meeting at 10:10 p.m.

Auditor

Purchases Not Following Purchasing Policy

The purchases not following Purchasing Policy list was distributed for information. Bensyl asked why the Self-Insurance Fund spent \$17,850 without issuing a purchase order. Fabri said the expense was to repaint the Highway Garage after the fire. Bensyl asked if it was just a mistake that the purchase order was not issued. Fabri said his office asked and did not receive an answer, so he did not know. Busey said the Insurance Specialist, when dealing with such emergencies, does not customarily obtain a purchase order, particularly when it is for services, not goods. She believed the Purchasing Policy was unclear as to whether a purchase order is mandated for services and that is a discussion she has been having with the Auditor's staff. This was an emergency situation following the fire in the Highway Garage. James said a list of minority business owners could have been consulted to save some money.

Monthly Reports – July 2010 & August 2010

MOTION by Rosales to receive and place on file the Auditor's monthly reports for July 2010 & August 2010; seconded by Jones. **Motion carried with unanimous support.**

Other Business

There was no other business.

Chair's Report

There was no Chair's report.

Designation of Items to be Placed on County Board Consent Agenda

Agenda items 11.A.1-3, B.1, C.1-2, & D.1 were designated for the consent agenda.

Cowart exited the meeting at 10:12 p.m.

OTHER BUSINESS

Semi-Annual Review of Closed Session Minutes

MOTION by Beckett for all closed session minutes to remain closed; seconded by Wysocki. **Motion carried with unanimous support.**

Closed Session Pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)6 to Discuss the Setting of Price for Sale or Lease of Property Owned by Champaign County

MOTION by Beckett defer the closed session to the October 5th Committee of the Whole meeting; seconded by Wysocki. **Motion carried with unanimous support.**

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

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 specific employees of Champaign County. He further moved the following individuals remain present: the County Administrator, Recording Secretary, and the County's legal counsel. The motion was seconded by Wysocki. **Motion carried with a vote of 21 to 3.** Anderson, Beckett, Bensyl, Betz, Doenitz, Gladney, James, Jay, Knott, Kurtz, Langenheim, McGinty, Michaels, Nudo, Richards, Rosales, Sapp, Schroeder, Smucker, Weibel, and Wysocki voted in favor of the motion. Jones, Moser, and O'Connor voted against the motion. The County Board entered into a closed session at 10:14 p.m. and resumed open session at 10:20 p.m.

RECESS

Betz recessed the meeting at 10:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kat Bork
Administrative Assistant

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