

# CHAMPAIGN COUNTY BOARD COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES

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## Environment & Land Use/Justice & Social Services

Tuesday, June 7, 2011

Lyle Shields Meeting Room, Brookens Administrative Center

1776 E. Washington St., Urbana, Illinois

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Christopher Alix, Jan Anderson, Ron Bensyl, Astrid Berkson, Thomas Betz, Lloyd Carter, Lorraine Cowart, Aaron Esry, Stephanie Holderfield, Stan James, John Jay, Alan Kurtz, Ralph Langenheim, Brendan McGinty, Diane Michaels, Steve Moser, Alan Nudo, Steve O'Connor, Pattsy Petrie, James Quisenberry, Michael Richards, Giraldo Rosales, Larry Sapp

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Carol Ammons, Brad Jones, Jonathan Schroeder, C. Pius Weibel

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Kat Bork (Administrative Assistant), Deb Busey (County Administrator), John Dwyer (EMA Deputy Director), John Hall (Planning & Zoning Director), Bill Keller (EMA Director), Andrew Levy (RPC Planner/Sustainability Coordinator), Susan Monte (RPC Planner)

### CALL TO ORDER

Betz called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.

### ROLL CALL

Bork called the roll. Alix, Anderson, Bensyl, Berkson, Betz, Carter, Cowart, Esry, Holderfield, James, Jay, Kurtz, Langenheim, McGinty, Michaels, Moser, Nudo, O'Connor, Petrie, Quisenberry, Richards, Rosales, and Sapp were present at the time of roll call, establishing the presence of a quorum.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**MOTION** by Rosales to approve the Committee of the Whole minutes of May 3, 2011; seconded by Quisenberry. **Motion carried with unanimous support.**

### APPROVAL OF AGENDA/ADDENDA

**MOTION** by Cowart to approve the agenda; seconded by Carter. **Motion carried with unanimous support.**

## **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There was no public participation.

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

There were no communications.

## **JUSTICE & SOCIAL SERVICES**

### **Monthly Reports**

Richards announced the reports would be taken individually because EMA staff members were present.

**MOTION** by Langenheim to receive and place on file the Animal Control April 2011 report; seconded by Kurtz. **Motion carried with unanimous support.**

Keller answered questions about the functions of the Emergency Management Agency.

**MOTION** by Anderson to receive and place on file the EMA May 2011 report; seconded by Rosales. **Motion carried with unanimous support.**

**MOTION** by Quisenberry to receive and place on file the Head Start May 2011 report, Probation & Court Services April 2011 report, and Public Defender February 2011 report; seconded by James. **Motion carried with unanimous support.**

Sapp exited the meeting at 6:23 p.m.

### **Emergency Management Agency**

#### **Request Approval of an Intergovernmental Agreement for Sharing NAVTEQ Proprietary Data with the Illinois Department of Transportation**

**MOTION** by James to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement for Sharing NAVTEQ Proprietary Data with the Illinois Department of Transportation; seconded by Moser. **Motion carried with unanimous support.**

### **Other Business**

Keller introduced John Dwyer, the new EMA Deputy Director, who comes from the public health field.

### **Chair's Report**

There was no Chair's Report.

**ENVIRONMENT & LAND USE**  
**Recreation & Entertainment License**

**MOTION** by Moser to approve the Recreation & Entertainment License for the Champaign County Fair Association, 302 North Coler Avenue, Urbana IL for July 22 to 30, 2011; seconded by Alix.

Alix wanted to confirm that the Champaign County Fair Association is not-for-profit organization. No one was able to answer. Alix inquired if the same fee is charged to not-for-profit and for-profit business. Kurtz confirmed that was true.

Sapp returned to the meeting at 6:27 p.m.

**Motion carried with unanimous support.**

**Status Report on FY2011 RPC Planning Contract**

Monte provided an update on the status of the issues listed in the FY2011 work plan. The FY2011 work plan is 60% completed. Many of the LRMP items (items A-D) designated for implementation were rolled over from FY2010. The hours allotted for the Redistricting Commission have been completed. About 220 hours remain for LRMP implementation work. Two more recycling events will be coordinated in FY2011, but most of that work is finished for this fiscal year. The EECBG building code grant report is in progress with about 200 hours of work remaining. There are also remaining hours devoted to administration. Monte noted that other items appearing on tonight's agenda will impact the remaining FY2011 work plan hours. If the County Board decides to integrate a revision of the land evaluation portion of the Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Document (LESA) into this year's work plan, about 20 hours will be displaced to accommodate those activities.

James inquired what the initials "RR" stood for in LRMP item 19. Monte answered that RR refers to railroads within the County. Michaels asked to have a chart defining the various initials used in document to facilitate more understanding.

**MOTION** by Rosales to receive and place on file the FY2011 RPC Work Plan Status Report; seconded by Langenheim. **Motion carried with unanimous support.**

**Proposed FY2012 RPC Planning Contract**

Levy reviewed the proposed FY2012 work plan. The proposed contract amount for FY2012 is \$70,550. This will maintain the 10% cut implemented for FY2011. The general planning services request for FY2012 has been reinstated. It was not included in the FY2011 work plan because this funding was moved the EECBG grant and the Redistricting Commission work. The FY2011 items continued in FY2012 were listed on Page 35. Levy noted Priority Item 5.1.8 on Page 36 should be listed as Priority Item 5.1.8a. Levy estimated the updating content about recycling events will cost RPC about \$250 and cost the County about \$250. RPC

is already working on the last five items listed under Priority 10 to amend the Champaign County Zoning Ordinance to include provision of GOPs. Page 42 identifies some potential LRMP priorities for the County Board to consider. Levy stated that RPC is happy to pursue other priorities as determined by the County Board. The FY2012 work plan is a draft contract and staff was looking for the Board's input on the FY2012 work plan. RPC will return in August to request a work plan be formally adopted.

Quisenberry asked about the salary increase request in the work plan and whether there was a salary increase in FY2011. Busey said there was a 10% reduction in the FY2011 work plan from the FY2010 work plan. Quisenberry asked about the average raise for County employees for this year. Busey stated the Board has not yet considered a salary increase for employees in FY2012.

Betz recalled that Policy 4.1.5 was defeated, not postponed, at a previous Committee of the Whole meeting. He wondered why this item was included in the work plan when it had been defeated. Hall understood the policy was in the work plan because there was a desire for staff to return with a revised proposal for Policy 4.1.5 and 4.1.6 that would address the concerns raised by the Board in April. This was the direction given to staff. Betz did not remember the County Board, as a body, saying that it would return to this issue of 1 per 40 with any revisions.

Moser asked Hall where he thought the Site Assessment Update Committee and LESA System would go. He was concerned with the PIs on the various soil types and that the County does not have definitions of a farmer or best prime farmland. Hall confirmed the County does have a definition of a farmer that is used daily in the Planning & Zoning Office. The County has had a definition of best prime farmland since 1999. It is now understood that the LESA System, the system by which best prime farmland is defined, contains some errors as a result of the 2002 updated soil survey. There are some soils that the current LESA System does not treat properly. He recommended the County update the land evaluation because of these shortcomings. The update will create a much better LESA System, which is more accurate and consistent with all contemporary soil science. Afterwards, Hall hopes the County Board could consider a different definition of best prime farmland. He does not agree with the current best prime farmland definition, but he uses the definition adopted by the Board. He recommended updating the land evaluation portion as well as the site assessment portion of the LESA System.

Moser spoke about complaints he receives from appraisers about the whole system. Moser does not think Steve Ayers was the best candidate for assessing agricultural land. He prefers Dwight Rob from the University of Illinois. Kurtz suggested Moser save those comments for the next agenda item. Hall explained that the Extension put him in touch with Steve Ayers based on the name of the previous committee member.

Nudo asked if the 3% increase was incorporated into \$70,550 and if it would reduce the number of work hours. Busey explained the portion of the FY2011 amount that is paid towards salaries has a 3% increase for FY2012. She assumed the \$70,550 amount reflects it. Levy noted the non-staff expenses show a minor reduction.

Nudo agreed with Betz that Policy 4.1.5 was defeated. He did not understand why the County Board is handed a planning budget on issues that the Board may not feel are priorities. He wanted the Board to prioritize the items before the first planning dollar is spent. He was not saying the budget should be reduced, but that the Board sets the priorities. He did not like the planning department telling the Board what the priorities will be. He wanted the Board to instruct the planning department about what the body wants included in the work plan and then go through the budgetary process. Levy explained that RPC was taking everything from the first three years of the LRMP priorities as approved by the County Board. The work plan can be changed and RPC was looking for the Board's input. Busey confirmed that she met with Susan Chavarria to provide some assistance regarding how to present this document to the Board. She believed it was consistent with providing the Board a starting point based on priorities the County Board has already established. The work plan is presented for the County Board to amend and adjust anyway it sees fit between now and September. Discussion was held over holding a study session about the FY2012 proposed work plan after the Board has had a chance to digest the information.

Nudo asked about the coal mining issue in Policy 8.3.1 on Pages 44-45 because he was under the impression that the County Board has no authority over coal mining issues. Kurtz said he is waiting for an updated opinion from the Attorney General's Office about what the County can or cannot do with coal mining. The last opinion was issued 17 years ago. Hall confirmed counties where a coal entrance exists do have regulatory authority under current law.

The Board continued to discuss the FY2012 proposed work plan and whether to include Policy 4.1.5 as a priority.

**MOTION** by Petrie to hold study session at end of August to evaluate the FY2012 proposed work plan; seconded by James.

The Board discussed when to hold a study session that would not interfere with the budget cycle.

**MOTION** by Quisenberry to amend the motion to hold the study session in September; seconded by James.

Busey noted the County Board will be doing budget review meeting at the end of August and suggested August 23rd as a possible date for the study session that would not affect the budget hearings.

**Motion failed on the amendment.** Langenheim called for a show of hands to verify the votes. A show of hands revealed 10 members voted in support of the amendment and 12 members voted against it.

**MOTION** by Petrie to amend her original motion to hold the study session in July; seconded by Langenheim.

James stated there could be difficulty in obtaining a quorum in July because of the activities and holidays that occur in that month.

**Petrie withdrew her original motion to hold a study session.**

**MOTION** by Nudo to hold a study session on August 23rd to discuss the FY2012 work plan priorities; seconded McGinty. **Motion carried.** A show of hands revealed 18 members voted in favor of the motion and 3 voted against it.

Levy asked to receive any comments about priorities in advance of the study session to make it as productive as possible. This would allow RPC to develop some estimates to help the Board at the study session.

**Request to Authorize An Update to the Land Evaluation Portion of the Champaign County Land Evaluation and Site Assessment (LESA) System**

**MOTION** by Nudo to authorize an update to the land evaluation portion of the Champaign County Land Evaluation and Site Assessment (LESA) System; seconded by Langenheim.

Betz asked why the existing Site Assessment Update Committee could not perform the function of the proposed LE (Land Evaluation) Committee by inviting a soil expert to present testimony. He noted four proposed members of the LE Committees already serve on the Site Assessment Update Committee. Instead of having two committees, the existing Site Assessment Update Committee would draft the land evaluation portion of the LESA System as part of its mission. Hall explained that the Site Assessment Update Committee members have no particular expertise with soils and there is no one from the NRCS. The NRCS has to be involved with the update of the land evaluation portion of the LESA System. In answer to Betz's question, Hall confirmed a soil expert and others could be added to the Site Assessment Update Committee.

Langenheim exited the meeting at 7:14 p.m.

Betz wanted to have one committee handle both the site assessment and land evaluation by added the needed experts to the SA Update Committee. Moser agreed with Betz and noted the committee did not include an appraiser who understands soils in this county. The Board discussed the LE portion of the LESA System.

Langenheim returned to the meeting at 7:16 p.m.

**Motion carried with unanimous support.**

**Formation of LE Committee**

Betz asked Hall how many people, based on their expertise, are statutorily required to be involved in the land evaluation portion. Hall said the only person who is absolutely needed is

Kevin Donoho, the USDA NRCS District Conservationist. Monte commented that the Site Assessment Update Committee has a scope and a program to which the members have agreed. This is amenable to change, perhaps with the committee's agreement.

**MOTION** by Betz to expand the existing Site Assessment Update Committee to 8 or 9 members to include land evaluation in their scope of work instead of forming a separate LE Committee; seconded by James.

The Board discussed whether to have one or two committees based on the scope of work that needs to be accomplished and the impact on the committee membership. Monte explained that the land evaluation portion is very specific to soil factors. The site assessment receives output from the land evaluation. Betz requested a roll call vote on the motion.

**Motion carried with a vote of 23 to 0.** Alix, Anderson, Bensyl, Berkson, Betz, Carter, Cowart, Esry, Holderfield, James, Jay, Kurtz, Langenheim, McGinty, Michaels, Moser, Nudo, O'Connor, Petrie, Quisenberry, Richards, Rosales, and Sapp voted in favor of the motion.

Bensyl and James exited the meeting at 7:34 p.m.

### **Monthly Report**

**MOTION** by Betz to receive and place on file the Planning & Zoning May 2011 report; seconded by Langenheim. **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**

No items were designated for the consent agenda.

### **ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kat Bork  
Administrative Assistant