

CHAMPAIGN COUNTY BOARD  
**COMMITTEE MINUTES**

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**POLICY, PERSONNEL, & APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE**

Wednesday, January 10, 2007

Brookens Administrative Center, Lyle Shields Meeting Room  
1776 E. Washington St., Urbana

7:00 p.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Betz (Chair), Fabri, Gross, Hogue, Hunt, Knott, Moser, Putman, Schroeder

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Steve Beckett (County Board Member), Kat Bork (Recording Secretary), Deb Busey (County Administrator of Finance & HR Management), Joseph Gordon (Court Services Director), Ron Gremore (Deputy County Administrator/HR), Denny Inman (County Administrator of Facilities & Procurement), Ralph Langenheim (County Board Member), Brendan McGinty (County Board Member), Susan McGrath (Senior Assistant State's Attorney), Carrie Melin (County Board Member), Dan Walsh (Sheriff), C. Pius Weibel (County Board Chair)

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Betz called to order at 7:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

The Recording Secretary called the roll. Betz, Fabri, Hogue, Hunt, Knott, Moser, Putman, and Schroeder were present at the time of the roll call. Betz declared a quorum and welcomed the new committee members.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA/ADDENDUM**

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

Gross entered the meeting at 7:02 p.m.

**RESOLUTION No. 5793 APPOINTING COUNTY AUDITOR TO FILL THE UNEXPIRED TERM ENDING NOVEMBER 30, 2008 FOR CHAMPAIGN COUNTY**

Betz noted a letter of resignation has been received from Michael Frerichs and distributed to the committee. The Champaign County Democratic Central Committee has submitted a letter recommending Tony Fabri to fill out the remaining time of Frerichs's term. Betz asked Weibel if he concurred with the selection of the Democratic Central Committee. Weibel concurred.

**MOTION** by Weibel to approve Resolution No. 5793 appointing Tony Fabri as County Auditor to fill the unexpired term ending November 30, 2008; seconded by Gross.

Putman asked questions regarding the language of the resolution. Busey stated she drafted the resolution using the exact language of the statute. McGrath and Busey agreed to check the statute before the County Board meeting to confirm the language is correct. Weibel and Gross were willing to consider the change to “affected county central committee” in the second paragraph as a friendly amendment if necessary.

**Motion carried with a roll call vote of 8 to 1.** Betz, Fabri, Gross, Hogue, Hunt, Knott, Putman, and Schroeder voted in favor of the motion. Moser voted against the motion.

**THE POLICY WILL ENTER A RECESS AT 8:00 P.M., IF IT HAS NOT ADJOURNED BEFORE 8:00 P.M., FOR ITS MEMBERS TO ATTEND A SPECIAL COUNTY BOARD MEETING**

No recess was necessary.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION** by Knott to approve the Policy, Personnel, & Appointments Committee regular session minutes of November 8, 2006; seconded by Putman. **Motion carried.**

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There was no public participation.

**MONTHLY REPORTS**

**County Clerk Fees Report – Semi Annual Report November 2006**

**MOTION** by Hogue to receive and place on file the County Clerk’s Semi-Annual Fees Report for November 2006; seconded by Moser. **Motion carried.**

**COUNTY BOARD**

**Appointments/Reappointments**

**MOTION** by Weibel to appoint Norman Rademacher to the Harwood and Kerr Drainage District for a term commencing 1/26/2007 and ending 8/31/2009; seconded by Moser. **Motion carried.**

**ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT**

**Vacant Positions Listing**

The vacant positions listing was provided for information only.

**Update Regarding Resolution No. 4472 Establishing a Hiring Freeze Policy**

Busey explained the existing resolution was provided to ensure all members of this Policy, Personnel, & Appointments Committee were aware of the hiring freeze resolution that was approved in November 2001. The resolution creates actions like the following agenda item, which is a request to waive the hiring freeze. Appointed officials are expected to attend the committee meetings to request approval to fill vacancies as they occur. Typically, the only two departments who request waivers are Court Services and Physical Plant. Busey requested the committee give consideration at some point to whether or not the hiring freeze should continue. Knott requested that rescinding Resolution No. 4472 Establishing a Hiring Freeze Policy be placed on next month’s agenda. Knott supported rescinding the hiring freeze because it affects few departments and Joe Gordon has repeatedly had to jump through an extra hoop to fill necessary positions. Betz ordered the resolution be placed on the February agenda for action.

## **COURT SERVICES**

### **Request for Waiver of Hiring Freeze for Two Positions at the Juvenile Detention Center**

**MOTION** by Knott to approve the waiver of the hiring freeze for two positions at the Juvenile Detention Center; seconded by Moser. **Motion carried.**

## **LEGISLATIVE REPORT**

### **IACBMC Talking Points December 2006**

Betz asked if Knott would continue to fill the role of providing a legislative report for the committee. Knott stated he was willing to continue in this role. Betz asked for a Democrat to volunteer to help prepare the legislative report. There were no volunteers from the Democratic Party, so Betz volunteered himself. Knott said he had no additional information to contribute other than the information included in the agenda packet.

### **SB585, Public Act 094-1058 – Open Meetings Act Amendments**

Betz requested McGrath research and prepare a memorandum giving guidance to the County Board regarding amendments to the Open Meetings Act, especially concerning emails between Board members. McGrath suggested placing this item on the January County Board agenda for informational purposes because there have been several substantive changes to the Open Meetings Act. She will prepare a memorandum for inclusion in the agenda packet. Weibel concurred.

## **SHERIFF**

### **Corrections Division Changes**

Sheriff Walsh reported there were four lieutenants (one being an administrative lieutenant) in Corrections. When one of the lieutenants left, this person's duties were divided between the remaining lieutenants. Instead of replacing the one lieutenant, the Sheriff created two Corrections Sergeants. Since a lieutenant earns about \$10,000 more than a Corrections Officer and a Corrections Sergeant earns about \$5,000 more than a Corrections Officer, this change results in more supervision for the same amount of money.

**MOTION** by Hogue to receive and place on file the Corrections Division changes; seconded by Putman. **Motion carried.**

## **CHAIR'S REPORT**

### **List of Appointments for 2007**

A list of the appointments expiring in 2007 was provided for the committee. Betz recommended all Board members keep in mind people who would be willing to serve in these various appointments.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

### **Resolution Altering the Boundaries of Champaign Township and the City of Champaign Township**

**MOTION** by Moser to approve the Resolution Altering the Boundaries of Champaign Township and the City of Champaign Township; seconded by Putman. Betz ordered a roll call vote. **Motion carried with a vote of 9 to 0.** Betz, Fabri, Gross, Hogue, Hunt, Knott, Moser, Putman, and Schroeder voted in favor of the motion. No one voted against the motion.

Putman inquired about comments made during public participation at the November 8, 2006 minutes about two Board of Health members. Putman wanted the previous and current County Board Chairs to comment on this situation at the February meeting. Weibel reported he has read the documents provided during

that public participation session and has asked the State's Attorney to look into this matter. Betz said he also reviewed the documents and he recommended the County first allow its attorney to give a response. McGrath stated the Board of Health has also asked the State's Attorney's Office to make a comment on the packet of materials received at the November 8, 2006 meeting. The State's Attorney's Office is preparing a response, which may not be ready until February.

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

Betz designated agenda items IX A and XV A for the consent agenda.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting was adjourned at 7:19 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.*