

Minutes approved 10-19-11



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

McKenzie Building - Jury Commission Room

Thursday, September 22, 2011 – 4:00 p.m.

Committee Members Present: Chairman Zimmerman, Vice-Chairman James Carius, Jim Donahue, Mike Harris, Lincoln Hobson, Carroll Imig, Tim Neuhauser, Terry Von Boeckman

Committee Members Absent: Russ Crawford, Dean Grimm, Terry Hillegonds, Greg Sinn

Others present: County Administrator, David Jones
County Engineer, John Anderson

MOTION

MOTION BY CARIUS, SECOND BY IMIG to approve the minutes of the August 24, 2011 meeting.

On voice vote, motion carried.

MOTION

E-11-83

MOTION BY HARRIS, SECOND BY VON BOECKMAN to recommend approval to County Board the purchase of a squad car for the Sheriff's Department.

Chairman Zimmerman stated he had declared an emergency purchase as a squad car was totaled in an accident.

On voice vote, motion carried.

DISCUSSION

Chairman Zimmerman opened discussion on the Heritage Lake Petition for Special Service District.

County Administrator Jones stated this has been discussed in the Transportation Committee meetings. The Heritage Lake Subdivision submitted a petition for a Special Service District in the last five weeks. They currently have all private roads and there is a process in the law to petition to be converted to a public infrastructure. The majority of the property owners must agree and that has been done. The second agreement will follow an actual cost estimate.

Engineering staff have been involved in the meetings. The State's Attorney wants Attorney Bob Brown to represent the County and the homeowners if this moves forward.

The reason for the discussion is to make the County Board aware and have things to consider. The homeowners would have a special assessment in which they would pay so much over a 20 year period to repay the debt to the County.

To move forward, the County Board would have to entertain a Resolution to allow them to proceed. The Board needs to be aware of the quality of the estimate and ensure professional engineers have provided accurate numbers including above and beyond what they already have an estimate for which would include not only the roads, but the drainage, signs, etc.

The current estimate provided to the Subdivision was 2.5 million which was an internal estimate by an engineer, Bud McGrew. It would be prudent for Bob Brown to put together an agreement for County Board consideration addressing the costs and reimbursement to the County including legal costs, staff time.

Another thing that the County Board should know is if any bonds were issued for this project would they count toward the County's bonding capacity. That is unknown at this time. County bonding is capped by statute. Even if the homeowners ultimately decide not to pursue, it is their cost, not the county's.

It is Jones recommendation that there should be a Bob Brown draft agreement presented and vote on the agreement before moving forward.

Chairman Zimmerman recognized two members of the Heritage Lake Subdivision, Jim Flynn and Rodney Stickrod.

Mr. Flynn stated that recouping the preliminary cost was understandable. He asked if an additional agreement was required or passed on in the form of a tax levy for homeowners.

Administrator Jones stated he would recommend legal expertise to cover both possibilities to cover either way – if they proceed or not there needs to be a mechanism to

protect the County's cost. A special Assessment would take place if bonds were issued and there has to be a way to collect that.

Mr. Flynn stated in terms of increased costs, which there is a potential, due to further estimates and there has been a lot of discussions like that at their public meetings. In terms of the signatures already received, is the County moving forward at this time due to that?

Chairman Zimmerman advised yes.

Rodney Stickrod introduced himself as the Chair of the Road Committee. He stated he could answer questions on the estimate they have already received.

He stated their understanding of the ordinance, now that a petition has been completed and 51% of their homeowners signed that the County now comes up with an assessment as the next step. Then there will public hearings to notify the citizens of Heritage Lake of the County findings. If the estimates are higher there has to be a counter petition to stop the project. There is no vote involved. He would like to know the timeline and steps in the process.

Administrator Jones stated that would be a legal question to Bob Brown.

Stickrod stated it was their understanding the cost of the County research is not addressed in the ordinance. If Heritage Lake stops the process they will pay. If the County stops the process, they will not pay for the research.

Member Neuhauser asked when the original estimate was made and the scope of the project.

Stickrod provided a handout to the Committee that was used in their presentation to Heritage Lake homeowners. The estimate was completed in February 2011. The roads were measured using county standards. They only addressed roads, no ditches or culverts.

Mike Rankin, Mackinaw Road Township Commissioner stated there would be a significant cost increase for snow removal including equipment and personnel. How to fund that is a concern.

County Engineer, John Anderson stated that there would be additional motor fuel funds of approximately \$12,000 per year. He stated they currently have 44 miles of road and receive \$68,000. This would increase their miles to 56 and \$80,000 in funds.

Stickrod stated there is nothing in the statute that the County can stop this project. The township is not at their maximum for Road and bridge tax. They are part of that township and the largest body in the township.

Member Donahue stated legal advice is needed and asked if it were appropriate to have Attorney Brown attend.

Chairman Zimmerman stated we need to contact Bob Brown to discuss an agreement and proceed forward at the next Executive meeting. He stated we could utilize the minutes of this meeting for questions and ask for a draft agreement. The topic will be on next months agenda, which will be 10-19-11 at 4:00 p.m. and all are invited to attend.

Chairman Zimmerman recessed Executive at 4:35 p.m. to move into Risk Management.

Chairman Zimmerman resumed the Executive Committee meeting at 4:51 p.m.

Administrator Jones discussed the industrial zone infrastructure upgrades. He stated there would likely be an In-Place meeting regarding this on 09-28-11.

Intergovernmental agreement with Cincinnati Township is needed for road improvements. It is an industrial zoned area outside of city limits. There are both county roads and township roads that need to be upgraded. This is a reprioritization of capital projects with cooperation with the Township. Both a CDAP and an IDOT grant could help fund. The County has an opportunity in that area. There is already a business in that area that is doing well, however the infrastructure has not kept up. It is a prime area for growth.

There will be a public hearing that Jim Cummings will conduct.

MOTION

E-11-80

MOTION BY HOBSON, SECOND BY VON BOECKMAN to recommend approval to the County Board the resignation (due to retirement) of Dennis Conover, former Coroner.

On voice vote, motion carried.

Chairman Zimmerman stated that now a vacancy has been declared and the County has 60 days to fill that position. Resumes will be on file in the Board office and members will have 21 days to view. Decision will come to Executive in October and then to the full board.

MOTION

E-11-84

MOTION BY CARIUS, SECOND BY IMIG to recommend to County Board to approve the purchase ordinance revision.

Administrator Jones explained that several years ago the State of Illinois passed a law that allows counties to increase the amount for bids with written quotes but not sealed bids. The protective measures that are in place are that all contracts over a certain amount go before the County Board. The Administrator and the Chairman have some authority for small contracts. Other counties have moved their ordinance up to 30,000 – McLean, Mason, LaSalle, while Champaign, Peoria and DeKalb remain at 20,000.

On voice vote, motion carried.

MOTION

E-11-74

MOTION BY NEUHAUSER, SECOND BY DONAHUE to recommend to County Board to approve the appointment of Michael Carr to the Deer Creek Fire Protection District.

On voice vote, motion carried.

MOTION

E-11-75

MOTION BY NEUHAUSER, SECOND BY DONAHUE to recommend to County Board to approve the appointment of Donald J. Mahannah to the East Peoria Drainage and Levee District.

On voice vote, motion carried.

MOTION

E-11-76

MOTION BY NEUHAUSER, SECOND BY DONAHUE to

recommend to County Board to approve the reappointment of John Litwiller to the West Fork Drainage District.

On voice vote, motion carried.

MOTION

E-11-77

MOTION BY NEUHAUSER, SECOND BY DONAHUE to recommend to County Board to approve the reappointment of Norbert Schaefer to the Union Drainage District No. 1.

On voice vote, motion carried.

MOTION

E-11-78

MOTION BY NEUHAUSER, SECOND BY DONAUE to recommend to County Board to approve the reappointment of Greg Sinn to the Local Landfill Review Board.

On voice vote, motion carried.

MOTION

E-11-79

MOTION BY NEUHAUSER, SECOND BY DONAHUE to recommend to County Board to approve the reappointment of Lincoln Hobson to the Local Landfill Review Board.

On voice vote, motion carried.

MOTION

E-11-81

MOTION BY NEUHAUSER, SECOND BY DONAHUE to recommend to County Board to approve the appointment of Craig Hilliard to the Emergency Telephone Systems Board.

On voice vote, motion carried.

MOTION

E-11-82

MOTION BY NEUHAUSER, SECOND BY DONAHUE to recommend to County Board to approve the appointment of Jim Donahue to Pekin Main Street.

On voice vote, motion carried.

Chairman Zimmerman stated there was an Ethics Ordinance discussion on the agenda at the request of Member Crawford. This will be discussed at a later time.

Chairman Zimmerman provided an update on the County Administrator recruitment. We received seven packets from reputable national recruitment firms. There will be a meeting

on 09-26-11 at 5:00 to review the RFQ's and to discuss an interim. This will be the first meeting.
Chairman Zimmerman recessed the meeting at 5:11 p.m.

(transcribed by S. Beeney)