

Minutes approved 11-09-11



## **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

McKenzie Building - Jury Commission Room

Wednesday, October 19, 2011 – 4:02 p.m.

Committee Members Present: Chairman Zimmerman, Vice-Chairman James Carius, Russ Crawford, Jim Donahue, Dean Grimm, Mike Harris, Terry Hillegonds, Lincoln Hobson, Carroll Imig, Tim Neuhauser, Greg Sinn, Terry Von Boeckman

### **MOTION**

**MOTION BY HILLEGONDS, SECOND BY HARRIS** to approve the minutes of the September 20, 2011 meeting and the September 28, 2011 In-Place meeting.

**On voice vote, motion carried.**

### **MOTION**

E-11-89

**MOTION BY GRIMM, SECOND BY HOBSON** to recommend approval to County Board the Local Agency/Company Agreement between Tazewell County and Excel Foundry.

**On voice vote, motion carried.**

Chairman Zimmerman stated there will an energy aggregation company coming in for a presentation. If the Committee was comfortable with the concept there is potential for an In-Place meeting for a Resolution. If not comfortable, we will bring it back to the November meeting. This company, Good Energy, is already doing business with Tazewell County and the City of Pekin and the savings has been in the thousands.

### **MOTION**

E-11-90

**MOTION BY CARIUS, SECOND BY HOBSON** to recommend approval to County Board the appointment of Carl Powell as Coroner.

Chairman Zimmerman stated that Powell would be a replacement for Dennis Conover. There were only two applicants and Powell is his recommendation.

Russ Crawford stated he had talked with Powell regarding this appointment. Crawford stated he wanted Tazewell

County to remain both fair and transparent. When two people will be challenging each other in a primary the Board has rarely selected one as an incumbent.

There are only two candidates. The timeline would allow selection of an appointment at the November Executive Committee meeting and still be within the guidelines. Crawford stated the vacancy needed to be broadcast to inform the citizens of Tazewell County and if no qualified individual applied, the appointment would be made in November.

There was a discussion regarding who is the Coroner if no one was appointed. Jim Donahue said if we did nothing, Powell would continue to operate as Chief Deputy Coroner until action taken. He also stated both applicants were excellent candidates.

Member Sinn said he did not want to beg people to apply for this position. Chairman Zimmerman shared Powell's resume with the Committee. He also stated we are not in the business of recruiting when we have two very qualified candidates.

#### **MOTION TO TABLE**

**MOTION BY CRAWFORD, SECOND BY CARIUS** to table the appointment until the November Executive meeting.

**On voice vote, motion carried.**

#### **DISCUSSION – ENERGY AGGREGATION**

Chairman Zimmerman introduced Charles deCasteja and Philip Carr from Good Energy. They provided the Committee with a packet of information on the Ameren Electric Aggregation Opt-Out Program for residential and small commercial retail customers.

They discussed their company and the program with the Committee.

Illinois Legislation permits Municipalities to propose a referendum, which, if approved, entitles Municipal Authorities to put the electric load of their residential consumer and small businesses out to bid to an alternative supplier in order to save money.

Household savings in the Ameren service territory are estimated to be in excess of 20% on the electricity supply side. There is also a municipal benefit as municipalities can receive administrative fees paid by the selected alternative supplier.

The steps involved: a consultant is selected. The municipality approves referendum to be placed on the ballot. The consultant and municipality work together to market and provide informational sessions. Residents vote on the referendum. If approved a plan is developed for approval by the ICC. Two public hearings are then held to discuss the aggregation plan. The consultant writes bid specifications and conducts competitive bids with multiple suppliers. Only if the rate is approved by the municipality a purchase agreement is executed. Transition begins.

Good Energy representatives stated this is a very urgent matter in order to have on the ballot and passed by 01-03-12.

**MOTION  
E-11-91**

**MOTION BY HOBSON, SECOND BY CRAWFORD** to recommend approval to the County Board for Ordinance Change to TCC 2-5 and TCC 2-6.

Zimmerman stated in September the Board passed an increase in the Purchasing Ordinance and this will adjust additional sections.

**On voice vote, motion carried.**

**CALENDAR  
DISCUSSION**

The December 2011 Calendar of Meetings was discussed and meetings moved according to the Chairmen's wishes and consideration of the Holidays.

**LAPTOP/IPAD  
DISCUSSION**

John Ackerman brought information to the Committee on the cost of producing County Board packets as well as Committee packets and the potential savings by use of either laptops or iPads. He stated Peoria has recently converted to electronics and Springfield and McLean were in the process of converting to electronics.

The Committee voiced no interest at this time. Chairman Zimmerman stated that we could look into saving money by not sending out hard copies of packets.

Ackerman also brought broadcasting County Board meetings to the Committee. He stated he has looked into it and it would cost between \$800 – 1000 per meeting to broadcast. They would also put a live stream onto our website. It would be government transparency at a low cost.

Crawford stated if it was free he would support.

Zimmerman stated if the Committee members were comfortable with the Good Energy presentation there will be an In-Place on board night.

Crawford provided a parliamentary report to the Committee regarding non-committee members participating as a committee member. He stated there were certain risks involved and was inappropriate and should not be tolerated.

Zimmerman asked the Committee to refer agenda items for any committee meeting to the Chair of the committee rather than the County Board office.

Zimmerman recessed the meeting at 5:25 p.m.

(Transcribed by S. Beeney)