

# Lake County Illinois

*Lake County Courthouse and Administrative Complex  
18 N. County Street  
Waukegan, IL 60085-4351*



## **Meeting Minutes - Final**

**Wednesday, January 27, 2010**

**8:30 AM**

**Conference Room C**

**Revenue, Records and Legislation Committee**

1. **Call to Order**

*Chair Bassi called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.*

**Present** 6 - Chair Bassi, Member Paxton, Member Carey, Member Hewitt, Vice Chair Pedersen and Member Taylor

**Absent** 1 - Member Nixon

*Also present:*

*Amy McEwan, Sr. Assistant County Administrator*

*Barry Burton, County Administrator*

*Suzi Schmidt, County Board Chairman*

*Gary Gordon, Finance & Administrative Services*

*Bob Skidmore, Treasurer*

*Keith DeVore, CAO Intern*

*Michael Wheeler, Finance & Administrative Services*

*Mary Otahal, County Board Office*

2. **Pledge of Allegiance**

*Chair Bassi led the committee in the Pledge of Allegiance.*

3. **Approval of Minutes**

3.1 **10-0107**

Minutes from January 6, 2010.

**A motion was made by Member Carey, seconded by Member Taylor, that the minutes from January 6, 2010 be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 6 - Chair Bassi, Member Paxton, Member Carey, Member Hewitt, Vice Chair Pedersen and Member Taylor

**Not Present:** 1 - Member Nixon

4. **Public Comment**

5. **Added to Agenda**

6. **Old Business**

7. **New Business**

**County Clerk:**

7.1 **10-0109**

Report of Willard R. Helander, County Clerk, for the month of December 2009.

**Attachments:** [County Clerk Report for December 2009](#)

**A motion was made by Member Carey, seconded by Member Pedersen, that this report be recommended for adoption to the consent agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 6 - Chair Bassi, Member Paxton, Member Carey, Member Hewitt, Vice Chair Pedersen and Member Taylor

**Not Present:** 1 - Member Nixon

**Recorder of Deeds:**

7.2 [10-0104](#)

Report of Mary Ellen Vanderverter, Recorder of Deeds, for the month of December 2009.

**Attachments:** [SRDP36C210012109420.tif](#)

**A motion was made by Member Pedersen, seconded by Member Hewitt, that this report be received and placed on the consent agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 6 - Chair Bassi, Member Paxton, Member Carey, Member Hewitt, Vice Chair Pedersen and Member Taylor

**Not Present:** 1 - Member Nixon

**Treasurer:**

7.3 [10-0112](#)

Report of Robert Skidmore, Treasurer, for the month of November 2009.

**Attachments:** [Financial statement 11.09](#)

**A motion was made by Member Taylor, seconded by Member Pedersen, that this report be received and placed on the consent agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 6 - Chair Bassi, Member Paxton, Member Carey, Member Hewitt, Vice Chair Pedersen and Member Taylor

**Not Present:** 1 - Member Nixon

7.4 [10-0113](#)

Report of Robert Skidmore, Treasurer, for the month of December 2009.

**Attachments:** [Financial statement 12.09](#)

**A motion was made by Member Taylor, seconded by Member Pedersen, that this report be received and placed on the consent agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 6 - Chair Bassi, Member Paxton, Member Carey, Member Hewitt, Vice Chair Pedersen and Member Taylor

**Not Present:** 1 - Member Nixon

7.5 [09-2196](#)

Joint resolution approving the revised Lake County Investment Policy.

**Attachments:** [INVESTMENT POLICY draft 1\\_21\\_10 amend.doc](#)  
[INVESTMENT POLICY ORIGINAL 2002.doc](#)  
[Final approved Cash Investment Jan 10](#)

*Bob Skidmore explained that this item was held at the last meeting for further review. One of the primary reasons for revising the Investment Policy is to update the collateral agreement. Mr. Skidmore briefly reviewed the policy and answered questions from the committee.*

**A motion was made by Member Taylor, seconded by Member Pedersen, that this resolution be recommended for adoption to the regular agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 6 - Chair Bassi, Member Paxton, Member Carey, Member Hewitt, Vice Chair Pedersen and Member Taylor

**Not Present:** 1 - Member Nixon

#### **7.6 Annual Departmental Update by Treasurer Bob Skidmore**

*Bob Skidmore presented the Treasurer's annual departmental update. He explained the responsibilities of the office, stating that one of the responsibilities is to collect inheritance tax for the State of Illinois. The County gets 6% of what is collected and that is deposited into the general fund, which can be a substantial amount of money.*

*Mr. Skidmore explained the types of tax bills that they collect and the types of payments that are accepted. He then reviewed the tax bill distribution and explained that the distribution to taxing bodies must be legally done every 30 days. His office does three distributions in June and three in September in order to get the money to the taxing districts as quickly as possible.*

*The Treasurer's Office is also working to educate people on what types of exemptions they should have and are entitled to. The Homestead exemption for this year is going up from \$5,500 to \$6,000.*

*Mr. Skidmore then touched on the following items being worked on for next year:*

*Scanning documents into an on-line database which enables employees to pull up documents immediately and will help with records storage problems.*

*Identifying and noticing homeowners that their taxes may be paid by their mortgage company, who would pre-commit to making both tax payments for that tax year. This would cut down on double payments and overpayments from certificate of errors.*

*Identify the homeowners that have prior years taxes sold and notify them as to what this means as well as the importance of making this payment as soon as possible.*

*Mr. Skidmore reminded the committee that in 2004 the County Board passed a resolution*

*that many county departments would accept credit cards and pay user fees as a process of doing business. Credit card use is increasing. Mr. Skidmore reported that the County's fees have not gone over \$25,000 since it started. Gary Gordon stated that this was an internal decision made a number of years ago to accommodate different laws for different offices. Accepting credit cards helps the County to collect more fees and also to collect them sooner.*

*In response to a question by Member Taylor, Mr. Skidmore stated that the senior exemption is applied for through your township assessor, whereas the senior freeze is income driven.*

*Mr. Skidmore reported that when you do your Illinois State income tax for 2009, they are asking for a Permanent Index Number. The PIN number is available from the Treasurer and Assessors website and there is a link on the County's home page as well.*

*Regarding the senior deferral program, Mr. Skidmore reported that in the past, the State has accepted appraisals of property, but no longer will be accepting personal appraisals; they will only accept county assessment figures. The deferral amount cannot go over 80% of the value of the home. As a result, there will be several participants that will not qualify this year.*

**Legislation:**

**7.7 [10-0045](#)**

Resolution presenting and requesting approval of the Lake County Federal Legislative Program for Federal Fiscal Year 2011.

**Attachments:** [Federal Legislative Agenda Draft 01-22-10](#)

*Amy McEwan presented a review of the Federal Legislative Program for FFY2011.*

*Direct Sponsorship Initiatives:*

*Integrated Justice - request \$5 million to assist with the implementation of a multi-year technology plan to integrate the computer networks of all of the police departments in Lake County with each of the County's criminal justice departments and local police agencies.*

*Lake County Transportation Priority – Illinois Route 120 Corridor – request funding in the amount of \$16,608,220 to proceed with the Phase I engineering over multiple years. The total funding of \$19 million includes \$2,391,780 of federal earmarks currently in place. Ms. McEwan stated that this will be used to request that federal legislators use their influence on the State of Illinois to add this project to their IDOT plan. Mr. Burton reported that a letter will be sent to Senator Durbin and another letter signed by the 11 neighboring municipalities and our legislators to send to IDOT and the Governor urging them to move this project forward.*

*Watershed Plan Implementation Project - request \$900,000 from the Interior*

*appropriations bill, EPA, State and Tribal Assistance Grants (STAG), USDA-NRCS Eligible Watersheds account, or other appropriate funding source, to implement high priority environmental restoration, ecological enhancement, water quality improvement, and stormwater infrastructure projects, identified in detailed, comprehensive watershed management plans for the upper Des Plaines and Fox River watersheds. In meeting with Mr. Lehman, it was decided to put these items into one request, that way the County would have the flexibility to determine where it is most appropriate.*

*Specialty Care and Diagnostic Testing - request \$1.5 million in the FY 2011 Health and Human Services Appropriations, Health Resources and Services Administration funds to cover approximately 7,500 Specialty Care and Diagnostic Testing referrals for approximately 2,500 uninsured patients receiving care at HealthReach and the Lake County Health Department and Community Health Center.*

*Supported Initiatives:*

*Community Development Block Grant Funding - support efforts to maintain or increase housing and community development funding provided through Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships Program, Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG), and Supportive Housing Program (SHP) programs.*

*Monitor Statements:*

*Strategic Objectives for Federal Transportation Funding - the current Federal Transportation bill, SAFETEA-LU, expires in October 2009. The county has successfully made use of federal funds in its highway improvement program. Reauthorization of the federal surface transportation programs for highways, highway safety and transit will impact a number of important programs for Lake County that help fund local highway improvements.*

*This statement details how the county will participate and what we will support and participate in regarding the SAFETEA-LU reauthorization.*

*Ms. McEwan reviewed the transportation fact sheets that will be included in this program.*

**A motion was made by Member Paxton, seconded by Member Hewitt, that this resolution be recommended for adoption to the regular agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 6 - Chair Bassi, Member Paxton, Member Carey, Member Hewitt, Vice Chair Pedersen and Member Taylor

**Not Present:** 1 - Member Nixon

**8. Executive Session**

**9. County Administrator's Report**

**10. Adjournment**

**A motion was made by Member Hewitt, seconded by Member Carey, that the meeting adjourn at 9:37 a.m.**

**Aye:** 6 - Chair Bassi, Member Paxton, Member Carey, Member Hewitt, Vice Chair Pedersen and Member Taylor

**Not Present:** 1 - Member Nixon

*Minutes prepared by Mary Otahal.*

*Respectfully submitted,*

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*Chairman*

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*Vice-Chairman*

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*Revenue, Records & Legislation Committee*