

Lake County Illinois

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



Meeting Minutes - Final

Wednesday, October 1, 2008

9:00 AM

Conference Room C

Revenue, Records and Legislation Committee

1.0 Call to Order

Chair Spielman called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. She noted for the record that Member Talbett is excused because he is attending a NACo Steering Committee meeting.

Present 6 - Chair Spielman, Member Bassi, Vice Chair Leafblad , Member Douglass, Member Paxton and Member Powers

Excused 1 - Member Talbett

2.0 Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Spielman led the Committee in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3.0 Approval of Minutes - Regular & Executive Session Minutes from August 27, 2008

A motion was made by Member Leafblad, seconded by Member Bassi, that the regular and executive session minutes from August 27, 2008 be approved. Motion carried unanimously.

Aye: 6 - Chair Spielman, Member Bassi, Vice Chair Leafblad , Member Douglass, Member Paxton and Member Powers

4.0 Public Comment

5.0 Added to Agenda

6.0 Old Business

7.0 New Business

Chief County Assessment Office:

7.1 [08-0648](#)

Resolution permitting the Lake County Board of Review to recess on or before December 31, 2008 until a time when the Clerk of the Board of Review shall notify the members of the Board of Review, in writing, to return to session for the time necessary to complete their work.

Marty Paulson explained this resolution.

A motion was made by Member Leafblad, seconded by Member Powers, that this Resolution be recommended for adoption to the Consent Agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

Aye: 6 - Chair Spielman, Member Bassi, Vice Chair Leafblad , Member Douglass, Member Paxton and Member Powers

7.2 [08-0649](#)

Resolution declaring that the number of appeals filed with the Board of Review has created an emergency situation and has caused a need for an expanded Board of Review; and authorizing the Chairman of the

Board to appoint additional qualified members to the Board of Review.

Marty Paulson explained this resolution, stating that they are expecting a heavy hearing schedule this year. He explained the process for selecting additional members to the Board of Review.

Mr. Paulson distributed and explained copies of a sample 2009 Assessment Change Notice, stating that this will include contact information for all of the taxing districts that impact their tax bill.

A motion was made by Member Leafblad, seconded by Member Powers, that this Resolution be recommended for adoption to the Consent Agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

Aye: 6 - Chair Spielman, Member Bassi, Vice Chair Leafblad , Member Douglass, Member Paxton and Member Powers

County Clerk:

7.3 [08-0668](#) Report of Willard R. Helander, County Clerk, for the month of August 2008.

A motion was made by Member Powers, seconded by Member Paxton, that this Resolution be recommended for adoption to the Consent Agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

Aye: 6 - Chair Spielman, Member Bassi, Vice Chair Leafblad , Member Douglass, Member Paxton and Member Powers

Treasurer:

Robert Skidmore appeared to discuss the high number of foreclosures and bankruptcies occurring this year. He stated that there are roughly 200 bankruptcies this year, which is higher than usual. He explained the process that property owners go through when their property is foreclosed. This is typically a 1-2 year process.

Mr. Skidmore then explained the procedures for property owners who have not paid their taxes. These procedures are set by State Statute. In October, final notices will go out. If they are unable to pay the taxes, a list of those taxes not paid will be published, and if the taxes are not paid by the end of November, they will go to tax sale.

7.4 [08-0699](#) Report of Robert Skidmore, Treasurer, for the month of August 2008.

Attachments: [TreasurerCasHInvestment_Aug.08.XLS](#)

A motion was made by Member Paxton, seconded by Member Leafblad, that this Resolution be recommended for adoption to the Consent Agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

Aye: 6 - Chair Spielman, Member Bassi, Vice Chair Leafblad , Member Douglass,
Member Paxton and Member Powers

Legislation:

7.5 [08-0710](#) State & Federal Legislative Programs

Gary Gibson explained that the deadline for turning in state & federal legislative requests has passed. The items submitted by departments and elected officials will be presented to the appropriate standing committee prior to coming back to this Committee for a recommendation. Mr. Gibson presented the following items that were submitted:

State

- 1. Plat Act Clarifications (PBZ)*
- 2. Legislative direction to amend the State Plumbing Code to permit use of reclaimed water system for toilet flushing and landscape irrigation applications (PBZ)*
- 3. Clarification of requirements for school plan review/school inspection program (PBZ) – Vice-Chair Leafblad asked that the Health Department be added to this in regard to health inspections at schools. Staff will look into what jurisdiction the Health Dept. has in regard to doing inspections at schools. Mr. Burton stated that superintendents feel that this will increase the cost to the schools for inspection fees. He explained that most school districts do hire third party inspectors.*
- 4. Waterway Safety and Enforcement Fee/License Countywide Docking Fee (L&J) – Mr. Burton stated that this would be a user fee. The Sheriff's Marine Patrol is not recovering their costs. They are collecting \$40,000 from the Fox Waterway Agency and spending \$600,000 to protect the waterways.*
- 5. Increase for Coroner's Fees (L&J)*
- 6. Establishment of Affordable Housing Trust Fund (HCS) – Member Bassi distributed copies of the proposal for Committee Members to review.*
- 7. Filing of Mechanic's Liens (HCS)*
- 8. Recapture of locally generated Rental Housing Support funds (HCS)*
- 9. Write-off of late penalty for brownfield properties (HCS)*
- 10. Authority for County Boards to provide Supportive Human Services through imposition of Taxpayer Authorized Levy (HCS)*
- 11. Elimination of annual application for the Senior Citizen Assessment Freeze (RRL)*
- 12. Elimination of ability to file for homestead exemption on multiple homes by single person (RRL)*

Mr. Burton stated that they may add a proposal for on-site wastewater treatment plants. Mr. Gibson will work with Peter Kolb and Mark Pfister to see if this should be included.

Federal

- 1. Community Block Grant Fund Reallocation (HCS)*
- 2. Countywide Wetland Preservation and Restoration Plan (PBZ)*
- 3. Slocum Watershed Management Plan (PBZ)*
- 4. Watershed Plan Implementation Projects (PBZ)*
- 5. Mill Creek/North Mill Creek Watershed Plan (PBZ)*

Gary Gibson will work with Marty Buehler regarding the submission of transportation items for the Federal program.

Mr. Gibson stated that these proposals will go to standing committees next week and come back to this Committee for review in time to be submitted for approval at the November 18th Board meeting.

Mr. Gibson reported that Trent Lehman, The Ferguson Group, will be here on October 14-15th to meet with department heads regarding their legislative items.

Chairman Spielman advised the committee there there is a constitutional requirement that counties must have an elected chief executive in order to be eligible for home rule. She presented the idea for members of the committee and staff to consider and then for the full board to be brought in to consider this: Do we want to go forward to ask for a constitutional amendment to eliminate this requirement for Lake County in case we ever want to seek home rule?

8.0 County Administrator's Report

9.0 Adjournment

Motion by Member Paxton, seconded by Member Leafblad, to adjourn at 10:20 a.m. Motion carried.

Minutes prepared by Mary Otahal.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman

Vice-Chairman

**Revenue, Records & Legislation
Committee**