

# Lake County Illinois

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



## **Meeting Minutes - Final**

**Wednesday, August 27, 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 9:04 a.m. Member Paxton arrived at 9:09 a.m. and Vice-Chair Leafblad arrived at 10:00 a.m.*

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

**Absent** 1 - Member Powers

*Also present:*

*Gary Gibson, Asst. County Administrator  
Barry Burton, County Administrator  
Suzi Schmidt, County Board Chairman  
Dave Schanding, Health Department  
Laura Schneider, Health Department  
Mary Ellen Vanderverter, Recorder of Deeds  
Craig Peterson, News Sun  
Mary Otahal, County Board Office*

**2.0 Pledge of Allegiance**

*Chair Spielman led the Committee in the Pledge of Allegiance*

**3.0 Public Comment**

**4.0 Added to Agenda**

**5.0 Approval of Minutes**

**5.1** [08-0559](#) Minutes from August 6, 2008

**A motion was made by Member Douglass, seconded by Member Talbett, that the Minutes from August 6, 2008 be approved. The motion carried unanimously.**

**Aye:** 4 - Chair Spielman, Member Bassi, Member Douglass and Member Talbett

**6.0 Old Business**

**7.0 New Business**

*Laura Schneider, Policy Analyst at the Health Department, reported that they recently received confirmation from the State of substantial FY 09 budget cuts (20%) in the Division of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse and the Division of Mental Health, that will affect about 400 patients next year. This will result in the elimination of 24 budgeted*

*positions. Ms. Schneider explained how these cuts will affect four programs: Addiction Treatment Program, Mentally Ill Substance Abuse Case Management Program, Women's Residential Services (WRS), and the Substance abuse staff (2 positions eliminated) working with the juvenile detention center.*

*Member Paxton entered the room at this time.*

*Ms. Schneider stated that these cuts are effective August 1st. There are two smaller cuts, Family Case Management (can be adjusted) and a parenting Team program (\$1,500). Dave Shanding stated that other agencies (private, not-for-profit) are being affected by these cuts as well.*

*Mr. Schanding stated that those individuals in the program currently will not be affected, but there could be longer waits to enter programs as a result of these cuts. The Health Department has been in contact with our legislators, and Mr. Schanding stated that it would be helpful to enlist their support in getting some of these funds reinstated.*

7.1 [08-0556](#)

Discussion and Direction on Constitutional Convention Issue

*Gary Gibson and Chair Spielman worked together to provide information on the process and potential outcome of the official proposal for a Constitutional Convention. He explained the proposed language that will appear on the ballot.*

*Process:*

*If the question passes, the General Assembly shall provide for the Convention by making the following arrangements:*

- 1. Provide for the election of two (2) delegates from each Senatorial district.*
- 2. The General Assembly would decide:*
  - If there would be (1) primary and general election; or (2) a single election to select Convention delegates.*
  - If the election of delegates would be partisan or non-partisan.*
  - Whether incumbent legislators and executive officers could run for election as delegates.*
  - The General Assembly shall designate the time and place of the Convention's first meeting - which shall be within three (3) months after the election of the delegates.*
  - The General Assembly shall provide for the salaries and expenses of the delegates and for the expenses of the Convention.*
- 3. The General Assembly cannot restrict the issues to be discussed at Convention, what actions may be taken or how long the Convention can run.*

*Potential Outcomes:*

- *During the Convention, the delegates can consider either a total revision or amending sections of the existing Constitution.*
- *Following adjournment of the Convention, any revision or amendments approved by a majority of the delegates shall be put to the electors.*
- *The date for the election shall be at either a regularly designated election or at a date called by the Convention.*
- *The date for the election shall not be less than two (2) months nor more than six (6) months after the Convention's adjournment.*
- *Any revisions/amendments, along with an explanation, shall be published at least one (1) month prior to the election.*
- *The vote to approve the revision/amendment shall be a simple majority vote of those voting on the question.*

*Mr. Gibson distributed a list of the potential discussion topics at a Constitutional Convention and a copy of House Joint Resolution 137, which includes four arguments for having a Constitutional Convention and four arguments against having a Constitutional Convention.*

*Mr. Gibson is working with Communications on a brief program to be aired on LCTV. Terese Douglass suggested that high school students could be involved in this program to learn more about the Constitutional Convention process.*

*Member Talbett wants to make sure that this process does everything it can to explain what a Constitutional Convention is. He recommended that we make this information available to the municipalities so that they can provide information on the Con Con to their residents.*

*Member Douglass asked if this information could also be made available on the County's website, and Mr. Gibson will work with Communications in this regard.*

**This matter was Placed on the Floor**

7.2      [08-0458](#)

Discussion and Direction for Illinois Commercial Towing Law

*Mr. Gibson discussed the new Illinois Commercial Towing Law, which became effective July 1st. The new regulations contain consumer protection and licensing provisions. Counties may vote to have the Illinois Commerce Commission be responsible for enforcement of the regulations. Cook, DuPage, Kane, Will and Winnebago counties currently have the ICC regulate private towing in their jurisdiction.*

*Vice-Chairman Larry Leafblad entered the room at this time.*

*Mr. Gibson explained that for those counties that pass a Resolution and then have it certified to the ICC, the ICC will then be responsible for regulating private towing. Mr. Gibson stated that the County Board could adopt some of these protections and enforce them, or could consider opting in to this bill. Chair Spielman asked the Committee if they would like to opt in to this bill, or refer it to the Law and Judicial Committee.*

*Based on Committee direction, more information will be gathered on this issue and brought back to Committee.*

**This matter was Placed on the Floor**

**County Clerk:**

- 7.3     [08-0517](#)     Report of Willard R. Helander, County Clerk, for the month of July 2008.

**Motion by Member Paxton, seconded by Member Douglass, to approve. Motion carried.**

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

**Recorder of Deeds:**

- 7.4     [08-0547](#)     Report of Mary Ellen Vanderverter, Lake County Recorder, for the month of July 2008.

**Motion by Member Paxton, seconded by Member Douglass, to approve. Motion carried.**

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

**Treasurer:**

- 7.5     [08-0548](#)     Report of Robert Skidmore, Treasurer, for the month of July 2008.

**Attachments:**     [TreasurerCashInvestment July 08.XLS](#)

**Motion by Member Paxton, seconded by Member Douglass, to approve. Motion carried.**

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

**Legislation:**

7.6     08-0300     State Legislative Update

*Gary Gibson distributed copies of the Updated State Legislative Program, and touched on the following bills:*

*Increase Authority to Regulate Cell Towers – HB 4766 – Signed into law by the Governor on August 13, 2008.*

*Expand Definition of Inoperable Vehicles – SB 2005 - Sent to the Governor for signature on June 27, 2008. Mr. Gibson explained that today is the last day for him to sign it, and if he doesn't sign it, it becomes law.*

*Local Recapture of Locally Generated Funds for Affordable Housing Programs – HB 4887 - Re-referred to Rules Committee.*

*Local Government Commitment for Community-Based Sewer Operations – SB 2307 – Re-referred to Rules.*

*Unsewered Communities Grant Program – HB 4933 – Referred to House Rules Committee.*

*Filing of Mechanic's Lien – HB 5572 – Referred to Senate Rules Committee.*

*Senior Citizens Assessment Freeze Homestead Exemption – HB 4932 – Rule 19(a) Re-referred to House Rules Committee.*

*Increase in Children's Waiting Room Fee – HB 4956 and Increase Law Library Civil Court Filing Fees – SB 2321 – Both bills were vetoed by the Governor. Chairman Schmidt expressed the County's thanks to our legislators who supported these bills. She stated that they are user fees as opposed to tax increases, and was disappointed that the Governor vetoed both bills. She will work with Chair Spielman to send a letter to our legislators thanking them for their support for all of the County's initiatives.*

*Brownfield Property Late Penalty Write-off – HB 4896 – Re-referred to House Rules Committee.*

*Authority for County Boards to Provide Supportive Human Services through Imposition of Taxpayer Authorized Levy – SB 2304 – Referred to House Rules Committee.*

*Motor Fuel Tax Referendum – HB 4294 – Referred to Senate Rules*

*Committee.*

*Local Sales Tax for Probation Services by Referendum – SB 2181 – Senate Rule 3-9(b) - Referred to Rules Committee.*

*Payment of Medicaid Healthcare Costs above \$500 for Jail Inmates – SB 1965- Signed into law by the Governor on August 15, 2008.*

*Raise age from 17 to 18 for Juveniles in the County Court System – SB 2275 – Senate Rule 3-9(b) – Referred to Rules Committee.*

*Information made Available by County Recorder – HB 5586 – signed into law by the governor on August 21, 2008.*

*Report on Moneys received through Imposition of RTA Sales Tax – SB 1920 – Signed into law by the Governor on August 26, 2008.*

*Disclosure of Assessment Information – SB 2820 – Senate Rule 3-9(b) – Referred to Rules Committee.*

*Sales Tax by Referendum for Public Facility Purpose – SB2077 – House Rule 19(b) – Referred to Rules Committee.*

*Coroner Opt-in for SLEP Pension – SB 2250- Referred to House Rules Committee.*

*Availability of Public Documents – SB 2175 – Rule 3-9(a) – Referred to Rules Committee.*

*County Opt-in for RTA Sales Tax – HB 4717 – Rule 19(a) Re-referred to Rules Committee.*

*High Capacity Wells – SB 2370 – Rule 3-9(a) Re-referred to Rules Committee.*

*Mr. Gibson discussed moving forward with the FY 2009 State Legislative Program, and the deadline for submittal of items is September 19th, with the intent of having the State and Federal Legislative programs ready for approval at the November County Board meeting. Committee Members and Chairman Schmidt agreed that Chairman Spielman should be involved in working on establishing the legislative programs.*

*Trent Lehman, The Ferguson Group, is planning to visit in September, and Mr. Gibson noted that this Committee is not scheduled to meet until October. He asked if Committee would like to consider calling a*

*special meeting when Mr. Lehman is here. Mr. Gibson will let the Committee know when the date is set for Mr. Lehman's visit.*

**Executive Session:**

**Motion by Member Bassi, seconded by Member Talbett to go into Executive Session for the purpose of reviewing Executive session minutes. Motion carried.**

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

**Discussion.**

**A motion was made by Member Leafblad , seconded by Member Bassi, to come out Executive Session. The motion carried unanimously.**

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

7.7.a [08-0570](#)

Committee action regarding semi-annual review of closed session minutes.

**Attachments:** [Review of Executive Session Minutes](#)

**Motion by Member Leafblad, seconded by Member Talbett, to approve the recommendations regarding open and closed session minutes. (see list of recommendations attached to Minutes). Motion carried.**

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

8.0 County Administrator's Report

9.0 Adjournment

**A motion was made by Member Leafblad, seconded by Member Paxton, that the meeting be adjourned at 10:40 a.m. The motion carried unanimously.**

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

*Minutes prepared by Mary Otahal.*

*Respectfully submitted,*

---

*Chairman*



---

*Vice-Chairman*

---

*Revenue, Records & Legislation Committee*