

Lake County Illinois

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



Meeting Minutes - Final

Wednesday, November 2, 2016

11:00 AM

Conference Room C, 10th Floor

Revenue, Records, and Legislation Committee

1. **Call to Order**

Chair Hewitt called the meeting to order at 11:01 a.m.

Present 7 - Chair Hewitt, Vice Chair Mathias, Member Durkin, Member Nixon, Member Rummel, Member Werfel and Member Wilke

Others Present:

*Ben Gilbertson, County Administrator's Office
Anthony Cooling, Finance and Administrative Services
Sandra Hart, County Board Member
Jennie Vana, County Administrator's Office
Cameron Davis, Assistant County Administrator
Carla Wyckoff, County Clerk
Jodi Gingiss, Community Development
Karen Fox, State's Attorney's Office
Amy McEwan, Deputy County Administrator
Adlil Issakoo, County Administrator's Office
Mark Stricklin, Waukegan Township Assessor
Mary Ross Cunningham, County Board Member
Jodi Gingiss, Community Development
Marty Paulson, Chief County Assessor
Gunnar Gunnersson, State's Attorney's Office
Karen Fox, State's Attorney's Office
Matt Frank, State's Attorney's Office*

2. **Pledge of Allegiance**

Vice Chair Mathias led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. **Approval of Minutes**

3.1 **16-1034**

Minutes from October 5, 2016.

A motion was made by Member Rummel, seconded by Member Durkin, that the minutes be approved. Motion carried by voice vote.

Aye: 7 - Chair Hewitt, Vice Chair Mathias, Member Durkin, Member Nixon, Member Rummel, Member Werfel and Member Wilke

4. **Added to Agenda**

There were no items added to the agenda.

5. **Public Comment**

Nan Huffman, of Represent.Us, provided public comment regarding the American Anti-Corruption Act Resolution. Ms. Huffman reported on the organizations purpose and provided a brief background on the proposed resolution. It was requested that the Revenue, Records, and Legislation Committee add this item to a future agenda and approve the resolution to go before the County Board for approval.

6. **Old Business**

There was no old business to conduct.

7. New Business

7.1 [16-1103](#)

Discussion regarding an Anti-Corruption resolution proposed by Represent.Us.

Adlil Issakoo, of the County Administrator's Office, noted that at the last Revenue, Records, and Legislation Committee it was requested that a discussion occur regarding the American Anti-Corruption Act Resolution.

Member Wilke and Vice Chair Mathias both support the idea of the resolution but are not comfortable with the existing language in the resolution. Nan Huffman of Represent.Us added that the resolution is constitutional and has been reviewed by constitutional attorneys. She also added that the act is only a guide line for legislators to follow and the language can be refined as needed.

Both Chairman Lawlor and Member Werfel noted that an initiative such as this one is not normally done at the County level. Chairman Lawlor added his concerns and noted that this is not County business and that this act belongs at the State level.

Member Hart added that this impacts all of Lake County, but agreed that this is a State issue, and thanked the Committee for taking the time to review the material and holding a discussion on the matter.

**This matter was discussed
RECORDER OF DEEDS**

7.2 [16-1054](#)

Report from Mary Ellen Vanderverter, Recorder of Deeds, for the month of September 2016.

A motion was made by Member Rummel, seconded by Member Nixon, that this communication or report be received and placed on the consent agenda. Motion carried by voice vote.

Aye: 7 - Chair Hewitt, Vice Chair Mathias, Member Durkin, Member Nixon, Member Rummel, Member Werfel and Member Wilke

TREASURER

7.3 [16-1030](#)

Report from David B. Stolman, Treasurer, for the months of July and August 2016.

A motion was made by Member Rummel, seconded by Member Nixon, that this communication or report be received and placed on the consent agenda. Motion carried by voice vote.

Aye: 7 - Chair Hewitt, Vice Chair Mathias, Member Durkin, Member Nixon, Member Rummel, Member Werfel and Member Wilke

7.4 [16-1124](#)

Report from David B. Stolman, Treasurer, for the month of September 2016.

A motion was made by Member Rummel, seconded by Member Nixon, that this communication or report be received and placed on the consent agenda. Motion carried by voice vote.

Aye: 7 - Chair Hewitt, Vice Chair Mathias, Member Durkin, Member Nixon, Member Rummel, Member Werfel and Member Wilke

8. Executive Session

8.1 [16-1114](#)

Executive session to review closed session minutes pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(21).

This item was not discussed in Executive Session.

8.1A [16-1118](#)

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

A motion was made by Member Wilke, seconded by Member Durkin, that this committee action item be approved. Motion carried by voice vote.

Aye: 7 - Chair Hewitt, Vice Chair Mathias, Member Durkin, Member Nixon, Member Rummel, Member Werfel and Member Wilke

8.2

Executive Session was entered into at 11:57 a.m.

A motion was made by Member Durkin, seconded by Member Nixon, that this item be to go into executive session. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Chair Hewitt, Vice Chair Mathias, Member Durkin, Member Nixon, Member Rummel, Member Werfel and Member Wilke

8.2A [17-0110](#)

Executive Session to discuss imminent litigation pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)11.

This item was discussed in Executive Session.

9. County Administrator's Report

9.1 [16-1081](#)

Resolution approving the 2017 Lake County State and Federal Legislative Program.

Ben Gilbertson, of the County Administrator's Office, reported on the fiscal year 2017 State and Federal Legislative Program. Items related to the Revenue, Records, and Legislation (RRL) Committee include final notice of taking for vacant property. The Property Tax Code requires counties to notify property owners three different ways with the final take notice for tax liens: 1) By personal service from the Sheriff, or if unable to be served personally, by certified mail from the Sheriff, 2) By newspaper publication; and 3) By certified mail from the Circuit Court Clerk. Multiple final take notices are unnecessary and inefficient, the County could save more than \$30,000 annually in publication, administrative, and postage cost. It is recommended to sponsor an amendment to the Property Tax Code that excludes the publication and personal service requirements for vacant properties.

Another item related to RRL includes removing the requirement for voters to sign the back of their vote-by-mail envelope. The Election Code requires voters to sign all ballots and to also sign the back of the return envelope. Due to this requirement the County Clerk's Office must have signature instruction on the back of the envelope, which does not comply with U.S. Postal regulations. Additionally, it exposes voters to the risk of identity theft.

Much discussion ensued regarding the purpose of endorsing the return envelopes.

Adlil Issakoo, of the County Administrator's Office, reported on the legislative item of extending the Illinois Affordable Housing Tax Credit, which will expire in December of 2016. This tax credit is used by affordable housing developers to provided tax credits to investors annually.

Jodi Gingiss, of Community Development, noted that this tax credit has benefited 382 units of affordable housing since 2001 and has generated \$100,000,000 of investments from corporations and in exchange for the investments, corporations receive a 50 percent tax credit from the State of Illinois. These tax credits are what keeps the high quality and well managed affordable housing that the County wants.

Vice Chair Mathias inquired on what the status of Senate Bill 83. Chairman Lawlor added that it is still in the Senate.

Vice Chair Mathias made a motion seconded by Member Rummel to amend the recommendation for final notice of taking for vacant property by adding the language "excluding publication and personal services requirements for vacant properties, unless certified mail is not delivered."

Aye: 7 - Chair Hewitt, Vice Chair Mathias, Member Durkin, Member Nixon, Member Rummel, Member Werfel and Member Wilke

A motion was made by Member Durkin, seconded by Member Wilke, that this resolution be amended. Motion carried by voice vote.

Aye: 7 - Chair Hewitt, Vice Chair Mathias, Member Durkin, Member Nixon, Member Rummel, Member Werfel and Member Wilke

Deputy County Administrator Amy McEwan provided an update on the lobbyist. There is a staff group that has evaluated several proposals and a small group has been developed of staff members and board members to do an additional review of the proposals that have been recieved. Ms. McEwan reminded the Committee that because the cost is under \$50,000 request for approval will not be needed by the County Board. Staff will keep the Board informed when a decision has been made.

10. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 12:19 p.m.

**A motion was made by Member Wilke, seconded by Member Werfel, to adjourn.
The motion carried unanimously.**

Aye: 7 - Chair Hewitt, Vice Chair Mathias, Member Durkin, Member Nixon, Member Rummel, Member Werfel and Member Wilke

Meeting minutes prepared by Heidie Hernandez.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman

Vice-Chairman

Revenue, Records, and Legislation Committee