

Lake County Illinois

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



Meeting Minutes - Final

Wednesday, March 3, 2010

8:30 AM

Conference Room C

Revenue, Records and Legislation Committee

1. **Call to Order**

Chair Flanigan-Bassi called the meeting to order at 8:31 a.m. Member Paxton arrived at 8:40 a.m.

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

Absent 1 - Member Hewitt

Also present:

Amy McEwan, Sr. Assistant County Administrator

Barry Burton, County Administrator

Suzi Schmidt, County Board Chairman

Bob Skidmore, Treasurer

Marty Paulson, Chief County Assessment Officer

Eric Waggoner, Planning, Building & Development

Keith DeVore, CAO Intern

Charles Patterson, Lake Villa

Mary Otahal, County Board Office

2. **Pledge of Allegiance**

Chair Flanigan-Bassi led the committee in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. **Approval of Minutes**

3.1 **[10-0219](#)**

Minutes from January 27, 2010

A motion was made by Member Pedersen, seconded by Member Carey, to approve the minutes from January 27, 2010. The motion carried unanimously.

Aye: 5 - Chair Bassi, Member Nixon, Member Carey, Vice Chair Pedersen and Member Taylor

Not Present: 2 - Member Paxton and Member Hewitt

4. **Public Comment**

Mr. Charles Patterson addressed the committee regarding the tax assessment process and discussions he has had with his township assessor and with the Chief County Assessment Officer. Chairman Bassi informed Mr. Patterson that there is a Board of Review Task Force that is reviewing the process.

Member Paxton entered the meeting at 8:40 a.m.

Marty Paulson explained the assessment process and the role of his office and the Board of Review in this process.

5. **Added to Agenda**

6. **Old Business**

7. New Business

County Clerk

7.1 [10-0178](#)

Report of Willard R. Helander, County Clerk, for the month of January 2010.

A motion was made by Member Carey, seconded by Member Nixon, 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 Nixon, Member Carey, Vice Chair Pedersen and Member Taylor

Not Present: 1 - Member Hewitt

Recorder of Deeds

7.2 [10-0202](#)

Report of Mary Ellen Vanderverter, Recorder of Deeds, for the month of January 2010.

A motion was made by Member Pedersen, seconded by Member Carey, 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 Nixon, Member Carey, Vice Chair Pedersen and Member Taylor

Not Present: 1 - Member Hewitt

Treasurer

7.3 [10-0204](#)

Report of Robert Skidmore, Treasurer, for the month of January 2010.

A motion was made by Member Taylor, seconded by Member Paxton, 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 Nixon, Member Carey, Vice Chair Pedersen and Member Taylor

Not Present: 1 - Member Hewitt

7.4 [10-0168](#)

Resolution designating the herein named banks and other financial institutions as depositories in which the funds and monies in the custody of Robert Skidmore, as County Treasurer and as Ex-Officio County Collector, may be deposited.

Mr. Skidmore briefly reviewed this resolution.

A motion was made by Member Carey, seconded by Member Pedersen, that this resolution be amended to remove Town Community Bank. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Not Present: 1 - Member Hewitt

A motion was made by Member Carey, seconded by Member Pedersen, to approve this resolution as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

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

Legislation

7.5 [10-0230](#)

State Legislative Update - Kip Kolkmeier

State Legislative Agenda Update:

1. *Lake County Transportation Route 120 Project - Amy McEwan reported that we have included a request for Rt. 120 support in the federal legislative packets. Chairman Schmidt reported that Diane O'Keefe, IDOT, responded to a letter from Lake County that she is recommending that Rt. 120 be considered as part of the 5-year program. Barry Burton reported he is almost done circulating a letter within 11 communities to get to Dave Manning, LCTA lobbyist, who is meeting with legislators today and tomorrow.*

2. *Cell Tower Use – HB 4877 - Eric Waggoner reported that he went to Springfield to attend an informal legislative committee meeting. This bill will not be brought to the formal committee process next week, but will be worked on behind the scenes between both sides of the issue. Mr. Waggoner expects that there could be a watered down compromise by industry representatives within next couple of weeks. Mr. Kolkmeier was very pleased with the outcome of the meeting. The county is trying to get on a level playing field with municipalities to regulate cell towers without restriction by the State. Based on the information presented by the county, the carriers are recognizing that the county has a legitimate position.*

3. *Senior Citizens Assessment Freeze Homestead Exemption – HB 4919 and HB 5801 - Neither of the two bills filed for this item have been presented at committee.*

4. *Publication of Assessments in Local Newspapers – HB 4799 was filed on January 12, 2010, and has been assigned to the Revenue & Finance Committee.*

5. *Establishment of Affordable Housing Trust Fund – SB 3001 – This bill was assigned to the Local Government Committee and placed on the Calendar Order of 3rd reading. Chair Bassi stated that the coalition is working hard to try and reach out to contact the Senators.*

6. *DUI Law Clarification – The legal community is working on language for this item.*

7. *Unaltered IDOT crash reports to federal, state and local agencies requesting them. – HB 5330 – This bill was assigned to the Transportation, Regulation, and Roads & Bridges Committee.*

8. *Use of Reclaimed Water – SB 2549 – This bill passed out of committee and has a good chance of getting out of the Senate.*

Ms. McEwan reported that she is also tracking monitor initiatives and policy issues as follows:

9. *Water Safety and Enforcement Fee/License – Boat Length Fee – no known related bill or bills.*

10. *Tax Credit for Jury Duty - no known related bill or bills.*

11. *Environmentally Contaminated Property Redevelopment Penalty Abatement - no known related bill or bills.*

12. *Lake County Transportation Priority Projects for IDOT SFY 2011 - no known related bill or bills.*

13. *Restore and Protect Medicaid Funding for Nursing Homes - no known related bill or bills.*

14. *No Diversion of Road Funds - no known related bill or bills.*

15. *Statewide Wetland Regulations - no known related bill or bills.*

16. *Unfunded Probation Services – Ms. McEwan reported that we have not received any Probation Services payments from the state since August, and the state is now \$2 million in arrears. Mr. Burton stated that he spoke with Chief Judge Booras, and they will be working together to address this problem. Chairman Schmidt stated that some counties are eliminating their probation services.*

Chairman Bassi asked about the status of the proposed video gaming penalty. Ms. McEwan explained that Mr. Kolkmeier is working on this, and we are tracking this proposal.

Mr. Burton reported on the ramifications of the new FOIA law, stating that the county is getting hammered by FOIA requests. Mr. Burton believes that it could get to the point where we will need people to just respond to FOIA requests. Some people are abusing the law by making a request as an individual but using the information for commercial purposes. The FOIA law is conflicting with the subscriber services law, which is affecting departments that provide services for commercial use at a cost. He suggested that Mr. Kolkmeier focus in on the commercial side of the law, and he is having attorneys look at how to resolve situations where the two statutes conflict with each other.

Federal Legislative Program – Ms. McEwan reported that last month was spent getting support letters together for each legislator on each of our initiatives. They have all been submitted except for the letter for Rt. 120. Chairman Schmidt, Committee Chair Bassi

and Barry Burton are meeting with Trent Lehman and the legislators next week to discuss our issues.

Mr. Burton asked Workforce Development to get feedback from their workforce board on whether there are things that would give the County more flexibility with the rules governing use of the Workforce Development funds. This is the perfect time to raise issues and ask questions about joining workforce development programs with CDBG projects. This is not part of our federal program, but we could plant the seed. Mr. Burton is working on getting Workforce Development and Lake County Partners together to discuss the possibility of using Workforce Development for training workers for community development projects.

Ms. McEwan will e-mail copies of the final federal package including the letters of support to the committee members.

8. Executive Session

8.1 Review of Executive Session Minutes

Committee reviewed the recommendation of the State's Attorney regarding the semi-annual review of closed session minutes.

8.1a [10-0220](#)

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

A motion was made by Member Paxton, seconded by Member Taylor, to approve the recommendation for opening executive session minutes. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Not Present: 1 - Member Hewitt

9. County Administrator's Report

10. Adjournment

A motion was made by Member Paxton, seconded by Member Carey, that the meeting adjourn at 9:40 a.m. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Not Present: 1 - Member Hewitt

Committee decided to cancel the meeting on March 31st, and the next meeting will be held on April 7th.

Minutes prepared by Mary Otahal.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman

Vice-Chairman

Revenue, Records & Legislation Committee