

Lake County Illinois

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



Meeting Minutes - Final

Wednesday, November 4, 2009

8:30 AM

Conference Room C

Revenue, Records and Legislation Committee

1. **Call to Order**

Chair Bassi called the meeting to order at 8:34 a.m.

Present 5 - Chair Bassi, Member Paxton, Member Carey, Vice Chair Pedersen and Member Taylor

Absent 2 - Member Nixon and Member Hewitt

Also present:

*Amy McEwan, Sr. Assistant County Administrator
Suzi Schmidt, County Board Chairman
Barry Burton, County Administrator
Gary Gordon, Finance & Administrative Services
Mike Gavin, Finance & Administrative Services
Michael Wheeler, Finance & Administrative Services
Keith Devore, CAO Intern
Willard Helander, County Clerk
Cindy Pagano, Chief Deputy County Clerk
Kipp Wilson, County Clerk's Office
Bob Skidmore, Treasurer
Mary Otahal, County Board Office*

2. **Pledge of Allegiance**

Chair Bassi led the committee in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. **Approval of Minutes - October 7, 2009**

3.1 **09-2152**

Minutes from October 7, 2009

A motion was made by Member Carey, seconded by Member Taylor, that the minutes from October 7, 2009 be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Chair Bassi, Member Carey, Vice Chair Pedersen and Member Taylor

Not Present: 1 - Member Paxton

4. **Public Comment**

5. **Added to Agenda**

6. **Old Business**

7. **New Business**

County Clerk

7.1 **09-2101**

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

A motion was made by Member Carey, seconded by Member Pedersen, that this report be received and placed on the consent agenda. The motion carried by the

following vote:

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

7.2 09-2128

Joint Resolution adopting a revised fee for plat of subdivision certification payments accepted in the Lake County Clerk's Office.

Kipp Wilson explained this resolution.

A motion was made by Member Pedersen, seconded by Member Taylor, that this resolution be approved and referred on to Financial and Administrative Committee.

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

7.3 09-2154

A resolution to amend an Ordinance establishing precinct boundaries.

Willard Helander explained this resolution.

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

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

County Clerk Helander then explained the new vote by mail program, and asked board members to deliver vote by mail signs in their districts. She explained the vote by mail process as well as the early voting process.

Recorder of Deeds

7.4 09-2099

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

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

Treasurer

7.5 09-2113

Resolution authorizing the Chair of the Board to execute an Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement with the Lake Bluff Park District for the purchase and sale of Tax Anticipation Warrants against taxes as levied by the District for the year 2009.

Gary Gordon explained this resolution.

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

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

Bob Skidmore updated the committee on the status of the senior deferral fund, stating that an appropriation has been set for \$5.3 million for this year and \$5+ million for next year. He will send out notification to the seniors in this program to make them aware that it has been taken care of for last years taxes.

7.6 State Legislative Program Update

Kip Kolkmeier participated in the discussion of the state legislative program via speakerphone. He reported that the veto session has wrapped up. During this session, SB1466 -campaign finance reform – passed and there will be caps starting in the 2012 election cycle (January 1, 2011). The Governor is expected to sign this bill. In terms of the budget, state income tax projections have continued to fall short by \$350 million dollars, and the Governor announced that he wants to borrow in excess of \$900 million dollars that would be short term borrowing and paid off within the current fiscal year. There may be additional cuts this fiscal year and certainly for next year. Regarding the calendar for next year, they plan to return the 2nd week of January, and proposed adjourning by May 7th. Legislative leaders are saying that next year the focus will be on the budget. Our biggest budget concern remains probation services and we have gotten assertion by the Governor that he is going to transfer money to restore about half of the cuts. Ms. McEwan reported that an e-mail received this morning, indicated that Lake County is going to receive \$2.9 million, which is an additional \$1.1 million from the original cut. It is significantly less than the \$4.2 million received last year.

Ms. McEwan stated that she, Chair Bassi, Chairman Schmidt and Barry Burton met with the second group of legislators this week, including Senators Bond, Garrett and Rep. Beaubien, and met last week with Representatives Osmond, Mathais and Washington. The legislators provided good input to our proposed legislative program.

Ms. McEwan then presented the newest draft of the State Legislative Program as follows:

Initiatives being recommended for Direct Sponsorship:

Lake County Transportation Route 120 Project - We will continue to push hard for Phase I money.

Cell Tower Use – At the recommendation of the legislators, this item was moved to direct sponsorship. Ms. McEwan stated that the Telecommunications Act will be re-written this year. Mr. Kolkmeier's suggestion is to make this Lake County only legislation and to get state municipal league support.

Senior Citizens Assessment Freeze Homestead Exemption – While this initiative is being sponsored by the Assessor's Association, if we want two consecutive successful applications with a requirement to re-apply and qualify every five years, this has to be submitted by Lake County.

Publication of Assessments in Local Newspapers – We are seeking authority so that the County will only have to publish assessments on parcels that experience valuation changes for that tax year in non-general assessment years.

Support Initiatives:

Establishment of Affordable Housing Trust Fund - This item has been recommended as support because the coalition is the entity getting sponsorship. Lake County is a member of this coalition. The Legislators want to see more definitive support such as sign off from the Recorder's Office and having the coalition speak with the Realtors Association to get them to not oppose this bill.

DUI Law Clarification - This is being introduced by a coalition of judges and attorneys. Lake County will be supporting their efforts.

Unaltered IDOT Crash Reports – Marty Buehler is trying to get more information on this but the Highway Commissioner Association hasn't yet provided the necessary data.

Use of Reclaimed Water - support the Forest Preserve's efforts. Senator Garrett agreed to reintroduce this initiative.

Monitor Opportunities:

Water Safety and Enforcement Fee/License - Boat Length Fee – Ms. McEwan stated that we need to establish an education process to come up with ways to look at this initiative. We will continue to talk to IDNR and legislators to see if there is any opportunity to get money back.

Cell Tower Use (municipality Veto Power) – We will continue to monitor.

Tax Credit for Jury Duty Service - look for opportunities to support legislation that would establish a state credit of \$50 per day for individuals serving jury duty or a related initiative.

Brownfield Redevelopment Penalty Abatement – We will work on re-wording this

proposal to better describe. Mr. Kolkmeier stated that the Speaker of the House is adamant that if an individual county has a particular project and they want a window to get that project going, he is open to that, but he is opposed to blanket authority.

Lake County Transportation Priority Projects for IDOT SFY 2011 – monitor opportunities for transportation projects important to Lake County.

Ms. McEwan will bring the finalized version of the program back to Committee for approval at the next meeting. Member Paxton asked if we wanted to add County Clerk Helander’s request to monitor the election law changes, since the Clerk’s Association is working on educating the public on these changes. Mr. Burton will follow up with Ms. Helander, but doesn’t feel that there is anything to submit at this time.

Ms. McEwan will e-mail a final draft of this agenda to all county board members. The Legislative Program is tentatively scheduled for January 8, 2010.

7.7 Federal Legislative Program Update

8. Executive Session

9. County Administrator's Report

10. Adjournment

A motion was made by Member Carey, seconded by Member Pedersen, that the meeting adjourn at 10:03 a.m. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Minutes prepared by Mary Otahal.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman

Vice-Chairman

Revenue, Records & Legislation Committee