

# Lake County Illinois

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



## Meeting Minutes - Final

Thursday, July 30, 2009

9:00 AM

SPECIAL CALL

Division of Transportation  
600 W. Winchester Road, Libertyville, IL

**Lake County Board**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

*Chairman Schmidt called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.*

**Present** 19 - Member Bassi, Member Bush, Member Carlson, Member Cunningham, Member Feldman, Member Gravenhorst, Member Hewitt, Member Kyle, Member Maine, Member Nixon, Member O'Kelly, Member Paxton, Member Pedersen, Chair Schmidt, Vice Chair Stolman, Member Wilke, Member O'Rourke, Member Taylor and Member Lawlor

**Absent** 4 - Member Calabresa, Member Carey, Member Carter and Member Mountsier

*Member Kyle arrived at 9:10 a.m., Member Hewitt arrived at 9:11 a.m., and Member Cunningham arrived at 9:14 am.*

*Member Hewitt left the meeting at 10:00 a.m., Member Nixon left the meeting at 10:45 a.m., and Members Feldman and Stolman left the meeting at 11:25 a.m.*

*Also present:*

*Barry Burton, County Administrator  
Gary Gordon, Finance & Administrative Services  
Willard Helander, County Clerk  
Rodney Marion, Human Resources  
Jenny Khoen, Communications Manager  
Meg Marcouiller, Chief Deputy State's Attorney  
Tom Dixon, Division of Transportation  
Mike Warner, SMC  
Calvin Gwynne, Libertyville  
John Schwab, Waukegan  
Mick Zawislak, Daily Herald  
Jim Newton, News Sun  
John Roskowski, Pioneer Press  
Mary Otahal, County Board Office*

**2. MOMENT OF SILENCE**

**3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

*Chairman Schmidt led the board in the Pledge of Allegiance.*

**4. ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS**

**5. PUBLIC COMMENT**

**6. [09-1777](#)**

Presentation of the Special Meeting and Certificate of Mailing Notice of the Special Meeting.

*County Clerk Helander read the Notice of Special Call. There was a motion by Member Stolman, seconded by Member Nixon, to accept the Notice of Special Call. Motion carried.*

**7. [09-1769](#)**

## 2010 Budget Update

*Barry Burton and Gary Gordon presented the 2010 Budget Challenges. Mr. Burton stated that they have been meeting with departments on today's fiscal realities, and explained that the 2010 budget will be less than the 2009 budget. Lake County is in decent shape in comparison to other counties in part due to past long term decisions that the Board has made.*

*Mr. Gordon then reviewed the County's strong fiscal policies and practices and the timeline for the budget planning process. Mr. Burton stated that they collected and reviewed more than 300 suggestions from employees, and many of those are reflected in the budgets recommended by the departments and by County Administrator/FAS staff.*

*Mr. Gordon shared the monthly and year-to-date economic indicators report and explained that sales/business taxes are currently down 16%, the CPI is unchanged with virtually no revenue increase for 2010, and IMRF/SLEP funding will require an increased long-term contribution.*

*Mr. Burton presented examples of how departments have stepped forward to assist in reducing the budget gap and he reviewed budget strategies at both the department and countywide level.*

*Mr. Gordon reported on the results of the Accelerated Retirement Option program, stating that 110 of 446 eligible employees took advantage of the program, generating potential savings between \$800,000 and \$4 million, depending on the total number of vacancies not filled and the length of held vacancies.*

*He then reviewed where the 2010 budget stands today. The 2010 department submittals are \$8.6 million more than available revenue. Budget strategies decreased the gap by \$3.5 million, leaving the budget about \$5.1 million short. They are working with departments to reduce the gap. At this point, it does not include any wage increase, annual CCIP contribution, and the full impact of ARO. He stressed that the budget figures assume some level of new property on the tax rolls and current State funding levels.*

*They also discussed probation funding, which has a significant impact on the County's budget. The State is supposed to fund Probation 100%, and is currently funding it at 66%. The State may provide even less funding for this in 2010. There may be some recommended budget changes based upon the State's reimbursement of Probation for 2010.*

*They will continue to work on the budget and will review ARO vacancies with departments to identify potential savings, communicate updated information to employees, monitor the State budget for fiscal impact, and continue to meet with departments and elected offices to work together on the budget.*

*Member O'Kelly asked that all County-funded programs that are not mandated be looked*

at to see if they could be suspended. Mr. Burton will summarize this information and it will be presented as part of the budget discussion.

Discussion ensued regarding the Board member raises that take effect on December 1st and whether board members can freeze their salaries and not take a pay increase. Chairman Schmidt explained that, by law, the board cannot take any action to increase or decrease their salaries once they have been set. Board Member salaries were set for a four year period in May 2008. However, she has worked with the State's Attorney's Office to determine that this does not prevent individual board members from not accepting their raise, and they can give their raise back if they so choose.

The Board spent considerable time discussing the budget and making suggestions as to how to cut costs and save money.

Mr. Gordon concluded the discussion by stating that, consistent with Board policies, they will recommend a balanced budget that preserves the long-term fiscal stability of the County.

**8. 09-1770**

Executive Session

Motion by Member O'Kelly, seconded by Member Lawlor, to go into executive session to discuss specific employee personnel matters and collective bargaining matters. Voting aye: Bassi, Bush, Carlson, Cunningham, Feldman, Gravenhorst, Kyle, Lawlor, Maine, O'Kelly, O'Rourke, Paxton, Pedersen, Schmidt, Stolman, Taylor, Wilke. Motion carried.

Discussion.

Motion by Member Maine, seconded by Member O'Rourke, to come out of executive session. Motion carried.

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 11:27 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Willard R. Helander  
Lake County Clerk

Minutes approved:

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