

## COMMITTEE REPORT

**COMMITTEE:** Executive Committee  
**CHAIRPERSON:** Merri Berlage  
**DATE/TIME:** January 8, 2015 @ 7:00 pm  
**PRESENT:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Merri Berlage	<input type="checkbox"/> Gerald Bennett	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RJ Winkelhake
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ron Smith	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Randy Jobgen	<input type="checkbox"/> Don Zillig
<input type="checkbox"/> Brandon Behlke	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Steve Rutz	

Other Board Members:

Others: Dan Reimer, Kevin Turner, Lindsey Turner, Tara Burnett

1. Minutes Approval
  - a) Randy Jobgen made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 3, 2014 Executive Committee meeting. Seconded by RJ Winkelhake and motion passed.
  - b) RJ Winkelhake made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 13, 2014 Special Executive Committee meeting. Seconded by Randy Jobgen and motion passed.
2. Citizens' Comments – Merri Berlage welcomed two visitors from Mr. Dittmar government class at River Ridge who were in attendance, Lindsey Turner and Carol Burnett.
3. Unfinished Business- Merri Berlage discussed the possibility of scheduling a County Board retreat; the last retreat was in April of 2013. We have strategic goals, but they are two years old. Dan Reimer suggested the committee review the 2013 Retreat goals to see what has been accomplished. Berlage commented we will do that at the next meeting and she will get with Ron Smith to set a date for a retreat. Berlage reported that States Attorney John Hay is in the process of drafting a policy for closed session minutes and will discuss at the next meeting.
4. New Business
  - a) Discussion and possible action on establishing meeting dates and start time for 2015 Executive Committee meetings. –**Steve Rutz made a motion to hold Executive Committee meetings on the Monday one week prior to the County Board meeting at 7:00 p.m. Seconded by Randy Jobgen and motion passed.**
5. Summary of Committee Activities – Merri Berlage proposed that all Committee Chairs provide a summary report of activities and items of interest that their committee is working on and limit the report to less than three minutes. The intent is to update and communicate with the Executive committee on the goals, projects and items of interest that each committee is working on. Ron Smith commented that he attended a meeting on December 15, 2014 with Representative Stewart, local mayors and County Board Chairs from Stewart's district were invited. Smith discussed four items - declining 9-1-1 revenue; the "But for Clause" something needs to be done with the requirement that Illinois businesses have to go to Iowa and Wisconsin first before the State of Illinois will provide economic development incentives; sunset clauses for tax referendums and prevailing wage legislation. Smith reported that the last day new legislation can be proposed is the last Friday in February. Steve Rutz commented that Representative Stewart is working with TCEDA and John Cox on developing language to eliminate the "But for Clause". Dan Reimer commented that

two special meetings are scheduled prior to the County Board meeting – a Special Law & Courts is at 5:30 p.m. and a Special Social & Environmental is at 6:30 p.m. There are a couple of contracts coming forward for Law & Courts. The Social & Environmental Committee will consider the contract with Sjostrom & Sons for the Jo Daviess County Transit Building Addition Project. Reimer reported that representatives from Jo Daviess County met with representatives from the Workshop to discuss details of the Transit Building Addition Project and requirements of the grant. A conference call was held with the JDC audit team and Clifton Larsen Allen. The field audit portion will start the week of February 9<sup>th</sup>; most of the Circuit Clerks audit has already been completed. Department Heads are working on their annual employee performance reviews, they are due by the end of January. PAR reports will be reviewed by the County Administrator and forwarded to Chief Deputy Clerk Angie Kaiser for processing new pay rate effective February 1<sup>st</sup>. Department Heads are also working on their 2015 Goals and 2014 Accomplishments which they will submit to the County Administration office. A document will then be prepared. The county is currently working in period 13 for the FY2014 budget year and period 1 and 2 for the FY2015 budget year. RJ Winkelhake commented that if you haven't been out to see the new Courthouse sidewalk and railing project you need to take a look at it. The fence line looks more historic than the old fence and the road has been fixed. The invoice for the curb and gutter portion of the project has been sent to the City of Galena for reimbursement as planned. Winkelhake reported the Courthouse parking lot fence has been let out for bids and bids are due February 11<sup>th</sup>. We would like to start that project this spring and complete before Memorial Day. We are working with the Architects from Shive Hattery on the 1900 Courthouse Addition with the tuck pointing and windows. Merri Berlage shared a photograph of Edna Grebner, who was Jo Daviess County Sheriff in the early 1900's, in front of the courthouse.

#### 6. Citizens Comments

7. Board Member Concerns – Ron Smith commented on an email he received from the Executive Director of the LRA. Mindful LLC, Colorado, is a cannabis cultivation retail operation and the CEO and master grower will be featured in a segment on recreational marijuana on 60 Minutes on January 11<sup>th</sup>. Smith will forward the email to the committee. Merri Berlage received an email from Tess Dahm at the Enterprise Zone notifying her of an upcoming meeting. Tess was not aware that Merri had been appointed to the board. Ron Smith will follow up to make sure that appointment letters have all been sent out.
8. Closed Session – **Steve Rutz made a motion to enter into closed session at 7:36 p.m. for the purpose of personnel section 2(c)1 “The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity.” Topics of discussion: 24/7 on call compensation for IT support; request to review compensation of Chief Deputy position and Operations Lieutenant position. At 8:41 p.m. RJ Winkelhake made a motion to reconvene to open session. Seconded by Randy Jobgen and motion passed.**
9. Possible action as a result of closed session – There was no action as a result of closed session.

Merri Berlage stated the next meeting of the Executive Committee is scheduled for Monday, February 2, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 8:42 p.m. following a motion made by Randy Jobgen and seconded by RJ Winkelhake, motion carried.