

# COMMITTEE REPORT

**COMMITTEE:** Executive Committee  
**CHAIRPERSON:** Merri Berlage  
**DATE/TIME:** June 6, 2016 @ 7:00 pm  
**PRESENT:**

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

A quorum was established.

Other Board Members:

Others: Dan Reimer

## 1. Minutes Approval

- a) Randy Jobgen made a motion to approve the minutes from the April 4, 2016 Executive Committee meeting. Seconded by Don Zillig and motion passed.

2. **Citizens' Comments** – Brad Petersburg, Jo Daviess County Representative to the Board of Directors for the New Unified Destination Marketing Organization discussed that he is very pleased with the DMO Board that has been elected and appointed as well as the progress they are making. He is optimistic about the outlook for the reunification. Merri Sevey, Elizabeth Chamber of Commerce President, commented that they are in favor of the unification process going forward. They do have some questions and concerns, but feel that will be a part of the process going forward. Hal Gilpin, speaking as CVB Board Chairman, discussed issues involving the use of an existing 501(c)6 organization operating under a new name, not as a new entity under a new 501(c)6. Jess Farlow, CVB Board member, concurs with Gilpin and urges the Executive Committee and County Board to carefully review the new DMO proposed contract with the County and their bylaws so as to insure total transparency, operate under the Illinois Open Meetings Act including all committees, use closed sessions only for appropriate sensitive issues, allow citizens comments at the beginning and end of all board and committee meetings without any board preapproval of the topics. The organization itself should be a new 501(c)6 organization not an existing one. Terry McGovern, CVB Board and newly elected to the new DMO Board, stated that she marketed herself for the DMO board position and that she has reached out to Stockton and Elizabeth who are in favor of the new DMO. Robert Mahan, DMO chairman, stated that he is here if anyone has any questions about the contract, by-laws, etc. His door is always open, his email is available and his phone is always on. Openness and transparency is important to everyone. Amelia Wilson Roth, owner of Amelia's Galena Ghost Tours and the Ryan Mansion, is disappointed that other small business owners are not here tonight. She feels a lot of them have no idea what is going on. She did not receive a ballot, she never voted for the new DMO board and she feels completely out of the loop. She feels it is moving a little too quickly and that they are not getting small business opinions on issues. She is not against the new DMO, but is becoming more against it because of how it is happening. She feels the election was handled shaky at best and is very uncomfortable with what has gone on so far.

## 3. Unfinished Business

- a) FY2015/FY2016 Strategic Goals & Plans – Nothing new to report.
- b) Update on US EPA Site Stabilization Work at the Bautsch Gray Site on Blackjack Road – Nothing new to report.
- c) Update on Jo Daviess County FOIA requests – An updated FOIA request report was included in the informational packet and reviewed by the committee.

## 4. New Business

- a) Presentation by Randy Keleher, Jo Daviess County Housing Authority – Randy Keleher, Jo Daviess County Housing Authority, provided a presentation on the Jo Daviess County Housing Authority. The Housing Authority was created in June, 1947. The Housing Authority is considered a municipal corporation and is not part of the JDC Board. The JDC Board Chairman is the “Local Official” for approving the appointment of Commissioners to the Housing Authority Board. They currently administer two Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Programs – The Public Housing Program and the Housing Choice Voucher Program (formerly known as the Section 8 Program). Keleher gave an overview of program eligibility, program funding sources, public housing program, general rent information and income and rent statistics. In addition, Keleher reviewed the Housing Choice voucher program, general landlord responsibilities, Housing Authority general responsibilities, and responsibilities of program participant’s responsibilities. A copy of the presentation will be added to the informational packet.
- b) Discussion and possible action on a consideration to enter into a hold harmless agreement with the City of Galena and DMO Appointed Directors– Merri Berlage read an email from Dan Gilbert, Assistant State’s Attorney, regarding item b) the hold harmless agreement with the City of Galena and the DMO appointed directors and item c) possible discussion and action on the DMO contract. “Under the Key Terms and Conditions of the Letter of Intent – Step 4 – DMO Service Agreement – The DMO will engage legal counsel to draft a DMO Services Agreement incorporating the following key terms and conditions. As soon as possible the draft will be circulated to the Parties for review and further input. Since the DMO is the “Maker” of the contract, it will need to be reviewed by the DMO attorney as the de facto “DMO” counsel and approved before the County, can take any action. The State’s Attorney’s office has been in contact with the DMO attorney and the DMO attorney will let the State’s Attorney’s office know he has reviewed the contract.” Berlage discussed that a copy of the contract was received on Friday but it had not been reviewed by DMO legal counsel. At this point in time item 4.b) and 4.c) will need to be pulled from the agenda.
- c) Discussion and possible action on DMO contract and review of DMO by-laws– This item was pulled from the agenda.
- d) Discussion and possible action on Department of Labor overtime rules for exempt employees Dan Reimer, County Administrator, reviewed the new overtime rules for exempt employees from the Department of Labor. The new rules define and delimit exemptions for executive, administrative, professional, outside sales and computer employees. Each position description will again be reviewed to to make sure they are classified correctly as exempt or non-exempt. The new rules go into effect December 1, 2016.
- e) Planning for the June 15, 2016 Legislative Committee meeting with Senator Bivins and Representative Stewart – Merri Berlage discussed that she has a list of possible topics to discuss with Senator Bivins and Representative Stewart. Committee members offered suggestions for additional topics. The list includes: 1) Budget, 2) Motor Fuel Tax Funding, 3) Prevailing Wage, 4) 9-1-1 issues, 5) Deer count, 6) DCEO But for clause, 7) Consolidation priorities, 8) HB 636 and why they both support the property tax cap freeze on all non-home rule governmental entities, 9) State mandates. For the meeting Berlage will order sandwiches and cookies. Dan Reimer will help with water and pop. The meeting will be on Wednesday, June 15<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 am. County Board members and Department Heads will be invited.

5. **Summary of Committee Activities** – Steve Rutz commented that he was pleased with the progress made by Department Heads and the County Administrators office on the updated five year Capital Improvement Plan and the Vehicle Replacement Plan. RJ Winkelhake commented that the state has not made any payments to 9-1-1 for 2016 as of last Wednesday. This will make budgeting difficult for the upcoming year.

6. **Citizens Comments** – Hal Gilpin commented that he feels that there should be one DMO for this destination. This should have never happened and it should have stayed as one. As we try to put everything back together the destination will survive. His biggest concern is what happens to the employees of the CVB.
7. **Board Member Concerns** – None
8. **Closed Session** – None
9. **Possible action as a result of closed session** - None

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m. following a motion made by Randy Jobgen. Seconded by Steve Rutz and motion passed.

The next meeting of the Executive Committee is scheduled for **Tuesday, July 5, 2016** at 7:00 p.m.