

JO DAVIESS COUNTY BOARD

MEETING MINUTES

APRIL 14, 1998

Chairperson of the Jo Daviess County Board, Judith Gratton, called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, April 14, 1998, at the County Board Room, Jo Daviess County Courthouse, Galena, Illinois.

ROLL CALL was answered as follows: Present-Hylene Anderson, Merri Berlage, Ronald Buening, Clifford Carroll, Don Crawford, John Creighton, Judith Gratton, Vincent Hasken, Larry Lyons, William McFadden, Charlice Offenheiser, Domer Schubert, Lynn Sisler, James Slaats and Jack Zillig. Present: 15. Absent-Richard Runde and John Rutherford. Absent: 2.

INVOCATION AND THOUGHT OF THE DAY were given by Hylene Anderson. Judith Gratton led the Pledge of Allegiance.

THE CONSENT AGENDA was approved as per attached following a motion made by Jack Zillig, seconded by Domer Schubert.

Motion carried by roll call vote: Ayes-Hylene Anderson, Merri Berlage, Ronald Buening, Clifford Carroll, Don Crawford, John Creighton, Judith Gratton, Vincent Hasken, Larry Lyons, William McFadden, Charlice Offenheiser, Domer Schubert, Lynn Sisler, James Slaats, and Jack Zillig. Ayes: 15. Nays: 0. Absent-Richard Runde and John Rutherford. Absent: 2.

A RESOLUTION will be drafted to transfer \$4,072 from the Law and Courts Fund to the 911 Fund as a loan to be repaid for service to the 911 base station following a motion made by Jack Zillig.

Motion carried by roll call vote: Ayes-Hylene Anderson, Merri Berlage, Ronald Buening, Clifford Carroll, Don Crawford, John Creighton, Judith Gratton, Vincent Hasken, Larry Lyons, William McFadden, Charlice Offenheiser, Domer Schubert, Lynn Sisler, James Slaats and Jack Zillig. Ayes: 15. Nays: 0. Absent-Richard Runde and John Rutherford. Absent: 2.

HYLENE ANDERSON, Chairperson of the Social and Environmental Committee informed the board that Chip Roddick, Paul Hansen and Gordon Coursen will draft a new Lodging Ordinance for review at the May committee meeting.

DR. RUTH SMITH, President of Highland Community College, presented the board with a packet of information on Highland College and gave a personal report on the progress of the college.

DON CRAWFORD, Chairman of the Executive Committee reported that the Government Administration Committee will address the issue of lighting in the Courthouse parking lot.

Don also informed members that the General Salary Plan that will work in with the performance review for appointed department heads is almost complete and will be presented to the full board soon.

A RESOLUTION transferring \$9,000 from the General Fund to the Tourism Fund to be used to pay bills approved for payment by the County Board in the month of April and providing authorization for the County Board Chairperson to sign the bank loan documents with the Galena State Bank dated January 15, 1998 under which the CVB previously borrowed the amount of

\$87,800, with the CVB/Tourism Fund to repay both the bank loan and the interfund loan from the General Fund by November 1, 1998 was approved following of motion made by Vincent Hasken.

Motion carried by roll call vote: Ayes-Hylene Anderson, Ronald Buening, Clifford Carroll, Don Crawford, John Creighton, Judith Gratton, Vincent Hasken, Larry Lyons, William McFadden, Charlice Offenheiser, Domer Schubert, Lynn Sisler, James Slaats and Jack Zillig. Ayes: 14. Nays-Merri Berlage. Nays: 1. Absent-Richard Runde and John Rutherford. Absent: 2.

VINCENT HASKEN, Chairman of the Finance Committee reported that the fixed asset inventory has been completed and each department will review relative portions of the inventory and a procedure will be established to update it.

A SPECIAL USE PERMIT will be issued to Rockford Blacktop, lessee and Neal Ehrler, owner, for the operation of a temporary limestone quarry/borrow pit in an older unused quarry at 8300 Stagecoach Trail, Galena, with conditions and restrictions as recommended by the Planning Commission following approval of a motion made by Don Crawford, seconded by Ronald Buening.

Motion carried by roll call vote: Ayes-Hylene Anderson, Ronald Buening, Don Crawford, John Creighton, Judith Gratton, Vincent Hasken, Larry Lyons, William McFadden, Charlice Offenheiser, Domer Schubert, Lynn Sisler, James Slaats and Jack Zillig. Ayes: 13. Nays-Merri Berlage and Clifford Carroll. Nays: 2. Absent-Richard Runde and John Rutherford. Absent: 2.

A SPECIAL USE PERMIT will be issued to Steven Ehrler for the operation of a county business containing two office spaces at 7450 West Stagecoach Trail, Galena, following approval of a motion made by Hylene Anderson, seconded by William McFadden.

Motion carried by voice vote.

PAUL HANSEN, Zoning Administrator, reported that the quarterly report for building and hearing fees was running very close to last year's report.

THE ISSUE of utilities trenching along right of ways was directed to the Public Works Committee for further investigation.

A MOTION authorizing the CVB to enter into the management of the Old Train Depot Visitor Information Center, in partnership with the City of Galena, at a cost not to exceed \$25,000 per year, which will be offset by revenues generated by Jo Daviess County Tourism businesses, was made by James Slaats, seconded by William McFadden.

Vincent Hasken questioned the dollar figure attached to the motion. He was under the impression that it would only be equal to the fees coming in. He understood that it would be self-supporting.

It was mutually agreeable with James Slaats and William McFadden to withdraw the original motion as presented and replace it with a new motion.

The CVB will assume management of the Depot Visitor Information Center, in partnership with the City of Galena, with the CVB not incurring any expenses or liability in excess of revenue generated by fees, in any annual period following approval of a motion made by James Slaats, seconded by William McFadden.

Motion carried by voice vote with a nay vote recorded for Merri Berlage.

AUTHORIZATION will be given to the CVB to enter into the management of the Old Market House Visitor Information Center, in partnership with the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency, at no additional cost to the CVB, using existing staff following approval of a motion made by James Slaats, seconded by Ronald Buening.

Motion carried by voice vote.

UNDER NEW BUSINESS, Chairperson Gratton reminded the board of the Special County Board Meeting to be held at River Ridge High School in Elizabeth at 7 p.m. to deal with the topic of the prison. Odie Washington, Director of the Department of Corrections, will be attending.

A tentative agenda was distributed to the board for comments or suggestions of change and discussion was held on the format of the meeting.

YOUTH AND GOVERNMENT DAY will be held on April 30. Chairperson Gratton, Merri Berlage and Ronald Buening volunteered to attend.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS included remarks from Daniel Downey from Galena in disapproval of the prison issue.

ED DuPLESSIS of Galena commented that the 2020 Vision Statement does not mix with the operation of a prison in Jo Daviess County. He feels a prison is wrong for tourism.

JIM BARANSKI stated that there are people distressed over the sudden decision of the prison and asked that the citizens of the County be allowed to express their feelings at the meeting next week.

THE MEETING ADJOURNED following a motion made by Clifford Carroll, seconded by Ronald Buening.

Motion carried by voice vote.

Chairperson Judith Gratton adjourned the meeting at 8:20 p.m. until the Special Board Meeting to be held at 7 p.m. on Monday, April 20, 1998 at the River Ridge High School Gym, Elizabeth, Illinois.

Jean Dimke, County Clerk