

COMMITTEE REPORT

COMMITTEE: Social & Environmental
CHAIRPERSON: Jack Zillig
DATE/TIME: September 20, 2007

PRESENT:

Bernece Hill

Mike Lorig

Marv Schultz

Margie Montelius

Yerda Potter

Jack Zillig

Other Board Members:

Others: Dan Reimer, Wayne Mormann, Rich Machala, Peg Murphy, Matt Calvert

MINUTES

Jack Zillig called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

1. Minutes

Mike Lorig made a motion to approve the committee minutes of August 16 and August 23, 2007. Marv Schultz seconded and the motion passed.

2. Citizens' Comments – none

3. Unfinished Business

- a) Department and committee goals. Zillig stated that the major goal this committee is working toward is the office improvement plan. The committee asked if the storage area behind the board room was cleaned out and Schultz replied that it had but there is still more to do. The committee asked about the third floor storage and County Administrator Dan Reimer stated that many of the Treasurer's books were moved to the basement, but much of the reorganization upstairs needs to wait until the roof is completed and the interior space is stabilized. The committee asked where the election machines are stored.
- b) 2008 Office improvement plan. Wayne Mormann of All-Systems would like the committee to prioritize which offices he should work on and in which order. His recommendation is: 1) GIS/Assessor, 2) County Clerk room, 3) Assessor office, 4) County Clerk office, 5) Recorder Office, and 6) Treasurer's office. The committee discussed the price estimates for each office and discussed the possibilities at length. The committee discussed how much to ask for as an unfunded request. Mormann stated that once the drawings are prepared, a more accurate price will be available. The goal is to design the rooms while staying within a budget. Bernece Hill made a motion to place the highest priority on room 101 (GIS/Assessor) and room 108 (County Clerk) and direct Wayne Mormann to prepare preliminary drawings for those two rooms. Lorig seconded and the motion passed. The committee discussed subsequent priorities. The committee discussed if the requested work for the Sheriff's Office should be included in this priority list and Reimer stated that request went through the joint meeting process and is already on the list of unfunded requests. Lorig made a motion to adopt the subsequent priorities for courthouse office improvements as presented by Wayne Mormann of All-Systems in

the following order: Recorder Office room 104, County Clerk office (Jean Dimke), Assessor's Office room 105, and Treasurer's Office. Hill seconded and the motion passed. Mormann will contact the County Administrator's Office when the drawings are ready; the next committee meeting is scheduled for October 11 and the final unfunded requests will be chosen at the budget workshop on October 18. He will try to have the preliminary drawings finished for the committee meeting on October 11. The committee would like to have the department heads involved as priorities attend the October 11 meeting.

4. Staff Reports

- a) Transit. Rich Machala reviewed the medical transportation report with the committee and stated that several payments have been received this month from the state. The passenger counts continue to be up this year. Machala discussed SB0572 and the amendments that have been added to it regarding the downstate public transportation funding. Much of the funding is for Chicago and the suburbs, but there are 15 downstate counties included and Jo Daviess is one of them. Machala asked the committee to ask for support from the local legislative representatives; he spoke with Mr. Sacia who has not seen the bill yet but would support it. The governor is opposed to this bill. Hill made a motion to move forward SB0572/HB3667 and associated amendments for new appropriation funding purposes as part of the downstate public transportation fund to the Legislative Committee which is scheduled to meet September 28. Lorig seconded and the motion passed. Machala will attend the meeting.
- b) Health Department. Peg Murphy reported that the Board of Health met last night to discuss the salary survey performed by Honkamp & Krueger. The board did adopt the recommendation and she reported that the changes were minimal and will not significantly change their proposed budget. Zillig asked about the idea of a drug court and if it will increase the costs for the County. Murphy stated that Pike County has this drug court and there were no increased costs. She stated that the drug court meets with people individually and makes sure that they have drug testing on a regular basis and are getting treatment. She also stated that all the counties that have drug courts have been able to turn people around and remove some of the burden on the court system. The committee discussed that there will be some costs involved. Hill stated that representatives from Pike County are willing to come and address how they are able to keep costs down. Schultz recommended that the Law & Courts Committee should hear about it before sending to the County Board. Hill reported that once someone has gone through the regular judicial process then the drug court ensures that the person fulfills the program required by the judicial court. Hill made a motion to make a recommendation that the issue of establishing a drug court is brought to the Law Enforcement & Courts Committee. Lorig seconded and the motion passed with Yerda Potter voting no. Murphy clarified that the Alcohol & Other Substance

Abuse Committee recommended that the County look at using the drug court. Murphy also reported that the Public Health Foundation is going to apply to be a 501(c)3 with the IRS so that they can accept donations. Matt Calvert distributed septic and well permit figures dating back to 1990; permit numbers are down this year compared to the same period last year. This information mirrors the information on building permits. Zillig asked about abandoned wells and Calvert stated that the office will go out and inspect those wells when they are found and that there is a cost-sharing program through the Soil & Water Conservation District to assist property owners in sealing abandoned wells. Calvert also received a grant from the Dubuque Community Foundation to fund sealing wells. He stated that West Nile Virus cases are up to 34 human cases in Illinois. They have sent in five birds for testing and all have come back negative. He also reported that all school districts have been advised that their concession stands must be inspected. There was an outbreak in rashes in the state caused by the oak leaf gall itch mite. The rash is severe and lasts up to two weeks. There were two possible, one confirmed, cases in Jo Daviess County. There have been 14 confirmed cases of Lyme's disease in 2007. Murphy reported that the first flu clinic will be in October.

5. New Business – none

6. Citizens' Comments – none

7. Board Member Concerns

Schultz asked if this committee is going to change their meeting time and Zillig stated that the committee is not going to make a change at this time.

Meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m. following a motion by Potter and seconded by Lorig.