

COMMITTEE REPORT

COMMITTEE: Executive Committee
CHAIRPERSON: Ron Mapes
DATE/TIME: September 7, 2010 @ 7:00 pm

PRESENT:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Merri Berlage	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ron Mapes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Marv Schultz
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dane Jackson	<input type="checkbox"/> Bill Cooper	<input type="checkbox"/> Margie Montelius
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jody Carroll	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ron Smith	

Other Board Members: None
Others: Dan Reimer and Terry Kurt

Ron Mapes called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and read the third floor evacuation policy.

1. Minutes Approval

Motion to approve minutes for August 02, 2010 was made by Jody Carroll and seconded by Merri Berlage, motion carried.

Chairman Mapes pulled item 3c forward at this time.

US EPA – Blackjack Road Project Update – Dan Reimer introduced Len Zintke Region 5 On-Scene Coordinator for the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and Michelle Tebrugge from Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (ILEPA). Len discussed the status of the Bausch-Grey mine located on Blackjack Road. Over the years storm water runoff has carried mine tailings, testing positive for lead and arsenic, off the site to neighboring properties. Residential property across the road has been affected and the EPA has begun a remediation process. Zintke informed the Committee that if they have any legal questions they should contact USEPA Attorney Tom Turner. Due to contaminated drinking water, the current owners of the mine did pay to have a water filtration system installed at the residence adjacent to the mine. Zintke gave a power point presentation of the area and discussed the clean up process and planned time-critical removal actions including: removal of contaminated mine tailings from the property across the road from the mine, remediation of roadside ditches, and a storm water plan which will be implemented to contain mine tailings in the event of future large rain events impacting Blackjack road and residential property. Activities associated with time-critical remediation will take several months. A USEPA command post will be set up at the site. After time-critical actions are completed the next major step is placing the site on the NPL list and actual remediation of the mine site. Tebrugge informed the Committee that the USEPA would like to schedule an availability session (open house) regarding time-critical activities, probably in the next couple of weeks at a location to be determined in the Galena area. Some of the locations for the availability sessions that were suggested included Turner Hall or Public Library in Galena or the Rice Township Building. In the past they have done an afternoon and an evening session. Tebrugge will work with Dan Reimer, County Administrator, to set a time and location for the availability session.

2. Citizens' Comments – None

3. Unfinished Business

- a) Jo Daviess County Strategic Plan – Ron Mapes reviewed strategic goals and associated timelines for the executive committee. This item will remain on the agenda.
- b) Continuity of Operations Plan – Marvin Schultz reported that Colin Fulrath has been working with FEMA and was not able to have the plan ready for review in time for this meeting. This item will remain on the agenda.
- c) US EPA – Blackjack Road Project - See above. This item will remain on the agenda.

4. New Business

- a) 2011 Legal Holiday Schedule. Dan Reimer reported that last month the County Board approved the holiday schedule as presented by the 15th Judicial Circuit Court. Subsequent to that action, Judge Kelly wrote a letter to the County Board requesting that due to a second year of employee pay freezes that Lincoln’s Birthday, February 11, be reinstated as a legal holiday for Jo Daviess County. **Dane Jackson made a motion to move forward the request of reinstating Lincoln’s Birthday, February 11, to the Jo Daviess County Legal Holiday list. Seconded by Jody Carroll and motion passed.**
- b) Derinda Road Tower – co locate request. Ron Mapes informed the committee that Aero Inc, an internet provider is interested in co-locating on the Derinda Road Tower owned by Jo Daviess County. Aero proposed a monthly amount for renting space on the tower. Dan Reimer suggested that there be more research on items such as; possible interfere with current frequencies, possible tower changes as a result of the Communication Upgrade Study, what are the liabilities and is the offer competitive . **Marvin Schultz made a motion to send the request to the Law Enforcement and Courts Committee for review. Seconded by Merri Berlage and motion passed.**
- c) FFY11 Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) Grant. Ron Mapes discussed with the Committee that this request would normally go to the Law Enforcement and Courts Committee but it was received after their August meeting and the deadline for submittal is before their next meeting. Dane Jackson commented that this is a grant that is applied for every year. **Dane Jackson made a motion to move forward the FFY11 Hazardous Material Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) Grant application forward to the County Board for approval. Seconded by Ron Smith and motion passed.**
- d) Inter-committee comments and discussions
 - i. Jody Carroll reported that the Public Works Committee is moving forward to the County Board the revised Flood Plain Ordinance. Due to flood damage the Public Works Committee is considering options for constructing a temporary crossing at Bethel Road until a new bridge can be construction. Steve Keeffer will be sending a letter to IDOT to let them know that Jo Daviess County is not interested in the responsibility of the Hwy 20 Scenic Tower. The weed commissioner is currently working on a complaint which will be brought back to the Committee.
 - ii. Ron Smith reported that the Finance, Tax and Budget Committee conducted four joint committee budget meetings in August. Budget workshops will start

October 5th. He gave a report on the LRA and that they have sold some property recently to Eastland Feed and Seed.

- iii. Merri Berlage reported that the Legislative Committee would be canceling the September meeting. The committee is working on a prevailing wage article to publish in the local newspapers. Marvin Schultz reported that he discussed the issues of prevailing wages at the County Board Chairmen's meeting and the idea of setting a threshold amount before prevailing wages would be mandatory, perhaps at \$20,000 which is the threshold for formula bidding requirements. There seemed to be support from other RC&D counties.
- iv. Dane Jackson reported that the Law Enforcement and Courts Committee will be sending forward a recommendation to award the Courthouse gutter project to Geisler Brothers of Dubuque, IA. The committee reviewed the sprinkler system inspection report and requested that estimates be solicited to make the repairs listed. He reported that there has been an unofficial report that Jo Daviess County was successful in its application for a \$100,000 EECSBG energy block grant.
- v. Marvin Schultz reported that the Liquor Commission approved a liquor license for the Council Hill Store. He reported that there has not been word on the Broadband grant yet. He informed the committee that the Governor has sent a request to the President to declare the counties in flood disaster area a Federal Disaster for public agencies.
- vi. Ron Mapes reported that the Development and Planning Committee received a request from the Village of Elizabeth and as a result sent a letter to the Freeport Enterprise Zone in support of extending the Enterprise Zone to three project locations in Elizabeth. Mapes also reported that the Port District has requested \$1,600 for start up expenses which will be placed on the agenda for the next Development and Planning Committee meeting. Marvin Schultz suggested that maybe Jo Daviess County could provide the Port District with part of their request in FY10.
- vii. Dan Reimer reported that he is pleased that Jo Daviess County will be receiving an energy efficiency conservation block grant and it will be needed if the Public Safety building HVAC project is to be completed in the coming year. Shive Hattery is nearing completion of final design work for the project. Reimer suggested that the County should next approve the drawings and proceed with the RFP process, yet this fiscal year, and start the construction phase in FY2011. Reimer informed the committee that second quarter sales tax receipts in Jo Daviess County were up 7% from prior year. The year to date statewide amount was up 2.4%, and the Jo Daviess County .25% supplemental sales tax is up 4.5%. He also reported that no new home building permits were issued in August and for the first time in 10 months, recorded deeds were less than prior year. There was discussion on assessed values and what properties are selling at in the area. Reimer reviewed an updated General Fund target spreadsheet which indicated after the joint meetings and the round 2 revenue estimates there is a current deficit in the amount of \$148,414. This includes removing the Jo Daviess County Transit

budget from the General Fund. At the same time last year the deficit was \$296,000 and ended up at \$219,000 when the budget was adopted.

5. Board Member Concerns – Ron Mapes discussed that he has received a number of calls regarding the increased guest accommodation fees. The Committee discussed that this was one of the fees that was included in the cost study and the amount that the County raised the fee was suggested in the study. Ron Mapes asked to have this issue placed on the Development and Planning agenda.
6. Citizens' Comments – None.
7. Closed Session -
A motion to enter into closed session at 8:55 was made by Marvin Schultz and seconded by Merri Berlage.
A motion to re-convene at 9:21 was made by Dane Jackson and seconded by Merri Berlage.
8. Possible action as a result of closed session. None

Next regular meeting is scheduled for October 4, 2010 at 6:00 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 9:22 p.m. following a motion by Merri Berlage and seconded by Ron Smith.