

## COMMITTEE REPORT

**COMMITTEE:** Social & Environmental  
**CHAIRPERSON:** Margie Montelius  
**DATE/TIME:** Monday, September 16, 2002, 7:00 p.m.

**PRESENT:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Berlage	<input type="checkbox"/> Lyons	<input type="checkbox"/> Schubert
<input type="checkbox"/> Bielenda	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Montelius	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sisler
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Breckenridge	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Potter	<input type="checkbox"/> Stoffregen
<input type="checkbox"/> Carroll	<input type="checkbox"/> Powers	<input type="checkbox"/> Toepfer
<input type="checkbox"/> Creighton	<input type="checkbox"/> Rosenthal	<input type="checkbox"/> Zillig
<input type="checkbox"/> Hasken	<input type="checkbox"/> Rutherford	

Others: John Rutherford, Duane Olivier, Peg Murphy, Diane Williams and other visitors.

### **SUBJECT OF MEETING: Regular Meeting MINUTES**

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairperson Montelius.

Yerda Potter made a motion to approve the minutes of August 19, 2002. Motion was seconded by Lynn Sisler and passed.

#### Staff Reports

##### Health Dept:

- The line item for the Tobacco Control grant, which was supposed to be \$20,000 is now \$0.00. The state has had to re-allocate that money and used it elsewhere. Murphy reported that the Health Department will go ahead with any school presentations that were already scheduled.
- Illinois has surpassed all other states for occurrences of West Nile virus. The state testing labs are overworked and money will likely be taken from the Health Protection Grant.
- A local Bioterrorism Committee is being convened per the requirements of a grant received.
- No more birds are being sent in for West Nile virus testing.

#### Budget

Chairperson Montelius reported that this committee's work on the budget is on schedule. Duane Olivier distributed a Budget Worksheet and summarized the information on page 2. (Attached). Without considering the pass-through grant for JDWI/Transit, the budget is about 98.8% of the current year.

John Rutherford spoke on behalf of the Stephenson County Senior Center. They are proposing a line item of \$8170; 95% of the previous year to fall in line with the other departments. Discussed the source of Federal funds under the Older American Act. The

amount for Solid Waste remains the same as the previous two years. Discussed the American Legion request for veterans' grave markers.

Visitor Don Gereau of JDWI clarified that the pass-through grant is used as matching funds for Federal grants and discussed an increase in JDWI's costs, especially insurance.

- Sisler made a motion to approve budget item NICA Golden Meals Grant for \$8424. Merri Berlage seconded and motion passed.
- Sisler made a motion to approve budget item Stephenson County Senior Center for \$8170. Dorte Breckenridge seconded and motion passed.
- Potter made a motion to approve budget item JDWI Transit/Medical Transp. for \$8500. Breckenridge seconded and motion passed.
- Sisler made a motion to approve budget item JDWI/Transp. Grant for \$138,193. Berlage seconded and motion passed.
- Sisler made a motion to approve budget item Solid Waste for \$7000. Breckenridge seconded and motion passed.
- Sisler made a motion to approve budget item Veteran grave markers for \$990. Breckenridge seconded and motion passed with Potter and Berlage voting no.

### 708 Board Budget

Olivier distributed a Preliminary worksheet for the Tax Levy (attached) and identified how the estimated dollar amount was arrived at and where the funds will go. The Social Security Fund, IMRF and Insurance funds have no increase in levy despite costs going up. The Extension Education Fund levy remains the same. Illinois requires the ten cent, five cent and five cent levies on Highway, Bridge and Federal Aid Funds in order to qualify for state matching grants. The Health and 708 Mental Health funds have the same rate applied, which equates to an increase in dollars. The Corporate Fund rate is increased to balance the levies, but equates to a decrease in dollars.

Don Gereau of the Jo Daviess County Workshop questioned the rates and commented that Springfield has no additional support for services. Services in the community will diminish. Gary Jobgen commented that the role of the 708 Board is to see that the needs of citizens with special needs are met. The 708 Board needs an extra \$6000 for their budget. Each year the amount of money they are able to distribute is less. Vickie Gratton of Riverview Center stated that they had no knowledge that departments were being asked to cut their budgets. They need the local dollars to apply for matching grants and are not allowed to charge for their services. They do appreciate the support that the County has given them. Dan Neal of Jane Addams questioned the cap on the estimated tax levy and how new construction fits in.

- Sisler made a motion to approve the budget item for 708 Mental Health for \$271,191. Potter seconded and the motion passed. The breakdown of the 708 budget will be needed within the next three weeks.

## Guest Accommodations/Life Safety Code

Olivier distributed a memo and supporting documentation, including a memo from Glen Weber (attached). He summarized the information stating that before 1995 there were no codes covering construction in Jo Daviess County. When the Life Safety Code was adopted for Guest Accommodations facilities only and does not cover any other facilities. Weber has determined that the County has no liability if it does not adopt a code and even when adopted the County has no liability if some requirement of the code is not enforced. Olivier suggested that the 2002 and 2003 guest accommodations licenses be issued without application of the "secondary means of escape" provisions and that an amendment to the Guest Accommodations Ordinance be considered eliminating retroactive application of the "secondary means of escape" provisions unless significant reconstruction occurs in a unit. The Ordinance needs to have clear language by the summer of 2003.

- Sisler made a motion to move ahead with the 2002 and 2003 licenses and deal with the Life Safety Code by June of 2003. Berlage seconded and the motion passed with a no vote from Potter.

Merri Berlage suggested that someone from this committee should attend the next meeting of the 708 Board, scheduled for November 6, 2002, 7:00 p.m. at Choices.

Next meeting of the Social and Environmental Committee is October 21, 2002, 7:00 p.m.

- Sisler made a motion to adjourn at 9:05 p.m. Berlage seconded and the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,  
Diane Williams