

## COMMITTEE REPORT

**COMMITTEE:** Social and Environmental Committee  
**CHAIRPERSON:** Don Hill, Chairman  
**DATE/TIME:** February 15, 2018, 7:00 p.m.

**PRESENT:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Don Hill	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bob Heurman
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bill Bingham	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Martin Werner
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brandon Behlke	<input type="checkbox"/> RJ Winkelhake
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Maryanne Bennett	

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** None

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Kathy Gable, Rich Machala, Trina Orr, Dan Reimer and Elizabeth Townsend

1. **Minutes Approval**

- a) Minutes from the December 21, 2017 Social & Environmental Committee meeting - Bill Bingham made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 21, 2017 Social & Environmental Committee meeting. Seconded by Bob Heurman and motion passed.

2. **Citizens' Comments:** None

3. **Unfinished Business**

- a) FY2017/FY2018 Strategic Goals & Plans – Elizabeth Townsend, Public Health Administrator reported that on January 12, 2018 the Health Department closed on the purchase of four properties in Elizabeth. On February 7, 2018 the Board of Health approved a contract with Delta 3 Engineering for professional services associated with the Health Department/Dental Program Consulting, Design and Project Management Services Project. Delta 3 has started design for the new facility in Elizabeth. They are considering using two of the existing buildings – 200 E. Myrtle Street and 105 N. Madison Street. Plans should be available for the next Board of Health meeting. After that they will go into demolition of the site and also start advertising for some of their dental positions.

1. **New Business**

- a) Discussion and possible action to approve the purchase of six (6) new Para-Scope MDT Units and associated software for an estimated total purchase cost of \$6,284.00 – Rich Machala discussed that in 2012 the County purchased 12 MDT/AVL “Ranger” units and software at a cost of \$89,026. The County received a \$50,000 capital grant from IDOT to help offset the purchase. After receiving the units and software it was determined that the included automated scheduling module did not serve the County needs so it was returned in exchange for 2 more units and software. Since 2012, medical trips have increased considerably and the minivans are used on a daily basis and the County has added three more vehicles to the fleet. If approved, the additional units would automate the Dispatching and Automated Vehicle Location systems for all current vehicles in service and greatly reduce staff time used to manually enter trips that are run by vehicles not on the current automated system. When you have six vehicles out there without any electronic communications it is added work for someone in the Workshop or Transit to prepare paper copies of what they are doing and then input the information into the system Machala recommended that we plan for future replacement of all the units. So far none have failed. **Brandon Behlke made a motion to approve the purchase of six (6) new Para-Scope MDT units and associated software for an estimated total purchase cost of \$6,284.00. Seconded by Bill Bingham and motion passed.**

- b) Discussion on the possibility of a Resolution that would give the Jo Daviess County Board of Health authority over all Animal Control contracts and other decision making – Elizabeth Townsend discussed that the Board of Health would like to have the authority to make all decisions associated with the Animal Control program. Two years ago when the Animal Control Department was transferred from the Highway Department to the Health Department, she still recalls the board meeting where yes, the Board of Health would oversee that program. However, some service contracts still are required to go from the Board of Health to the Social & Environmental Committee and then to the County Board for approval. When Animal Control was transferred to the Health Department the Animal Control fund was closed out and any remaining revenue was transferred to the general fund. The Public Health fund provided startup funds to support that program until it could be paid back. Townsend feels that Animal Control is now a Health Department program and she would like a resolution put together stating that the Board of Health does not have to go to the County Board for approval of any contracts or any other items associated with Animal Control. If the Health Department does not have oversight of Animal Control, Townsend feels the program should go back to the county or the Sheriff department to do oversight. Dan Reimer discussed that State's Attorney, John Hay did some research and based on a prior Attorney General opinion determined that the Board of Health does not have the authority to approve and sign certain contracts associated with Animal Control services, such as the Dubuque Regional Humane Society contract. Reimer agreed with Townsend that the current approval process is time consuming and cumbersome. This item is on tonight's agenda for discussion purposes only. There is a provision in the statute that could allow the County Board to delegate authority to the Board of Health to approve and sign Animal Control service contracts. An ordinance or resolution is required. Don Hill requested that a resolution be drafted and brought back for consideration at the next meeting.

## 2. Staff Reports

- a) Jo Daviess County PCOM – Rich Machala, Jo Daviess County Program Compliance Oversight Monitor (PCOM), reviewed his PCOM report that was included in the informational packet. Both the 2018 Federal and the 2018 State grant agreements, which were received late from IDOT, have been submitted to IDOT. Requisitions have been submitted for the first and second quarter; however we have not received any payments yet. Machala has received the final FY18 contract for the Federal 5311 grant. He has requested the transfer of a used 2005 Chevrolet – Uplander minivan from a not-for-profit agency in Effingham, IL. This vehicle has only 33,394 logged miles on the odometer and based on the information provided by the current operator, it has no major mechanical problems. The vehicle has some rust, but nothing that cannot be repaired by Transit staff. Trina Orr has accepted the position of Grants Administrator/PCOM. Trina started her new position on February 1<sup>st</sup>.
- b) Jo Daviess County Transit – Kathy Gable, Jo Daviess County Transit Director, handed out and reviewed her report. Her mechanics completed repair on a bus for Freeport. They were able to save Freeport around \$5,000 which proves how cost effective it is to have our own mechanics in house. Mike Healy, IDOT, has mentioned that he would like to see Jo Daviess County become a repair center for IDOT funded transportation departments. Gable met with the head of the Dubuque paratransit company, RTA. We are very comparative to their monthly trips. It was beneficial to compare notes with a transportation department in close proximity to our office and they will try to meet once a quarter.
- c) Public Health – Elizabeth Townsend, Jo Daviess County Public Health Administrator, reported that they will be starting a lab draw program in March. Anyone that is low income

or doesn't have insurance or their insurance doesn't cover certain lab work will be accepted. A physician's order is needed to use the program. Townsend commented that the Health Department has been in the Hush Report three different times in the last three weeks. She wants to make sure that information about the Health Department and their projects and the funding is accurate. It is really important for the residents of this County to understand what the Health Department is doing, why they are doing it, and where the funding is coming from. Townsend thanked everyone for their support and she is really excited about what they are going to embark on. She feels it is going to be one of the best things that has happened in this County in a long time.

d) Mental Health Board – Brandon Behlke commented that Freeport Health Network has had a change of heart with their programs in Jo Daviess County including the pilot program that we are working on with the jail. The 708 Mental Health Board will be meeting to discuss what to do with the grant money that FHN would have received. Galena Clinic will be taking over the pilot program with the jail. FHN and Galena Clinic offer similar services; however Galena Clinic was able to offer more.

e) Other Boards – None.

3. **Citizens' Comments:** None.

4. **Board Member Concerns:** None

Motion to adjourn was made at 7:41 p.m. by Brandon Behlke, seconded by Martin Werner and motion passed.