

COMMITTEE REPORT

COMMITTEE: Legislative Committee

CHAIRPERSON: John Lang

DATE/TIME: March 20, 2019

PRESENT:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> John Lang	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hendrica Regez	<input type="checkbox"/> Scott Toot	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LaDon Trost
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ron Smith	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> John Schultz	<input type="checkbox"/> Vacant	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Don Zillig

A quorum was established.

Other Board Members:

Others: Dan Reimer and Sheriff Turner

1. **Call to Order** – Chairman Lang called the meeting to order at 11:04 a.m.
2. **Minutes Approval** –
 - a) Don Zillig made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 16, 2019 Legislative Committee meeting. Seconded by John Schultz and motion carried.
 - b) Don Zillig made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 20, 2019 Legislative Committee meeting. Seconded by John Schultz and motion carried.
3. **Citizens' Comments:** None.
4. **Unfinished Business:**
 - a) Fiscal year 2019 Strategic Goals and Plans – Chairman Lang commented that it is not necessary to review our goals and plans at this time. We continue to work on them.
 - b) Review status of Prevailing Wage Legislation – HB2781 – John Lang commented that there is going to be a hearing this afternoon. They reviewed who has submitted witness slips. There is some support for this bill. The bill was originally in the full committee, and then was moved to a sub-committee. John Lang explained how to submit the witness slips.
 - c) Review status of 1% Service Tax – HB2780 – The committee reviewed the witness slips for this bill. There is only one slip in opposition to this bill.
5. **New Business:**
 - a) Discussion and possible action on a Resolution in Support of HB2780 Counties Added Hotel Revenue – Scott Toot informed that committee that he had talked to Representative Chesney who asked that the County Board would go on the records to pass a resolution to support these two bills. Chesney is continuing to support these bills. It might be a possibility because of the opposition they have had to amend this to read counties of less than 30,000 people that are bordered by Wisconsin and Iowa which there is only one. Chesney thought it would make it a little easier to go through. **John Schultz made a motion to approve a Resolution in Support of HB2780 Counties Added Hotel Revenue. Seconded by LaDon Trost and motion carried.**
 - b) Discussion and possible action on a Resolution in Support of HB2781 Prevailing Wage Waiver - \$20,000 – **LaDon Trost made a motion to approve a Resolution in Support of**

HB2781 Prevailing Wage Waiver - \$20,000. Seconded by Don Zillig and motion carried.

- c) Getting UCCI to support HB2780 and HB2781 –
 - d) Having Greater Galena Marketing, Inc. (GGMI) support HB2780 – Scott Toot commented that we will be meeting with GGMI next week at the Ad-Hoc DMO Committee meeting and will discuss their support of HB2780.
 - e) Review of other bills the Legislative Committee needs to support – The committee took a look at HB158 – Local Government Distributive Fund to see where that is at. This bill is up in the House for a passage vote. If this bill passes in the House we will need to do witness slips in the Senate because everything starts over again there. This is a very important bill for us. It amends the Income Tax Act to bring the level of Local Government Distributive Fund payments to counties and municipalities back up to 10%. It could be an additional \$600,000 for Jo Daviess County by 2023. Another bill is HB2124 – Open Meetings Act. It is on the counter for a final vote. There were no opponents to this bill. Sheriff Turner commented that HB2308 and HB2309 are of interest to the Sheriff Department. Both bills are on the third reading. They are ready to come up for vote in the General Assembly.
 - f) Governor Pritzker Tax Plan and Budget – John Lang handed out information on the governor’s income tax plan and budget for the committee to review.
 - g) The Chicago Mayors Race – John Lang commented that right now the two top voters in the primary were Laurie Lightfoot and Tony Periwinkle. They are both very powerful African-American women. This will be a very, very interesting mayoral race. Tony Periwinkle is the Cook County Board Chair as well as the Democratic Chair of Cook County. Laurie Lightfoot is a managing partner in one of the largest law firms in the county.
 - h) Capital Fax – by Rich Miller – The Capital Fax is a newsletter written by Rich Miller. It has a lot of little background stories about Chicago politics. Lang asked committee members to start looking at this and see if it provides them with information they feel we could use as a committee to be more informed of what is going on. Scott Toot encouraged the committee to go to the Illinois Channel on YouTube to watch a video called *Can Illinois Avoid Bankruptcy – Is the progressive tax the solution*. It is really enlightening.
6. **Legislative Looking Glass** – The committee reviewed the current Legislative Looking Glass.
7. **Citizens’ Comments:** Sheriff Turner commented that he will be in Springfield on April 3rd for a Sheriff’s Association Legislative Day. If there is anything the committee would like Sheriff to bring up he can do so at that time. LaDon Trost will be in Springfield March 25 – 26 for a UCCI conference.
8. **Board Member Concerns:** Hendrica Regez asked John Lang if he could attend the Earth Day Fest to educate people how to submit a witness slip on April 23rd at Cross Roads Community Church from 9 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Don Zillig commented that we have forgotten about this part-time firefighters and law enforcement benefits. Zillig feels if we could get the support of the Illinois Sheriffs Association that would help.

9. Next regular meeting – Wednesday, April 17, 2019 at 11:00 a.m.
10. Meeting adjourned at 12:26 p.m. following a motion made by John Schultz, seconded by Don Zillig.