

COMMITTEE REPORT

COMMITTEE: Legislative Committee

CHAIRPERSON: John Lang

DATE/TIME August 22, 2019

PRESENT:

John Lang Hendrica Regez Scott Toot LaDon Trost
 Ron Smith John Schultz Diane Gallagher Don Zillig

A quorum was established.

Other Board Members:

Others:

1. **Call to Order** – Chairman Lang called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m.
2. **Minutes Approval:** None.
3. **Citizens' Comments:** None.
4. **Unfinished Business:**
 - a) Feedback on networking with other County Board members at UCCI Annual Meeting – John Lang commented that one of the reasons we had the Legislative Committee meeting before the UCCI annual meeting was because some of the members of the committee wanted an opportunity to focus on some issues. Don Zillig added that he talked to McCreary and thanked him for his support of the 1% tax. Hendrica Regez added that she talked to the vice-chairman from Stephenson County and some members of Kendall and Carroll Counties. Lang spoke with someone from Lee County who was not aware of the IMRF increases. Lang attended a meet and great with Representative Chesney at Timmerman's and had a chance to talk about issues. Lang plans to extend an invitation to Representative Chesney and Representative Stewart to attend our December committee meeting.
 - b) Any support for HB2780 (Service Tax), HB 2781 (Prevailing Wage), HB158 (Local Government Distributive Fund and having IMRF outside tax caps)? – Discussed above.
5. **New Business:**
 - a) Review SB1217 Hotel Occupation & Use Revenue – now public act – The committee reviewed SB1217. This amends the Illinois Municipal Code. Provides that not less than 75% of the amounts collected by a municipality within DuPage County pursuant to the municipal hotel operators' occupation tax and municipal hotel use tax shall be used to promote tourism within that municipality. Requires that the municipality that belong to a not-for-profit organization headquartered in DuPage County that is recognized by the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity as a certified local tourism and convention bureau entitled to receive State tourism grant funds. Provides that the remainder of the amounts collected may be used by the municipality for economic development or capital infrastructure. Repeals the provisions on January 1, 2021 effectively immediately. John Lang commented that we had some cosponsors from other counties that signed in on the other bill for prevailing wage. That was the first time that bill ever got to a hearing. Lang would have liked a chance to go down to testify on our bill for the 1% service tax. He feels we could have gotten it through. Lang stated the December committee meeting will be very

important with Representative Chesney attending. John Schultz added that we need to thank Representative Chesney on his accomplishments for us so far and ask him what we can do to expedite this process.

- b) Explanation of Grant Accountability Transparency Act (GATA) and how it affects Jo Daviess County – One of the items that was covered at the UCCI conference was the Grant Accountability Transparency Act (GATA). If you get grants from the state you are ranked by your county ability. We hired Trina Orr as the Grants Administrator because we needed to have that accountability factor. Lang is on the Grant Oversight Committee. If you don't have this transparency you are not able to receive grants. It was Hendrica Regez's understanding that GATA would make things easier for Orr. Lang expanded that every time a grant is written, a copy goes to Orr for review. Don Zillig asked if we see a grant that we would like written do we contact Orr?
 - c) Discussion on how the U.S. Supreme Court decision will affect Legislative Districts – This item was also discussed at the UCCI conference. Now that the Court decision has happened we don't know what they are going to come up with when they reapportion. We may end up with the County being in more than one representative or senate district. Right now we are in one district.
 - d) Value of joining the Illinois State Association of Counties – Right now there are three different state associations: UCCI, Association of County Boards and a new one that is mainly made up of the larger counties called the Illinois Association of County Board Members & Commissioners. They do a weekly newsletter that is delivered electronically and is very informative. It could be very useful to us. We will look into the cost of becoming a member.
 - e) Discussion on other legislation the committee needs to know about– The committee discussed other legislation of interest.
6. **Legislative Looking Glass** – The committee reviewed the current Legislative Looking Glass. Every bill that we are looking at is back in rules and is pending at this time.
 7. **Citizens' Comments:** None.
 8. **Board Member Concerns:** Don Zillig would like to see the county get a percentage of the gambling revenue throughout the entire county, not just unincorporated Jo Daviess County. Zillig would also like to see the compensation for the part-time fire fighters and law enforcement officers. Ron Smith would like to see a trust fund set up for the County where people could donate to. Hendrica Regez agreed there should be a Friends of the Courthouse foundation.
 9. Next regular meeting – Wednesday, September 18, 2019 at 1:00 p.m.
 10. Meeting adjourned at 2:16 p.m. following a motion made by John Schultz, seconded by Hendrica Regez.