

COMMITTEE REPORT

COMMITTEE: Executive Committee
CHAIRPERSON: Ron Mapes
DATE/TIME: August 06, 2012 @ 7:00 pm

PRESENT:

Merri Berlage
 Dane Jackson

Ron Mapes
 Bill Cooper

Ron Smith
 Marvin Schultz

Other Board Members: Terry Stoffregen
Others: Dan Reimer and Dave Hachmeister.

Ron Mapes called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

1. Minutes Approval. Dane Jackson made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 2, 2012 meeting. Seconded by Ron Smith and motion passed.
2. Citizens' Comments

Chairman Mapes moved forward item 4a at this time. Discussion and possible action on an ordinance regarding burn ban procedures for Jo Daviess County. Chief Deputy Dave Hachmeister reported that the Jo Daviess County Fire Chiefs had requested that the County consider adopting a burn ban ordinance. There were no Fire Chiefs in attendance at the meeting so Hachmeister presented the draft ordinance that would allow fire departments and fire districts to authorize an emergency burn ban. The committee discussed that more research needed to be done on the proposed ordinance and that it should be sent to the Law Enforcement & Courts and placed on their next committee agenda.

Chairman Mapes moved forward item 4b at this time. Discussion and possible action on placing a question on the November ballot regarding electrical aggregation referendum. Mike Mudge of Rock River Energy Services, Co. discussed government aggregation. Rock River Energy Services is an energy consultant that assists communities with the electrical aggregation process and then continues to help with questions and issues that can arise during the length of the contract with the successful electrical supplier. Rock River Energy Services is paid by the electrical supplier so all of their services would be of no charge to the County. Mudge provided the committee with a handout of frequently asked questions and answers. Section 1-92 of the Illinois Power Agency Act allows for the aggregation of electric load by municipalities and counties (i.e. government aggregation). This means a municipality or county can negotiate for the purchase of the combined electric supply of its residents and eligible small businesses. Only communities in the Ameren and ComEd service territories are pursuing aggregation at this time. A portion of eastern Jo Daviess County is served by ComEd. The Illinois Power Agency Act does not authorize aggregation of customers served by electric cooperatives or by a municipality that owns and operates its own electric distribution system. Mudge informed the committee that all registered voters of the county whether ComEd customers or not would be able to vote on a referendum regarding County aggregation. In the case of Jo Daviess County aggregation would only apply to unincorporated areas of Jo Daviess County that are currently served by ComEd. Voters in the municipalities of Warren and Stockton have already approved aggregation. Ron Mapes asked Mike Mudge to walk through the steps that the County would be responsible for if the referendum is placed on a ballot and approved at election. Mudge stated that by state statute that the County would have to hold two public hearings and the purpose would be to have a plan of operation and governance. This would allow the governmental entity to be an aggregator which provides the County with the authority to enter into a contract. This would

not be a mandatory program for a County residence, each County residence has the power to opt out of the program and continue service with ComEd. The committee discussed the costs that would be involved for the County and who would be responsible for administrating the program. **Marvin Schultz made a motion to place on the County Board agenda without a recommendation from the committee whether the County should place a question on the November ballot regarding electrical aggregation referendum. Seconded by Dane Jackson and motion passed with a nay from Ron Smith.**

3. Unfinished Business

- a) Update from US EPA – Bautsch Gray site on Blackjack Road – Nothing to report at this time. This item will remain on the agenda.
- b) Update on County FOIA requests – The committee reviewed the updated list.
- c) Jo Daviess County Strategic Plan – FY2012 Committee Goals – Nothing new to report at this time. This item will remain on the agenda.
- d) New hire benefits – This item will remain on the agenda.
- e) Update on the Jo Daviess County background check policy – This item will remain on the agenda for next month.
- f) Update on transferring addressing responsibilities from the ETSB to another County Department. Dane Jackson informed the committee that he has been discussing, with Linda Delvaux, Building & Zoning Administrator, the possibility of her department taking over the responsibilities of addressing. Delvaux provided the committee with a proposal for personnel costs if the Building and Zoning Administrative Assistant were to take on addressing responsibilities. The committee discussed that the addressing is currently under the responsibility of the 911 Coordinator and at this time there is no one in that position. This item will remain on the agenda.
- g) Update on the EDA Disaster Program grant and the associated costs. Dan Reimer reported that Theresa Wittenauer, Economic Development Coordinator for the Blackhawk Hills RC&D informed the County that the information submitted in the summary letter for the EDA Disaster Program grant should include more economic development information and statistics. Marvin Schultz will work with grant writer Nancy Lewis to obtain and submit updated information.

4. New Business

- a) Discussion and possible action on an ordinance regarding burn ban procedures for Jo Daviess County. See above.
- b) Discussion and possible action on placing a question on the November ballot regarding electrical aggregation referendum – Marni Henert. See above.
- c) Inter-committee comments and discussions

Dane Jackson, Law Enforcement and Courts Committee reported that they are still working on an intergovernmental agreement with Illinois State Police regarding the use of the Stockton radio communication tower and also with Guilford Township and the Scales Mound Fire District on radio tower agreements. Jackson reported that due to delays in completing the radio communication project the Committee is

recommending a resolution that would allow Comelec Services to receive a partial payment on payment number four of their contract.

Ron Smith, Finance, Tax and Budget Committee reported that Steve Hamilton of Tricor Insurance had presented the Committee with health insurance renewal options. Employee meetings are scheduled for Thursday, August 16, 2012 to inform the County employees of the options for group health insurance. The committee is recommending a resolution to allow multiple service providers to the Jo Daviess County deferred compensation plan. Smith discussed the computer SAN/Server project and the associated funding plan.

Marvin Schultz reported that the July Social and Environmental Committee meeting had been cancelled.

Terry Stoffregen reported that the Information & Communications Committee discussed funding for the computer SAN/Server project. The committee discussed the iFiber project and the County plan for implementation of the iFiber and internet service.

Ron Mapes reported that the Development and Planning Committee voted to send the proposed renewal of the Medicom contract to public hearing. A resolution is being recommended that would provide for a \$200 fee for text amendments that are submitted directly to the Zoning Board of Appeals. Requests for text amendments submitted to the Development & Planning Committee continue to be no charge. The baseline data for the County Comprehensive Plan has been updated by consultant Mike Reibel. The Comprehensive Planning Committee has scheduled a meeting for August 27th to make final arrangements to publicize the update, around September 5th. A copy of the updated Comprehensive Plan will be available in the Courthouse and Public Library for 30 days. The deadline for submitting public comments will be October 5, 2012.

Ron Smith reported on the August 6, 2012 LRA meeting; the LRA is pursuing an EDA grant and Sharon Pepin will be submitting the grant application. Smith updated the Committee on discussions with the Army to transfer the infrastructure at the LRA after the last parcel is transferred. Smith also reported that Restcar is considering another project at the LRA that will employ an additional 25 people.

Dan Reimer shared a timeline from Carlson Dettman Consulting regarding the Jo Daviess County position classification/compensation study. Reimer explained that Barb Petkovsek from Carlson Dettman would like to schedule a Compensation Committee meeting the week of August 13th to establish comparables and benchmark positions. The committee determined that the next Compensation Committee will be on August 14th @ 4:00 pm prior to the County Board meeting. Reimer reviewed budget information and went over the joint budget review meeting schedule and the FY2013 budget guidelines. Reimer reported that at this point in the budget process the projected FY2013 general fund budget deficit is \$21,238.

5. Board Member Concerns
6. Citizens' Comments
7. Closed Session – **Marvin Schultz made a motion to enter closed session at 9:50 pm. Seconded by Ron Smith and motion passed. Dane Jackson made a motion to reconvene at 10:05 pm. Seconded by Terry Stoffregen and motion passed.**

8. Possible action as a result of closed session.

Meeting adjourned at 10:06 p.m. following a motion made by Dane Jackson and seconded by Terry Stoffregen, motion carried.