

**Knox County Board  
Committee on Executive Meeting  
October 15, 2003  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING**

**Call to Order**

Chairman Sally J. Keener called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m. on Wednesday, October 15, 2003, at the Conference Room of the Knox County Administrative Annex Building, 220 E. Simmons St., Galesburg, Illinois.

Members present included (5 of 6):

Sally J. Keener, Chairman  
Bill Abel, Chairman, Committee on Social Services;  
Jerry Link, Chairman, Committee on Highway/Landfill/Zoning;  
Janet Occhi, Chairman, Committee on Planning and Space Allocation; and,  
Allen Pickrel, Chairman, Committee on Public Safety.  
(Absent: Wayne Saline, Chairman, Committee on Finance and Insurance)

Also present were: County Board member Linda Roberts; Robin Davis, Treasurer; Joyce Skinner, Supervisor of Assessments; Corby Schmidt, Zoning Administrator; and, members of the news media.

**Approval of the Minutes**

On motion of Member Occhi, seconded by Member Link, the minutes as distributed were approved by unanimous vote.

**Items for Chairman Sally J. Keener**

Chairman Keener noted that a draft version of the agenda has been provided by the Clerk and that all committee chairmen should see the Clerk if any items are to be added, changed, or deleted.

The Chairman will appoint Paul Way to Knox County Housing Authority and James Nelson to Merit Commission. The December Board meeting is scheduled for December 24th and it is recommended it be moved to Monday, December 22nd. Robin Davis, Treasurer, also requested November 26th meeting be moved to Monday, November 24th due to end of year. Motion by Member Occhi to recommend to the Board the November Board meeting be changed to Monday, November 24th and December Board meeting be changed to Monday, December 22nd seconded by Member Pickrel. Motion carried. Committee meeting schedules may also need to be changed.

**Public Comment**

Jane Johnson questioned if the steering committee with rail corridor relocation plan is subject to Illinois Open Meetings Act. It was recommended she contact the City of Galesburg as the County is not responsible for this project. Alice Stewart addressed the Committee against the relocation plan because her home, which was built four years ago, is in direct line with the proposed railroad.

**Committee on Public Safety Chairman Allen Pickrel**

Member Pickrel reported if all bids come in, his Committee would recommend to accept bid for heating and cooling unit at Courthouse facility.

**County Administrator Alan L. Hallberg (Report by the Chairman)**

Administrator Hallberg is at grants writing seminar. Copies of the telephone contract will go out in the Board packet. There is an increase of \$5.52 per line per month due to fee increases from FCC and State. Mr. Hallberg worked with various offices to clean up phone system and have identified 15 lines to be eliminated, 7-10 within next year. The Administrative Annex does not have a security system at this time. ADT contacted him about possibility of installing at a cost of \$2,985.00 with \$588.00 per year maintenance. This would notify the Public Safety Building and Sheriff's Department if there was a fire, a break-in, if sprinklers accidentally activated, if electrical problems occurred, etc.

**County Treasurer Robin E. Davis**

The Treasurer reported the delinquent tax list went out in the *Register-Mail*. November 18th has been scheduled for the tax sale. The tentative proposed budget is easier to read as County Clerk Marc Wong and the Treasurer changed the format. The general fund has \$50,000 more than expenses. The County is starting to receive federal prisoner money with \$18,000 this month. Ms. Davis commented that all departments are watching their expenses.

The Treasurer reported there will be a resolution to proportionately take out of each fund on run-out (time frame between EBC and Blue Cross/Blue Shield) as there are not enough funds in the Hospitalization Insurance Fund.

**Supervisor of Assessments Joyce Skinner**

Supervisor of Assessments Skinner reported the assessors are within three weeks of finishing work in computer.

**Zoning Administrator Corby Schmidt**

Zoning Administrator Schmidt reported on a request from petitioners to rezone 40 acres of land at extreme southeast corner of Oak Run. It is presently zoned for residential development. It is requested to change to highway business zoning, which includes all business activities possible with special use permits from County Board for lighter industrial uses. The Zoning Board of Appeals has recommended to not approve this item and is on the agenda.

Member Link asked Mr. Schmidt to consider an ordinance for people taking junk cars out to County and leaving them. Property in question is on Wisconsin and Second Avenue. Mr. Schmidt reported this is already in process.

**Committee on Highway/Landfill/Zoning Chairman Gerald Link**

Member Link reported the intersection on CH-4 east of Altona is completed. Temporary seal coat was put on for winter and will resurface next summer. October 24th is the Snow Plow Rodeo at the Galesburg Airport. Knox County will defend their title against the City.

The Committee will ask for approval to bid and bring back bids on new end loader and tandem truck.

The Landfill continues to receive high revenues. Three semis are hauling a large amount of "fluff" from Peoria to the facility. The Landfill opened bids for new dozer and scraper. There were three bidders on the dozer and two on scraper with low bid on both from Altorfer, Inc. Each machine to be traded-in is three years old and has a guaranteed buy-back. Trade-in figure on the dozer is \$119,101, with guaranteed buy-back of \$166,000 this time, \$115,000 for next time. The scraper is \$71,280 with buy-back. Buy-back on both machines is 3 years or 6,000 hours. Mr. Link will ask permission to accept those bids.

#### **Committee on Planning and Space Allocation Chairman Jan Occhi**

Member Occhi reported the Committee will not have the Board consider changes to the liquor, raffle, and fireworks ordinances at the October meeting. The Committee discussed the personnel policy and is seeking suggestions from other Board Members. The Administrative Annex needs supplies, such as a rack of chairs, washroom signage, waste paper baskets and toilet paper holders.

#### **Committee on Social Services Chairman William B. Abel**

Member Abel reported for month of September a deficit of \$349,762.23, year-to-date deficit of \$454,599.70. Actual figures show \$26,867 positive balance for the month of September and year-to-date \$350,626 in the black. The Nursing Home owes nothing to the Landfill. The State paid July and August service in the amount of \$550,509 but owes September in the amount of \$243,122.86. The adult day care will be ready for service November 1st. It will be named "Knox County Community Life Center". The handicapped bathrooms should be completed very soon. Census is 172. The Committee is asking approval to bid and bring back bid contracts for bread and milk. An invitation was sent to every board member and elected official to tour the facility October 15th and October 16th at 2:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.

#### **Executive Session**

Motion to go into executive session to discuss personnel issues by Member Occhi seconded by Member Abel and roll call vote as follows: Ayes - Occhi, Link, Allen, Abel, Keener. Noes - (0). Motion carried.

6:40 p.m. – Return to open session

Chairman Keener reported the City of Galesburg holds executive sessions at the very beginning of every meeting prior to regular meeting. This is something that will be looked into for County Board.

Chairman Keener reported the Committee discussed employment contracts for Corby Schmidt and Alan Hallberg and will make recommendation to Board. Motion by Member Abel to approve four-year contract with Administrator Hallberg with rate increase as presented seconded by Member Link. Motion carried.

Motion by Member Abel seconded by Member Pickrel to return to closed session.

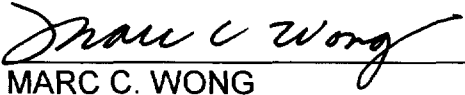
6:46 p.m. – Return to open session

Motion by Member Abel to recommend to Board employment agreement with Zoning Administrator Schmidt for one year with a wage increase to \$37,131, which is a 3% increase, and terms remain the same seconded by Member Pickrel. Motion carried.

**Adjournment**

On motion of Member Link, seconded by Member Occhi, the Committee was adjourned by the Chairman at 6:16 p.m., by unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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MARC C. WONG  
Knox County Clerk and  
Secretary of the Committee

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ (Date)