

LIVINGSTON COUNTY BOARD
MINUTES OF January 17, 2013 MEETING OF THE COUNTY BOARD

OPENING

Chairman Fannin called the meeting to order at 6:00p.m., in the County Board Room of the Historic Courthouse, 112 W. Madison, Pontiac, Illinois.

Vickie Allen led the Pledge of Allegiance. The invocation was provided by David Heath from the River of Life Church.

The clerk called roll with the following **present:** John “Jack” Vietti, Joan Bullard, Tim Shafer, Robert F. Weller, Paul A. Ritter, Kelly Cochran Cohlman, Joseph D. Steichen, Carl Borngasser, Stanley R. Weber, Earl A. Rients, Judy Campbell, Vicki Allen, Randall M. Wittenberg, Bob Young, John L. Yoder, Carolyn Gerwin, William G. Flott, Mark Runyon, Marty Fannin, Ronald L. Kestner and William H. Peterson **Absent:** Kathy Arbogast, G. Michael Ingles and Daryl N. Holt

Also Present: County Clerk Kristy Masching, Alina Hartley-Administrative Resource Specialist, Ryan Ammermann-GAMESA Project Manager, Jiddu Tapia-Gamesa Chief Development Officer, Shane Scott-Algonquin Power Site Manager, Adam Dontz-GLCEDC, John Ward-Caterpillar, Tera Graves-LACC, John Eallonardo (FQC), Daryll Bragg-HVAC Coordinator, David Winters-County Highway Engineer, Zoning Administrator Chuck Schopp, Sheriff Marty Meredith, Detective Sgt. Earl Dutko, and Sgt. Tony Childress, State’s Attorney Seth Uphoff, Linda Daniels-Human Resources Specialist

AGENDA

Chair Fannin commented that Bill Flott would present the Personnel Committee report in the absence of Daryl Holt and Vicki Allen for the IT Committee in the absence of Kathy Arbogast. Adam Dontz-GLCEDC will also be speaking under the presentation section. *Motion by Steichen, second by Bullard to approve the agenda as presented.* **MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL AYES ON VOICE VOTE.**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Fannin called for approval of the amended minutes for November 15, 2012 and the December 20, 2012 minutes. *Motion by Shafer, second by Steichen to approve the amended November 15, 2012 and the December 20, 2012 meeting minutes as presented.* **MOTION CARRIED ON VOICE VOTE.**

PRESENTATION

Minonk Wind Farm: Presentation of Enterprise Zone Payment – Ryan Ammermann-Gamesa Project Manager, Jiddu Tapia-Gamesa Chief Development Officer and Shane Scott-Algonquin Power Site Manager presented a high impact business check for \$825,000.00 to Livingston County as part of the permit terms with the Minonk Wind Farm project. Ryan commended Chuck Schopp on the great job he does and the help they received from him. Jiddu stated that of the 200 wind farms they’ve been involved with worldwide, the Minonk Wind Farm was the largest project they’ve built in their history. He commented that it was a very pleasurable experience and thanked the County for all of their support.

APPEARANCES

GLCEDC – Adam Dontz explained how the GLCEDC is working to fulfill the needs of the businesses community by working as a liaison between the businesses and the public sector of the county. Businesses have indicated that the caliber and quality of the skilled labor workforce needs to be improved. GLCEDC is working with the Livingston Area Career Center and Heartland Community College, to implement adult workforce training classes before June 2013. **Tera Graves** of the Livingston Area Career Center elaborated on the success of the adult CNA program and welding courses they offer. Twelve adult students have completed the welding program, with two more courses being offered this spring and summer. **John Ward** of Caterpillar (GLCEDC Board member) supported the welding program and believes it was a great starting point for the GLCEDC and the County. Through his employment with Caterpillar he has travelled abroad and has seen many successful

government supported training programs for adults. He hopes that in light of the success of the welding program additional training programs can be added to help employ more Livingston County adults. Adam commented that he has been working with many of the county's industrial agencies in conjunction with Heartland Community College, to formalize a curriculum for adult workforce training classes.

Patrick Doggett, Field Representative for Congressman Adam Kinzinger introduced himself to the group.

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of Bills

B. Appointments

- **Gibs Nielson** - Zoning Board of Appeals, five-year term commencing January 18, 2013 – January 17, 2018.
- **Charles Cole** – Reading Community Fire Protection District, term commencing January 17, 2013 – first Monday May 2015 (replaces Leland Berry).
- **Jeremy Haas** – Turtle Creek Outlet Drainage District

Motion to approve all items on the consent agenda by Vietti, second by Weller. **MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE.** **Ayes:** Vietti, Bullard, Shafer, Weller, Ritter, Cochran Cohlman, Steichen, Borngasser, Weber, Riens, Allen, Wittenberg, Young, Yoder, Flott, Runyon, Fannin, Kestner and Peterson **Nays:** Campbell **Abstain:** Gerwin **Absent:** Arbogast, Ingles, Holt

PUBLIC COMMENT REGARDING ACTION ITEMS

None

BUILDING/RENOVATION COMMITTEE

Historic Courthouse Status Update- John Eallonardo (FQC) reviewed the close-out phase of the project as follows: working on documentation for end of project, finalizing and training which will take four to five weeks; are waiting for some window blinds for first floor; and will replace damaged door in elevator.

Law & Justice Center Update – Chair Runyon commented that the committee is addressing some of the outstanding judicial concerns. Daryll Bragg (HVAC) explained the next step to be taken to reduce the noise in the court rooms from the chiller units. He reviewed the proposal for enclosing the opening on the north tower with acoustical panels and adding discharge duct work to force air up and out of the tower. This has been approved by Shiner & Associates (acoustical engineers), and is scheduled for completion by April or May 2013. Dodson's will be performing the work at a cost of \$17,762.00. Discussion followed. Shiner & Associates recommended a three step proposal with the first step being the addition of pavers on the roof. Since this did not reduce the noise level to a tolerable level for the employees, we are proceeding to step two. Shiner & Associates identified the root cause to be not enough mass on the roof to prevent noise from penetrating through. Runyon went on to explain that the committee hopes that they have three of the four issues resolved: the chillers; the noise in the jury deliberation room (ordered door sweeps); and the noise issue in Judge Travers and Fellheimer's staffing area. Glass partitions have been ordered and will be installed in the judges staffing area at a cost of about \$10,000.

HIGHWAY COMMITTEE

Chair Weber introduced David Winters-County Highway Engineer, who reviewed items to be approved on the **Highway Consent Agenda** as follows:

I. Letting Results:

- Letting Results: January 8, 2013

II. Resolution:

- **(#2013-01-01)** Appropriating \$922,175.00 from the County MFT Fund for county highway maintenance expenditures for the calendar year 2013.

III. Bridge Petitions:

- Chatsworth Rd District - Replace S.N. 053-4007 over South Fork Vermilion River at 3125E, 500N. Section 13-06107-04-BR. Estimated cost = \$250,000.

Motion by Weber, second by Campbell to approve the Highway Consent agenda items. MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE. Ayes: Vietti, Bullard, Shafer, Weller, Ritter, Cochran Cohlman, Steichen, Borngasser, Weber, Rients, Campbell, Allen, Wittenberg, Young, Yoder, Gerwin, Flott, Runyon, Fannin, Kestner and Peterson **Nays:** None **Absent:** Arbogast, Ingles, Holt

AG & ZONING

No report

FINANCE

County Clerk Semi-Annual Report – Chair Shafer reported that the committee had reviewed and approved the report. *Motion by Shafer, second by Wittenberg to approve the County Clerk’s Semi-Annual Report. MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE. Ayes:* Vietti, Bullard, Shafer, Weller, Ritter, Cochran Cohlman, Steichen, Borngasser, Weber, Rients, Campbell, Allen, Wittenberg, Young, Yoder, Gerwin, Flott, Runyon, Fannin, Kestner and Peterson **Nays:** None **Absent:** Arbogast, Ingles, Holt

Resolution (#2013-01-02): State’s Attorneys Appellate Prosecutor – Chair Shafer explained that approval of this annual resolution would allow the state’s attorney’s office to use the services of the attorneys from this office in the event a case was appealed to the Appellate Court or there was a need to retain the service of a special prosecutor. The annual cost for this service is \$13,000. *Motion by Shafer, second by Runyon to approve the State’s Attorneys Appellate Prosecutor resolution. MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE. Ayes:* Vietti, Bullard, Shafer, Weller, Ritter, Cochran Cohlman, Steichen, Borngasser, Weber, Rients, Campbell, Allen, Wittenberg, Young, Yoder, Gerwin, Flott, Runyon, Fannin, Kestner and Peterson **Nays:** None **Absent:** Arbogast, Ingles, Holt

SHERIFF, JAIL & LICENSE

Intergovernmental Agreement: Northeastern Illinois Regional Crime Lab (NIRC) – Chair Borngasser provided a brief history on the request to use this crime lab and stated that this item had been discussed and reviewed since last October. Sheriff Meredith, Detective Sgt. Dutko and Sgt. Childress were present to discuss their reasons for wanting to move forward with this lab. Currently, most evidence is sent to the Illinois State Police lab, which can have up to a one year turnaround time for evidence results, but does not charge any fee for the services they provide. The NIRC lab has the technology to conduct tests that the state lab cannot perform and can provide a sixty day turnaround time for results, which could help the detectives close cases in a more efficient and timely manner. They are hoping that with the help of this lab, new evidence will surface which would help to close some of the cold cases their department has on file, such as the thirty year old Edwards case. The department will continue to use the Illinois State Police lab as well. State’s Attorney Uphoff has reviewed the agreement and reported that as long as we don’t ask the lab to perform a procedure above and beyond their normal procedures; all fees are included in the quoted cost. The proposed agreement runs through March 2014, is renewed annually, with the current year lab membership fee being \$20,467., and a rent fee of \$3,000. The cost for this action has been allocated in the budget (Enterprise Zone Fund), but before it can be utilized, the intergovernmental agreement must be approved by the county board. Chairman Fannin read an e-mail received from Virginia Bradshaw (Marsha Edward’s sister) encouraging the board to move forward with this crime lab, in hopes that new evidence would surface, which could lead to a successful closure of the case. Discussion highlights follow: some members encouraged the detectives to continue utilizing the ISP crime lab as it was free; with the one year contract the services can be reviewed to see if it’s worth the money spent; the Northern Illinois Crime Lab first reviewed the Edward’s case evidence; and currently most evidence is being sent to NIRC due to the fast turnaround time. *Motion by Borngasser, second by Bullard to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement with the Northeastern Illinois Regional Crime Lab. MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE. Ayes:* Vietti, Bullard, Shafer, Weller, Ritter, Steichen, Borngasser, Weber, Rients, Campbell, Allen, Wittenberg, Young, Yoder, Gerwin, Flott, Runyon, Fannin and Peterson **Nays:** None **Abstain:** Cochran Cohlman, Kestner **Absent:** Arbogast, Ingles, Holt

PUBLIC PROPERTY

Resolution (#2013-01-03) Authorizing Sale of Excess Property- Chair Runyon reported that this would allow for the auction of the unused furniture left after the relocation of the county offices from their temporary locations back to the Historic Courthouse. Alina Hartley commented that Edelman's auction fee would be about 30% of the proceeds received. The sale was to take place at the end of January, but due to a conflict with Edelman's schedule the date has been set for February 9th at the Regions Bank building. *Motion by Runyon, second by Gerwin to approve the resolution authorizing the sale of the excess county property by auction, on February 9, 2013.* **MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE.** **Ayes:** Vietti, Bullard, Shafer, Weller, Ritter, Cochran Cohlman, Steichen, Borngasser, Weber, Rients, Campbell, Allen, Wittenberg, Young, Yoder, Gerwin, Flott, Runyon, Fannin, Kestner and Peterson **Nays:** None **Absent:** Arbogast, Ingles, Holt

Resolution (#2013-01-04) Authorizing Intergovernmental Agreement Transferring Temporary Livingston County Board Office Furniture – Hartley explained that this resolution authorizes the transfer of the leftover property from the temporary County Board office, to the City of Pontiac through the intergovernmental agreement. The furniture will be used by the library as well as for the relocated office of Jason Barickman, at the former temporary site of the County Board office. The value of the furniture was estimated at \$600. At the auction, you're not guaranteed a bid of \$600, and by the time the auction company received their 30% plus the \$150 for the extra site fee, not much would be gained for all the effort. The committee felt that this was a good alternative to an auction. *Motion by Runyon, second by Wittenberg to approve the resolution authorizing the intergovernmental agreement with the City of Pontiac, authorizing the transfer of the temporary Livingston County Board Office furniture to the City of Pontiac.* **MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE.** **Ayes:** Vietti, Bullard, Shafer, Weller, Ritter, Cochran Cohlman, Steichen, Borngasser, Weber, Rients, Campbell, Allen, Wittenberg, Young, Yoder, Gerwin, Flott, Runyon, Fannin, Kestner and Peterson **Nays:** None **Absent:** Arbogast, Ingles, Holt

PERSONNEL

Resolution (#2013-01-05) Early Retirement Incentive - Flott (in the absence of Chair Holt) reported that the committee unanimously approved this early retirement insurance incentive which was drafted after the incentive package given to the maintenance employee. Discussion followed. Qualifications for this incentive package are: must be currently serving as an appointed county officer or department head with thirty or more years of continuous service, who do not qualify for Medicare and whose retirement date, is on or before May 1, 2013. Qualifying employees will receive a lump sum payment in an amount equal to the cost of six months of health, dental and vision insurance premiums (\$4,400.) as of their retirement date, reduced by the amount of usual and customary deductions. This incentive could affect four to five non-elected managers. *Motion by Flott, second by Cochran Cohlman to approve the resolution authorizing the early retirement incentive.* **MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE.** **Ayes:** Vietti, Bullard, Shafer, Weller, Ritter, Cochran Cohlman, Steichen, Borngasser, Weber, Campbell, Allen, Wittenberg, Young, Yoder, Flott, Runyon, Fannin, Kestner and Peterson **Nays:** Rients, Gerwin **Absent:** Arbogast, Ingles, and Holt

Linda Daniels-Human Resources Specialist reported that the third Employee Benefit and Wellness Fair had been held the day before in the County Board Room. Money received from the Safety Grant helps to provide supplies for the event. This was the best turn out in the three years, with ninety-three (93) employees attending. Feedback from attendees has been very positive.

ADMINISTRATIVE

Ordinance (#2013-01-06) Streator Area Enterprise Zone Extension – Chairman Fannin explained that this was an agreement dating back from 1983. The ordinance would extend the enterprise zone for two more years until July 1, 2016. The current agreement ends on December 31, 2014. Hartley explained that there was one change since the packet went out; the signature line was changed from City of Streator to Livingston County. It was noted that the enterprise zone act was created to assist blighted or depressed areas by offering sales tax breaks to attract business developments. Legislation was passed which allows for the extension of enterprise zones for wind farm development. *Motion by Borngasser, second by Peterson to approve the resolution authorizing the two year extension of the Streator Area Enterprise Zone.* **MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE.**

MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE. Ayes: Vietti, Bullard, Shafer, Weller, Ritter, Cochran Cohlman, Steichen, Borngasser, Weber, Rients, Campbell, Allen, Wittenberg, Young, Yoder, Gerwin, Flott, Runyon, Fannin, Kestner and Peterson **Nays:** None **Absent:** Arbogast, Ingles, Holt

Chairman Fannin reported that June Slagel-Finance Resource Specialist would be presenting a program on the county budget on January 29th at 5:30p.m., with another meeting scheduled for January 31st at 5:30 to work on ideas to reduce the budget. Information will be available for members unable to attend.

ELECTION, RULES & LEGISLATION

No report

INFORMATION & TECHNOLOGY

Vice-Chair Allen (in the absence of Chair Arbogast) stated that Koepfel had reviewed website updates with the committee. They recommended that a suggestion page and an email webmaster link be added to the front page of the website. They also talked about having the Chairman add a monthly newsletter to the front page. The health department will be moving their website to the county site. A suggestion was made to add a television in the rotunda of the historic courthouse which could display agendas and other pertinent information for the public. Koepfel reported that the county offices in the Regions building and the historic courthouse are on the same phone system which allows the departments to access each other without additional costs.

VETERANS

Chair Steichen reported that they are analyzing their van situation, as one van has approximately 375,000 miles on it and has become unreliable, with the handicapped van being hard on gas. There is money in the budget for a new van, but they are trying to work with what they have for as long as they can.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

COMMUNICATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m. on motion by Kestner, second by Steichen. **MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL AYES ON VOICE VOTE.**

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 14, 2013 at 6:00 p.m., at the Historic Courthouse Board Room.

Marty Fannin, Chairman

Attest:

Kristy A. Masching
County Clerk

February 14, 2012
Approved

Minutes Bd 01-17-13.A