



AGENDA

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

Tuesday, February 27, 2018

@ 1:00 PM

Peoria County Courthouse, Room 402

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Approval of Minutes**
 - January 23, 2018
3. **Informational Items / Reports / Other Minutes / Updates**
 - Auditor
 - County Clerk's Office
 - Collections and Transactions Report
 - County Election Commission
 - Finance
 - Regional Office of Education
 - Supervisor of Assessments/Board of Review
 - Tax Cycle Update
 - Treasurer
 - Township Collector
 - Veteran's Assistance Commission
 - Legislative Update
4. **Resolution**
 - Monthly Delinquent Taxes
5. **Miscellaneous**
6. **Adjournment**

DRAFT
MINUTES
Ways and Means Committee
January 23, 2018
@ 1:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT:	Allen Mayer - Chairman; Steven Rieker - Vice Chairman; James Fennell, Brad Harding, Phillip Salzer, William Watkins, Jr., Sharon Williams - Committee Members
MEMBERS ABSENT:	
OTHERS PRESENT:	Scott Sorrel - County Administrator; Shauna Musselman - Assistant County Administrator; Andrew Rand – County Board Chairman; Larry Evans, Jerry Brady - State's Attorney's Office; Eric Dubrowski – Chief Financial Officer; Julie Ciesla, Paul Letcher, Kim Hudson – Finance; Angela Loftus – Asst. Director of Human Resources; Gretchen Pearsall – Director of Strategic Communications; Kent Rotherham – County Auditor; Pat Risen, Kevin O'Connor – Circuit Clerk; Beth Derry - Regional Office of Education; Dave Ryan - Supervisor of Assessments; Dan O'Connell – Facilities Director; Steve Sonnemaker, Mike Deluhery – County Clerk; Tom Bride – Election Commission; Nicole Demetreas - Treasurer; Trisha Collins – Veteran's Assistance Commission; Doug Gaa - Sheriff's Office; Rena' Parker, Jennifer Shadid – Courts; Chad Lucas – Sikich, LLP; Steve Tarter – Journal Star

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Mayer at 1:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of November 21, 2017 was made by Mr. Watkins and seconded by Ms. Williams. The motion carried.

Informational Items/Reports/Other Minutes/Updates

County Auditor

No report. No questions or comments from committee.

County Clerk

Mr. Sonnemaker distributed the December Collections and Transactions report. He advised that the office is currently \$1,100.00 over budget in revenue.

Peoria County Election Commission

Mr. Bride advised that distribution of vote by mail ballots will begin Thursday, February 8, 2018. He stated that early voting at the Election Commission begins on that date as well; early voting outside the office begins in March. He advised that the design for the new Brandywine facility has been approved by all parties. Mr. Sorrel advised that the goal is for the Commission to occupy the new facility prior to the November 2018 election.

Finance

Mr. Dubrowski advised that Mr. Paul Letcher has been hired as Finance Director for Heddington Oaks, and the recently vacated AP Bookkeeper position at the Courthouse has been filled. He also commented that he will be leaving his position at the end of the month.

- External Audit Update

Mr. Lucas advised that a planning meeting was held on January 5, 2018, fieldwork will begin the week of February 12, 2018, with final fieldwork estimated for April 16, 2018. He stated that a copy of the signed engagement letter was distributed to committee members last week.

Regional Office of Education (ROE)

Ms. Derry provided an update on activities of the Regional Office of Education:

- Ms. Derry noted the ongoing statewide teacher shortage, with critical shortages in the areas of special education, math and science, and foreign language. Shortages are most critical at the high school level, with a trickle down beginning at the middle school level.
- Seven GEDs were earned by incarcerated individuals at the Peoria County Jail, as were several Sanitation Licenses.
- The ROE has entered into an agreement with the Lieutenant Governor's office for a pilot project affiliated with the Illinois Virtual School, offering AP and dual credits online to ten small, rural schools statewide.
- The office has partnered with Pastor Hightower and the NAACP to host an event on March 20, 2018 called "Creating Champions". Fifteen students per high school within the county will attend the event.
- Ms. Derry participated in training related College to Career Readiness, specifically how 8th, 9th and 10th grade students can prepare for college and careers. Sheila Quirk-Bailey, the President of Illinois Central College has begun a pilot project with five school districts to ensure students receive 15 early college credit hours before graduating high school.

Supervisor of Assessments/Board of Review

- Tax Cycle

Mr. Ryan advised that the Board of Review is completing 2017 complaints. He stated that 816 complaints in total were received, with 47% changed or lowered. He advised that 13,000 Senior Freeze Assessment notices have been mailed, noting that the income limit was increased to a household income of \$65,000.00. He advised that the filing deadline is September 1, 2018, adding that several reminders are sent to eligible recipients who do not file by the deadline.

- Board of Review

No report. No questions or comments from committee.

Treasurer

Ms. Demetreas advised that a property tax pre-payment program was initiated due to changes in the tax code. She stated that 271 customers came into the office between December 19th and 22nd to prepay, with 935 customers coming into the office the last three days of the month. She advised that over \$12.3 million was collected in pre-paid taxes, and added that much of that total has been invested and will continue to be invested until tax bills are mailed. She commented that after tax bills have been distributed, the first installment of those payments will be applied and participants in the pre-payment will be notified as to payment status.

Ms. Demetreas advised that the funds for which the Treasurer invests was budgeted at \$135,000.00, with the actual totaling \$366,000.00. She stated that the office is over budget by \$230,000.00 in interest. She advised that of the 44 funds for which the Treasurer invests, 5 funds did not meet their budget amount due to running negative cash balances throughout the year. She commented that \$28,000.00 is budgeted for bank fees, adding that fees will total \$176.00 for 2017.

Ms. Demetreas advised that interviews for Deputy Treasurer have been conducted, and she anticipates extending an offer by next week.

Veteran's Assistance Commission

Ms. Collins advised that Mr. Brooks has been elected as President of the Illinois Association of County Veterans Assistance Commission (IACVAC). She stated that the Commission has a part-time position posted, and will be seeking to hire an additional full-time position. She advised that approximately 80,000 claim forms were completed in 2017, an increase of 10,000 over the past several years. She commented that the office assists 300 veterans per month on average, adding that over \$10 million in claims were paid in 2017.

Legislative Update

Mr. Sorrel advised that the annual Legislative Breakfast will be held on Friday, February 9, 2018 at 8:00 a.m. the Gateway Building. He stated that 5 legislators have confirmed their attendance. He advised that staff continues to finalize the recommended agenda, and highlighted portions of the draft related to city and county requests for direct sponsorship, requests for position support, and capital projects. *County requests for direct sponsorship include* Sales and Use Tax Reform (joint with City of Peoria), Juvenile Justice Reform, Bail Reform Act, and Use of Hanna City Work Camp; *County requests for position support include* Illinois Fiscal Concerns and Automatic Appropriation Authority for Local Funds (joint with City of Peoria), Medicaid Pending for Skilled Nursing Facilities, and Juvenile Justice Reform. *County requests for Capital Projects include* reconstructions of portions of Old Galena Road, Maxwell/Middle Roads, Glen Avenue, and Lake Street. He commented that at the request of the legislators, the Board of Health will be included in this year's program.

Resolutions

- Monthly Delinquent Taxes

A motion to approve was made by Mr. Salzer and seconded by Mr. Fennell. The motion to approve carried.

- Write-Off Policy for Governmental Funds

A motion to approve was made by Ms. Williams and seconded by Mr. Fennell. Mr. Dubrowski advised that the policy was developed as an internal policy related to transparency. He stated that it is rare to have write-off requests by the time the accounts appear on the General Ledger, as those write-offs are more likely to occur in subsidiary ledgers or other software. He commented that a request from the Supervisor of Assessments Office to write-off an aggregate amount of \$165.00 spurred the creation of a draft policy, as although the amount is immaterial, it is recommended to have a policy in place for any future requests.

Mr. Dubrowski stated that the CFO would have authority to write-off aggregate amounts under \$5,000.00, amounts between \$5,000.00 and \$19,999.00 would require the dual approval of the County Administrator and CFO, and amounts \$20,000.00 and over would require County Board approval. He also commented that all requests, regardless of amount, would come before this committee as an informational item. The motion to approve carried.

- Amendments to Chapter 3, Alcoholic Liquor, of the Peoria County Code

A motion to approve was made by Mr. Salzer and seconded by Mr. Fennell. Mr. Sonnemaker advised that during the budget process the County Clerk's Office advised that revenue numbers included a proposed increase in liquor license fees. He commented that fees associated within the Alcoholic Liquor Code encompass duties in multiple departments, including the County Clerk, Administration, State's Attorney's Office, Sheriff, and the County Board Chairman in his role as Liquor Commissioner. He added that fees in several Classes have not increased in 26 years.

Mr. Rand asked the impact on temporary liquor licenses, and Mr. Sonnemaker remarked that licenses in that category will increase from \$48.00 to \$65.00 per day.

The motion to approve carried, with Mr. Harding and Mr. Watkins voting nay.

- Contract Award for State Legislative Services

A motion to approve was made by Mr. Watkins and seconded by Mr. Salzer. Mr. Sorrel advised that the current 3-year contract for lobbying services with Anderson Legislative Consulting expired on December 31, 2017. He stated that after review of final RFPs and receipt of feedback from legislators, staff recommends awarding the contract to Anderson Legislative Consulting in the amount of \$30,000.00 per year, for a total of 5 years. He noted that the rate does not increase from their prior contract.

Mr. Harding asked if return on investment can be quantified. Mr. Sorrel advised that although not in quantifiable numbers, the firm was instrumental in a variety of legislative pieces which either facilitated positive outcomes or prevented negative consequences for the County. Mr. Rieker suggested a report out to committee in the future on key deliverables to the County. Mr. Sorrel advised that an End of Session report to both the committee and the County Board has been discussed.

The motion to approve carried, with Mr. Harding voting nay.

Committee Action

- Review of Executive Session Minutes

Mr. Evans recommended that all previously held executive session minutes continue to be held closed as the need for confidentiality still exists, and to destroy executive session audio recordings more than two years old, except those that relate to pending litigation. A motion to accept the recommendation of the State's Attorney's Office was made by Ms. Williams and seconded by Mr. Rieker. The motion carried.

Discussion

- Draft County Auditor Ordinance

Mr. Mayer directed committee members to the draft Ordinance in the packet, and stressed that the Ordinance would be recommended for County Board approval only upon passage of the referendum.

- Internal Controls update

Mr. Dubrowski reported on the status of corrective action plans related to the findings and recommendations associated with the most recent internal audit. Audit findings related to Material Weaknesses, Significant Deficiencies and Control Deficiencies are listed below. Mr. Dubrowski advised that several findings have already been addressed, while responses to others are either in progress or forthcoming:

Material Weaknesses

- Bank Accounts (General Ledger)
- Bank Accounts (Circuit Clerk)
- Circuit Clerk Activity Reconciliation

Significant Deficiencies

- Segregation of Staffing Duties at Heddington Oaks
- Segregation of Duties related to the Pentamation System
- Bond Covenant Compliance
- Purchasing
- Penalty Computation (Circuit Clerk)

Control Deficiencies

- Investment Policy (Treasurer)
- Community Development Assistance Program Fund
- Dual Signatures on Manual Checks
- Allowance for Doubtful Accounts
- Payroll Processing

Control Deficiencies (cont.)

- Tax Collection Reconciliation
- Donated Assets
- Heddington Oaks Billing

Mr. Rand recommended further discussion of the unresolved material issues identified the Circuit Clerk's Office. Mr. Mayer suggested that discussion of internal control weaknesses identified by the external auditor, for which repeat findings may be an issue, take place in an Executive Session at either the March or April meeting of the committee.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Chairman Mayer at 2:14 p.m.

Recording Secretary: Jan Kleffman



Steve Sonnemaker
County of Peoria - Office of the County Clerk

Peoria County Courthouse • Room 101 • 324 Main Street • Peoria, Illinois 61602
Phone: (309) 672-6059 • Fax: (309) 672-6063 • Email: countyclerk@peoriacounty.org

County Clerk Collections and Transactions Report - January 2018

	2018		
	Budget	Jan.	YTD
County Clerk Revenues:			
Recording Related Fees - General Fund:	810,500	54,294	54,294
Recording Related Fees - Automation Fund:	239,650	15,616	15,616
Real Estate Transfer Tax - County:	325,000	25,273	25,273
Vital Records Certifications:	334,300	26,242	26,242
Property Tax Redemption Fees:	268,190	23,468	23,468
Marriage/Civil Union Licenses:	59,000	2,340	2,340
Raffle Licenses:	13,500	1,608	1,608
Liquor Licenses:	41,000	45	45
Assumed Name Filings:	1,300	108	108
Notary Filings:	3,900	390	390
Miscellaneous:	1,000	365	365
Total	2,097,340	149,747	149,747
County Clerk's Collections to Benefit Other County Departments:			
GIS Recording Fee (IT):		34,873	34,873
Postage Reimb. - Redemption Notices (IT):		3,776	3,776
Plat Certification Fees (Planning & Zoning):		30	30
Total		38,679	38,679
County Clerk's Collections to Benefit Other Entities:			
Property Tax Redemption:		314,926	314,926
Real Estate Transfer Tax - City of Peoria:		88,043	88,043
Real Estate Transfer Tax - State of Illinois:		50,546	50,546
Illinois Rental Housing Fee:		13,905	13,905
Illinois Marriage/Civil Union Fee:		260	260
Illinois Death Certificate Fee:		396	396
County Trustee (property tax related):		748	748
Total		468,823	468,823
TOTAL COLLECTIONS		657,250	657,250

Transactions

	<u>Jan.</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Recordings	1,755	1,755
Vital Records Certifications	1,714	1,714
Property Tax Redemptions	164	164
Marriage/Civil Union Licenses	52	52
Raffle Licenses	26	26
Liquor Licenses	1	1
Assumed Name Filings	10	10
Notary Filings	56	56
Statement of Economic Interest Filings	4	4

County Clerk Functions Without Revenue

Property Tax Extension, Clerking County Board (minutes, records, County Code & certifying),
Statement of Economic Interests, Contracts, Addressing, Service Directory, Military Discharge
Recording/Certifying & Various Filings (bonds, oaths, reports, etc.)

AGENDA BRIEFING

COMMITTEE: Ways & Means
MEETING DATE: February 27, 2018

LINE ITEM:
AMOUNT:

ISSUE:

For INFORMATION: Targeted economic development and Medicaid lobbying

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:

As part of the RFP process for legislative consulting services, one of the finalists during their interview/presentation brought to the table some unique concepts targeted on economic development and Medicaid. Staff spoke to the Chairman and the County Board Chairman about the concept of having some targeted lobbying in these two areas. Based on their feedback, the County Administrator is negotiating a contract for services that is within the County Administrator’s spending authority. Specifically, Jeff Torricelli & Associates will lobby on the County’s behalf for specific census tracts to be included in an upcoming Opportunity Zone designation. The Opportunity Zone was created as part of the federal government’s tax relief bill, and will create economic development incentives for low income areas. Additionally, it has been identified that Keystone Steel and Wire did not properly receive some of their utility tax credits from our Enterprise Zone. While this is not our responsibility per se, Keystone is a major employer in our community and their financial sustainability is important to the local economy. Torricelli & Associates will be working on such targeted economic development efforts under their agreement. Additionally, a principal in the firm is Warren Ribley who was Director of the DCEO during the Quinn governorship. Mr. Ribley will also participate in targeted economic development lobbying and use his experience and expertise as the former executive director of the Illinois Medical District in Chicago to lobby on the County’s behalf related to Medicaid issues. Exact terms of the contract for services are being finalized, but will follow this scope of work. Should there be a capital bill after the November elections, Peoria County is positioning itself to ideally benefit.

COUNTY BOARD GOALS:



FINANCIAL STABILITY



INFRASTRUCTURE STEWARDSHIP



EFFECTIVE SERVICE DELIVERY



COLLABORATION

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

AWARD CONTRACT TO ANDERSON LEGISLATIVE CONSULTING

COMMITTEE ACTION:

PREPARED BY: Scott A. Sorrel, County Administrator

DEPARTMENT: County Administration

DATE: February 23, 2018

RES#	Account	Type	Account Name	Parcel#	Township	Total Collected	County Clerk	Auctioneer	Recorder/ Sec of State	Agent	Treasurer
02-18-001	0817193	SAL	JOY J COWAN	18-03-326-006	CITY OF PEORIA	667.00	115.37	6.00	104.00	350.00	91.63
02-18-002	0817558	SAL	ROBERT H THORNE	18-18-354-007	CITY OF PEORIA	680.00	113.16	6.00	122.00	350.00	75.84
02-18-003	0817132	DEF-SA	MATTHEW J MCKINNEY	14-35-304-001	CITY OF PEORIA	673.00	88.85	0.00	0.00	202.95	381.20
02-18-004	0817403	DEF-SA	EVELYNE A MAMBEI-MAINA	18-08-409-014	CITY OF PEORIA	686.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	178.17	507.83
02-18-005	0817409	DEF-SA	AL MCALLISTER	18-08-413-017	CITY OF PEORIA	686.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	178.17	507.83
02-18-006	0817503	DEF-SA	WADONDRA CARR	18-17-312-009	CITY OF PEORIA	679.00	47.91	0.00	0.00	176.42	454.67
02-18-007	0817510	DEF-SA	WADONDRA CARR	18-18-176-014	CITY OF PEORIA	671.00	46.78	0.00	0.00	266.52	357.70
Totals						\$4,742.00	\$412.07	\$12.00	\$226.00	\$1,702.23	\$2,376.70

Committee Members

Clerk Fees **\$412.07**
 Recorder/Sec of State Fees **\$226.00**
 Total to County **\$3,014.77**