

Approved 4/24/18

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
March 27, 2018**

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| COUNTY BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: | Andrew Rand - Chairman; Robert Baietto, James Dillon, James Fennell, Allen Mayer, Stephen Morris, Thomas O'Neill, Rachael Parker, Steven Rieker, Phillip Salzer, Sharon Williams |
| MEMBERS ABSENT: | Paul Rosenbohm |
| STAFF PRESENT: | Scott Sorrel – County Administrator; Shauna Musselman - Assistant County Administrator; Larry Evans - State's Attorney's Office; Kate Pastucha – County Board Member; Angela Loftus – Asst. Director of Human Resources; Gretchen Pearsall – Director of Strategic Communications; Beth Derry – Regional Office of Education; Amy McLaren – County Highway; Dan O'Connell – Facilities Director; Jennifer Shadid – Court Administration; Nicole Demetreas – Treasurer; Steve Sonnemaker – County Clerk; Mark Little – Chief Information Office; Brian Asbell, Doug Gaa – Sheriff's Office |
| VISITORS | Christine Brinkmann, Leah Dettmers, Nick Pelech – Ameren; Stephanie Spain – Images, Inc.; Bruce Brown – Local Historian |

Call to Order

Chairman Rand called the meeting to order at 2:31 p.m. Vice-Chairman Morris was appointed as Committee Chairman by Mr. Rand with the unanimous consent of the committee.

Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of February 27, 2018 was made by Mr. Salzer and seconded by Mr. O'Neill. The motion carried.

Presentation

- Award of recognition for community collaboration on the Spoon River Transmission Project

Mr. Pelech, Construction Manager for the Spoon River Transmission Line Project, addressed the committee. He introduced other representatives of Ameren who were also present. He explained that the transmission line is a 44-mile, 345,000-kV line running from Peoria to Galesburg providing lower cost energy including renewable sources. A short video on the project was presented. Mr. Pelech thanked the committee, and the entire County Board, and shared his appreciation for the collaboration and support of Peoria County on the project. A plaque was presented to County Board Vice-Chairman Morris as representative of Peoria County.

Informational

- Springdale Cemetery Minutes

No questions or comments from committee.

- CDAP/GAP/Macro/Other Loan Report

Ms. Ciesla advised that all loans are current. She noted that the loan of Redbud Ridge Custom Shop, Inc. will be paid in full as of March 2018. She noted that although no payment was issued from the Bankruptcy Court for Hick'ry Stick in February, a payment was received March 6, 2018. She stated that \$622,815.24 is available to be loaned in the CDAP/GAP Loan Fund, and over \$2.025 million in cash and \$5.13 million in investments are available in the Keystone Fund.

- Heddington Oaks Financials

No questions or comments from committee.

Resolutions

• Relocation of Peoria County Civil War Memorial to Springdale Cemetery

A motion to approve was made by Mr. Mayer and seconded by Mr. Rand. Mr. Sorrel advised that the first documented Civil War Memorial in the state was dedicated in 1866 on the courthouse grounds. He stated that the County Board had appropriated \$5,000.00 in 1865 for the construction of the memorial, which was initially intended to be dedicated at Springdale Cemetery. He commented that a subsequent vote in 1866 changed the location to the courthouse grounds.

Mr. Sorrel commented that when the current courthouse was constructed, the monument was disassembled and put into storage at Detweiller Marina, where it has remained. He stated that the Springdale Foundation in cooperation with a group of concerned citizens, has been working for several years to locate various pieces of the memorial.

Mr. Sorrel stated that, as taxpayer dollars were spent in 1865 for acquisition and construction, the memorial is owned by Peoria County. He advised that the Foundation and citizen group request that Peoria County, as owners, allow the relocation, restoration and reassembly of the memorial to Springdale Cemetery. He stressed that the County is not being asked to provide any funding, simply permission for the relocation.

Mr. Brown stated that the original American Eagle topper was the inspiration for the logo of Case Implement Company, and the Foundation is pursuing a grant the Case's corporate foundation to recreate the original American Eagle topper, which has disintegrated over time.

The motion to approve carried unanimously.

• Reauthorize Home in the Heights Neighborhood Revitalization Program Funding

A motion to approve was made by Ms. Parker and seconded by Mr. Rieker. Mr. Sorrel requested that committee entertain a motion to amend the resolution. He commented that he took language for the current resolution from a previous resolution that was subsequently amended on the floor of this committee over a year ago. The current resolution as amended corrects the language to reflect the amended version of the previous resolution. Mr. Sorrel advised that the primary difference between the resolution as presented and the amendment on the floor is the removal of all references to a property tax abatement. A motion to approve the resolution as amended was made by Mr. Mayer and seconded by Ms. Williams.

Mr. Sorrel advised that that in October 2017, the County Board authorized up to \$300,000.00 for a Neighborhood Revitalization Pilot Program for calendar year 2017. He commented that in that year, one participant took advantage of the program, which was initiated in December; as a result construction is not complete on that project. He stated that due to the low participant rate, the program cost was not included in the FY2018 budget; however, after the budget was adopted the Village of Peoria Heights has received multiple inquiries into the project. He advised that the Village has requested to extend the program for the remainder of 2018. He stated that moving forward the continuation of and long-term investment in the program would be a policy decision of the committee and County Board. Mr. Dillon noted that the agenda briefing states that the Village Manager and County Administrator are working on streamlining the process, and asked for updates on the methods of streamlining, particularly so that the original intent of the program remains. He also requested that the County be notified by the Village of Peoria Heights before a project begins, and not after the completion of the project.

The motion to approve carried unanimously.

• **Transportation Sales Tax Referendum Question**

Mr. Sorrel noted that although the Agenda Briefing outlines three options with varying sunset terms and sales tax rate, the County Administrator recommends Option 1: 10-year sunset at a ½% sale tax rate. He stated that with a current total project need of \$192 million. He stated that Option 1 would generate sales tax revenue to address \$75 million worth of road projects, and provides the County the opportunity with the greatest financial impact in the shortest amount of time possible.

A motion to approve Option #1 was made by Mr. Dillon and seconded by Mr. Rand.

Mr. Sorrel advised that the intent is to place the Transportation Sales Tax Referendum question back on the ballot for the November election, and direction by the County Board Chairman was to evaluate several options. He reminded the committee that the question on the ballot in 2016 asked for ¼% for 15 years; the referendum failing with 55.4% voting against.

Mr. Sorrel advised that staff was directed to review and update research prepared as part of the original 2016 referendum, including financing scenarios for determined priorities. Staff determined that those priorities included a focus on municipalities, rural roads, a 60/40 split between urban and rural roads, and a focus on average daily traffic volumes and pavement condition index. The financial scenarios modeled by staff are:

- 10-year sunset at a ½% sales tax rate (Option 1, staff recommended)
- 15-year sunset at a ¼% sales tax rate (Option 2)
- 20-year sunset at a ¼% sales tax rate (Option 3)

Mr. Rieker noted the failed 2016 referendum, and voiced concerns over public willingness to support a referendum to increase taxes, also noting that an increase could ultimately drive Peoria County consumers to other options. Mr. Dillon advised that a sales tax was chosen in 2016 after extensive polling revealed that option as the most favorable by those polled. He also explained that the 2016 transportation sales tax referendum was placed on the ballot at the same time as a state “Lock Box” amendment, which set aside state dollars for transportation, as well as a Peoria County School Sales Tax referendum.

Further discussion followed on the possibility of an easier passage of a ¼% sales tax vs. ½% sales tax, and the amount and nature of constituent education.

Mr. Rand suggested tabling the resolution and schedule a meeting of either the Executive Committee or a Committee of the Whole, for additional discussion and further direction.

Mr. Rand made a motion to defer the resolution to the next regular meeting of the Executive Committee, and was seconded by Mr. Mayer. The motion to defer carried unanimously.

 **The following Standing Committee meetings were summarized by their respective Chairperson as follows:**

Public Safety and Justice

The following resolutions were recommended to the County Board for approval.

- Appropriation of funds for Sustainability
- Sheriff's Office Replacement Vehicles

County Operations

CANCELED

Land Use

CANCELED

Infrastructure

The following resolutions were recommended to the County Board for approval.

- Bid Award for commission of statue for Peoria County Veterans Memorial Project
- Transfer of fiduciary control over Public Transportation from Peoria County to Greater Peoria Mass Transit District
- Quotations for County Highway Maintenance materials to be purchased in 2018
- Cooperative Research Agreement with Bradley University
- Participation in Railroad Safety Improvement Project on Kingston Mines Road

Ways and Means

No resolutions were recommended to the County Board for approval.

Mr. Mayer advised that the committee had a lengthy discussion regarding Township Collectors. He stated that the County Treasurer reported on the utilization of Township Collectors, advising that the Collector is utilized by a minority. The Treasurer noted that the majority of payments are collected via the County Treasurer directly or through banking institutions; and in many cases the payments collected by a Township Collector go through a bank. Mr. Mayer stated that if the position of Township Collector was eliminated, the Treasurer has indicated that their office could handle the additional workload without adding additional staff, and there would be no additional costs. After research on the matter by the State's Attorney's Office, it was determined that the only viable remedy in eliminating the position would be the introduction of special legislation in Springfield. Mr. Mayer advised that the County Administrator has been requested reach out to the legislative delegation, and to obtain information on the costs of a duplicative tax collection system in the nine Townships with Collectors.

County Health

CANCELED

Budget Subcommittee

The following resolutions were recommended to the County Board for approval.

- FY 2018 Encumbrance Rollover Appropriation
- FY 2018 Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Appropriation

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Vice-Chairman Morris at 4:15 p.m.