

**PROCEEDINGS
OF THE COUNTY BOARD
ADAMS COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

**COUNTY OF ADAMS)
STATE OF ILLINOIS)**

The County Board of Adams County, Illinois met at the Courthouse, Quincy, Illinois, on Tuesday, February 9, 2010 at 7:00 P.M., pursuant to recess.

PRESENT: Mike McLaughlin, Chairman
Georgia Volm, County Clerk

Mr. Hancox gave the invocation which was followed by the pledge of allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

Chairman McLaughlin called the meeting to order. The County Clerk called roll and the following members were present: John Heidbreder, John Johnson, Joe Wand, Rick Gengenbacher, Mark Peter, Matt Obert, John Brady, Seldon Totsch, Lyle Nichols, Bob Scott, Theresa Bockhold, Richard Reis, Nick Peters, Connie Sparks, Steve Schutte, Bill Cole, Randall Reis, Kent Snider, Todd Duesterhaus and Mike McLaughlin. Total present: 20. Total absent: none. One seat was vacant.

Chairman McLaughlin declared a quorum present.

Officeholders, department heads, and/or their representatives also present were: Mr. Klusmeyer from the Highway Department, Mr. Barnard and Mr. Lovelace from the State's Attorneys Office, Mr. Hancox from the Probation Department, Mr. Simon from the Emergency Management Agency, Mr. Hamilton from the Coroner's Office, Sheriff Fischer, Mr. Frese from the Circuit Clerk's Office, Mr. Davis from the Ambulance Department, Ms. Bluhm from the Health Department and Ms. Reddington from the Treasurer's Office.

County Board Appointment/Post – Chairman McLaughlin entertained a motion to concur with the appointment of Mr. Les Post to the vacated seat in District Six.

Mr. Scott moved to concur with the appointment of Mr. Les Post to the vacated seat in District Six.

Mr. Nichols seconded the motion.

Motion to concur with the appointment of Mr. Les Post to the vacated seat in District Six adopted.

Public Speaker/Rasche – The request to speak from Mr. Jeff Rasche was withdrawn.

Mr. Scott moved to approve the minutes of the January 12, 2010 county board meeting as printed and distributed.

Mr. Gengenbacher seconded the motion.

Motion to approve the minutes of the January 12, 2010 county board meeting as printed and distributed adopted.

Comprehensive Plan – Mr. Dave Potter, JEO Consulting, briefly discussed the background of the comprehensive plan, and presented an outline of the major steps taken before the release of the final Adams County comprehensive plan.

BACKGROUND

A County Land Use Management Policy (CLUMP) is a policy statement of the County, outlining its goals and guidelines for directing orderly growth and development in the future. The plan is not meant to dictate specific land use arrangements, nor is it a zoning ordinance. Rather, the Plan should serve as an instrument to blend public and private interests in a manner that will be in the best interest of the entire County. This broad-based policy can be used to explain the County's desires for growth without the need to regulate through land use controls. The policy acknowledges existing land use patterns, existing and future market demands, and manages these factors in relation to one another.

Comprehensive plan vs. business plan – Mr. Potter noted that of the 93 counties who have enlisted his consulting services, Adams County was the only county in which he experienced a strong opposition to a comprehensive plan. All but six (6) of the 93 counties Mr. Potter has worked with eventually implemented a comprehensive plan and/or zoning. Although the county's comprehensive plan has been used in conjunction with the terms "business plan" and "marketing plan", for Adams County a "business plan" vs. a comprehensive plan may have been more suitable.

OUTLINE

- 1.) Profile Adams County – This step included reviewing the county's existing demographics, housing, economy and employment, facilities, and land use.
- 2.) Envision Adams County – This step included open houses, focus group meetings, and public surveys to gather input regarding land use.
- 3.) Achieve Adams County – This step included conferences/meetings with communities and surrounding townships for the analysis of land use needs and transportation needs, as well as the development of a County Land Use Management Policy (CLUMP).

- 4.) Implement Adams County – This section deals with the available means to implement a comprehensive plan, including:
 - a. The use of incentives such as enterprise zones for development in designated areas
 - b. Voluntary implementation
 - c. The use of regulations for implementation

Discussion – Questions, raised by county board members, were addressed by Mr. Potter as follows:

Cost of implementation – Implementation costs can vary and are policy driven. A planning commission could be formed to meet on a routine basis at minimal costs to the county, or, at the extreme end, regulatory functions could be implemented which could include the hiring of a zoning administration.

Zoning requirements in a Comprehensive Plan – A comprehensive plan does not require zoning.

Use as a tool – Even if the county board does not adopt the comprehensive plan, the document can be used as a tool for economic development.

of Comprehensive Plans resulting in zoning – Ninety-five percent of JEO’s customers implemented zoning. The percentage is due to the location of most of JEO’s clients, Nebraska. Unlike Illinois, Nebraska does not have a regulatory agency monitoring livestock operations. During a time of growth for livestock operations, Nebraska counties found themselves in a reactionary mode trying to protect their farm land, thus the implementation of zoning.

JEO Consulting Services – JEO Consulting does offer services to clients wishing to implement zoning. Adams County’s contract ends prior to the implementation phase of the comprehensive plan.

How is plan enforced – The implementation should be policy driven. If an incentive based policy is adopted, several incentives can be offered by the county, including:

- a. An enterprise zone for economic development consistent with the county’s plan
- b. Increased weight limits on roads for those areas identified as “key” transportation routes
- c. Budgeting and subsequently improving those areas defined in the plan for growth

Protection of county’s agriculture – The plan identifies the areas in which it is feasible to grow. The plan also identifies the areas that county residents and/or township officials identified for agricultural protection.

Natural progression of plan – The County could review the tools provided in the comprehensive plan, create a budget to improve areas, roads, etc. identified in the plan, and appoint a planning commission to monitor the plan as well as to monitor changes in the county which should result in a change in the plan.

Use of plan if not adopted – If the plan is not adopted, the county could use the data compiled in the plan as a tool. For example, potential businesses could use the document before making a decision about location, etc.

Mr. Nichols moved to concur with the steering committee's recommendation and not accept the comprehensive plan.

Mr. Richard Reis seconded the motion.

Discussion – Several county board members indicated they had heard the voice of the residents. Quotes from speakers at prior public hearings were provided by some board members; other county board members noted the number of newspaper ads they had read, as well as the number of telephone calls they had received. Also noted by a county board member was the initial mission statement of the steering committee – if the county were to grow by an additional 5,000 people where would individuals work, live, etc.

As noted by Mr. Obert, three individual groups have, in the recent past, requested the county board to take action to protect their property rights. The issues involved disputes over storage facilities, an ethanol plant, and a dairy farm. The county board listened, and with the assistance of JEO Consulting sought input and participation from the residents of the county for the development of a comprehensive plan to promote economic growth. Like a business, government needs to plan if they are to move forward. Without a plan, you are stagnant and unprepared for the future. Mr. Wand also noted that the comprehensive plan was not about zoning, but was intended to be the vision of our residents for our future.

Roll call taken to concur with the steering committee's recommendation and not accept the comprehensive plan. Those voting to approve were Heidbreder, Johnson, Gengenbacher, Peter, Obert, Brady, Post, Totsch, Nichols, Scott, Bockhold, Richard Reis, Peters, Sparks, Schutte, Cole, Randall Reis, Snider, Duesterhaus and McLaughlin. Total 20. Voting no was Wand. Total one.

Motion to concur with the steering committee's recommendation and not accept the comprehensive plan adopted.

Transportation, Building & Technology

Committee Report (Mr. Scott)

Bills – The committee met on Monday, January 11, 2010 and reviewed the bills for the Maintenance Department, the Jail, the Superintendent of Regional Schools, and the Technology Department. All of the bills were in order. The committee also met on Monday, February 8, 2010 and reviewed the bills for the Highway Department. All of the bills were in order.

Snow Removal – Highway Department employees are continuing efforts to remove snow from the roadways.

Township Bridges – The Highway Department is making plans to replace township bridges in Riverside Township, Ellington Township and Fall Creek Township.

The committee's next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 16, 2010 at 6:00 P.M. in the conference room of the Superintendent of Regional Schools.

Legislative & Judicial

Committee Report (Mr. Wand)

Bills – The committee met on Tuesday, January 19, 2010 and reviewed the bills from the Circuit Clerk's Office, the Juvenile Detention Center, the Probation Department, the Public Defender's Office, the State's Attorneys Office, and the Supervisor of Assessments. All of the bills were in order.

Payson-Fall Creek Fire Protection District/Wernowsky – The County Clerk read, by title, a petition for the appointment of Mr. Mark Wernowsky as trustee of the Payson-Fall Creek Fire Protection District.

Mr. Wand moved to approve the petition for the appointment of Mr. Mark Wernowsky as trustee of the Payson-Fall Creek Fire Protection District.
Mr. Scott seconded the motion.

Motion to approve the petition for the appointment of Mr. Mark Wernowsky as trustee of the Payson-Fall Creek Fire Protection District adopted.

Animal Treatment Ordinance – The County Clerk read, by title, an ordinance regulating the treatment of animals (See Attachments A-1 thru A-3).

Mr. Wand moved to approve the ordinance regulating the treatment of animals.
Mr. Richard Reis seconded the motion.

Discussion – Mr. Lovelace, Assistant State’s Attorney, explained that Illinois statute imposed a misdemeanor charge on individuals who “knowingly” abused/mistreated animals. The county ordinance would allow the animal warden to impose an ordinance violation, along with a fine, on individuals who “knowingly” abused/mistreated animals.

Mr. Totsch moved to table the ordinance for clarification on the types of animals included in the ordinance.

Mr. Scott seconded the motion.

Motion to table the ordinance for clarification on the types of animals included in the ordinance adopted.

The committee’s next meeting will be on Tuesday, February 16, 2010 at 7:00 P.M. in the county board room.

Public Health & Safety

Committee Report (Mr. Peter)

Bills – The Public Health & Safety Committee met on Tuesday, January 19, 2010 at 7:00 P.M. and reviewed the bills for the Sheriff’s Office, Coroner’s Office, Emergency Management and Animal Control. All of the bills were in order.

Department Reports – Mr. John Simon, EMA, reported to the committee the progress on the new communications tower. Due to the weather and legal issues currently under review regarding frequencies, progress on the communications tower is delayed. The Sheriff’s Department reported on a possible training exercise at the airport, as well as court security training scheduled for February 6th in the courthouse.

The Public Health & Safety Committee’s next meeting will be on Tuesday, February 16, 2010 at 6:00 P.M. at the Highway Department.

Finance

Committee Report (Mr. Johnson)

Bills – The Finance Committee met on Monday, February 8, 2010 to review bills. All bills were in order.

Additional Fund Appropriation/Health Dept. – The County Clerk read, by title, a request from the Health Department for additional fund appropriations, as follows: (See Attachment B-1):

\$103,000.00 to revenue line item #042-076-4750, Bioterrorism Grant, and to the offsetting expense line item #042-076-5635, Program Expenses/Health Protection

\$29,000.00 to revenue line item #042-076-4250, Imm. Income, and to the offsetting expense line item #042-076-5120, Salary Health Protection

Mr. Peter moved to approve the request from the Health Department for additional fund appropriations as read above.

Mr. Nichols seconded the motion.

Roll call taken to approve the request from the Health Department for additional fund appropriations as read above. Those voting to approve were: Heidbreder, Johnson, Wand, Gengenbacher, Peter, Obert, Brady, Post, Totsch, Nichols, Scott, Bockhold, Richard Reis, Peters, Sparks, Schutte, Cole, Randall Reis, Snider, Duesterhaus and McLaughlin. Total 21. None absent.

Motion to approve the request from the Health Department for additional fund appropriations as read above adopted.

Transfer of Appropriation/Health Dept. – The County Clerk read, by title, a request from the Health Department for the following transfer of appropriations: (See Attachment C-1):

\$3,303.20 from line item #042-076-5713, Contingency, to line item #042-076-5105, Salary Administration,

\$1,048.90 from line item #042-076-5713, Contingency, to line item #042-076-5576, Telecommunications

\$226.83 from line item #042-076-5713, Contingency, to line item #042-076-5727, Travel: Health Promotion & Dental

\$35,544.51 from line item #042-076-5625, Program Expenses Health Promotion to line item #042-076-5635, Program Expenses Health Protection

Mr. Peter moved to approve the request from the Health Department for transfer of appropriations as read above.

Mr. Nichols seconded the motion.

Mr. Johnson moved to amend the motion to delete the word “approve” and to replace the word with “receive and file”.

Mr. Heidbreder seconded the motion.

Motion to amend the motion to delete the word “approve” and to replace the word with “receive and file” adopted.

Roll call taken to approve the request from the Health Department for transfer of appropriations as read above and subsequently amended. Those voting to approve were: Heidbreder, Johnson, Wand, Gengenbacher, Peter, Obert, Brady, Post, Totsch, Nichols,

Scott, Bockhold, Richard Reis, Peters, Sparks, Schutte, Cole, Randall Reis, Snider, Duesterhaus and McLaughlin. Total 21. None absent.

Motion to approve the request from the Health Department for transfer of appropriations as read above and subsequently amended adopted.

Transfer of Appropriation/Highway Dept. – The County Clerk read, by title, a request from the Highway Department for \$800,000.00 from line item #062-088-5767, County Motor Fuel Tax Road & Bridge Construction, to line item #066-092-5720, Road District Revolving Grant Expenditures (See Attachment D-1):

Mr. Scott moved to approve the request from the Highway Department for a transfer of appropriations as read above.

Mr. Johnson seconded the motion.

Roll call taken to approve the request from the Highway Department for a transfer of appropriations as read above. Those voting to approve were: Heidbreder, Johnson, Wand, Gengenbacher, Peter, Obert, Brady, Post, Totsch, Nichols, Scott, Bockhold, Richard Reis, Peters, Sparks, Schutte, Cole, Randall Reis, Snider, Duesterhaus and McLaughlin. Total 21. None absent.

Motion to approve the request from the Highway Department for a transfer of appropriations as read above adopted.

Transfer of Appropriations/Finance – The County Clerk read, by title, a request (not on the agenda) from the Finance Committee for a transfer of appropriations in the amount of \$36,429.15 from fund #59, 2008 Flood Relief, to the following expense accounts (See Attachment E-1):

\$2,016.81 to line item #032-070-4250, Reimbursements (IMRF)

\$3,681.69 to line item #034-072-4250, Reimbursements (Soc. Sec.)

\$30,730.75 to line item #001-001-4095, County General-Misc. Revenue

Discussion – Mr. Johnson explained the fund account was set-up to track the expenses and/or revenues from the Flood of '08 and is no longer needed. The transfer of appropriations is requested to close the fund and transfer all excess funds to county general accounts.

Roll call taken to approve the request from the Finance Committee for a transfer of appropriations as read above. Those voting to approve were: Heidbreder, Johnson, Wand, Gengenbacher, Peter, Obert, Brady, Post, Totsch, Nichols, Scott, Bockhold, Richard Reis, Peters, Sparks, Schutte, Cole, Randall Reis, Snider, Duesterhaus and McLaughlin. Total 21. None absent.

Motion to approve the request from the Finance Committee for a transfer of appropriations as read above adopted.

Revolving Loan – For the information of the county board Mr. Johnson provided a brief review on the revolving loan fund. There is currently a balance of approximately \$300,000.00 which is available to loan to businesses. With the exception of two outstanding loans currently in default status, the collection of monies is good.

Accountability Plan – The County Clerk read, by title, an ordinance adopting the Personal Use of County Property Policy: An Accountable Plan (See Attachments F-1).

Mr. Johnson moved to approve the ordinance adopting the Personal Use of County Property Policy: An Accountable Plan.

Mr. Nichols seconded the motion.

Mr. Nichols moved to amend the accountable plan to include an effective date of January 1, 2010.

Mr. Johnson seconded the motion.

Motion to amend the accountable plan to include an effective date of January 1, 2010 adopted.

Discussion – The policy, drafted with the guidance of Mr. Tom Behrens from Arnold, Behrens, Nesbit & Gray, was forwarded to officeholders/appointed officials for review and subsequent comments. Only three (3) responses were received. With the implementation of this policy Mr. Johnson is confident that we will meet IRS requirements.

Motion to approve the ordinance adopting the Personal Use of County Property Policy: An Accountable Plan as amended above adopted.

Chairman McLaughlin reminded all county board members that the most difficult aspect of this policy would be the implementation. He asked that all the county board committees, when reviewing vouchers and invoices, ensure that the documents are compliant before approving them.

Unfinished Business

Transparency Ordinance – The County Clerk read, by title, an ordinance for the transparency of the county's revenues and expenditures, as well as the subsequent amendment.

Mr. Wand moved to table the ordinance for the transparency of the county's revenues and expenditures, as well as the subsequent amendment.

Mr. Richard Reis seconded the motion.

Motion to table the ordinance for the transparency of the county's revenues and expenditures, as well as the subsequent amendment adopted.

Chapter Six/County Code – The County Clerk read, by title, an ordinance for the approval of chapter six of the county’s code.

Mr. Wand moved to approve the ordinance approving chapter six of the county’s code. Mr. Richard Reis seconded the motion.

Motion to approve the ordinance approving chapter six of the county’s code adopted.

Ambulance Department – Sixth Vehicle – Mr. Cole moved to approve the request from the Ambulance Department to add a sixth ambulance to their fleet. Mr. Snider seconded the motion.

Discussion – The Finance Committee voted at their February 8, 2010 meeting not to recommend that the county board concur with the request from the Ambulance Department to add a sixth ambulance to their fleet. The vote was four to one. The concerns voiced at the Finance Committee meeting were:

- 1) A potential increase in the county’s property tax level in the second or third year of the operation.
- 2) As noted by reports from the Ambulance Department, a sixth ambulance would reduce the county-wide average response time from seven to eight minutes down to six to seven minutes. This is a one minute reduction in the response time.
- 3) The sixth ambulance would be located in the City of Quincy, which currently has an average response time of four to five minutes. This proposal would reduce that response time by one minute.
- 4) Peak hours for ambulance calls are usually from 9:00 A.M. until 9:00 P.M. An additional ambulance during this “power shift” only would result in lower expenses than an additional ambulance placed in service seven days a week, 24 hours a day.

AMBULANCE BOARD MEMBERS

MR. MIKE TROUP

MR. LARRY FLESNER

The above ambulance board members addressed the members of the county board. The ambulance department and ambulance board, as operated today, was chartered eleven years ago. Since that time, calls have increased from approximately 5,000/yr. to 7,000/yr. Due to the increasing age of the county’s population more calls are critical calls. The ambulance board voted unanimously to add a sixth ambulance at an approximate cost of \$200,000/yr. Some of this expense will be offset by an increase in user fees, from \$400 to \$500.

As a fiscally responsible board, the members indicated they are operating with the best technology and they do provide excellent services to the residents. The addition of a sixth ambulance would ensure that their current standards continue to be met.

Discussion – County board members raised several questions, including those below:

1. How many of the calls are paid by Medicare (52%), with public aid funds (12%), and with private insurance funds (the remainder)?
2. Have options, such as utilizing paramedics at the fire department, been considered? Yes, but the ambulance board determined adding a sixth ambulance was the most feasible option.
3. Will a sixth ambulance result in an additional ambulance in which the county will need to replace every three or four years? The ambulance department has begun purchasing a more reliable vehicle, Freightliner, which should result in longer time periods before replacement is necessary.
4. Is this a benefit to the City of Quincy only? With an additional ambulance in the city, the ambulances stationed in the county will not be called to support the city needs as often.
5. What additional hidden costs are there (i.e. housing)? Blessing is willing to house a third ambulance for the county.

Roll call taken to approve the request from the Ambulance Department to add a sixth ambulance to their fleet. Those voting to approve were: Heidbreder, Johnson, Wand, Gengenbacher, Peter, Post, Scott, Bockhold, Richard Reis, Sparks, Schutte, Cole, Randall Reis, Snider, Duesterhaus and McLaughlin. Total 16. Those voting against were: Obert, Brady, Totsch, Nichols and Peters. Total five. None absent.

Motion to approve the request from the Ambulance Department to add a sixth ambulance to their fleet adopted.

New Business

Monthly Reports – The County Clerk had monthly reports from the Supervisor of Assessments/Board of Review, the Adams County Juvenile Detention Center, the monthly paid bills for January, 2010, the County Clerk/Recorder, Quincy/Adams County 9-1-1, the Coroner's Office, the Treasurer's Office, the Probation Department, the Sheriff's Office, the Ambulance Department, and the Coroner's Office.

Mr. Scott made a motion to receive and file the monthly reports with the appropriate committee.

Mr. Peter seconded the motion.

Motion to receive and file the monthly reports with the appropriate committee adopted.

Two Rivers Council/Killebrew – Chairman McLaughlin, entertained a motion to concur with the appointment of Mr. Mike Killebrew to the Two Rivers Council Governing Board.

Mr. Johnson moved to concur with the appointment of Mr. Mike Killebrew to the Two Rivers Council Governing Board.

Mr. Cole seconded the motion.

Motion to concur with the appointment of Mr. Mike Killebrew to the Two Rivers Council Governing Board adopted.

Freedom of Information (FOI) Officer – Without objection, Mr. Nichols moved to refer to the Legislative & Judicial Committee the issue of a Freedom of Information (FOI) Officer which is required under the new FOI Act.

Polling Place – Mr. Nichols moved to request that the Legislative & Judicial Committee determine expenses incurred to move polling places from St. Peter's School to another location.

Mr. Brady seconded the motion.

Motion to request that the Legislative & Judicial Committee determine expenses incurred to move polling places from St. Peter's School to another location adopted.

Correspondence

Letter from Comcast Cable

Letter from Ameren Services

Mr. Scott moved to receive and file the correspondence with the appropriate committee.

Mr. Peter seconded the motion.

Motion to receive and file the correspondence with the appropriate committee adopted.

Chairman McLaughlin moved that the meeting be recessed until Tuesday, March 9, 2010 at 7:00 P.M. in the county board room.

The hour of adjournment: 9:15 P.M.