

## Minutes of a Special Meeting of the Executive Committee

The Executive Committee of the McLean County Board met on Tuesday, July 22, 2008, at 8:50 a.m. in Room 400 of the Government Center, 115 E. Washington Street, Bloomington, Illinois.

Members Present: Chairman Sorensen, Members Owens, Bostic, Gordon, Hoselton, Renner, Selzer and Segobiano

Members Absent: Member Nuckolls

Other Members Present: None

Staff Present: Mr. John Zeunik, County Administrator; Mr. Terry Lindberg, Assistant County Administrator; Ms. Jude LaCasse, Assistant to the County Administrator

Department Heads/  
Elected Officials Present: None

Chairman Sorensen called the meeting to order at 8:55 a.m.

Chairman Sorensen presented a request for approval of a Resolution approving and authorizing an expenditure of \$25,000.00 in support of the Challenger Learning Center Capital Campaign. He stated that this is a reauthorization of funds that are available in the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission grant. Chairman Sorensen indicated that the request from the Challenger Learning Center was for a three-year request for support of the Capital Campaign. He advised that he felt it was more prudent to make a one time contribution to the project and consider any future funding as a part of the budget process.

Motion by Selzer/Owens to Recommend Approval of a Resolution Approving and Authorizing an expenditure of \$25,000.00 in support of the Challenger Learning Center Capital Campaign.

Mr. Segobiano expressed concern with other non-profit organizations seeing this as an opening to come to the County Board asking for a grant. He reminded the Committee that several years ago, the Board decided to discontinue making contributions to local not-for-profit agencies and organizations. Mr. Segobiano stated that the Challenger Learning Center Capital Campaign is simply a fund-raiser.

Mr. Selzer indicated that the Capital Campaign is an effort to retire the Challenger Learning Center's debt. He expressed his opinion that the Challenger Learning Center is a good program for the community. Mr. Selzer also noted that he understands the concern that it becomes difficult to know where to draw the line in funding these types of requests.

Minutes of a Special Meeting of the Executive Committee  
July 22, 2008  
Page Two

Mr. Segobiano pointed out that other organizations, such as Easter Seals and Community Compact, took on debts and did not come to the County Board for a contribution.

Mr. Selzer indicated that he holds the Challenger Learning Center in the same regard as the Historical Society as a community asset.

Mr. Renner recommended that a policy be developed to assist the Board in making decisions on these types of non-for-profit organization and agency requests for funds.

Chairman Sorensen advised that he does not believe the County should get into a habit of giving grants. However, he believes the Board should consider isolated requests. Chairman Sorensen reminded the Committee that funds were appropriated in the Fiscal Year 2008 Adopted Budget for the McLean County Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission that will cover the \$25,000.00 expenditure.

Mr. Owens noted that both the City of Bloomington and the Town of Normal have committed funds to the Challenger Learning Center's Capital Campaign.

Chairman Sorensen asked for a vote on the Motion.

Motion carried with Mr. Segobiano voting "no."

Chairman Sorensen asked if there was any other business or communication for the Executive Committee. Hearing none, the meeting was adjourned at 9:02 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith A. LaCasse  
Recording Secretary