

## **Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting**

The Executive Committee of the McLean County Board met on Tuesday, May 8, 2012 at 4:30 p.m. in Room 400, Government Center, 115 E. Washington Street, Bloomington, Illinois.

Members Present: Chairman Sorensen (left at 5:07 p.m.), Members Bostic, Owens, Gordon, Hoselton, Segobiano, Rackauskas, Butler, and O'Connor

Members Absent: None

Other Board Members Present: Member Erickson

Staff Present: Mr. Bill Wasson, County Administrator; Ms. Jude LaCasse, Assistant to the County Administrator

Department Heads/  
Elected Officials Present: None

Others Present: None

Chairman Sorensen called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

Mr. Hoselton welcomed Ms. Hannah Eisner as the new Assistant County Administrator. The Committee concurred with their congratulations.

Chairman Sorensen presented the minutes from the April 10, 2012 Executive Committee Meeting for approval.

Motion by Butler/Owens to approve the Minutes of the April 10, 2012 Meeting.  
Motion carried.

Chairman Sorensen presented the reappointments, appointments and resignations. He pointed out that this list includes the proposed members of the Ethics Commission of McLean County.

Mr. Owens recognized the Chairman's positive choice of applicants including one Republican, one Democrat and one Independent.

Motion by Segobiano/Rackauskas to Recommend Approval of the Reappointments, Appointments and Resignations as Recommended by the Chairman.  
Motion carried.

Chairman Sorensen presented a request for approval of an Ordinance of the McLean County Board setting salaries of the members of the McLean County Board – County Board Administration.

Mr. Wasson distributed an updated Ordinance, including an Exhibit A that reflects the salary comparisons to comparable counties. Chairman Sorensen explained that typically in McLean County, the Board salaries are dealt with in two year steps because we are always setting the next term. He indicated that in 2012 one-half of the members of the Board will be elected for four years and half for two years. The version in the packet only covered 2013 and 2014; the version being distributed covers 2015 and 2016 as well. Chairman Sorensen advised that the Ordinance shows the County Board compensation flat for three years and a 1.5% increase in 2016.

Mr. Wasson pointed out that the differential between County Board Members, the Committee Chairs and the County Board Chairman have been reinstated. He reminded the Committee that there was a 2.5% and 2.5% increase over the last two years for County Board salaries, which was put into place four years ago. Mr. Wasson noted that the salary of the County Board Chairman and the salaries of Committee Chairs were frozen for the last two years; they did not receive the 2.5% increases. The recommendation reinstates the differential and provides an increase for Committee Chairs and the County Board Chair, as follows:

- The Chairman of the County Board shall receive an annual salary of \$9,640.00, effective January 1, 2013, an annual salary of \$9,640.00 effective January 1, 2014, receive an annual salary of \$9,640.00, effective January 1, 2015, and an annual salary of \$9,785.00 effective January 1, 2016.

Ms. Rackauskas referred to Exhibit A “County Elected Officials Salaries Comparison” and asked why the County Board Chairman of Rock Island’s salary is \$97,000. Mr. Wasson replied that Rock Island has a full-time County Board chairman.

Ms. Rackauskas expressed concern that the McLean County Board Chairman’s salary is far less than every other County Board Chairman, as noted below:

<b><u>County</u></b>	<b><u>Salary</u></b>
➤ Champaign	\$29,274.00
➤ Sangamon	\$27,200.00
➤ Peoria	\$16,000.00
➤ Rock Island	\$97,000.00
➤ Tazewell	\$21,000.00
➤ McLean	\$9,382.00

Mr. Gordon stated that he would like to see a provision in the Ordinance that the County Board salary increases cannot exceed the across the board percentage increase that County employees receive. Chairman Sorensen responded that this type of provision cannot be included in the Ordinance. He added that a percentage increase is not being established; rather, a dollar figure is being set and, once it is set by ordinance, prior to the beginning of the terms, it cannot be changed. Chairman Sorensen pointed out that in all of the years that salaries were set, there was perhaps one year where the Board received a slightly larger percentage raise than the employees. He also noted that many other years the employees received a merit increase as well as an across-the-board percentage increase.

Mr. Segobiano stated that he believes that there are plenty of people in the community who would be very glad to be elected or appointed to any position within the County regardless of the amount of salary increase that position gets each year. He reminded the Committee that salaries are all paid for by the taxpayers.

Mr. Segobiano indicated that the efforts of the elected 20 County Board members need to be recognized. He suggested that, at some point in time, it will be necessary to do some soul searching on the whole salary structure. Mr. Segobiano stated that the County Board members need to stand up and be accounted as elected officials.

Ms. Rackauskas pointed out that the County Board Chairman has a great many responsibilities. She believes that the Chairman's salary is woefully inadequate, particularly as compared to other counties. Ms. Rackauskas suggested that the salary be increased significantly.

Ms. Bostic stated that she agrees with Mr. Segobiano because we all run for office and we know what it pays. She added that she agrees with Ms. Rackauskas that the McLean County salaries are probably behind. Ms. Bostic pointed out that, due to the economy, the County residential tax base could be slimmer this year which will result in fewer tax dollars coming into the County to be spent. She indicated that if this is an area that we can conserve on, it is the step in the right direction. Ms. Bostic added that she does not need a pay raise.

Ms. Rackauskas noted that she would like to encourage more young people to run for the County Board. She felt that there should be better compensation that would attract and accommodate younger individuals on the Board.

Mr. Segobiano agreed with Ms. Bostic in that he is not looking for a pay raise. He indicated that we should apply this theory to every elected and appointed position within the County, particularly with the current economy. He pointed out that he does believe the economy is beginning to pick up some.

Mr. Segobiano stated that if we are to establish a budget to provide service to the constituents of McLean County and if the Board members feel that they do not need a raise because it is on the backs of the taxpayers, then that theory should be applied to every position in McLean County Government.

Chairman Sorensen asked if this Ordinance can be considered at the June meeting. Mr. Wasson responded that the Ordinance has to be considered and acted upon this month.

Mr. Owens asked why the salaries aren't based on per diem. Mr. Wasson replied that the administration of a per diem system is labor intensive. He noted that the administration of the mileage alone creates a lot of extra work. Mr. Wasson stated that the salary system is consistent and more efficient to administer.

Ms. Rackauskas suggested that the mileage reimbursement be discontinued and the Board members only be recompensed through salary. She noted that she does not accept mileage reimbursement. Mr. Butler indicated that he does not accept mileage either, but he pointed out that some Board members live out of town and have to drive a greater distance than he does.

Mr. Butler stated that when he ran for the County Board, he did not ask what he would get paid; rather, he looked at it as a service. He recognized that the responsibilities of the Chairman of the Board are far greater and it would be difficult for him to take that much time away from his business. Mr. Butler believes that the Board members should be paid more to stay in line with other counties. He also agrees that the County Board Chairman should receive a higher salary.

Ms. O'Connor agreed that the Chairman's salary is far too little for the work that he does, and asked how the Committee would go about doubling the County Board Chairman's salary. Ms. Bostic replied that it would be changed by the Ordinance.

Mr. Segobiano commented that he agrees that the Chairman's salary should be increased, but if it is going to stay status quo for the County Board members, it should also apply to all elected and appointed officials.

Ms. O'Connor asked if she can make a motion to double the salary of the County Board Chairman.

Chairman Sorensen left the meeting at 5:07 p.m.

Mr. Wasson pointed out that currently the County Board members are receiving \$4,640, the Committee Chairs are receiving \$5,519 and the County Board Chairman is at \$9,382. If we increase back to the \$1,000 differential for Committee Chairs, it would be \$4,640 for Board members (retaining the same rate for County Board members because they got a 2.5% increase this year and a 2.5% last year); the Committee Chairs would go to \$5,640 and the proposal for four times the Committee chairs salary to go to the Board Chairman.

Mr. Hoselton suggested that the Board Members retain their current salaries.

Mr. Gordon stated that he is sympathetic with raising the Chair's salary. However, he is concerned about increasing the salary in comparison with Tazewell County. Mr. Gordon felt that a four-fold increase is excessive in tough economic times. He believes the increase should be more modest.

Vice Chairman Bostic recognized that the Board Chairman is required to attend meetings in Springfield and Chicago as well as local and regional meetings. She stated that not everyone would be willing to attend all of the meetings that the current Chairman attends for a salary of \$9,000. Vice Chairman Bostic suggested that if the salary is set for the Chairman and if the Chairman has a concern about it, the Chairman can step down; if the salary is set for a Committee Chair and it doesn't suit that person, they can resign from the Committee.

Mr. Segobiano stated that he is all for increasing the salary of the Board Chairman, but he believes that the Committee would be making a mistake if they made a decision to significantly increase the salary today.

Vice Chairman Bostic reminded the committee that she served on the County Administrator Search Committee. She noted that the salary expectations of many of the applicants would have equaled both Mr. Wasson and Ms. Eisner's salaries put together.

Ms. O'Connor asked if there is a consensus that the current County Board Chair's salary is too low. Mr. Owens pointed out that Chairman Sorensen did not run for Chairman for the salary, but because he wanted to serve this County.

Ms. Rackauskas advised that the person in the position should be left out of the discussion because the discussion is really about the position and not the person. She stated that she believes the compensation should be such that qualified people would be willing to take on the responsibilities of Chairman of the Board. Ms. Rackauskas reminded the Committee the County Board members and the County Board Chairman positions are not volunteer positions; they are elected positions.

Mr. Owens asked if comparisons are made with the Mayors of Bloomington and Normal. Mr. Wasson responded that comparisons are not generally made between the County and the cities because the cities, as home rule units, have different resources.

Mr. Gordon recommended that any increase in salary for the Chairman should be phased up over three years.

Mr. Segobiano indicated that he would like to move to accept the recommendation of the County Administrator's Office.

Mr. Wasson reviewed the current recommendation as follows:

- County Board salaries would remain the same at \$4,640 for 2013, 2014 and 2015, and would receive 1.5% increase in 2016 to \$4,710 in 2016;
- The Executive Committee, the Standing Oversight Committee Chairs and at-large members of the Executive Committee would receive a \$121 increase over their current salary or a 2.2% increase to \$5,640;
- The County Chairman would receive a 2.75% increase of \$258 initially and in 2016 would receive the 1.5% increase to \$9,785.

Mr. Wasson stated that the increases would be, in the first three years, zero percent increase for County Board members salary, a \$121 per year for Committee Chairs and \$258 per year for County Board Chairman, and then a 1.5% across-the-board for all three categories in 2016.

Motion by Segobiano/Gordon to Recommend Approval of an Ordinance of the McLean County Board Setting Salaries of the Members of the McLean County Board – County Administrator's Office.

Ms. O'Connor and Ms. Rackauskas reiterated that the County Board Chairman's salary should be increased more than the recommendation.

Mr. Segobiano indicated that he believes that we send a message to the County employees and to the comparable counties that they can do what they want with their taxpayer dollars, but this is what we are doing here in McLean County.

Ms. O'Connor stated that she believes we are sending a message that the position in McLean County requires that this person attend many meetings and represent the County, and that it is worth more than \$9,785.

Mr. Hoselton called for the question. Vice Chairman Bostic asked if there were any objections to the call for the question. The Committee unanimously called for the question.

Vice Chairman Bostic asked for a roll call vote on the Motion.

Owens:	No
Gordon:	Yes
Hoselton:	Yes
Rackauskas:	No
Segobiano:	Yes
Butler:	No
O'Connor:	No

Vice Chairman Bostic stated that the motion failed 4 to 3. Mr. Wasson stated that a Committee member will need to make another motion.

Mr. Gordon made a motion that the request be amended to increase the Chairman's salary as follows:

January 1, 2013:	\$10,000
January 1, 2014:	\$10,750
January 1, 2015:	\$11,500
January 1, 2016:	\$12,000

The motion failed for lack of a second to the motion.

Ms. Rackauskas made a motion that the request be amended to increase the Chairman's salary as follows:

January 1, 2013:	\$12,050
January 1, 2014:	\$14,460
January 1, 2015:	\$16,870
January 1, 2016:	\$19,280

Motion by Rackauskas/Hoselton to Recommend Approval of an Ordinance of the McLean County Board Setting Salaries of the Members of the McLean County Board as amended to increase the Board Chairman's salary to \$12,050 in 2013, \$14,460 in 2014, \$16,870 in 2015 and \$19,280 in 2016 – County Administrator's Office.

Mr. Gordon expressed concern with the message that is being sent to people in the County unless it is made clear that the Chairman's salary has not been increased appropriately over the past several years. He stated that he would feel more comfortable if the salary in 2016 was less than the \$19,280. Mr. Gordon reiterated his

concern with the 25% per year adjustment and how it will be perceived by members of the community. He agrees that the Chairman should be paid better, but he cannot support this large of an increase. Mr. Gordon stated that he would be more comfortable with a more gradual increase over the next four years with a final salary closer to \$16,000.

Mr. Segobiano stated that he will not support this motion as it sends a message that we are taking care of ourselves and not worrying about the rest of the community.

Ms. Rackauskas indicated that she is very aware of her constituents and how hard they work to pay their taxes. She noted that even after four years, the salary that the Chairman will make is less than all but one of the comparable counties today, not taking into account how those salaries may increase over the next four years.

Mr. Segobiano pointed out that the position has never been unfilled regardless of the salary. He stated he will not support this motion.

Ms. O'Connor reminded the Committee that the employees are once again receiving an across-the-board salary increase and seeing some merit increases. She added that everyone is conscious of how taxpayer dollars are being spent, and this is a good investment in the County.

After additional discussion, Vice Chairman Bostic asked for a roll call vote on the motion:

Butler:	Yes
O'Connor:	Yes
Owens:	No
Gordon:	No
Hoselton:	Yes
Rackauskas:	Yes
Segobiano:	No

Motion carried 4 to 3.

Mr. Erickson asked that Exhibit A be placed in the County Board packet. Mr. Wasson replied that Exhibit A will be included in the County Board meeting.

Mr. Stan Hoselton, Chairman, Transportation Committee, presented a request for approval of an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Board of Education of Olympia Community Unit School District No. 16 for two (2) solar powered flashing beacons on County Highway 18 in Danvers. He explained that the school approached the Highway Department requesting the lights. Mr. Hoselton stated that the lights are not required but are being installed in the best interest of the school and the students. He indicated that the County will purchase and Olympia School will repay the County. Mr. Hoselton added that the County will furnish the poles and provide the necessary maintenance. He noted that the Agreement is for 20 years.

Motion by Hoselton/Owens to Recommend Approval of an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Board of Education of Olympia Community Unit School District No. 16 for Two (2) Solar Powered Flashing Beacons on County Highway 18 in Danvers.  
Motion carried.

Mr. Hoselton presented a request for approval of an Emergency Appropriation Ordinance Amending the McLean County Fiscal Year 2012 Combined Annual Appropriation and Budget Ordinance – McLean County Highway Fund 0120, McLean County Highway Department 0055. He indicated that this a \$25,000 transfer of funds from Roads and Drainage 0716 to Capitalized Assessment 0850.

Motion by Hoselton/Rackauskas to Recommend Approval of an Emergency Appropriation Ordinance Amending the McLean County Fiscal Year 2012 Combined Annual Appropriation and Budget Ordinance – McLean County Highway Fund 0120, McLean County Highway Department 0055.  
Motion carried.

Mr. Hoselton presented a request for approval of an Illinois Department of Transportation Enhancement Program Grant for Historic Route 66 Bike Trail.

Motion by Hoselton/Owens to Recommend Approval of an Illinois Department of Transportation Enhancement Program Grant for Historic Route 66 Bike Trail.

Mr. Butler advised that he will vote against this request because the money will be received from the Federal Government that really has no money to build 2.51 miles of track for \$1 million, and then the County will be required to maintain it in perpetuity.

Mr. Wasson noted that under the Intergovernmental Agreement, the municipalities agreed to maintain the sections that are within their corporate limits, so there is a portion that is within Towanda and a portion that is outside of Towanda.

Mr. Hoselton advised that the estimated cost of this project is \$1 million and funding is 80% Federal and 20% local. The County's portion will be \$49,800.

Mr. Wasson stated that this is a continued phased development of the trail.

Ms. Rackauskas expressed concern with the matching fund requirements of the County. Mr. Hoselton responded that this funding is for this particular project and cannot be transferred to any other projects.

Vice Chairman Bostic advised that the County has a binding Intergovernmental Agreement that we have been a party to for several years to move this project forward. Mr. Wasson explained that it is an Intergovernmental Agreement that includes all of the municipalities along Route 66, namely Bloomington, Normal, McLean, Towanda, Lexington, Chenoa and the County. He noted that there have been incremental developments not only going outside of Bloomington-Normal, like the Shirley section and the section that will be under construction this year going from Normal to Towanda, which has already been approved and grant funds have been received. Mr. Wasson added that a section has already been completed in Lexington and a section completed in Chenoa. The incremental process would be to link those remaining locations.

Vice Chairman Bostic called for a vote on the Motion.

Motion carried with Mr. Butler voting "no."

Mr. Hoselton reviewed the items to be presented to the Board, which included a request for approval of a Resolution and Bid Tab for the April 25, 2012 County Non-MFT (Motor Fuel Tax) Letting and a request for approval of a State of Illinois Department of Transportation Agreement for Local Agency (LA) Railway-Highway Grade crossing improvements, Bellflower-Saybrook Road (CH 5).

Vice Chairman Bostic asked if there were any additional questions or comments. Hearing none, she thanked Mr. Hoselton.

Ms. Diane Bostic, Chairman, Property Committee, advised that the Property Committee brings no items for action to the Executive Committee.

Minutes of the Executive Committee  
May 8, 2012  
Page Eleven

Mr. Ben Owens, Chairman, Finance Committee, presented a request for approval of Critical Personnel Hiring Requests – County Administrator’s Office.

Motion by Owens/Rackauskas to Recommend Approval of Critical Personnel Hiring Requests – County Administrator’s Office.  
Motion carried.

Mr. Owens presented a request for Approval of the Resolution establishing the Budget Policy for Fiscal Year 2013 – County Administrator’s Office.

Motion by Owens/Butler to Recommend Approval of the Resolution Establishing the Budget Policy for Fiscal Year 2013 – County Administrator’s Office.  
Motion carried.

Mr. Owens presented a Request for Approval of Schedule A – Calendar for preparation of the Fiscal Year 2013 Budget, Five Year Capital Improvement Budget, and Recommended Three Year Budget – County Administrator’s Office.

Motion by Owens/Rackauskas to Recommend Approval of Schedule A – Calendar for Preparation of the Fiscal Year 2013 Budget, Five Year Capital Improvement Budget, and Recommended Three Year Budget – County Administrator’s Office.  
Motion carried.

Mr. Owens presented a Request for Approval of proposed Ordinances setting salaries for Elected Officials – County Administrator’s Office.

Motion by Owens/Gordon to Recommend Approval of Proposed Ordinances setting Salaries for Elected Officials – County Administrator’s Office.  
Motion carried.

Vice Chairman Bostic asked if there were any questions or comments. Hearing none, she thanked Mr. Owens.

Ms. Bette Rackauskas, Chairman, Justice Committee, presented a request for approval of renewal of Intergovernmental Agreement between the Department of Healthcare and Family Services and the McLean County Office of the Chief Judge, Agreement 2011-55-008-K3, Title IV-D Child Support Enforcement Grant – Circuit Court.

Motion by Rackauskas/Hoselton to Recommend Approval of Renewal of an Intergovernmental Agreement between the Department of Healthcare and Family Services and the Chief Judge, Agreement 2011-55-008-K3, Title IV-D Child Support Enforcement Grant – Circuit Court.  
Motion carried.

Ms. Rackauskas presented a request for approval of renewal of Intergovernmental Agreement between the Department of Healthcare and Family Services and the State's Attorney's Office, Agreement 2011-55-013-K3, Title IV-D Child Support Enforcement Grant – State's Attorney's Office

Motion by Rackauskas/Gordon to Recommend Approval of Renewal of an Intergovernmental Agreement between the Department of Healthcare and Family Services and the State's Attorney's Office, Agreement 2011-55-013-K3, Title IV-D Child Support Enforcement Grant – State's Attorney's Office.  
Motion carried.

Ms. Rackauskas reminded the Committee that Saturday, May 12<sup>th</sup>, at Evergreen Cemetery, CASA is doing a walk. She invited members to participate in this event that begins at 9:00 a.m. with registration at 8:00 a.m.

Vice Chairman Bostic asked if there were any other questions or comments. Hearing none, she thanked Ms. Rackauskas.

Mr. George Gordon, Chairman, Land Use and Development Committee, presented a request for approval of a County Watersheds Management program Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Bloomington, the Town of Normal, the County of McLean and the McLean County Soil and Water Conservation District.

Motion by Gordon/Owens to Recommend Approval of a County Watersheds Management Program Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Bloomington, the Town of Normal, the County of McLean and the McLean County Soil and Water Conservation District.  
Motion carried.

Vice Chairman Bostic asked if there were any questions or comments. Hearing none, she thanked Mr. Gordon.

Mr. Wasson noted that an updated Ordinance setting the salaries of the Members of the McLean County Board will be included in the County Board Packet with the recommended salaries, including Exhibit A on County Board member salaries.

Ms. Rackauskas asked if the Enterprise Zone going out to Gibson City will be voted on by the County Board. Mr. Wasson replied that this request will be brought to the Board in June. Ms. Rackauskas asked if information regarding how the Enterprise Zone works will be provided at that time. Mr. Wasson responded that the EDC will provide a presentation regarding this proposed project.

Mr. Wasson reminded the Committee that the EDC will be presenting a Public Partners Update tomorrow, May 9<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. in Room 400.

Ms. Rackauskas announced that the first Recovery Court Graduation is scheduled for May 24<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m. in the Jury Assembly Room.

Mr. Owens asked if the EDC will provide information regarding the Enterprise Zone at the meeting tomorrow evening. Mr. Wasson replied that EDC will likely provide some information at the meeting.

Mr. Owens asked if the Enterprise Zone proposal will go through the Finance Committee or the Executive Committee. Mr. Wasson responded that he will have to review past practice. He advised that this is different because it is not just the designation of an area as part of the Enterprise Zone. Under this proposal, as part of the Intergovernmental Agreement, the Enterprise Zone is expanding to include Ford County.

Mr. Segobiano asked if we have the capability of expanding into other counties, such as Tazewell County for their \$5-6 millions development. Mr. Wasson replied that he is not sure if Tazewell has an Enterprise Zone. He noted that there are a limited number of partners that allow for additional square miles to be added to an Enterprise zone. Mr. Wasson replied that he believes the limit is four or five. Mr. Owens indicated that he believes it is four and, if that is the case, Ford would be the fourth partner, including Bloomington, Normal, the County and now Ford.

Vice Chairman Bostic presented the April 30, 2012 bills as recommended and transmitted by the County Auditor for payment. The Fund Total is \$457,770.16 and the Prepaid Total is the same.

Minutes of the Executive Committee  
May 8, 2012  
Page Fourteen

Motion by O'Connor/Segobiano to recommend approval of the Executive Committee bills for April 30, 2012 as presented to the Committee by the County Auditor.  
Motion carried.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the Executive Committee meeting was adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Judith A. LaCasse  
Recording Secretary